

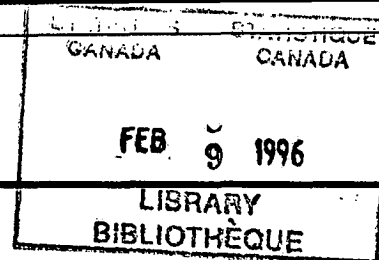


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 9, 1996

For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Labour force survey, January 1996** 2
Despite gains in employment, the unemployment rate rose in January by 0.2 percentage points to 9.6%, as the number of adults looking for work rose by 29,000. This increase in the unemployment rate follows three months where it remained unchanged at 9.4%.
- **New housing price index, December 1995** 6
In the 18 months since June 1994, prices of new housing have dropped across Canada, a result of low consumer confidence that has also contributed to a sharp decline in housing construction starts.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Labour force survey

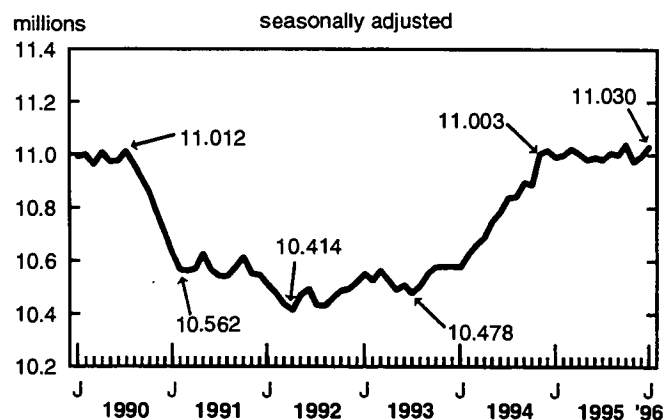
January 1996

Employment rose by 44,000 in January, bringing the gain over the past six months to 126,000 jobs. This follows a pause in growth during the first six months of 1995. Despite these gains, the unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage points to 9.6%, as the number of adults looking for work rose by 29,000. This increase in the unemployment rate follows three months where it remained unchanged at 9.4%.

Growth in full-time jobs

Full-time employment rose by 37,000 in January, the second consecutive monthly increase after a sharp decline in November. Despite some growth in the second half of 1995, full-time employment remained little changed from a year earlier.

Full-time employment



Part-time employment increased slightly in January, bringing the gain in November, December and January to 63,000. Growth in part-time employment has been on an upward trend since the first quarter of 1995, with the gains since March totalling 124,000.

Introducing change to the Labour Force Survey

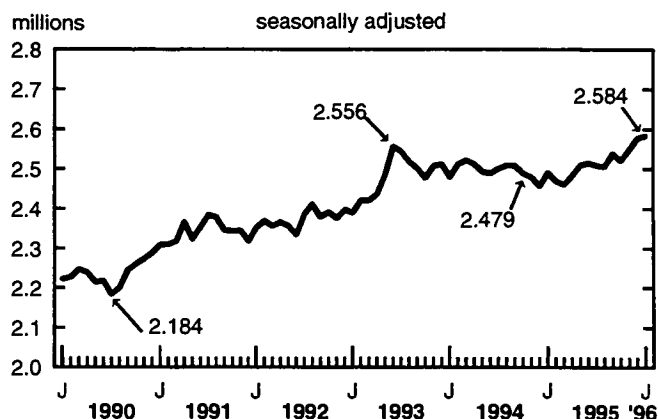
The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is undergoing a major redesign, the final phase of which involves the implementation of a new questionnaire by January 1997. Although new content associated with the redesign will not be available until 1997, some changes were introduced in January 1996, in order to align the outputs from the current questionnaire with the new questionnaire.

These changes include modifying the definition of part-time employment; limiting job description information and reason for leaving last job to those with recent work experience; and collecting information on work absence and overtime for paid employees only. Historical series in all LFS products have been adjusted back to 1976 to reflect these changes.

An article "Moving with the times: Introducing change to the LFS" provides an analysis of the impacts of these modifications to the affected historical series. The article is available by mail free of charge. It can also be accessed under "What's new?" on the Internet at <http://www.statcan.ca>.

Information on wages, union membership and workplace size will be available in 1997 from the redesigned questionnaire. A report titled "Redesigning the Canadian Labour Force Survey questionnaire" outlines the changes and is available by calling 613-951-2793.

Part-time employment



These trends in full- and part-time employment are based on a new definition, which is based on the main job of the respondent. For further information, see today's sidebar titled "Introducing change to the Labour Force Survey".

Job gains for adults

January's growth in employment was concentrated among adults 25 years and over (+43,000), with women accounting for almost two-thirds (+27,000) of the gain. This increase brought employment growth for adults in the past six months to 142,000.

By contrast, youth employment has remained virtually unchanged for two months. After fluctuating monthly in 1995, youth employment was down by 60,000 jobs (-2.8%) compared with January 1995.

Trends by industry

In January, employment in the services-producing industries grew by 34,000, the sixth consecutive monthly increase. During this period, growth in these industries has totalled 130,000 jobs (+1.3%), against slower growth of 42,000 jobs during the first six months of 1995. Since July, hours worked in the services-producing industries have also increased, but at a slower pace (+0.8%). January's employment growth was strongest in finance, insurance, and real estate (+14,000), which recorded its first increase after two months of losses. Smaller increases were spread among the other services-producing industries.

Employment in the goods-producing industries was up slightly in January (+17,000), following no growth in December. Despite the increase, employment in these industries has decreased by 20,000 (-0.5%) from a year earlier, with hours worked falling by 1.2%. Both agriculture and manufacturing contributed to January's job growth in the goods-producing industries.

Provincial labour markets

In January, employment fell by 4,000 in Newfoundland, after four months of little change. These losses, along with higher labour force participation in the province, combined to increase the unemployment rate to 19.6%, its highest level since December 1994. Nova Scotia also experienced an employment loss of 4,000, its first decrease after six months of steady growth.

In Quebec, job gains in January totalled 28,000, bringing the growth in the past six months to 59,000. These gains contrast with the first six months of 1995, when there was no employment growth. Recent gains have been concentrated in the services-producing industries.

In Ontario, employment has shown little change during the last three months, after having gained a total of 43,000 jobs in September and October. Employment in the province is up slightly (+22,000) from January 1995, with gains in manufacturing, as well as transportation, communications and other utilities.

Employment in Saskatchewan decreased by 3,000 in January, after three months of little change. With this decrease, employment in the province is down by 5,000 jobs compared with a year earlier.

There were employment gains in Alberta (+9,000) and British Columbia (+20,000) for a second consecutive month. In Alberta, employment is up 23,000 (+1.7%) over January 1995; in British Columbia, it has increased by 34,000 (+1.9%).

In the other provinces, there was little change in employment levels in January.

LFS information line

Get the commentary and key survey estimates as soon as they are released at 7:00 a.m. on release day. Dial 613-951-9448, then follow the step-by-step instructions for selecting recorded information.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2074, 2075 and 2078-2107 and 00799999.

The Labour Force Survey is now available at 7:00 a.m. on release day on the Internet at <http://www.statcan.ca> under "What's new?"

For a summary, *Labour force information, for the week ending January 20, 1996* (71-001-PPB, \$10/\$100) is available today, as is a facsimile version (71-001-PFB, \$300 annually). The January 1996 issue of *The labour force* (71-001-XPB, \$23/\$230) will be available the third week of February. See "How to order publications".

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on March 8.

For further information on this release, contact Doug Drew (613-951-4720), Jean-Marc Lévesque (613-951-2301) or the LFS information line (613-951-9448), Household Surveys Division. □

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Dec. 1995 to Jan. 1996	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Dec. 1995 to Jan. 1996
seasonally adjusted						
Labour force			Participation rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	14,981	15,052	0.5	64.7	64.9	0.2
Newfoundland	237	240	1.3	52.2	53.0	0.8
Prince Edward Island	71	71	0.0	66.9	67.4	0.5
Nova Scotia	441	441	0.0	60.1	60.1	0.0
New Brunswick	355	354	-0.3	59.3	59.1	-0.2
Quebec	3,633	3,652	0.5	62.3	62.5	0.2
Ontario	5,747	5,774	0.5	65.5	65.7	0.2
Manitoba	562	563	0.2	66.0	66.1	0.1
Saskatchewan	496	493	-0.6	66.0	65.6	-0.4
Alberta	1,497	1,504	0.5	71.9	72.1	0.2
British Columbia	1,945	1,967	1.1	65.3	65.8	0.5
Employment			Employment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	13,570	13,614	0.3	58.6	58.7	0.1
Newfoundland	197	193	-2.0	43.4	42.6	-0.8
Prince Edward Island	61	61	0.0	57.5	58.0	0.5
Nova Scotia	395	391	-1.0	53.8	53.3	-0.5
New Brunswick	315	313	-0.6	52.6	52.3	-0.3
Quebec	3,225	3,253	0.9	55.3	55.7	0.4
Ontario	5,258	5,261	0.1	59.9	59.9	0.0
Manitoba	518	516	-0.4	60.9	60.6	-0.3
Saskatchewan	461	458	-0.7	61.4	61.0	-0.4
Alberta	1,380	1,389	0.7	66.3	66.6	0.3
British Columbia	1,766	1,786	1.1	59.3	59.8	0.5
Unemployment			Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	1,411	1,438	1.9	9.4	9.6	0.2
Newfoundland	40	47	17.5	16.9	19.6	2.7
Prince Edward Island	10	10	0.0	14.1	13.9	-0.2
Nova Scotia	46	50	8.7	10.4	11.3	0.9
New Brunswick	40	41	2.5	11.3	11.6	0.3
Quebec	408	399	-2.2	11.2	10.9	-0.3
Ontario	489	513	4.9	8.5	8.9	0.4
Manitoba	44	47	6.8	7.8	8.3	0.5
Saskatchewan	35	35	0.0	7.1	7.1	0.0
Alberta	117	115	-1.7	7.8	7.6	-0.2
British Columbia	179	181	1.1	9.2	9.2	0.0

Note: Provincial estimates may differ from the national totals due to independent seasonal adjustment.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Jan. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995 to Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995 to Jan. 1996
unadjusted						
Labour force			Participation rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	14,600	14,742	1.0	63.8	63.6	-0.2
Newfoundland	229	221	-3.6	50.2	48.6	-1.6
Prince Edward Island	64	68	5.2	61.6	64.0	2.4
Nova Scotia	420	425	1.1	57.6	57.9	0.3
New Brunswick	336	332	-1.4	56.4	55.4	-1.0
Quebec	3,541	3,574	1.0	61.3	61.2	-0.1
Ontario	5,638	5,677	0.7	65.1	64.6	-0.5
Manitoba	552	553	0.1	65.2	64.9	-0.3
Saskatchewan	484	485	0.2	64.7	64.6	-0.1
Alberta	1,458	1,482	1.7	71.0	71.0	0.0
British Columbia	1,879	1,927	2.5	64.4	64.5	0.1
Employment			Employment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	13,058	13,200	1.1	57.0	56.9	-0.1
Newfoundland	184	175	-4.8	40.4	38.6	-1.8
Prince Edward Island	52	56	7.4	49.8	52.9	3.1
Nova Scotia	361	371	2.6	49.6	50.5	0.9
New Brunswick	290	290	0.1	48.6	48.4	-0.2
Quebec	3,072	3,135	2.1	53.1	53.7	0.6
Ontario	5,115	5,136	0.4	59.1	58.5	-0.6
Manitoba	505	502	-0.6	59.6	59.0	-0.6
Saskatchewan	450	445	-0.9	60.2	59.3	-0.9
Alberta	1,335	1,361	2.0	65.0	65.2	0.2
British Columbia	1,694	1,729	2.0	58.1	57.8	-0.3
Unemployment			Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	1,543	1,542	-0.0	10.6	10.5	-0.1
Newfoundland	45	45	1.4	19.6	20.6	1.0
Prince Edward Island	12	12	-4.2	19.1	17.4	-1.7
Nova Scotia	59	54	-7.8	13.9	12.7	-1.2
New Brunswick	47	42	-10.4	13.8	12.6	-1.2
Quebec	469	439	-6.3	13.2	12.3	-0.9
Ontario	523	541	3.5	9.3	9.5	0.2
Manitoba	47	51	7.6	8.5	9.1	0.6
Saskatchewan	34	39	15.1	7.0	8.1	1.1
Alberta	123	121	-1.5	8.4	8.2	-0.2
British Columbia	185	198	7.2	9.8	10.3	0.5

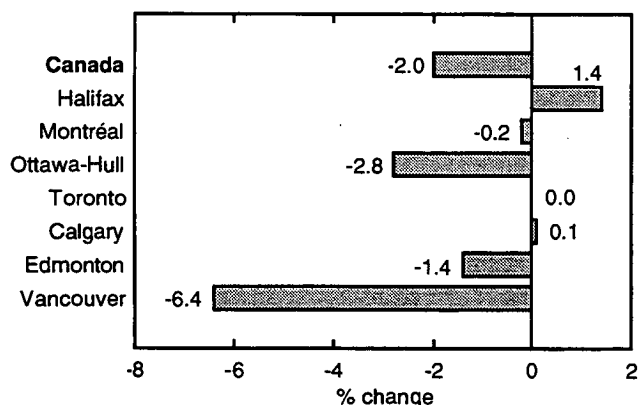
New housing price index

December 1995

In the 18 months since June 1994, prices of new housing have dropped across Canada, a result of low consumer confidence that has also contributed to a sharp decline in housing construction starts.

In fact, from June 1994 to December 1995, the new housing price index has dropped 2.3%. (The index measures fluctuations in the prices of new single-family dwellings, townhouses and semi-detached dwellings.) Moreover, December 1995 represented the 18th consecutive month in which the index showed a negative year-over-year percentage change. The composite index declined 2.0% during 1995.

New housing price indexes
December 1994 to December 1995



Prices of new housing have continued to drop dramatically on the West Coast and, to a lesser degree, in the nation's capital. Comparing December 1994 with December 1995, housing prices dropped 9.5% in Victoria, 6.4% in Vancouver and 2.8% in Ottawa-Hull. To generate sales in the sluggish markets in these and other cities, home-builders have reduced prices or offered incentives such as mortgages at reduced rates, free appliances, finished recreation rooms or other upgrades.

Nationally, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has indicated that housing starts covered by the index dropped 32.3% from 1994 to 1995.

The short-term outlook for housing construction remains weak. In 1995, annual housing construction intentions as measured by the value of residential building permits were down 23.2% compared with 1994. This was the largest annual drop since 1982. Apparently, stable or declining mortgage rates and lower house prices have failed to overcome consumers' concerns about their economic situations.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The fourth quarter 1995 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007, \$19/\$76) will be available in March. 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. □

**New housing price indexes
(1986=100)**

	Dec. 1994	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Dec. 1994 to Dec. 1995	Nov. 1995 to Dec. 1995
	% change				
Canada total	135.8	133.1	133.1	-2.0	-
House only	125.3	122.8	123.0	-1.8	0.2
Land only	169.0	166.1	166.1	-1.7	-
St. John's	127.8	127.1	127.1	-0.5	-
Halifax	119.4	121.1	121.1	1.4	-
Charlottetown	..	116.6	116.1	..	-0.4
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	115.6	114.6	114.6	-0.9	-
Québec	134.4	135.8	135.8	1.0	-
Montréal	137.4	137.1	137.1	-0.2	-
Ottawa-Hull	122.9	119.4	119.4	-2.8	-
Toronto	137.5	136.9	137.5	-	0.4
Hamilton	127.6	124.7	125.1	-2.0	0.3
St. Catharines-Niagara	121.8	121.3	121.6	-0.2	0.2
Kitchener-Waterloo	123.2	121.3	122.3	-0.7	0.8
London	146.5	140.4	141.3	-3.5	0.6
Windsor	128.1	128.3	128.3	0.2	-
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	137.7	137.4	137.4	-0.2	-
Winnipeg	116.9	118.2	118.1	1.0	-0.1
Regina	128.2	132.4	132.4	3.3	-
Saskatoon	112.1	114.2	114.2	1.9	-
Calgary	141.1	141.6	141.3	0.1	-0.2
Edmonton	147.5	145.5	145.5	-1.4	-
Vancouver	142.7	133.9	133.5	-6.4	-0.3
Victoria	125.4	114.5	113.5	-9.5	-0.9

.. Figures not available.
- Nil or zero.

OTHER RELEASES

Federal government finance

1994/95 (revised) and 1995/96 (revised)

Revenues and expenditures for both fiscal years are expected to be lower than stated in the original estimates. For 1994/95, revised expenditures of \$174.2 billion exceed revenues by \$37.2 billion. Expenditures for 1995/96 are now estimated at \$177.7 billion, which are \$2.3 billion less than the previous calculation. The deficit continues to be estimated at \$32.2 billion.

Revised data on the federal government's revenues and expenditures are now available on a financial management system (FMS) basis for the fiscal years 1994/95 and 1995/96. These revised data incorporate data from the "Economic and fiscal update" of December 1995. Additional information was supplied by the Department of Finance.

All reference years include the financial transactions of the departments, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions that are considered to be part of the federal government for statistical purposes. Excluded are the revenues and expenditures of federal government business enterprises. These are incorporated in other statistical series published by Public Institutions Division.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2780.

For further information on this release, contact Robert Loggie (613-951-1809), or Paul Blouin (613-951-8563), Public Institutions Division.

Custom tabulations of these data are available. For more information about the products and services of Public Institutions Division, contact Jo-Anne Thibault (613-951-0767). ■

Trusteed pension funds: Financial statistics 1994

The assets of trusteed pension funds (\$311.5 billion at market value at the end of 1994) represent one of the largest pools of capital in Canada, second only to the financial assets of chartered banks. These trusteed funds hold close to two-thirds of the assets of all employer-sponsored pension plans.

Data for 1994 from the Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds are now available. This survey is a census of all trusteed pension funds in the country. It details the income, expenditures and investment portfolio (book and market value) of these funds.

The 1994 issue of *Trusteed pension funds: Financial statistics* (74-201, \$) will be available in April. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Thomas Dufour (613-951-2088) or Johanne Pineau (613-951-4034), Pensions Section, Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087). ■

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending January 21, 1996

Carloadings of freight (excluding intermodal traffic) during the seven-day period ending January 21, 1996 decreased 14.7% to 4.0 million tonnes. The number of cars loaded decreased 13.9% from the same period of last year.

Intermodal traffic (piggyback) tonnage totalled 264 000 tonnes during the seven days, a 17.9% decrease from the same period of last year. The year-to-date figures showed a decrease of 17.4%.

Total traffic (carloadings of freight and intermodal traffic) decreased 14.9% during the seven-day period. This brought the year-to-date total to 12.8 million tonnes, a 10.1% decrease from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

Steel primary forms

December 1995

Steel primary forms production for December totalled 1 139 041 tonnes, a 1.6% decrease from 1 157 754 tonnes in December 1994.

Year-to-date production in 1995 reached 14 313 166 tonnes, up 3.7% from 13 800 328 tonnes in 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

The December 1995 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001-XPB, \$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. ■

Footwear

Fourth quarter 1995

In the fourth quarter of 1995, footwear manufacturers made 4,425,421 pairs of footwear, a 14.0% decrease from 5,143,622 pairs (revised) a year earlier.

Footwear production in 1995 totalled 19,865,646 pairs (revised), down 12.7% from 22,760,171 pairs (revised) produced during 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 8.

The fourth quarter 1995 issue of *Footwear statistics* (33-002-XPB, \$8/\$24) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Don Grant (613-951-5998), Industry Division. ■

Egg production

December 1995

Egg production in December totalled 41.1 million dozen, a 0.8% decrease from December 1994. The average number of layers decreased 0.1%, but the number of eggs per 100 layers increased from 2,244 to 2,249.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production and stocks of eggs and poultry* (\$115/year), contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039), Agriculture Division.

For further information on this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-2860), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Pack of processed blueberries

1995

Data for 1995 on the pack of processed blueberries are now available.

Pack of selected fruits (excluding apples), 1995 (32-234-XPB, \$14) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

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

Annual survey of manufactures

1994

The Annual Survey of Manufactures provides information on over 200 different industries. Principal statistics for each industry will be released as they become available. Data for the industries listed in the table below are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5441, 5452, 5463, 5506, 5553 and 6890.

Data for the industries listed in the table will appear in *Clothing industries* (34-252-XPB, \$38), *Wood industries* (35-250-XPB, \$53), *Primary metal industries* (41-250-XPB, \$38), *Transportation equipment industries* (42-251-XPB, \$38) and *Other manufacturing industries* (47-250-XPB, \$38). The publications will be released at a later date. See "How to order publications". □

Value of shipments

	1993	1994	1993 to 1994	Catalogue	Contact	Phone (613)
	\$ millions		% change			
Industry (SIC)						
Men's and boys' suit and jacket (2432)	502.0	553.0	10.2	34-252-XPB	N. Charron	951-3510
Occupational clothing (2492)	181.7	179.7	-1.1	34-252-XPB	N. Charron	951-3510
Prefabricated wooden buildings (2541)	340.5	338.0	-0.7	35-250-XPB	B. Pépin	951-3516
Steel foundries (2912)	216.0	249.8	15.6	41-250-XPB	A. Shinnan	951-3515
Non-commercial trailer (3243)	279.2	349.1	25.0	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	951-3515
Sporting goods (3931)	847.2	1,032.3	21.9	47-250-XPB	S. O'Brien	951-3514

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Oils and fats, amended survey, September 1995

Catalogue number 32-006-XPB

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

Steel wire and specified wire products,

December 1995

Catalogue number 41-006-XPB

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

Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing, December 1995

Catalogue number 41-011-XPB

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

Factory sales of electric storage batteries,

December 1995

Catalogue number 43-005-XPB

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

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins,

December 1995

Catalogue number 46-002-XPB

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

Canadian international merchandise trade,

November 1995

Catalogue number 65-001-XPB

(Canada: \$19/\$182; United States: US\$22/US\$219; other countries: US\$26/US\$255).

Health reports, 1995, vol. 7, no. 3

Catalogue number 82-003

(Canada: \$34/\$112; United States: US\$41/US\$135; other countries: US\$48/US\$157).

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RELEASE DATES

February 12-16

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
12	New motor vehicle sales	December 1995
13	Cancer statistics	1996
15	Consumer price index	January 1996
15	Composite index	January 1996
16	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 1995
16	Monthly survey of manufacturing	December 1995