

C4



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, October 18, 1995
For release at 8:30 a.m.

STATISTICS STATISTIQUE
CANADA CANADA

OCT 18 1995

LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canadian international merchandise trade, August 1995** 2
Led by strong automotive exports, Canada's merchandise trade surplus reached a record high of \$2.7 billion in August.
- **Travel between Canada and other countries, August 1995** 5
The number of overnight trips between Canada and the United States decreased in August, but travel between Canada and overseas countries reached unprecedented levels.

OTHER RELEASES

Export and import price indexes, August 1995 8

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 9



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

MAJOR RELEASES

Canadian international merchandise trade

August 1995

Canadian exports surged 9.6% in August to reach \$21.3 billion, their highest level since January. Exports to all of Canada's trading partners increased, but shipments were especially strong to the United States and non-OECD countries. Automotive shipments accounted for 70% of the increase, as auto production resumed after July's longer than normal plant shutdowns.

Imports were up 3.5% in August, to \$18.6 billion, as automotive and energy products began to recover from two months of decline. More goods were imported from all trading partners except Japan and the European Union.

The strong performance of exports led the merchandise trade balance to a record \$2.7 billion surplus in August. The surplus with the United States increased the most, to a record \$3.3 billion, thanks to the robust automotive trade.

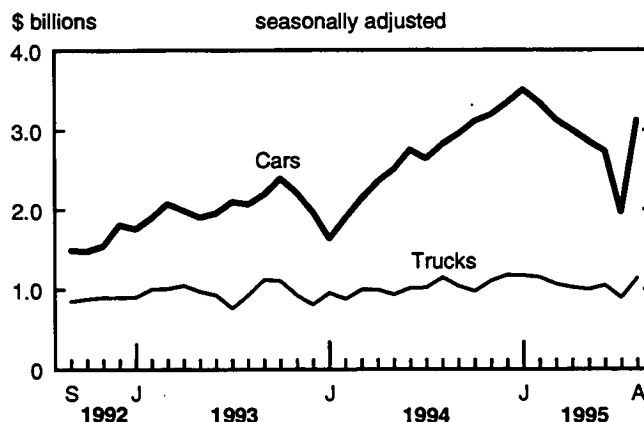
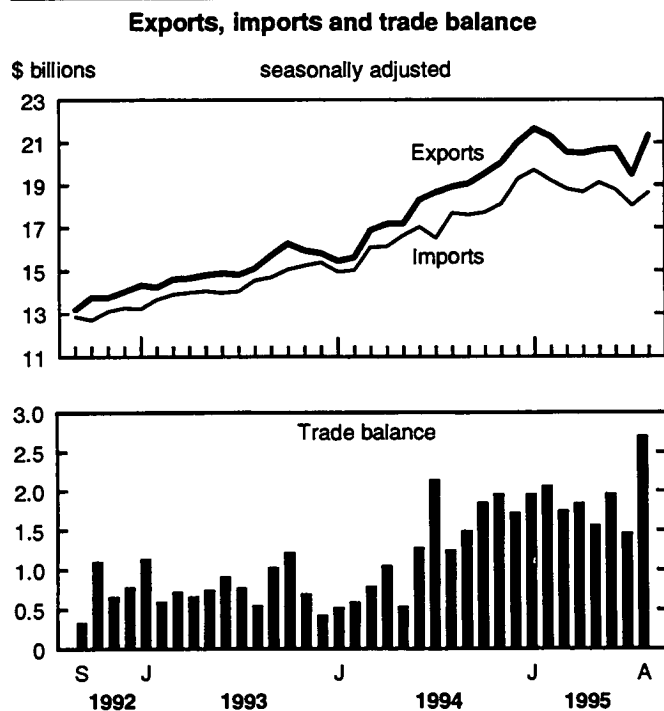
Note to readers

Merchandise trade is only one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services. In the second quarter of 1995, an overall merchandise trade surplus of \$5.3 billion contrasted with a current account deficit of \$5.7 billion.

Exports advanced strongly as auto production resumed

Exports of automotive products shot up 36.0% in August as production resumed following July's plant closures for vacations and retooling. Stronger demand for vehicles in the United States was also a factor, helping boost car and truck exports to their highest level since February. Parts exports rose modestly as production in the United States returned to normal levels after the shutdowns. In all, automotive exports stood 6.6% above their August 1994 level.

Exports of automotive products



Machinery and equipment exports gained momentum in August, rising 6.7% after six months of slow advances. Although growth was widespread in the sector, most of the strength came from helicopters and high-valued jet aircraft. Also bolstering exports were sales of office machines to the United States, up solidly for two months running.

Exports of industrial goods advanced 3.2% in August, largely reflecting strong shipments of metal ores and concentrates—especially to the European Union. Demand for most industrial goods has been on a downward trend since January, awaiting a pickup in U.S. manufacturing activity.

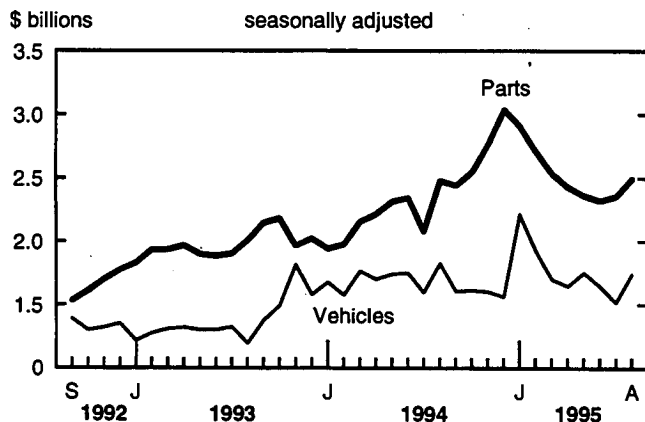
Forestry products provided a healthy boost to overall exports in August, as lumber and newsprint sales increased 8.8% and 2.9% respectively. Lumber continued to respond to a strengthening U.S. housing market and to growing demand from Japan.

Elsewhere in natural resources, energy product exports grew 5.2% because of strong Japanese purchases of coal. Crude oil exports were up modestly after a precipitous decline in July. Wheat and fish exports fell, pulling down overall exports of agricultural products by a small margin.

Automotive and energy products gave imports a boost

Over half of August's import gain was attributable to the automotive sector. Auto imports rose 9.5%, offsetting declines posted since March. August's increase came about as U.S. auto production resumed after the extended shutdowns in July. While truck imports advanced 21.0% from July, car imports rose 11.3%. Imports of parts grew 6.1% in August, as Canadian auto production returned to normal.

Imports of automotive products



Machinery and equipment imports picked up steam in August (+3.5%), reflecting strength in aircraft, engines and parts (+40.9%) and office machines (+11.4%).

Energy product imports advanced 43.6% in August. Crude oil purchases dominated the picture, but refined petroleum products and coal were also strong. The trend for imports of energy products other than crude oil has been flat since August 1994.

Imports of food gained marginally in August, as demand for imported fruits and vegetables remained low, offset somewhat by imports of fish and sugar preparations. In total, agricultural imports have remained flat throughout 1995.

Weakness in a number of commodities kept industrial goods imports from advancing in August, despite buoyancy in chemicals and plastics. Falling imports of industrial goods have reflected the slackness in Canadian manufacturing since February.

Revisions

Merchandise trade data are revised on a continuing basis for every month of the current year. Factors that make revisions necessary include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs documents, replacement of estimated figures with actual values once available, changes to classification of merchandise based on more current information, and updated seasonal adjustments.

Revised data for January 1991 to July 1995 are available in the relevant CANSIM matrices.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3611-3616, 3618-3629, 3651, 3685-3713, 3718-3720 and 3887-3913.

This release contains a summary of the merchandise trade data that will be available next week in *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001, \$19/\$182). It will include detailed tables by commodity and country on a customs basis.

For more timely receipt of the merchandise trade data, a fax service is available the morning of release.

Current account data, which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, services transactions, investment income and transfers, are available on a quarterly basis in *Canada's balance of international payments* (67-001, \$30/\$120). See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Suzie Carpentier (613-951-9647), Marketing and Client Services Section, International Trade Division (1-800-294-5583). □

Merchandise trade of Canada

	June 1995	July 1995	August 1995	June 1995 to July 1995	July 1995 to August 1995	January- August 1994	January- August 1995	January- August 1994 to January- August 1995	August 1994 to August 1995
seasonally adjusted, \$ current									
	\$ millions			% change		\$ millions		% change	
Principal trading partners									
Exports									
United States	16,588	15,794	17,253	-4.8	9.2	112,938	133,620	18.3	10.3
Japan	1,076	1,014	1,018	-5.8	0.4	6,246	7,806	25.0	12.6
European Union	1,166	1,090	1,158	-6.5	6.2	6,970	9,702	39.2	58.6
Other OECD countries ¹	287	222	308	-22.6	38.7	2,498	2,417	-3.2	-18.1
All other countries	1,626	1,358	1,605	-16.5	18.2	9,523	12,652	32.9	25.5
Total	20,743	19,478	21,343	-6.1	9.6	138,174	166,197	20.3	12.8
Imports									
United States	13,524	13,469	13,978	-0.4	3.8	96,587	111,887	15.8	6.0
Japan	676	633	613	-6.4	-3.2	5,343	5,961	11.6	-0.5
European Union	2,148	1,793	1,616	-16.5	-9.9	10,688	13,930	30.3	4.7
Other OECD countries ¹	677	542	654	-19.9	20.7	4,209	5,422	28.8	-11.1
All other countries	1,767	1,589	1,791	-10.1	12.7	13,280	13,794	3.9	11.4
Total	18,792	18,027	18,653	-4.1	3.5	130,106	150,995	16.1	5.5
Balance									
United States	3,064	2,325	3,275	...	...	16,351	21,733	...	...
Japan	400	381	405	...	...	903	1,845	...	...
European Union	-982	-703	-458	...	...	-3,718	-4,228	...	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-390	-320	-346	...	...	-1,711	-3,005	...	...
All other countries	-141	-231	-186	...	...	-3,757	-1,142	...	...
Total	1,951	1,451	2,690	...	...	8,068	15,202	...	...
Principal commodity groupings²									
Exports									
Agricultural and fishing products	1,650	1,533	1,519	-7.1	-0.9	11,437	12,620	10.3	6.7
Energy products	2,137	1,864	1,960	-12.8	5.2	13,955	15,673	12.3	-5.0
Forestry products	3,306	3,305	3,424	0.0	3.6	19,902	25,602	28.6	24.0
Industrial goods and materials	3,956	3,761	3,882	-4.9	3.2	24,860	31,820	28.0	15.9
Machinery and equipment	4,245	4,110	4,386	-3.2	6.7	27,263	33,810	24.0	19.9
Automotive products	4,980	4,064	5,526	-18.4	36.0	36,115	41,871	15.9	6.6
Other consumer goods	577	593	618	2.8	4.2	3,743	4,551	21.6	23.4
Special transactions trade ³	867	840	845	-3.1	0.6	5,886	6,809	15.7	9.3
Imports									
Agricultural and fishing products	1,148	1,128	1,131	-1.7	0.3	8,053	9,000	11.8	3.0
Energy products	721	518	744	-28.2	43.6	4,796	5,671	18.2	-19.7
Forestry products	177	180	163	1.7	-9.4	1,150	1,409	22.5	5.8
Industrial goods and materials	3,721	3,757	3,713	1.0	-1.2	24,591	30,385	23.6	9.6
Machinery and equipment	6,401	6,000	6,212	-6.3	3.5	41,627	49,739	19.5	9.0
Automotive products	3,967	3,871	4,238	-2.4	9.5	31,140	34,263	10.0	-1.6
Other consumer goods	2,250	2,082	2,121	-7.5	1.9	15,250	17,236	13.0	4.7
Special transactions trade ³	466	482	427	3.4	-11.4	3,217	3,587	11.5	2.9

¹ Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

² Figures not adjusted to balance of payments basis.

³ Mainly, these are low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment and goods returned to country of origin.

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

Travel between Canada and other countries

August 1995

In August, the number of overnight trips to Canada by overseas residents increased 1.8% compared with July, to a new high of 333,000. The upward trend in this type of travel started in mid-1992.

Meanwhile, Americans made 1.1 million trips of at least one night to Canada, a 1.2% decrease from July.

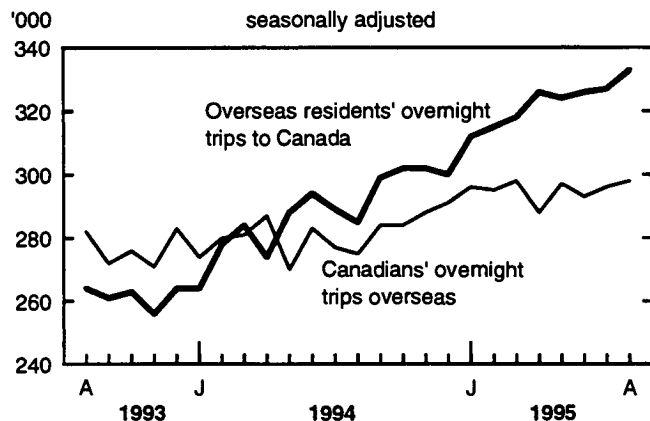
Over time, travellers from countries other than the United States have represented an increasing share of the visitors to Canada. While they accounted for only 5% of foreign overnight visits in 1972, their share stood at 24% in August.

Since travellers from overseas tend to make longer trips to Canada than Americans—in the first quarter of 1995, the average length of stay was nine nights compared with three—the economic impact of an increase in their numbers is significantly greater than that of a comparable rise in the number of American visitors. On average, overseas visitors spent C\$1,047 per overnight trip during the first quarter of 1995, compared with C\$358 for Americans.

Canadians' overnight trips to overseas destinations reached a new peak

Canadians' overnight trips to overseas countries increased 0.8% in August to a record 298,000. The trend in Canadians' overnight travel to overseas destinations has been moving upward since June 1991.

Overnight travel between Canada and overseas countries has reached record levels



Note to readers

Month-to-month comparisons use seasonally adjusted data (data adjusted for variations that repeat annually and for variability caused by the different volumes of travellers associated with different days of the week).

Year-over-year comparisons use unadjusted data (the actual traffic counts).

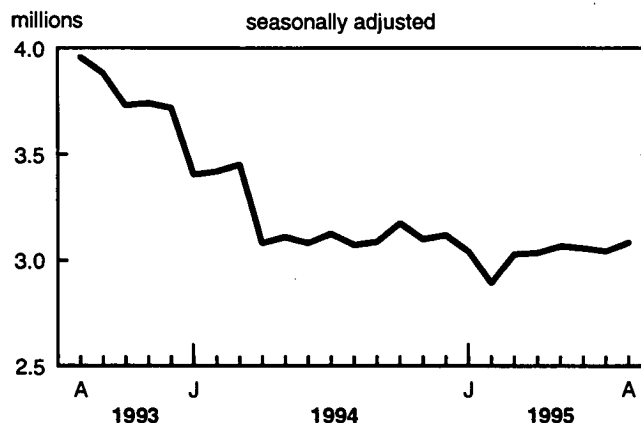
Seasonally adjusted data have been revised on CANSIM back to January 1992.

By contrast, overnight trips to the United States have decreased since late 1991, slipping a further 2.2% in August. Since peaking at 1.8 million in December 1991, the number of such trips has dropped 35%. Nevertheless, the United States remains the most popular international travel destination for Canadians.

Same-day cross-border car trips increased in both directions

In August, 3.1 million Canadians visited the United States and drove back the same day, a 1.3% increase from July. This type of travel, often used as an indicator of cross-border shopping, has been relatively stable since mid-1994. At that time, the Canadian dollar was worth about US72 cents, compared with US74 cents in August 1995.

Canadians' same-day cross-border car trips have been relatively stable since mid-1994



Same-day cross-border car trips

	Americans to Canada		Canadians to the United States	
	August 1995 ^P	August 1994 to August 1995	August 1995 ^P	August 1994 to August 1995
	unadjusted			
	'000	% change	'000	% change
Canada	2,758	7.2	3,680	0.4
Province of entry/ re-entry				
New Brunswick	169	7.1	520	1.7
Quebec	145	8.2	394	-0.1
Ontario	2,150	8.5	1,639	-0.8
Manitoba	37	19.0	81	1.2
Saskatchewan	10	7.9	27	-4.9
Alberta	22	6.2	22	9.1
British Columbia	220	-5.3	993	1.7
Yukon	5	-9.8	4	-12.0

^P Preliminary figures.

The number of Americans who crossed the border by car and went back the same day also rose (+0.6% to 1.9 million). Americans' same-day cross-border car trips to Canada increased 33% from January 1994 through February 1995. More recently, the number of trips of this type has been fluctuating.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661-2697, 5780-6046 and 8200-8328.

The August 1995 issue of *International travel, advance information* (66-001P, \$7/\$70) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Luc Dubois (613-951-1674), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. □

Travel between Canada and other countries

	June 1995 ^r	July 1995 ^r	August 1995 ^p	July 1995 to August 1995
seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change
Canadian trips abroad				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,057	3,044	3,085	1.3
One or more nights	801	796	775	-2.6
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,235	1,171	1,145	-2.2
Other countries	293	296	298	0.8
Travel to Canada				
Car trips from the United States				
Same-day	1,872	1,870	1,881	0.6
One or more nights	747	746	727	-2.5
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,090	1,088	1,074	-1.2
Other countries ²	326	327	333	1.8
	August 1995 ^p	August 1994 to August 1995 ^p	January- August 1995 ^p	January- August 1994 to January- August 1995
unadjusted				
	'000	% change	'000	% change
Canadian trips abroad				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,680	0.4	24,663	-5.2
One or more nights	1,456	-2.5	7,018	-4.0
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,894	-0.7	10,400	-3.5
Other countries	361	6.8	2,570	5.7
Travel to Canada				
Car trips from the United States				
Same-day	2,758	7.2	15,586	12.9
One or more nights	1,524	0.1	6,488	1.8
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	2,150	2.6	9,447	3.4
Other countries ²	629	18.2	2,768	14.2

¹ Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

² Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Export and import price indexes August 1995

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1986=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Indexes are listed from January 1986 to August 1995 for the five commodity sections and 62 (exports)/61 (imports) major commodity groups.

Current- and fixed-weighted U.S. price indexes (1986=100) are also available on a customs basis. Indexes are listed from January 1986 to August 1995. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and U.S.-only Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) section indexes. Indexes

for the five commodity sections and 62/61 major commodity groups are also now available on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3611-3616, 3618-3629, 3651 and 3685.

The August 1995 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001, \$19/\$182) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Denis Pilon (613-951-4808), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division. ■

The Daily
Statistics Canada

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Economic development profiles, 1992**
Economic development profiles for the 1992 for year released on average 100-100 to provide a comprehensive view of the economic situation. This year no statistics of interest have been left in the side of interest of development.
- **Monthly survey of manufacturing, April 1995**
After two months of business performance, the index of manufacturing continues to grow to 107.7 million, up 1.7% in April and a 2.1% margin in March. The leading of output index has increased by 10.0 million in the same time period.
- **Industrial production price index, May 1995**
Down to higher prices for processed materials, the manufacturing price index for manufacturing goods jumped to 104.1% in May. The highest for output index of the 1995.
- **Raw materials price index, May 1995**
The price index for raw materials has risen to 104.1% and now the index continues to rise.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Index of retail business profits, May 1995** 10
- **Cost and other statistics, April 1995** 10
- **Export price statistics, April 1995** 10
- **Export prices, May 1995** 10
- **Foreign exchange and interest rates with quarterly, May 1995** 10
- **Statistical services, 1995-1997** 10

PUBLICATION RELEASED 10

Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E. (Canada: \$240; United States: US\$288; other countries: US\$336.)

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To receive *The Daily* from the Internet, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103)

Head of Official Release: Jacques Lefebvre (613-951-1088)

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1995. Citation in newspaper, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Refined petroleum products, July 1995

Catalogue number 45-004

(Canada: \$20/\$200; United States: US\$24/US\$240;
other countries: US\$28/US\$280).

Railway carloadings, August 1995, vol. 72, no. 8

Catalogue number 52-001

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120;
other countries: US\$14/US\$140).

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises, second quarter 1995

Catalogue number 61-008

(Canada: \$33/\$110; United States: US\$40/US\$132;
other countries: US\$47/US\$154).

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



How to order publications

Simplify your data search with *Statistics Canada Catalogue*, 1994 (11-204E, \$15; United States: US\$18; other countries: US\$21). Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

Order *The Daily* and other publications by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

Or fax your order to us:

1-613-951-1584

For address changes: Please refer to your customer account number.

To order a publication by mail write: Sales and Service, Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to Receiver General of Canada/Publications. Canadian customers add 7% GST.

Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres provide a full range of the Agency's products and services.

For the reference centre nearest you, check the blue pages or your telephone directory under Statistics Canada.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



Are you getting information on the Canadian economy "first-hand"?

Chances are, you spend hours reading several newspapers and a handful of magazines trying to get the whole economic picture – only to spend even more time weeding out fiction from fact! Wouldn't it be a great deal more convenient (and much more effective) to go straight to the source?

Join the thousands of successful Canadian decision-makers who turn to Statistics Canada's *Canadian Economic Observer* for their monthly briefing. Loaded with first-hand information, collectively published nowhere else, CEO is a quick, concise and panoramic overview of the Canadian economy. Its reliability and completeness are without equal.

A single source

Consultations with our many readers – financial analysts, planners, economists and business leaders – have contributed to CEO's present, widely-acclaimed, two-part format. The **Analysis Section** includes thought-provoking commentary on current economic conditions, issues, trends and developments. The **Statistical Summary** contains the complete range of hard numbers on critical economic indicators: markets, prices, trade, demographics, unemployment and more.

More practical, straightforward and user-friendly than ever before, the *Canadian Economic Observer* gives you more than 150 pages of in-depth information in one indispensable source.

Why purchase CEO?

As a subscriber, you'll be directly connected to Statistics Canada's economic analysts – names and phone numbers are listed with articles and features. You'll also receive a

copy of
CEO's
annual
**Historical
Statistical Supplement**
– at no additional cost.

So why wait for others to publish Statistics Canada's data second-hand when you can have it straight from the source? Order your subscription to the *Canadian Economic Observer* today.

The *Canadian Economic Observer* (catalogue no. 10-2300XPB) is \$220 annually in Canada, US\$260 in the United States and US\$310 in other countries. Highlights of the *Canadian Composite Leading Indicator* (catalogue no. 11F0008XFE) are available by fax – the same day of release – for \$70 annually in Canada and US\$70 in the United States.

To order, write to: Statistics Canada, Marketing Division, Sales and Service, 120 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6 or contact the nearest Statistics Canada Reference Centre listed in this publication. If more convenient, fax your order to 1-613-951-1584 or call toll-free 1-800-267-6677 and use your VISA or MasterCard.

