10F0012 1992 Feb. c. 2

## **Prairie Update**

Economic indicator report





Statistics Canada Statistique Canada



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# STATISTICS CANADA PRAIRIE REGION



## Monthly Economic Indicator Report

February 1992

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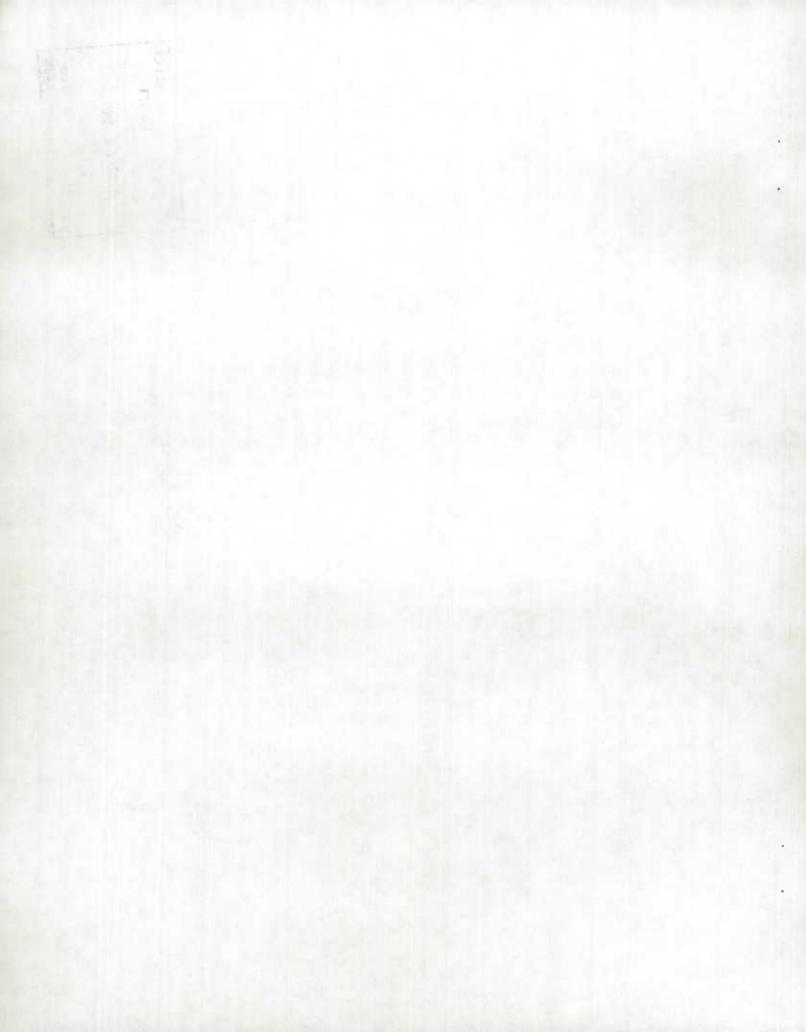
Calgary, Alberta

T2G 4Z6

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

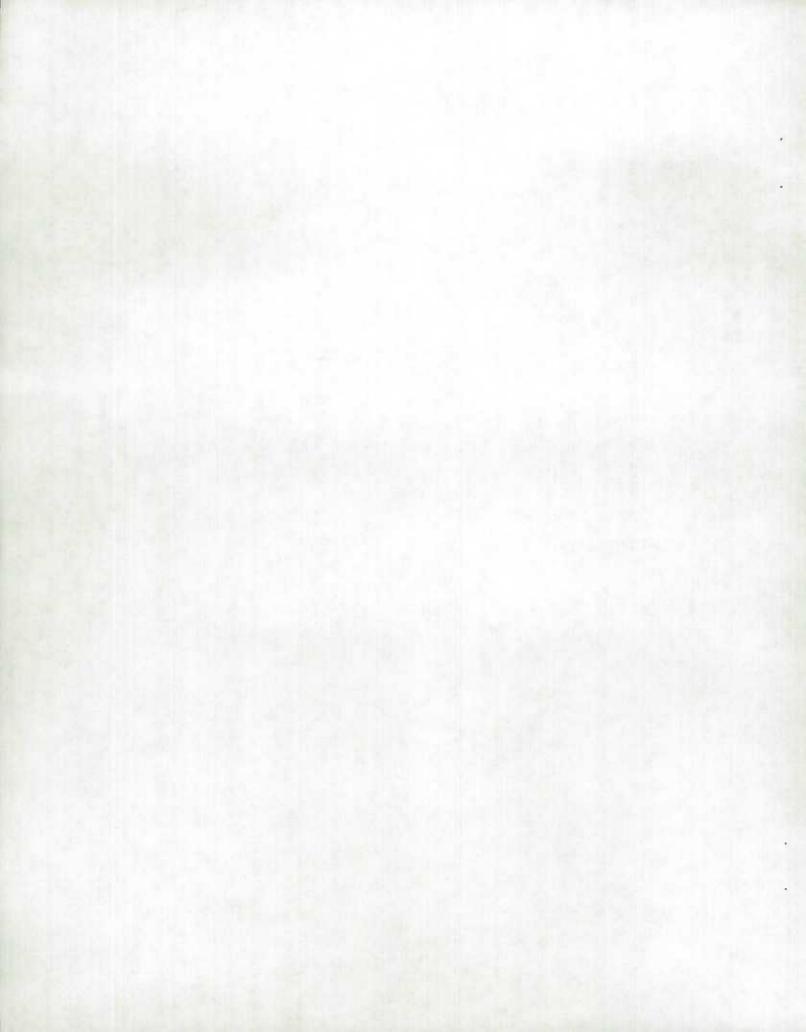
AUSSI DISPONIBLE EN FRANÇAIS

PRICE: \$60.00 per year



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## **ALBERTA**

## The Consumer Price Index

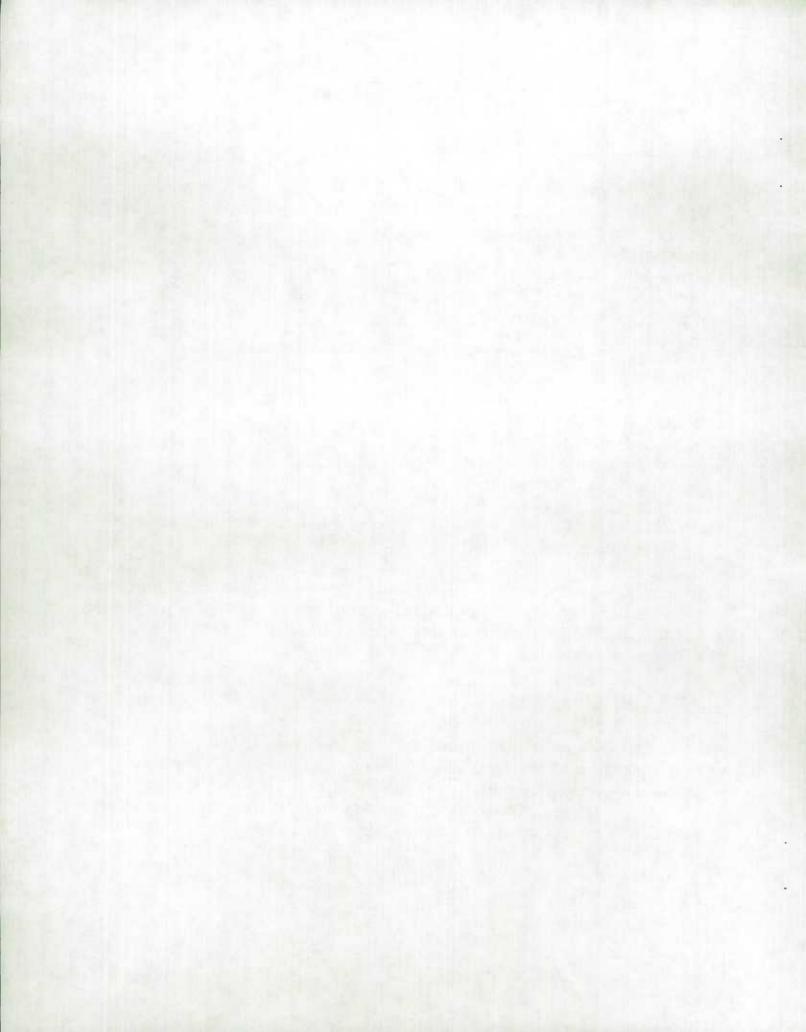
The Consumer Price Index for Alberta rose by 0.4 index points to reach 125.3 in January, for a year over year increase of 1.1%. January 1992 C.P.I. year monthly year over comparisons are the first to be made with the G.S.T. in effect for both years. In Edmonton, higher food prices as well as increases in transportation such as gasoline, insurance and public bus fares were contributing factors. contrast, Calgary's transportation index due to declines in prices

The Consumer Price Index, Transportation Item 7 change, JAN 91 vs JAN 92 5 -5 -10 -15 -20 -25 -30 Trans. Private Public All Gasoline Aggregate Trans. Trans. Items

for gasoline, automotive vehicles and air travel. Calgary did experience increased charges for piped gas, water and postal charges which contributed to increases in the Housing Index, pushing the overall Alberta CPI upwards.

## The Labour Force

In January, Alberta's labour force increased by 4 000 to 1.357 million. Employment declined by 1.2%, reaching 1.216 million in January. The provincial unemployment rose (actual) from 9.0% in December to 10.4% in January. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Alberta was 9.4% for January, up from 9.1% in December.



## Retail Sales

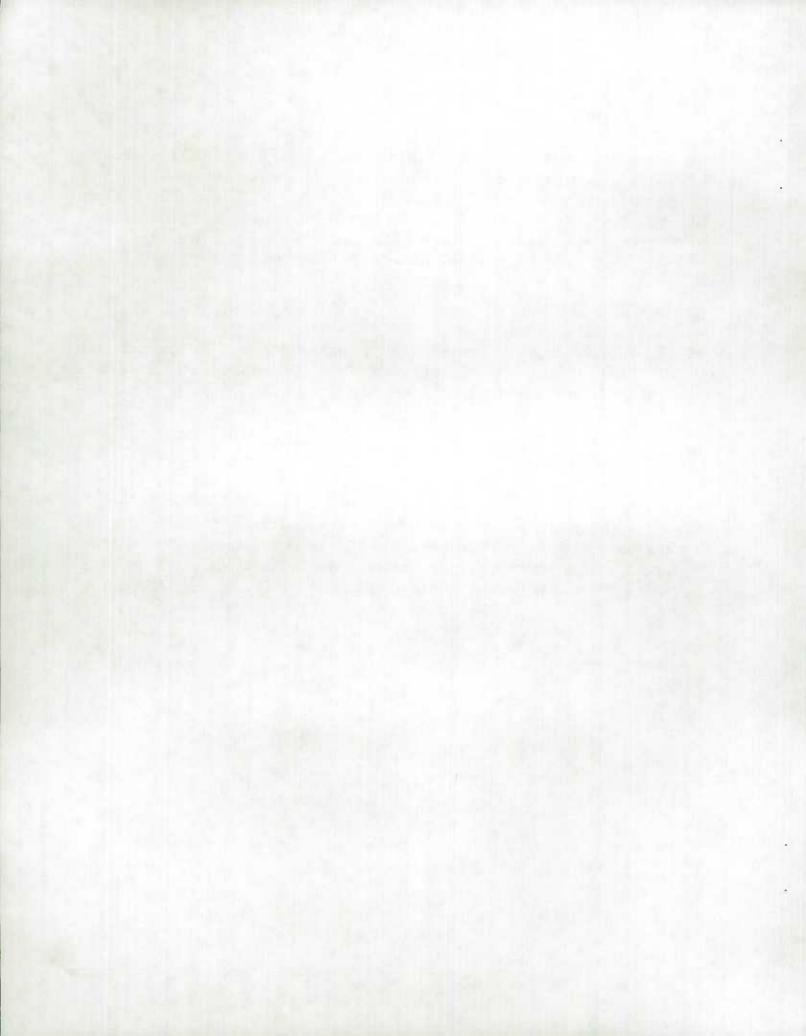
In December, retail sales in Alberta were \$ 1 876 300 000, a decline of 7.1% over this period in 1990, but still somewhat stronger than the national decline of 7.8%. Retail sales totalled \$18 856 900 000 in Alberta for 1991, a decline of 5.1% over 1990 totals. Recreational and motor vehicle sales registered a slight increase in December, reaching \$2 435 800 000, up from \$2 434 900 000 in November.

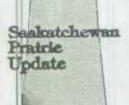
## **Building Permits**

Residential building permits showed a strong increase in November at \$896 880 000, a 10.1% increase over November 1990. Non-residential building permits showed a decline of 20.2% over November 1990.

## The Population

Alberta's population increased to 2 538 500 in the fourth quarter of 1991, up from 2 525 200 in the previous quarter. This is an increase of 2.1% over the fourth quarter 1990 figures, a notably strong increase among the prairie provinces. Manitoba's population increased by 0.4% and Saskatchewan's population decreased by 0.2% over the same period.





#### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

In Regina the 0.3% rise in the all-items index reflected higher overall food prices (most notably for fresh produce, soft drinks and restaurant meals), increased transportation charges, and higher prices for men's and women's wear. The rise in transportation was mainly due to higher gasoline prices (end of "price wars"), offset partially by lower prices for automotive vehicles.

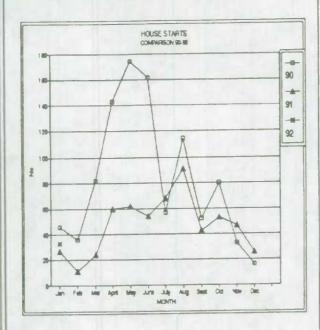
In Saskatoon the 0.1% rise in the all-items index was largely due to higher prices in for men's and women's wear and food (most notably fresh vegetables, soft drinks and cereal products) and cigarettes.

Saskatchewan was up by 0.5% over last year, Regina up 1% but Saskatoon was the same this month as last year.

#### HOUSING STARTS

[Centers 10,000 and Over]

While Housing starts were down dramatically last year, this year has at least started off on the right foot. Even though the numbers are small we see a 27% increase from January of last year to January 1992.



#### NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

As of the end of December of this year 33,076 units had been sold. This is down from 35,696 for the same period last year. A 7.3% decrease which is 7.6% decrease in dollars.

#### RETAIL TRADE

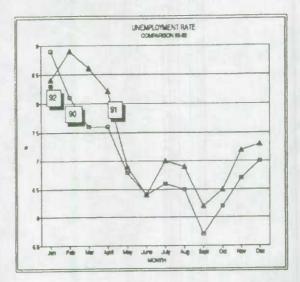
As of the end of November this year retail trade was at 4.7 billion dollars. This is down 2.6% from last year

for the same period when sales were \$140 million more at 4.8 billion.

#### LABOUR FORCE

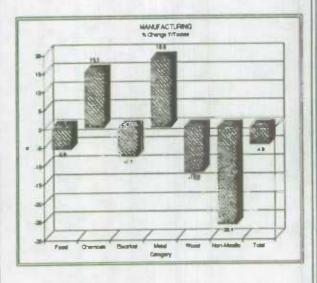
The Unemployment rate for January was 8.3% for Saskatchewan in comparison to 7.3% for December, 1991 but the same as January 1991.

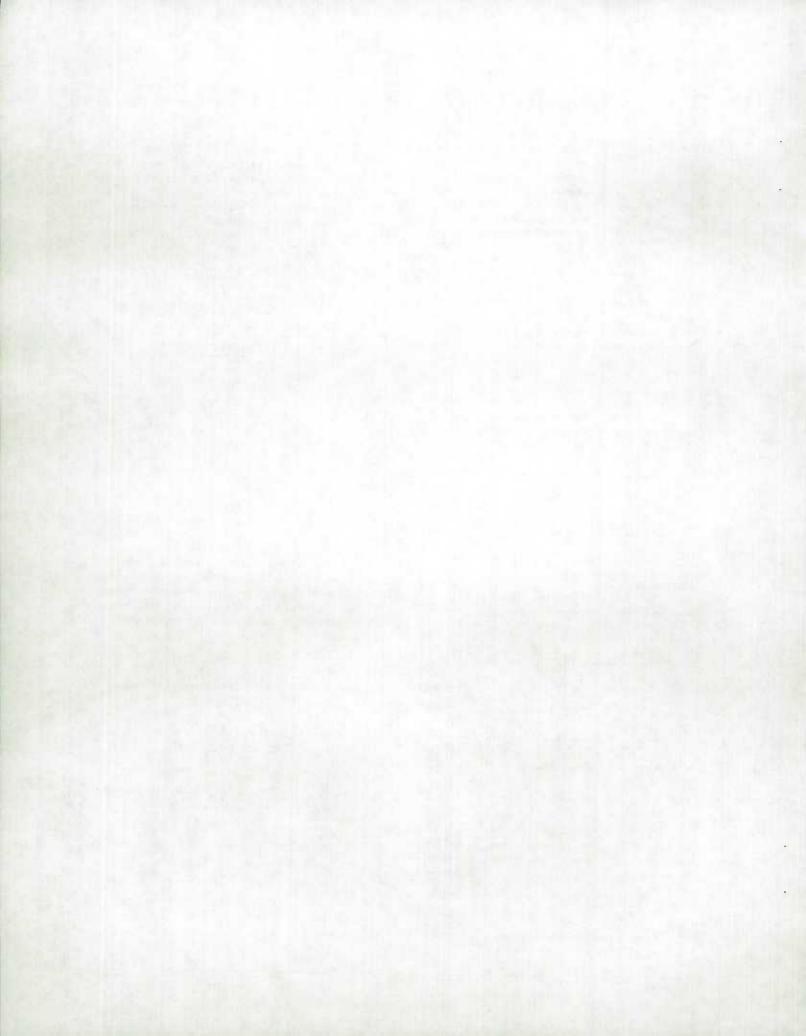
However the 432,00 people employed was still 3,000 fewer than in January, 1991.



#### MANUFACTURING

The following graph shows a comparison between this year and last (December 31) for some major categories in manufacturing. Chemicals and chemical products show a large increase while non-metallic mineral products show a large decrease. Overall there is nearly a 5% decrease.





#### MANITOBA

#### The Consumer Price Index

The January All-Items index for Winnipeg remained unchanged from December at 125.7 (1986 = 100). Upward pressure was exerted by higher prices for men's and women's clothing and increased charges for basic telephone services, water, natural gas and postage. Also observed were higher overall prices for food, personal care supplies and prescribed medicines. Balancing these effects were lower transportation charges, including lower prices for gasoline, automotive vehicles, intercity bus fares, air fares and holiday package trips. Cigarette prices also showed a decline. The yearly change in the All-Items index for Winnipeg and for Manitoba was 1.1%.

#### The Labour Force

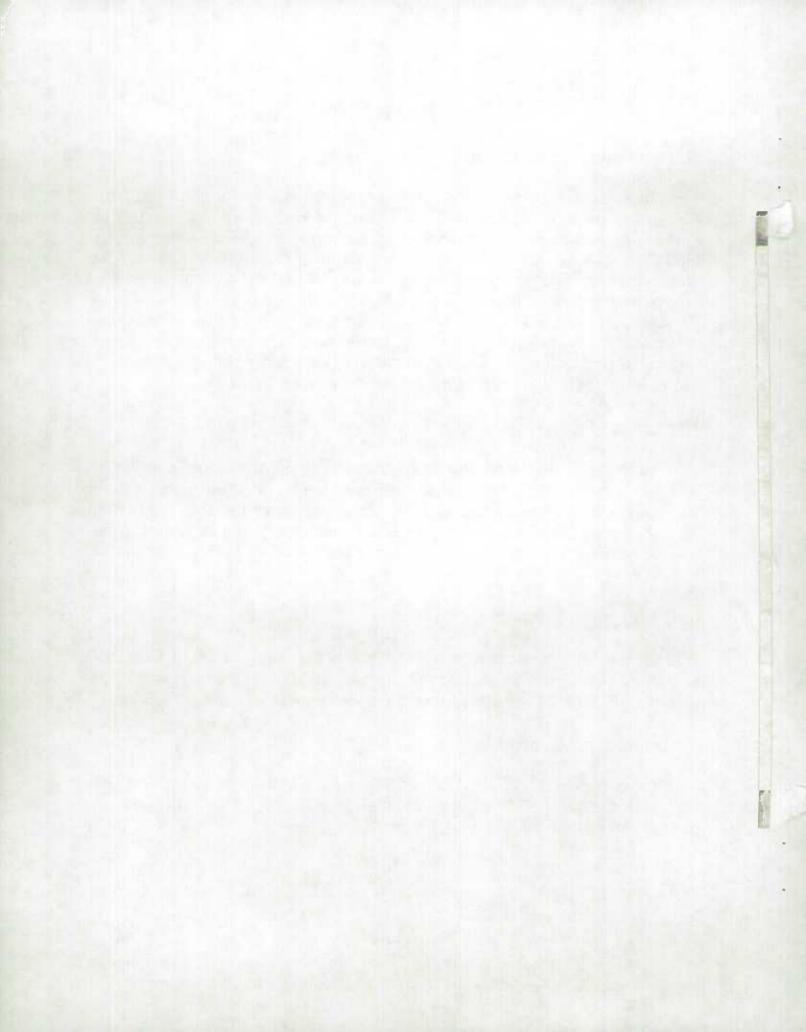
The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Manitoba jumped to 9.9% in January from 8.2% in December. On an unadjusted, year over year basis, this reflects a decrease in the labour force of 3 000 while 15 000 fewer people were employed. In Winnipeg, the adjusted three-month moving average unemployment rate stood at 10.8%, compared to 8.9% in Manitoba.

## Retail Sales

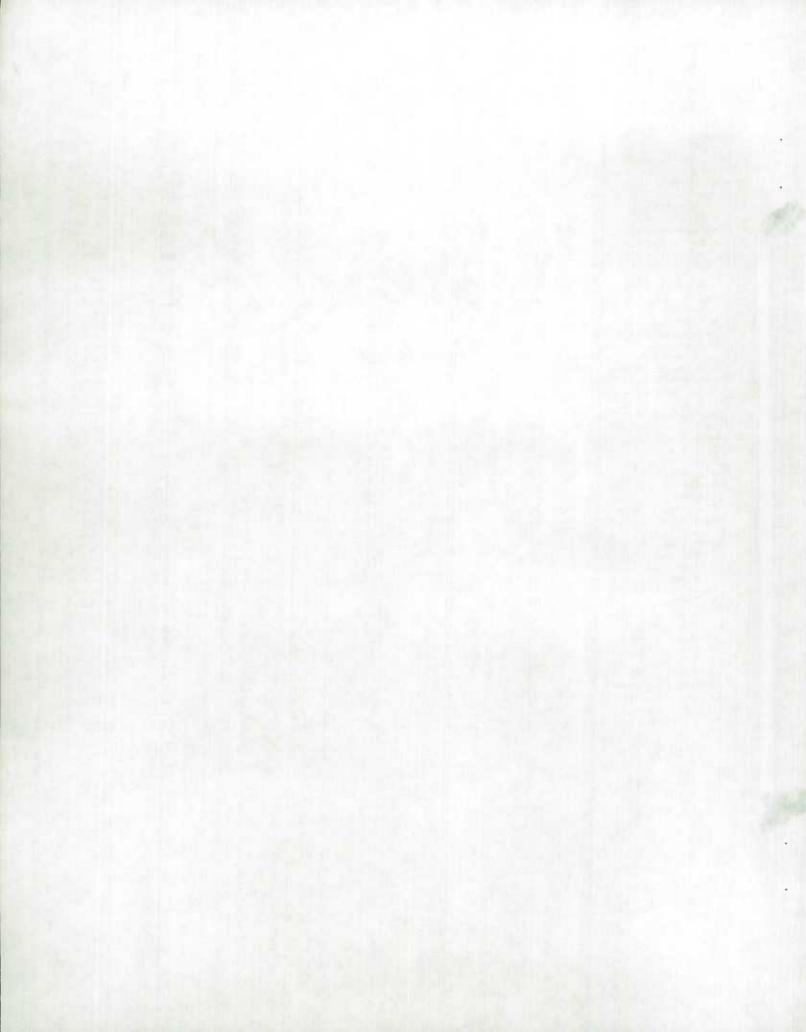
The total retail sales for all stores in Manitoba reached \$623 600 000 in December, down 6.8% from December 1990. This brings the 1991 total to \$6 164 200 000, representing an annual decline of 6.6%.

#### Manufacturing Shipments

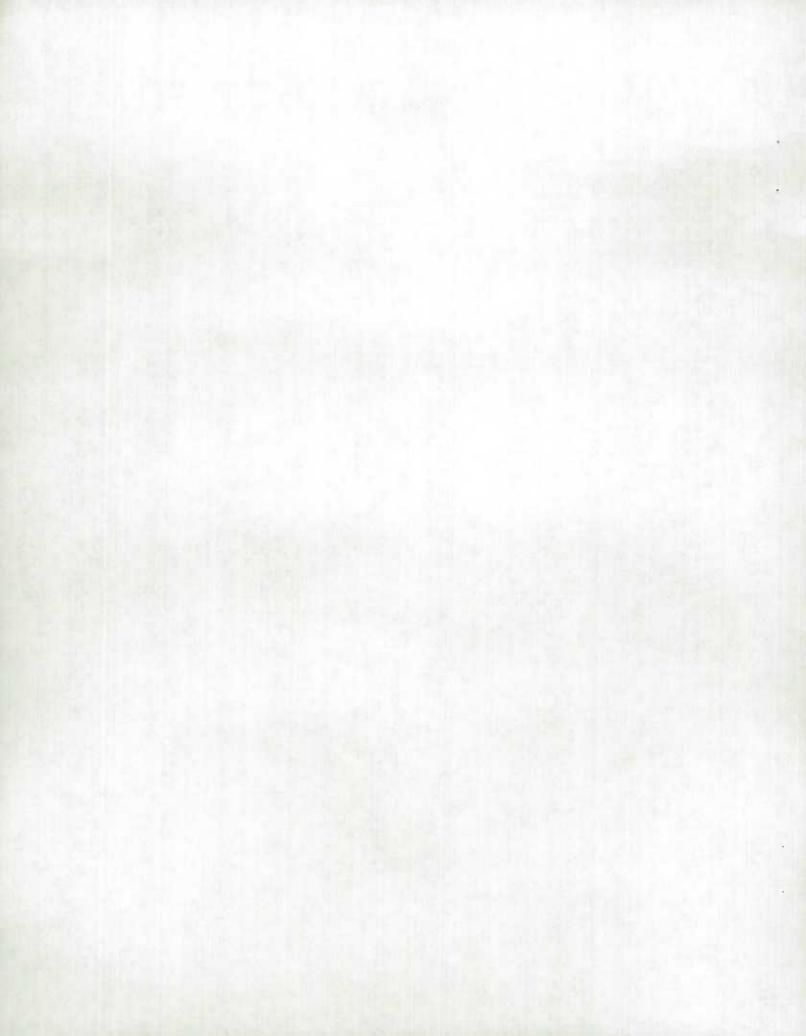
Manitoba reported \$526 124 000 in manufacturing shipments for December, down 2.1% from December 1990. From 1990 to 1991, an overall decline of 12.8% was observed.



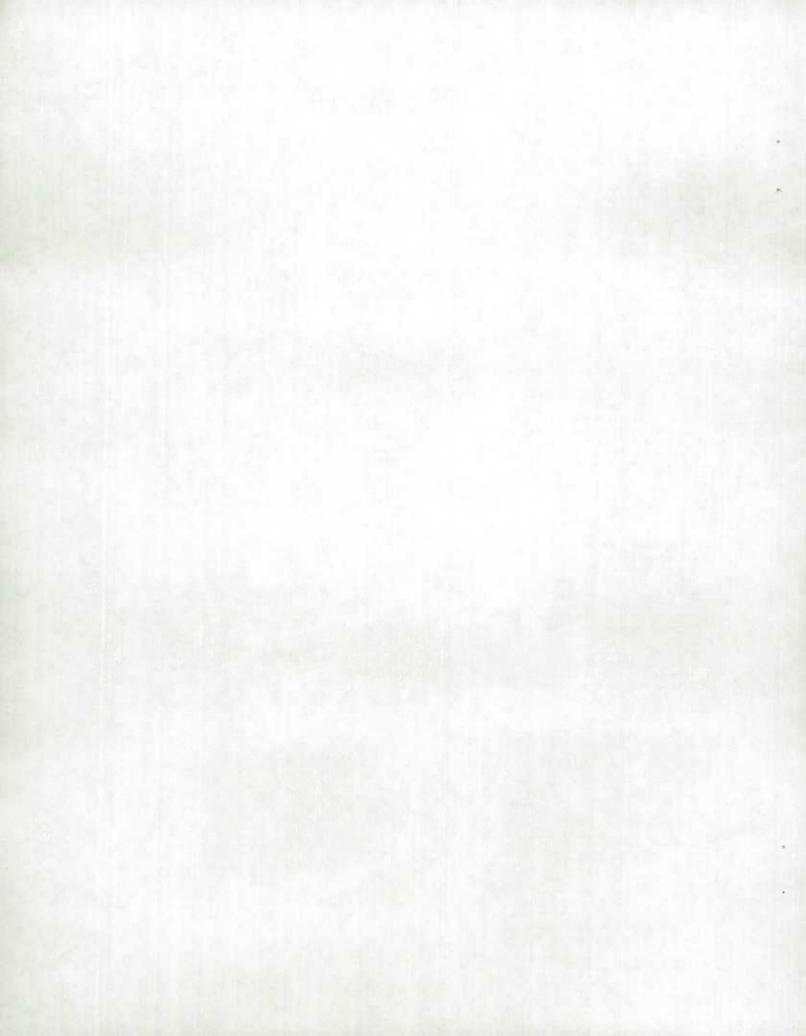
	Reference Period	Data for Reference	Data for Previous	Percent Change from Last	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per.
		Period	Period	Period		a Year ago
LABOUR FORCE ('000)	92-Jan	13433.	13513.	-0.6	13407.	0.2
Canada	92-Jan	527.	528.	-0.2	530.	-0.6
Manitoba	92-Jan	335.	336.	-0.3	333.	0.6
Winnipeg	92-Jan	471.	471.	0.0	475.	-0.8
Saskatchewan	92-Jan	92.	93.	-1.1	96.	-4.2
Regina	92-Jan	96.	96.	0.0	89.	7.9
Saskatoon	92-Jan	1357.	1353.	0.3	1325.	2.4
Alberta	92-Jan	416.	413.	0.7	393.	5.9
Edmonton	92-Jan	394.	395.	-0.3	394.	0.0
Calgary	72. 2011	2711				
EMPLOYED ('000)	92-Jan	11882.	12129.	-2.0	11952.	-0.6
Canada	92-Jan	469.	484.	-3.1	484.	-3.1
Manitoba	92-Jan	299.	303.	-1.3	304.	-1.6
Winnipeg	92-Jan	432.	436.	-0.9	435.	-0.7
Saskatchewan	92-Jan	87.	88.	-1.1	90.	-3.3
Regina	92-Jan	87.	88.	-1.1	79.	10.1
Saskatoon	92-Jan	1216.	1231.	-1.2	1209.	0.6
Alberta	92-Jan	370.	371.	-0.3	359.	3.1
Edmonton	92-Jan	352.	357.	-1.4	363.	-3.0
Calgary	76 001					
UNEMPLOYED ('000)			470/	42.4	1455.	6.6
Canada	92-Jan	1551.	1384.	12.1	46.	23.9
Manitoba	92-Jan	57.	44.		29.	24.1
Winnipeg	92-Jan	36.	34.	5.9	40.	-2.5
Saskatchewan	92-Jan	39.	34.	14.7	6.	-16.7
Regina	92-Jan	5.	5.	0.0	10.	-10.0
Sastakoon	92 - Jan	9.	9.	0.0	116.	21.6
Alberta	92-Jan	141.	122.	15.6	34.	35.3
Edmonton	92-Jan	46.	42.	9.5	31.	35.5
Calgary	92-Jan	42.	38.	10.5	31.	33.3
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)					10.0	5.5
Canada	92- Jan	11.5	10.2	12.7	10.9	
Manitoba	92-Jan	10.8	8.3	30.1	8.7	24.1
Winnipeg	92 - Jan	10.7	10.0	7.0	8.4	-1.2
Saskatchewan	92-Jan	8.3	7.3	13.7	6.3	-6.3
Regina	92-Jan	5.9	5.7	3.5	11.2	-17.0
Saskatoon	92 - Jan	9.3	9.2	1.1		19.5
Alberta	92-Jan	10.4	9.0	15.6	8.7	27.6
Edmonton	92-Jan	11.1	10.1	9.9		35.4
Calgary	92 - Jan	10.7	9.6	11.5	7.9	33.4
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)						
(Seasonally Adjusted)						
Canada	92-Jan	10.4	10.3	1.0	9.8	6.1
Manitoba	92-Jan	9,9	8.2	20.7	8.0	23.7
Saskatchewan,	92-Jan	7.1	7.2	-1.4	7.2	-1.4
Alberta	92-Jan	9.4	9.1	3.3	7.8	20.5



	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	92-Jan	64.3	64.7	-0.6	65.1	-1.2
Manitoba	92-Jan	65.0	65.2	-0.3	65.7	-1.1
Winnipeg	92-Jan	67.0	67.3	-0.4	67.2	-0.3
Saskatchewan	92-Jan	65.4	65.3	0.2	65.9	-0.6
Regina	92-Jan	66.7	67.4	-1.0	69.4	-3.9
Saskatoon	92-Jan	68.2	68.7	-0.7	63.9	0.4
Alberta	92-Jan	71.7	71.6	0.1	71.4	4.0
Edmonton	92-Jan	72.7	72.2		73.7	-2.8
Calgary	92- Jan	71.6	71.8	-0.3	73.7	-2.0
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS						
(All Employees, incl. overtime)						
INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$)		549, 15	550.82	-0.30	523.12	4.98
Canada	91-Nov	484.87	490.63	-1.17	464.88	4.30
Manitoba	91-Nov	482.14	484.78	-0.54	454.67	6.04
Saskatchewan	91-Nov	549.92	553.83	-0.71	516.01	6.57
Alberta	91-Nov	347.72		0.71	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX						
ALL-ITEMS (1986=100)	92-Jan	127.0	126.4	0.5	125.0	1.6
Canada	92-Jan	125.6	125.7	-0.1	124.2	1.1
Manitoba	92- Jan	125.1	124.9	0.2	124.5	0.5
Saskatchewan	92- Jan	125.3	124.9	0.3	123.9	1.1
Alberta	92 - Jan	125.7	125.7	0.0	124.3	1.1
Winnipeg	92-Jan	125.3	124.9	0.3	124.0	1.0
Regina	92-Jan	124.5	124.4	0.1	124.5	0.0
Saskatoon	92-Jan	125.4	124.6	0.6	123.9	1.2
Calgary	92-Jan	125.2	125.0	0.2	123.9	1.0
7000						
F000 Canada	92-Jan	119.7	118.7	0.8	120.9	-1.0
Vinnipeg	92-Jan	122.7	122.2	0.4	123.0	-0.2
Regina	92-Jan	125.1	124.1	0.8	125.3	-0.2
	92-Jan	124.3	124.0	0.2	124.9	-0.5
Saskatoon	92-Jan	119.2	117.3	1.6	119.7	-0.4
Calgary	92-Jan	120.3	119.4	0.8	119.8	0.4
NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX						
(1986=100)	01 0	133.9	133.9	0.0	138.3	-3.2
Canada	91-Dec 91-Dec	108.4	108.4	0.0	108.9	-0.5
Winnipeg	91-Dec	112.9	112.9	0.0	109.3	3.3
Regina	91-Dec	106.7	106.7	0.0	107.7	-0.9
Saskatoon	91-Dec	141.7	141.5	0.1	140.1	1.1
Edmonton	91-Dec	131.9	131.5	0.3	133.2	-1.0
Calgary	Al-hec	131,5	13113			

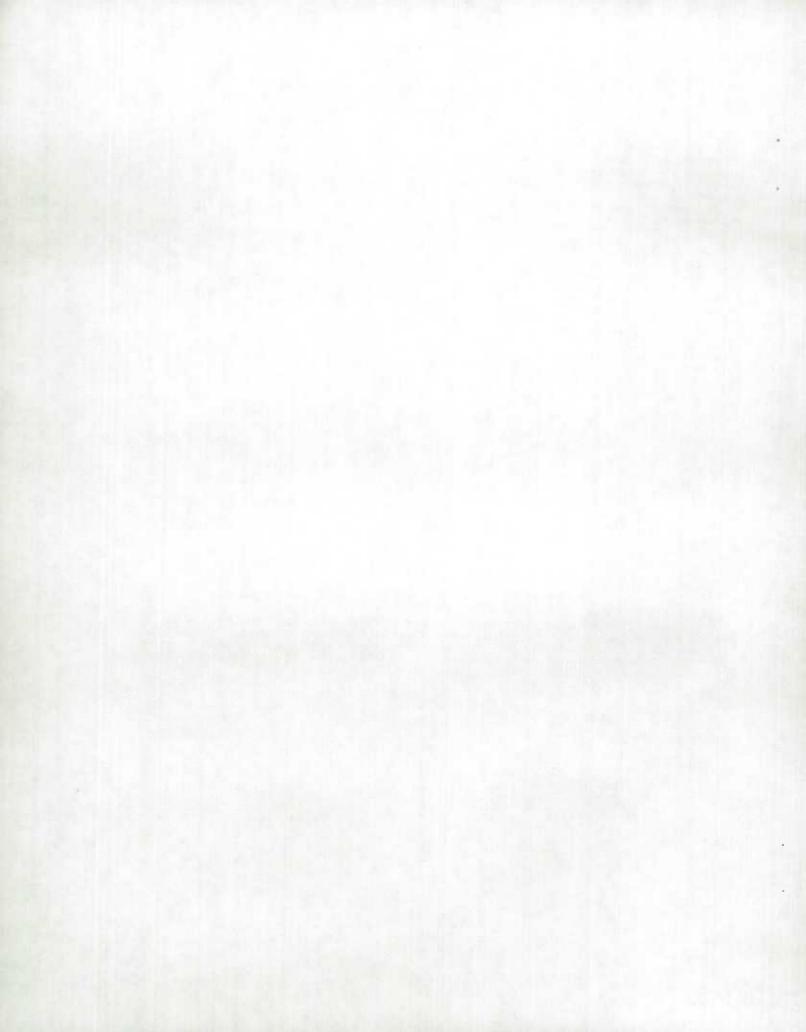


	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago	Total Year to dete	XCHG, YTO over same period last yr.
MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS (\$'000)			247570//		276591686.	-5.9
Canada	91-Dec	20914162. 526124.	21353864. 537228.	-2.1	6093244.	-12.8
Mani toba	91-Dec 91-Dec	248265.	266335.	-6.8	3415804.	-4.9
Saskatchewan	91-Dec	1420680.	1539227.	-7.7	18469661.	-2.5
RETAIL SALES (millions \$) Department Store Type Merchandise (Raw)						
All Stores	91-Dec	7971.9	8818.2	-9.6	60820.1	-7.8
Mani toba	91-Dec	282.6	304.3	-7.1	2052.0	-4.8
Saskatchewan	91-Dec	232.2	253.3	-8.3	1761.4	-9.2
Alberta	91-Dec	902.2	983.2	-8.2	7044.5	-3.9
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)			10110 5	7.0	179281,1	-6.4
Canada, Total, All Stores (Raw)	91-Dec	17667.3	19169.5	-7.8 -3.2	43038.9	1.1
Supermarkets and Grocery stores	91-Dec	3666.9	3789.4	-5.6	3647.2	-7.6
All other food stores	91-Dec	357.8	379.2 918.6	4.3	9053.4	1.3
Drugs and medicine	91-Dec	958.2	346.4	-20.0	1703.8	-17.9
Men's clothing stores	91-Dec	277.0	507.2	-1.2	3667.8	-8.3
Women's clothing stores	91-Dec	501.1 530.6	588.8	-9.9	3713.9	-7.5
Other clothing stores	91-Dec	828.7	1072.6	-22.7	7274.7	-16.4
Household furnitures and appl	91-Dec	2435.8	2434.9	0.0	36895.7	-9.9
Recreational and motor veh	91-Dec	1092.0	1354.5	-19.4	14006.2	-8.8
Gasoline service stations General merchandise stores	91-Dec	2885.2	3104.9	-7.1	20739.5	-2.9
Market Seed All Channe	91-Dec	623.6	668.9	-6.8	6164.2	-6.6
Manitoba, Total, All Stores	91-Dec	517.9	555.3	-6.7	5237.6	-6.9
Alberta, Total, All Stores	91-Dec	1876.3	2019.5	-7.1	18856.9	-5.1
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000)	91-Nov	29420.	54393.	-45.9	532137.	-24.7
Manitoba-Total	91-Nov	12032.	15671.	-23.2	242020.	-27.9
Man Non-Residential Total	91-Nov	17388.	38722.	-55.1	290117.	-21.8
Winnipeg	91-Nov	19251.	33888.	-43.2	343828.	-25.1
Saskatchewan-Total	91-Nov	13278.	14176.	-6.3	310006.	-30.2
Sask Residential Total	91-Nov	6533.	3986.	63.9	87847.	-27.4
Sask Non-Residential Total	91-Nov	6745.	10190.	-33.8	222159.	-31.2
Regina	91-Nov	6196.	2314.	167.8	94944.	-13.0
Saskatoon	91-Nov	3039.	4874.	-37.6	92426.	-47.5
Alberta-Total	91-Nov	196209.	214940.	-8.7	2500015.	-11.7
Alta Residential Total	91-Nov	89688.	81446.	10.1	1278644.	-20.3 -0.5
Alta Non-Residential Total	91-Nov	106521.	133494.	-20.2	1221371. 826646.	-8.4
Edmonton	91-Nov	50762.	63998.	-20.7	786095	-23.4
Calgary	91-Nov	71507.	74347.	-3.8	700073.	6.5.4



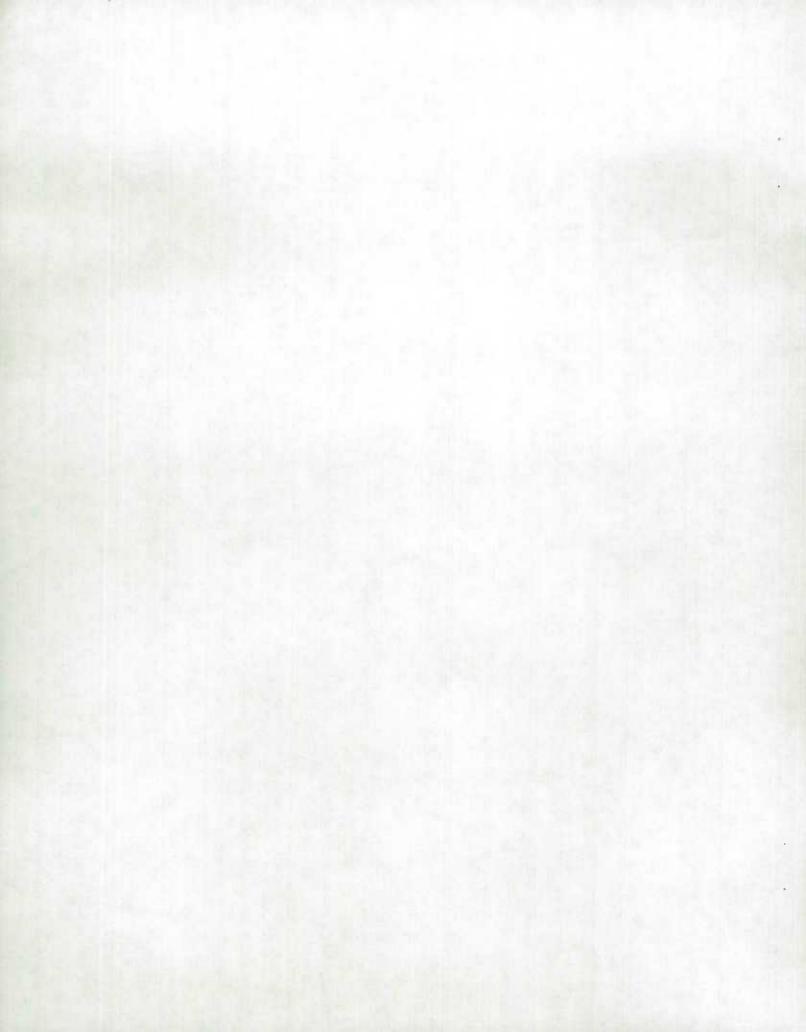
	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Data for same Per. last Year		Total Year to date	XCHG, YTO over same period last yr.
HOUSING STARTS (#) Canada (centres 10,000+) Manitoba (centres 10,000+) Winnipeg Saskatchewan (centres 10,000+). Alberta (centres 10,000+)	91-Dec	10220.	8148.	25.4	130094.	-13.6
	91-Dec	55.	104.	-47.1	1438.	-36.8
	91-Dec	54.	100.	-46.0	1349.	-37.2
	91-Dec	26.	16.	62.5	566.	-43.1
	91-Dec	791.	569.	39.0	10107.	-30.0
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH) TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION Manitoba	91-Nov	2187165.	1794948.	21.9	20578854.	13.6
	91-Nov	1190967.	1191994.	-0.1	12333433.	-2.5
	91-Nov	3714232.	3749030.	-0.9	39789504.	2.6
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION Manitoba	91-Nov	2147626.	1749041.	22.8	20308158.	14.1
	91-Nov	315850.	293336.	7.7	3888363.	-1.0
	91-Nov	131309.	122683.	7.0	1898587.	-1.8

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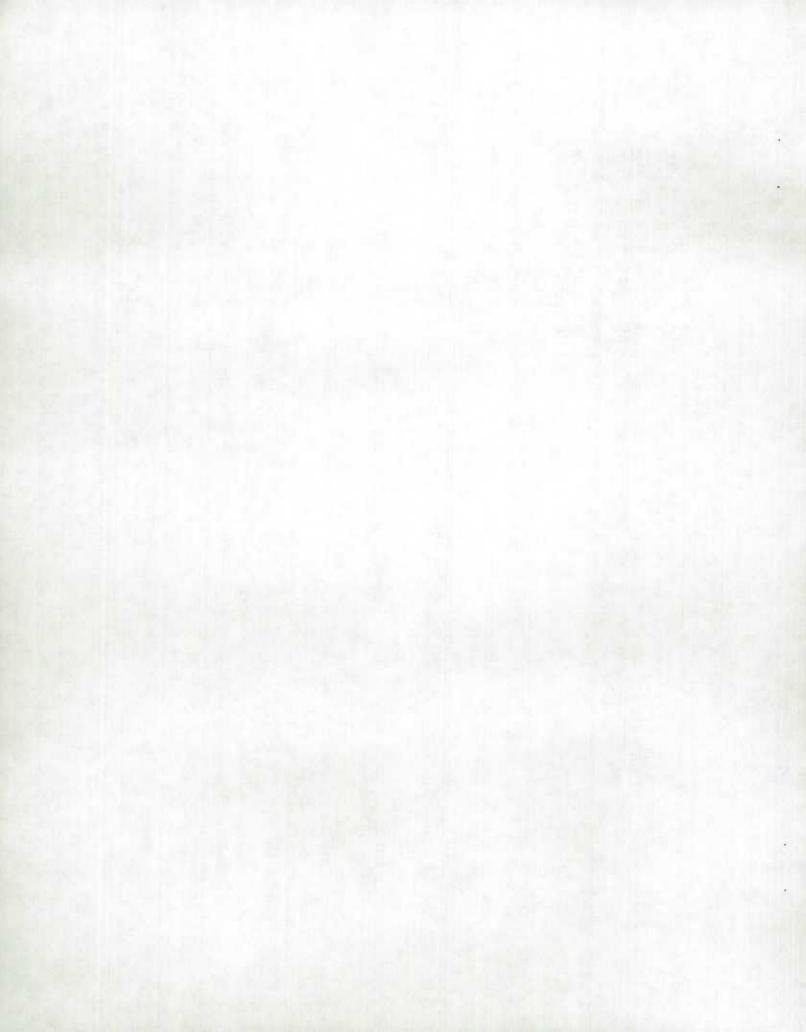


#### NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

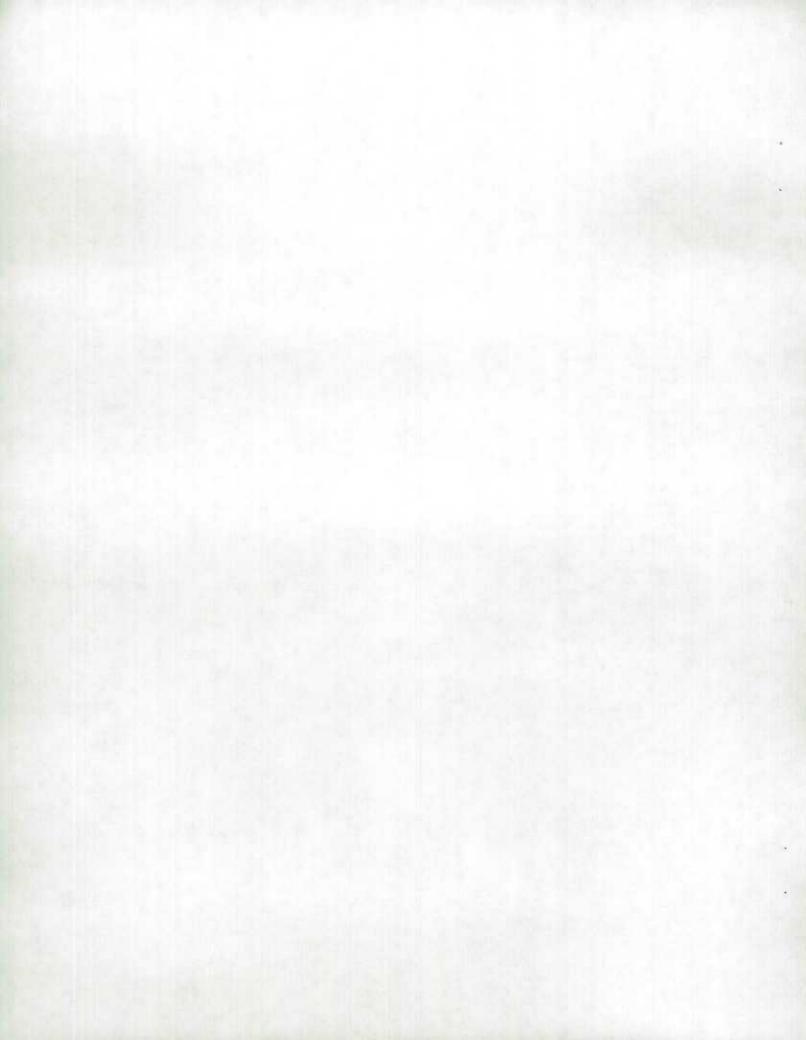
24-FEB-92		Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	pata for Previous Period	Percent Change from Last Period	Data for same Per. last Year	% Change from same Per. a Year ago
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (All Employees, incl. overtime) INDUSTRIAL AGGREGATE (\$) Northwest Territories	91-Nov	764.87	776.66	·1.52	735.89	3.94
	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ALL-ITEMS (1986=100) Yellowknife	92-Jan	123.8	123.4	0.3	121.7	1.7
	FOOD Yellowknife	92-Jan	116.9	116.7	0.2	116.0	0.8



	Reference Period	Data for Reference Period	Date for same Per. last Year	from	Total Year to date	XCHG, YTD over same period last yr.
RETAIL SALES (millions \$) Department Store Type Merchandise (Raw) All stores Northwest Territories	91-Dec	23.3	23.9	-2.5	205.3	-3.1
RETAIL SALES (millions \$)(Raw) Northwest Territories Total,All Stores	91-Dec	36.2	38.8	-6.7	359.6	-4.9
BUILDING PERMITS (\$'000) Northwest Territories-Total N.W.T. Residential Total N.W.T. Non-Residential Total	91-Nov 91-Nov 91-Nov	1021. 391. 630.	12963. 2051. 10912.	-92.1 -80.9 -94.2	50652. 22290. 28362.	-12.5 0.1 -20.4
ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION (MWH) TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION Northwest Territories	91-Nov	43358.	43417.	-0.1	430186.	1.3
TOTAL HYDRO GENERATION Northwest Territories	91-Nov	22670.	22268.	1.8	232398.	-0.4



	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
QUARTERLY POPULATION ('000) Canada	1991-04	27125.8	27023.1	0.4	26744.3	1.4
	1991-04	1096.7	1097.0	0.0	1092.6	0.4
	1991-04	994.9	997.4	-0.3	996.9	-0.2
	1991-04	2538.5	2525.2	0.5	2487.2	2.1
MUMBER OF BIRTHS ManitobaSaskatchewanAlbertaCanada	1991-03	4490.	4620.	·2.8	4520.	-0.7
	1991-03	4010.	4310.	-7.0	4310.	-7.0
	1991-03	10730.	11100.	·3.3	10660.	0.7
	1991-03	108010.	105880.	2.0	102140.	5.7
MUMBER OF DEATHS Hanitoba	1991-q3	2150.	2250.	-4.4	2120.	1.4
	1991-q3	1960.	1930.	1.6	1810.	8.3
	1991-q3	3430.	3520.	•2.6	3390.	1.2
	1991-q3	46320.	48670.	•4.8	46030.	0.6
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta Canada	1991- <b>03</b>	3210.	2120.	51.4	3120.	2.9
	1991- <b>03</b>	2790.	1560.	78.8	2790.	0.0
	1991- <b>03</b>	8340.	5590.	49.2	8230.	1.3
	1991- <b>03</b>	81190.	52230.	55.4	79130.	2.6
NUMBER OF BANKRUPTCIES Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta	91-Dec	37.	39.	-5.1	35.	5.7
	91-Dec	30.	44.	-31.8	39.	-23.1
	91-Dec	95.	100.	-5.0	87.	9.2
	91-Dec	973.	1162.	-16.3	1005.	-3.2
FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (cdn.dollars) U.S.A. CLOSING SPOT RATE (DOLLAR) IN CDN.DOLLARS	92 - Jan	1.17460000	1.15550000	1.65296408	1.16290000	1.00610543



## **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 w rk 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).

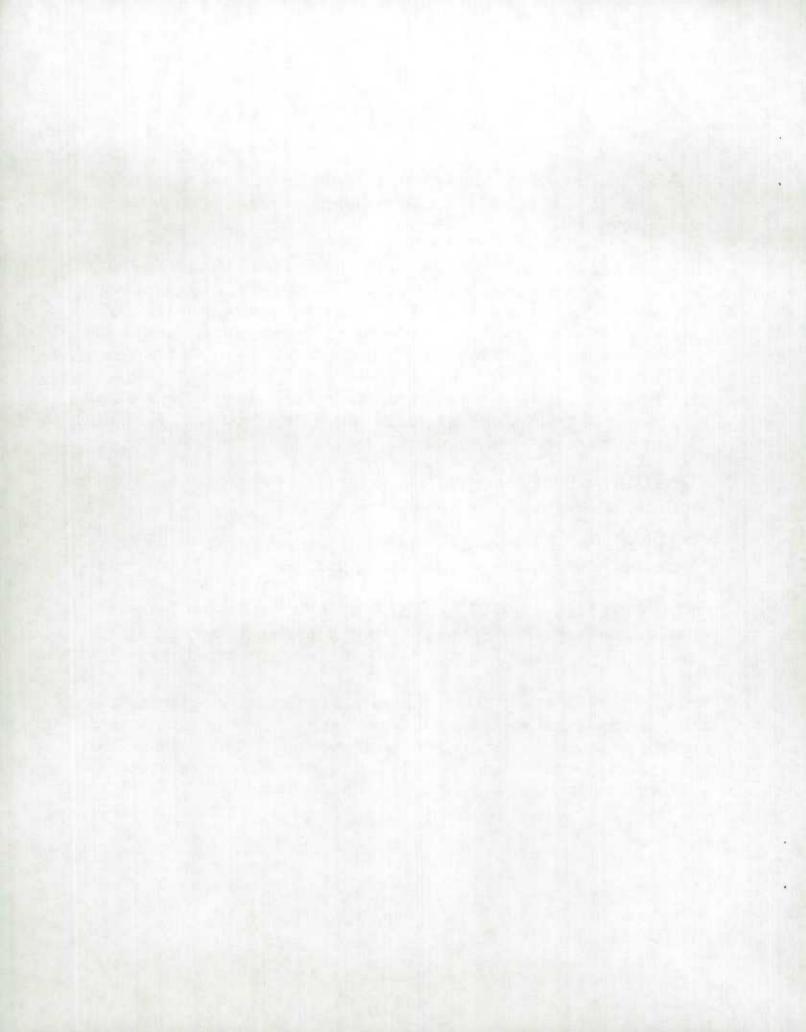
UNEMPLOYED: persons who, during the reference week, were without work and were available for work, had been on layoff, or had a new job to start in four weeks or less from the reference week.

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.



# March 1992

New Releases & Upcoming Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	Building Permits released	3	Help-Wanted Index release	5	6 Labour Force released	7
8	9	Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design, WPG	Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design, WPG Entreprise Seminar (Small Business), Edson	12 Survey Methods & Questionnaire Design, WPG	13	14
15	16	17	18 Entreprise Seminar(Small Business), Canmore	19	20 Consumer Price Index released	21
22	23 Retail Trade released	24	25 Entreprise Seminar(Small Business), Brooks	26	27	28
29	30 Employment, Earnings & Hours released	31				
	S M T  2 3 4 9 10 11 1 16 17 18 1	W T F S 1 5 6 7 8 2 13 14 15 9 20 21 22 6 27 28 29			W T F S 1 2 3 4 8 9 10 11 5 16 17 18 2 23 24 25	

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