

# The Daily

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## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Consumer price index, August 1995** 2  
The annual inflation rate, as measured by the CPI, slowed for a third consecutive month. A surplus of crude petroleum on the international market and an enhanced supply of fresh vegetables have been the major reasons behind the deceleration since May.
- **Travel between Canada and other countries, July 1995** 4  
Overnight travel by Canadians to the United States, which has been declining since late 1991, fell a further 4.0% in July.

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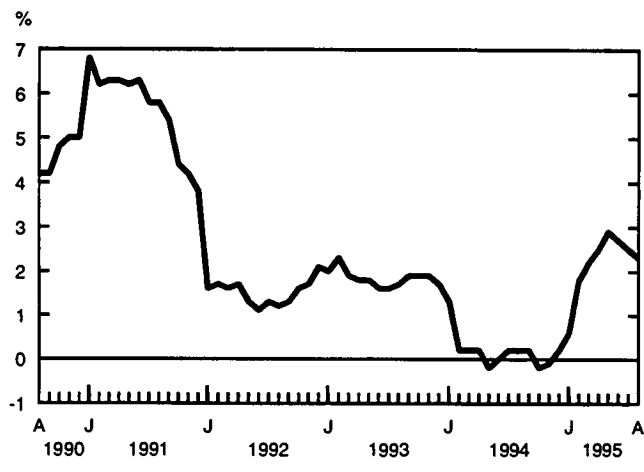
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Consumer price index

August 1995

After peaking at +2.9% in May, the 12-month change in the consumer price index dropped to +2.3% in August. Falling prices for crude petroleum caused the annual change for gasoline to drop from +11.7% in May to -1.4% in August. Over the winter, Hurricane Gordon and other severe storms hammered crops so much that April's fresh vegetable prices were 22.2% higher than a year earlier. Following good summer harvests, however, August prices were 12.4% below their level of last August. Some other food items, air fares, and mortgage interest charges also contributed to the slowing of the annual rate.

Percentage change in the consumer price index from the same month of the previous year



While prices in August were on average 2.3% higher than a year earlier, consumers encountered much higher price increases for new vehicles, vehicle insurance premiums, mortgage loans, tuition fees, and household paper supplies. At the same time, consumers benefited from lower prices for fresh vegetables, energy and clothing.

#### A 0.1% fall in prices between July and August

Between July and August, consumer prices fell an average 0.1% across the nation. The prices of fresh vegetables and gasoline fell sharply. More moderate declines were observed for beef, air transportation, mortgage loans and personal care

supplies. Purchasers of clothing and footwear faced a rebound in prices, while household paper product prices and auto insurance premiums continued to rise.

Fresh vegetable prices fell an average 22.1% between July and August. Although vegetable prices traditionally decline in August when local crops arrive on the market, this decline was unusually large because domestic harvests this summer have been excellent.

Gasoline prices dropped a further 2.9% following smaller drops in June and July. According to the raw materials price index, crude petroleum has been declining in price since May, reflecting an oversupply in the international market and a buildup of inventories serving North American markets.

Clothing and footwear prices advanced 1.0% in August. Some of this increase was seasonal as previously discounted prices returned to normal levels. Independent price increases were also observed, some of which may be related to price increases for raw cotton early in the year. Prices of women's wear, men's wear, footwear and clothing accessories all advanced, but buyers of children's clothing gained some relief as prices fell 1.3%.

Offsetting pressures were added from higher paper product prices and auto insurance premiums. Postal rates also rose in August. Prices of paper products used in the home have risen steadily since January, with the latest jump being 2.7%. These steady increases have resulted in a price advance of 15.1% since August 1994. Auto insurance premiums rose 1.2% in August—the largest monthly rise so far this year. The latest increases occurred in Ontario, Alberta, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

#### Provinces at a glance

Between August 1994 and August 1995, increases in provincial CPIs ranged from 0.9% in New Brunswick to 2.8% in Manitoba. In New Brunswick, declines were noticeable in the indexes for food, clothing and footwear, and health and personal care. In Manitoba, significantly above-average increases were noted for food, shelter, clothing and footwear, and health and personal care.

Between July and August 1995, the CPI fell in all provinces, ranging from -0.5% to -0.1%. The indexes of both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick fell 0.5%. In both provinces, food and transportation charges fell more than the average. Both provinces reported declines in the prices of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products;

at the national level, prices of these products increased marginally.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 7440-7454.

The August 1995 issue of the *Consumer price index* (62-001, \$10/\$100) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Heather Pearl (613-951-9606), Prices Division.

### Consumer price index and its major components (1986=100)

	August 1995	July 1995	August 1994	July 1995 to August 1995	August 1994 to August 1995
	unadjusted				
				% change	
All-items	133.8	134.0	130.8	-0.1	2.3
Food	125.9	127.1	123.7	-0.9	1.8
Shelter	134.1	134.1	132.4	0.0	1.3
Household operations and furnishings	121.7	121.5	118.6	0.2	2.6
Clothing and footwear	131.5	130.2	132.0	1.0	-0.4
Transportation	138.2	138.9	132.9	-0.5	4.0
Health and personal care	135.9	136.1	135.4	-0.1	0.4
Recreation, education and reading	145.3	145.4	138.2	-0.1	5.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	144.1	144.0	140.4	0.1	2.6
Goods	126.5	127.1	124.5	-0.5	1.6
Services	142.5	142.4	138.5	0.1	2.9
All-items excluding food and energy	136.5	136.3	132.9	0.1	2.7
Energy	127.2	129.0	129.1	-1.4	-1.5
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared with 1986	74.7	74.6	76.5		
All-items (1981=100)	177.2				

### Consumer price index for the provinces, Whitehorse and Yellowknife (1986=100)

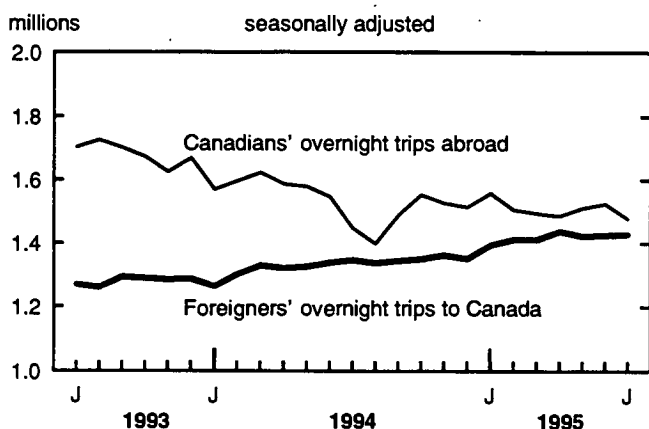
	August 1995	July 1995	August 1994	July 1995 to Au- gust 1995	August 1994 to August 1995
	unadjusted				
				% change	
Newfoundland	127.6	128.0	126.2	-0.3	1.1
Prince Edward Island	131.2	131.4	128.9	-0.2	1.8
Nova Scotia	130.3	131.0	128.7	-0.5	1.2
New Brunswick	129.0	129.7	127.8	-0.5	0.9
Quebec	131.1	131.5	128.4	-0.3	2.1
Ontario	134.8	134.9	131.5	-0.1	2.5
Manitoba	135.7	135.8	132.0	-0.1	2.8
Saskatchewan	136.1	136.2	133.6	-0.1	1.9
Alberta	133.0	133.1	130.2	-0.1	2.2
British Columbia	137.9	138.2	134.6	-0.2	2.5
Whitehorse	130.7	131.2	129.1	-0.4	1.2
Yellowknife	133.7	133.6	129.3	0.1	3.4

## Travel between Canada and other countries

July 1995

In July, Canadians made 1.5 million overnight trips abroad, 3.1% fewer than in June. Trips of one or more nights abroad have been decreasing since December 1991, driven by the downtrend in travel by Canadians to the United States.

### Canadians' overnight trips abroad decreased by 3.1% in July



The increase in the personal exemptions allowed on goods bought while travelling outside Canada, which came into effect in mid-June 1995, did not tempt more Canadians to travel south of the border. Overnight trips to the United States, Canadians' most popular international destination, fell 4.0% to 1.2 million. This type of travel peaked at 1.8 million trips in December 1991, when the Canadian dollar stood at US87 cents. The dollar was valued at US73 cents in July 1995.

In contrast, the upward trend in Canadian travel to overseas countries, which started in June 1991, continued in July 1995. A slight increase (+0.5%) from June brought the number of trips to 295,000.

### Overnight trips to Canada by overseas residents reached a new high

The number of overnight trips to Canada by overseas residents reached a new peak at 326,000 in July, a marginal increase (+0.3%) from the previous month. The upward trend in this type of travel started in mid-1992. Trips to Canada of at least one night by Americans remained at 1.1 million in July.

#### 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).

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 23% in July.

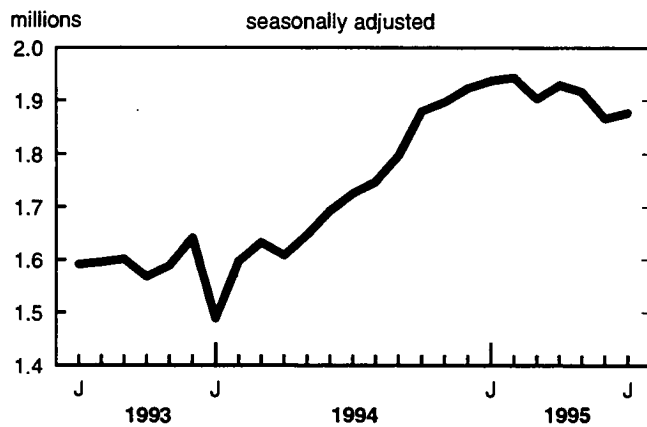
Since travellers from overseas tend to make longer trips to Canada than Americans—in the first quarter of 1995, the average length of stay was nine nights compared with three—the economic impact of an increase in their numbers is significantly greater than that of a comparable rise in the number of American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

### Canadians' same-day cross-border car trips decreased

In July, 3.0 million Canadians crossed the border by car and returned the same day, down 0.5% from June. This type of travel, often used as an indicator of cross-border shopping, has been relatively stable since April 1994.

The number of American visitors who drove back the same day increased 0.6% in July, to 1.9 million. Same-day cross-border car trips to Canada by Americans increased from January 1994 through February 1995, rising 31% over this period. More recently, the number of trips of this type has been fluctuating.

### Same-day cross-border car trips by Americans increased in July



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

The July 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 Ruth Martin (613-951-1791), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

### Same-day cross-border car trips

	Americans to Canada		Canadians to the United States	
	July 1995 <sup>P</sup>	July 1994 to July 1995	July 1995 <sup>P</sup>	July 1994 to July 1995
	unadjusted			
	'000	% change	'000	% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>2,874</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>3,826</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
<b>Province of entry/ re-entry</b>				
New Brunswick	183	-1.8	549	-4.0
Quebec	152	4.2	459	-2.3
Ontario	2,224	6.1	1,679	-5.9
Manitoba	44	0.6	90	-6.2
Saskatchewan	10	-4.1	28	-14.0
Alberta	25	0.7	23	-0.1
British Columbia	229	0.0	992	2.0
Yukon	6	-5.2	5	9.7

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures.

□

# Travel between Canada and other countries

	May 1995 <sup>r</sup>	June 1995 <sup>r</sup>	July 1995 <sup>p</sup>	June 1995 to July 1995
	seasonally adjusted			
	'000		% change	
<b>Canadian trips abroad</b>				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,044	3,031	3,017	-0.5
One or more nights	799	808	805	-0.4
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States <sup>1</sup>	1,213	1,232	1,183	-4.0
Other countries	297	293	295	0.5
<b>Travel to Canada</b>				
Car trips from the United States				
Same-day	1,916	1,866	1,877	0.6
One or more nights	740	746	747	0.2
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States <sup>1</sup>	1,100	1,100	1,102	0.2
Other countries <sup>2</sup>	322	325	326	0.3
	July 1995 <sup>p</sup>	July 1994 to July 1995	January- July 1995 <sup>p</sup>	January- July 1994 to January- July 1995
	unadjusted			
	'000	% change	'000	% change
<b>Canadian trips abroad</b>				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,826	-3.3	20,983	-6.1
One or more nights	1,472	1.2	5,562	-4.4
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States <sup>1</sup>	1,871	0.1	8,508	-4.1
Other countries	275	4.4	2,208	5.5
<b>Travel to Canada</b>				
Car trips from the United States				
Same-day	2,874	4.8	12,828	14.2
One or more nights	1,659	-2.8	4,964	2.4
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States <sup>1</sup>	2,261	-1.3	7,294	3.6
Other countries <sup>2</sup>	656	11.2	2,137	13.0

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

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

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Construction union wage rate index August 1995

The construction union wage rate index (including supplements) remained unchanged in August 1995 at July's level of 136.9. On a year-over-year basis, the composite index increased 0.1% to 136.9 in August 1995, from 136.8 in August 1994.

Construction union wage rates and indexes (1986=100) comprise union wage rates for 16 trades in 22 metropolitan areas (including the basic rate and rates that include selected supplementary payments) and indexes for those cities where most of the trades are covered by collective agreements.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 956, 958 and 2033-2038.**

The third quarter 1995 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007, \$23/\$76) will be available in December. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848) Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

### Steel primary forms

Week ending September 9, 1995 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending September 9, 1995, totalled 255 188 tonnes, down 2.2% from 260 823 tonnes a week earlier and down 9.1% from 280 606 tonnes a year earlier.

The year-to-date total at the end of the week was 10 127 422 tonnes, a 7.1% increase from 9 455 505 tonnes for the same period in 1994.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

### Shipments of rolled steel

July 1995

Rolled steel shipments for July 1995 totalled 921 454 tonnes, down 18.0% from 1 123 178 tonnes in June 1995 and down 6.4% from 984 857 tonnes in July 1994.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of July 1995 totalled 7 764 696 tonnes, up 0.1% from 7 753 686 tonnes the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).**

The July 1995 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

### Selected financial indexes

August 1995

Data from August 1995 are now available for the selected financial indexes (1986=100).

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 2031.**

The third quarter 1995 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007, \$23/\$76) will be available in December. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

### Fruit and vegetable production

September 1995

The most recent updates to data on the area, production and value of fruits and vegetables are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 1371-1393, 1395, 1397-1399, 1401-1406, 5587-5590, 5593-5610, 5614-5620, 5624 and 5627.**

The September 1995 issue of *Fruit and vegetable production* (22-003, \$29/\$115) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Bill Parsons (613-951-8727), Agriculture Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

### **Chemical and chemical products industries, 1993**

#### **Catalogue number 46-250**

(Canada: \$38; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

### **Air carrier operations in Canada, July-September 1994**

#### **Catalogue number 51-002**

(Canada: \$30/\$99; United States: US\$36/US\$119; other countries: US\$42/US\$139).

### **Divorces, 1993, microfiche version**

#### **Catalogue number 84-2130XMB**

(Canada: \$25; United States: US\$30; other countries: US\$35).

### **Divorces, 1993, paper version**

#### **Catalogue number 84-2130XPB**

(Canada: \$30; United States: US\$36; other countries: US\$42).

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

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Release date	Title	Reference period
18	Monthly survey of manufacturing	July 1995
18	Canadian social trends	Autumn 1995
19	Technology use and industrial transformation: empirical perspectives	
19	Education quarterly review	Fall 1995
20	Canadian international trade	July 1995
20	Retail trade	July 1995
21	Wholesale trade	July 1995
21	Canadian economic observer	September 1995
22	National population health survey	

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