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Prairie Update

Economic indicator
report

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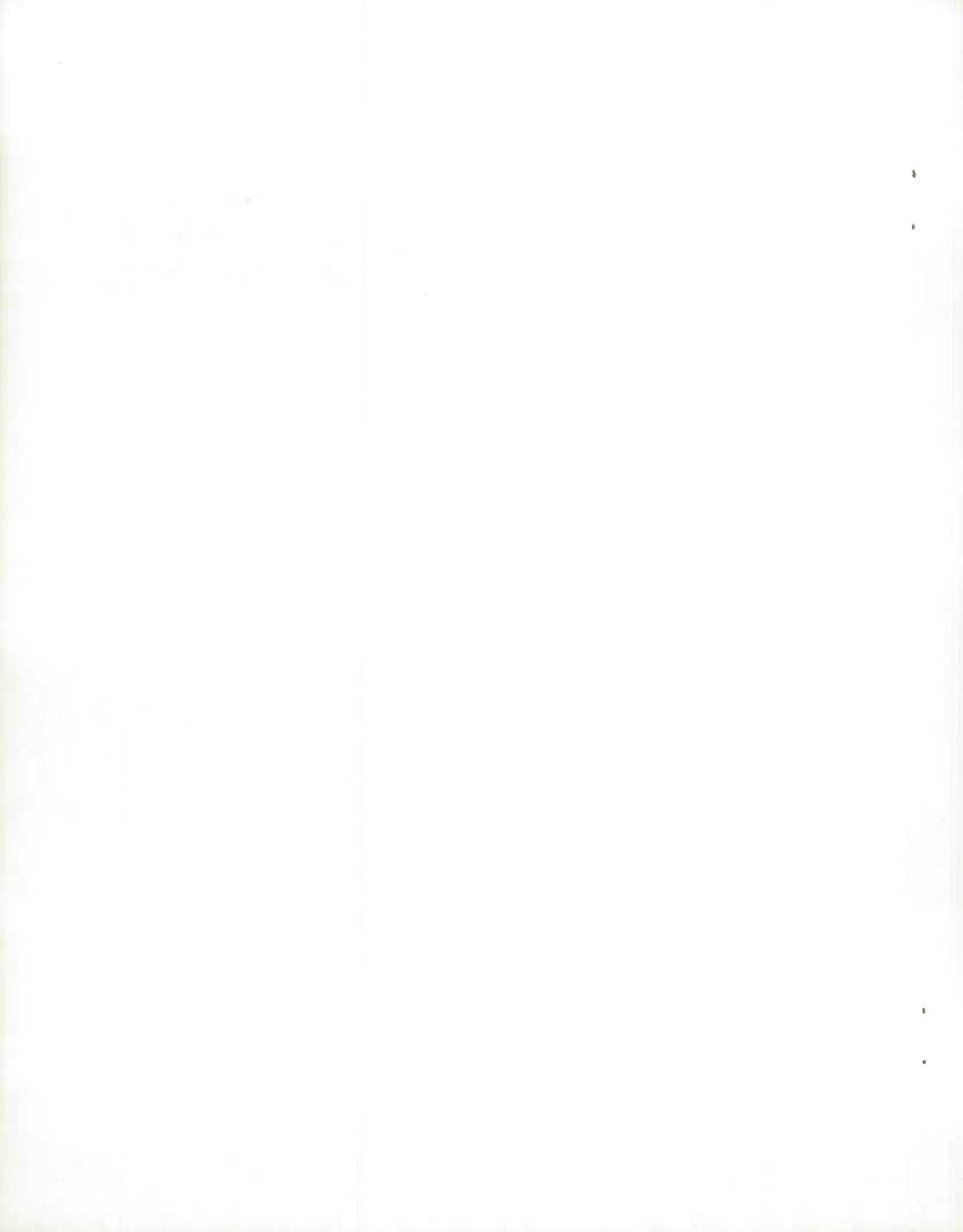
• Regional Offices

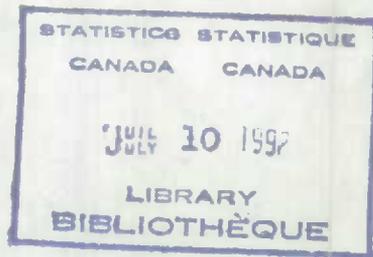


Statistics
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S T A T I S T I C S C A N A D A
P R A I R I E U P D A T E
Economic Indicator Report

February 1991

Statistics Canada
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PRAIRIE HIGHLIGHTS

Alberta

The all-items Consumer Price Index for Canada increased by 2.6% between December and January to reach a level of 125.0 (1986 = 100). Most of this increase was associated with changes in taxes, notably the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the elimination of the Federal Sales Tax (FST).

The introduction of the Goods and Services Tax was a major factor in the increase for all the city CPI's. Between December and January, changes in the all-items indexes for Edmonton and Calgary increased by 2.8%. Between January 1990 and January 1991, increases in the all-items indexes for Edmonton was 7.9% and 8.2% in Calgary.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Alberta continued to climb in January 1991 reaching 7.9%, up from 6.7% in January 1990. The unemployment rate rose by 1.4% to 9.9% in Edmonton and 1.1% to 8.9% in Calgary. The estimated level of employment fell in Edmonton (-7,000) and in Calgary (-3,000) between December and January.

Preliminary estimates indicate that unadjusted retail sales for Alberta in December 1990 increased 1.6% over the same period a year ago.

Saskatchewan

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation reports that in 1990 there were 994 housing starts in Saskatchewan in urban areas with a population over 10,000. This compares with the 1,435 started in 1989. Details by city follow:

<u>City</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Estevan	20	8	-60
Moose Jaw	82	37	-55
Battlefords	54	14	-74
Prince Albert	80	30	-63
Regina	597	471	-21
Saskatoon	488	410	-16
Swift Current	12	5	-58
Weyburn	56	1	-98
Yorkton	44	16	-64

Manitoba

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Manitoba dropped slightly in January, falling to 7.8% from 8.1% in December. On an unadjusted basis, employment in the province dropped to 484,000, down 3,000 from last month and 5,000 less than last January. Compared with last year, the Services sector employed the same number of workers at 362,000 while the Goods Producing sector dropped 5,000 workers to 122,000. Manufacturing employment continues to slide, dropping to 54,000. Nationally, employment is down 256,000 persons from last January.

The Consumer Price Index in Winnipeg rose by 2.1% on a monthly basis and 6.8% on an annual basis in January. Users should note this includes the impact of the G.S.T. Cost increases were noted in a number of areas including electricity, natural gas, telephone, postage, household furnishings and equipment, homeowner's maintenance, clothing, restaurant meals, fresh produce, recreation and reading expenses, alcoholic beverages, personal care supplies, vehicle maintenance and repairs, parking and bus travel. These advances were dampened somewhat by lower prices for new cars.

	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. Last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago
LABOUR FORCE ('000)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	13407.	13510.	-0.8	13372.	0.3
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	530.	532.	-0.4	529.	0.2
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	332.	334.	-0.6	331.	0.3
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	475.	471.	0.8	468.	1.5
Regina.....	91-Jan	97.	95.	2.1	96.	1.0
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	90.	87.	3.4	91.	-1.1
Alberta.....	91-Jan	1325.	1321.	0.3	1300.	1.9
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	391.	393.	-0.5	393.	-0.5
Calgary.....	91-Jan	396.	395.	0.3	381.	3.9
EMPLOYED ('000)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	11952.	12248.	-2.4	12208.	-2.1
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	484.	487.	-0.6	489.	-1.0
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	301.	303.	-0.7	307.	-2.0
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	435.	438.	-0.7	426.	2.1
Regina.....	91-Jan	89.	90.	-1.1	88.	1.1
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	79.	78.	1.3	82.	-3.7
Alberta.....	91-Jan	1209.	1221.	-1.0	1202.	0.6
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	352.	359.	-1.9	360.	-2.2
Calgary.....	91-Jan	361.	364.	-0.8	352.	2.6
UNEMPLOYED ('000)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	1455.	1262.	15.3	1164.	25.0
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	46.	45.	2.2	40.	15.0
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	31.	31.	0.0	24.	29.2
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	40.	33.	21.2	42.	-4.8
Regina.....	91-Jan	8.	5.	60.0	8.	0.0
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	11.	10.	10.0	9.	22.2
Alberta.....	91-Jan	116.	100.	16.0	98.	18.4
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	39.	33.	18.2	33.	18.2
Calgary.....	91-Jan	35.	31.	12.9	29.	20.7
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	10.9	9.3		8.7	
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	8.7	8.4		7.5	
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	9.3	9.3		7.3	
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	8.4	7.0		8.9	
Regina.....	91-Jan	7.8	5.6		8.7	
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	12.3	11.0		9.9	
Alberta.....	91-Jan	8.7	7.6		7.5	
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	9.9	8.5		8.4	
Calgary.....	91-Jan	8.9	7.8		7.6	
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%) (Seasonally Adjusted)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	9.7	9.3		7.7	
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	7.8	8.1		6.5	
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	7.0	6.9		7.5	
Alberta.....	91-Jan	7.9	7.8		6.7	

	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
Canada.....	91-Jan	65.1	65.7		65.9	
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	65.7	65.9		65.9	
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	66.9	67.4		67.2	
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	65.9	65.4		64.6	
Regina.....	91-Jan	69.5	68.4		69.4	
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	64.4	62.7		65.6	
Alberta.....	91-Jan	71.4	71.4		71.3	
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	69.4	69.8		70.9	
Calgary.....	91-Jan	73.8	73.8		73.0	

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS
(All Employees, incl.
overtime)

INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$)						
Canada.....	90-Nov	523.03	523.41	-0.07	495.52	5.55
Manitoba.....	90-Nov	466.10	468.89	-0.60	450.12	3.55
Saskatchewan.....	90-Nov	456.14	456.14	0.00	431.75	5.65
Alberta.....	90-Nov	517.26	520.17	-0.56	490.92	5.37

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ALL-ITEMS (1986=100)

Canada.....	91-Jan	125.0	121.8	2.6	117.0	6.8
Manitoba.....	91-Jan	124.2	121.7	2.1	116.4	6.7
Saskatchewan.....	91-Jan	124.5	121.7	2.3	116.7	6.7
Alberta.....	91-Jan	123.9	120.5	2.8	114.8	7.9
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	124.3	121.7	2.1	116.4	6.8
Regina.....	91-Jan	124.0	121.3	2.2	116.4	6.5
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	124.5	121.6	2.4	116.2	7.1
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	123.9	120.5	2.8	114.8	7.9
Calgary.....	91-Jan	123.9	120.5	2.8	114.5	8.2

FOOD

Canada.....	91-Jan	120.9	116.1	4.1	114.1	6.0
Winnipeg.....	91-Jan	123.0	118.5	3.8	115.6	6.4
Regina.....	91-Jan	125.3	121.0	3.6	116.7	7.4
Saskatoon.....	91-Jan	124.9	120.3	3.8	116.0	7.7
Edmonton.....	91-Jan	119.7	114.1	4.9	111.8	7.1
Calgary.....	91-Jan	119.8	114.6	4.5	110.4	8.5

NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX
(1986=100)

Canada.....	90-Dec	136.1	136.5	-0.3	145.2	-6.3
Winnipeg.....	90-Dec	108.9	109.1	-0.2	107.0	1.8
Regina.....	90-Dec	109.3	109.3	0.0	107.6	1.6
Saskatoon.....	90-Dec	107.7	107.7	0.0	107.2	0.5
Edmonton.....	90-Dec	140.1	139.9	0.1	125.8	11.4
Calgary.....	90-Dec	133.2	136.7	-2.6	130.4	2.1

	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.....	90-Dec	21597467.	22926220.	-5.8	294233517.	-3.0
Manitoba.....	90-Dec	550858.	582309.	-5.4	7170531.	-1.7
Saskatchewan.....	90-Dec	300570.	276439.	8.7	3983539.	6.3
Alberta.....	90-Dec	1647461.	1456494.	13.1	19945011.	7.2
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)						
Department Store						
Type Merchandise (Raw)						
All Stores						
Canada.....	90-Dec	9138.	8877.	2.9	68398.	2.0
Manitoba.....	90-Dec	324.	313.	3.5	2375.	1.2
Saskatchewan.....	90-Dec	271.	261.	3.8	2079.	2.9
Alberta.....	90-Dec	1003.	962.	4.3	7698.	6.4
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)						
Canada, Total, All Stores (Raw).....	90-Dec	19516.	19713.	-1.0	194730.	1.0
Supermarkets and Grocery stores.....	90-Dec	3744.	3836.	-2.4	42126.	2.6
All other food stores.....	90-Dec	371.	375.	-1.1	3588.	4.3
Drugs and medicine.....	90-Dec	1035.	944.	9.6	9687.	11.5
Men's clothing stores.....	90-Dec	366.	356.	2.8	2206.	-0.3
Women's clothing stores.....	90-Dec	537.	517.	3.9	4132.	5.5
Other clothing stores.....	90-Dec	643.	626.	2.7	4490.	-1.9
Household furnitures and appl.....	90-Dec	1143.	1050.	8.9	9180.	-3.3
Recreational and motor veh.....	90-Dec	2477.	2862.	-13.5	41958.	-4.9
Gasoline service stations.....	90-Dec	1262.	1220.	5.9	14565.	5.0
General merchandise stores.....	90-Dec	2999.	2909.	3.1	20872.	1.5
Manitoba, Total, All Stores.....	90-Dec	709.	719.	-1.4	6986.	2.4
Saskatchewan, Total, All Stores.....	90-Dec	633.	612.	3.4	6351.	2.6
Alberta, Total, All Stores.....	90-Dec	2002.	1970.	1.6	19713.	2.4
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000)						
Manitoba-Total.....	90-Nov	54292.	57745.	-6.0	706695.	-12.2
Man Residential Total.....	90-Nov	15639.	21549.	-27.4	335844.	-10.9
Man Non-Residential Total.....	90-Nov	38653.	36196.	6.8	370851.	-13.3
Winnipeg.....	90-Nov	33888.	50444.	-32.8	459066.	-27.4
Saskatchewan-Total.....	90-Nov	14176.	27349.	-48.2	444121.	-7.2
Sask Residential Total.....	90-Nov	3986.	7924.	-49.7	121068.	-14.4
Sask Non-Residential Total.....	90-Nov	10190.	19425.	-47.5	323053.	-4.2
Regina.....	90-Nov	2314.	7731.	-70.1	109075.	-17.5
Saskatoon.....	90-Nov	4874.	11458.	-57.5	176215.	-20.7
Alberta-Total.....	90-Nov	214940.	216697.	-0.8	2832266.	18.3
Alta Residential Total.....	90-Nov	81446.	125877.	-35.3	1604899.	29.9
Alta Non-Residential Total.....	90-Nov	133494.	90820.	47.0	1227367.	6.0
Edmonton.....	90-Nov	63998.	65196.	-1.8	902607.	6.3
Calgary.....	90-Nov	74347.	87854.	-15.4	1026776.	12.0

	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.
HOUSING STARTS (#)						
Canada (centres 10,000+).....	90-Dec	8148.	13891.	-41.3	150620.	-17.8
Manitoba (centres 10,000+).....	90-Dec	104.	51.	103.9	2274.	-27.7
Winnipeg.....	90-Dec	100.	51.	96.1	2147.	-27.9
Saskatchewan (centres 10,000+)..	90-Dec	16.	54.	-70.4	994.	-30.7
Alberta (centres 10,000+).....	90-Dec	569.	986.	-42.3	14432.	16.9
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH)						
TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION						
Manitoba.....	90-Nov	1794948.	1696127.	5.8	18117175.	7.3
Saskatchewan.....	90-Nov	1191994.	1169251.	1.9	12247949.	0.6
Alberta.....	90-Nov	3749030.	3778759.	-0.8	38782590.	-1.7
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION						
Manitoba.....	90-Nov	1749041.	1644579.	6.4	17792015.	7.4
Saskatchewan.....	90-Nov	293336.	221760.	32.3	3926092.	55.9
Alberta.....	90-Nov	122683.	121664.	0.8	1933454.	31.2

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (All Employees, incl. overtime)						
INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$)						
Northwest Territories...	90-Nov	732.61	731.81	0.11	671.94	9.03
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ALL-ITEMS (1986=100)						
Yellowknife.....	91-Jan	121.7	118.0	3.1	113.1	7.6
FOOD						
Yellowknife.....	91-Jan	116.0	111.6	3.9	109.8	5.6

	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.
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)						
Department Store Type Merchandise (Raw)						
All stores						
Northwest Territories.....	90-Dec	21.	22.	-4.5	194.	1.0
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)(Raw)						
Northwest Territories						
Total, All Stores.....	90-Dec	31.	32.	-3.1	311.	3.3
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000)						
Northwest Territories-Total....	90-Nov	12963.	2336.	454.9	57904.	-15.0
N.W.T. Residential Total....	90-Nov	2051.	1506.	36.2	22265.	-28.0
N.W.T. Non-Residential Total	90-Nov	10912.	830.	1214.7	35639.	-4.3
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH)						
TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION						
Northwest Territories.....	90-Nov	43417.	42702.	1.7	424671.	0.3
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION						
Northwest Territories.....	90-Nov	22268.	23445.	-5.0	233318.	-1.0

DEFINITIONS

Labour Force - that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age 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 per cent 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 movements have been eliminated. Seasonal movements are defined as those which are caused by regular annual events such as climate, crop cycles, holidays and vacation periods. It should be noted that the seasonally-adjusted series contains irregular as well as longer-term cyclical fluctuations.

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