



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, October 18, 2000

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, August 2000**
Manufacturers' shipments rose for the third time in four months in August, led by demand for high-tech products from the electrical and electronic products industry. Firms shipped \$45.4 billion worth of goods, up 2.0% from July.

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- **Homicide statistics, 1999**
The national homicide rate declined to its lowest point in more than three decades in 1999; 536 individuals were killed, 22 fewer than in 1998. The rate dropped 4% to its lowest level since 1967.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

August 2000

Manufacturers' shipments rose for the third time in four months in August, led by demand for high-tech products from the electrical and electronic products industry. Shipments increased in 14 of the 22 major manufacturing groups, representing 66.2% of total shipments. Shipments rose in six of the provinces.

Shipments by province and the territories

| | July 2000 | August 2000 | July to August 2000 |
|--|--------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| seasonally adjusted | | | |
| | \$ millions | | % change |
| Newfoundland | 195 | 169 | -13.6 |
| Prince Edward Island | 76 | 81 | 7.1 |
| Nova Scotia | 680 | 745 | 9.5 |
| New Brunswick | 901 | 884 | -1.9 |
| Quebec | 10,788 | 11,271 | 4.5 |
| Ontario | 23,841 | 24,164 | 1.4 |
| Manitoba | 898 | 882 | -1.8 |
| Saskatchewan | 570 | 590 | 3.5 |
| Alberta | 3,451 | 3,508 | 1.7 |
| British Columbia | 3,095 | 3,077 | -0.6 |
| Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut | 4 | 3 | -24.4 |

Firms shipped \$45.4 billion worth of goods in August, up 2.0% from July. The electrical and electronic products industry was the major contributor, accounting for half the August increase and about one-tenth of the monthly total.

Shipments have grown 4.6% since the beginning of the year, and were 8.0% higher than August 1999. The trend of manufacturers' shipments has been rising since the summer of 1998.

Unfilled orders remained stable this month, while inventories increased.

Substantial gains in electronics shipments

Companies in the electrical and electronic products industry shipped product worth \$4.5 billion in August, up 10.7% from July. This rise was concentrated in the communication and electronic parts and components segments.

Shipments of electrical and electronic products have increased considerably over the past few years. In 1997, the electrical and electronic products industry was the fifth largest source of manufactured goods in

Note to readers

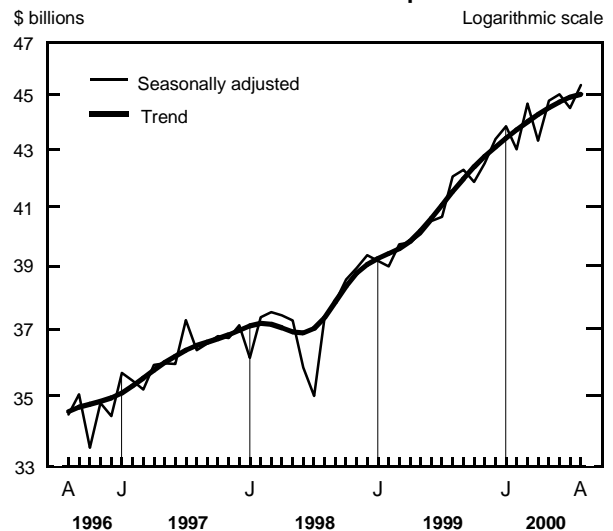
Unfilled orders are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

New orders represent orders received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. Users should be aware that the month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile, particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is large in relation to the current month's change.

Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries.

Canada. By 1998, the industry had climbed into third place. Since then, shipments of electrical and electronic products have been growing rapidly, while gains in the food industry have been more modest. If the current trends in these two industries persist, the electrical and electronic products industry will surpass food as the second largest manufacturing sector in the near future.

Manufacturers' shipments spurred on by rise in electrical and electronics products



Advances were also recorded in the motor vehicle industry (+2.4%), the machinery industry (+7.7%) and the aircraft and parts industry (+8.1%). In August, both

the motor vehicle and machinery industries bounced back from weak showings in the previous month. In July, an extended maintenance shutdown in one plant and a fire in another hampered the motor vehicle industry, and manufacturers in the machinery industry curtailed shipments in order to concentrate on completing larger projects.

The major offsetting decline occurred in the wood industry; its shipments were off 2.5% in August. The prices of lumber, sawmill, and other wood products dropped 1.6% in August, as a result of weak demand in the North American market. This led manufacturers to shut down for a longer-than-normal vacation in August.

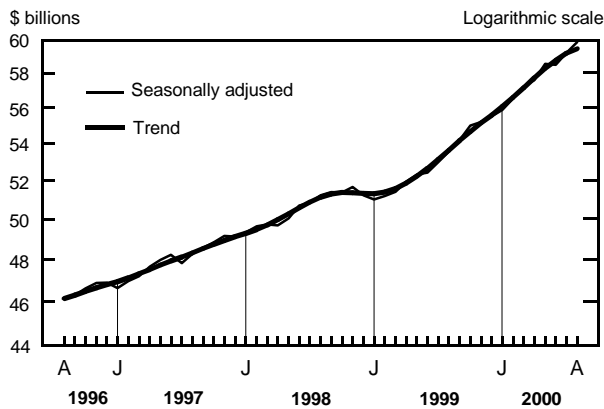
Inventories continued to rise

Manufacturers' inventories rose 1.1% in August to \$59.9 billion. Inventories have been growing steadily since February 1999, with the exception of a negligible decline in June of this year.

The upsurge is largely a result of a substantial increase in goods in process inventories (+3.2%). Modest gains were also recorded in raw materials inventories (+0.5%) and finished product inventories (+0.2%).

The major contributor to August's rise in inventories was the aircraft and parts industry (+4.1%); most of the growth was in goods in process inventories. Other significant contributors were the motor vehicles industry (+10.2%) and the electrical and electronic products industry (+1.8%). The motor vehicle industry experienced the rise primarily in goods in process inventories, while the electrical and electronic products industry saw increases primarily in raw materials.

Manufacturers' inventories rose led by increases in the aircraft and parts industry



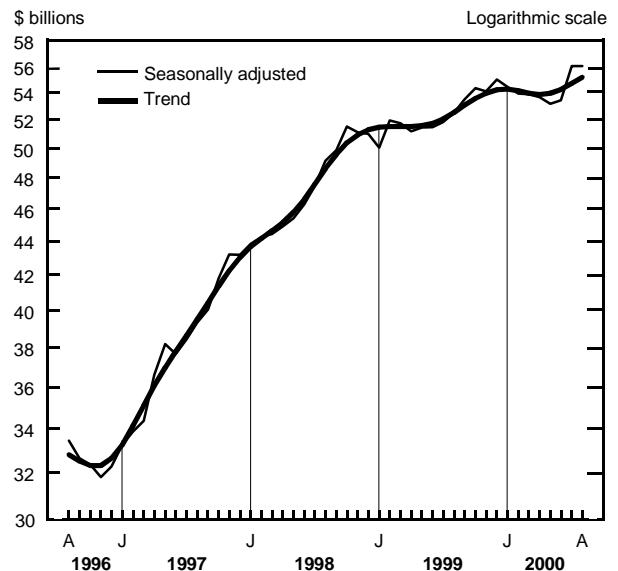
The main offsetting decrease in inventories occurred in the refined petroleum and coal industry (-2.2%). Declines were concentrated in finished product inventories.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio dropped slightly to 1.32 from 1.33 in July. As a result of similar rises in both shipments and inventories, the trend of the inventory-to-shipments ratio, which had been edging upwards in previous months, remained stable.

Unfilled orders steady, new orders down

The backlog of unfilled orders among manufacturers remained at a steady \$56.0 billion in August. A decrease in unfilled orders in the motor vehicle industry (-9.1%), resulting from slow demand for heavy trucks, was offset by an increase in the aircraft and parts industry (+0.5%) and a number of smaller increases in various other industries.

Unfilled orders unchanged



New orders (-3.6%) failed to sustain the record level set in July, which was brought about by a large jump in new orders in the aircraft and parts industry. New orders in the aircraft and parts industry fell in August (-55.4%) after increasing dramatically in July (+52.8%). Excluding the aircraft and parts industry, new orders rose 0.5% in August, owing primarily to gains in the electrical and electronic products industry (+4.6%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9555, 9558, 9559, 9562-9565, 9568-9579, 9581-9595.

The August 2000 issue of the *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001-XPB, \$20/\$196) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Craig Kuntz (613-951-7092; kuncrai@statcan.ca), Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section.

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 | |
| August 1999 | 42,028 | 3.4 | 53,574 | 1.1 | 52,502 | 1.3 | 42,705 | 4.2 | 1.27 |
| September 1999 | 42,266 | 0.6 | 54,189 | 1.1 | 53,468 | 1.8 | 43,233 | 1.2 | 1.28 |
| October 1999 | 41,839 | -1.0 | 54,998 | 1.5 | 54,288 | 1.5 | 42,658 | -1.3 | 1.31 |
| November 1999 | 42,491 | 1.6 | 55,200 | 0.4 | 54,071 | -0.4 | 42,274 | -0.9 | 1.30 |
| December 1999 | 43,359 | 2.0 | 55,520 | 0.6 | 54,938 | 1.6 | 44,227 | 4.6 | 1.28 |
| January 2000 | 43,834 | 1.1 | 55,876 | 0.6 | 54,393 | -1.0 | 43,288 | -2.1 | 1.27 |
| February 2000 | 43,003 | -1.9 | 56,516 | 1.1 | 53,889 | -0.9 | 42,500 | -1.8 | 1.31 |
| March 2000 | 44,666 | 3.9 | 57,238 | 1.3 | 53,844 | -0.1 | 44,620 | 5.0 | 1.28 |
| April 2000 | 43,310 | -3.0 | 57,597 | 0.6 | 53,629 | -0.4 | 43,096 | -3.4 | 1.33 |
| May 2000 | 44,776 | 3.4 | 58,562 | 1.7 | 53,135 | -0.9 | 44,282 | 2.8 | 1.31 |
| June 2000 | 45,022 | 0.5 | 58,501 | -0.1 | 53,404 | 0.5 | 45,290 | 2.3 | 1.30 |
| July 2000 | 44,498 | -1.2 | 59,205 | 1.2 | 55,983 | 4.8 | 47,077 | 3.9 | 1.33 |
| August 2000 | 45,372 | 2.0 | 59,869 | 1.1 | 55,983 | 0.0 | 45,372 | -3.6 | 1.32 |

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicles, parts and accessories

| | Shipments | | Inventories | | Unfilled orders | | New orders | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | |
| | \$ millions | % change | \$ millions | % change | \$ millions | % change | \$ millions | % change |
| August 1999 | 32,693 | 1.4 | 50,642 | 1.3 | 45,925 | 1.3 | 33,274 | 2.0 |
| September 1999 | 33,122 | 1.3 | 51,236 | 1.2 | 46,175 | 0.5 | 33,371 | 0.3 |
| October 1999 | 33,085 | -0.1 | 51,754 | 1.0 | 46,922 | 1.6 | 33,832 | 1.4 |
| November 1999 | 33,827 | 2.2 | 52,079 | 0.6 | 47,207 | 0.6 | 34,113 | 0.8 |
| December 1999 | 34,391 | 1.7 | 52,402 | 0.6 | 48,602 | 3.0 | 35,786 | 4.9 |
| January 2000 | 34,985 | 1.7 | 52,776 | 0.7 | 48,735 | 0.3 | 35,118 | -1.9 |
| February 2000 | 34,584 | -1.1 | 53,384 | 1.2 | 48,924 | 0.4 | 34,774 | -1.0 |
| March 2000 | 35,773 | 3.4 | 54,047 | 1.2 | 49,565 | 1.3 | 36,413 | 4.7 |
| April 2000 | 34,991 | -2.2 | 54,523 | 0.9 | 49,006 | -1.1 | 34,432 | -5.4 |
| May 2000 | 36,023 | 3.0 | 55,376 | 1.6 | 48,670 | -0.7 | 35,687 | 3.6 |
| June 2000 | 36,209 | 0.5 | 55,334 | -0.1 | 49,157 | 1.0 | 36,696 | 2.8 |
| July 2000 | 36,001 | -0.6 | 55,985 | 1.2 | 51,642 | 5.1 | 38,486 | 4.9 |
| August 2000 | 36,679 | 1.9 | 56,469 | 0.9 | 51,976 | 0.6 | 37,013 | -3.8 |

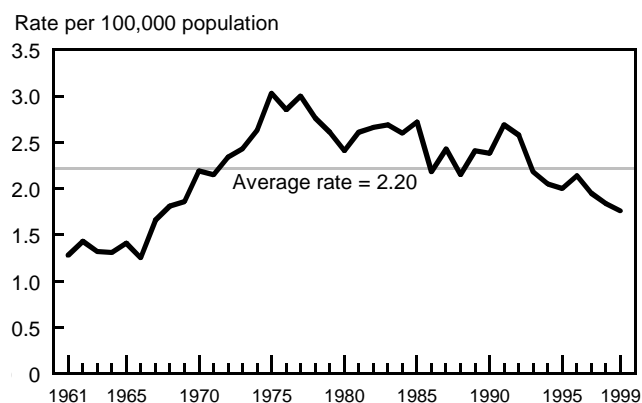
Homicide statistics

1999

The national homicide rate declined to its lowest point in more than three decades in 1999; 536 individuals were killed, 22 fewer than in 1998.

The 1999 rate was 1.76 homicides for every 100,000 population, down 4% to its lowest level since 1967. The homicide rate has generally been decreasing since the mid-1970s, following increases during the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 1999, Canada's rate was less than one-third that of the United States, but higher than most European countries.

Homicide rate, 1961 to 1999



Consistent with previous years, almost 90% of accused persons were male, as were two-thirds of homicide victims.

Forty-five youths aged 12 to 17 were accused of homicide in 1999, 12 fewer than in 1998. Over the past decade, the rate of youths accused of homicide has remained relatively stable, while the rate for adults has decreased.

Ninety-four percent of the 503 separate homicide incidents involved a single victim, and 6% were multiple-victim incidents. There were 29 multiple-victim incidents in 1999, up from 24 the previous year. Twenty-six of these incidents involved two victims, 2 involved three victims, and 1 involved four victims. Half of those killed in multiple-victim incidents were family members of the accused.

Forty, or about 8% of all homicide incidents were murder-suicides. Ninety percent of murder-suicides were family-related. There were 52 victims of murder-suicide in 1999, up from 45 the previous year.

Note to readers

Statistics on homicides in 1999 were originally released in The Daily on July 18, 2000 as part of a wide-ranging report on crime. This report represents a more detailed analysis of the homicide data.

Criminal homicide is classified as first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter or infanticide. Deaths caused by criminal negligence, suicide, accidental or justifiable homicides are not included in this definition.

Nearly one in three homicides involved firearms

Thirty-one percent of homicides committed in 1999 involved firearms. Firearms were used in 165 homicides, up from 151 in 1998, which was the lowest level since data were first collected nationally in 1961.

Handguns were used in 55% of all firearm homicides, a proportion that has remained relatively constant since 1991. In addition to 89 victims killed by handguns, 58 were killed by a rifle or shotgun, 6 by a sawed-off rifle or shotgun, 6 by a fully automatic firearm, and 6 by other types of firearms.

After shootings, the most common methods used to commit homicide in 1999 were stabbings (27%), beatings (23%) and strangulation (10%). There were also seven infants killed by repeated shaking, commonly known as "shaken baby syndrome."

The majority of firearm-related deaths are a result of suicide. Each year there are about five times as many suicides involving firearms as homicides.

Spousal homicides

Spousal homicides include people in registered marriages and common-law relationships, as well as those who were separated or divorced. In 1999, 71 individuals were killed by a current or ex-spouse, up slightly from 70 the previous year. Spousal homicides have gradually declined from more than 100 each year during the early 1990s.

Four of five victims of spousal homicide are female. In 1999, 60 women were killed by a current or ex-spouse, including 2 by a same-sex spouse. By comparison, 11 men were killed by a current or ex-spouse, including 2 by a same-sex spouse.

A further 17 women were killed by a current or ex-boyfriend and 3 men by a current or ex-girlfriend. In all, 51% of all female homicide victims were killed by someone with whom they had an intimate relationship, compared with 6% of male victims.

Most victims knew their assailant

Homicides continue to be committed primarily by someone known to the victim. In 1999, 49% of victims in solved homicide incidents were killed by an acquaintance, 35% by a family member, and 15% by a stranger. Of the 60 victims killed by a stranger in 1999, 32 were the result of a precipitating crime, most commonly robbery. The rate of homicides committed by a stranger has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years, while family and acquaintance homicides have been decreasing.

Solved homicides by accused–victim relationship 1999

| Relationship type (victims killed by:) | 1999 | | Average 1989 to 1998 | |
|---|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | number of victims | % | number of victims | % |
| Family relationship | | | | |
| Husband (legal and common-law) | 38 | 9.4 | 56 | 10.8 |
| Husband (separated and divorced) | 20 | 5.0 | 15 | 2.9 |
| Same sex spouse | 3 | 0.7 | ... | ... |
| Wife (legal and common-law) | 8 | 2.0 | 19 | 3.6 |
| Wife (separated and divorced) | 2 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Total spousal | 71 | 17.6 | 91 | 17.6 |
| Father | 22 | 5.4 | 27 | 5.2 |
| Mother | 9 | 2.2 | 18 | 3.4 |
| Child | 18 | 4.5 | 19 | 3.6 |
| Sibling | 7 | 1.7 | 11 | 2.1 |
| Other family relation | 16 | 4.0 | 22 | 4.2 |
| Total family | 143 | 35.4 | 187 | 36.1 |
| Acquaintance | | | | |
| Ex-boyfriend and -girlfriend | 20 | 5.0 | 21 | 4.1 |
| Close acquaintance | 29 | 7.2 | 42 | 8.0 |
| Authority figure | 4 | 1.0 | ... | ... |
| Business associate (legal) | 14 | 3.5 | 14 | 2.7 |
| Criminal relationships | 28 | 6.9 | 29 | 5.6 |
| Neighbour | 12 | 3.0 | 24 | 4.6 |
| Casual acquaintance | 91 | 22.5 | 124 | 23.9 |
| Total types acquaintance | 198 | 49.0 | 253 | 49.0 |
| Stranger | 60 | 14.9 | 73 | 14.1 |
| Unknown relationship | 3 | 0.7 | 4 | 0.8 |
| Total solved homicides | 404 | 100.0 | 517 | 100.0 |

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

A total of 36 children under the age of 12 were killed in 1999, down substantially from 55 in 1998 and the average of 53 over the past decade. Of the cases solved by police, almost 80% of these children were killed by a parent, and the remainder by an acquaintance of the family.

Almost two-thirds of accused had a criminal record

Sixty-four percent of people accused of homicide in 1999 had a previous criminal record. The majority of these individuals had previously been convicted of a violent crime.

Of the seven accused who had previously been convicted of homicide, six were charged with committing the homicide while in a correctional facility while serving time for a previous homicide, and one had completed the previous homicide sentence and was living in the community when charged. In addition, 41% of homicide victims had a criminal record.

Police reported 44 gang-related homicides in 1999, mostly involving drug trafficking and the settling of accounts. Gang-related homicides have been on the increase since 1995. Between 1991 and 1995, police reported an average of 19 gang-related homicides each year. Since 1995, however, these numbers have doubled.

The illegal drug trade is generally believed to be linked to many types of crimes, including homicide. In 1999, police reported that 60 homicide incidents, or one in eight, were drug-related. Of the 64 victims of drug-related homicides, 47 were reported by the police to be "drug dealers."

Available on CANSIM: tables 160402 to 160404 and 160406 to 160408.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending September 7, 2000

Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending September 7 decreased 1.9% to 4.4 million tonnes compared with the same period of 1999. The number of cars loaded increased 6.9%.

Intermodal traffic tonnage totaled 366 000 tonnes, a 4.5% decrease from the same period of 1999. The year-to-date figures show an increase of 6.3%.

Total traffic decreased 2.1% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 172.1 million tonnes, an increase of 0.1% from 1999.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; larocque@statcan.ca, Transportation Division. ■

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

August 2000

Oriented strandboard production in August totalled 625 437 cubic metres, down 6.0% from 665 689 cubic metres in August 1999. Particleboard production reached 207 213 cubic metres, an increase of 0.9% from 205 372 cubic metres in August 1999. Fibreboard production totalled 79 270 cubic metres, down 14.7% from 92 916 cubic metres in August 1999.

From January to August 2000, year-to-date oriented strandboard production totalled 5 163 841 cubic metres, a 0.9% increase from 5 120 139 cubic metres produced in the same period of 1999. Particleboard production reached 1 668 270 cubic metres, up 3.7% from 1 608 688 cubic metres produced in the same period of 1999. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 704 403 cubic metres, up 5.2% from 669 474 cubic metres produced during the same period of 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3, 5) and 122 (series 8).

The August 2000 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-XIB, \$5/\$47), is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact

Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division ■

Selected financial indexes

September 2000

September figures are now available for selected financial indexes (1992=100), including conventional mortgage rates, prime business lending rates, provincial bond yield averages and exchange rates.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9928.

These indexes will appear in the third quarter 2000 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79), which will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality for this release, contact Denise Potvin (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca); Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

September 2000

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was unchanged in September compared to the revised August level of 117.4 (1992=100). The composite index was up 2.4% compared with the revised September 1999 index.

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes (1992=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 956, 958 and 9922-9927.

The third quarter 2000 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality for this release, contact Denise Potvin (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,
August 2000
Catalogue number **36-003-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

Aviation service bulletin, Vol. 32, no. 9
Catalogue number **51-004-XIB** (\$8/\$82).

New motor vehicle sales, August 2000
Catalogue number **63-007-XIB** (\$13/\$124).

Juristat: Homicide in Canada, 1999
Catalogue number **85-002-XIE** (\$8/\$70).

Juristat: Homicide in Canada, 1999
Catalogue number **85-002-XPE** (\$10/\$93).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCD are electronic versions on compact disc.

How to order products

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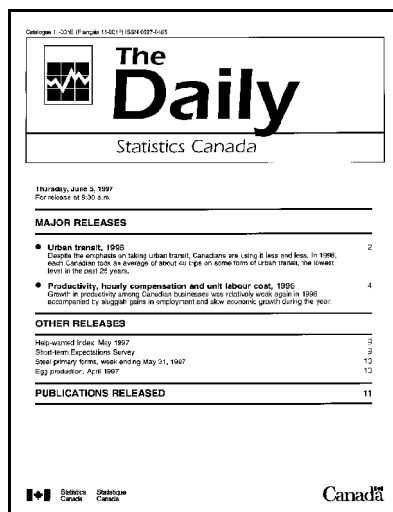
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Editor: Tom Vradenburg (613-951-1103, vradtom@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088), simamad@statcan.ca

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