

Daily Stats

Forward

The *Daily Stats* is primarily an executive summary, communicated by e-mail, of the Statistics Canada *Daily*. Its objective is to notify subscribers about the release of data, and to provide users with quick, precise statistics.

We also use the mailout to notify the community about the release of Department of Finance publications.

Some of the issues are supplemented with summaries of data from other sources or augmented with data not reported in the Daily. (Short Term Expectations, CPI, Labour Force, etc.)

The emphasis is on Canada and Nova Scotia.

Doug McCann January 2004

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Record count = 485







INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, November 2002, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -0.3% to 108.6 over October 2002, and increased +2.2% over November 2001.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, November 2002, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -3.1% to 113.3 over October 2002, and increased +11.3% over November 2001.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +0.7% to 95.9 over October 2002, and increased +6.3% over November 2001.



MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT 2001

Statistics Canada 85-002-XIE

In Canada 2001, motor vehicle theft increased +5.1% to 170,213 thefts (548 per 100,000 population) over 2000.

In Nova Scotia 2001, motor vehicle theft declined -4% to 2,755 thefts (292 per 100,000 population) over 2000.

In Halifax 2001, motor vehicle theft declined -10% to 1,832 thefts (510 per 100,000 population) over 2000.

NATIONAL TOURISM INDICATORS 3RD QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-009-XIB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2002, tourism expenditures (seasonally adjusted, \$1997) declined -1.0% to \$11.7 billion over the 2nd quarter 2002. Current dollar expenditures (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to \$12.8 billion. Unadjusted current dollar expenditures increased +1.3% to \$17.9 billion over 3rd quarter 2001.

Employment in tourism industries (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.9% to 580,000 over the 2nd quarter 2002. Employment in tourism industries (unadjusted) increased +0.5% to 604,100 over 3rd quarter 2001.



PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada November 2002, the production of cigarettes increased +3.4% to 3.3 billion cigarettes, and shipments declined -1.6% to 2.9 billion cigarettes over October 2001. Inventories increased +3.5% to 5.7 billion cigarettes over October 2001.

In Canada Jan-Nov 2002, the production of cigarettes declined -7.2% to 39.1 billion cigarettes and shipments declined -8.1% to 37.1 billion cigarettes over Jan-Nov 2001.

FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX OCTOBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada October 2002, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -0.1% to 103.4 over September 2002 and increased +0.5% over October 2001. The FPPI crops declined -0.8% to 102.0 over September 2002 and increased +4.4% over October 2001. The FPPI livestock increased +1.5% to 103.0 over September 2002 and declined -3.4% over October 2001.

HELP-WANTED INDEX DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 277-0001, 277-0002

In Canada December 2002, the help-wanted composite index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -4.0% to 113.5 over November 2002, and declined -10.5% over December 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, the help-wanted index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined - 0.7% to 125.3 over November 2002, and declined -7.2% over December 2001.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada November 2002, sales of refined petroleum products increased +1.4% to 7.8 million cubic metres over October 2001. Year to date sales remained unchanged at 86.3 million cubic metres over Jan-Nov 2001.

BUILDING PERMITS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada November 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.7% to \$4.0 billion over

October 2002, and increased +17.0% to \$42.5 billion over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +13.7%% to \$80.5 million over October 2002, and increased +29.8% to \$801.6 million over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Halifax November 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +38.7% to \$51.0 million over October 2002, and increased +52.8% to \$419.2 million over Jan-Nov 2001.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB

In Canada November 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.6% to 112.5 over October 2002, and increased +5.0% over November 2001.

In Halifax November 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.8% to 124.2 over October 2002, and increased +3.6% over November 2001.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted (month over month)

In Nova Scotia December 2002 labour force remained unchanged at 476,800, employment increased +0.2% to 432,300, unemployment declined -1.8% to 44,400 and the unemployment rate declined -0.2 percentage points to 9.3% over November 2002.

In Canada December 2002 labour force increased +0.4% to 16.9 million, employment increased +0.4% to 15.6 million, unemployment increased +0.4% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.5% over November 2002.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia December 2002 labour force increased +0.7% to 472,400, employment increased +1.5% to 431,600, unemployment declined -7.7% to 40,800 and the unemployment rate declined -0.8 percentage points to 8.6% over December 2001.

In Canada December 2002 labour force increased +3.2% to 16.7 million, employment increased +3.7% to 15.5 million, unemployment declined -2.8% to 1.2 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.5 percentage points to 7.1% over December 2001.



SAWMILLS AND PLANING MILLS OCTOBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 35-003-XIB

In Canada October 2002, lumber production increased +13.3% to 6.9 million cubic metres over September 2002, and increased +13.1% over October 2001. Year to date production increased +3.2% to 61.6 million cubic metres over Jan-Oct 2001.

In Nova Scotia October 2002, lumber production increased +8.2% to 178,500 cubic metres over September 2002, and increased +27.3% over October 2001. Year to date production increased +38.7% to 1.7 million cubic metres over Jan-Oct 2001.



INVESTMENT IN RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 026-0016

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, investment in non-residential building construction (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.2% to \$6.4 billion over the 3rd quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 4th quarter 2002, investment in non-residential building construction (seasonally adjusted) increased +3.7% to \$94 million over the 3rd quarter 2002.

In Halifax 4th quarter 2002, investment in non-residential building construction (seasonally adjusted) declined -7.9% to \$35 million over the 3rd quarter 2002.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Canada November 2002, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.7% to 140,874 over October 2002, and declined -2.6% over November 2001. Unadjusted unit sales declined -3.5% to 127,244 over November 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to 4,060 over October 2002, and increased +0.9% over November 2001. Unadjusted unit sales declined -0.7% to 3,163 over November 2001.



INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 354-0006

In Canada 2001, internet service provider operating revenues increased +27.1% to \$1.3 billion over 2000. The operating expenses increased +36.4% to \$1.6 billion. The operating profit margin percent was -22.2%. The number of active establishments declined -8.9% to 256

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT AND COMPUTER SERVICES 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 354-0005

In Canada 2001, total revenues in the software development and computer services industries [541510, 511210, 514210] increased +5.7% to \$26.1 billion over 2000.

In Nova Scotia 2001, operating revenues in the software development and computer services industries [541510, 511210] increased +4.3% to \$242.6 million over 2001.

Software Publishers

In Canada 2001, operating revenues in the software publishers industry [511210] increased +9.7% to \$5.9 billion over 2000. The number of active establishments increased +24.7% to 2,306.

In Nova Scotia 2001, operating revenues in the software publishers industry [511210] declined -43.0% to \$20.3 million over 2000. The number of active establishments increased +65.0% to 33.

Computer Systems Design

In Canada 2001, total revenues in the computer systems design and related services industry [541510] increased +1.1% to \$17.9 billion over 2000. The number of active establishments declined -1.1% to 43.440.

In Nova Scotia 2001, total revenues in the computer systems design and related services industry [541510] increased +12.8% to \$222.3 million over 2000. The number of active establishments declined -2.1% to 508.

Data Processing Services

In Canada 2001, total revenues in the data processing services industry [514210] increased +42.5% to \$2.3 billion over 2000. The number of active establishments declined -44.6% to 1,345.

Nova Scotia data processing services industry [514210] information is unavailable.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS 3RD QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 56-002-XIE, Vol 26 No. 3

In Canada 3rd quarter 2002, operating profits increased +12.9% to \$1.3 billion over the 3rd quarter 2001. Operating revenues increased +0.2% to \$8.2 billion. Capital expenditures declined -9.8% to \$1.3 billion.

In Canada Jan-Sep 2002, operating profits increased +4.6% to \$3.6 billion over Jan-Sep 2001. Operating revenues increased +0.8% to \$24.3 billion. Capital expenditures declined -25.3% to \$4.2 billion.



DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING 2001

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2001, cargo handled in Canadian ports declined -2.4% to 393.0 million metric tonnes over 2000. Shipments to international destinations declined -7.2% to 174.3 million tonnes. Domestic shipments declined -2.4% to 106.4 million tonnes.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada November 2002, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.1 billion. The year-to-date surplus was \$49.5 billion.

In Canada November 2002, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.2% to \$34.3 billion over October 2002 and increased +5.0% over November 2001. Year-to-date exports declined -1.9% to \$375.3 billion over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Canada November 2002, international merchandise trade imports declined -1.0% to \$30.2 billion over October 2002, and increased +7.8% over November 2001. Year-to-date imports increased +0.8% to \$325.8 billion over Jan-Nov 2001.

Nova Scotia October 2002

In Nova Scotia October 2002, the international merchandise trade deficit was \$105.8 million. The year-to-date surplus was \$148.5 million.

In Nova Scotia October 2002, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -28.3% to \$367.0 million over September 2002 and declined -17.4% over October 2001. Year-to-date exports declined -10.4% to \$4.4 billion over Jan-Oct 2001.

In Nova Scotia October 2002, international merchandise trade imports declined -7.1% to \$472.8 million over September 2002, and increased +2.5% over October 2001. Year-to-date imports declined -9.7% to \$4.3 billion over Jan-Oct 2001.



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada November 2002, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.4% to 3.3 million trips over October 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +6.7% to 2.8 million over November 2001.

In Canada November 2002, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.4% to 3.8 million trips over October 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +10.0% to 2.8 million trips over November 2001.

WHOLESALE TRADE NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia November 2002, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$638 million over November 2002, and increased +6.8% over November 2001.

In Canada November 2002, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$35.9 billion over October 2002, and increased +8.8% over November 2001.

In Canada November 2002, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +1.1% to \$2.7 billion over October 2002, and increased +6.4% over November 2001.



2001 CENSUS: ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

Statistics Canada

In the 2001 census, the proportion of the people in the Canadian population with some aboriginal ancestry increased to 4.4% of the total population. Total aboriginal ancestry population increased +19.8% to 1,319,890 people over 1996.

In the census, the number of people who identified themselves as Aboriginal increased +22.2% to 976,305 people. This includes North American Indian = 608,850 (62%), Metis = 292,310 (30%), and Inuit = 45,070 (5%).

In Nova Scotia 2001, the number of people reporting Aboriginal identity was 17,015 (1.7% of Canadian Aboringinal population). This includes North American Indian = 12,920 and Metis = 3,135.

2001 CENSUS: IMMIGRATION

Statistics Canada

In the 2001 census, the proportion of the Canadian population born outside the country has increased to 18.4% (5.4 million people) of the total population.

In Nova Scotia the proportion of the population born outside of Canada declined to 4.6% of the population.



TOBACCO CONTROL PROGRAM 2001

Health Canada

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hecs-sesc/tobacco/research/ctums/index.html

In Canada 2001, the average number of cigarettes smoked per day declined to 16.1 from 16.9 in 2000. The percetage of smokers has declined to 23% from 24% a year earlier.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the average number of cigarettes smoked per day declined to 16.9 from 17.9 in 2000. The percentage number of smokers has declined to 24% from 30% a year earlier.

LARGE RETAILERS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada November 2002, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +10.0% to \$7.3 billion over October 2002, and increased +6.0% over November 2001.



TOBACCO CONTROL PROGRAM 2002

Health Canada

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hecs-sesc/tobacco/research/ctums/index.html

In Canada 2002, the average number of cigarettes smoked per day increased to 16.4 from 16.1 in 2001. The percetage of smokers has declined to 21% from 23% a year earlier.

In Nova Scotia 2002, the average number of cigarettes smoked per day declined to 16.8 from 16.9 in 2001. The percentage number of smokers has declined to 22% from 24% a year earlier.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada November 2002, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of +\$5.0 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$14.5 billion.

In Canada November 2002, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$5.7 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$23.1 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.

RETAIL TRADE NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada November 2002, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.6% to \$25.8 billion over October 2002, and increased +5.1% over November 2001. Unadjusted retail sales increased +4.4% to \$26.3 billion over November 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.5% to \$763 million over October 2002, and increased +2.0% over November 2001. Unadjusted sales increased +1.0% to \$795 million over November 2001.



LABOUR MARKET REVIEW 2002

Statistics Canada 75-001-XIE

In Nova Scotia 1998 to 2002, employment increased +7.8% (31,300) to 432,300 and unemployment increased +1.1% (500) to 44,400.

In Nova Scotia 2002, employment increased +1.1% (4,800) unemployment declined -7.3% (-3,500) over 2001.

In Canada 1998 to 2002, employment increased +9.3% (1.3 million) and unemployment increased +0.5% (5,800).

In Canada 2002, employment increased +3.7% (559,600) and unemployment declined -3.3% (-42,900), over 2001.

In Halifax 1998 to 2002, employment increased +6.6% (11,400) to 183,600. In 2002 employment declined -0.1% (-200) over 2001.

DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS OCTOBER 1, 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 91-002-XIB

In Canada October 1, 2002 the estimated population increased +0.9% to 31,485,623 over the same day in 2001.

In Nova Scotia October, 2002 the estimated population increased +0.2% to 945,241 over the same date in 2001.



PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada December 2002, the production of cigarettes increased +3.4% to 3.3 billion cigarettes, and shipments declined -39% to 2.2 billion cigarettes over November 2001. Inventories declined -24%% to 4.2 billion cigarettes over November 2001.

In Canada Jan-Dec 2002, the production of cigarettes declined -7.0% to 41.3 billion cigarettes and shipments declined -7.0% to 40.7 billion cigarettes over Jan-Dec 2001.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada November 2002, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 1.1% to 550,470 over October 2002, and declined -1.6% over November 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to 31,260 over October 2002, and increased +6.8% over November 2001.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada November 2002, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$684.76 over October 2002, and increased +2.0% over November 2001. Employment increased +0.3% to 13.3 million over October 2002.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$589.30 over October 2002, and increased +2.2% over November 2001. Employment increased +0.5% to 377,200 over October 2002.



SAWMILLS AND PLANING MILLS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 35-003-XIB

In Canada November 2002, lumber production declined -10.9% to 6.2 million cubic metres over October 2002, and increased +7.1% over November 2001. Year to date production increased +3.6% to 67.8 million cubic metres over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Nova Scotia November 2002, lumber production declined -10.5% to 159,800 cubic metres over October 2002, and increased +24.8% over November 2001. Year to date production increased +37.4% to 1.8 million cubic metres over Jan-Nov 2001.

SURVEY OF SUPPLIERS OF BUSINESS FINANCING 2001

In Canada December 31, 2001 total debt outstanding declined to \$366.6 billion from \$367.3 and total leases outstanding increased to \$21.6 billion from \$19.6 billion over the same date 2000.

The share of debt held by domestic banks declined to 55.0% (from 56.4%), or \$201.5 billion. Insurance companies holdings declined to a 13.4% share (from 14.0%) or \$49.1 billion.

COMPOSITE INDEX, DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB

In Canada December 2002, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.4% to 180.6 over November 2002.

Four of ten indices were positive (no change)

Business and personal services employment increased +0.7 at 2.6 million. Average workweek (hours) increased +0.3% to 39.4 hours. Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +0.4% to \$1.8 billion. Other durable goods sales (1992\$) increased +0.5% to \$7.7 billion.

Two of the ten indices were negative (down 2 from September)

Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.5% to 111,329. New orders, durables (1992\$) declined -0.1% to \$22.1 billion.

Four of ten indices were unchanged:

The housing index (1992=100) remained unchanged at 128.5. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) remained unchanged at 6,445. The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) remained unchanged at 110.1. The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio remained unchanged at 1.80.



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, December 2002, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -0.4% to 108.2 over November 2002, and increased +2.8% over December 2001.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, December 2002, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +4.2% to 118.4 over November 2002, and increased +17.6% over November 2001.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels remained unchanged at 96.3 over November 2002, and increased +7.8% over December 2001.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada November 2002, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +0.1% to 106.2 over October 2002 and increased +3.9% over November 2001. The FPPI crops increased +0.8% to 108.0 over October 2002 and increased +9.3% over November 2001. The FPPI livestock increased +0.3% to 103.1 over October 2002 and declined -1.3% over November 2001.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-002-XPB

In Canada November 2002, crude oil production increased +6.5% to 11.6 million cubic metres over November 2001. Year to date production increased +6.5% to 125.4 million cubic metres over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Canada November 2002, natural gas production increased +2.1% to 14.4 billion cubic metres over November 2001. Year to date production increased +0.2% to 156.9 billion cubic over Jan-Nov 2001.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada December 2002, sales of refined petroleum products increased +7.0% to 8.0 million cubic metres over December 2001. Year to date sales increased +0.7% to 94.4 million cubic metres over Jan-Dec 2001.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY NOVEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada November 2002, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$984.4 billion (annualized) over October 2002, and increased +3.7% over November 2001.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries increased +0.1% to \$306.2 billion (annualized) over October 2002, and increased +4.4% over November 2001.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.1% to \$678.3 billion (annualized) over October 2002, and increased +3.3% over November 2001.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.3% to \$58.9 billion (annualized) over October 2002, and increased +5.7% over November 2001.



DEPOSIT-ACCEPTING INTERMEDIARIES 2001

In Canada 2001, the services of deposit-accepting intermediaries - chartered banks, trust companies, caisses populaires and credit unions - increased +4.2% to \$51.8 billion over 2000.

Non-interest income declined -3.4% to \$24.2 billion (46.7% of total services). Net interest income increased +11.8% to \$24.7 billion (53.3% of total services).

The value of retail banking services increased +6.0% to \$31.7 billion.

The value of corporate and institutional services declined -2.0% to \$3.7 billion.

The value of electronic financial services declined -7.2% to \$3.1 billion.

The value of treasury and investment banking services increased +0.2% to \$10.6 billion.

The value of fiduciary services increased +26.0% to \$2.8 billion.



BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY: MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada January 2003, manufacturers (54%) expect that during the next three months the volume of production will remain about the same as the last three months and an additional 26% believe that volume will increase. 20% expect volume to decline.

Orders received by 61% of manufacturers are expected to be about the same as the last quarter, with 21% expecting increases and 18% declines.

72% consider the present backlog of unfilled orders as about normal, 8%, higher than normal and 20% lower than normal.

Most respondents (80%) believe the finished product inventory to be about right while 5% consider levels to be too low, and 15% believe they are too high.

72% believe that employment during the next three months will change little, 13% expect an increase and 15% a decrease.

Most manufacturers (82%) do not foresee any production difficulties, 7% think that they may experience a skilled labour shortage, 4% a raw materials shortage, 3% a working capital shortage, and 2% expect an unskilled labour shortage.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY:(NOVA SCOTIA) MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM T302-008

In Nova Scotia January 2003, manufacturers (51%) expect that during the next three months the volume of production will remain about the same as the last three months and an additional 24% believe that volume will increase. 25% expect volume to decline.

Orders received by 39% of manufacturers are expected to be about the same as the last quarter, with 41% expecting increases and 20% declines.

58% consider the present backlog of unfilled orders as about normal, 4%, higher than normal and 38% lower than normal.

Most respondents (82%) believe the finished product inventory to be about right while 3% consider levels to be too low, and 15% believe they are too high.

55% believe that employment during the next three months will change little, 23% expect an increase and 12% a decrease.



LOW-INCOME CUTOFFS 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 75F0002MIE2002005 http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/75F0002MIE/75F0002MIE2002005.pdf

Low-income cutoffs (LICOs) are income thresholds below which families may devote a larger share of income to food, shelter and clothing. LICOs take into account community and family size.

Low-income cutoffs after tax, 2002

Family size	Rural	Urban < 30,000	30,000 to 99,000	Urban 100,000 to 499,999
		\$ inc		
1 person	10,429	12,055	13,192	13,399
2 person	12,726	14,710	16,097	16,349
3 person	16,096	18,604	20,360	20,679
4 person	20,047	23,172	25,358	25,755



MARRIAGES 1999

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 84F212XPB

In Canada 1999, the number of marriages increased +1.9% to 155,742 over 1998.

The average age of brides increased +2.5 years to 31.3 over 1989. The average age of grooms increased +2.4 years to 33.8 over 1989.

In Nova Scotia 1999, the number of marriages increased +6.8% to 5,481 over 1998.

HELP-WANTED INDEX JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 277-0001, 277-0002

In Canada January 2003, the help-wanted composite index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined - 1.7% to 111.6 over December 2002, and declined -11.3% over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the help-wanted index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, increased +1.0% to 126.6 over December 2002, and declined -5.3% over January 2002.

BUILDING PERMITS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada December 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.2% to \$3.8 billion over November 2002, and increased +16.0% to \$45.9 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -14.3%% to \$70.5 million over November 2002, and increased +25.7% to \$879.7 million over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Halifax November 2002, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -25.5% to \$39.8 million over November 2002, and increased +48.0% to \$469.2 million over Jan-Dec 2001.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia January 2003 labour force increased +0.5% to 479,100, employment increased +0.5% to 434,300, unemployment increased +0.4% to 44,800 and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at to 9.4% over December 2002.

In Canada January 2003 labour force declined -0.1% to 16.9 million, employment remained unchanged at 15.6 million, unemployment declined -1.3% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.1 percentage points to 7.4% over December 2002.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia January 2003 labour force increased +1.2% to 465,700, employment increased +1.9% to 417,700, unemployment declined -4.4% to 48,000 and the unemployment rate declined -0.6 percentage points to 10.3% over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003 labour force increased +2.6% to 16.6 million, employment increased +3.2% to 15.3 million, unemployment declined -4.0% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.5 percentage points to 8.1% over January 2002.



2001 CENSUS: HALIGONIAN COMMUTERS

Statistics Canada Cat No. 96F0030XIE2001010

In Halifax 2001 census, it was reported that 174,700 people worked in the census metropolitan area (CMA) of the city. About 13,000 workers (7.4% of total) commuted to Halifax, while 3,500 left the CMA to work elsewhere.

2001 CENSUS: HOW CANADIANS GET TO WORK

Statistics Canada Cat No. 96F0030XIE2001010

In Halifax CMA, 68.1 commute to work as a driver of a private vehicle, 9.6% commute as a passenger in a private vehicle, 9.9% use public transportation, 10.3% walk, and 0.9% use a bicycle.

In Nova Scotia, 75.5% commute to work as a driver of a private vehicle, 9.6% commute as a passenger in a private vehicle, 4.8% use public transportation, 8.3% walk, and 0.6% use a bicycle.

In all Canadian CMA's, 70.8 commute to work as a driver of a private vehicle, 6.6% commute as a passenger in a private vehicle, 14.8% use public transportation, 5.7% walk, and 1.3% use a bicycle.

In Canada, 73.8% commute to work as a driver of a private vehicle, 6.9% commute as a passenger in a private vehicle, 10.5% use public transportation, 6.6% walk, and 1.2% use a bicycle.

2001 CENSUS: LANGUAGE OF WORK

Statistics Canada Cat No. 96F0030XIE2001011

In Nova Scotia in the 2001 census, 55.3% Of francophone workers, 25.2% of allophone workers and 2.1% of anglophone workers reported using more than one language at work. Over all, 5.1% of workers aged 15+ used more than one language at work.

In Canada in the 2001 census, 32.9% Of francophone workers, 25.6% of allophone workers and 4.3% of anglophone workers reported using more than one language at work. Over all, 14.6% of workers aged 15+ used more than one language at work.



SERVICES INDICATORS 3RD QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 22-202-XIB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2002, GDP services sector (seasonally adjusted at annual rates) increased +0.8% to \$675.7 billion over 2nd quarter 2002. Consumer spending on services (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$87.2 billion, CPI services (1992=100) increased +1.1% to 123.6, and the international trade in services deficit declined to -\$2.1 billion from -\$2.2 billion posted in the 2nd quarter 2002. (Exports = \$14.3 billion; imports = \$16.4 billion).

Employment increased +2.7% to 11.6 million over 3rd quarter 2001.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada

Nova Scotia (again) ranks number 1 in the year to date growth rate of department store sales.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, department store sales (unadjusted) including concessions increased +0.5% to \$104.8 million over December 2001. Year to date sales increased +10.2% to \$658.5 million over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Canada November 2002, department store sales (unadjusted) including concessions remained unchanged at \$3.1 billion over December 2001. Year to date sales increased +6.0% to \$21.0 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.

NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the non-residential building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.9% to 116.4 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +2.5% over the 4th quarter 2001.

In Halifax 4th quarter 2002, the non-residential building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.8% to 108.1 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +2.4% over the 4th quarter 2001.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB

In Canada December 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 112.8 over November 2002,

and increased +5.1% over December 2001.

In Halifax December 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +3.6% to 124.2 over December 2001. (Month over month change unavailable.)



MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PRICE INDEX 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the machinery and equipment price index (1986=100) increased +1.0% to 141.0 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +1.5% over the 4th quarter 2001.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia December 2002, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.2% to 4,253 over November 2002, and increased +9.0% over December 2001. Unadjusted unit sales increased +13.6% to 3,817 over December 2001. Year-to-date sales increased +9.6% to 47,475 units over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Canada December 2002, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +6.3% to 150,302 over November 2002, and increased +2.7% over December 2001. Unadjusted unit sales increased +5.5% to 143,312 over December 2001. Year-to-date sales increased +8.5% to 1.7 million units over Jan-Dec 2001.



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 22-003-XIB, CANSIM 001-0009

In Canada total fruit acreage declined to an estimated 251,000 acres. Blueberry acreage remained unchanged at 108,645 acres and farm value increased +7.7% to \$89.7 million over 2001. Apple acreage declined -5.0% to 60,595 acres and farm value declined -0.2% to \$166.0 million over 2001.

In Nova Scotia, blueberry acreage increased +1.8% to 38,180 acres (35% of total Canadian blueberry acreage), and farm value increased +29.3% to \$16.3 million over 2001. Apple acreage declined -3.1% to 6,300 acres, and farm value increased +29.5% to \$10.4 million over 2001.

APARTMENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the apartment building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.7% to 115.0 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +2.9% over the 4th quarter 2001.

In Halifax 4th quarter 2002, the apartment building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.6 to 111.4 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +3.0% over the 4th quarter 2001.



LARGE RETAILERS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada December 2002, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +26.4% to \$10.2 billion over Novemberr 2002, and increased +1.7% over December 2001.

In Canada 2002, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +6.1% to \$85.4 billion over 2001.

COMPOSITE INDEX, JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB

In Canada January 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 180.1 over December 2002.

Three of ten indices were positive (down one from December)

Business and personal services employment increased +0.5 at 2.6 million. The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 110.1. Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +0.5% to \$1.8 billion.

Six of the ten indices were negative (up 4 from December)

The housing index (1992=100) declined -2.3% to 125.5. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) declined -0.1 to 6,437. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.1% to 111,215. New orders, durables (1992\$) declined -0.4% to \$22.0 billion. The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio declined to 1.79. Other durable goods sales (1992\$) declined -0.5% to \$7.7 billion.

One of ten indices were unchanged:

Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 39.2 hours.



MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia December 2002, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.9% to \$739 million over November 2002.

In Canada December 2002, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.9% to \$43.0 billion over November 2002, and increased +6.6% over December 2001.

Inventories increased +0.4% to \$63.4 billion over November 2002, and increased +1.1% over December 2001.

Unfilled orders declined -1.1% to \$46.0 billion over November 2002, and declined -1.7% over December 2001.

New orders declined -1.6% to \$42.5 billion over November 2002, and increased +7.0% over December 2001.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio increased to 1.47 from 1.45 in November 2002, and declined from 1.55 in December 2001.



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada December 2002, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.4% to 3.4 million trips over November 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +7.6% to 2.9 million over December 2001.

In Canada December 2002, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.8% to 3.9 million trips over November 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +5.1% to 2.9 million trips over December 2001.

LIVESTOCK ESTIMATES JANUARY 1, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 23-603-XIE

In Canada January 1, 2003, the national herd of cattle declined -2.8% to 13.4 million head. The number of hogs increased +2.5% to 14.7 million head, and the number of sheep declined -1.8% to 976,000 head over 2002.

In Atlantic Canada January 1 2003, the region's herd of cattle declined -1.0% to 289,000 head. The number of hogs declined -1.8% to 383,000 head, and the number of sheep increased +3.1% to 33,000 head over 2002.

WHOLESALE TRADE 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

ANNUAL

In Nova Scotia 2002, wholesale merchants' sales increased +4.2% to \$7.3 billion over 2001.

In Canada 2002, wholesale merchants' sales increased +6.2% to \$418.8 billion over 2001.

In Canada 2002, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery declined -0.9% to \$32.2 billion over 2001.

WHOLESALE TRADE DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia December 2002, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.9% to \$618 million over November 2002, and increased +4.1% over December 2001.

In Canada December 2002, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$36.1 billion over

November 2002, and increased +9.1% over December 2001.

In Canada December 2002, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +2.8% to \$2.1 billion over November 2002, and increased +12.4% over December 2001.



RETAIL TRADE DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada December 2002, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$25.9 billion over November 2002, and increased +3.7% over November 2001. Unadjusted retail sales increased +2.7% to \$30.2 billion over December 2001.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.4% to \$774 million over November 2002, and increased +4.1% over December 2001. Unadjusted sales increased +3.2% to \$923 million over December 2001.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada December 2002, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.1 billion. The year-to-date surplus was \$54.6 billion.

In Canada December 2002, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.3% to \$34.5 billion over November 2002 and increased +7.1% over December 2001. Year-to-date exports declined -1.0% to \$410.7 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Canada December 2002, international merchandise trade imports increased +0.5% to \$30.4 billion over November 2002, and increased +9.9% over December 2001. Year-to-date imports increased +1.6% to \$356.1 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.

Nova Scotia November 2002

In Nova Scotia November 2002, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$12.5 million. The year-to-date surplus was \$163.6 million.

In Nova Scotia October 2002, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +10.8% to \$404.0 million over October 2002 and declined -5.8% over November 2001. Year-to-date exports declined -10.0% to \$4.8 billion over Jan-Nov 2001.

In Nova Scotia October 2002, international merchandise trade imports declined -17.4% to \$391.5 million over October 2002, and increased +6.8% over November 2001. Year-to-date imports declined -8.5% to \$4.7 billion over Jan-Nov 2001.



OFF-FARM INCOME 1999

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-004-XIE

In Canada 1999, off-farm family farm income was 73% of total income. Average total off-farm family farm income = \$45,419; average net family farm operating income = \$16,803; total family farm income = \$62,222.

For very large, business-focused family farms, off-farm income was 33.4% of total income (\$114,866). For small, business-focused farms, off-farm income was 89.4% of total income (\$38,552).

NATURAL GAS SALES DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 55-002-XIB

In Canada December 2002, natural gas sales increased +12.4% to 8.0 billion cubic metres over December 2001. Year to date sales increased +5.4% to 70.4 billion cubic metres over Jan-Dec 2001.

FOOD EXPENDITURE 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-230-XIB

In Canada 2001, the average weekly expenditure per household (2.57 persons) for food was \$123.76.

In Atlantic Canada 2001, the average weekly expenditure per household (2.58 persons) for food was \$108.76.



GRADUATE STUDENTS 1995

Statistics Canada 81-595-MIE

College

In Canada 1995, there were 26,000 college graduates. The average student loan outstanding at graduation was \$8,300.

In 2000, their employment rate was 93.5%; their unemployment rate was 3.3%. Median earnings were \$32,800 (\$2000). The average student loan outstanding had been reduced to \$3,800.

Bachelor

In Canada 1995 there were 56,900 university graduates. The average student loan outstanding at graduation was \$11,800 (\$2000).

In 2000, their employment rate was 89.9%; their unemployment rate was 5.4%. Median earnings were \$40,000 (\$2000). The average student loan outstanding had been reduced to \$5,400 (\$2000).

(\$2000) Year 2000 constant dollars.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada December 2002, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an outflow of -\$380 million. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$17.8 billion.

In Canada December 2002, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an inflow of +\$603 million. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$24.7 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada December 2002, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 0.5% to 547,780 over November 2002, and declined -2.1% over December 2001.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.4% to 30,810 over November 2002, and increased +4.2% over December 2001.

FARM CASH RECEIPTS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-001-XIB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, farm cash receipts increased +8.0% to \$10.3 billion over the 4th quarter 2001. Livestock cash receipts declined -2.0% to \$4.7 billion, crop cash receipts increased +16.4% to \$4.2 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) increased +23.4% to \$1.4 billion.

In Canada Jan-Dec 2002, farm cash receipts declined -1.5% to \$35.7 billion over the Jan-Dec 2001. Livestock cash receipts declined -4.5% to \$18.0 billion, crop cash receipts increased +4.7% to \$14.3 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) declined -9.3% to \$3.4 billion.

In Nova Scotia 4th quarter 2002, farm cash receipts declined -4.1% to \$116 million over 4th quarter 2001.

In Nova Scotia Jan-Dec 2002, farm cash receipts declined -2.6% to \$408 million over Jan-Dec 2001.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, JANUARY 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, January 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +5.2% to 125.6 over December 2002, and increased +22.2% over January 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +1.5% to 97.0 over December 2002, and increased +6.4% over January 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +9.8% to 187.6 over December 2002 and increased +46.7% over January 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, January 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) increased +0.3% to 108.4 over December 2002, and increased +2.0% over January 2002.



TRAVELLER ACCOMODATION 2001

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2001, the number of establishments in the traveller accommodation sector declined -3.5% to 16,331 over 2000. Operating revenue increased +3.5% to \$12.2 billion, salaries and wages increased +8.6% to \$3.7 billion, and operating expense increased +4.2% to \$10.7 billion. Operating margins declined to 12.2%.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the number of establishments in the traveller accommodation sector declined -3.3% to 578 over 2000. Operating revenue increased +5.8% to \$302.9 million, salaries and wages increased +7.5% to \$94.3 million, and operating expense increased +9.6% to \$263.7 million. Operating margins declined to 12.9%.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada December 2002, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$685.42 over November 2002, and increased +2.2% over December 2001. Employment increased +0.3% to 13.3 million over November 2002.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% to \$592.96 over November 2002, and increased +2.9% over December 2001. Employment declined -0.2% to 377,200 over November 2002.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-205-XIB

In 2002 Nova Scotia ranked number one among the provinces for percentage increase (+12.7%) in public/private capital investment.

In Nova Scotia 2003, public and private capital spending intentions declined -4.3% to \$5.3 billion over 2002. In 2002, actual public and private investment increased +12.7% to \$5.6 billion over 2001.

In Canada 2003, public and private capital spending intentions increased +2.1% to \$209.7 billion over 2002. In 2002, actual public and private investment increased +2.1% to \$205.3 billion over 2001.



FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR ENTERPRISES 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-008-XIE

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, corporate after-tax profits (seasonally adjusted) increased +13.5% to \$24.4 billion over the 3rd quarter 2002. Operating revenue increased +1.9% to \$583.4 billion and operating profit increased +5.1% to \$41.9 billion over the 3rd quarter.

In Canada 2002, corporate after-tax profits (seasonally adjusted) increased +10.2% to \$86.1 billion over the 2001. Operating revenue increased +3.6% to \$2.3 trillion and operating profit increased +5.8% to \$156.3 billion over 2001.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada January 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.8% to 121.4 over December 2002, and increased +4.5% over January 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy declined -0.1% to 119.1 over December 2002, and increased +3.9% over January 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.7% to 121.7 over December 2002, and increased +3.3% over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +1.2% to 123.1 over December 2002, and increased +6.3% over January 2002. The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.4% to 120.6 over December 2002, and increased +4.8% over January 2002.

In Halifax January 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +1.0% to 122.0 over December 2002, and increased +5.8% over January 2002.

*CPI Changes

Several changes have been made to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) starting with the January 2003 data. The basket of goods and services used to calculate the CPI has been updated to reflect changes in consumer expenditure patterns. Expenditure patterns for 2001 replaced those for 1996.

The time base remains unchanged at 1992=100.

*Base Effect

The 12-month percentage change is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month in the previous year. Thus, the 12-month variation can increase from one month to the next as a result of a decrease in the base serving as the point of comparison. The base effect largelym explained the marked increases observed in the 12-month percentage changes in the CPI since October 2002. Not until March 2003 will the index used as the base for comparison return to a level comparable to that of eptember 2001 and will the base effect fade

away.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada December 2002, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$988.3 billion (annualized) over November 2002, and increased +3.7% over December 2001.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries increased +0.1% to \$306.1 billion (annualized) over November 2002, and increased +4.9% over December 2001.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries remained unchanged at \$682.5 billion (annualized) over November 2002, and increased +3.2% over December 2001.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.1% to \$59.4 billion (annualized) over November 2002, and increased +5.3% over December 2001.

BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 67-001-XPB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the current account surplus (seasonally adjusted) declined to \$3.3 billion from a \$4.2 billion surplus in 3rd quarter 2002.

For 2002, the current account surplus (not seasonally adjusted) declined to \$17.3 billion from a \$30.0 billion surplus in 2001.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, real gross domestic product (\$1997 chained) increased +0.4% to \$1.072 trillion over 3rd quarter 2002. Consumer spending increased +1.1% to \$604.5 billion; exports (goods & services) declined -2.1% to \$436.7 billion.

In Canada 4th quarter 2002 (\$current), corporate profits increased +2.8% to \$132.8 billion; personal income increased +1.7% to \$608.3 billion.

Real gross domestic product (\$chained 1997) increased +1.6% on an annualized basis (growth rate compounded annually) and increased +3.9% on a year-over-year basis (compared to the same quarter in the previous year)

For 2002, the rate of growth for real gross domestic product, chained (1997\$) was +3.4%.



2002-12-14

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 383-0008

In Canada 4th quarter 2002 labour productivity (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.6% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +1.2% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Hourly compensation (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.6% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +2.5% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Unit labour costs (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +1.3% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Growth in unit labour costs occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity.



2003-03-03

INFORMATION SHARING 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 88F0006XIE 2003002

"Who's sharing what with whom? How Canadian businesses used electronic networks to share information in 2001"

In Canada 2001, only a small minority of organisations shared information internally or externally with supplier/customers over electronic networks.

Product description catalogues were shared in 38% of organisations; customer information was shared in 29%; training in 13%; order status in 18%; inventory data in 13%; job opportunities in 12%; and demand projections in 6%.

In the public sector, job opportunity information was shared externally in 50% and internally in 55% internally of organisations; training, 38% internally and 16% externally.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada January 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +6.1% to 8.2 million cubic metres over January 2002.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INVESTMENT 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 026-0013

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, residential construction investment increased +22.8% to \$13.8 billion over 4th quarter 2001. In 2002, residential construction investment increased +20.9% to \$52.7 billion over 2001.

In Nova Scotia 4th quarter 2002, residential construction investment increased +19.5% to \$343.5 million over 4th quarter 2001. In 2002, residential construction investment increased +16.7% to \$1.3 billion over 2001.

Note: residential construction investment includes new housing, renovations and acquistion costs.



HELP-WANTED INDEX FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 277-0002

In Canada February 2003, the help-wanted composite index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -0.2% to 111.4 over January 2003, and declined -11.5% over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the help-wanted index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -0.8% to 125.6 over January 2003, and declined -5.4% over February 2002.



CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY 2002

Nova Scotia Statistics Agency Construction Activity Report

In Nova Scotia 2002, the value of building permits increased +25.8% to \$879.7 million over 2001. Investment intentions for housing construction in 2003 are expected to increase +4.5% to \$1.4 billion over 2002.

In 2002, housing starts increased +21.5% to 4,970 units, housing completitions increased +10.9% to 4,011 units. As of Dec 31, there were 3,119 units under construction. In 2002, construction sector employment declined by -400 to 25,300 over 2001.



BUILDING PERMITS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada January 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +12.3% to \$4.3 billion over December 2002, and increased +14.0% over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -21.3%% to \$60.8 million over December 2002, and declined -14.3% over January 2002.

In Halifax January 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -18.6% to \$30.0 million over December 2002, and declined -22.2% over January 2002.



CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS DECEMBER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-002-XPB

In Canada December 2002, crude oil production increased +7.4% to 12.1 million cubic metres over December 2001. Year to date production increased +6.2% to 137.0 million cubic metres over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Canada December 2002, natural gas production increased +6.9% to 15.8 billion cubic metres over December 2001. Year to date production increased +0.8% to 172.7 billion cubic over Jan-Dec 2001.

PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada January 2003, the production of cigarettes declined -3.0% to 2.2 billion cigarettes, and shipments increased 3.0% to 3.4 billion cigarettes over December 2002. Inventories declined -10.0%% to 3.8 billion cigarettes over December 2002.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia February 2003 labour force declined -0.2% to 478,000, employment increased +0.3% to 435,400, unemployment declined -4.9% to 42,600 and the unemployment rate declined -0.5 percentage points to 8.9% over January 2003.

In Canada February 2003 labour force increased +0.3% to 17.0 million, employment increased +0.4% to 15.7 million, unemployment remained unchanged at 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.4% over January 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia February 2003 labour force increased +0.9% to 462,100, employment increased +2.7% to 417,400, unemployment declined -13.5% to 44,700 and the unemployment rate declined -1.6 percentage points to 9.7% over February 2002.

In Canada February 2003 labour force increased +3.0% to 16.7 million, employment increased +3.5% to 15.4 million, unemployment declined -2.5% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.4 percentage points to 8.0% over February 2002.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB

In Canada January 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 113.1 over December 2002, and increased +5.1% over January 2002.

In Halifax January 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +1.0% to 125.4 over December 2002 and increased +3.5% over January 2002.

INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY UTILIZATION RATES 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the industrial capacity utilization rate (ratio of actual to potential output) declined -0.2 percentage points to 82.9 over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +0.2 percentage points over the 2001.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada January 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.9 billion.

In Canada January 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to \$35.0 billion over December 2002 and increased +6.3% over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -1.3% to 30.0 billion over December 2002, and increased +8.0% over January 2002.

Nova Scotia December 2002

In Nova Scotia December 2002, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$78.9 million. The year-to-date surplus was \$320.5 million.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +28.9% to \$536.4 million over November 2002 and increased +25.6% over December 2001. Year-to-date exports declined -6.0% to \$5.5 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.

In Nova Scotia December 2002, international merchandise trade imports increased +16.6% to \$457.5 million over November 2002, and increased +18.0% over December 2001. Year-to-date imports declined -8.2% to \$5.2 billion over Jan-Dec 2001.



PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 183-0002

In Canada 2002, average public sector employment increased +1.1% to 2.8 million over 2001.

In Nova Scotia 2002, average public sector employment increased +0.7% to 103,934 over 2001. Federal government employment increased +1.4% to 23,510; provincial government employment declined -1.7% to 11,108; local government increased +8.0% to 10,240; government businesss enterprise increased +0.5% to 6,470. Health and education employment declined -0.5% to 52,607.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia January 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -15.8% to 3,619 over December 2002, and declined -8.9% over January 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -15.7% to 2,348 over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -14.1% to 129,036 over December 2002, and declined -11.8% over January 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -14.8% to 95,477 over January 2002.



LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 383-0008

In Canada 4th quarter 2002 labour productivity (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.6% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +1.2% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Hourly compensation (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.6% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +2.5% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Unit labour costs (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% over the 3rd quarter 2002, and increased +1.3% over the 4th quarter 2001.

Growth in unit labour costs occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity.



LABOUR TURNOVER

Statistics Canada 11F0019MIE No. 199

In Canada 1999/2000, quit rates in high-skilled services industries, where innovative work pratises were employed ranged beuween 3 and 6%. Where no innovative work practices were employed, labour quit rates averaged 16%.

Quit rates in low-skilled services industries, where innovative work pratises were employed ranged between 13 and 15%. Where no innovative work practices were employed, labour quit rates averaged 19%.

Quit rates in manufacturing industries, where innovative work pratises were employed ranged between 12 and 16%. Where no innovative work practices were employed, labour quit rates averaged 11%.

Quit rates in all industries, where innovative work pratises were employed ranged between 10 and 13%. Where no innovative work practices were employed, labour quit rates averaged 16%.

High-skilled service industries include telecommunications, finance, insurance, and professional, scientific and technical services.

Innovative work practises include teamwork, flexible job design, profit sharing, merit/skill-based pay.

LARGE RETAILERS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada January 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) declined -37.9% to \$6.3 billion over December 2002, and increased +7.6% over January 2003.

COMPOSITE INDEX, FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB

In Canada February 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 180.6 over January 2003.

Five of ten indices were positive (up two from January)

The housing index (1992=100) increased +6.7% to 136.6. Business and personal services employment increased +0.5 at 2.6 million. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +1.2% to 6,512.

The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 110.1. Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +1.1% to \$1.8 billion.

Three of the ten indices were negative (down three from January)

New orders, durables (1992\$) declined -0.1% to \$22.0 billion. The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio declined to 1.76. Other durable goods sales (1992\$) declined -0.1% to \$7.6 billion.

Two of ten indices were unchanged:

Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) remained unchanged at 110,938. Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 39.2 hours.



CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada January 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an outflow of -\$3.1 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$20.4 billion.

In Canada January 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$102 million. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$24.9 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia January 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +5.0% to \$781 million over December 2002.

In Canada January 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +3.7% to \$44.7 billion over December 2002, and increased +6.9% over January 2002.

Inventories declined -0.2% to \$63.1 billion over December 2002, and increased +1.3% over January 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -3.3% to \$43.5 billion over December 2002, and declined -5.8% over January 2002.

New orders increased +2.9% to \$43.2 billion over December 2002, and increased +4.8% over January 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio declined to 1.41 from 1.47 in December 2002. and declined from 1.49 in January 2002.



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada January 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.3% to 3.4 million trips over December 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +5.2% to 3.1 million over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.9% to 3.8 million trips over December 2002. Unadjusted trips increased +5.1% to 1.9 million trips over January 2002.



WHOLESALE TRADE JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia January 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to \$629 million over December 2002, and increased +6.0% over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.8% to \$36.8 billion over December 2002, and increased +8.6% over January 2002.

In Canada December 2002, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +5.5% to \$2.8 billion over December 2002, and increased +6.0% over January 2002.



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada February 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.7% to 122.3 over January 2003, and increased +4.6% over February 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.6% to 119.9 over January 2003, and increased +3.9% over February 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.5% to 122.3 over January 2003, and increased +3.1% over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +1.0% to 124.3 over January 2003, and increased +6.8% over February 2002.

In Halifax February 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.8% to 123.0 over January 2003, and increased +6.1% over February 2002.

*CPI Changes

Several changes have been made to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) starting with the January 2003 data. The basket of goods and services used to calculate the CPI has been updated to reflect changes in consumer expenditure patterns. Expenditure patterns for 2001 replaced those for 1996.

The time base remains unchanged at 1992=100.

*Base Effect

The 12-month percentage change is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month in the previous year. Thus, the 12-month variation can increase from one month to the next as a result of a decrease in the base serving as the point of comparison. The base effect largelym explained the marked increases observed in the 12-month percentage changes in the CPI since October 2002. Not until March 2003 will the index used as the base for comparison return to a level comparable to that of eptember 2001 and will the base effect fade away.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



LEGAL AID 2001-2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 85F0015XIE and http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/legal18a.htm

In Canada fiscal year ending March 31 2002, legal aid revenues (funding from governments, client contributions, legal profession) increased +12.8% to \$597.0 million over the prvious year. Legal aid expenditures increased +15.8% to \$593.1 million. The number of legal aid applications remained unchanged at 838,561, the number of approvals declined -1.4% to 510,818. The number of private and staff lawyers providing legal aid services declined -3.2% to 12,024.

In Nova Scotia fiscal year ending March 31 2002, legal aid revenues (funding from governments, client contributions, legal profession) increased +12.2% to \$13.1 million over the previous year. Legal aid expenditures increased +17.8% to \$13.0 million. The number of legal aid applications increased +7.7% to 24,946, the number of approvals declined -2.6% to 14,759. The number of private and staff lawyers providing legal aid services declined -5.2% to 310.

RETAIL TRADE JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada January 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to \$26.0 billion over December 2002, and increased +6.1% over January 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +4.2% to \$22.4 billion over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.6% to \$759 million over December 2002, and declined -0.6% over January 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +1.1% to \$655 million over January 2002.



PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITY LIMITATION SURVEY 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 89-580-XIE, 89-581-XIE

In 2001, 276,960 Canadians claimed and received the disability tax credit, 35,040 claimed but did not receive the tax credit, and 2.5 million Canadians with disabilities did not file a claim.

In 2001 14,290 Nova Scotians claimed and received the disability tax credit, 910 claimed but did not receive the tax credit, and 107,460 Novia Scotians with disabilities did not file a claim.

The Disability Tax Credit is available to an individual with a severe and prolonged mental or physical impairment that markedly restricts him or her in activities of daily living.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada January 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.3% to 529,700 over December 2002, and declined -5.6% over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 3.4% to 29,760 over December 2002, and declined -2.8% over January 2002.



ANNUAL SURVEY OF ENGINEERING SERVICES INDUSTRY, 2001

Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 360-0005

In Canada 2001, operating revenues in the engineering services industry of Canada increased +12.1% to \$10.4 billion over 2000. Operating expenses increased +11.1% to \$9.3 billion. Operating profit margin increased to 10.7% from 9.9% one year earlier. The number of establishments increased +13.2% to 17,660. Employment increased +5.4% to 80,000+.

In Nova Scotia 2001, operating revenues in the engineering services industry of Canada increased +5.1% to \$176.4 million over 2000. Operating expenses increased +2.3% to \$162.8 million. Operating profit margin increased to 7.7% from 5.2% one year earlier. The number of establishments increased +4.9% to 344.

DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS January 1, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 91-002-XIB

In Canada January 1, 2003 the estimated population increased +0.8% to 31,499,560 over the same day in 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 1, 2003 the estimated population increased +0.1% to 944,456 over the same date in 2002.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 376-0038, 376-0051, 376-0053, 376-0054

In 2002, Canadian direct foreign investment abroad increased +10.8% to \$431.8 billion over 2001. Foreign direct investment in Canada increased +4.7% to \$349.4 billion over 2001.

In 2002, Canadian direct foreign investment in the United States increased +6.9% to \$201.8 billion (47% of Can.DI) over 2001. U.S. foreign direct investment in Canada increased +4.7% to \$224.3 billion (64% of For.DI) over 2001.



FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT IN TRADE/VOCATIONAL AND PREPARATORY TRAINING 1999/2000 Statistics Canada

In Canada 1999/2000, full-time enrollment in trade/vocational and preparatory training schools declined -2.5% to 234,282 students over 1998/99. Trade/vocational enrollment declined -2.8% to 149,445. Preparatory training enrollments declined -2.1% to 84,837.

FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada January 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +0.9% to 110.0 over December 2002 and increased +5.1% over January 2002. The FPPI crops increased +0.9% to 112.9 over December 2002 and increased +10.4% over January 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +3.3% to 107.7 over December 2002 and declined -0.3% over January 2003.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 99.9 over December 2002 and increased +1.3% over January 2002. The FPPI crops declined -3.5% to 95.5 over December 2002 and increased +8.4% over January 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +2.7% to 102.4 over December 2002 and increased +0.2% over January 2003.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada January 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.1% to \$687.44 over December 2002, and increased +1.8% over January 2002. Employment declined -0.1% to 13.3 million over December 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to \$598.26 over December 2002, and increased +1.7% over January 2002. Employment increased +0.3% to 378,900 over December 2002.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, February 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +3.1% to 128.9 over January 2003, and increased +22.6% over February 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +0.1% to 96.7 over January 2003, and increased +4.8% over February 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +6.5% to 198.7 over January 2003 and increased +49.6% over February 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, February 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) increased +0.6% to 109.2 over January 2003, and increased +2.3% over February 2002.



THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS 2000

In Canada 2000, the number of therapeutic abortions declined -0.2% to 105,427 over 1999. The rate per 1000 women remained unchanged at 15.4.

In Nova Scotia 2000, the number of therapeutic abortions increased +3.8% to 1,989 over 1999. The rate per 1000 women increased to 9.5 from 9.1 in 1999.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada February 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +9.9% to 7.8 million cubic metres over January 2003. Year to date production increased +7.4% to 15.9 million cubic metres over Jan-Feb 2002.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-002-XPB

In Canada January 2003, crude oil production increased +4.5% to 11.7 million cubic metres over January 2002.

In Canada January 2003, natural gas production increased +2.0% to 15.5 billion cubic metres over January 2002.

NATIONAL TOURISM INDICATORS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-009-XIB

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, tourism expenditures (seasonally adjusted, \$1997) increased +0.9% to \$11.9 billion over the 3rd quarter 2002. Current dollar expenditures (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% to \$13.2 billion. Employment in tourism industries (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.9% to 585,900 over the 3rd quarter 2002.

In Canada 2002, tourism expenditures (seasonally adjusted, \$1997) declined -1.1% to \$47.2 billion over 2001. Employment in tourism industries (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% over 2001.

PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada February 2003, the number of cigarettes sold declined -30.0% to 2.4 billion cigarettes over January 2003. Year-to-date sales declined -13.0% over Jan-Feb 2002.

BIOTECH INNOVATIVE FIRMS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 88F0006XIE2003005

In Canada 2001, the number of biotech firms increased to 375 from 282 in 1997. Total employment in biotech firms increased +95% to 62,242 over 1997. The total number of biotechnology employees increased +32% to 11,897. Total revenues increased +87% to \$27.1 billion; biotech revenues increased +339% to \$3.6 billion. Total R&D expenditures increased +142% to \$2.2 billion; biotech R&D increased +171% to \$1.3 billion.

In Atlantic Canada there were 23 biotech firms in 2001. Total employment = 1,539; total biotech employment = 402; total biotech revenues = \$22 million; biotech R&D revenues = \$420 million; total R&D expenditure = \$575 million.



PROFILE OF CANADIAN EXPORTERS 2001

In Canada 2001, the number of exporters declined -1.9% to 41,267 establishments over 2000. The value of merchandise exported declined -2.9% to \$367.3 billion over 2000.

The greatest number of exporting establishments (19,357) are in the manufacturing industry group, and comprise 46.9% of all exporting firms. Establishments annually exporting more than \$25 million in merchandise (4.1% of establishments) accounted for 82.4% of all exports.

UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT 2000/01

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2000/01, full-time and part-time enrollment in universities increased +2.1% to 861,700 students over 1999/2000. Undergradute enrollment increased +1.9% to 735,300; and graduate enrollment increased +3.5% to 126,300 over 1999/2000.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY JANUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada January 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.4% to \$993.1 billion (annualized) over December 2002, and increased +3.4% over January 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries increased +0.6% to \$307.7 billion (annualized) over December 2002, and increased +4.1% over January 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.3% to \$685.7 billion (annualized) over December 2002, and increased +3.1% over January 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth declined -0.1% to \$59.4 billion (annualized) over December 2002, and increased +3.6% over January 2002.



HELP-WANTED INDEX MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 277-0002

In Canada March 2003, the help-wanted composite index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, increased +1.2% to 112.7 over February 2003, and declined -10.8% over March 2002.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, the help-wanted index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -0.9% to 124.5 over February 2003, and declined -6.0% over March 2002.



DEATHS 2000

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2000, the number of deaths declined -0.7% to 218,062 over 1999. Life expectancy at birth is 76.7 years for men and 82.0 years for women.

In Nova Scotia 2000, the number of deaths increased +3.1% to 7,879 over 1999. Life expectancy at birth is 75.9 years for men and 81.2 years for women.

ELECTRONIC COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2002, the percentage of private sector firms that use the internet increased to 75.7% from 70.8% in 2001. The percentage with web sites increased to 31.5.6% from 28.6%. The percentage that purchase over the internet increased to 22.4% from 18.2%. The percentage that sell over the internet increased to 7.5% from 6.7% (\$13.3 billion = 0.6% total operating revenue).

In Canada 2002, in information and cultural industries 96.7% of firms use the internet; 67.5% have a web site; 59.9% purchase over the internet; and 18.8% sell over the internet (\$828.5 million = 1.2% of total operating revenue).



MULTIFACTOR PRODUCTIVITY 1981 to 2000

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11F0027MIE200310

In Canada 1995 to 2000 multifactor productivity increased +1.14% per year (compared with U.S. at +0.66% per year). Canada's annual growth in technical change was +0.66%. Annual growth in technical efficiency was +0.48%.

NOTES

"Multifactor productivity can be decomposed into two components: technical change and technical efficiency. The measure of technical change captures the improvement in best practice over time, a reflection of innoivation. The measure of technical efficiency shows whether production is [catching up or following behind] from best North American practice over time."

http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/030403/d030403a.htm

Multifactor productivity is designed to measure the joint influences on economic growth of technological change, efficiency improvements, returns to scale and other factors. Its growth rate is calculated as the difference between the growth in the amount of output produced (real gross domestic product) and the growth of the quantity of all inputs used, such as labour and machinery and equipment.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia March 2003 labour force increased +0.6% to 480,800, employment increased +0.2% to 436,300, unemployment increased +4.5% to 44,500 and the unemployment rate increased +0.4 percentage points to 9.3% over February 2003.

In Canada March 2003 labour force remained unchanged at 17.0 million, employment increased +0.1% to 15.7 million, unemployment declined -0.9% to 1.2 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.1 percentage points to 7.3% over February 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia March 2003 labour force increased +1.8% to 469,300, employment increased +2.4% to 419,900, unemployment declined -2.4% to 49,400 and the unemployment rate declined -0.5 percentage points to 10.5% over March 2002.

In Canada March 2003 labour force increased +2.5% to 16.7 million, employment increased +3.0% to 15.4 million, unemployment declined -2.6% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.4 percentage points to 7.9% over March 2002.



BUILDING PERMITS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada February 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -9.8% to \$3.9 billion over January 2003, and increased +10.4% over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +14.6% to \$70.0 million over January 2003, and declined -2.3% over February 2002.

In Halifax February 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +39.2% to \$41.8 million over January 2003, and declined -0.1% over February 2002.



QUARTERLY RETAIL COMMODITY SURVEY 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0010

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, retail store sales (unadjusted) increased +5.0% to \$82.8 billion over the 4th quarter 2001. Annual retail store sales (unadjusted) increased +6.0% to \$307.5 billion over 2001.

Over the 4th quarter the greatest percentage increase was in automotive fuels, oils and additives sector which increased +21.5% to \$6.0 billion. The highest value commodity was motor vehicles, parts and services which increased +1.9% to \$21.1 billion over 2001.

Over the year the greatest percentage increase was in health and personal care products which increased +9.2% to \$23.1 billion. The highest value commodity was motor vehicles, parts and services which increased +7.5% to \$90.0 billion over 2001.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE December 31, 2000

Financial Management System (FMS) Basis

In Canada December 31 2000, local government net debt (liabilities - assets) declined -20.0% to \$10.0 billion over 1999. Financial assets = \$48.4 billion; Liabilities = \$58.4 billion.

In Nova Scotia December 31, 2000, local government net debt (assets - liabilities) declined to \$326 million from \$360 million in 1999. Financial assets = \$456 million; Liabilities = \$782 million.

Note: The Financial Management System (FMS) provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structure of governments differ. The FMS adjusts data from governments' public accounts and other records to provide detailed data that permit inter-government comparisons as well as compatible national aggregates that are consistent over time. In other words, FMS statistics may not accord with the figures published in government financial statements.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB

In Canada February 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.6% to 113.8 over January 2003, and increased +5.1% over February 2002.

In Halifax December 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) remained unchanged at 125.4 over January 2003 and increased +3.5% over February 2002.

INVESTMENT IN NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction increased +1.0% to \$6.4 billion over the 4th quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 1st quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction declined -14.5% to \$120 million over the 4th quarter 2002.

In Canadian census metropolitan areas (CMA's), non-residential construction increased +3.6% to \$4.6 billion over 4th quarter 2002.

In Halifax 1st quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction declined -11.7% to \$29 million over 4th quarter 2002.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada February 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.6 billion. The year to date surplus was \$9.8 billion.

In Canada February 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.6% to \$34.6 billion over January 2003 and increased +2.0% over February 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +4.3% to \$70.0 billion over Jan-Feb 2002.

In Canada February 2003, international merchandise trade imports remained unchanged at 30.0 billion over January 2003, and increased +2.8% over February 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +5.2% to \$60.0 billion over Jan-Feb 2002.

Nova Scotia January 2003

In Nova Scotia January 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$103.2 million.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -16.5% to \$447.9 million over December 2002 and increased +6.1% over January 2002.

In Nova Scotia January 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -24.6% to \$344.8 million over December 2002, and increased +1.9% over January 2002.



ANNUAL RETAIL TRADE 2001

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2001, there were 194,079 retail stores. Total operating revenues increased +7.3% to \$339 billion over 2000.

In 2001, computer and software store operating revenues increased +10.1% to \$3.4 billion over 2000. Gross margin = \$819 million; operating profit = \$101 million. Operating revenue share of the Canadian retail market = 1.0%.

In Nova Scotia 2001 there were 6,002 retail stores. Total operating revenues increased +5.8% to \$9.6 billion over 2000. Nova Scotia operating revenues share of the Canadian retail market was 2.8% (Nova Scotia population share = 3.0%).

In New Brunswick 2001, there were 4,862 retail stores. Total operating revenues increased +2.1% to \$7.6 billion over 2000. New Brunswick operating revenue share of the Canadian retail market was 2.2% (New Brunswick population share =2.4%).



DISPOSITION NOVA SCOTIA NATURAL GAS JAN-JUN 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-006-XPB

In Nova Scotia 1st half of 2002, production of natural gas increased +10% to 2.6 billion cubic metres over the same period 2001.

Direct sales (excluding utilities) increased to 17.2% (444.9 million cu. M) of total marketable gas from 0.4% a year earlier. Direct sales to utilities = nil.

Export sales declined to 83.8% of total marketable gas from 99.6% in Jan-Jun 2001. Exports declined -8.5% to 2.2 billion cubic metres.

CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT FINANCE MARCH 31, 2001

Financial Management System (FMS) Basis

In Canada March 31, 2001, consolidated government net debt (liabilities - assets) declined to \$797.1 billion over March 31 2000. Net debt as a percentage of GDP declined to 72.4% from 80.1% in 2000. Per capita net debt declined to \$25,709 from \$27,048 in 2000.

In Nova SCotia March 31, 2001, consolidated provincial government net debt (liabilities - assets) was \$11.4 billion. Net debt per capita was \$25,709.

Note:

The Financial Management System (FMS) provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structure of governments differ. The FMS adjusts data from governments' public accounts and other records to provide detailed data that permit inter-government comparisons as well as compatible national aggregates that are consistent over time. In other words, FMS statistics may not accord with the figures published in government financial statements.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 56-002-XIE

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, operating profits increased +31.0% to \$1.3 billion over the 4th quarter 2001. Operating revenues increased +0.1% to \$8.7 billion. Capital expenditures declined -28.7% to \$1.5 billion.

In Canada Jan-Dec 2002, operating profits increased +10.9% to \$4.9 billion over Jan-Dec 2001. Operating revenues increased +0.7% to \$33.0 billion. Capital expenditures declined -26.2% to \$5.7 billion.



OVERCOMING DISTANCE, OVERCOMING BORDERS

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11F0027MIE2003008 http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/11F0027MIE/11F0027MIE2003008.pdf

In Canada, interprovincial trade is six times stronger than interstate trade in the United States. Cross border trade (Can-US) is about half the level of interstate trade. This suggests a strong influence of the border on trade.

TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada February 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.5% to 3.3 million trips over January 2003. Unadjusted trips increased +3.4% to 2.7 million over February 2002.

In Canada February 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.5% to 3.6 million trips over January 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -7.5% to 2.3 million trips over January 2002.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia February 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% to \$768 million over January 2003.

In Canada February 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.9% to \$44.2 billion over January 2003, and increased +4.7% over February 2002.

Inventories increased +0.9% to \$63.7 billion over January 2003, and increased +2.4% over February 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -0.9% to \$43.0 billion over January 2003, and declined -7.6% over February 2002.

New orders increased +1.6% to \$43.7 billion over January 2003, and increased +2.7% over February 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio increased to 1.44 from 1.42 in January 2003. and declined from 1.48 in February 2002.



LARGE RETAILERS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada February 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) declined -10.1% to \$5.7 billion over January 2003, and increased +5.0% over February 2002.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia February 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +14.2% to 4,027 over January 2003, and increased +3.7% over February 2002. Unadjusted unit sales increased +3.3% to 2,727 over February 2002.

In Canada February 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +14.1% to 146,766 over January 2003, and increased +1.5% over February 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined 1.4% to 105,391 over February 2002.



GAMBLING 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 75-001-XIE Vol4 No. 4

In Nova Scotia 2001, net revenue from government-run lotteries, VLTs and casinos increased to \$348 million from \$125 billion in 1992. Expenditure per capita (age 18+)increased to \$473 from \$180 in 1992.

In Canada 2001, net revenue from government-run lotteries, VLTs and casinos increased to \$10.7 billion from \$2.7 billion in 1992. Expenditure per capita (age 18+) increased to \$447 from \$130 in 1992.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada February 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of +\$4.6 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$1.5 billion.

In Canada January 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$1.6 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$1.7 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.

WHOLESALE TRADE FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia February 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.4% to \$632 million over January 2003, and increased +6.6% over February 2002.

In Canada February 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% to \$36.8 billion over January 2003, and increased +8.5% over February 2002.

In Canada February 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery declined -0.4% to \$2.0 billion over January 2003, and increased +2.1% over February 2002.



RETAIL TRADE FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada February 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.5% to \$26.5 billion over January 2003, and increased +5.2% over February 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +5.6% to \$21.2 billion over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% to \$768 million over January 2003, and increased +1.8% over February 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +2.1% to \$611 million over February 2002.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada March 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.4% to 122.8 over February 2003, and increased +4.3% over March 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.3% to 120.2 over February 2003, and increased +3.6% over March 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.2% to 122.5 over February 2003, and increased +2.9% over March 2002.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.6% to 125.1 over February 2003, and increased +6.8% over March 2002.

In Halifax March 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.7% to 123.8 over February 2003, and increased +6.3% over March 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



PRINCIPLE FIELD CROP SEEDING INTENTIONS MARCH 31, 2003

Statistics Canada 22-002-XIB

In Canada March 31, 2003, the seeding intentions of wheat (total) is expected to increase +0.4% to 26.4 million acres over 2002. While winter wheat is expected to increase, declines are expected for spring wheat (-0.9% to 19.0 million acres), and durham wheat (-4.6% to 5.9 million acres).

Seeding intentions are expected to increase for canola (13.8% to 10.9 million acres), corn for grain (+0.5% to 3.2 million acres) and flaxseed (+6.7% to 1.8 million acres).

Seeding intentions are expected to decline for barley (-10% to 12.6 million acres), summerfallow (-2.4% to 10.0 million acres, oats (-8.6% to 3.2 million acres), field peas (-02% to 3.2 million acres) and soybeans (-6.2% to 2.4 million acres).

In the Maritimes March 31 2003, the seeding intentions of wheat (total) is expected to increase 53,000 from 49,500 acres over 2002. Barley - increase to 142,000 from 141,000 acres; fodder corn - increase to 9,000 acres from 8,500; and soybeans - increase to 8,000 from 7,000 acres over 2002.

Seending intentions declined for oats to 38,000 from 40,000 acres; mixed grains to 19,000 from 20,500 acres

COMPOSITE INDEX, MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada March 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 181.2 over February 2003.

Four of ten indices were positive (down one from February)

Business and personal services employment increased +0.5 to 2.6 million. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +0.3% to 6,530. The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 110.3. Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +0.7% to \$1.8 billion.

Four of the ten indices were negative (up one from February)

The housing index (1992=100) declined -1.0% to 129.6. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.5% to 110,030. New orders, durables (1992\$) declined -1.4% to \$21.2 billion. Other durable goods sales (1992\$) declined -0.4% to \$7.6 billion.

Two of ten indices were unchanged:

The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio remained unchanged at 1.78. Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 39.2 hours.



PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada March 2003, the number of cigarettes sold increased +28.0% to 3.1 billion cigarettes over February 2003. Year-to-date sales declined -13.0% to 8.9 billion over Jan-Mar 2002.

NATURAL GAS SALES FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 129-0001 - 129-0004

In Canada February 2003, natural gas sales increased +12.4% to 8.4 billion cubic metres over February 2002. Year to date sales increased +11.3% to 17.5 billion cubic metres over Jan-Feb 2002.



PROVINCIAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-213-PPB

In Canada 2002, gross domestic product (GDP) at market prices, 1997 prices, increased +3.4% to \$1.1 trillion over 2001. (GDP growth in 2001 was 1.5%)

In Nova Scotia 2002, gross domestic product (GDP) at market prices, 1997 prices, increased +3.8% to \$24.1 billion over 2001. (GDP growth in 2001 was 2.5%)



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada February 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -0.1% to 108.8 over January 2003 and increased +1.2% over February 2002. The FPPI crops increased +6.5% to 111.1 over January 2003 and declined -1.3% over February 2002. The FPPI livestock declined -4.5% to 107.0 over January 2003 and increased +0.8% over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +0.5% to 100.8 over January 2003 and increased +0.1% over February 2002. The FPPI crops increased +0.4% to 95.7 over January 2003 and increased +14.1% over February 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +0.7% to 103.6 over January 2003 and declined -1.0% over February 2003.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada February 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$687.37 over January 2003, and increased +1.7% over February 2002. Employment remained unchanged at 13.3 million over January 2003.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$597.22 over January 2003, and increased +1.2% over February 2002. Employment declined -0.4% to 373,800 over January 2003.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada February 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to 531,280 over January 2003, and declined -4.2% over February 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.6% to 29,940 over January 2003, and declined -1.5% over February 2002.



RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, March 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -4.0% to 124.0 over February 2003, and increased +11.9% over March 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels declined -1.1% to 95.8 over February 2003, and increased +3.6% over March 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) declined -6.7% to 185.2 over February 2003 and increased +23.2% over March 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, March 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -0.5% to 108.8 over February 2003, and increased +1.3% over March 2002.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada February 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$995.4 billion (annualized) over January 2003, and increased +3.1% over February 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries increased +0.3% to \$308.3 billion (annualized) over January 2003, and increased +2.7% over February 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.2% to \$687.4 billion (annualized) over January 2003, and increased +3.3% over February 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.3% to \$60.0 billion (annualized) over January 2003, and increased +3.4% over February 2002.



EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada April 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to 543,430 over March 2003, and increased +1.2% over April 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 0.6% to 29,760 over March 2003, and increased +0.9% over April 2002.



CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS FEBRUARY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-002-XPB

In Canada February 2003, crude oil production increased +0.6% to 10.6 million cubic metres over February 2002. Year-to-date production increased +2.6% to 22.3 million cubic metres over Jan-Feb 2002.

In Canada February 2003, natural gas production increased +1.7% to 13.8 billion cubic metres over February 2002. Year-to-date production increased +1.9% to 29.4 billion cubic metres over Jan-Feb 2002.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY: MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, (CANADA) APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada April 2003, manufacturers (50%) expect that during the next three months the volume of production will remain about the same as the last three months and an additional 19% believe that volume will increase. 31% expect volume to decline.

Orders received by 65% of manufacturers are expected to be about the same as the last quarter, with 9% expecting increases and 26% declines.

67% consider the present backlog of unfilled orders as about normal, 7%, higher than normal and 26% lower than normal.

Most respondents (81%) believe the finished product inventory to be about right while 3% consider levels to be too low, and 16% believe they are too high.

69% believe that employment during the next three months will change little, 13% expect an increase and 18% a decrease.

Most manufacturers (83%) do not foresee any production difficulties, 5% think that they may experience a skilled labour shortage, 4% a raw materials shortage, 5% a working capital shortage, and 1% expect an unskilled labour shortage.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY: (NOVA SCOTIA) MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 302-0008

In Nova Scotia April 2003, manufacturers (48%) expect that during the next three months the volume of production will remain about the same as the last three months and an additional 36% believe that volume will increase. 15% expect volume to decline.

Orders received by 45% of manufacturers are expected to be about the same as the last quarter, with 45% expecting

increases and 10% declines.

43% consider the present backlog of unfilled orders as about normal, 27%, higher than normal and 30% lower than normal.

Most respondents (89%) believe the finished product inventory to be about right while 4% consider levels to be too low, and 7% believe they are too high.

70% believe that employment during the next three months will change little, 19% expect an increase and 11% a decrease.

Most manufacturers (68%) do not foresee any production difficulties, 3% think that they may experience a skilled labour shortage, 21% a raw materials shortage, 6% a working capital shortage, and 1% expect an unskilled labour shortage.



FEDERAL EXPENDITURES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2000/01

Statistics Canada 88F0006XIE2003008

In Canada 2000-2001 Federal government expenditures on science and technology (S&T) increased +7.9% to \$6.1 billion over 1999-2000. Of this, research and development (R&D) expenditures increased +7.1% to 3.9 billion.

In Nova Scotia 2000-2001 Federal government expenditures on science and technology (S&T) increased +14.6% to \$220 million over 1999-2000. Of this, research and development (R&D) expenditures increased +12.5% to 135 million.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada March 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +0.3% to 7.7 million cubic metres over March 2003. Year to date production increased +4.5% to 23.5 million cubic metres over Jan-Mar 2002.



HELP-WANTED INDEX APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 277-0002

In Canada April 2003, the help-wanted composite index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -0.1% to 110.8 over March 2003, and declined -13.0% over April 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, the help-wanted index (1996=100), seasonally adjusted and smoothed, declined -0.4% to 119.8 over March 2003, and declined -9.4% over April 2002.

Note: This will be the last issue of the help-wanted index. See: http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/030506/d030506b.htm

BUILDING PERMITS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada March 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.4% to \$3.6 billion over February 2003. The year to date value of bulding permits increased +6.6% to \$11.8 billion over January-March 2002.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +17.5% to \$82.8 million over February 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +11.4% to \$214.2 million over January-March 2002.

In Halifax March 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +17.7% to \$49.3 million over February 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +21.8% to \$121.2 million over January-March 2002.



GRAIN STOCKS March 31, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 22-002-XPB

In Canada as of March 31, 2003, total wheat stocks declined -13% to 11.6 million tonnes over the same date one year earlier. All other grain stocks, with the exception of corn, declined (Barley -47% to 3.3 million tonnes; Canola -16% to 2.1 million tonnes; oats - 9% to 1.0 million tonnes). Corn stocks increased 6% to 4.6 million tonnes.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia April 2003 labour force declined -0.1% to 480,800, employment increased +0.6% to 439,000, unemployment declined -7.4% to 41,200 and the unemployment rate declined -0.7 percentage points to 8.6% over March 2003.

In Canada April 2003 labour force increased +0.1% to 17.0 million, employment declined -0.1% to 15.7 million, unemployment increased +2.7% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate increased +0.2 percentage points to 7.5% over March 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia April 2003 labour force increased +1.3% to 473,000, employment increased +2.8% to 427,200, unemployment declined -11.1% to 45,800 and the unemployment rate declined -1.3 percentage points to 9.7% over April 2002.

In Canada April 2003 labour force increased +2.5% to 16.8 million, employment increased +2.5% to 15.5 million, unemployment increased +1.7% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 8.0% over April 2002.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB

In Canada March 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 113.9 over February 2003, and increased +4.8% over March 2002.

In Halifax March 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 125.6 over February 2003 and increased +3.6% over March 2002.



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada March 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$5.9 billion. The year to date surplus was \$15.8 billion.

In Canada March 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +2.8% to \$35.9 billion over February 2003 and increased +9.0% over March 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +4.3% to \$105.7 billion over Jan-Mar 2002.

In Canada March 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -0.5% to 30.0 billion over February 2003, and increased +4.1% over March 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +5.0% to \$90.0 billion over Jan-Mar 2002.

Nova Scotia February 2003

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the international merchandise trade deficit was -\$136.0 million. The year to date deficit was -\$33.2 million.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -8.2% to \$411.7 million over January 2003 and increased +1.9% over February 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +4.1% to \$860.1 million over Jan-Feb 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, international merchandise trade imports increased +58.5% to \$547.7 million over January 2003, and increased +58.6% over February 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +30.6% to \$893.3 million over Jan-Feb 2002.



PORT ACTIVITY JAN - JUN 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada January - June 2002, total tonnage increased +0.1% to 181.2 million metric tonnes over Jan-Jun 2001.

In Halifax January to June 2002, total tonnage declined -12.1% to 6.0 million metric tonnes over Jan-Jun 2001. The port ranks number 10 in total tonnage.

In Port Hawkesbury January to June 2001, total tonnage declined -40.3% to 6.9 million metric tonnes over Jan-Jun 2001. The port ranks number 7 in total tonnage.

NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +1.0% to 117.6 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.7% over the 1st quarter 2002.

In Halifax 1st quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.2% to 108.3 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.0% over the 1st quarter 2002.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia March 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -5.3% to 3,782 over February 2003, and declined -2.3% over March 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -7.7% to 4,002 over March 2002.

In Canada March 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.4% to 139,670 over February 2003, and increased +0.1% over March 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -0.9% to 148,922 over March 2002.



MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PRICE INDEX 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the machinery and equipment price index (1986=100) declined -1.9% to 138.6 over the 4th quarter 2002, and declined -1.6% over the 1st quarter 2002.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia March 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.9% to \$785 million over February 2003.

In Canada March 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.4% to \$44.7 billion over February 2003, and increased +6.9% over March 2002.

Inventories increased +0.4% to \$63.7 billion over February 2003, and increased +3.2% over March 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -0.4% to \$42.9 billion over February 2003, and declined -8.7% over March 2002.

New orders increased +1.6% to \$44.5 billion over February 2003, and increased +5.7% over March 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio declined to 1.43 from 1.44 in February 2003. and declined from 1.48 in March 2002.



APARTMENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the apartment building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.8% to 115.9 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.9% over the 1st quarter 2002.

In Halifax 1st quarter 2003, the apartment building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.2 to 111.6 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.4% over the 1st quarter 2002.



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada March 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.0% to 3.1 million trips over February 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -4.0% to 3.4 million trips over March 2002.

In Canada March 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -5.3% to 3.4 million trips over February 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -17.3% to 2.5 million trips over March 2002.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada March 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of +\$6.9 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$8.5 billion.

In Canada March 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an inflow of +\$1.0 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$0.9 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.

WHOLESALE TRADE MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia March 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.8% to \$619 million over February 2003, and increased +4.1% over March 2002.

In Canada March 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.5% to \$36.6 billion over February 2003, and increased +8.0% over March 2002.

In Canada March 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery declined -7.8% to \$2.8 billion over February 2003, and increased +2.3% over March 2002.



LIVESTOCK 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-001-XIB Industry Canada, Trade data on-line

In Nova Scotia 2002, farm cash receipts for livestock totalled \$260.7 million. Farm cash receipts for cattle and calves totaled \$29.8 million, or 11.4% of total farm cash receipts livestock.

In Nova Scotia 2002, total exports of bovine commodities totaled \$2.0 million. Of these exports - fresh, chilled or frozen edible offal (bovine, swine, sheep, etc.) totaled \$604,030; salted, in brine, dried or smoked edible offal (bovine, swine, sheep, etc.) totaled \$681,412; live bovine animals totaled \$507,453.

COMPOSITE INDEX, APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada April 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 181.1 over March 2003.

Four of ten indices were positive (no change)

Business and personal services employment increased +0.1 to 2.6 million. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +0.1% to 6,534. Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +0.2% to \$1.8 billion. Other durable goods sales (1992\$) increased +0.6% to \$7.7 billion.

Four of the ten indices were negative (no change)

The housing index (1992=100) declined -1.2% to 128.9. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.3% to 109,645. New orders, durables (1992\$) declined -0.8% to \$21.0 billion. The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio declined to 1.77.

Two of ten indices were unchanged:

The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) remained unchanged at 110.2. Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 39.2 hours.

RETAIL TRADE MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada March 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.7% to \$26.4 billion over February 2003, and increased +4.7% over March 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +3.7% to \$24.6 billion over March 2002.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% to \$771 million over February 2003, and declined -0.5% over March 2002. Unadjusted sales declined -2.4% to \$706 million over March 2002.



LARGE RETAILERS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada March 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +1.3% to \$6.5 billion over March 2002.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada April 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.7% to 121.9 over March 2003, and increased +3.0% over April 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy remained unchanged at 120.2 over March 2003, and increased +3.2% over April 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, declined -0.3% to 122.1 over March 2003, and increased +2.1% over April 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -1.0% to 123.9 over March 2003, and increased +4.2% over April 2002.

In Halifax April 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.7% to 122.9 over March 2003, and increased +4.0% over April 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



WORKING WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL 2000

Statistics Cat. No. 81-595-MIE http://www.statcan.ca/english/IPS/Data/81-595-MIE2003004.htm

In Canada 1999, 64% of students in their last year of high school had part-time jobs. Students who worked moderate hours (1 to 20 hrs) were the least likely to drop out of school. The drop out rate of students who worked 30 or more hours was 2.5 times higher than moderate student workers. The drop out rate of students didn't work was 1.5 times higher than moderate student workers.

In Nova Scotia 1999, 60% of students in their last year of high school had part-time jobs. The number of hours worked: 19% worked between 1 to 10 hrs; 18% between 10 to 20 hrs; 17% between 20 to 30 hrs; and 5% worked 30+ hours.

NATURAL GAS SALES MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 129-0001 - 129-0004

In Canada March 2003, natural gas sales increased +2.9% to 8.1 billion cubic metres over March 2002. Year to date sales increased +8.5% to 25.6 billion cubic metres over Jan-Mar 2002.



FARM CASH RECEIPTS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-001-XIB and CANSIM

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, farm cash receipts increased +2.3% to \$9.1 billion over the 1st quarter 2002. Livestock cash receipts declined -2.5% to \$4.6 billion, crop cash receipts declined -10.3% to \$3.1 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) increased +91.3% to \$1.4 billion.

In Nova Scotia 1st quarter 2003, farm cash receipts declined -3.0% to \$97 million over 1st quarter 2002.

NET FARM INCOME 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-010-XIE thru 21-015-XIE and CANSIM

In Canada 2002, net farm income declined -44.8% to \$2.0 billion over 2001. Net cash income (farm business cash flow) declined -10.6% to \$7.7 billion.

In Nova Scotia 2002, net farm income declined -76.9% to \$9 million over 2001. Net cash income (farm business cash flow) declined -33.8% to \$53 million.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada March 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to 535,160 over February 2003, and declined -2.8% over March 2002.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to 29,960 over February 2003, and declined -0.8% over March 2002.



FOREIGN AFFILATE TRADE STATISTICS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11F0027MIE

Sales by foreign affiliates of Canadian companies increased +1.0% to \$371.1 billion over 2000. Sales of goods declined -1.4% to \$214.7 billion; sales of services increased +4.3% to \$156.4 billion.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada International Travel Survey

In the 4th quarter 2002, international traveller trips to Canada increased 10.8% to 3.5 million over the 4th quarter 2001. Year to date trips increased +2.0% to 20.0 million over 2001.

In the 4th quarter 2002, Canadian trips abroad increased +13.3% to 3.6 million trips over the 4th quarter 2001. Year to date trips declined -3.6% to 17.7 million over 2001.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ACCOUNT 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the international travel account showed a deficit of \$585 million.

Total receipts declined -5.3% to \$4.0 billion, and total payments declined -1.5% to \$4.6 billion over the 4th quarter 2003.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada March 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) remained unchanged at \$685.78 over February 2003, and increased +1.3% over March 2002. Employment increased +0.1% to 13.3 million over February 2003.

In Nova Scotia March 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.1% to \$595.87 over February 2003, and increased +1.3% over March 2002. Employment increased +0.5% to 375,700 over February 2003.

BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 67-001-XPB

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the current account surplus (seasonally adjusted) increased to \$8.0 billion from a \$4.9 billion surplus in 4th quarter 2002. The goods surplus increased to \$15.5 billion, the services deficit increased to -2.0 billion and the investment income deficit declined to \$5.8 billion.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, APRIL 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, April 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -6.5% to 116.2 over March 2003, and increased +3.4% over April 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels declined -1.1% to 95.0 over March 2003, and increased +4.1% over April 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) declined -12.5% to 162.0 over March 2003 and increased +2.5% over April 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, April 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -1.4% to 107.6 over March 2003, and declined -0.1% over April 2002.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada March 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -1.4% to 108.8 over February 2003 and increased +1.6% over March 2002. The FPPI crops declined -1.6% to 109.5 over February 2003 and increased +4.9% over March 2002. The FPPI livestock declined -1.1% to 108.3 over February 2003 and declined -2.4% over March 2002.

In Nova Scotia February 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +1.4% to 100.8 over February 2003 and increased +1.4% over March 2002. The FPPI crops increased +0.2% to 96.0 over February 2003 and increased +10.9% over March 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +1.5% to 103.5 over February 2003 and increased +0.1% over March 2003.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, real gross domestic product (\$1997 chained) increased +0.6% to \$1.090 trillion over 4th quarter 2002. Consumer spending increased +0.9% to \$614.0 billion; exports (goods & services) declined -1.5% to \$434.1 billion.

In Canada 1st quarter 2003 (\$current), corporate profits increased +7.6% to \$151.4 billion; personal income increased +0.8% to \$615.2 billion.

Real gross domestic product (\$chained 1997) increased +2.4% on an annualized basis (growth rate compounded annually) and increased +2.6% on a year-over-year basis (compared to the same quarter in the previous year)

By comparison in the U.S. 1st quarter 2003, real gross domestic product increased +1.9% on an annualized basis.



MARRIAGES 2000

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 84F0212XPB

In Canada 2000, the number of marriages increased +1.1% to 157,395 over 1999. The average age of brides increased +2.7 years to 31.7 over 1990.

In Nova Scotia 2000, the number of marriages increased +0.7% to 5,517 over 1999.

PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada April 2003, the number of cigarettes sold declined -16.2% to 3.0 billion cigarettes over March 2003. Year-to-date sales declined -13.9% to 11.9 billion over Jan-Apr 2002.



TRUCKING 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 53-222-XIB

In Canada 2001, total revenues in the truck industry (1900 long distance for-hire trucking companies with annual operating revenues of \$1 million plus) increased +6.9% to \$14.7 billion over 2000.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada April 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +1.2% to 7.4 million cubic metres over April 2003. Year to date production increased +4.6% to 31.2 million cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INVESTMENT 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 026-0013

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +15.9% to \$12.1 billion over 1st quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 1st quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +2.3% to \$292.9 million over 1st quarter 2002.

Note: residential construction investment includes new housing, renovations and acquistion costs.



CANADIAN VEHICLE SURVEY 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 53-223-XIE

In Canada 2002, Canada's 18.0 million vehicles traveled an estimated 315.8 billion kilometres (or 1000 times to the Sun* and back).

In Canada 2002, the number of motor vehicles registered increased +2.7% to 18.3 million over 2001.

In Nova Scotia 2002, the number of motor vehicles increased +0.2% to 538,356.

*average distance to sun = 150,000,000 km.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS MARCH 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 26-002-XPB

In Canada March 2003, crude oil production increased +1.8% to 11.6 million cubic metres over March 2002. Year-to-date production increased +2.3% to 33.9 million cubic metres over Jan-Mar 2002.

In Canada March 2003, natural gas production declined -2.7% to 15.0 billion cubic metres over March 2002. Year-to-date production increased +0.3% to 44.3 billion cubic metres over Jan-Mar 2002.

MOVIE THEATRES AND DRIVE-INS 2000/01

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 87F0009XPB

In Canada 2000/01, attendance at movie threatres and drive-ins increased +0.3% to 119.6 million over 1999/2000. Average attendance per capita was 3.9 visits. In the period, there were 679 movie threatres (3,159 screens) and 67 dive-ins (106 screens).

Box office receipts increased +8% to \$707.7 million; total revenues increased to \$1 billion; profits declined to a reported loss of \$26.5 million compared to a gain of \$41.7 million in 1999/2000.

Full-time employment increased +17%% to 2,209 and part-time employment increased +48% to 21,213.

In Nova Scotia 2000/01 average per capita attendance at movie threatres and drive-ins was 3.5 visits.



BUILDING PERMITS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada April 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to \$3.7 billion over March 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +4.6% to \$15.6 billion over January-April 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.4% to \$87.2 million over March 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +15.5% to \$302.3 million over January-April 2002.

In Halifax April 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -36.6% to \$31.2 million over March 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +14.3% to \$152.4 million over January-April 2002.



INTERNET USE 2000

Statistics Canada 11-008-XIE

In Canada 2000, about 88% of 15-year-old students have access to a computer at home, and about 69% have access to the internet at home. (U.S.; computer = 83%, internet = 69%)

COUPLES LIVING APART 2001

Statistics Canada 11-008-XIE

In Canada 2001, 8% of the population aged 20 year plus were 'living alone together' (LAT). Of the 8%, about 56% were aged 20 - 29; 19% were aged 30 - 39; 14% were aged 40 - 49; and 11% were aged 50+.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM 327-0005

In Canada April 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) increased +0.4% to 114.3 over March 2003, and increased +4.5% over April 2002.

In Halifax April 2002, the new housing price index (1992=100) remained increased +1.8% to 127.9 over March 2003 and increased +4.5% over April 2002.

INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY UTILIZATION RATES 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the industrial capacity utilization rate (ratio of actual to potential output) increased +0.3 percentage points to 82.8 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +1.2 percentage points over the 1st quarter 2002.

The forestry and logging sector capacity utilization rate increased +4.2% to 83.5 over the 4th quarter 2002 and increased +14.2% over the 1st quarter 2002.

The mining and extraction sector capacity utilization rate increased +0.9% to 72.4 over the 4th quarter 2002 and declined -0.5% over the 1st quarter 2002.

The construction sector capacity utilization rate increased +0.6% to 84.7 over the 4th quarter 2002 and declined -0.9% over the 1st quarter 2002.

The Manufacturing sector capacity utilization rate remained unchanged at 84.1 over the 4th quarter 2002 and increased +1.9% over the 1st quarter 2002.



EMPLOYER PENSION PLANS 4TH QUARTER 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 280-0002 to 284-0004

In Canada 4th quarter 2002, the market value of the assets of trusted pension plans declined -11.4% to \$543.8 billion over the 3rd quarter 2002.

UNIVERSITY FINANCES 2001/02

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 81-003-XIE

In Canada 2001-2002, universities total revenue (constant dollars) increased +4.6% to \$16.971 billion over 2000/01. Total expenditures (constant dollars) increased +8.7% to \$17.039 billion.

Government revenue increased +5.6% to \$9.4 billion, other revenue increased +3.4% to \$7.6 billion. Government revenue accounts for 55.1%, and student fees account for 19.7% of total revenue.

Salary and benefits expenditures increased +4.9% to \$9.5 billion, scholarships and bursaries increased +17.1% to \$660.4 million, buildings increased +52.7% to \$897.9 million, operational expenditures increased +7.2% to \$2.6 billion, and other expenditures increased +10.9% to \$3.3 billion.

In Nova Scotia 2001-2002, universities total revenue increased to \$678.7 million over 2000-2001. Total expenditures (constant dollars) increased to \$709.8 million. Government revenue accounts for 41.9%, and student fees account for 28.3% of total revenue.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR ENTERPRISES 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-008-XIE

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, corporate after-tax profits (seasonally adjusted) increased +9.6% to \$24.9 billion over the 4th quarter 2002. Operating revenue increased +0.8% to \$597.4 billion and operating profit increased +10.6% to \$42.9 billion over the 4th quarter.



RURAL AND URBAN EDUCATION ATTAINMENT 1981-1996

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-0006-XIE

In Canada 1981-2000, the percentage distribution of population aged 25 to 54 years of age with some post-secondary education has increased to 57.6% in 1996 from 44.4% in 1981.

In predominantly urban regions, the percentage distribution of population aged 25 to 54 years of age with some post-secondary education has increased to 62.8% in 1996 from 49.6% in 1981.

In predominantly rural regions the percentage distribution of population aged 25 to 54 years of age with some post-secondary education has increased to 49.3% in 1996 from 37.1% in 1981.

FOOD CONSUMPTION 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 23F0001XCB, 21-020-XIE, 32-229-XIB

In Canada 2002, compared to a decade ago, per person consumption of beef declined -2.2% to 13.3 kg; pork declined -2.5% to 12.0 kb; poultry increased +23.5% to 13.6.

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 383-0008

In Canada 1st quarter 2002 business sector labour productivity (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% over the 4th quarter 2002, and declined -04% over the 1st quarter 2002.

Hourly compensation (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +1.7% over the 1st quarter 2002.

Unit labour costs (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.1% over the 1st quarter 2002.

Effect of 5.3% increase in value of Canadian dollar: Unit labour cost in US\$ (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.4%

over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +7.8% over the 1st quarter 2002.

Growth in unit labour costs occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity.



CHALLENGES OF LATE ADOLESENCE 2000/01

Statistics Canada Survey 4450

In Canada 2000/01, the percentage youth aged 16 to 17 reporting that they had stayed out all night without permission (risky behaviour) increased to 27% from 9% in 1996/97 (when the group was aged 12 to 13).

The percentage youth aged 16 to 17 reporting that they had taken money from their parents without permission (risky behaviour) increased to 29% from 15% in 1996/97 (when the group was aged 12 to 13).

The percentage youth aged 16 to 17 reporting that they had smoked marijuana was 44%.

TELEVISION BROADCASTING 2002

Statistics Canada Cat No 56-001-XIE

In Canada 2002, total revenues of television broadcasters increased +5.4% to \$4.8 billion over 2001. Total profit margin (private) declined to 10.5% from 15.1% in 2001.



CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-202-XIB

In 1st quarter 2003, Canada's net foreign liability (difference between external assets and external liability) increased to \$210.3 billion (17% of GDP) from \$184.0 billion in 4th quarter 2002, and declined from the \$212.3 billion liability posted in the 1st quarter 2002.

Total assets declined -3.5% to \$949.2 billion over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +3.0% over the 1st quarter 2002.

Total liabilities declined -0.7% to \$1,159.4 billion over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +2.3% over the 1st quarter 2002.



GOVERNMENT FINANCE: REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND SURPLUS 2002/2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 68-213-SIE Financial Management System

In 2002-2003 on a Financial Management System basis, the finances of 11 of 29 governments in Canada (1 federal, 13 provincial and territorial, 13 local, Canada and Quebec pension plans), were in surplus and 18 were in deficit.

The federal/provincial/territorial governments of Canada, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Albetra and the Yukon recorded surpluses. The local governments in Newfoundland, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded surpluses. The Canada/Quebec pension plans also recorded a surplus.

In Canada in the fiscal year 2002-2003, the federal government recorded a surplus (FMS basis) of \$6.3 billion.

In Nova Scotia in the fiscal year 2002-2003, the province recorded a surplus (FMS basis) of +\$15 million.

In Nova Scotia in the fiscal year 2002-2003, local governments recorded a deficit (FMS basis) of -\$62 million.

NOTE: The Financial Management System (FMS) is used to produce the government financial statistics presented in this release. FMS standardizes individual government accounts to provide consistent and comparable statistics. As a result, FMS statistics may differ from the figures published in individual government financial statements.



IMPORT INTENSITY OF PROVINCIAL EXPORTS 1999

Statistics Canada 11-010-XIB June 2003

Among the provinces, Nova Scotia is the least vulnerable to changes in international export trade.

In a recent study on international trade, Statistics Canada distiguished between the export trade that contained imported inputs and the export trade that was truely value-added. By netting out import inputs, a clearer indicator of the dependance of provincial exports to value-added GDP can be determined.

In 1999 Nova Scotia ranked 10th among the provinces with regard to the dependance of international export trade to GDP (25%). Given that 26% of Nova Scotian exports contained imported inputs, the value-added exports share of GDP declined to 18%.

In 1999 Saskatchewan ranked first with a value-added exports share to GDP of 33%; ON = 32%; AL = 31%; PQ = 28%; NL = 28%; BC = 27%; PE = 25%; MA = 24%; NS = 18%.

PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES

Fiscal year ending December 31, 2000

In Canada 2000, provincial and territorial government business enterprises after-tax profits increased +28.2% to \$13.0 billion over 1999. Remited profits increased +28.7% to \$10.9 billion.

Total revenues increased +14.5% to \$82.9 billion. Total assets increased +3.9% to \$194.7 billion and total liabilities (debt) increased +2.6% to \$174.3 billion over 1999.

In Nova Scotia 2000, remited profits increased +0.7% to \$297 million over 1999.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES

Fiscal year ending December 31, 2001

In Canada 2001, Federal government business enterprises after-tax profits declined -6.6% to \$4.6 billion over 2000. Remited profits declined -5.9% to \$4.3 billion.

Total income declined -9.7% to \$20.9 billion. Total assets increased +9.3% to \$169.5 billion and total liabilities (debt) increased +9.2% to \$161.8 billion over 2000.



YOUTH COURT STATISTICS 2001/02

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 85-002-XIE Vol23 No 3.

In Canada 2001/02, the total cases heard in youth court declined -2% to 85,640 over 2000/2001, and declined -16% over 1992/93.

In Canada 2001/02, the rate of cases before the Youth Courts declined -3% to 347 cases per 10,000 youths over 2000/2001, and declined -21% over 1992/93.

In Nova Scotia 2001/02, the rate of cases before the Youth Courts declined -6% to 339 cases per 10,000 youths over 2000/2001, and declined -8% over 1992/93.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada May 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 122.0 over April 2003, and increased +2.9% over May 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.2% to 120.4 over April 2003, and increased +2.9% over May 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.5% to 122.7 over April 2003, and increased +2.3% over May 2002.

In Nova Scotia May 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.3% to 123.5 over April 2003, and increased +2.9% over May 2002.

In Halifax May 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.2% to 122.6 over April 2003, and increased +2.7% over May 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



NATURAL GAS SALES APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 129-0001 - 129-0004

In Canada April 2003, natural gas sales increased +2.1% to 6.4 billion cubic metres over April 2002. Year to date sales increased +7.2% to 30.0 billion cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada April 2003, crude oil production declined -4.3% to 10.9 million cubic metres over April 2002. Year-to-date production increased +0.6% to 44.9 million cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

In Canada April 2003, natural gas production declined -2.7% to 13.8 billion cubic metres over April 2002. Year-to-date production declined -0.4% to 58.2 billion cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

DIGITAL DIVIDE IN SCHOOLS

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 81-597-XIE

In Canada 2000, 96% of youth report using a computer in the last 12 months.

Only 8% of households in centres of 100,000+ population with students aged 15 and 16 years didn't have a computer. About 18% of households in villages of less than 3,000 population with students aged 15 and 16 didn't have a computer.

In rural villages, 29% of students reported using a computer at school (8% in libraries) almost of a daily basis. In cities, 19% students reported using a computer at school (4% in libraries) almost of a daily basis.

About 45% of female students reported using their home computer daily. About 13% of female students aged 15 and 16 years didn't have a computer at home. About 57% of male students reported using their home computer daily. About 11% of male students aged 15 and 16 didn't have a computer at home.

RETAIL TRADE APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada April 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.9% to \$26.1 billion over March 2003, and increased +3.2% over April 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +1.9% to \$26.0 billion over April 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to \$778 million over March 2003, and increased +2.5% over April 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +1.8% to \$747 million over April 2002.



NATIONAL BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 13-214-XIE

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, national net worth (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.0% to \$3.8 trillion over the 4th quarter 2002. Per capita net worth increased +0.6% to \$120,900 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +5.1% over the 1st quarter 2002.



FAMILY INCOME 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13F0022XCB, 75-202-XIE

In Canada 2001, the market income of economic families (two or more persons) increased +0.8% to \$63,700 over 2000. After-tax income increased +3.4% to \$58,000.

In Canada 2001, the market income of unattached individuals increased +2.1% to \$24,300 over 2000. After-tax income increased +3.8% to \$24,400.

In Canada 2001, the market income of female lone parent families increased +5.7% to \$26,500 over 2000. After-tax income increased +8.4% to \$31,200. (Note: government transfers = \$7,900; income taxes = \$3,100).

In Nova Scotia 2001, the market income of economic families (two or more persons) declined -1.6% to \$49,351 over 2000. After-tax income declined -0.5% to \$47,835.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the market income of unattached individuals declined -2.0% to \$16,631 over 2000. After-tax income increased +1.0% to \$19,348.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the market income of female lone parent families declined -6.3% to \$18,239 over 2000. After-tax income declined -2.1% to \$26,352.

Note: all amounts expressed in 2001 constant dollars.

COMPOSITE INDEX, MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada May 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 181.5 over April 2003.

Four of ten indices were positive (no change)

S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +0.7% to 6,583. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) increased +1.2% to 111,227.

New orders, durables (1992\$) increased +0.3% to \$21.1 billion.

Furniture and appliances sales (1992\$) increased +0.3% to \$1.8 billion.

Five of the ten indices were negative (up 1 from April)

The housing index (1992=100) declined -0.1% to 129.0.

Business and personal services employment declined -0.2% to 2.6 million.

The US composite leading indicator (1992=100) declined -0.1% to 110.1.

The shipments to inventories of finished goods ratio declined to 1.76.

Other durable goods sales (1992\$) declined -0.1% to \$7.7 billion.

One of ten indices were unchanged:

Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 39.3 hours.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada April 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$687.17 over March 2003, and increased +1.3% over April 2002. Employment declined -0.1% to 13.3 million over March 2003.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.1% to \$595.85 over March 2003, and increased +1.5% over April 2002. Employment increased +0.1% to 376,800 over March 2003.

BOOK PUBLISHER AND EXCLUSIVE AGENTS 2000-2001

Statistics Canada 87F0004XDB

In Canada 2000/01, the number of publishers declined to 627 from 643 in 1998/99, exclusive agents declined to 45 from 57 in 1998/99 (2 years earlier).

Revenues increased +9.4% to \$2.4 billion, before-tax profit margin increased +22.1% to \$167.8 million (6.9% of revenue). Full-time employment increased +17.1% to 8,635, and part-time employment increased +26.2% to 1,638.

PRINCIPLE FIELD CROP AREAS 2003

Statistics Canada 22-002-XIB

In Canada 2003, seeding of wheat declined -1% to 26.1 million acres over 2002. All major grains and oilseeds declined except for canola (+21% to 11.6 million acres), durham wheat (remained unchanged at 6.1 million acres) and flaxseed (+6% to 1.8 million acres).

In Nova Scotia 2003, seeding of wheat remained unchanged at 9,000 acres over 2002. Also unchanged were barley at 10,000 acres and fodder corn at 7,000 acres. Seeding of oats declined to 6,000 from 7,000 acres, corn declined to 10,000 from 10,500 acres.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada April 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -1.3% to 107.4 over March 2003 and increased +3.7% over April 2002. The FPPI crops declined -3.0% to 106.0 over March 2003 and increased +1.4% over April 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +0.3% to 108.6 over March 2003 and increased +4.4% over April 2002.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, May 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, May 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -2.5% to 113.0 over April 2003, and declined -0.5% over May 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels declined -1.5% to 93.3 over April 2003, and increased +1.3% over May 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) declined -3.8% to 155.8 over April 2003 and declined -2.7% over May 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX MAY 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, May 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -1.7% to 105.2 over April 2003, and declined -2.0% over May 2002.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada April 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% to \$991.3 billion (annualized) over March 2003, and increased +1.8% over April 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries declined -0.7% to \$304.3 billion (annualized) over March 2003, and increased +0.4% over April 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries remained unchanged at \$687.3 billion (annualized) over March 2003, and increased +2.5% over April 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.3% to \$59.5 billion (annualized) over March 2003, and increased +2.1% over March 2002.



FINANCING OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED ENTERPRISES 2001

In Canada 2001, of the small and medium sized firms (0 to 499 employees) that sought financing, 80% were successful.

In Atlantic Canada, 86% of SME's succeeded in obtaining financing.

In knowledge based industries (telecommunications, video production, computer services) about 78% were successful in obtaining financing compared with agriculture at 94%.

NATIONAL TOURISM INDICATORS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-009-XIB

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, tourism expenditures (seasonally adjusted, \$1997) declined -0.4% to \$11.8 billion over the 4th quarter 2002. Current dollar expenditures (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$13.2 billion.

Employment in tourism industries (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.2% to 468,600 over the 4th quarter 2002. Employment in tourism activities (tourism industries + associated industries) remained unchanged at 586,100 over the 4th quarter 2002.



2003-07--0

SMOKING PATTERNS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 82-005-XIE (free)

The article "How times have changed" Canadian smoking patterns in the 20th centruy," is an analysis, based on data from 13 Canadian population-based health surveys, that finds that while many patterns in smoking behaviour have changed over the years, one pattern has remained constant: smokers tend to smoke the most during their middle years. Recent surveys also suggest smokers are smoking fewer cigarettes per day. Between 1997 and 2000, the number of smokers using 15 or less cigarettes per day increased from 43% to 62%.

MULTIFACTOR PRODUCTIVITY 2002

Statistics Canada, CANSIM: table 383-0001

Multifactor productivity growth in Canada, measured as the increae in output minus the growth of combined inputs (labour and capital) was 1.9% in 2002. This was six times the pace of grwoth of only 0.3% in 2001 and it was the third most rapid growth since 1995, bettered only by teh 2.3% gains recorded in 1999 and 2000.

NOTES

"Multifactor productivity can be decomposed into two components: technical change and technical efficiency. The measure of technical change captures the improvement in best practice over time, a reflection of innoivation. The measure of technical efficiency shows whether production is [catching up or following behind] from best North American practice over time."

http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/030403/d030403a.htm

Multifactor productivity is designed to measure the joint influences on economic growth of technological change, efficiency improvements, returns to scale and other factors. Its growth rate is calculated as the difference between the growth in the amount of output produced (real gross domestic product) and the growth of the quantity of all inputs used, such as labour and machinery and equipment.



PRIVATE RADIO BROADCASTING 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 56-001-XIE

In Canada 2002, total revenues in the radio industry increased +2.7% to \$1.1 billion over 2001. Net operating income increased +18.5% to \$137.2 million and average weekly employment increased +1.1% to 9,410 over 2001.

In Atlantic Canada 2002, total revenues in the radio industry increased +0.2% to \$72.2 million over 2001. Net operating income increased +4.0% to \$13.9 million and average weekly employment declined 11.1% to 745 over 2001.



FILM AND VIDEO DISTRIBUTION 2000/2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 87F0010XPE

In Canada 2000/2001, profit of film, video and audio-visual distribution increased to \$347.2 million (12% of total revenue).

In Canada 2000/2001, the total revenue of film, video and audio-visual distribution increased +13.1% to \$2.8 billion over 1999/2000. Total expenses increased +11.3% to \$2.5 billion over 1999/2000.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MAY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada May 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +6.0% to 8.2 million cubic metres over May 2002. Year to date production increased +4.9% to 39.4 million cubic metres over Jan-May 2002.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 81-595-MIE #6

In Canada in a study of high school graduates who were 20 years-old at time of interview, about 62% had enrolled in a post-secondary program within 12 months of graduating from high school. About 20% had delayed enrolled in a post-secondary program by more than 12 months after high school graduation. The remaining 18% had not enrolled in a post-secondary program.

In Nova Scotia about 66% had enrolled in a post-secondary program within 12 months of graduating from high school. About 15% had delayed enrolled in a post-secondary program by more than 12 months after high school graduation. The remaining 19% had not enrolled in a post-secondary program.



QUARTERLY RETAIL COMMODITY SURVEY 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0010

In Canada 1th quarter 2003, retail store sales (unadjusted) increased +4.7% over the 1st quarter 2002 to \$68.6 billion.

Over the 1st quarter 2002 the greatest percentage increase in 1st quarter 2003 was in automotive fuels, oils and additives sector which rose +32.6% to \$6.2 billion. The highest value commodity during 1st quarter 2003 was motor vehicles, parts and services which declined 0.2% from 1st quarter 2002 to \$19.7 billion.

(Note that data for 2002 have been revised.)

BUILDING PERMITS MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada May 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined 2.0% over April 2003 to \$3.9 billion as institutional intentions plummeted and construction intentions for single-family homes hit a 17-month low. The year to date value of bulding permits increased +5.9% over January-May 2002 to \$19.7 billion.

In Nova Scotia May 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +19.2% over April 2003 to \$106.0 million. Among the provinces, Nova Scotia was second only to British Columbia in value of residential permits. Residential permits reached \$69 million in Nova Scotia during May 2003, a 54.0% gain over last month that was fuelled by apartment and single permits. The year to date value of building permits was up +24.5% over January-May 202 to \$409.8 million.

In Halifax May 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted), compared to last month, rose 104.5% to \$65.4 million. The year to date value of building permits increased +27.6% over January-May 2002 to \$218.5 million.



CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-203-XIB

In 2002, the services trade deficit, the difference between Canadian receipts for its exports of services and its payments to foreign suppliers for their services, remained virtually unchanged at \$8.3 billion.

Exports in services declined -1.0% to \$58.3 billion. Imports of services also decreased, down 0.9% over 2001 to \$66.7 billion.

Note: Trade in services covers transactions in travel, transportation, a range of business and professional services referred to as commercial services, and government services.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE, DIPLOMAS & CERTIFICATES

Statistics Canada: University Student Information System and Enhanced Student Information System(tables and other statistical products available on request)

Overall, universities awarded an estimated 175,600 degrees, diplomas and certificates in 2000, up 1.1% over 1999. Of these, 83% were at the undergraduate level. Women accounted for the majority of degrees, diplomas and certificates by universities, receiving 59% of the total in 2000.

Overall awarded to students in 2000:

128,000 bachelor's or first professional's degree, up 1.2% over 1999

24,000 master's degree, up 3.1% over 1999

3,800 doctorates were awarded, a 4.9% decline from 1999 and the lowest in five years



PUBLIC SECTOR STATISTICS

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 68-213.XIE

The publication Public Sector Statistics, Financial Mnagement System 2002-2003, released today, contains graphic analyses and detailed information pertaining to the data that were released in the Statistics Canada Daily on June 18, 2003.

CULTURE GOODS TRADE

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 87-007-XDB (available soon)

Canada sold \$2.3 billion worth of culture goods to the world in 2002, up 3.8% from 2001. However, it also imported a record \$3.6 billion in culture goods, up 6.5%. As a result, Canada's trade deficit in culture goods--everything from books and periodicals to films, videotapes, compact discs and original art--widened for the first time in five years in 2002, as the growth in imports far exceeded gains in exports.

CONTROL AND SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, 2001/02

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-202.XIB

The sale of alcoholic beverages during fiscal year ending March 31, 2002 totalled \$14,511.8 million in Canada, up 6.8% from 2000/01. Beer accounted for 51.1%, spirits 25.6% and wine 23.3% of the total. Sales in Nova Scotia reached \$423.5 million during 2001/02, 5.5% more than a year earlier. The breakdown of Nova Scotia sales was 50.7% beer, 35.0% spirits and 14.2% wine.

The population aged 15 and over in Canada bought an average of 104.2 litres of alcoholic beveragers in 2001/02 compared with 103.8 litres the previous year. In Nova Scotia consumption increased from 94.3 litres on average per person in 2000/01 to 95.5 litres of alcoholic beverages in 2001/02. During 2001/02 sales in Canada ranged from a high of 175.6 litres per capita in the Yukon to a low of 90.8 litres per capita in Saskatchewan.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada May 2003, the new housing price index of(1992=100) increased 0.6% over April 2003 to 116.0, and increased 4.4% over May 2002.

In Halifax May 2003, the new housing price index (1992=100) rose 0.3% over April 2003 to 119.7 and increased 4.6% over May 2002.

NOTE: With this release of New Housing Price Index (NPHI), Statistics Canada has converted the time base of the indexes from 1992=100 to 1997=100. The new 1997=100 series will be available retroactively from January 1981 in CANSIM but will have different databank numbers. The 1992=100 based NHPI will continue to appear in CANSIM, but the 1992=100 based index will not be updated after April 2003.

INVESTMENT IN NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada, CANSIM: Table 026-0016 (seasonally adjusted data)

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003 investment in non-residential building construction increased +3.0% to \$6,462 million over the 1st quarter 2003. For the first time in two years, investment in all three components--institutional, commercial and industrial--increased simultaneously. Investment in non-residential building rose in 9 of the 13 provinces and territories in the second quarter, ranging from a high of 6.1% reaching \$2.9 billion in Ontario to a low of -2.9% falling to \$588 million in British Columbia. In Nova Scotia 2nd quarter 2003 investment in non-residential building construction rose 4.4% to \$119 million over the 1st quarter 2003.

In Canadian census metropolitan areas (CMA's)non-residential construction increased +3.1% to \$4,545 million over 1st quarter 2003, while in Halifax 2nd quarter 2003investment in non-residential building construction Rose 30.1% to \$40 million over 1st quarter 2003.



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada May 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.0 billion. The year to date surplus was \$23.4 billion.

In Canada May 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined 2.8% to \$32.6 billion over April 2003 and declined 4.5% over May 2002. Year-to-date exports increased 0.3% to \$170.8 billion over Jan-May 2002.

In Canada May 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined 1.1% to 28.6 billion over April 2003, and decreased 2.3% over May 2002. Year-to-date imports increased 2.2% to \$147.4 billion over Jan-May 2002.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia June 2003 labour force increased 0.5% to 481,600, employment increased 0.6% to 439,300, unemployment decreased 1.2% to 42,300 and the unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points to 8.8% over May 2003.

In Canada June 2003 labour force increased 0.1% to 17.0 million, employment increased 0.3% to 15.7 million, unemployment decreased 2.0% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points to 7.7% over May 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia June 2003 labour force increased 1.8% to 490,700, employment increased 2.3% to 451,400, unemployment declined 3.9% to 39,300 and the unemployment rate declined 0.5 percentage points to 8.0% over June 2002.

In Canada June 2003 labour force increased 2.4% to 17.3 million, employment increased 2.2% to 16.1 million, unemployment increased 4.0% to 1.2 million, and the unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 7.2% over June 2002.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia May 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 7.1% to 3,949 over April 2003, and increased 2.3% over May 2002. Unadjusted unit sales increased 4.5% to 6,021 over May 2002.

In Canada May 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 8.4% to 144,282 over April 2003, and declined 0.9% over May 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined 0.5% to 185,419 over May 2002.



MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia May 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) were flat at \$737 million compared to April 2003.

In Canada May 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined 0.8% to \$42.4 billion over April 2003, and declined 2.2% over May 2002.

Inventories decreased +0.5% to \$63.4 billion over April 2003, and increased 2.8% over May 2002.

Unfilled orders declined 3.4% to \$40.5 billion over April 2003, and declined 13.3% over May 2002.

New orders declined 2.5% to \$41.0 billion over April 2003, and declined 5.7% over May 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio remained constant at 1.49 over April 2003, and increased from 1.42 in May 2002.



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada May 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) increased 4.6% to 3.0 million trips over April 2003. Unadjusted trips declined 5.1% to 3.1 million trips over May 2002.

In Canada May 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined 4.9% to 3.0 million trips over April 2003. Unadjusted trips declined 19.6% to 3.1 million trips over May 2002.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada May 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of 4.7 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$17.8 billion.

In Canada May 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of \$1.4 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of \$3.3 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



SAWMILLS AND PLANING MILLS APRIL 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 35-003-XIB

In Canada April 2003, lumber production declined 1.3% to 7.3 million cubic metres over March 2003, and decreased 2.1% over April 2002. Year to date production increased 5.5% to 28.3 million cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, lumber production increased 0.8% to 186,500 cubic metres over March 2003, and increased 0.8% over April 2002. Year to date production increased 6.9% to 720,400 cubic metres over Jan-Apr 2002.

Data is now available for January, February, March and April 2003. Monthly data has been revised for 2000, 2001 and 2002.

LARGE RETAILERS MAY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada May 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased 7.4% to \$7.2 billion over May 2002.

WHOLESALE TRADE MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia May 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 2.1% to \$625 million over April 2003, and increased 3.2% over May 2002.

In Canada May 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 0.2% to \$35.9 billion over April 2003, and increased +3.7% over May 2002.

In Canada May 2003, wholesale merchants sales of farm machinery, equipment and supplies increased 10.6% to \$823 million over April 2003, and increased 13.5% over April 2002.



RETAIL TRADE MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada, seasonally adjusted retail sales increased 0.3% to \$26.2 billion in May 2003 over April 2003, and increased +4.0% over May 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +4.2% to \$28.9 billion in May 2003 over May 2002.

In Nova Scotia, seasonally adjusted retail sales declined -0.7% to \$770 million in May 2003 over April 2003, and increased +1.5% over May 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +2.0% to \$835 million in May 2003 over May 2002.



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada, the consumer price index (1992=100) rose 2.6% to 122.1 from June 2002 to June 2003, and increased 0.1% from May 2003 to June 2003.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased 2.3% to 120.2 from June 2002 to June 2003, and decreased 0.2% from May 2003 to June 2003.

The CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased 2.1% to 122.6 from June 2002 to June 2003, and decreased 0.1% from May 2003 to June 2003.

In Nova Scotia, the consumer price index (1992=100)increased +2.9% to 123.6 from June 2002 to June 2003, and increased 0.1% from May 2003 to June 2003.

In Halifax, the consumer price index (1992=100)increased 2.7% to 122.6 from June 2002 to June 2003, and remained unchanged from May 2003 to June 2003.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



COMPOSITE INDEX, JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada June 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 181.5 over May 2003.

Six of ten indices were positive (up 2 from May).

S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +1.2% to 6,665. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) increased +0.8% to 112,084. The housing index (1992=100) increased +0.7% to 130.2. Business and personal services employment increased +0.3% to 2.6 million. The US composite leading indicator increased +0.1% to 110.1. Other durable goods sales (\$1992) increased +0.1% to \$7.7 billion.

Three of ten indices were negative (down 2 from May).

New orders, durables (\$1992) decreased -0.6% to \$20.9 billion. Average workweek (hours) decreased -0.3% to 39.1 hours. The shipments/inventories of finished goods ratio declined by -0.01% to 1.75.

One of ten indices was unchanged.

Furniture and appliances sales (\$1992) remained unchanged at \$1.8 billion.

PRIVATE & PUBLIC INVESTMENT, 2003 (revised intentions)

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-206-XIB

According to revised intentions, Canada's total capital public and private investment is expected to reach \$212.5 billion in 2003, up +2.2% from the February 2003 forecast. This represents a +4.0% increase from 2002, doubling the increase anticipated in first intentions announced in February. The new investment intentions are coming from established sectors such as manufacturing and conventional oil and gas extraction. However, the public sector and Canadian home buyers are expected to account for over half of the increase in investment intentions rather than private business.

Most regions are expecting increases in capital investment in 2003 over 2002, the largest being Nunavut (+20.2%) and New Brunswick (+11.2). The largest decrease is the Northwest Territories (-34.3%), largely due to the

completion of diamond mining projects.

Nova Scotia's total capital public and private investment is expected to reach \$5.5 billion in 2003, up +3.6% over intention 2003 figures released in February 2003. This represents a -0.2% decrease from 2002 actual capital spending, despite increased investment in oil and gas extraction (+36.8%), public administration (+13.0%) and construction (+4.0%).



CRIME STATISTICS IN CANADA, 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 85-002-XIE, Vol. 22, No. 6

The rate of total criminal code offences decreased -0.6% in Canada and increased +0.3%

in Nova Scotia between 2001 and 2002. Four provinces experienced decline in total criminal code offences, namely Ouebec

(-2.4%), Ontario (-2.3%), Saskatchewan

(-1.0%) and Manitoba (-0.8%).

The rate of voilent crimes dropped by -1.6% in Canada and rose 5.9% in Nova Scotia between 2001 and 2002. While the rate of property crime declined in both Canada

(-0.8%) and Nova Scotia (-2.7%), the rate of violent crimes dropped in Canada (-1.6%) and increased in Nova Scotia (5.9%).

In Halifax, the rate of property crimes declined -6.7%, as compared to a 4.2% increase in the rate of violent crimes between 2001 and 2002.



CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS MAY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada crude oil production increased +4.7% from May 2002 to 11.8 million cubic metres in May 2003. The year-to-date production increased +1.8% to 56.9 million cubic metres over Jan-May 2002.

In Canada natural gas production declined -3.9% from May 2002 to 13.5 billion cubic metres in May 2003. The year-to-date production declined -1.1% to 71.7 billion cubic metres over Jan-May 2002.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada May 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to \$691.38 over April 2003, and increased +1.8% over May 2002. Employment increased +0.1% to 13.3 million over April 2003.

In Nova Scotia April 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.9% to \$601.21 over April 2003, and increased +2.0% over May 2002. Employment increased +0.7% over April 2003.



PAL SURVEY 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 89-585-XIE

In Canada 2001, about 4% (155,000) of all children in the 5 to 14 years age group had some form of disability. Moderately disabled = 89,000 (57%); severe to very severe = 66,000 (43%).

In Nova Scotia 2001, about 5,580 of all children in the 5 to 14 years age group had some form of disability. Moderately disabled = 3,410 (61%); severe to very severe = 2,170 (39%).

FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada May 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +0.7% to 108.2 over April 2003 and increased +4.8% over May 2002. The FPPI crops declined -0.7% to 105.1 over April 2003 and declined -0.8% over May 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +1.0% to 109.9 over April 2003 and increased +6.0% over May 2002.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, MAY 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada May 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +2.7% to 559,850 over April 2003, and increased +0.3% over May 2002.

In Nova Scotia May 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 0.1% to 29,680 over April 2003, and declined -1.9% over May 2002.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, June 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +1.2% to 114.3 over May 2003, and increased +3.2% over June 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels declined -1.6% to 91.5 over May 2003, and declined -1.0%

over June 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +4.9% to 163.8 over May 2003 and increased +8.8% over June 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, June 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -1.0% to 103.9 over May 2003, and declined -2.7% over June 2002.



PRODUCTION AND DISPOSITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 32-022-XIB

In Canada Junr 2003, the number of cigarettes sold increased +16.0% to 3.4 billion cigarettes over May 2003. Year-to-date sales declined -14.0% to 18.3 billion over Jan-Jun 2002.

TOBACCO USE SURVEY 2002

Statistics Canada Survey 4440 http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/4440.htm

In Canada 2002, the number of smokers declined -1.0% to 5.4 million (21% of population aged 15+) over 2001. Smoking rates for men = 23%; women = 20%; youth aged 15 to 19 = 22%; and young adults aged 20 to 24 = 31%.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY MAY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada May 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$992.5 billion (annualized) over April 2003, and increased +1.8% over May 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries declined -0.2% to \$303.1 billion (annualized) over April 2003, and increased +0.7% over May 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.2% to \$689.8 billion (annualized) over April 2003, and increased +2.4% over May 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.4% to \$60.5 billion (annualized) over April 2003, and increased +3.0% over April 2002.



DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada June 2003, sales of refined petroleum products remained unchanged at 7.8 million cubic metres over June 2002. Year to date production increased +4.6% to 47.4 million cubic metres over Jan-Jun 2002.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR EMPLOYMENT 2000

Statistics Canada 11-622-MIE

In Canada 2000, employment in the information and technology sector (ICT) increased +72.6% to 560,600 paid workers over 1990. ICT's share of total Canada paid workers increased 1.4 percentage points to 4.1%.

In Nova Scotia 2000, employment in the information and technology sector (ICT) increased +22.2% to 10,100 paid workers over 1990. ICT's share of total Nova Scotia paid workers increased 0.1 percentage points to 2.7%.

In Halifax 2000, employment in the information and technology sector (ICT) increased +26% to 8,500 paid workers over 1990. ICT's share of total Halifax paid workers remained unchanged at 4.5%.

RADIO LISTENING FALL 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada Fall 2002, Canadians listened to radio an average of 20.2 hours per week. Men (18 years +) averaged 21.3 hours and women (18 years +) averaged 21.2 hours. Teens aged 12 to 17 averaged 9.4 hours.

In Nova Scotia Fall 2002, Nova Scotians listened to radio an average of 21.2 hours per week. Men (18 years +) averaged 22.7 hours and women (18 years +) averaged 21.7 hours. Teens aged 12 to 17 averaged 11.1 hours.



ENERGY CONSUMPTION 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2002, energy consumption by the manufacturing sector increased +10% to 2,587 petajoules over 1990.

The largest consumer was paper manufacturing. Paper manufacturing consumption increased +2% tp 831.1 petajoules over 1990.

Note: One petajoules is approximates the amount of energy required to operate the Montreal subway system for one year.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES ON CULTURE 2000/01

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 87F0001XDB

In Canada 2000/2001, government expenditures on culture increased +6.0% to \$6.3 billion over 1999/2000. Federal government spending increased +5.1% to \$3.0 billion; provincial government spending increased +5.1% to \$2.1 billion, and municipal government spending increased +8.1% to \$1.7 billion.

In Canada 2000/2001, federal government per capita expenditures increased \$4to \$96, provincial government expenditures increased +\$5 to \$68 per capita, and municipal government expenditures increased +\$7 to \$54 per capita.

In Nova Scotia 2000/2001, federal government expenditures were \$95 per capita, provincial government expenditures were \$64 per capita and municipal government expenditures were \$39 per capita.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS SURVEY: MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, (CANADA) JULY 2003

Statistics Canada

Lower unfilled orders and higher finished goods inventories are the major concerns of manufacturers for the next quarter.

In Canada July 2003, manufacturers (58%) expect that during the next three months the volume of production will remain about the same as the last three months and an additional 20% believe that volume will increase. 22% expect volume to decline.

Orders received by 64% of manufacturers are expected to be about the same as the last quarter, with 14% expecting increases and 22% declines.

60% consider the present backlog of unfilled orders as about normal, 6%, higher than normal and 34% lower than normal.

Most respondents (72%) believe the finished product inventory to be about right while 4% consider levels to be too low, and 24% believe they are too high.

67% believe that employment during the next three months will change little, 13% expect an increase and 20% a decrease.

Most manufacturers (79%) do not foresee any production difficulties, 7% think that they may experience a skilled labour shortage, 3% a raw materials shortage, 4% a working capital shortage, and 2% expect an unskilled labour shortage.



BUILDING PERMITS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada June 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.3% to \$4.3 billion over May 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +8.0% to \$24.9 billion over January-June 2002.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -7.6% to \$99.4 million over May 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +24.1% to \$510.9 million over January-June 2002.

In Halifax June 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +9.7% to \$71.1million over May 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +33.2% to \$289.0 million over January-June 2002.



ANNUAL SURVEY OF NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS 2001

Statistics Canada 11F0027MIE No. 6

In a recent study of SME's that entered the economy between 1983 and 1986 and were still in operation in 1996, it was found that high-knowledge sector firms were less likely to use debt instruments for financing than low-knowledge sector firms. Of the high-knowledge firms, 38% were financed by short or long term debt. In comparison, 56% of low-knowledge firms were financed by short or long term debt.

ANNUAL SURVEY OF NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 361-0003

In Canada 2001, newpaper publishing operating revenues declined -2.4% to \$4.56 billion over 2000. Operating expenses increased +1.4% to \$4.03 billion. Operating profits declined -3.3 percentage points to 11.5%.

Concentration in the newspaper publishing industry has declined. In 2001, the operating revenues of the largest five newspaper owners declined to 73% of total industry operating revenues, from 82% in 1999.



PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE MARCH 31, 2002

Financial Management System http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/govt38a.htm

In Canada March 31, 2002, on a Financial Management System basis the provincial/territorial governments net debt increased +3.2% to \$249.4 billion over 2001. Per capita debt increased to \$7.965 from \$7,799. Net debt as a percentage of GDP increased to 22.2% from 21.7%.

In Nova Scotia March 31, 2002, on a Financial Management System basis the provincial/territorial governments net debt increased +2.1% to \$11.3 billion over 2001. Per capita debt = \$11,956.

NOTE: The Financial Management System (FMS) is used to produce the government financial statistics presented in this release. FMS standardizes individual government accounts to provide consistent and comparable statistics. As a result, FMS statistics may differ from the figures published in individual government financial statements. A reconciliation statement of FMS to Public Accounts is available from Statistics Canada.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted (month over month)

In Nova Scotia July 2003 labour force declined -0.7% to 478,400, employment declined -1.2% to 434,200, unemployment increased +4.3% to 44,100 and the unemployment rate increased +0.4 percentage points to 9.2% over June 2003.

In Canada July 2003 labour force remained unchanged at 17.0 million, employment declined -0.1% to 15.7 million, unemployment increased +1.0% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate increased +0.1 percentage points to 7.8% over June 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia July 2003 labour force increased +1.4% to 497,600, employment increased +1.9% to 451,100, unemployment declined -3.3% to 46,500 and the unemployment rate declined -0.5 percentage points to 9.3% over June 2002.

In Canada July 2003 labour force increased +2.0% to 17.5 million, employment increased +1.8% to 16.1 million, unemployment increased +4.1% to 1.4 million, and the unemployment increased +0.2 percentage points to 7.9% over June 2002.

PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE MARCH 31, 2002

Financial Management System http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/govt38a.htm

In Canada March 31, 2002, on a Financial Management System basis the provincial/territorial governments net debt increased +3.2% to \$249.4 billion over 2001. Per capita debt increased to \$7.965 from \$7,799. Net debt as a percentage of GDP increased to 22.2% from 21.7%.

In Nova Scotia March 31, 2002, on a Financial Management System basis the provincial/territorial governments net debt increased +2.1% to \$11.3 billion over 2001. Per capita debt = \$11,956.

NOTE: The Financial Management System (FMS) is used to produce the government financial statistics presented in this release. FMS standardizes individual government accounts to provide consistent and comparable statistics. As a result, FMS statistics may differ from the figures published in individual government financial statements. A reconciliation statement of FMS to Public Accounts is available from Statistics Canada.



STILLBIRTHS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 84F0210XPB

In Canada 2001, the number of stillbirths (gestational age 28 weeks+) increased +3.5% to 1,097 over 2000. Stillbirths per 1,000 births increased to 3.3 from 3.2 in 2000.

BIRTHS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 84F0210XPB

In Canada 2001, the number of births increased +1.8% to 333,744 over 2000.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the number of births declined -2.1% to 8,909 over 2000.



REPETITIVE STRAIN INJURY 2000/01

Statistics Canada Cat. 82-002-XIE Vol. 14 No. 4.

In Canada 2000/01, the percentage of Canadians aged 20+ years reported having a repetitive strain injury in the previous 12 months increased to 10% (2.3 million) from the 8% reported in 1996/97.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada June 2003, the new housing price index of (1997=100) increased 0.3% over May 2003 to 116.3, and increased 4.5% over June 2002.

In Halifax June 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 119.7 over May 2003 and increased 4.6% over June 2002.

NOTE: With this release of New Housing Price Index (NPHI), Statistics Canada has converted the time base of the indexes from 1992=100 to 1997=100. The new 1997=100 series will be available retroactively from January 1981 in CANSIM but will have different databank numbers. The 1992=100 based NHPI will continue to appear in CANSIM, but the 1992=100 based index will not be updated after April 2003.

UNIVERSITY TUITION FEES 2003/04

Statistics Canada

Average undergraduate tuition fees are the highest in Nova Scotia (\$5,557).

In Canada 2003-2004, average undergraduate tuition fees increased +7.4% to \$4,025 over 2002-2003, and increased +31.4% over 1998-1999. Average additional compulsory fees increased +9.0% to \$623 over 2002/03.

Average international students undergraduate tution fees increased +7.4% to \$11,256.

Average graduate tuition fees increased +6.8% to \$5,199 over 2002-2003.

In Nova Scotia 2003-2004, average undergraduate tuition fees increased +6.6% to \$5,557 over 2002-2003, and increased +36.4% over 1998-1999. Average additional compulsory fees increased +10.3% to \$430 over 2002-2003. Nova Scotia average graduate tution fees are the second highest in Canada at \$6,898.



TAXI AND LIMOUSINE SERVICE INDUSTRY 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 407-0001

In Nova Scotia 2001, total revenue in the taxi and limousine service industry declined -10% to \$22.2 million over 2000. Operating expenses declined -7.8% to \$19.3 million and operating margin declined -22.5% to \$3.1 million over 2000. The number of carriers declined -3.4% to 860.

In Canada 2001, total revenue in the taxi and limousine service industry increased +2.0% to \$1.1 billion over 2000. Operating expenses increased +4.1% to \$934.3 million and operating margin declined -3.8% to \$316 million over 2000. The number of carriers declined -3.8% to 26,461.

NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.8% to 118.5 over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +3.0% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

In Halifax 2nd quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price index (1997=100) increased +1.1% to 109.5 over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +2.5% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia June 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -6.5% to 3,687 over May 2003, and increased 2.1% over June 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -1.3% to 4,461 over June 2002.

In Canada June 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -10.2% to 129,997 over May 2003, and declined -8.9% over June 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -11.0% to 149,816 over June 2002.



MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PRICE INDEX 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the machinery and equipment price index (1986=100) declined -4.8% to 131.8 over the 1st quarter 2003, and declined -5.7% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia June 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) were flat at \$737 million compared to April 2003.

In Canada June 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.5% to \$41.9 billion over May 2003, and declined -3.1% over June 2002.

Inventories decreased +0.9% to \$62.9 billion over May 2003, and increased 2.1% over June 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -1.3% to \$39.6 billion over May 2003, and declined -15.6% over June 2002.

New orders increased +2.0% to \$41.4 billion over May 2003, and declined -4.7% over June 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio declined to 1.50 over May 2003, and increased from 1.43 in June 2002.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada June 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$3.6 billion. The year to date surplus was \$26.2 billion.

In Canada June 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.2% to \$31.6 billion over May 2003 and declined -6.5% over June 2002. Year-to-date exports declined -1.3% to \$201.4 billion over Jan-Jun 2002.

In Canada June 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -2.2% to 28.0 billion over May 2003, and declined -7.0% over June 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +0.5% to \$175.2 billion over June 2002.

Nova Scotia May 2003

In Nova Scotia May 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was +18.8 million. The year to date deficit was -\$265.3 million.

In Nova Scotia May 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$459.8 million over April 2003 and increased +0.5% over May 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +7.2% to \$2.3 billion over Jan-May 2002.

In Nova Scotia May 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -24.9% to \$440.9 million over April 2003, and increased +7.6% over May 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +28.8% to \$2.6 billion over Jan-May 2002.



CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada June 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an outflow of -1.1 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$17.2 billion.

In Canada June 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of \$411 million. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of \$4.1 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



LIVESTOCK ESTIMATES JULY 1, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 23-603-XIE

In Canada July 1 2003, the national herd of cattle increased +1.9% to 15.7 million head. The number of hogs declined -0.2% to 14.6 million head, and the number of sheep declined -0.3% to 1.2 million head.

In Atlantic Canada July 1 2003, the region's herd of cattle increased +0.3% to 293,000 head. The number of hogs declined -6.5% to 357,000 head, and the number of sheep increased +2.1% to 49,000 head.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada July 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 122.2 over June 2003, and increased +2.2% over July 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.1% to 120.3 over June 2003, and increased +1.8% over July 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, remained unchanged at 122.6 over June 2003, and increased +1.8% over July 2002.

In Nova Scotia July 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 124.0 over June 2003, and increased +2.6% over July 2002.

In Halifax July 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.3% to 123.0 over June 2003, and increased +2.4% over July 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada June 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.8% to 3.2 million trips over May 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -0.4% to 3.2 million trips over June 2002.

In Canada March 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.0% to 3.0 million trips over May 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -16.5% to 4.0 million trips over June 2002.

WHOLESALE TRADE JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

Nova Scotia leads the country in monthly wholesale trade growth.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +3.8% to \$648 million over May 2003, and increased +7.0% over June 2002.

In Canada June 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) remained unchanged at \$35.8 billion over May 2003, and increased +3.3% over June 2002.

In Canada March 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery declined -3.6% to \$1.9 billion over May 2003, and declined -5.4% over June 2002.



RETAIL TRADE JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada June 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$26.4 billion over May 2003, and increased +2.7% over June 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +2.2% to \$27.6 billion over June 2002.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$778 million over May 2003, and increased +2.3% over June 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +2.2% to \$827 million over June 2002.



PRINCIPLE FIELD CROP PRODUCTION JULY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 001-0010, 001-0017 - 001-0020

In Canada field crop production rebounds.

In Canada July 31, 2003, the production estimates of wheat increased +34% to 21 million metric tonnes over the same date 2002. Spring wheat production increased +34% to 14.5 million tonnes, barley increased +65% to 12.0 million tonnes, canola increased +74% to 6.2 million tonnes and field peas increased +65% to 2.3 million tonnes. Durum wheat increased +2% to 3.8 million tonnes, oats increased +47% to 4.0 million tonnes and soybeans increased +15% to 2.6 million tonnes.

In Nova Scotia field crop production declines.

In Nova Scotia July 31, 2003, the production estimates of wheat declined -25.6% to 11,900 metric tonnes over the same date 2002. Spring wheat production declined -20% to 2,400tonnes, barley declined -22.6% to 12,000 tonnes, and oats declined 25.6% to 5,600 tonnes.



HOUSEHOLD SPENDING (DOMESTIC HELP) 2000

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2000, 10% of husband-wife households purchased home services.

Average spending for domestic services was \$1,100. The median income of households that employed domestic help was \$86,900, and the average income of households that did not employ domestic help was \$58,600.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada June 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to 565,120 over May 2003, and increased +1.3% over June 2002.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +2.0% to 30,370 over May 2003, and increased +1.6% over June 2002.

FARM CASH RECEIPTS 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-001-XIB and CANSIM

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, farm cash receipts declined -2.9% to \$7.8 billion over the 2nd quarter 2002. Livestock cash receipts declined -6.1% to \$4.1 billion, crop cash receipts declined -5.8% to \$3.1 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) increased +56.1% to \$618 million.

In Nova Scotia 2nd quarter 2003, farm cash receipts increased +2.3% to \$90 million over 2nd quarter 2002.



CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada International Travel Survey

In the 1st quarter 2003, international traveller trips to Canada declined -5.7% to 2.7 million over the 1st quarter 2002. Total expenditures declined -5.9% to 1.8 billion.

In the 1st quarter 2003, Canadian trips abroad increased +4.9% to 4.5 million trips over the 1st quarter 2002. Total expenditures increased +8.5% to \$4.6 billion.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ACCOUNT 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the international travel account showed a deficit of \$1.1 billion.

Total receipts declined -14.6% to \$3.4 billion, and total payments declined -6.5% to \$4.8 billion over the 1st quarter 2003.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR ENTERPRISES 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-008-XIE

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, corporate after-tax profits (seasonally adjusted) declined -7.7% to \$25.0 billion over the 1st quarter 2003. Operating revenue declined -1.1% to \$590.2 billion and operating profit declined -7.3% to \$40.4 billion over the 1st quarter.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada June 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.9% to \$693.29 over May 2003, and increased +2.1% over June 2002. Employment remained unchanged at 13.3 million over June 2003.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.3% to \$598.05 over May 2003, and increased +1.7% over June 2002. Employment increased +1.0% to 382,900 over May 2003.

BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 67-001-XPB

DATA ERRORSDO NOT TRANSMIT

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the current account surplus (seasonally adjusted) declined to \$5.1 billion from a \$6.9 billion surplus in 1st quarter 2003. The goods deficit increased to -2.7 billion, the services deficit increased to -1.1 billion and the investment income deficit increased to -\$2.1 billion.



LARGE RETAILERS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada June 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased 0.9% to \$7.3 billion over June 2002.

CANADIAN ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, real gross domestic product (\$1997 chained) declined -0.1% to \$1.090 trillion over 1st quarter 2003. Consumer spending increased +0.7% to \$619.4 billion; exports (goods & services) increased +0.6% to \$435.4 billion.

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003 (\$current), corporate profits declined -8.2% to \$139.5 billion; personal income increased +0.3% to \$617.2 billion.

Real gross domestic product (\$chained 1997) declined -0.3% on an annualized basis (growth rate compounded annually) and increased +1.6% on a year-over-year basis (compared to the same quarter in the previous year)



COMPUTER SYSTEMS DESIGN INDUSTRY 1998 to 2001

Statistics Canada 63F0002XIE

In Canada 2001, total revenues of 43,440 firms in the computer systems design industry increased +2.8% to \$18.6 billion over 200, and increased +54.5% over 1998. Employment declined -3.5% to 128,000 over 2000, and increased +55.2% over 1998.

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY CYCLE 16

Statistics Canada 89-582-xie, 89-583-xie

In Canada 2002, about one-third of Canadians (1.4 million) aged 45-59 did not have retirement plans. About 12% did not know when, and about 18% did not plan to retire.

About 22% plan to retire before 60, another 22% plan to retire between the ages of 60 and 65 and 23% at age 65.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INVESTMENT 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 026-0013

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +10.6% to \$16.0 billion over 2nd quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 2nd quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +21.9% to \$415.4 million over 2nd quarter 2002.

Note: residential construction investment includes new housing, renovations and acquistion costs.



MENTAL HEALTH 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2002, one out of ten (10.4%) or 2.6 million Canadians reported some mental disorder or substance dependence.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada June 2003, crude oil production increased +6.4% to 11.6 million cubic metres over June 2002. Year-to-date production increased +2.6% to 68.5 million cubic metres over Jan-Jun 2002.

In Canada June 2003, natural gas production declined -3.7% to 13.0 billion cubic metres over June 2002. Year-to-date production declined -1.5% to 84.7 billion cubic metres over Jan-Jun 2002.

INDIVIDUAL INCOME 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13C0015, 13C0017, 71C0018

In Canada 2001, median total income of individuals increased +4.6% to \$22,600 over 2000. Median total income (male) increased +3.2% to \$29,400. Median total income (female) increased +5.4% to \$17,700.

In Nova Scotia 2001, median total income of individuals increased +3.7% to \$19,600 over 2000. Median total income (male) increased +2.3% to \$26,400. Median total income (female) increased +4.8% to \$15,200.

In Halifax 2001, median total income of individuals increased +3.4% to \$24,100 over 2000. Median total income (male) increased +1.9% to \$31,400. Median total income (female) increased +3.9% to \$18,800.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, July 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -1.5% to 110.0 over June 2003, and declined -2.4% over July 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels declined -3.0% to 85.1 over June 2003, and declined -8.6% over July 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +0.1% to 163.8 over June 2003 and increased +5.6% over July 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JULY 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, July 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) increased +1.3% to 105.3 over June 2003, and declined -1.6% over July 2002.



IMMIGRANTS 2001

Statistics Canada 89-611-XIE

In Canada October 2000 to September 2001, 164,200 immigrants aged 15+ arrived in Canada. Within a short period of arrival 44% (72,100) had found employment and 37% (42,200) were looking for work. Participation rate in the labour force was 70%.

FAMILY INCOME 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13C0016, 89C0022

In Canada 2001, median total income of families increased +5.3% to \$53,500 over 2000.

In Nova Scotia 2001, median total income of families increased +5.4% to \$46,900 over 2000.

In Halifax 2001, median total income of families increased +4.7% to \$56,000 over 2000.

INNOVATION - HR PRACTISES

Statistics Canada 71-584-mie

Empowering employees: A route to innovation.

In Canada 1999, research has shown that 17% of firms are first-to-market innovators with respect to human resource practises and the establishment's innovation performance. Of the remaining firms 35% were non-innovators and 48% were technology-users.

EDUCATION PRICE INDEX 2001

Statistics Canada CANSIM 478-0013

In Canada 2001, the education price index (1992=100) increased +3.0% to 116.9 over 2001.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the education price index (1992=100) increased +1.9% to 111.7 over 2001.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia August 2003 labour force increased +1.1% to 483,800, employment declined -0.3% to 432,900, unemployment increased +15.6% to 51,000 and the unemployment rate increased +1.3 percentage points to 10.5% over July 2003.

In Canada August 2003 labour force increased +0.1% to 17.1 million, employment declined -0.1% to 15.7 million, unemployment increased +3.4% to 1.4 million, and the unemployment rate increased +0.2 percentage points to 8.0% over July 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia August 2003 labour force increased +1.3% to 498,900, employment increased +0.4% to 449,200, unemployment increased +10.0% to 49,700 and the unemployment rate increased +0.8 percentage points to 10.0% over August 2002.

In Canada August 2003 labour force increased +1.8% to 17.5 million, employment increased +1.3% to 16.0 million, unemployment increased +8.7% to 1.4 million, and the unemployment increased +0.5 percentage points to 8.2% over August 2002.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada June 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -5.5% to 101.4 over May 2003 and increased -1.8% over June 2002. The FPPI crops declined -0.2% to 104.5 over May 2003 and declined -0.3% over June 2002. The FPPI livestock declined -9.1% to 98.8 over May 2003 and declined -3.4% over June 2002.

GRAIN STOCKS July 31, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 22-002-XPB

In Canada as of July 31, 2003, total wheat stocks declined -16% to 5.6 million tonnes over the same date one year earlier. Other major grain stocks that declined include Barley -30% to 1.4 million tonnes; Canola -28% to .9 million tonnes. Grain stocks that increased include Durum wheat - +7% to 1.7 million tonnes; oats +54% to 1.6 million tonnes.

BUILDING PERMITS JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada July 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) increased +3.3% to \$4.5 billion over June 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +9.0% to \$29.5 billion over January-July 2002.

In Nova Scotia July 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.6% to \$98.5 million over June 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +21.5% to \$610.0 million over January-July 2002.

In Halifax July 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -9.9% to \$63.9 million over June 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +29.0% to \$352.7 million over January-July 2002.



PERFORMING ARTS 2001

Statistics Canada 87F0003XDB

In Canada 2001, total revenue of performing arts companies increased +14.7% to \$543.7 over 1999. Total operating expenses increased +12.7% to \$540.1. Reported surplus =\$3.6 million.4.

NATURAL GAS SALES JUNE 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 129-0001 - 129-0004

In Canada June 2003, natural gas sales declined -0.4% to 4.0 billion cubic metres over June 2002. Year to date sales increased +5.0% to 39.2 billion cubic metres over Jan-Jun 2002.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada July 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) increased 0.3% to 116.7 over June 2003, and increased 4.7% over July 2002.

In Halifax June 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 119.7 over June 2003 and increased 4.4% over July 2002.

INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY UTILIZATION RATES 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the industrial capacity utilization rate (ratio of actual to potential output) declined -1.3 percentage points to 81.2 over the 1st quarter 2003, and declined -1.1 percentage points over the 2nd quarter 2002.

The Construction sector capacity utilization rate increased +0.6 percentage points to 85.1 over the 1st quarter 2003 and increased +0.8 percentage points over the 2nd quarter 2002.

The Mining, Oil and Gas extration sector capacity utilization rate declined -1.3 percentage points to 71.0 over the 1st quarter 2003 and declined -1.0 percentage points over the 2nd quarter 2002.

The Manufacturing sector capacity utilization rate declined -1.2 percentage points to 82.5 over the 1st quarter 2003 and declined -1.1 percentage points over the 2nd quarter 2002.

The Computer and electronic products sector capacity utilization rate declined -1.6 percentage points to 61.0 over the 1st quarter 2003 and declined -7.2 percentage points over the 2nd quarter 2002.



WORKING HOURS IN CANADA AND US 1979-2000

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11F0019MIE2003209

In Canada 1979 to 2000, the average hours worked per person per year declined -1.6% to 1,332 over 1989, and increased +5.7% over 1979.

In the United States 1979 - 2000, the average hours worked per person per year increased +5.4% to 1,455 over 1989, and increased +13.8% over 1879.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada July 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$4.4 billion. The year to date surplus was \$35.2 billion.

In Canada July 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% to \$32.7 billion over June 2003 and declined -6.7% over July 2002. Year-to-date exports declined -0.2% to \$238.7 billion over Jan-Jul 2002.

In Canada July 2003, international merchandise trade imports increased +1.2% to 28.3 billion over June 2003, and declined -5.9% over July 2002. Year-to-date imports declined -0.5% to \$203.5 billion over Jan-Jul 2002.

Nova Scotia June 2003

In Nova Scotia June 2003, the international merchandise trade deficit was -10.8 million. The year to date deficit was -\$212.3 million.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -7.8%% to \$433.9 million over May 2003 and increased +0.5% over June 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +8.6% to \$2.6 billion over Jan-Jun 2002.

In Nova Scotia June 2003, international merchandise trade imports increased +0.6% to \$444.7 million over May 2003, and increased +7.2% over June 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +25.2% to \$2.4 billion over Jan-Jun 2002.



LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE, CANSIM 383-0008

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003 business sector labour productivity (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% over the 1st quarter 2003, and declined -0.6% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

Hourly compensation (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +1.9% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

Unit labour costs (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.6% over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +2.5% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

Effect of increase in value of Canadian dollar: Unit labour cost in US\$ (seasonally adjusted) increased +8.7% over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +14.0% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

Growth in unit labour costs occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia July 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 18.9% to 4,487 over June 2003, and increased 13.5% over June 2002. Unadjusted unit sales increased +19.2% to 4,853 over July 2002.

In Canada July 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +12.6% to 145,496 over June 2003, and increased +3.7% over July 2002. Unadjusted unit sales increased +5.6% to 148,957 over July 2002.



MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia July 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$723 million over June 2003.

In Canada July 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.7% to \$43.0 billion over June 2003, and declined -1.6% over July 2002.

Inventories declined -0.3% to \$62.7 billion over June 2003, and increased +1.2% over July 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -1.2% to \$39.0 billion over June 2003, and declined -16.1% over July 2002.

New orders increased +2.1% to \$42.5 billion over June 2003, and declined -1.6% over July 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio increased to 1.46 over June 2003, and increased from 1.42 in July 2002.



UNION MEMBERSHIP 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 75-001.XIE, August 2003

In Canada 2003, the percentage of employees with union membership increased from 30.3% to 30.5% over 2002. The percentage of employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement increased from 32.4% to 32.6%. (total employees 2002 = 12.8 million; 2003 = 13.2 million).

In Nova Scotia 2003, the percentage of employees with union membership increased from 27.3% to 28.5% over 2002. The percentage of employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement increased from 28.3% to 29.5%. (total employees 2002 = 359,000; 2003 = 371,000).



HOUSEHOLD INTERNET USE SURVEY, 2002

Statistics Canada

Internet use from home showed continued strong growth in 2002.

In Canada, Household internet use from any location increased +0.6 percentage points to 61.6% over 2001. Internet use from home increased +2.7 percentage points to 51.4%; from work increased +1.6 percentage points to 34.2%; from school increased +0.7 percentage points to 22.9%.

In Nova Scotia, household internet use from any location increased +0.7 percentage points to 58.1% over 2001. Internet use from home increased +2.6 percentage points to 45.9%; from work increased +0.1 percentage points to 30.6%; from school increased +1.7 percentage points to 24.5%.

In Halifax, household internet use from any location increased +1.2 percentage points to 69.8% over 2001. Internet use from home increased +1.0 percentage points to 55.8%; from work increased +2.2 percentage points to 43.9%; from school increased +2.3 percentage points to 27.9%.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS 199/2000

Statistics Canada

In Canada 1999/2000, enrollment in elementary-secondary education increased +1.3% to 5.4 million over 1998/1999. The number of full-time educators increased +2.9% to 309,593. The pupil-educator ratio declined -2.5% to 15.6.

In Nova Scotia 1999/2000, enrollment in elementary-secondary education declined -1.0% to 161,530 over 1995/1996. The number of full-time educators increased +3.7% to 9,834. The pupil-educator ratio declined -7.3% to 15.3.

LARGE RETAILERS JULY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada July 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +5.2% to \$7.3 billion over July 2002.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada July 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an outflow of -\$2.6 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$16.0 billion.

In Canada June 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$3.0 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of \$6.6 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



GOVERNMENT REVENUE FROM TOURISM 1998

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-604-mie

In Canada 1998, total tourism spending = \$45.9 billion. Governments (Federal, provincial, local) received 30.1% of total tourism spending, or \$13.8 billion. Percent of total government revenue attributable to tourism = 4.0%.

WHOLESALE TRADE JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia July 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.2% to \$626 million over June 2003, and increased +0.9% over July 2002.

In Canada July 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$36.2 billion over June 2003, and increased +3.7% over July 2002.

In Canada July 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +0.3% to \$1.9 billion over June 2003, and declined -8.1% over July 2002.



RETAIL TRADE JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada July 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% to \$26.6 billion over June 2003, and increased +3.8% over July 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +5.0% to \$27.9 billion over July 2002.

In Nova Scotia July 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.4% to \$790 million over June 2003, and increased +3.6% over July 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +5.5% to \$850 million over July 2002.



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada August 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 122.5 over July 2003, and increased +2.0% over August 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.2% to 120.5 over July 2003, and increased +1.7% over August 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, remained increased +0.2% to 122.8 over July 2003, and increased +1.5% over August 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 124.1 over July 2003, and increased +2.8% over August 2002.

In Halifax August 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 123.1 over July 2003, and increased +2.6% over August 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



COMPOSITE INDEX, AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada August 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.5% to 183.45 over July 2003.

Seven of ten indices were positive.

The housing index (1992=100) increased +1.9% to 134.2. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +3.4% to 7,039. Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) increased +1.8% to 116,049. The US composite leading indicator increased +0.4% to 110.6. New orders, durables (\$1992) increased +0.4% to \$21.0 billion. Furniture and appliances sales (\$1992) increased +0.6% to \$1.9 billion. Other durable goods sales (\$1992) increased +0.5% to \$7.3 billion.

Three of ten indices were negative.

Business and personal services employment declined -0.2% to 2.6 million. Average workweek (hours) declined -0.5% to 39.0 hours. The shipments/inventories of finished goods ratio declined by -0.02% to 1.70.



DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS July 1, 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 91-002-XIB

The following data are new population estimates based on the 2001 Census adjusted for net undercoverage.

In Canada July 1, 2003 the estimated population increased +0.9% to 31,629,677 over the same date in 2002.

In Nova Scotia July 1, 2003 the estimated population increased +0.2% to 936,025 over the same date in 2002.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada July 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.3% to \$687.74 over June 2003, and increased +1.0% over July 2002. Employment increased +0.2% to 13.4 million over June 2003.

In Nova Scotia July 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$596.11 over June 2003, and increased +1.1% over July 2002. Employment increased +1.4% to 390,000 over June 2003.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-202-XIB

In 2nd quarter 2003, Canada's net foreign liability (difference between external assets and external liability) increased to -\$227.4 billion (19% of GDP) from -\$215.1 billion (18% of GDP) in 1st quarter 2003.

Total assets declined -61.8 billion to \$891.8 billion over the 1st quarter 2003.

Total liabilities declined -\$49.5 billion to \$1,119.2 billion over the 1st quarter 2003.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada July 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -6.0% to 95.4 over June 2003 and increased -8.7% over July 2002. The FPPI crops declined -2.6% to 102.1 over June 2003 and declined -3.9% over July 2002. The FPPI livestock declined -9.7% to 89.1 over June 2003 and declined -12.8% over July 2002.

NATIONAL BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 13-214-XIE

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, national net worth (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to \$3.9 trillion over the 1st quarter 2003. Per capita net worth increased +1.0% to \$121,900 over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +4.5% over the 2nd quarter 2002.



EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, JULY 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada July 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +2.1% to 581,540 over June 2003, and increased +0.5% over July 2002.

In Nova Scotia July 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to 30,510 over June 2003, and declined -0.8% over July 2002.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, August 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +1.1% to 111.0 over July 2003, and declined -3.0% over August 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +0.1% to 85.0 over July 2003, and declined -8.8% over August 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +2.1% to 167.3 over July 2003 and increased +4.4% over August 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, August 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) increased +0.3% to 105.6 over July2003, and declined -2.0% over August 2002.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY JULY 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada July 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$1.017 trillion (annualized) over June 2003, and increased +1.9% over July 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries declined -0.6% to \$316.2 billion (annualized) over June 2003, and remained unchanged over July 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.4% to \$702.4 billion (annualized) over June 2003, and increased +2.9% over July 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth increased +0.3% to \$56.9 billion (annualized) over June 2003, and increased +2.9% over July 2002.



CANADIAN VEHICLE SURVEY 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 53F0004XIE http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/53F0004XIE/53F0004XIE02001.pdf

In Canada 1st quarter 2003, the number of vehicle registrations declined -0.8% to 18.2 million over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +1.1% over the 1st quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 1st quarter 2002, the number of vehicle registrations increased +0.5% to 537,765 over the 4th quarter 2002, and increased +0.1% over the 1st quarter 2002.

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS JULY 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada July 2003, crude oil production increased +3.4% to 12.2 million cubic metres over July 2002. Year-to-date production increased +2.6% to 80.6 million cubic metres over Jan-Jul 2002.

In Canada June 2003, natural gas production declined -2.0% to 13.8 billion cubic metres over July 2002. Year-to-date production declined -1.6% to 98.5 billion cubic metres over Jan-Jul 2002.

ENERGY SUPPLY AND DEMAND 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 57-003-XIB, CANSIM 128-0001 - 128-0003

In Canada 2002, energy consumption increased +3.2% to 7,405 petajoules over 2001 and +17.6% over 1990.

In Canada 2002, energy production increased +0.8% to 16,022 petajoules over 2001 and +39.4% over 1990.

In Nova Scotia 2002, energy consumption increased +1.8% to 174 petajoules over 2001 and +7.4% over 1990.

Note: One petajoules is approximates the amount of energy required to operate the Montreal subway system for one year.



DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada August 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +1.2% to 8.5 million cubic metres over July 2002. Year to date production increased +4.2% to 64.7 million cubic metres over Jan-Jul 2002.

DOMESTIC TRAVEL 1ST QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Survey 3810

In the 1st quarter 2003, Canadian trips within Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -6.9% to 34.6 million trips over 1st quarter 2002. Expenditures increased +0.2% to \$5.8 billion. Expenditures (1997\$) declined -3.6% to \$5.1 billion.

BUILDING PERMITS AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada August 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -13.4% to \$4.1 billion over July 2003. The year to date value of bulding permits increased +8.2% to \$33.8 billion over January-August 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -21.5% to \$76.9 million over July 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +22.2% to \$686.5 million over January-August 2002.

In Halifax August 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -33.6% to \$42.3 million over July 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +29.7% to \$394.7 million over January-August 2002.



QUARTERLY RETAIL COMMODITY SURVEY 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0010

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, commodity sales increased +2.7% to \$82.8 billion over the 2nd quarter 2002. The largest percentage gain was in food and beverage sales which increased +6.3% to \$17.5 billion over the 2nd quarter 2002.



NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada August 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) increased 0.5% to 117.3 over July 2003, and increased 4.7% over August 2002.

In Halifax August 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 119.7 over July 2003 and increased 4.3% over August 2002.

INVESTMENT IN NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction increased +2.0% to \$6.6 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003.

In Nova Scotia 3rd quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction increased +19.1% to \$139 million over the 2nd quarter 2003.

In Canadian census metropolitan areas (CMA's), non-residential construction increased +2.9% to \$4.7 billion over 2nd quarter 2003.

In Halifax 3rd quarter 2003, investment in non-residential building construction increased +68.9% to \$67 million over 2nd quarter 2003.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia September 2003 labour force declined -0.2% to 483,000, employment increased +0.8% to 436,200, unemployment declined -8.2% to 46,800 and the unemployment rate declined -0.8 percentage points to 9.7% over August 2003.

In Canada September 2003 labour force increased +0.3% to 17.1 million, employment increased +0.3% to 15.7 million, unemployment increased +0.2% to 1.4 million, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 8.0% over August 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia September 2003 labour force increased +1.4% to 482,800, employment increased +1.5% to 440,400, unemployment increased +0.7% to 42,500 and the unemployment rate declined -0.1 percentage points to 8.8% over September 2002.

In Canada September 2003 labour force increased +1.8% to 17.1 million, employment increased +1.4% to 15.8 million, unemployment increased +7.1% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment increased +0.4 percentage points to 7.4% over September 2002.



NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia August 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -9.6% to 4,055 over July 2003, and declined -0.3% over August 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -2.0% to 4,047 over August 2002.

In Canada August 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.1% to 143,816 over July 2003, and declined -1.2% over August 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -3.8% to 145,108 over August 2002.



MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia August 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.0% to \$716 million over July 2003.

In Canada August 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.5% to \$41.0 billion over July 2003, and declined -6.7% over August 2002.

Inventories declined -1.4% to \$61.5 billion over July 2003, and declined -1.5% over August 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -1.5% to \$38.4 billion over July 2003, and declined -19.2% over August 2002.

New orders declined -4.9% to \$40.3 billion over July 2003, and declined -10.3% over August 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio increased to 1.50 over July 2003, and increased from 1.42 in August 2002.



LARGE RETAILERS AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada August 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +2.2% to \$7.7 billion over August 2002.



POPULATION OF BUSINESSES WITH EMPLOYEES 4TH QUARTER 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 178-0001

In Canada 4th quarter 2002 the number of businesses with employees declined -0.1% to 1,005,364 over the 4th quarter 2001.

In Nova Scotia 4th quarter 2002, the number of businesses with employees declined -1.6% to 29,710 over 4th quarter 2001.

TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada August 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to 3.2 million trips over July 2003. Unadjusted trips increased +1.3% to 4.4 million trips over July 2002.

In Canada August 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.8% to 2.9 million trips over July 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -12.8% to 5.5 million trips over July 2002.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada August 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an outflow of -\$7.2 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$7.4 billion.

In Canada August 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$1.9 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$9.2 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



WHOLESALE TRADE AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia August 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% to \$632 million over July 2003, and increased +4.9% over August 2002.

In Canada August 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.6% to \$34.2 billion over July 2003, and declined -2.9% over August 2002.

In Canada August 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery declined -7.2% to \$1.7 billion over July 2003, and declined -14.7% over August 2002.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada September 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 122.7 over August 2003, and increased +2.2% over September 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.3% to 120.9 over August 2003, and increased +1.9% over September 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, remained increased +0.3% to 123.2 over August 2003, and increased +1.7% over September 2002.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) remained unchanged at 124.1 over August 2003, and increased +2.4% over September 2002.

In Halifax September 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.1% to 123.2 over August 2003, and increased +2.3% over September 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



COMPOSITE INDEX, SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada September 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.7% to 184.1 over August 2003.

Seven of ten indices were positive. (same as August)

The housing index (1992=100) increased +3.3% to 138.9.

S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +2.4% to 7,206.

Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) increased +1.4% to 117,666.

The US composite leading indicator increased +0.5% to 111.3.

New orders, durables (\$1992) increased +0.2% to \$20.2 billion.

Furniture and appliances sales (\$1992) invreased +1.0% to \$1.9 billion.

Other durable goods sales (\$1992) increased +0.3% to \$7.8 billion.

Two of ten indices were negative. (Down 1 from August)

Average workweek (hours) declined -0.3% to 38.6 hours.

The shipments/inventories of finished goods ratio declined by -0.02% to 1.69.

One of ten indices were unchanged. (Up 1 from August)

Business and personal services employment remained unchanged at 2.6 million.

RETAIL TRADE AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada August 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$26.7 billion over July 2003, and increased +3.9% over August 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +1.6% to \$27.5 billion over August 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$783 million over July 2003, and increased +2.5% over August 2002. Unadjusted sales declined -0.4% to \$815 million over August 2002.



NATURAL GAS SALES AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 129-0001 - 129-0004

In Canada August 2003, natural gas sales increased +0.3% to 4.0 billion cubic metres over August 2002. Year to date sales increased +2.7% to 47.1 billion cubic metres over Jan-Aug 2002.



INDUSTRIAL DIVERSITY 1992 - 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-624-MIE

In Halifax 2002, the industrial diversity index (Toronto 1992=100) increased +6.0% to 76.3 from 72.0 in 1992. Based on a population (1996) of 332,518, the expected diversity index had been 70.3 (1992) and 72.3 (2002).

In other Nova Scotia cites 2002 the industrial diversity indexes (Toronto 1992=100) and changes were: Cape Breton increased +9.7% to 53.6; Truro increased +6.9% to 56.9; New Glascow increased +7.9% to 44.7; Kentville increased +7.8% to 37.3.

The average industrial diversity index (Toronto 1992=100) over all cities in Canada 2002, increased +6.5% to 50.2 over 1992.

Notes:

Urban industrial diversity measures the number of industries present in a city, taking into consideration how employment is shared across cities and comparing it to a reference urban area (i.e. Toronto), whose diversity level is indexed to 100.

EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada August 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.5% to \$687.09 over July 2003, and increased +0.8% over August 2002. Employment remained unchanged at 13.3 million over July 2003.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$599.16 over July 2003, and increased +1.3% over August 2002. Employment declined -0.1% to 389,100 over July 2003.



CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada August 2003, crude oil production increased +1.7% to 11.8 million cubic metres over August 2002. Year-to-date production increased +2.5% to 92.3 million cubic metres over Jan-Aug 2002.

In Canada August 2003, natural gas production declined -2.9% to 13.6 billion cubic metres over August 2002. Year-to-date production declined -1.8% to 112.1 billion cubic metres over Jan-Aug 2002.

SAVERS, INVESTORS AND INVESTMENT INCOME 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 17C0007, 17C0008, 17C0009, 17C0012

In 2002, the number of Canadians reporting investment income declined -6.3% to 7.5 million and investment income declined -10.2% to \$29.5 billion, over 2000.

In 2002, the number of Nova SCotians reporting investment income declined -8.5% to 180,320 and investment income declined -2.3% to \$682.5 million, over 2000.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada August 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.0% to 588,890 over July 2003, and increased +5.7% over August 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) remained unchanged at 30,470 over July 2003, and increased +0.7% over August 2002.



FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada August 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) declined -2.0% to 94.1 over July 2003 and declined -12.5% over August 2002. The FPPI crops declined -4.1% to 99.8 over July 2003 and declined -11.6% over August 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +0.7% to 89.1 over July 2003 and declined -13.5% over August 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +5.2% to 103.4 over July 2003 and increased +7.9% over August 2002. The FPPI crops increased +11.6% to 103.0 over July 2003 and increased +18.8% over August 2002. The FPPI livestock declined -1.5%% to 99.7 over July 2003 and declined -2.9% over August 2002.

CHARITABLE DONORS 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13C0014

In Canada 2002, charitable donations (current dollars) increased +6.0% to \$5.8 billion over 2001. The number of taxfilers reporting charitable donations remained unchanged at 5.5 million, or 25% of all taxfilers. The median donation increased \$10 to \$210.

In Nova Scotia 2002, charitable donations increased +7.5% to \$132.4 million over 2001. The number of taxfilers reporting charitable donations declined -0.6% to 155,590 or 23% of all taxfilers. The median donation increased \$10 to \$270.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, September 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) declined -3.1% to 107.7 over August 2003, and declined -8.3% over September 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +3.4% to 88.2 over August 2003, and declined -6.0% over September 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) declined -10.4% to 149.9 over August 2003 and declined -11.2% over September 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, September 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) increased +0.2% to 105.9 over August 2003, and declined -2.6% over September 2002.



KNOWLEDGE WORKERS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-622-MIE, 11-624-MIE

In Canada 2001, the percentage share of employment of knowledge-based occupations increased to 24.7% compared 13.8% in 1971.

AQUACULTURE STATISTICS 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 23-222-XIE

In Canada 2002, the gross value added (factor cost) of the aquaculture industry declined -14% to \$230.4 million over 2001. Total operating revenues increased to \$732.3 million from \$697.8 million in 2001. The value of exports increased +6.7% to \$474.0 million.

In Nova Scotia 2002, the gross value added (factor cost) of the aquaculture industry declined -1.5% to \$10.1 million over 2001. Total operating revenues declined to \$24.5 million from \$27.4 million in 2001.



DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada September 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +2.8% to 8.1 million cubic metres over August 2002. Year to date production increased +4.2% to 72.9 million cubic metres over Jan-Sep 2002.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY AUGUST 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada August 2003, all industry sectors with the exception of Accomodation and Food Services and Construction reported a month over month decline in GDP.

In Canada August 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.7% to \$1.007 trillion (annualized) over July 2003, and increased +0.8% over August 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries declined -0.5% to \$313.4 billion (annualized) over July 2003, and declined -0.8% over August 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries declined -0.8% to \$695.9 billion (annualized) over July 2003, and increased +1.6% over August 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth declined -0.5% to \$56.2 billion (annualized) over July 2003, and increased +0.8% over August 2002.



2003-11-05

FOREIGN CONTROL IN THE CANADIAN ECONOMY 2000

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-220-XIE

In Canada 2000, assets of foreign-controlled enterprises increased +2% to \$810 billion (or 20% of total assets) over 1999. Operating revenues increased +16% to \$704 billion (or 30% of total operating revenue).

In Canada 2000, assets of Canadian-controlled enterprises increased +11% to \$3.2 trillion over 1999. Operating revenues increased +12% to \$1.6 trillion.

CANADA'S TRADE IN BEEF 2002 - 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-621-MIE

In 2002 Canada (15%) ranked third behind Australia (23%) and the United States (16%) in the world beef market.

In Canada 2002, net trade in beef was valued at \$3.2 billion. Exports were valued at \$4.1 billion and imports at \$900 million.

The United States received about 90% of Canadian beef exports. Canada's beef imports came from the United States (50%), Australia (32%) and New Zealand (18%).

In May 2003, a world wide ban was placed on Canadian beef exports. In June, July and August exports declined to zero.

With the partial lifting of the ban in mid-September 2003, beef exports resumed at about half the normal monthly export level.



2003-11-06

PROVINCIAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-213-PPB

Nova Scotia at 4.4% ranked number 3 (behind Newfoundland and Labrador at 15.4% and Prince Edward Island at 5.7%) in GDP growth in 2002.

In Canada 2002, gross domestic product (GDP) in chained \$1997, increased +3.3% to \$1.07 trillion over 2001.

In Nova Scotia 2002, gross domestic product (GDP) in chained \$1997, increased +4.4% to \$24.8 billion over 2001.



2003-11-07

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia October 2003 labour force declined -1.1% to 477,800, employment declined -0.8% to 432,500, unemployment declined -3.2% to 45,300 and the unemployment rate declined -0.2 percentage points to 9.5% over September 2003.

In Canada October 2003 labour force remained unchanged at 17.1 million, employment increased +0.4% to 15.8 million, unemployment declined -4.4% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.4% to 7.6% over September 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia October 2003 labour force increased +0.7% to 476,600, employment increased +0.6% to 437,200, unemployment increased +2.3% to 39,500 and the unemployment rate increased +0.1 percentage points to 8.3% over October 2002.

In Canada October 2003 labour force increased +1.6% to 17.1 million, employment increased +1.6% to 15.9 million, unemployment increased +1.7% to 1.2 million, and the unemployment remained unchanged at 6.9% over October 2002.



RETAIL: CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-621-MIE

In Canada 2002, retail sales in clothing and accessory stores increased +1.1% to \$21 billion over 2001. Clothing and accessories represents about 7% of total retail sales (\$307 billion).

About 50% of spending (\$11.5 billion) in clothing and accessories stores was in women's clothing, and about 29% (\$6.1 billion) was in men's clothing.

In 2002 the market share of unisex stores increased to 32% from 26% in 1997. The market share of men's clothing stores declined to 21% in 2002, from 27% in 1997.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada September 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) increased 0.5% to 117.9 over August 2003, and increased 5.1% over September 2002.

In Halifax September 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 119.7 over August 2003 and increased 4.2% over September 2002.



NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.6% to 119.2 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +3.3% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

In Halifax 3rd quarter 2003, the non-residential building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.6% to 110.2 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +2.8% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia September 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -11.6% to 3,535 over August 2003, and declined -11.5% over September 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -12.2% to 3,273 over September 2002.

In Canada September 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.9% to 140,539 over August 2003, and declined -3.3% over September 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -1.6% to 142,012 over September 2002.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada September 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$5.6 billion. The year to date surplus was \$46.9 billion.

In Canada September 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.7% to \$33.7 billion over August 2003 and declined -4.9% over September 2002. Year-to-date exports declined -1.4% to \$305.2 billion over Jan-Sep 2002.

In Canada September 2003, international merchandise trade imports increased +4.5% to 28.0 billion over August 2003, and declined -7.6% over September 2002. Year-to-date imports declined -2.7% to \$258.3 billion over Jan-Sep 2002.

Nova Scotia August 2003

In Nova Scotia August 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$101.8 million. The year to date deficit was -\$70.4 million.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.1% to \$499.9 million over July 2003 and increased +2.1% over August 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +7.3% to \$3.8 billion over Jan-Aug 2002.

In Nova Scotia August 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -11.1% to \$398.1 million over July 2003, and declined -6.9 over August 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +16.6% to \$3.9 billion over Jan-Aug 2002.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS JAN-JUN 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 56-002-XIE

In Canada 1st half 2003, operating profits increased +19.4% to \$2.6 billion over the 1st half 2002. Operating revenues increased +1.0% to \$16.1 billion. Capital expenditures declined to \$459 million - compared to \$863 million in the first half 2002 and \$1.6 billion in the first half 2001.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia September 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to \$712 million over August 2003.

In Canada September 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) increased +5.2% to \$43.0 billion over August 2003, and declined -2.5% over September 2002.

Inventories declined -0.7% to \$60.9 billion over August 2003, and declined -2.3% over September 2002.

Unfilled orders increased +1.1% to \$38.8 billion over August 2003, and declined -17.3% over September 2002.

New orders increased +8.0% to \$43.4 billion over August 2003, and declined -0.2% over September 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio declined to 1.42 from 1.50 in August 2003, and increased from 1.41 in September 2002.



APARTMENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, the apartment building construction price composite index (1997=100) increased +0.5% to 117.3 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +2.7% over the 3rdt quarter 2002.

In Halifax 3rd quarter 2003, the apartment building construction price index (1997=100) increased +0.5 to 113.4 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +2.4% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

RETIREMENT INCOME PROGRAMS 1990-2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 74-507-XCB

In Canada 2001, total retirement program reserves increased +93.9% to \$1.15 trillion (2001=100) over 1990.

Public government plans declined -1.8% to \$64.7 billion. Registered pension plans increased +100.8% to \$794.1 billion. Registered retireme3nt savings plans increased +121.8% to \$292.5 billion.

Participation in registered pension plans increased +2.9% to 5.5 million or 40% of total paid workers.



MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PRICE INDEX 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-007-XPB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, the machinery and equipment price index (1986=100) declined -0.1% to 133.5 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and declined -4.8% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES 2000/01

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2000/2001, the number of secondary school graduates (aged 15 to 20) increased +0.6% to 321,718 over 1999/2000. Secondary school graduation rate declined -0.3% to 76.9 over 1999/2000.

In Nova Scotia 2000/2001, the number of secondary school graduates increased +2.6% to 10,064 over 1999/2000. Secondary school graduation rate increased +1.7% to 77.9 over 1999/2000.

HOME REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS 2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-201-XIB

In Canada 2002, average spending per household on home repairs and renovations increased 9% to \$2,910 over 2001. Total spending increased to \$23.4 billion (constant 2002\$) from \$21.2 billion in 2001.

In Nova Scotia 2002, average spending per household on home repairs and renovations declined -12% to \$2,334 over 2001. Total spending declined to \$622 million (constant 2002\$) from \$691 million in 2001.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada September 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of +\$269 million. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of \$8.3 billion.

In Canada September 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an inflow of +\$2.9 billion. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$7.1 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



LARGE RETAILERS SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada September 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +4.9% to \$7.0 billion over September 2002.

TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 66-001-PIE

In Canada September 2003, Canadian trips abroad (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.5% to 3.3 million trips over August 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -1.9% to 3.2 million trips over September 2002.

In Canada September 2003, travel to Canada (seasonally adjusted) increased +10.7% to 3.3 million trips over August 2003. Unadjusted trips declined -13.4% to 3.5 million trips over September 2002.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada October 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.2% to 122.4 over September 2003, and increased +1.6% over October 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.2% to 121.1 over September 2003, and increased +1.9% over October 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.2% to 123.4 over September 2003, and increased +1.8% over October 2002.

In Nova Scotia October 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.5% to 123.5 over September 2003, and increased +1.2% over October 2002.

In Halifax October 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) declined -0.3% to 122.8 over September 2003, and increased +1.4% over October 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil

and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



MARRIAGES 2001

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 84F0212XPB

In Canada 2001, the number of marriages declined -6.8% to 146,618 over 2000. The average age of brides increased +2.6 years to 31.9 over 1991.

In Nova Scotia 2001, the number of marriages declined -11.1% over 2000.

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING 2001

Statistics Canada NS Dept of Education

In Canada 2001, the number of registered apprentices increased +8.0% to 217,560 over 2000. Completions remained unchanged at 18,260 over 2000.

In Nova Scotia 2001 (fiscal year ending March 31, 2002), the number of registered apprentices increased +12.7% to 4,586 over 2000. The number of new registrations declined -7.4% to 1,126. The number of completions declined -15.1% to 342.

http://apprenticeship.ednet.ns.ca/publications.shtml



TELEVISION VIEWING FALL 2002

Statistics Canada

In the Fall 2002, Canadians watched television for an average of 21.6 hours per week. (Men = 21.0 hrs; women = 25.8 hrs; teens = 13.7 hrs; children = 14.6 hrs).

In the Fall 2002, Nova Scotians watched television for an average of 23.7 hours per week. (Men = 23.0 hrs; women = 27.8 hrs; teens = 15.9 hrs; children = 16.1 hrs).

For Fall 2001 see

 $http://www.gov.ns.ca/finance/statistics/knowledgebase/daily/AllTopicsT.asp? \\ uq=DailyStats\&text=3\&ndate=20021202-03$



RETAIL TRADE SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada September 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.8% to \$26.4 billion over August 2003, and increased +3.3% over September 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +4.1% to \$25.9 billion over September 2002.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -3.9% to \$747 million over August 2003, and declined -2.9% over September 2002. Unadjusted sales declined -2.3% to \$723 million over September 2002.

WHOLESALE TRADE SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia September 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.8% to \$636 million over August 2003, and increased +7.3% over September 2002.

In Canada September 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +6.1% to \$36.6 billion over August 2003, and increased +3.2% over September 2002.

In Canada September 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +1.0% to \$1.7 billion over August 2003, and declined -7.4% over September 2002.



FARM CASH RECEIPTS 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-001-XIB and CANSIM

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, farm cash receipts declined -11.1% to \$7.7 billion over the 3rd quarter 2002. Livestock cash receipts declined -26.4% to \$3.2 billion, crop cash receipts increased +3.9% to \$3.5 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) increased +7.2% to \$933 million.

In Canada Jan-Sep 2003, farm cash receipts declined -4.5% to \$24.5 billion over the Jan-Sep 2002. Livestock cash receipts declined -12.6% to \$11.8 billion, crop cash receipts declined -4.3% to \$9.7 billion, and payments cash receipts (net income stablisation, crop insurance, etc.) increased +49.7% to \$3.0 billion.

In Nova Scotia 3rd quarter 2003, farm cash receipts increased +3.8% to \$108 million over 3rd quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia Jan-Sep 2003, farm cash receipts increased +0.7% to \$294 million over Jan-Sep 2002.

NET FARM INCOME 2002 (Revised)

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2002, net farm income declined -53.4% to \$1.3 billion over 2001. Net cash income (farm business cash flow) declined -11.0% to \$7.2 billion.

In Nova Scotia 2002, net farm income declined to -\$7 million from +\$21 million in 2001. Net cash income (farm business cash flow) declined -41.4% to \$41 million.

COMPOSITE INDEX, OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada October 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.6% to 185.0 over September 2003.

Six of ten indices were positive. (down 1 from Sep)

The housing index (1992=100) increased +3.6% to 143.8. Business and personal services employment increased +0.2 to 2.6 million. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +2.5% to 7,389.

The US composite leading indicator increased +0.4% to 111.7. Furniture and appliances sales (\$1992) invreased +1.3% to \$1.9 billion. Other durable goods sales (\$1992) increased +0.6% to \$7.8 billion.

Three of ten indices were negative. (up 1 from Sep)

Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.1% to 117,458. New orders, durables (\$1992) declined -1.6% to \$19.6 billion. Average workweek (hours) declined -0.5% to 38.5 hours.

One of ten indices were unchanged.

The shipments/inventories of finished goods ratio remained unchanged at 1.67.



DOMESTIC TRAVEL 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Survey 3810

In the 2nd quarter 2003, Canadian trips within Canada (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.6% to 42.9 million trips over 2nd quarter 2002. Expenditures declined -9.1% to \$6.6 billion. Expenditures (1997\$) declined -8.2% to \$6.1 billion.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada International Travel Survey

In the 2nd quarter 2003, international traveller trips to Canada declined -18.5% to 4.2 million over the 2nd quarter 2002. Total expenditures declined -20.6% to \$2.7 billion.

In the 2nd quarter 2003, Canadian trips abroad declined -6.7% to 4.0 million trips over the 2nd quarter 2002. Total expenditures declined -9.4% to \$3.8 billion.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ACCOUNT 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 3rd guarter 2003, the international travel account showed a deficit of \$1.2 billion.

Total receipts increased +4.7% to \$3.6 billion, and total payments increased +7.4% to \$4.8 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003.

RAW MATERIALS PRICE INDEX, OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-011-XPB

In Canada, October 2003, the raw materials price index (1997=100) increased +1.1% to 108.3 over September 2003, and declined -7.8% over October 2002.

The raw materials price index excluding mineral fuels increased +0.3% to 88.7 over September 2003, and declined -6.4% over October 2002.

The mineral fuels price index (1997=100) increased +2.2% to 150.8 over September 2003 and declined -9.5% over

October 2002.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT PRICE INDEX OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada 62-011-XPB

In Canada, October 2003, the industrial product price index (1997=100) declined -0.9% to 104.9 over September 2003, and declined -3.8% over October 2002.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada September 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% to \$692.75 over August 2003, and increased +1.3% over September 2002. Employment declined -0.1% to 13.3 million over September 2003.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.6% to \$601.92 over August 2003, and increased +1.4% over September 2002. Employment declined -0.8% to 384,800 over August 2003.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada September 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined - 1.2% to 579,900 over August 2003, and increased +4.6% over September 2002.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.9% to 30,130 over August 2003, and declined -1.3% over September 2002.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR ENTERPRISES 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 61-008-XIE

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, corporate after-tax profits (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to \$27.0 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003 and increased +73.0% over 3rd quarter 2002.

Operating revenue increased +0.4% to \$593.5 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003 and increased +2.6% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

Operating profit increased +3.7% to \$41.6 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003 and increased +11.3% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 67-001-XPB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, the current account surplus (seasonally adjusted) increased to \$7.3 billion from a \$5.1 billion surplus in 2nd quarter 2003. The goods surplus increased to \$15.5 billion, the services deficit increased to \$3.0 billion and the investment income deficit declined to -\$5.5 billion.



CANADIAN ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, real gross domestic product (\$1997 chained) increased +0.3% to \$1.090 trillion over 2nd quarter 2003. Consumer spending increased +1.2% to \$628.1 billion; exports (goods & services) declined -0.2% to \$429.4 billion.

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003 (\$current), corporate profits increased +4.9% to \$144.2 billion; personal income increased +0.7% to \$620.4 billion.

Real gross domestic product (\$chained 1997) increased +1.1% on an annualized basis (growth rate compounded annually) and increased +1.0% on a year-over-year basis (compared to the same quarter in the previous year)



RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION INVESTMENT 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 026-0013

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +11.1% to \$17.6 billion over 3rd quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 3rd quarter 2003, residential construction investment increased +20.0% to \$484.1 million over 3rd quarter 2002.

Note: residential construction investment includes new housing, renovations and acquistion costs.

FARM OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES 2002

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2002, average farm operating revenue increased +7.0% to \$202,389 over 2001. Average farm operating expenses increased +7.0% to \$172,506. Operating margins increased 0.1 cents to 14.8 cents per dollar of revenue.



CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 126-0001, 131-0001

In Canada September 2003, crude oil production increased +8.1% to 12.0 million cubic metres over September 2002. Year-to-date production increased +5.7% to 106.9 million cubic metres over Jan-Sep 2002.

In Canada September 2003, natural gas production declined -6.6% to 12.8 billion cubic metres over September 2002. Year-to-date production declined -2.3% to 124.9 billion cubic metres over Jan-Sep 2002.

DOMESTIC SALES OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 134-0004

In Canada October 2003, sales of refined petroleum products increased +1.2% to 8.4 million cubic metres over September 2002. Year to date production increased +4.1% to 81.4 million cubic metres over Jan-Oct 2002.

BUILDING PERMITS OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 64-001-XIE

In Canada October 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.9% to \$4.3 billion over September 2003. The year to date value of bulding permits increased +8.9% to \$42.6 billion over January-October 2002.

In Nova Scotia October 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -9.8% to \$74.0 million over September 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +20.1% to \$842.6 million over January-October 2002.

In Halifax October 2003, the value of building permits (seasonally adjusted) declined -19.3% to \$35.3 million over September 2003. The year to date value of building permits increased +30.8% to \$473.7 million over January-October 2002.



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 71-001-PPB

Seasonally Adjusted

(month over month)

In Nova Scotia November 2003 labour force increased 1.3% to 484,100, employment increased 0.7% to 435,400, unemployment increased 7.5% to 48,700 and the unemployment rate increased 0.6 percentage points to 10.1% over October 2003.

In Canada November 2003 labour force increased 0.2% to 17.2 million, employment increased +0.3% to 15.9 million, unemployment declined -1.5% to 1.3 million, and the unemployment rate declined -0.1 percentage points to 7.5% over October 2003.

Unadjusted

(year over year)

In Nova Scotia November 2003 labour force increased +1.4% to 481,300, employment increased +0.6% to 434,600, unemployment increased +10.4% to 46,700 and the unemployment rate increased +0.8 percentage points to 9.7% over November 2002.

In Canada November 2003 labour force increased +1.7% to 17.1 million, employment increased +1.8% to 15.9 million, unemployment increased +0.7% to 1.2 million, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.1% over November 2002.



HEAD OFFICES IN CANADA 1999-2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11F0027MIE No. 19

In Canada 2002, the number of head offices units increased to 3,969 from 3,936 in 1999. Head office employment increased +2.7% to 169,562.

FARM PRODUCT PRICE INDEX SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 21-007-XIB

In Canada September 2003, the farm product price index (1997=100) increased +1.2% to 95.1 over August 2003 and declined -11.5% over September 2002. The FPPI crops declined -4.3% to 95.3 over August 2003 and declined -15.3% over September 2002. The FPPI livestock increased +7.4% to 95.7 over August 2003 and declined -2.5% over September 2002.

NOVA SCOTIA TRADE 2002

NS Dept of Finance

In Nova Scotia 2002, the share of total international merchandise trade to the United States declined to 45.5% over 2001. The share of international merchandise trade exports to the U.S. declined to 81.6%, and the share of international merchandise trade imports from the U.S. declined to 7.9%.

In Nova Scotia 2002, the share of total international merchandise trade to the European Union increased to 26.3% over 2001. The share of international merchandise trade exports to the E.U. increased to 5.3%, and the share of international merchandise trade imports from the E.U. increased to 48.2%.

The first edition of Nova Scotia Trade 2002 in PDF is now available at: http://www.gov.ns.ca/finance/statistics/agency/publications/publications.asp?id=Pub40

and the companion evergreen trade tables are available at: http://www.gov.ns.ca/finance/statistics/agency/business.asp?p=4



DEPOSIT-ACCEPTING INTERMEDIARIES 2002

In Canada 2002, the services of deposit-accepting intermediaries - chartered banks, trust companies, caisses populaires and credit unions - increased +1.7% to \$52.7 billion over 2001.

Non-interest income declined -6.5% to \$22.6 billion (42.9% of total services). Net interest income increased +8.9% to \$30.1 billion (57.1% of total services).

The value of retail banking services increased +7.5 percentage points to \$34.1 billion.

The value of corporate and institutional services declined -4.3 percentage points to \$3.5 billion.

The value of electronic financial services increased +8.9 percentage points to \$3.4 billion.

The value of treasury and investment banking services declined -3.3 percentage points to \$10.2 billion.

The value of fiduciary services declined -45.4 percentage points to \$1.5 billion.

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. 62-007-XPB, CANSIM: table 327-0005

In Canada October 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) increased 0.4% to 118.4 over September 2003, and increased 5.0% over October 2002.

In Halifax October 2003, the new housing price index (1997=100) remained unchanged at 119.7 over September 2003 and increased 4.2% over October 2002.

INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY UTILIZATION RATES 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, the industrial capacity utilization rate (ratio of actual to potential output) declined -0.1 percentage points to 81.2 over the 2nd quarter 2003, and declined -1.9 percentage points over the 3rd quarter 2002.

The Construction sector capacity utilization rate remained unchanged at 85.6 over the 2nd quarter 2003 and declined -1.2 percentage points over the 3rd quarter 2002.

The Mining, Oil and Gas extration sector capacity utilization rate increased +2.0 percentage points to 70.5 over the 2nd quarter 2003 and increased +1.9 percentage points over the 3rd quarter 2002.

The Manufacturing sector capacity utilization rate declined -0.3 percentage points to 82.2 over the 2nd quarter 2003 and declined -2.4 percentage points over the 3rd quarter 2002.

The Computer and electronic products sector capacity utilization rate declined -0.7 percentage points to 68.0 over the 2nd quarter 2003 and increased +1.5 percentage points over the 3rd quarter 2002.							



FEDERAL EXPENDITURES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2003/04

Statistics Canada 88-0001-XIE

In Canada 2003/04, Federal government estimated expenditures on science and technology (S&T) have increased +7% to \$8.5 billion over 2002/03. Of this, 64% will be spent on research and development.

E-COMMERCE: HOUSEHOLD SHOPPING ON THE INTERNET, 2001

Statistics Canada 56M0002XCB

In Canada 2001, the number of households using e-commerce increased to 2.8 million from 2.2 million in 2001. Over 16 million orders were placed, and expenditures increased +35% to \$2.4 billion. Average annual household e-commerce expenditures = \$876.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-007-XIB

In Nova Scotia October 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +13.5% to 4,013 over September 2003, and declined -0.7% over October 2002. Unadjusted unit sales increased +0.4% to 3,363 over October 2002.

In Canada October 2003, new motor vehicle unit sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -2.3% to 136,951 over September 2003, and declined -7.5% over October 2002. Unadjusted unit sales declined -9.8% to 124,427 over October 2002.



LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 13-010-XIE, CANSIM 383-0008, 383-0012

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003 business sector labour productivity (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.7% over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +0.3% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

Hourly compensation (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.1% over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +3.0% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

Unit labour costs (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.5% over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +2.8% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

Effect of increase in value of Canadian dollar: Unit labour cost in US\$ (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.8% over the 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +16.4% over the 3rd quarter 2002.

Growth in unit labour costs occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity.

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 65-001-XIB

In Canada October 2003, the international merchandise trade surplus was \$5.1 billion. The year to date surplus was \$50.7 billion.

In Canada October 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -4.2% to \$32.3 billion over September 2003 and declined -9.2% over October 2002. Year-to-date exports declined -2.7% to \$335.9 billion over Jan-Oct 2002.

In Canada October 2003, international merchandise trade imports declined -1.7% to 27.2 billion over September 2003, and declined -9.9% over October 2002. Year-to-date imports declined -3.6% to \$285.2 billion over Jan-Oct 2002.

Nova Scotia September 2003

NOTE: In Nova Scotia September 2003, imports of NAICS 2709 CRUDE PETROLEUM OILS AND OILS OBTAINED FROM BITUMINOUS MINERALS increased +676.8% to +\$688.8 million over August 2003, and increased +525.8% over September 2002.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, the international merchandise trade deficit was \$690.1 million. The year to date deficit was -\$737.3 million.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, international merchandise trade exports (seasonally adjusted) declined -8.9% to \$460.2 million over August 2003 and declined -5.6% over September 2002. Year-to-date exports increased +6.7% to \$4.3 billion over Jan-Sep 2002.

In Nova Scotia September 2003, international merchandise trade imports increased +188.5% to \$1.2 billion over August 2003, and increased +125.9% over September 2002. Year-to-date imports increased +31.2% to \$5.0 billion over Jan-Sep 2002.



FILM AND VIDEO DISTRIBUTION 2001/2002

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 87F0010XPE

In Canada 2001/2002, profit of film, video and audio-visual distribution increased to \$329.0 million (10.8 of total revenue).

In Canada 2001/2002, the total revenue of film, video and audio-visual distribution increased +7.9% to \$3.0 billion over 2000/2001. Total expenses increased +9.8% to \$2.7 billion over 2000/2001.

COMPOSITE INDEX, OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 11-010-XPB CANSIM Table 377-0003

In Canada November 2003, the composite leading indicator (1992=100) increased +0.8% to 186.9 over October 2003.

Seven of ten indices were positive. (up 1 from Oct)

Business and personal services employment increased +0.1 to 2.6 million. S & P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000) increased +2.4% to 7,564. The US composite leading indicator increased +0.4% to 111.8. New orders, durables (\$1992) increased +2.0% to \$20.0 billion. Furniture and appliances sales (\$1992) invreased +1.1% to \$1.9 billion. Other durable goods sales (\$1992) increased +0.4% to \$7.8 billion. The shipments/inventories of finished goods ratio increased to 1.69.

One of ten indices were negative. (down 2 from Oct)

The housing index (1992=100) declined -0.1% to 143.3.

Two of ten indices were unchanged.

Money supply, M1 (\$millions, 1992) declined -0.1% to 117,458. Average workweek (hours) remained unchanged at 38.7 hours.



SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT AND COMPUTER SERVICES 2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 354-0005

Software Publishers

In Canada 2001, operating revenues in the software publishers industry [511210] declined -8.7% to \$5.4 billion over 2001. Operating expenses declined -15.6% to \$5.4 billion The number of active establishments declined -19.8% to 1,849.

In Nova Scotia 2001, operating revenues in the software publishers industry [511210] increased +22.2% to \$24.8 million over 2001. Operating expenses increased +56.2% to \$35.3 million. The number of active establishments declined -24.2% to 25.

Computer Systems Design

In Canada 2002, total revenues in the computer systems design and related services industry [541510] increased +2.0% to \$18.3 billion over 2001. Operating expenses declined -0.6% to \$17.4 bllion. The number of active establishments increased +0.6% to 43,687.

In Nova Scotia 2002, total revenues in the computer systems design and related services industry [541510] increased +31.9% to \$293.3 million over 2001. Operating expenses increased +28.0% to \$262.9 mllion. The number of active establishments declined -3.5% to 490.

Data Processing Services

In Canada 2002, total revenues in the data processing services industry [518217] increased +11.3% to \$2.5 billion over 2001. Operating expenses increased +4.5% to \$2.4 bllion. The number of active establishments declined -19.3% to 1,086.

Nova Scotia data processing services industry [518217] information is unavailable.

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-202-XIB

In 3rd quarter 2003, Canada's net foreign liability (difference between external assets and external liability) declined to -\$223.4 billion (18.4% of GDP) from -\$231.7 billion (19.3% of GDP) in 2nd quarter 2003.

Total assets increased +8.6 billion to \$895.2 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003.

Total liabilities increased +0.4 billion to \$1,118.7 billion over the 2nd quarter 2003.

MONTHLY SURVEY OF MANUFACTURING SEPTEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 31-001-XIB

In Nova Scotia October 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.4% to \$706 million over September 2003.

In Canada October 2003, manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) declined -1.1% to \$42.4 billion over September 2003, and declined -3.7% over October 2002.

Inventories declined -0.6% to \$59.9 billion over September 2003, and declined -4.2% over October 2002.

Unfilled orders declined -2.0% to \$37.7 billion over September 2003, and declined -19.0% over October 2002.

New orders declined -3.2% to \$41.7 billion over September 2003, and declined -4.4% over October 2002.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio increased to 1.41 from 1.40 in September 2003, and declined from 1.42 in October 2002.



NATIONAL BALANCE SHEET ACCOUNTS 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. NO. 13-214-XIE

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, national net worth (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.4% to \$3.9 trillion over the 2nd quarter 2003. Per capita net worth (unadjusted) increased to \$123,200 from \$121,600 in 2nd quarter 2003, and \$118,100 in the 3rd quarter 2002.



LARGE RETAILERS OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada CANSIM 080-0009

In Canada October 2003, sales for the group of large retailers (unadjusted) increased +5.6% to \$7.7 billion over October 2002.

PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH IN CANADA 1997-2002

Statistics Canada CANSIM 383-0013, 383-0014, 383-0015

In Canada 1997 to 2002, the annual growth rate in labour productivity in the business sector was +2.3%. Multi-factor productivity growth rate was 1.5%.

The highest labour productivity growth were in Wood Product Industru (7.1%), Chemical Industry (6.6%), Computer and Electronic Product Industry (5.6%), Primary Metal Industry (5.2%) and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting Industry (5.1%).

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES, OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 67-002-XPB

In Canada October 2003, net foreign investment in Canadian securities was an inflow of +\$2.3 billion. Year to date net foreign investment in Canada was an inflow of +\$9.6 billion.

In Canada October 2003, net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$590 million. Year to date net Canadian investment in foreign securities was an outflow of -\$7.8 billion.

Note: Outflow indicates an outflow of money from Canada - either Canadians investing abroad, or foreigners withdrawing assets. Inflow indicates an inflow of money into Canada - either Canadians withdrawing assets from abroad or foreigners investing in Canada.



POLICE PERSONNEL AND EXPENDITURE 2002-2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 85-225-XIE

In Canada as of June 15, 2003 the number of police officers increased +2% to 59,494 over the same date in 2002. The number of police officers per 100,000 population increased +1.0% to 188. In 2002, expenditures on policing (constant \$) increased +5% to \$7.8 billion (\$250 per capita) over 2001.

In Nova Scotia as of June 15, 2003 the number of police officers increased to 1,608. The number of police officers per 100,000 population increased +0.8% to 172.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada

In Canada October 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.1% to 579,900 over September 2003, and increased +4.1% over October 2002.

In Nova Scotia October 2003, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to 30,210 over September 2003, and declined -1.9% over October 2002.

FILM, VIDEO & AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCTION, 2001

Statistics Canada

In Canada 2001, total revenue for film, video and audio-visual production increased +10.5% to \$2.59 billion over 2000. Total operating expenses increased +12.8% to \$2.56 billion. The number of firms increased to 728 from 717 one year earlier. Full-time employment increased +8.3% to 6,111. Part-time employment declined -6.6% to 5,058.

In the Atlantic region 2001, film production revenue declined to -2.7% compared to +13.3% in 2000.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NOVEMBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 62-001-XIB

In Canada November 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 122.7 over October 2003, and increased +1.6% over November 2002.

The CPI excluding food and energy increased +0.2% to 121.4 over October 2003, and increased +1.8% over November 2002. CPI excluding the eight most volatile components, increased +0.2% to 123.7 over October 2003, and increased +1.8% over November 2002.

In Nova Scotia November 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 123.7 over October 2003,

and increased +1.1% over November 2002.

In Halifax November 2003, the consumer price index (1992=100) increased +0.2% to 123.0 over October 2003, and increased +1.2% over November 2002.

*Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation



SERVICES INDICATORS 3RD QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-016-XIB

In Canada 3rd quarter 2003, GDP services sector (seasonally adjusted at annual rates) increased +0.4% to \$700.2 billion over 2nd quarter 2003, and increased +2.3% over 3rd quarter 2002.

Consumer spending on services (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.6% to \$93.2 billion, CPI services (1992=100) increased +0.7% to 127.7 over the 2nd quarter 2003. The international trade in services deficit declined to -\$2.7 billion from -\$3.0 billion posted in the 2nd quarter 2003. (Exports = \$14.1 billion; imports = \$16.9 billion).

Employment increased +2.0% to 11.8 million over 3rd quarter 2002.

FERTILITY OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 91-209-XPE

The fertility rate of foreign-born women tends to decline after their arrival in Canada, eventually matching the fertility rate of Canadian-born women.

In Canada 2001, the fertility rate of female immigrants who arrived in Canada 1996-2001 was 3.1 children per woman. TIn 2001, te fertility rate of female immigrants who arrived in Canada 1986-1991 had declined to 1.5 children per woman. (In 2000, the total fertility rate of all women was 1.5.)

SURVEY OF SUPPLIERS OF BUSINESS FINANCING 2002

As of December 31, 2002 the Canadian business total debt outstanding declined -0.4% to \$358.5 billion over the same date on 2001. Total leases outstanding increased +4.2% to \$22.8 billion.

The share of debt held by domestic banks declined to 54.7% or \$196.0 billion. The share of debt held by finance companies increased to 11.8%, other banks declined to 11.2%, insurance companies declined to 10.7%, and credit unions/caisse populaires increased to 8.6%.

RETAIL TRADE OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-005-XIB

In Canada October 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$26.4 billion over September 2003,

and increased +2.1% over October 2002. Unadjusted retail sales increased +3.0% to \$26.7 billion over October 2002.

In Nova Scotia October 2003, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +4.3% to \$783 million over September 2003, and increased +1.9% over October 2002. Unadjusted sales increased +4.2% to \$793 million over Octoberr 2002.



EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 72-002-XIB

In Canada October 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.3% to \$694.14 over September 2003, and increased +1.2% over October 2002. Employment increased +0.5% to 13.4 million over September 2003.

In Nova Scotia October 2003, average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.1% to \$600.36 over September 2003, and increased +1.1% over October 2002. Employment remained unchanged at 383,800 over September 2003.

WHOLESALE TRADE OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 63-008-XIB

In Nova Scotia October 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) increased +1.3% to \$648 million over September 2003, and increased +3.5% over October 2002.

In Canada October 2003, wholesale merchants' sales (seasonally adjusted) declined -0.1% to \$36.6 billion over September 2003, and increased +2.4% over October 2002.

In Canada October 2003, wholesale merchants sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery increased +3.4% to \$2.8 billion over September 2003, and increased +4.3% over October 2002.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY OCTOBER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 15-001-XPB

In Canada October 2003, GDP at basic prices, 1997 chained dollars (seasonally adjusted) increased +0.2% to \$1.02 trillion (annualized) over September 2003, and increased +1.7% over October 2002.

GDP growth in goods-producing industries increased +0.1% to \$319.0 billion (annualized) over September 2003, and increased +0.9% over October 2002.

GDP growth in the services-producing industries increased +0.2% to \$702.9 billion (annualized) over September 2003, and increased +2.1% over October 2002.

In the Information and communications technology sector GDP growth declined -0.5% to \$56.4 billion (annualized) over September 2003, and increased +1.1% over October 2002.

In the Energy sector GDP growth remained unchanged (\$58.2 billion annualized) over September 2003, and declined -1.6% over October 2002.



CANADIAN VEHICLE SURVEY 2ND QUARTER 2003

Statistics Canada Cat. No. 53F0004XIE http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/53F0004XIE/53F0004XIE02001.pdf

In Canada 2nd quarter 2003, the number of vehicle registrations increased +1.1% to 18.4 million over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +1.0% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

In Nova Scotia 2nd quarter 2003, the number of vehicle registrations increased +1.2% to 544,178 over the 1st quarter 2003, and increased +0.4% over the 2nd quarter 2002.

Record count = 485

