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Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

● Monthly survey of manufacturing, July 1995

Total shipments were almost flat in July as weakness in the auto sector offset growth in other industries, while inventories rose again after a one-month pause in June. Unfilled orders increased after two monthly declines.

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OTHER RELEASES

Telephone statistics, July 1995

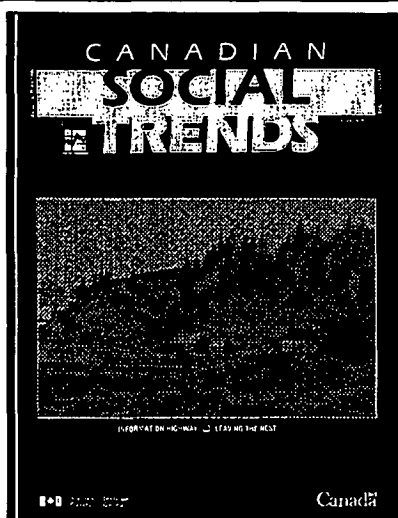
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Soft drinks, August 1995

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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Canadian social trends

Autumn 1995

The feature articles in the Autumn 1995 issue of *Canadian social trends* are: "Preparing for the information highway: Information technology in Canadian households"; "Employment of people with disabilities"; "Leaving the nest? The impact of family structure"; "Alcohol use and its consequences"; and, "Vancouver's diverse and growing population."

Each quarter, *Canadian social trends* integrates data from many sources to examine emerging social trends and issues. It also features the latest social indicators, as well as information about Statistics Canada's products and services.

The Autumn 1995 issue of *Canadian social trends* (11-008E, \$9/\$34) is now available. See "How to order publications."

For further information on this release, contact Cynthia Silver (613-951-2556), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



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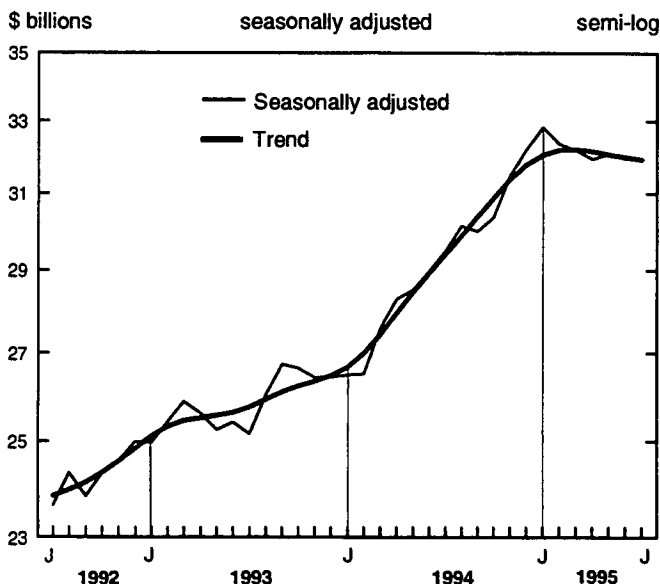
MAJOR RELEASES

Monthly survey of manufacturing

July 1995

Manufacturers' shipments fell slightly to \$31.9 billion (-0.1%) in July, extending the lull in shipments that has marked 1995. The July decrease was concentrated in 8 of 22 major groups (representing only 33% of total shipments). By far the largest monthly decrease (in current dollars) was in transportation equipment (-6.7%), particularly in its largest component, motor vehicles (-10.2%). Shipments increased significantly for primary metals (+7.9%), electrical and electronic products (+5.2%) and paper and allied products (+3.6%). Overall, monthly shipments remained 8.3% higher than in July 1994.

Total shipments were almost flat in July



Inventories rose (+1.2%) in July, after a pause in June. The July increase in inventories, combined with the small decline in shipments, produced an inventories-to-shipments ratio of 1.40, an increase from 1.38 in June.

Unfilled orders increased in July (+1.4%), in contrast with June's 1.5% decline. New orders were also up (+3.1%).

Definitions

Unfilled orders are the stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments, assuming orders are not cancelled.

New orders are the sum of shipments for the current month (that is, orders received and shipped in the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

Shipments edged down slightly

Manufacturers' shipments edged down 0.1% in July, following a 0.4% decrease in June. Monthly shipments were 2.8% lower than the last peak (January 1995) but 8.3% higher than in July 1994. The drop in July, largely caused by a decline in the auto sector, was almost offset by an increase in the rest of manufacturing. Shipments of motor vehicles were down (-10.2%) as sluggish demand and longer than normal summer plant closures dampened manufacturing activity. Shipments of motor vehicle parts and accessories also fell, but by a relatively small amount (-0.8%).

These decreases were partly offset by strong growth in the primary metals (+7.9%), electrical and electronic products (+5.2%), and paper and allied products (+3.6%) industries. The strength of the paper and allied products industry stemmed only partly from higher prices, which were up 1.5%.

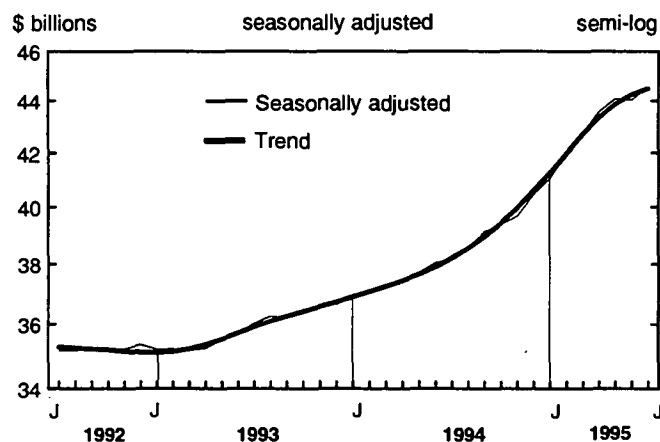
The motor vehicle industry's shipment figures for August might improve compared with July because there were reports of strong August sales in the United States.

After pausing in June, growth in inventories resumed

Inventories rose 1.2% in July, marking a return to growth after a small decline in June, which interrupted 20 months of consecutive increases. Motor vehicle inventories rose 22.6% and accounted for nearly half the increase in total inventories. Manufacturers have been accumulating supplies in anticipation of the new model year, after having reduced them before the summer vacation period. As well, July's below-average shipments may not have drawn down finished product inventories as expected.

Inventories of paper and allied products (+3.2%) and primary metals (+2.7%) also rose significantly. These increases were only partly offset by drops in electrical and electronic products (-9.0%) and other transportation equipment (-16.6%) inventories.

Inventories resumed growing



July's increase in inventories, along with the slight decline in shipments, pushed the inventories-to-shipments ratio up from 1.38 to 1.40. This was the sixth increase in as many months, and it left the ratio at a level last reached in February 1994.

The latest Business Conditions Survey (July 1995) indicated that a larger percentage of manufacturers felt that inventories were too high compared with a year earlier.

Unfilled orders also rose

Manufacturers added to their backlog in July as unfilled orders climbed 1.4%. The increase came on the heels of a significant decline in June, which interrupted 17 months of growth. Most of the increase was in the aircraft and parts industry (+6.7%), with smaller contributions from the machinery (+1.5%) and primary metals (+3.2%) industries. Decreases were reported in unfilled orders of motor vehicles (-1.5%) and trucks, buses and trailers (-7.7%).

After June's negative showing, new orders rose 3.1% in July, led by more new orders for aircraft and parts (+60.3%) and primary metals (+16.0%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9579 and 9581-9582.

The July 1995 issue of *Monthly survey of manufacturing* (31-001, \$19/\$190) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

Detailed data on shipments by province are available on request. For further information, or to order, contact Robert Traversy, Information and Classification Section (613-951-9497), or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division. □

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventories- to- shipments ratio
seasonally adjusted									
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
July 1994	29,485	1.8	38,164	0.3	31,373	1.3	29,874	2.5	1.29
August 1994	30,116	2.1	38,528	1.0	31,762	1.2	30,504	2.1	1.28
September 1994	29,978	-0.5	39,128	1.6	32,483	2.3	30,699	0.6	1.31
October 1994	30,363	1.3	39,372	0.6	32,796	1.0	30,676	-0.1	1.30
November 1994	31,463	3.6	39,682	0.8	32,948	0.5	31,615	3.1	1.26
December 1994	32,180	2.3	40,439	1.9	33,505	1.7	32,737	3.5	1.26
January 1995	32,830	2.0	41,055	1.5	33,848	1.0	33,173	1.3	1.25
February 1995	32,353	-1.5	42,036	2.4	34,323	1.4	32,828	-1.0	1.30
March 1995	32,177	-0.5	42,774	1.8	34,428	0.3	32,281	-1.7	1.33
April 1995	31,927	-0.8	43,547	1.8	34,519	0.3	32,018	-0.8	1.36
May 1995	32,067	0.4	44,078	1.2	34,397	-0.4	31,945	-0.2	1.37
June 1995	31,952	-0.4	44,033	-0.1	33,879	-1.5	31,434	-1.6	1.38
July 1995	31,919	-0.1	44,551	1.2	34,362	1.4	32,401	3.1	1.40

OTHER RELEASES

Telephone statistics

July 1995

The 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$1,170.1 million in July 1995, up 1.7% from July 1994.

Operating expenses totalled \$902.5 million, up 3.2% from July 1994. Net operating revenues totalled \$267.6 million, a 2.9% decrease from July 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

The July 1995 issue of *Telephone statistics* (56-002, \$9/\$90) will be released shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact J.R. Slattery (613-951-2205), Services, Science and Technology Division. ■

Soft drinks

August 1995

Data for August 1995 on the production of soft drinks are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 196.

The August 1995 issue of *Monthly production of soft drinks* (32-001, \$3/\$30) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Canadian social trends, Autumn 1995

Catalogue number 11-008E

(Canada: \$9/\$34; United States: US\$11/US\$41; other countries: US\$12/US\$48).

Primary iron and steel, July 1995

Catalogue number 41-001

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Oil pipeline transport, June 1995

Catalogue number 55-001

(Canada: \$11/\$110; United States: US\$14/US\$132; other countries: US\$16/US\$154).

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