



IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, September 14, 1990

OVERVIEW

■ Unemployment Rate Continues to Increase

In August, the unemployment rate reached 8.3%, the highest level since October 1987.

■ Wages and Salaries Drop

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries fell 0.5% in June, after an average monthly increase of 0.7% in the previous five months.

■ New Motor Vehicle Sales Decline

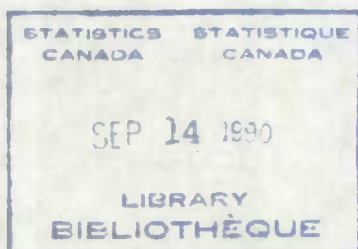
In July, seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales decreased 1%, after a strong increase in June and a slight decrease in May.

■ New Housing Price Index Falls

In July, the New Housing Price Index fell 0.6%, the fourth consecutive drop.

■ Farm Product Price Index Declines

In July, the Farm Product Price Index (FPPI, 1986 = 100) declined by 0.8%, after five consecutive increases.



Unemployment Rate Continues to Increase

In August, the unemployment rate reached 8.3%, the highest level since October 1987. This increase resulted from a drop in employment and a slight increase in the labour force.

In Quebec, the unemployment rate rose one percentage point to 9.9%. In British Columbia, the rate increased by 0.8 of a percentage point. The rate dropped in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island while remaining relatively stable in other provinces. For young people (ages 15 to 24), the unemployment rate stood at 13.3%, an increase from 11% in March, which was the lowest level this year.

The 58,000 decline in employment was largely confined to Quebec and Ontario. The decline affected men and women of all ages and was attributable to a drop in full-time employment as part-time employment continued to grow slightly. In the Maritime provinces, employment posted an average rise of 1%.

(continued on page 2)

Unemployment Rate

Percent, seasonally adjusted



... Unemployment Rate Continues to Increase

From May to September, the Labour Force Survey collects data from students. In August, the participation rate for students who planned to return to school in the fall stood at 70%, a decline from 72% last year. Employment for returning students fell 5.9% from last year and the unemployment

rate for this group was 8.9%. The unemployment rate for students not planning to return to school was almost double that for returning students and was significantly higher than last year.

For further information, order *The Labour Force* (catalogue number 71-001) or contact Household Surveys Division at (613) 951-2301.

Wages and Salaries Drop

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries fell 0.5% in June, after average monthly increases of 0.7% over the previous five months. Both May and June were affected by larger than usual estimates of special payments.

Wages and salaries in federal administration posted a substantial decline (15.6%). This followed a sharp increase in May, which was due to large retroactive payments.

Wages and salaries declined 1.7% in transportation, communication and other utilities, following six monthly increases averaging 1%. They also dropped 1.7% in mines, quarries and oil wells after strong increases in the previous two months.

Wages and salaries in construction declined for the second consecutive month, partly due to work stoppages in Ontario.

For further information, order *Estimates of Labour Income* (catalogue number 72-005) or contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4051.

New Motor Vehicle Sales Decline

In July, seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales decreased 1%, after a strong increase in June and a slight decrease in May. New motor vehicle sales have fluctuated markedly since January but a four-month moving average shows a continuing downward trend evident since late 1988.

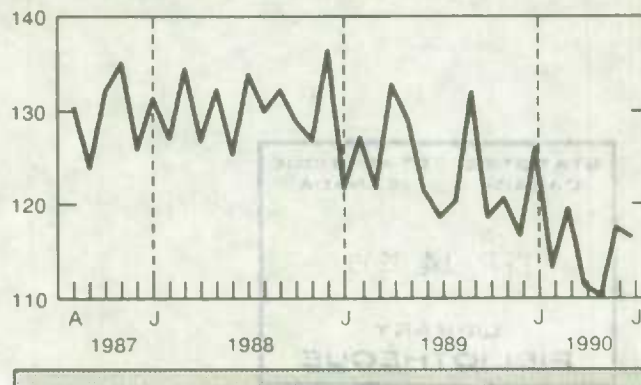
Sales of North American passenger cars increased marginally after a sharp increase in June. Sales of imported passenger cars decreased 10.1%, the third decrease in four months.

Sales of commercial vehicles increased 4.3%, the second consecutive monthly increase.

For further information, order *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (catalogue number 63-007) or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-3552.

Sales of New Motor Vehicles

Seasonally adjusted, thousands of units



New Housing Price Index Falls

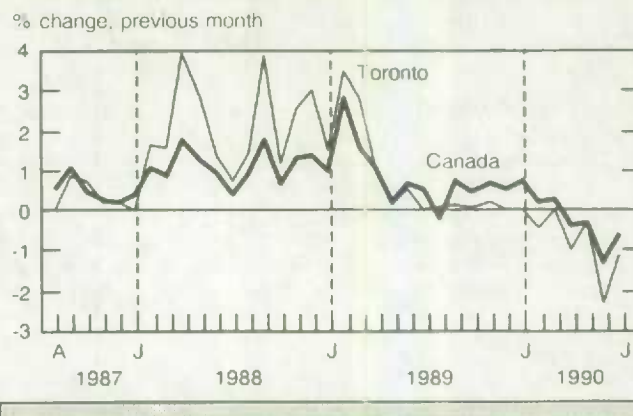
In July, the New Housing Price Index fell 0.6%, the fourth consecutive drop.

In Victoria, the Index declined for a third straight month, this time by 1.8%. In Toronto, the Index declined 1.1%, producing a cumulative drop of 5.3% from December's level. Because Toronto accounts for one-third of the weight of the national Index, this decline was a major factor in its drop. In St. Catharines-Niagara, the Index fell for a second month in a row, this time by 1.1%. In Ottawa-Hull a 1.0% drop followed two marginal declines. Changes in other cities were less significant.

St. John's posted the only strong increase of the Index (2.2%), after five months of no change.

For further information, order *Construction Price Statistics* (catalogue number 62-007) or contact Prices Division at (613) 951-9607.

New Housing Price Indexes



Farm Product Price Index Declines

In July, the Farm Product Price Index (FPPI, 1986 = 100) declined by 0.8%, after five consecutive increases.

The crops index fell 1.0%. After three consecutive increases, cereal prices decreased 0.4% due to lower prices for oats and barley. The oilseeds index fell for a second consecutive month, this time by 4.6%. This decline resulted mainly from lower prices for flaxseed and canola. The potatoes index decreased 1.9%, extending the trend of the previous three months.

The 0.7% drop in the livestock and animal products component was the first decrease since January, and was the result of declining cattle and hog prices. Following five months of strong price increases, hog prices fell 3.4%. However, industry analysts predict that this decrease is only temporary. The cattle index decreased 0.6%, extending the series of small fluctuations of the last twelve months.

For further information, order *Farm Product Price Index* (catalogue number 62-003) or contact Agriculture Division at (613) 951-2436.

NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



Selected socio-economic
consequences of disability
for women in Canada

Special topic series
The health and activity limitation survey

2

Selected Socio-economic Consequences of Disability for Women in Canada – Special Topic Report 1986-87

- The median employment income of disabled women in 1985 was \$8,360 compared to \$19,250 for disabled men. The corresponding incomes for non-disabled females and males were \$10,000 and \$21,000 respectively.
- Disabled women under age 25 are about 70% as likely to be holding paid jobs as non-disabled women of the same age.

The second of nine special topic reports from the *Health and Activity Limitation Survey* (HALS), on disability in Canada is now available. The authors are Edward B. Harvey and Lorne Tepperman, both of the University of Toronto.

This report compares characteristics of disabled women with those of disabled men and includes comparisons with the non-disabled population as well. It discusses the type and severity of women's disabilities and the barriers these women face in everyday activities.

For further information, order *Selected Socio-economic Consequences of Disability for Women in Canada* (catalogue number 82-615, Volume 2), or contact Post-Censal Surveys Program at (613) 951-0025 or your nearest Regional Reference Centre.



Statistics Canada

Canada

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM SEPTEMBER 7 TO 13

AGRICULTURE

Cereals and Oilseeds Review, June 1990. Catalogue number 22-007 (Canada: \$13.80/\$138.00; United States: US\$16.60/US\$166.00; Other Countries: US\$19.30/US\$193.00).

Field Crop Reporting Series - No. 6: August Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada, 1990. Catalogue number 22-002 (Canada: \$12.00/\$80.00; United States: US\$14.00/US\$96.00; Other Countries: US\$16.00/US\$112.00).

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Security Transaction with Non-residents, June 1990. Catalogue number 67-002 (Canada: \$15.80/\$158.00; United States: US\$19.00/US\$190.00; Other Countries: US\$22.10/\$221.00).

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM

Community Colleges and Related Institutions: Postsecondary Enrolment and Graduates, 1988. Catalogue number 81-222 (Canada: \$27.00; United States: US\$32.00; Other Countries: US\$38.00).

Touriscope - International Travel, April - June 1990. Catalogue number 66-001 (Canada: \$38.50/\$154.00; United States: US\$46.25/\$185.00; Other Countries: US\$54.00/US\$216.00).

University Finance Trend Analysis, 1978-79 to 1987-88. Catalogue number 81-260 (Canada: \$39; United States: US\$47; Other Countries: \$55).

HEALTH

Selected Socio-Economic Consequences of Disability for Women in Canada, September 1990. Catalogue number 82-615 (Canada: \$35.00; United States: US\$42.00; Other Countries: US\$49.00).

HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

Labour Force Information, August 1990. Catalogue number 71-001P (Canada: \$6.30/\$63.00; United States: US\$7.60/US\$76.00; Other Countries: US\$8.80/US\$88.00).

INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE

Industrial Corporations Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1990. Catalogue number 61-003P (Canada: \$16.50/\$66.00; United States: US\$19.75/US\$79.00; Other Countries: US\$23.00/US\$92.00).

INDUSTRY

Cement, July 1990. Catalogue number 44-001 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Construction Type Plywood, July 1990. Catalogue number 35-001 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Department Store Monthly Sales, including concessions, by Province and Metropolitan Area, June 1990. Catalogue number 63-004 (Canada: \$2.70/\$27.00; United States: US\$3.20/US\$32.00; Other Countries: US\$3.80/US\$38.00).

INDUSTRY - Concluded

Electric Power Statistics, June 1990. Catalogue number 57-001 (Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/140.00).

Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, July 1990. Catalogue number 43-005 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Footwear Statistics, July 1990. Catalogue number 33-002 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, July 1990. Catalogue number 46-002 (Canada: \$5.60/\$56.00; United States: US\$6.70/US\$67.00; Other Countries: US\$7.80/US\$78.00).

Manufacturing Industries of Canada: National and Provincial Areas, 1987. Catalogue number 31-203 (Canada: \$61.00; United States: US\$73.00; Other Countries: US\$85.00).

New Motor Vehicle Sales, October 1989. Catalogue number 63-007 (Canada: \$14.40/\$144.00; United States: US\$17.30/US\$173.00; Other Countries: US\$20.20/US\$202.00).

Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing, July 1990. Catalogue number 41-011 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, July 1990. Catalogue number 43-003 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, July 1990. Catalogue number 41-006 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

Wholesale Trade, June 1990. Catalogue number 63-008 (Canada: \$14.40/\$144.00; United States: US\$17.30/US\$173.00; Other Countries: US\$20.20/US\$202.00).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Exports by Commodity, June 1990. Catalogue number 65-004 (Canada: \$55.10/\$551.00; United States: US\$66.10/US\$661.00; Other Countries: US\$77.10/US\$771.00).

LABOUR

Unemployment Insurance Statistics, June 1990. Catalogue number 73-001 (Canada: \$14.70/\$147.00; United States: US\$17.60/US\$176.00; Other Countries: US\$20.60/US\$206.00).

SERVICES, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Federal Scientific Activities, 1990-1991. Catalogue number 88-204 (Canada: \$44.00; United States: US\$53.00; Other Countries: US\$62.00).

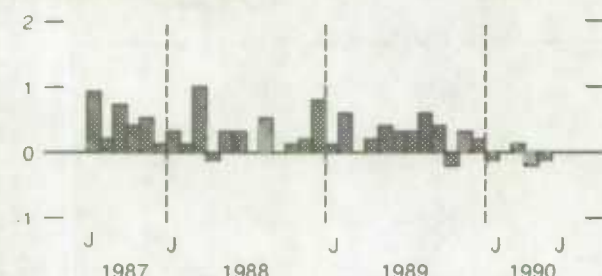
TRANSPORTATION

Railway Operating Statistics, May 1990. Catalogue number 52-003 (Canada: \$10.50/\$105.00; United States: US\$12.60/US\$126.00; Other Countries: US\$14.70/US\$147.00).

CURRENT TRENDS*

Gross Domestic Product

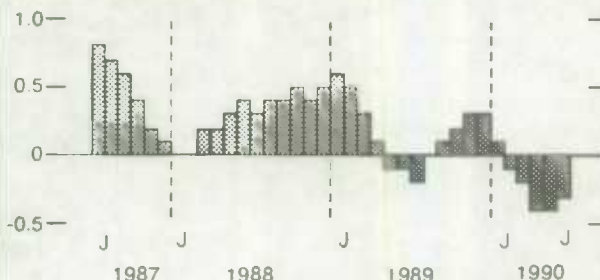
% change, previous month



In June, Real Gross Domestic Product at factor cost was unchanged, following drops of 0.2% in April and 0.1% in May.

Composite Leading Indicator

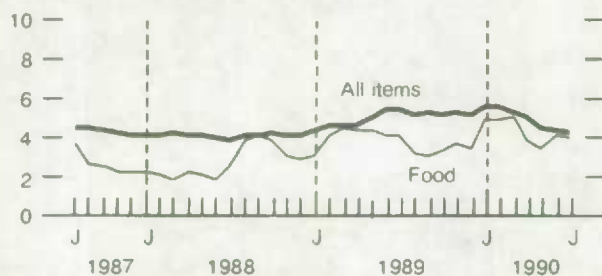
% change, previous month



In June, the composite leading indicator fell 0.3%, the fifth consecutive monthly decline.

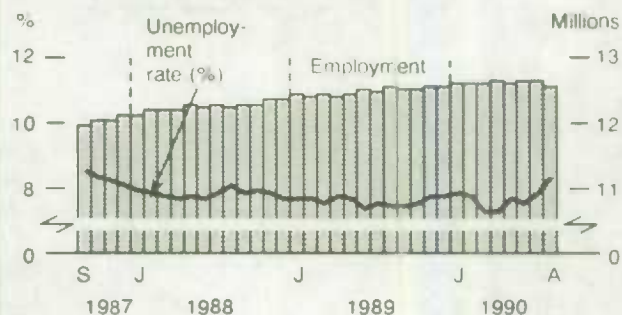
Consumer Price Index

% change, previous year



In July, the Consumer Price Index increased 4.2% year-over-year, continuing the deceleration started in February.

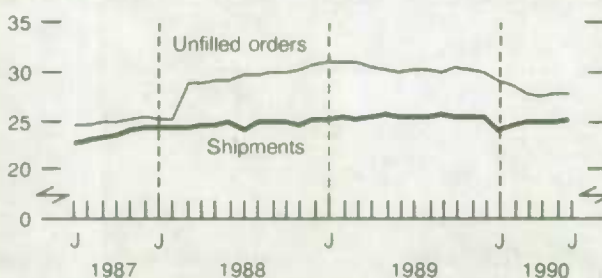
Unemployment Rate and Employment



In August, the unemployment rate reached 8.3%, the highest level since October 1987.

Manufacturing

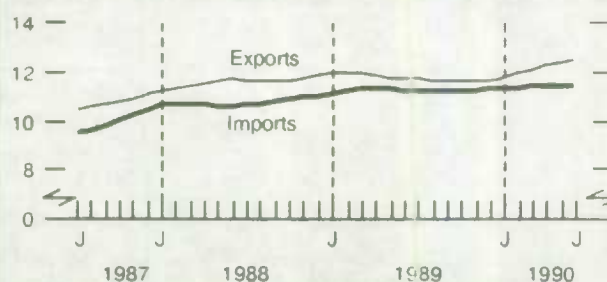
Billions of dollars



In June, seasonally adjusted manufacturers' shipments increased to \$25.1 billion while unfilled orders declined marginally.

Merchandise Trade

Billions of dollars, short-term trend



In June, the trend for merchandise exports increased for the seventh straight month, while the trend for imports posted a marginal decline.

*All series are seasonally adjusted except the consumer price index.



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LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Period	Level	Change Previous Period	Change Previous Year
GENERAL				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	June	511	0.0%	1.5%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	June	144.2	-0.4%	-0.5%
Profits of Industrial Corporations (\$ billion)	2nd Q	4.6	-24%	-53%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	June	16.2	0.8%	0.5%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	July*	116	-1.0%	-1.8%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	August*	12.6	-0.5%	0.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	August*	8.3	0.5	0.9
Participation Rate (%)	August*	67.0	0.0	-0.2
Labour Income (\$ billion)	June*	31.7	-0.5%	6.6%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June	512.30	0.8%	4.7%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	June	12.8	5.3%	11.5%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	June	11.0	-4.0%	0.1%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	June	1.7	1.1	1.3
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	June	25.1	1.7%	-1.1%
New Orders (\$ billion)	June	25.0	0.5%	0.9%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	June	27.7	-0.3%	-7.5%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	June	1.50	-0.03	-0.01
Capacity Utilization (%)	1st Q	80.4	-1.6	-4.1
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	119.8	0.5%	4.2%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	109.2	-0.2%	-0.5%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	102.8	-2.3%	-5.5%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	July*	142.7	-0.6%	0.3%

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of average weekly earnings and the price indexes.

* New this week.

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A Weekly Review

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