



# I·N·F·O·M·A·T

## A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, October 12, 1990

### OVERVIEW

#### ■ Wages and Salaries Edge Up

In July, seasonally adjusted wages and salaries rose marginally (0.2%), after average monthly gains of 0.5% in the preceding six months.

#### ■ New Motor Vehicle Sales Decline Further

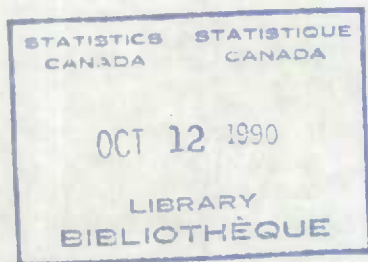
Seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales decreased 3.0% in August, the second consecutive decline after a strong increase in June.

#### ■ Employment Growth Sluggish

In September, employment rose by 30,000 (0.2%) after a sharp drop in August, but its level remains below the average in the second quarter.

#### ■ New Housing Price Index Maintains Downward Trend

The New Housing Price Index fell 1.1% in August, a fifth consecutive drop.



### Wages and Salaries Edge Up

In July, seasonally adjusted wages and salaries rose marginally (0.2%), after average monthly gains of 0.5% in the preceding six months.

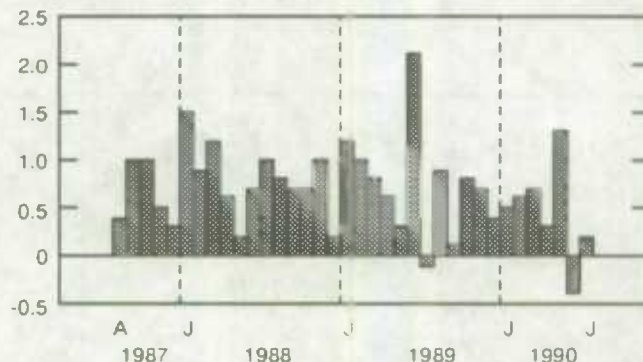
In transportation, communication and other utilities, wages and salaries rose 1.7%, not quite enough to offset the decline in June. The 1.2% increase in construction recovered less than half of the cumulative declines of the previous two months, which were partly linked to work stoppages in Ontario. In trade, wages and salaries grew 0.7%, following marginal gains in the previous two months. Since January, wages and salaries in trade have increased 8.5%.

In education and related services, wages and salaries fell 0.8% after a small increase in June and a sharp increase in May. From February to June, the total increase in wages and salaries in that industry was 6.7%. Wages and salaries in local

(continued on page 2)

### Wages and Salaries

% change, previous month



### ... Wages and Salaries Edge Up

administration declined 0.8%, extending the series of fluctuations of the previous three months. A decrease for provincial administration, together with the one last month, offset the strong increase in May.

In health and welfare services, wages and salaries fell 3.3%. This decline followed a strong monthly gain in June, which resulted from large retroactive payments due to contract settlements in the province of Quebec.

*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 Further

In August, seasonally adjusted new motor vehicle sales fell 3.0%. This and the July decline did not completely offset a strong increase in June. New motor vehicle sales have fluctuated markedly since January but have experienced a generally declining trend since early 1989.

Sales of North American passenger cars dropped 4.5% after a marginal increase in July and a sharp increase in June. Sales of imported passenger cars decreased 0.4%, after a sharp drop in July.

Sales of commercial vehicles decreased 2.8%, after two strong monthly increases.

### Motor Vehicle Sales

	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	% change, previous month				
Passenger cars	-6.1	-0.8	9.3	-3.6	-3.1
North American	-6.5	-1.0	7.3	0.0	-4.5
Imported	-5.4	-0.3	13.0	-10.2	-0.4
Commercial vehicles	-8.9	-1.4	2.1	4.1	-2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>-7.0</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-3.0</b>

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

## Employment Growth Sluggish

In September, employment rose by 30,000 (0.2%) after a sharp drop in August, but remains below the average of the second quarter. The increase in employment was evenly distributed between men and women. For men, the increase followed three declines in the previous four months and was concentrated in the 15-24 age group. The increase for women mainly reflected a gain for those 25 and older and left employment for women at a level in line with the average of the previous five months.

Unemployment rose for the fifth time in six months, although the September increase was small compared to those of July and August. The increase

was limited to persons aged 15 to 24, particularly women. Unemployment among young people has increased a cumulative 17% since July.

The unemployment rate was 8.4%, the highest level since September 1987. The largest increases in the unemployment rate were posted in Quebec (0.6 percentage point) and, to a lesser extent in most Maritime provinces. In Newfoundland, the rate declined significantly for a third consecutive month, this time by 0.5 percentage point. It also declined notably in Manitoba (0.8 point), and slightly in Ontario and British Columbia (0.1 point).

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

## New Housing Price Index Maintains Downward Trend

In August, the New Housing Price Index fell 1.1%, the fifth consecutive drop.

Declines in Toronto and Vancouver had the strongest impact on the Canada total index. In Toronto, the index declined 1.4%, an eighth consecutive drop, contributing to a cumulative fall of 6.6% since January. In Vancouver, the index declined 3.3%. Despite a slight rise in July, the

Vancouver index has fallen a cumulative total of 6.6% since March.

The land only index fell for the third consecutive month, adding up to a cumulative decline of 1.2% since June. Before the decline in April, the land only index had registered uninterrupted growth since November 1984.

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

NOT FOR LOAN  
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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM OCTOBER 5 TO 11

### AGRICULTURE

**Cereals and Oilseeds Review, July 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. 7 – September 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).

### CENSUS

**User's Guide to the Quality of 1986 Census Data: Sampling and Weighting.** Catalogue number 99-136E (Canada: \$23.00; Other Countries: \$24.00).

### EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM

**Travel-log, vol. 9 n° 4, Visible Minority Workers in the Hospitality Industry, Fall 1990.** Catalogue number 87-003 (Canada: \$10.50/\$42.00; United States: US\$12.50/US\$50.00; Other Countries: US\$5.45/US\$109.00).

### HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

**Labour Force Information, September 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).

### INDUSTRY

**Asphalt Roofing, August 1990.** Catalogue number 45-001 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

**Coal and Coke Statistics, July 1990.** Catalogue number: 45-002 (Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/US\$140.00).

**Direct Selling in Canada, Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 1989.** Catalogue number 63-218 (Canada: \$22.00; United States: US\$26.00; Other Countries: US\$31.00).

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

**Gypsum Products, August 1990.** Catalogue number 44-003 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

**New Motor Vehicle Sales, November 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, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances, August 1990.** Catalogue number 43-010 (Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: US\$6.00/US\$60.00; Other Countries: US\$7.00/US\$70.00).

**Rigid Insulating Board (Wood Fibre Products), August 1990.** Catalogue number 36-002 (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, August 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).

**Wholesale Trade, July 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, July 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).

### JUSTICE

**Juristat – Violent Crime in Canada, 1962-1989, vol. 10 n° 15.** Catalogue number 85-002 (Canada: \$3.90/\$78.00; United States: US\$4.70/US\$94.00; Other Countries: US\$5.45/US\$109.00).

### TRANSPORTATION

**Service Bulletin – Surface and Marine Transport, October 1990.** Catalogue number 50-002 (Canada: \$9.40/\$75.00; United States: US\$11.15/US\$90.00; Other Countries: US\$13.15/US\$105.00).

## NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



### Travel-log - Touriscope

In its feature article, the Fall issue of *Travel-log*, Statistics Canada's quarterly tourism newsletter, reveals that, out of approximately 800,000 hospitality workers, one-third belong to ethnic or visible minorities. Among notable findings included in this article:

- Over the last 15 years, the hospitality industry has outpaced most other industries in employment growth.
- The hospitality industry was of major significance for two groups: 20% of workers of Chinese origin and 28% of workers of Greek origin found work in either accommodation or food services in 1985.

This issue of *Travel-log* also includes a look at travel to Mexico, a profile of the Quebec travel market, an analysis of spending in Canada by visitors of the East North Central region of the United States, an article on immigration patterns, and a case study of how Super 8 Motels used Statistics Canada data.

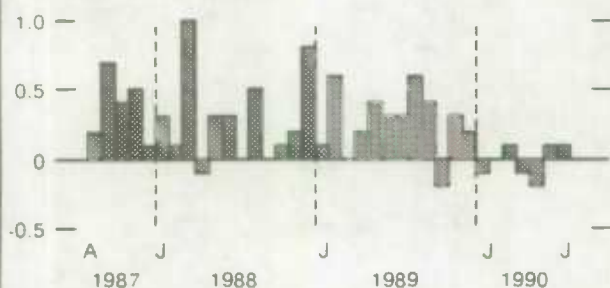
For further information, order *Travel-log - Touriscope* (catalogue number 87-003) or contact Education, Culture and Tourism Division at (613) 951-9169.



## CURRENT TRENDS\*

### Gross Domestic Product

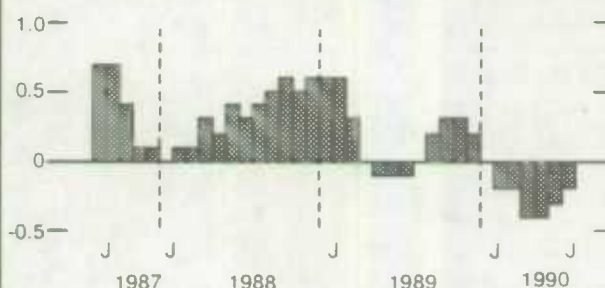
% change, previous month



Real GDP edged up by 0.1% in July, following a similar rise in June and declines in April and May.

### Composite Leading Indicator

% change, previous month



The composite leading indicator declined 0.2% in July, a sixth consecutive drop.

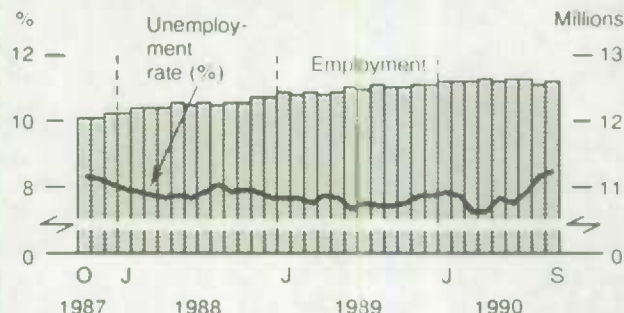
### Consumer Price Index

% change, previous year



In August, the Consumer Price Index increased 4.1% from last year, continuing the deceleration started in February.

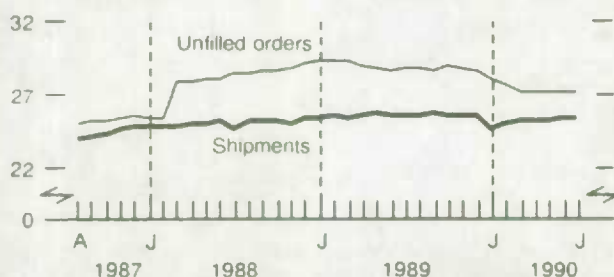
### Unemployment Rate and Employment



In September, employment rose by 0.2% after a drop in August, but it remains below the average in the second quarter.

### Manufacturing

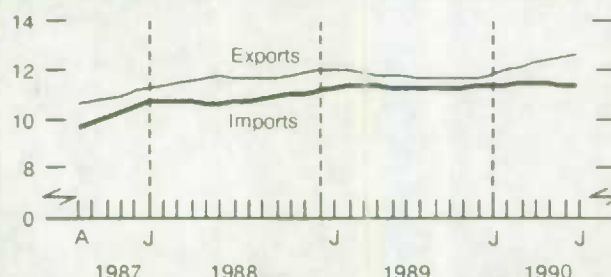
Billions of dollars



Seasonally adjusted manufacturers' shipments posted a fourth consecutive increase (0.4%) in July.

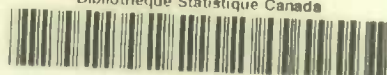
### Merchandise Trade

Billions of dollars, short-term trend



In July, the trend for merchandise exports rose for the ninth straight month. The trend for imports posted a fourth consecutive 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
<b>GENERAL</b>				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	July	512	0.1%	1.3%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	July	143.4	-0.2%	-0.8%
Profits of Industrial Corporations (\$ billion)	2nd Q	4.6	-24%	-53%
<b>DOMESTIC DEMAND</b>				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	July	16.3	0.8%	1.9%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	August*	113	-3.0%	-6.3%
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Employment (millions)	Sept.*	12.6	0.2%	0.6%
Unemployment Rate (%)	Sept.*	8.4	0.1	1.0
Participation Rate (%)	Sept.*	67.1	0.1	-0.1
Labour Income (\$ billion)	July*	31.8	0.3%	7.2%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	514.09	0.2%	5.3%
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	July	12.5	-1.7%	7.3%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	July	11.3	3.5%	6.1%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	July	1.2	-0.6	0.2
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>				
Shipments (\$ billion)	July	25.1	0.4%	-0.8%
New Orders (\$ billion)	July	25.0	0.2%	-1.8%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	July	27.7	-0.3%	-8.0%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	July	1.48	-0.02	-0.03
Capacity Utilization (%)	2nd Q	79.7	-0.5	-5.3
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	August	119.8	0.0%	4.1%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	August	109.2	0.1%	-0.3%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	August	107.3	4.2%	-0.5%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	August*	141.2	-1.1%	-0.6%

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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