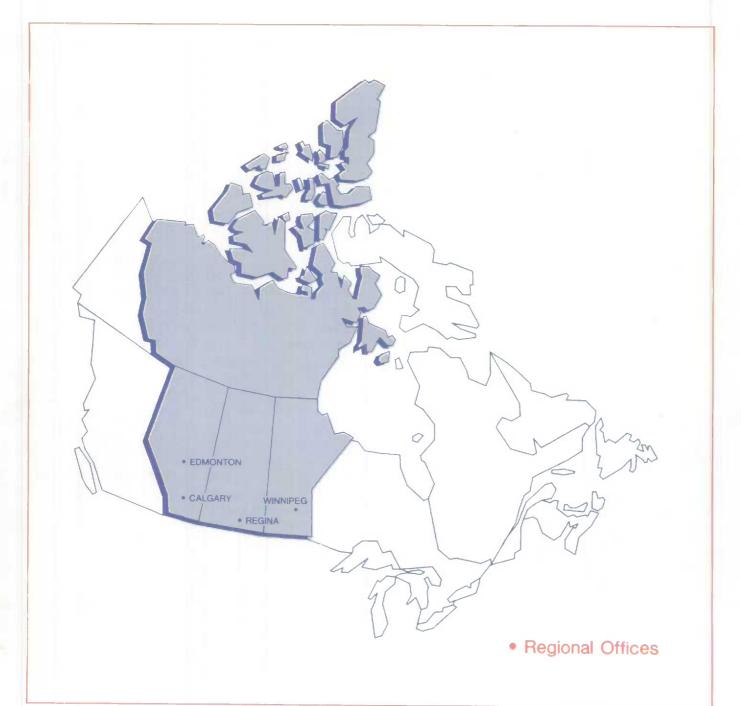


Prairie Update

Economic indicator report

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STATISTICS CANADA PRAIRIE REGION

Monthly Economic Indicator Report

December 1991

Statistics Canada
Advisory Services
Park Square, 8th Floor
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6

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Regina, Saskatchewan
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Reference: Statistics Canada
Prepared using CANSIM (Electronic Data Bank).

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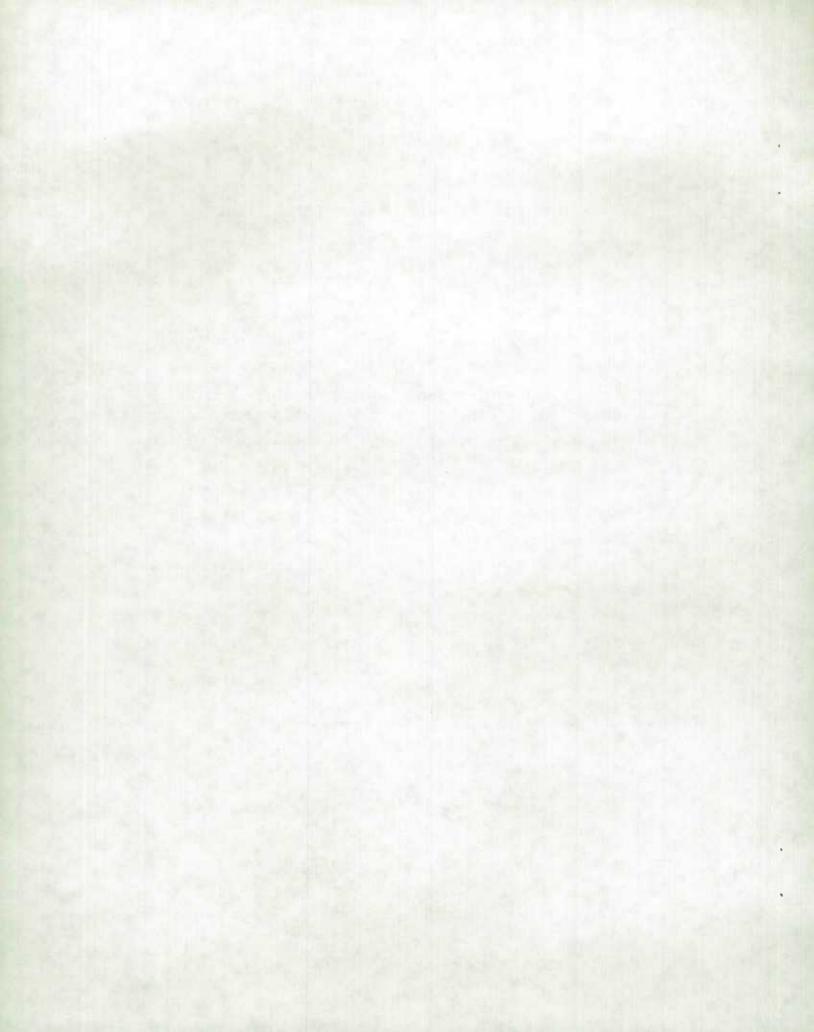
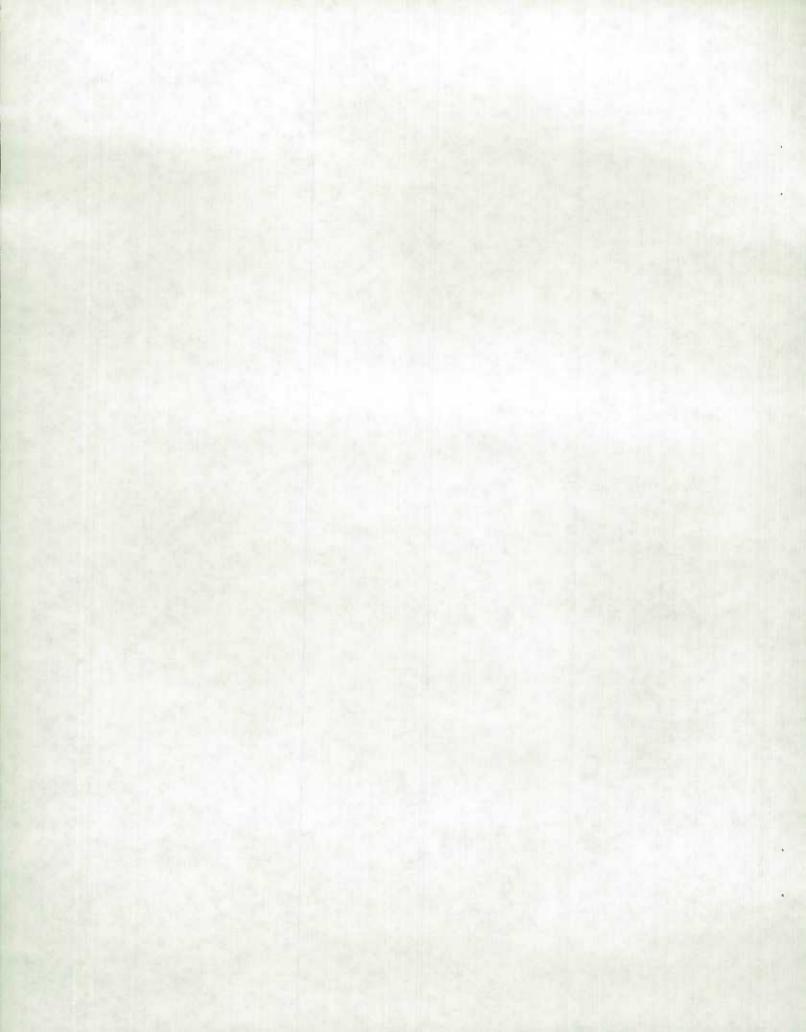


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ALBERTA

Housing Starts

Housing starts in October for both Canada and Alberta increased by approximately 40% from October 1990. However, year-to-date figures for 1991 are still well behind those of last year both nationally (-19.2%) and for Alberta (-36.6%).

Labour Force

While there was a contraction in both the labour force and employment in Alberta from the previous month, unemployment increased by 9,000 in November. Hence, the unemployment rate (unadjusted 3 month moving average) increased sharply to 8.6% from 7.7% in October. Job losses were of a similar magnitude in both the goods-producing and service-producing industries with the fire, insurance and real estate category being the only major industrial group to record an increase in employment. The unemployment rate for Edmonton continued to exceed Calgary's during November (9.5% compared to 8.8%).

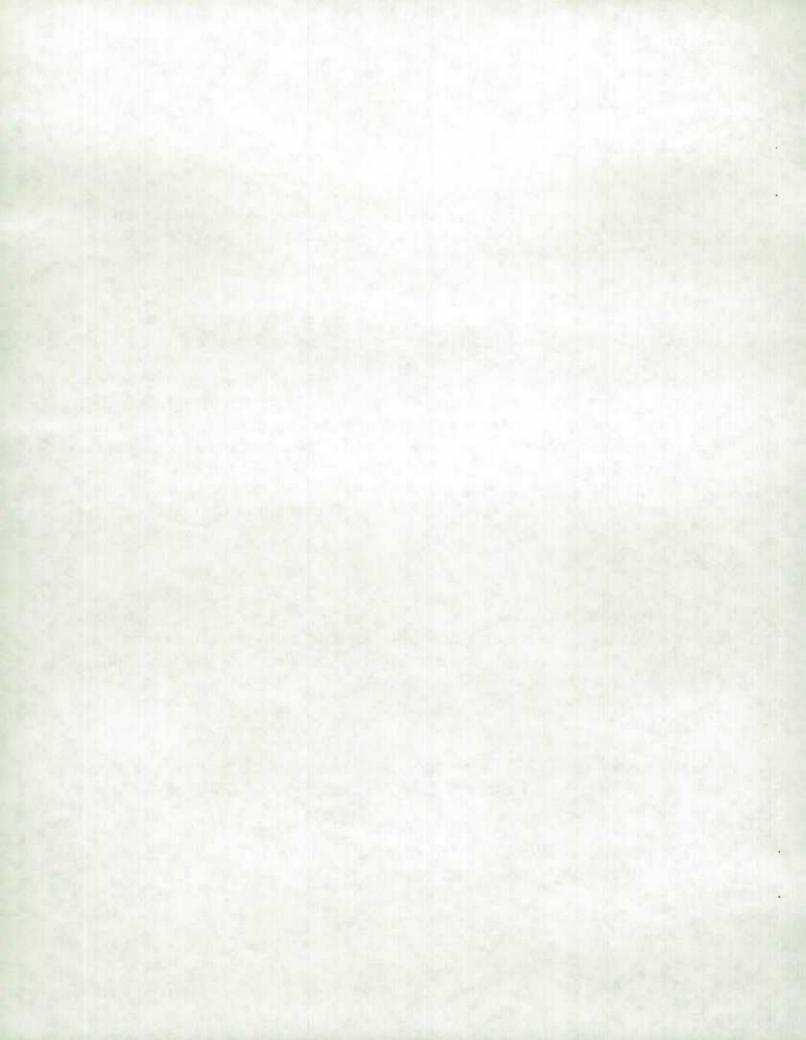
Consumer Price Index

The All-items Consumer's Price Index for Alberta showed an annual increase of 4.1% in November. Higher prices for new (1992 model) vehicles, fresh vegetables and beef as well as increased charges for natural gas were major factors in the C.P.I. increase for both Edmonton and Calgary (3.6% and 4.3%) respectively).

Population

Estimates of the 1991 population of Census Metropolitan Areas show that Edmonton and Calgary C.M.A.s account for 63% of Alberta's population.

The growth rate for both Calgary (2.7% since 1990) and Edmonton (2.2%) was above the provincial rate of 2.1%.



MANITOBA

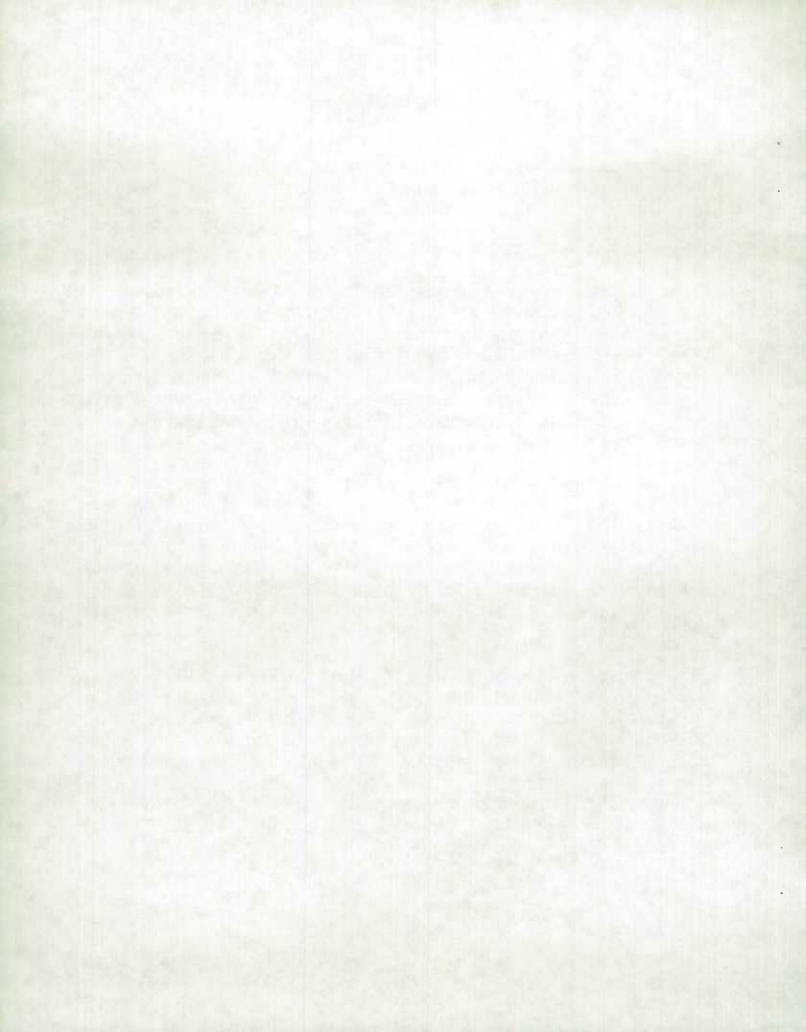
The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Manitoba fell to 8.7% in November from 9.4% in October. The November unemployment rate for Winnipeg is 10.2%, down slightly from the 10.6% reported for October. However, the current estimate is 3 percentage points higher than the November 1990 rate of 7.2%.

The unadjusted employment estimate for the province decreased on a monthly basis by 9 000 to 484 000, reflecting a drop of 11 000 in the labour force. As compared to November 1990, the size of the labour force has decreased by 6 000 while 12 000 fewer persons are employed. Virtually all of the monthly decrease in employment was experienced in the service sector, with no significant change reported for the goods-producing sector. Employment in the manufacturing industries also remained unchanged at 55 000.

The November Consumer Price Index for Winnipeg rose 1.0% from October, as a result of advances in six of the seven major component indices. The transportation index was responsible in large part for this increase, reflecting higher prices for gasoline and new 1992 model vehicles. An increase in the food index was also significant, with higher prices recorded for fresh produce, beef, bakery products and restaurant meals. Since November 1990, the All-Items index has risen by 4.1% to 126.2.

The population in Manitoba as of October 01 was 1 096 700, a decrease of 300 from the July 1 estimate. However, this represents an increase of 4 100 from October 1 1990, and an increase of 9 400 from October 1, 1989. The annual growth rates fro the years ending September 30, 1991 and 1990 were 0.;4% and 0.5% respectively.

Consumer and Corporate Affairs reports that bankruptcies in November for Manitoba declined 8.6% from October to a total of 255. This is a 12.8% increase from a year ago.



SASKATCHEWAN

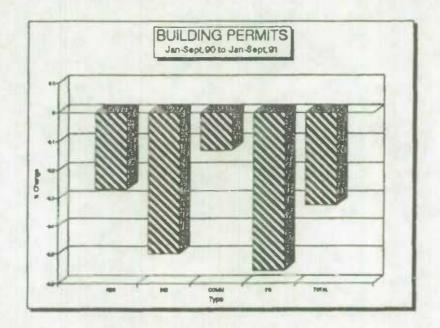
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

As of the end of September 1991, while new motor vehicle sales were down for the year, in the month of September itself, there was an increase of 18% which was thought to be a turnaround because of the introduction of the 1992 line of vehicles.

The month of October did not sustain the recovery that was hoped. Sales as of the end of October from January 1991 were down 7.5% compared to the same period for 1990.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits for January to September, 1991 were down dramatically for the same period of 1990. Residential dropped by 26.6%, industrial by 49.8%, commercial by 13.1% and institutional and government by 55.5%. The total drop was 32.4%.



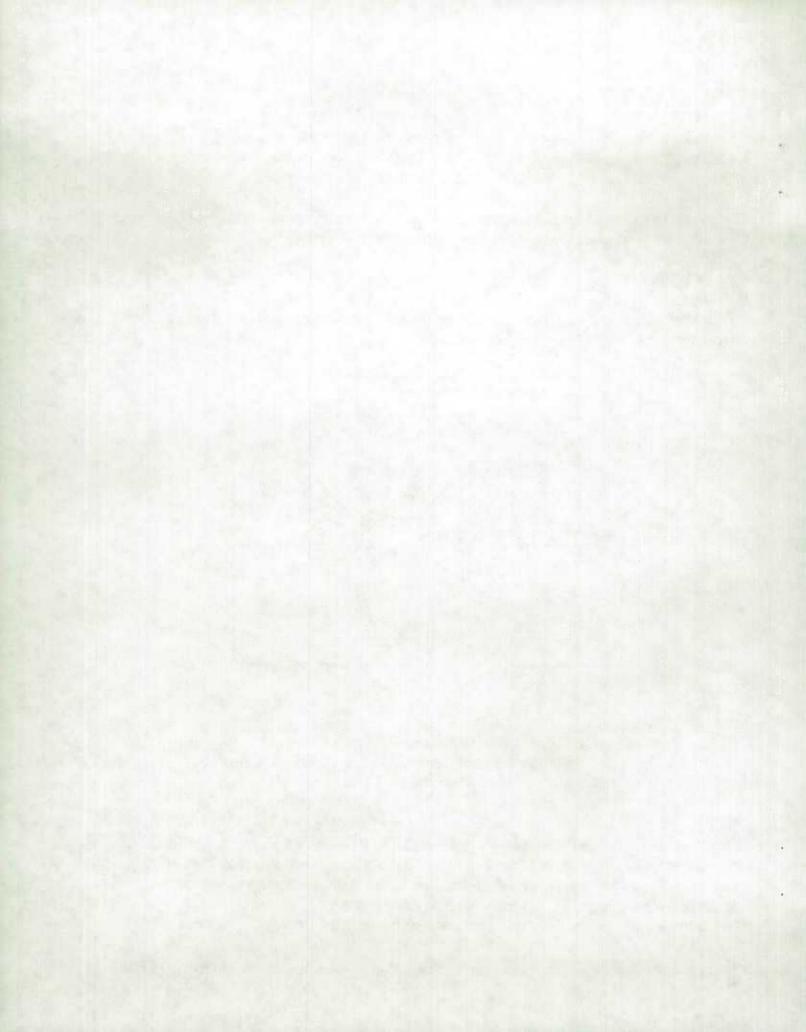
AGRICULTURE

Farm cash receipts for Saskatchewan form January to September, 1991 were down 8.6% compared to the same period for 1990. Even though crop receipts were up 8.3%, livestock was down 3.4% and direct payments were down 106 million dollars (Over -1000%).

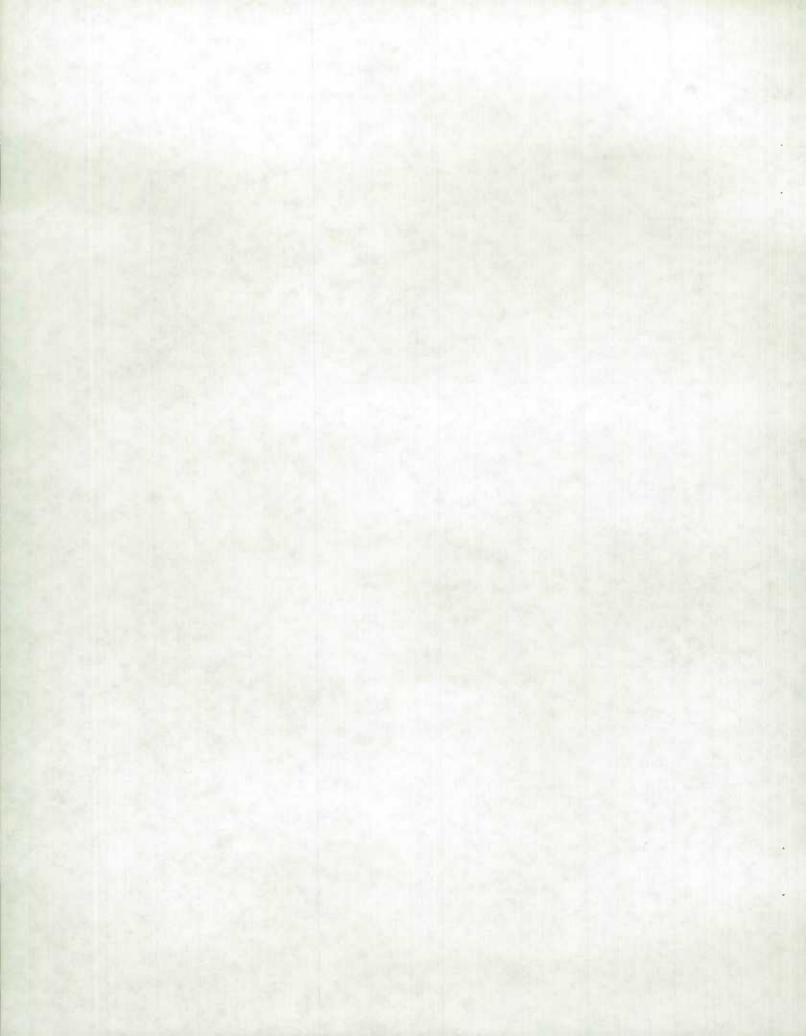
LABOUR FORCE

There were 441,000 people employed in Saskatchewan in November, compared to 447,000 November, 1990. There were 2,000 fewer people employed in construction and 1,000 fewer in manufacturing, while there were 2,000 additional people employed in the service sector. There were 34,000 people in the province unemployed and looking for work in November. This compares with the 32,000 in November 1990.

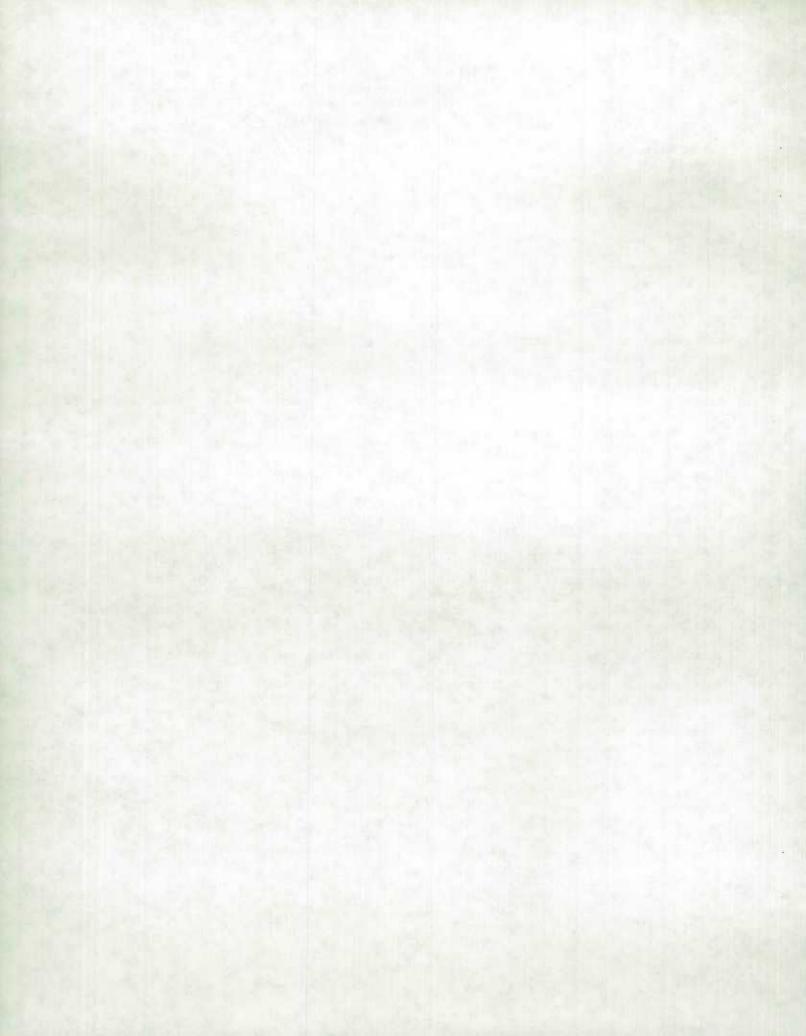
The Saskatchewan unemployment rate for November, 1991 was 7.2% compared to 6.5% for 1990.



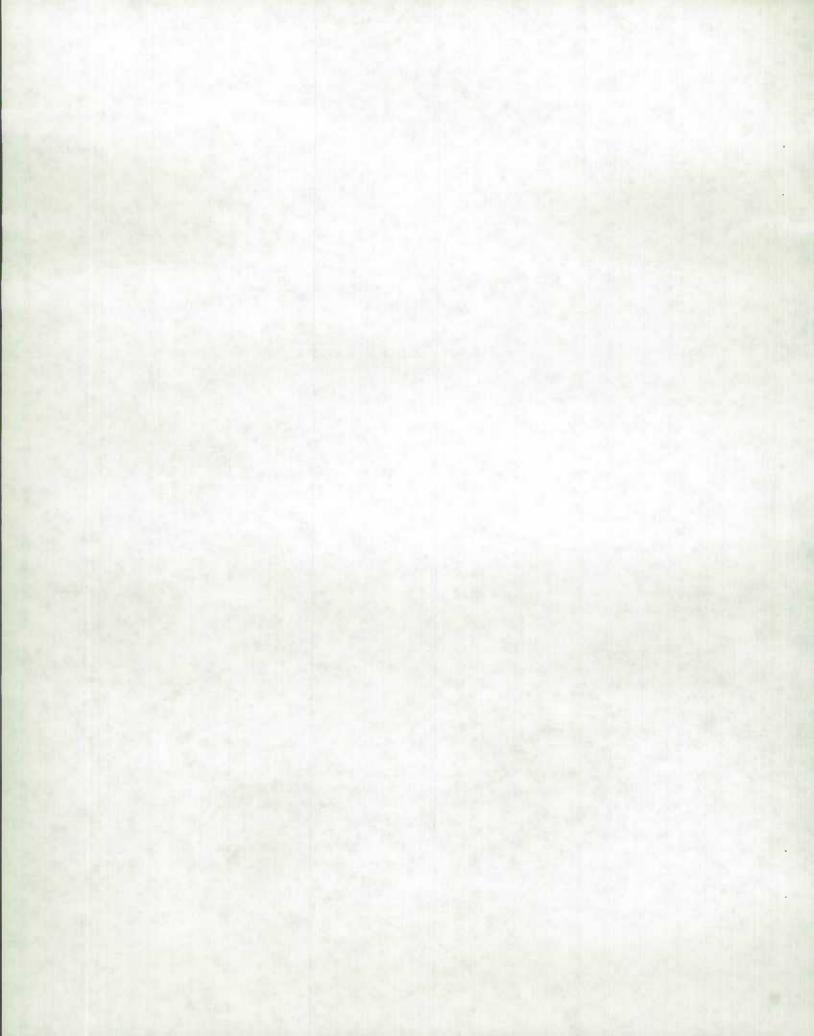
	Reference	Data	Data	Percent	Data for	% Change
	Period	for	for	Change	same Per.	from
		Reference	Previous	from Last	last Year	same Per.
		Period	Period	Period		a Year ago
LABOUR FORCE ('000)						
Canada	91-Nov	13644.	13751.	-0.8	13619.	0.2
Manitoba	91-Nov	529.	540.	-2.0	535.	-1.1
Winnipeg	91-Nov	340.	344.	-1.2	334.	1.8
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	475.	478.	-0.6	476.	-0.2
Regina	91-Nov	95.	96.	-1.0	99.	-4.0
Saskatoon	91-Nov	97.	99.	-2.0	91.	6.6
Alberta	91-Nov	1338.	1353.	-1.1	1326.	0.9
	91-Nov	408.	409.	-0.2	395.	3.3
Edmonton				-1.5		1.5
Calgary	91-Nov	396.	402.	-1.5	390.	1.3
EMPLOYED ('000)						
Canada	91-Nov	12269.	12452.	-1.5	12403.	-1.1
Manitoba	91-NOV	484.	493.	-1.8	496.	-2.4
Winnipeg	91-Nov	305.	308.	-1.0	310.	-1.6
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	441.	447.	-1.3	666.	-0.7
Regina	91-Nov	88.	89.	-1.1	93.	-5.4
Saskatoon	91-Nov	89.	90.	-1.1	83.	7.2
Alberta	91-Nov	1223.	1249.	-2.1	1229.	-0.5
Edmonton	91-Nov	369.	372.	-0.8	363.	1.7
Calgary	91-Nov	361.	368.	-1.9	362.	-0.3
UNEMPLOYED ('000)						
Canada	91-Nov	1375.	1299.	5.9	1217.	13.0
Mani toba	91-Nov	45.	47.	-4.3	40.	12.5
Winnipeg	91-Nov	35.	36.	-2.8	24.	45.8
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	34.	31.	9.7	32.	6.3
Regina	91-Nov	6.	7.	-14.3	6.	0.0
Sastakoon	91-Nov	8.	9.	-11.1	8.	0.0
Alberta	91-Nov	115.	104.	10.6	97.	18.6
Edmonton	91-Nov	39.	37.	5.4	32.	21.9
Calgary	91-Nov	35.	34.	2.9	28.	25.0
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	04 11	40.4	0.4	70.0	0.0	17.5
Canada	91-Nov	10.1	9.4	7.4	8.9	13.5
Manitoba	91-Nov	8.5	8.7	-2.3	7.4	14.9
Winnipeg	91-Nov	10.2	10.6	-3.8	7.2	41.7
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	7.2	6.5	10.8	6.7	7.5
Regina	91-Nov	6.6	7.3	-9.6	5.7	15.8
Saskatoon	91-Nov	8.8	9.2	-4.3	8.9	-1.1
Alberta	91-Nov	8.6	7.7	11.7	7.3	17.8
Edmonton	91-Nov	9.5	9.1	4.4	8.2	15.9
Calgary	91-Nov	8.8	8.4	4.8	7.2	22.2
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)						
(Seasonally Adjusted)						
Canada	91-Nov	10.3	10.3	0.0	9.1	13.2
Manitoba	91-Nov	8.7	9.4	-7.4	7.5	16.0
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	7.5	7.5	0.0	6.9	8.7
Alberta	91-Nov	8.9	8.1	9.9	7.6	17.1



	Reference	Data	Data	Percent	Data for	% Change
	Period	for	for	Change	same Per.	from
		Reference	Previous	from Last	last Year	same Per.
		Period	Period	Period		a Year ago
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
Canada	91-Nov	65.4	66.0	-0.9	66.3	-1.4
Mani toba	91-Nov	65.3	66.7	-2.1	66.4	-1.7
Winnipeg	91-Nov	68.0	68.9	-1.3	67.5	0.7
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	65.9	66.4	-0.8	66.0	-0.2
Regina	91-Nov	68.2	69.3	-1.6	70.9	-3.8
Saskatoon	91-Nov	69.1	70.3	-1.7	65.2	6.0
Alberta	91-Nov	70.9	71.8	-1.3	71.8	-1.3
Edmonton	91-Nov	71.4	71.8	-0.6	70.5	1.3
Calgary	91-Nov	72.2	73.4	-1.6	73.3	-1.5
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS						
(All Employees, incl.						
overtime)						
INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$)						
Canada	91-Sep	544.92	546.59	-0.31	520.37	4.72
Mani toba	91-Sep	484.24	489.14	-1,00	465.44	4.04
Saskatchewan	91 - Sep	474.83	472.37	0.52	451.50	5.17
Alberta	91-Sep	547.50	548.55	-0.19	519.38	5.41
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX						
ALL-ITEMS (1986=100)	04	427.0	427 5	0.4	124 0	4.2
Canada	91-Nov	127.0	126.5	1.0	121.9	4.2
Mani toba	91-Nov	126.2		-0.7	121.2	3.5
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	125.4	126.3			
Alberta	91-Nov	125.5	125.2	0.2	120.6	4.1
Winnipeg	91-Nov	126.3	125.0	1.0	121_3	4.1
Regina	91-Nov	125.2	126.6	-1.1	120.6	3.8
Saskatoon	91-Nov	125.1	125.7	-0.5	121.3	3.1
Edmonton	91-Nov	125.2	124.8	0.3	120.9	3.6
Calgary	91-Nov	125.6	125.3	0.2	120.4	4.3
F000	Of New	110 6	110 /	0.2	114 4	2.6
Canada	91-Nov 91-Nov	119.6	119.4	1.3	116.6	
Winnipeg		122.5	120.9	-1.6	118.5	3.4
Regina	91-Nov	124.6				3.9
Saskatoon	91-Nov	124.7	125.7	-0.8	120.0	
Edmonton	91-Nov	117.8	117.3	0.4	114.8	2.6
Calgary	91-Nov	120.2	119.7	0.4	113.8	5.6
NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX						
(1986=100)						THE PARTY OF
Canada	91-0ct	134.4	134.4	0.0	140.2	-4.1
Winnipeg	91-0ct	108.0	108.1	-0.1	109.1	-1.0
Regina	91-0ct	112.1	111.7	0.4	109.3	2.6
Saskatoon	91-0ct	106.7	106.7	0.0	107.7	-0.9
Edmonton	91-0ct	141.2	141.1	0.1	139.7	1.1
Calgary	91-0ct	132.2	132.4	-0.2	136.4	-3.1

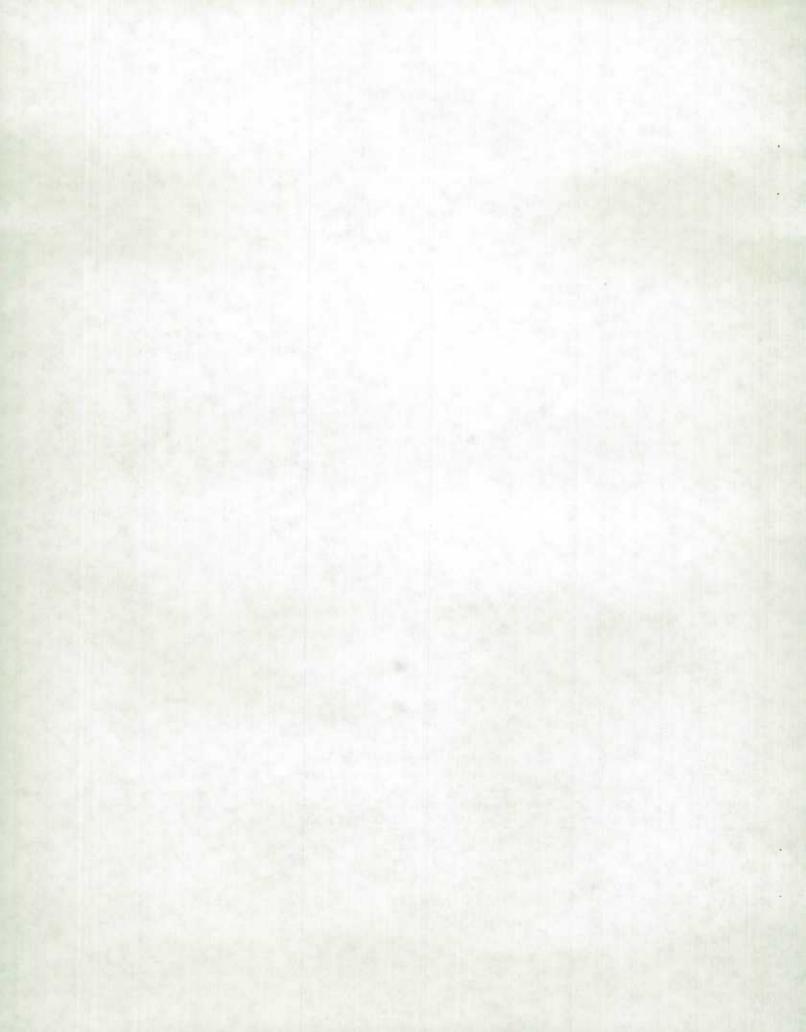


	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago	Total Year to date	%CHG, YTD over same period last yr.
MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS (\$'000)						
Canada	91-0ct	25006277.	26714674.	-6.4	232482020.	-6.4
Manitoba	91-0ct	526446.	606411.	-13.2	5070888.	-13.8
Saskatchewan	91-0ct	284006.	305257.	-7.0	2915917.	-4.1
Alberta	91-0ct	1589809.	1789487.	-11.2	15588085.	-0.7
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)						
Department Store						
Type Merchandise (Raw)						
All Stores						
Canada	91-Sep	4967.3	5430.9	-8.5	41687.4	-8.0
Manitoba	91-Sep	163.9	171.9	-4.7	1388.4	-4.5
Saskatchewan	91-Sep	137.6	152.9	-10.0	1196.4	-9.5
Alberta	91-Sep	572.9	602.6	-4.9	4873.1	-2.8
SPTATI CALES (-:II: #)						
RETAIL SALES (millions \$) Canada, Total, All Stores(Raw)	91-Sep	14457.9	15454.1	-6.4	130821.3	-6.3
Supermarkets and Grocery stores	91-Sep	3399.1	3593.4	-5.4	32101.6	1.4
All other food stores	91-Sep	282.8	321.7	-12.1	2718.7	-7.8
Drugs and medicine	91-Sep	721.7	732.1	-1.4	6500.9	0.3
Men's clothing stores	91-Sep	134.3	161.1	-16.6	1108.1	-16.1
Women's clothing stores	91-Sep	322.6	356.7	-9.6	2509.6	-11.1
Other clothing stores	91-Sep	315.2	348.9	-9.7	2479.9	-7.3
Household furnitures and appl	91-Sep	618.4	713.3	-13.3	5104.3	-16.5
Recreational and motor veh	91-Sep	2982.1	3031.8	-1.6	28582.4	-10.8
Gasoline service stations	91-Sep	1153.7	1252.9	-7.9	10632.1	-5.2
General merchandise stores	91-Sep	1646.1	1739.9	-5.4	13814.1	-1.9
Manitoba, Total, All Stores	91-Sep	493.3	529.6	-6.9	4474.1	-6.5
Saskatchewan, Total, All Stores	91-Sep	426.3	459.7	-7.3	3807.3	-6.6
Alberta, Total, All Stores	91-Sep	1555.5	1613.8	-3.6	13766.6	-4.6
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000)						
Manitoba-Total	91-Sep	38904.	53224.	-26.9	434014.	-27.1
Man Residential Total	91-Sep	20559.	21976.	-6.4	211634.	-28.7
Man Non-Residential Total	91-Sep	18345.	31248.	-41.3	222380.	-25.5
Winnipeg	91-Sep	16045.	33346.	-51.9	273015.	-31.7
Saskatchewan-Total	91-Sep	42644.	39586.	7.7	249948.	-36.1
Sask Residential Total	91-Sep	9529.	7646.	24.6	74339.	-30.7
Sask Non-Residential Total	91-Sep	33115.	31940.	3.7	175609.	-38.2
Regina	91-Sep	23282.	13287.	75.2	84292.	-14.1
Saskatoon	91-Sep	4462.	10724.	-58.4	67899.	-56.8
Alberta-Total	91-Sep	338414.	203531.	66.3	2086506.	-13.4
Alta Residential Total	91-Sep	126880.	108608.	16.8	1065101.	-24.3
Alta Non-Residential Total	91-Sep	211534.	94923.	122.8	1021405.	1.7
Edmonton	91-Sep	126939.	53062.	139.2	702406.	-8.9
Calgary	91-Sep	62335.	60070.	3.8	652725.	-25.9



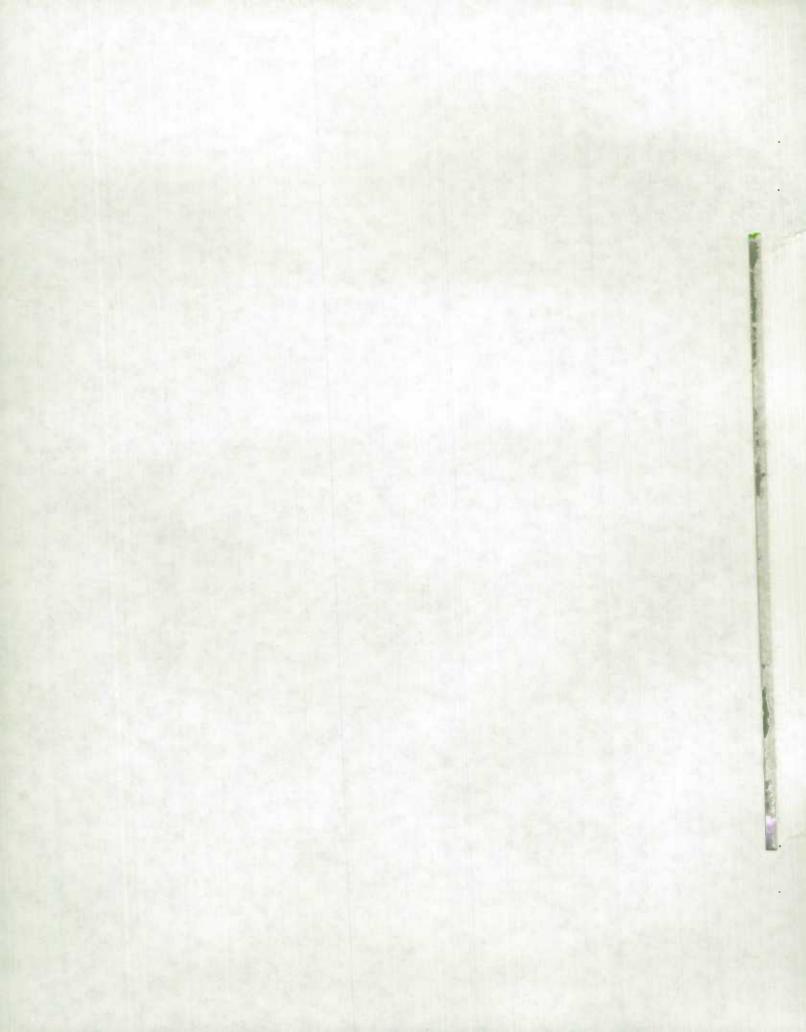
	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago	Total Year to date	XCHG, YTD over same period last yr.
HOUSING STARTS (#)						
Canada (centres 10,000+)	91-0ct	14068.	9991.	40.8	107534.	-19.2
Manitoba (centres 10,000+)	91-0ct	214.	104.	105.8	1300.	-37.5
Winnipeg	91-0ct	199.	96.	107.3	1220.	-38.0
Saskatchewan (centres 10,000+).	91-0ct	53.	80.	-33.8	493.	-47.8
Alberta (centres 10,000+)	91-0ct	1124.	804.	39.8	8265.	-36.6
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH)						
TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION						
Manitoba	91-Sep	1675225.	1607054.	4.2	16315568.	12.4
Saskatchewan	91-Sep	1049918.	1458901.	-28.0	9998302.	-3.2
Alberta	91-Sep	3617988.	3360682.	7.7	32376448.	3.4
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION						
Manitoba	91-Sep	1667492.	1603522.	4.0	16101688.	13.1
Saskatchewan	91-Sep	306005.	255537.	19.7	3233430.	-2.8
Alberta	91-Sep	156384.	129011.	21.2	1644698.	-2.8

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

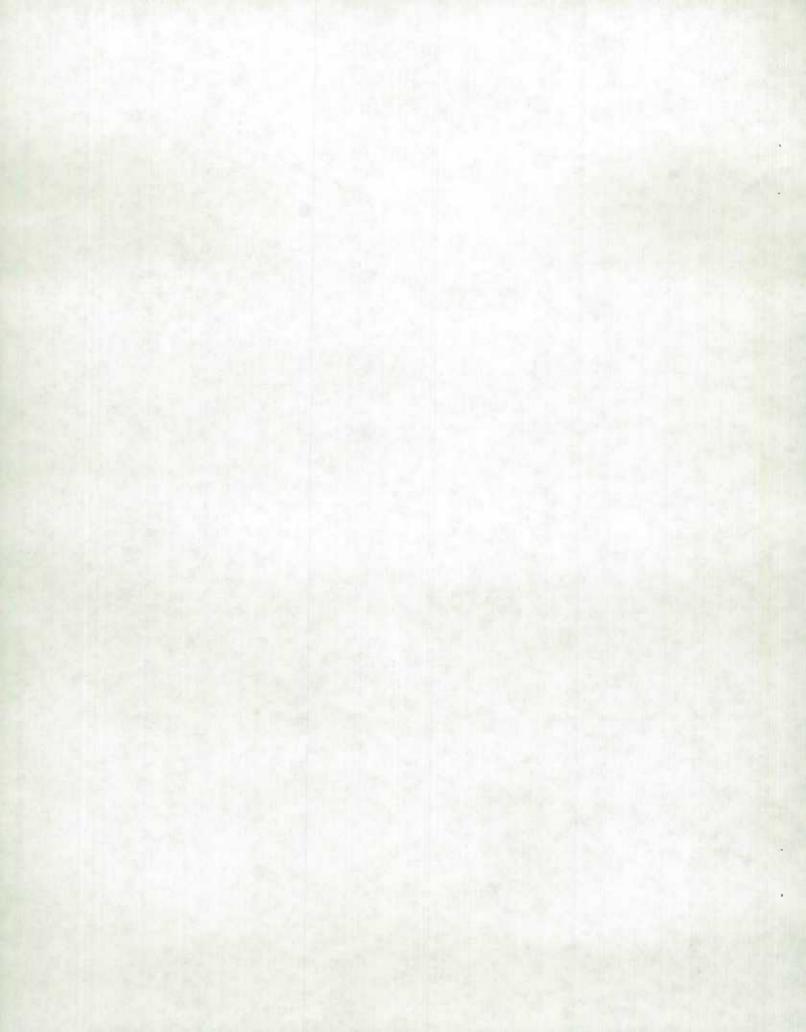
20-DEC-9		Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. last Year	from
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (All Employees, incl. overtime)						
	INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$) Northwest Territories	91-Sep	766,12	759.54	0.87	725.27	5.63
	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ALL-ITEMS (1986=100) Yellowknife	91-Nov	123.8	123.9	-0.1	117.4	5.5
	FOOD Yellowknife	91-Nov	117.5	117.8	-n 3	110.0	6.0



	Reference Period	Data for	same Per.	% Change from	Year to	XCHG, YTD over same
		Reference Period	last Year	same Per. a Year ago	date	period last yr.
RETAIL SALES (millions \$) Department Store						
Type Merchandise (Raw) All stores						
Northwest Territories	91-Sep	16.6	17.3	-4.0	145.3	-3.8
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)(Raw) Northwest Territories						
intal,All Stores	91-Sep	28.2	30.4	-7.2	261.4	-4.6
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000)						
Northwest Territories-Total	91-Sep	8424.	5011.	68.1	39606.	-5.8
N.W.T. Residential Total	91-Sep	3745.	935.	300.5	16881.	-8.0
N.W.T. Non-Residential Total	91-Sep	4679.	4076.	14.8	22725.	-4.1
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH) TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION						
Northwest Territories	91-Sep	37272.	37686.	-1.1	345284.	0.4
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION						
Northwest Territories	91-Sep	21004.	21752.	-3.4	187120.	-1.0



	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. last Year	X Change from same Per. a Year ago
QUARTERLY POPULATION ('000)						
Canada	1991-93	27023.1	26919.9	0.4	26639.0	1.4
Manitoba	1991-93	1097.0	1094.4	0.2	1092.4	0.4
Saskatchewan	1991-93	997.4	996.2	0.1	999.5	-0.2
Alberta	1991-Q3	2525.2	2513.1	0.5	2474.2	2.1
NUMBER OF BIRTHS						
Manitoba	1991-92	4620.	4240.	9.0	4670.	-1.1
Saskatchewan	1991-92	4310.	4190.	2.9	4420.	-2.5
Alberta	1991-92	11100.	11450.	-3.1	11280.	-1.6
Canada	1991-92	105880.	98740.	7.2	103440.	2.4
NUMBER OF DEATHS	4004 02	2250	2520.	-10.7	2230.	0.9
Mani toba	1991-92	2250. 1930.	2310.	-16.5	2100.	-8.1
Saskatchewan	1991-02	3520.	3880.	-9.3	3320.	6.0
Alberta	1991-92 1991-92	48670.	54560.	-10.8	47470.	2.5
Canada	1991-05	40070.	34360.	10.8	4/4/0.	2.3
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES						
Manitoba	1991-92	2120.	910.	133.0	2180.	-2.8
Saskatchewan	1991-92	1560.	670.	132.8	1670.	-6.6
Alberta	1991-92	5590.	2350.	137.9	5580.	0.2
Canada	1991-92	52230.	20760.	151.6	52800.	-1.1
NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES						
Manitoba	91-0ct	34.	23.	47.8	42.	-19.0
Saskatchewan	91-0ct	39.	33.	18.2	54.	-27.8
Alberta	91-0ct	80.	114.	-29.8	125.	-36.0
Canada	91-Oct	1156.	947.	22.1	1149.	0.6
FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (cdn.dollars) U.S.A. CLOSING SPOT RATE (DOLLAR) IN CDN.DOLLARS	91-Nov	1.13400000	1.12260000	1.01549973	1.16459999	-2.62751076



DEFINITIONS

LABOUR FORCE: that portion of the civilian non - institutional population 15 years and over who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed.

EMPLOYED: persons who, during the reference week, did any work at all or had a job but were not at work due to: (1) own illness or disability (2) personal or family responsibilities (3) bad weather (4) labour dispute (5) vacation (6) other reason not specified above (excluding persons on layoff and persons whose job attachment was to a job to start at a definite date in the future).

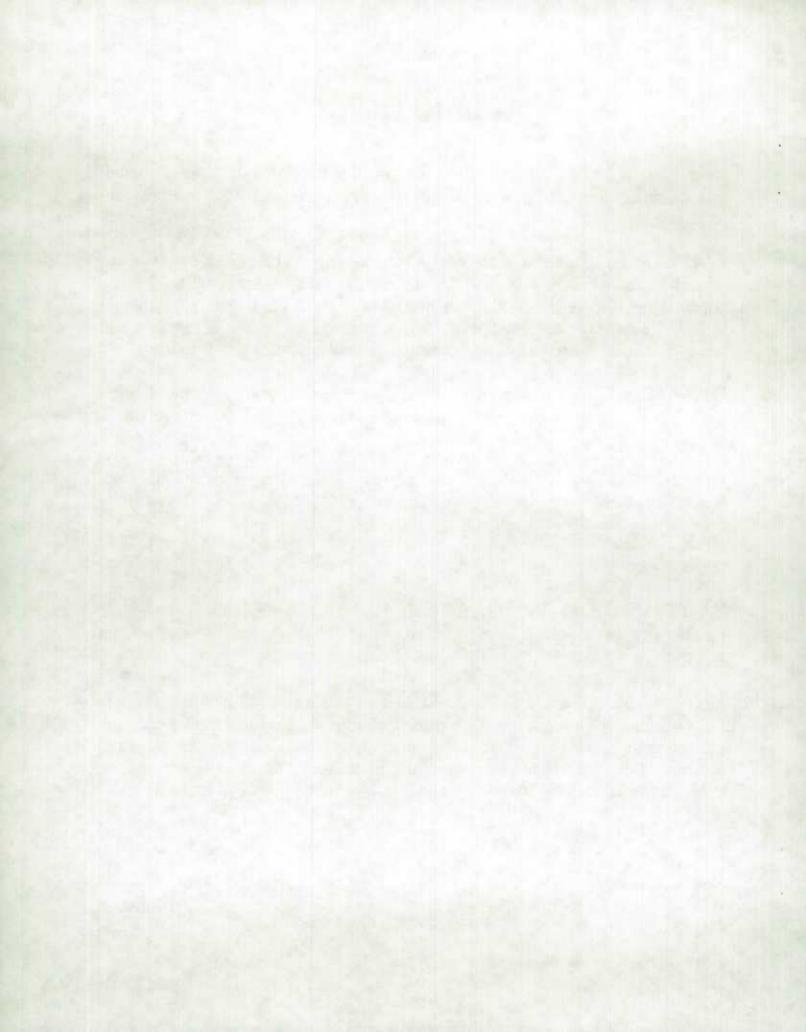
UNEMPLOYED: persons who, during the reference week, were without work and were available for work, had been on layoff, or had a new job to start in four weeks or less from the reference week.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: represents the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percent of the labour force.

PARTICIPATION RATE: represents the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.

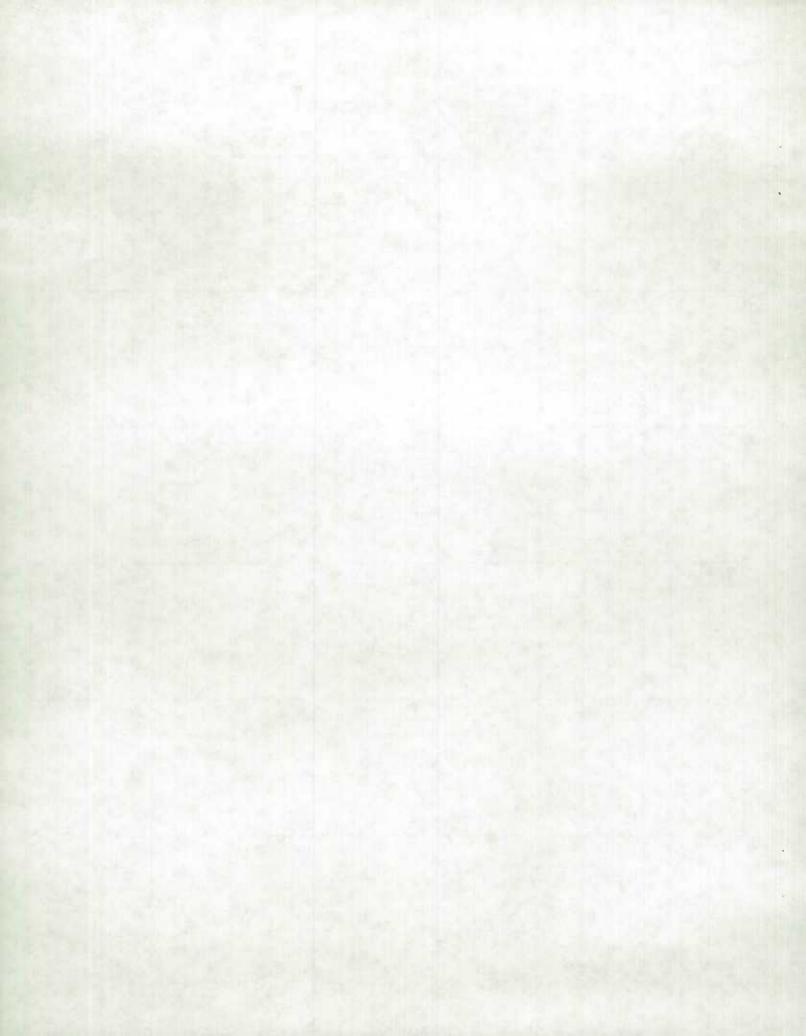
EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIO: represents the number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.

SA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): a seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movement have been eliminated. Seasonal movements are defined as those which are caused by regular annual events such as climate, crop cycles, holidays and vacation period. It should be noted that the seasonally-adjusted series contains irregular as well as longer term cyclical fluctuations.



January 1992 New Releases & Upcoming Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 New Years Day - Stats Can. offices closed	2	3	4
5	6	Canadian Composite Leading Indicator rise	8 Help Wanted Index Release	Estimated release, 1991 Census Dictionary	10 Labour Force Release	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Prelim Stmnt of Cdn Intrn'l Trade Release	18
19	20	21 Consumer Price Index Release Retail Trade Data Release	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Unemployment Insurance Date Release Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design Smnr	30 Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design Smnr	31 Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design Smnr	
	December 8 M T	er 1991 W T F S			ry 1992 W T F S	
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	22 23 24 2 29 30 31	5 26 27 28		16 17 18 1		

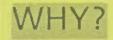


WHO?

WHERE?

WHAT?

WHEN



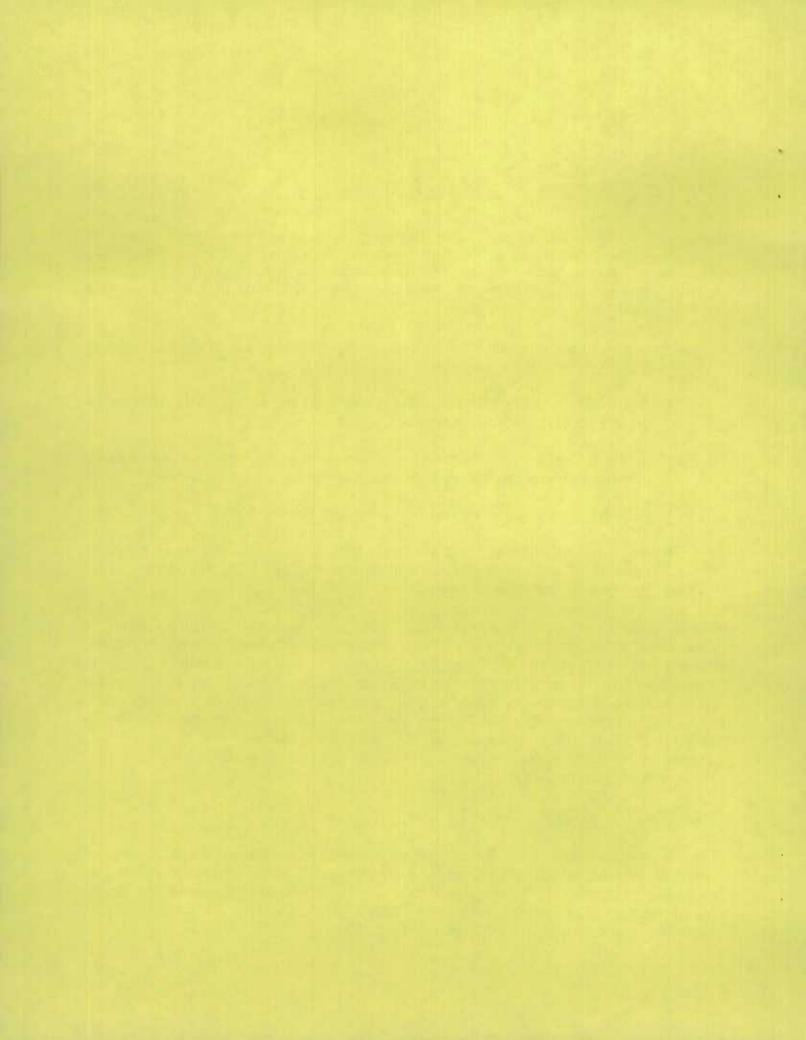
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