



IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, August 16, 1991

OVERVIEW

■ Fourth Straight Rise in Manufacturers' Shipments

In June, Canadian manufacturers' shipments increased (1.0%) for the fourth consecutive month. Unfilled orders were down for the nineteenth time in the last 20 months.

■ Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged

In July, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 10.5%, after registering increases in June and in May.

■ Motor Vehicle Sales Continue to Advance

Sales of new motor vehicles climbed 6.8% in June, the third consecutive monthly increase. Sales of North American-built cars were up while imported car sales declined.

■ Slight Fall in New Housing Prices

The New Housing Price Index for Canada edged down 0.1% in June, following a 0.8% increase in May.

■ Decline in Number of Foreign Visitors Continues

The number of foreign visits of one or more nights to Canada dropped 1.6% in June, a larger decline than was recorded in May.

■ Farm Product Prices Edge Down

In June, the Farm Product Price Index for Canada (1986=100) fell 0.1% to 102.1. The crops index registered a decrease, while the livestock index rose marginally.

Fourth Straight Rise in Manufacturers' Shipments

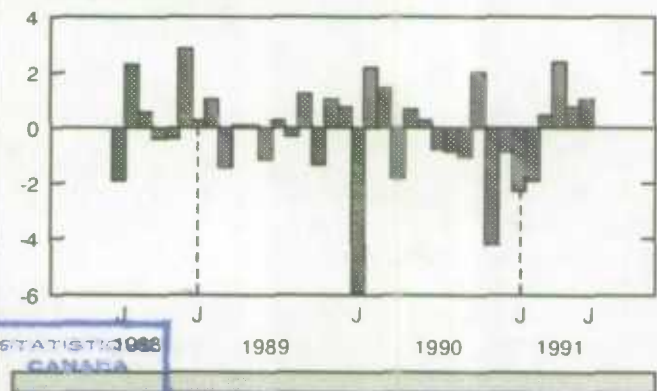
Canadian manufacturers' shipments rose 1.0% in June to \$23.6 billion, the fourth consecutive monthly increase following declines in the four previous months. Of the 22 major groups, 13 posted advances, up from May when only nine groups registered increases. The transportation and wood industries accounted for most of the gain in shipments, the former posting the fourth straight increase following four months of decline. Shipments in the wood industry were up 6.7%, the fifth straight monthly gain.

Unfilled orders declined 0.5% to \$24.7 billion in June, the nineteenth decrease registered in the last 20 months. The drop was broadly based as 14 of the major groups recorded reductions. This contrasts with the May decrease which was due to the aircraft and aircraft parts industry. Following a 1.6% drop in May, new orders rose 1.6% in June to \$23.5 billion. This represents the third increase in the last four months.

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Shipments

% change, previous month



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... Fourth Straight Rise in Manufacturers' Shipments

Inventory levels decreased 0.6% in June to \$36.0 billion, the sixth straight monthly decline. Although 14 of the 22 major groups recorded decreases, the decline was largely due to lower levels in the electrical and electronic products and refined petroleum and coal products industries. For the latter this was the sixth consecutive monthly decrease. Partially offsetting these drops were higher levels recorded in the transportation equipment industry.

The inventories to shipments ratio decreased from 1.55 in May to 1.53 in June, the fourth consecutive decline.

For further information, order *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (catalogue number 31-001) or contact *Industry Division* at (613) 951-9382. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

Manufacturers' Shipments, June 1991

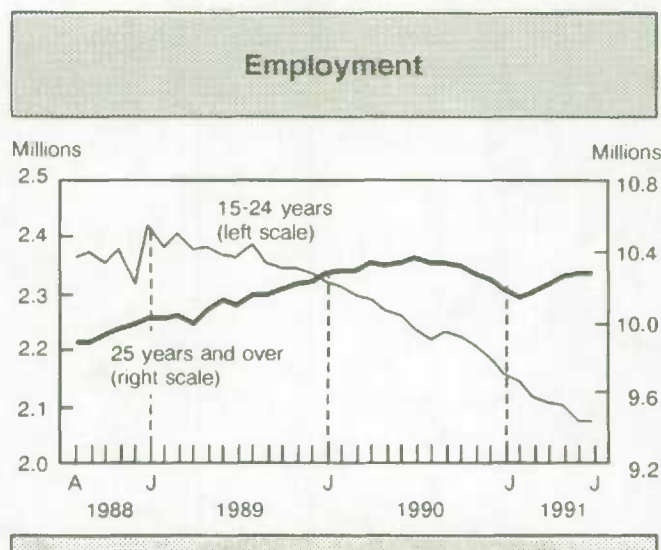
Unadjusted Data

Province	Total	
	\$ millions	% change, previous year
Canada	24,646	-6.4
Newfoundland	128	-6.1
Prince Edward Island	59	5.5
Nova Scotia	488	-4.0
New Brunswick	540	5.7
Quebec	5,870	-9.5
Ontario	12,956	-6.6
Manitoba	529	-14.8
Saskatchewan	334	1.5
Alberta	1,648	2.3
British Columbia	2,087	-5.2

Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged

The unemployment rate was unchanged at 10.5% in July, after rising in June and in May. For persons aged 15 to 24, the unemployment rate rose 0.4 percentage points to 17.7%, while the rate for those above the age of 25 fell slightly to a level of 8.9%. The unemployment rate for young men climbed 0.9 percentage points to 20.9%, while for adult men it declined 0.4 to 8.7%. The overall unemployment rate for men was down 0.1 percentage points. In contrast, the rate for women rose 0.1, reflecting an increase in the unemployment rate among adult women. Provincially, the rate went up in five provinces and down in the other five. Manitoba registered the largest increase (1.1), followed by New Brunswick (0.8) and Nova Scotia (0.7). The unemployment rate in Newfoundland recorded the most significant drop, falling 1.7 percentage points, with the rate in Prince Edward Island not far behind (-1.2).

The level of employment rose slightly in July, the fourth increase in the past five months. Prior to March 1991, employment had been declining continuously since September 1990. Employment among youths increased marginally, the first gain in 10 months. Employment rose 0.1% for adult men, but remained unchanged for adult women. Young women, however, posted a 0.6% rise in employment while young men recorded a 0.3% loss. Part-time employment growth was concentrated among youths, although this was offset by a decline in



full-time employment, also noted among youths. The estimated level of employment rose 3.8% in Newfoundland and increased slightly in Quebec and Ontario. Employment declined 1.2% in Manitoba and decreased marginally in Alberta and British Columbia. There was little change in the other provinces.

For further information, order *The Labour Force* (catalogue number 71-001) or contact *Household Surveys Division* at (613) 951-4720. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

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PROVINCIAL PERSPECTIVES

Labour Force Survey Results for July 1991

	Labour Force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	Rate (%)
Canada	13,807	0.0	12,358	0.1	1,449	10.5
Newfoundland	236	1.7	192	3.8	44	18.6
Prince Edward Island	64	0.0	54	1.9	10	16.1
Nova Scotia	420	0.0	367	-0.8	53	12.6
New Brunswick	326	1.2	285	0.4	41	12.6
Quebec	3,401	0.4	2,995	0.4	406	11.9
Ontario	5,310	0.0	4,780	0.3	530	10.0
Manitoba	542	0.0	490	-1.2	52	9.6
Saskatchewan	487	0.0	451	-0.2	36	7.4
Alberta	1,359	-0.5	1,245	-0.6	114	8.4
British Columbia	1,648	-0.6	1,486	-0.4	162	9.8

Motor Vehicle Sales Continue to Advance

Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 118,000 units in June, a 6.8% increase and the third consecutive monthly gain.

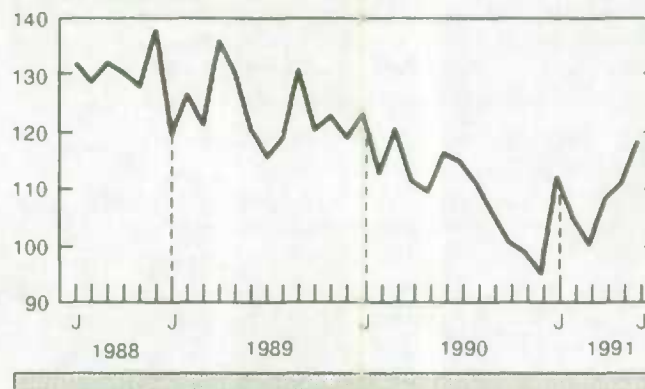
Passenger car sales rose 7.0% in June to a level of 81,000 units. This represented the third increase in a row and only the fourth advance since June 1990. Following a 1.7% drop in May, commercial vehicle sales increased 6.5% to 38,000, surpassing April's peak by 2,000 units.

Sales of North American-built cars jumped 12.2% to reach 55,000 units, the third increase following two straight monthly drops. Sales of imported passenger cars dropped 2.8% to 25,000 in June, following rises in the two previous months.

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



Slight Fall in New Housing Prices

The New Housing Price Index (1986=100) for Canada decreased 0.1% in June to a level of 131.1. This follows a 0.8% increase in May, the largest registered since April 1989. Out of the 21 cities included in the Canada composite index, only eight registered declines.

The Regina index posted the largest drop, falling 0.7%. This is the third consecutive decrease in the index and the most significant registered since August 1984. Even so, the Regina index remained 1.5% above its year-earlier level. After having declined for 11 straight months and then increased for two, the Kitchener-Waterloo index resumed to its downward trend, falling 0.3% in

(Continued on page 4)

... Slight Fall in New Housing Prices

June. The Ottawa-Hull index was also down 0.3%, the fifth monthly drop following four straight increases.

In contrast, the Edmonton index went up 0.6% in June, the largest gain registered since March 1990. For the first time in twelve months, the Saskatoon index posted a gain. The 0.3% advance was the greatest rise in the Saskatoon index in close to two years. The London and the Winnipeg indexes also edged up 0.3%, in each case the second straight increase.

Following a 1.7% rise in May, the estimated house-only index fell marginally in June, returning to the declining trend evident since April 1990. Estimated land-only prices were down 0.2%, slightly larger than the dips in May and April.

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

Decline in Number of Foreign Visitors Continues

The number of foreign visits of one or more nights to Canada dropped 1.6% in June, the fourth straight fall and a larger decline than was recorded in May. Following a marginal gain in May and a 1.9% drop in April, overnight trips by residents of the United States fell 2.3% in June. The number of visitors from other countries, however, posted a 1.0% increase following three months of decline.

The number of overnight trips abroad by Canadian residents advanced 2.3% in June, following a marginal decrease in May of 0.6%. After registering a 1.6% drop in May in the wake of two monthly increases, the number of trips to countries other than the United States rose 2.4%. The number of Canadians travelling to the United States was up 2.3%, also following a drop in May.

Same-day automobile travel (unadjusted for seasonal variation) to the United States by Canadian residents was up 17.4% from June 1990, while the number of same-day automobile trips to Canada by residents of the United States registered a year-over-year decrease of 0.1%.

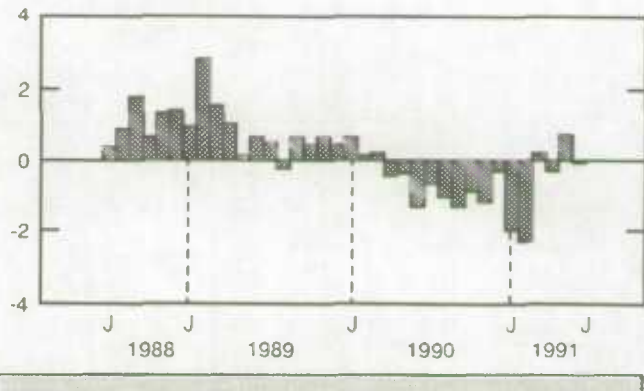
Farm Product Prices Edge Down

In June, the Farm Product Price Index for Canada (1986=100) stood at 102.1, down marginally from the revised May level. The crops index declined, while the livestock index rose slightly.

The crops index was down 0.7% to 98.0. It reflected decreases in the prices of cereals and

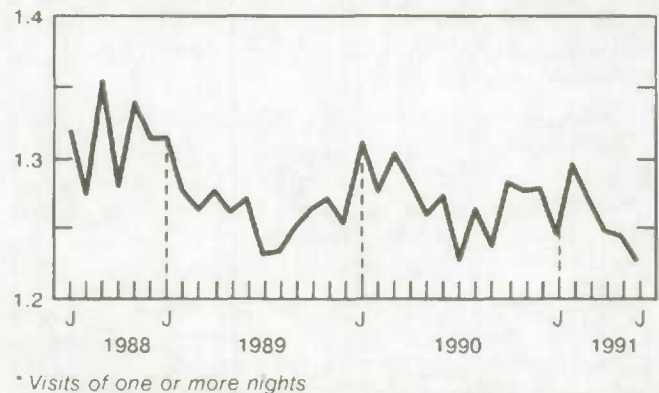
New Housing Price Index

% change, previous month



Foreign Visitors*

Millions, seasonally adjusted



* Visits of one or more nights

For further information, order *International Travel - Advance Information* (catalogue number 66-001P) or contact *Education, Culture and Tourism Division* at (613) 951-8933.

oilseeds that more than offset an increase in potato prices. Lower prices for wheat, barley, oats and rye in most provinces pushed the cereals index down 0.7%, the second consecutive decline. Over the first four months of 1991, the cereals index trended slightly upwards. The oilseeds index fell in June as

(Continued on page 5)

... Farm Product Prices Edge Down

flaxseed and canola prices dropped. This was the second straight monthly decrease following slight seasonal increases in April and March. The potatoes index was up in June.

The livestock and animal products index rose 0.2% in June to a level of 104.6. Increases in hog and egg prices more than offset decreases in cattle and poultry prices. Hog prices continued to rebound from the declines experienced in April and March and April, rising a further 4.0% in June. In contrast, cattle and calf prices were down, only the second decline in the past six months.

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

The Farm Product Price Index

June 1991

Province	Crops		Livestock and Animal Products	
	% change from		% change from	
	May 1991	June 1990	May 1991	June 1990
Canada	-0.7	-19.9	0.2	-1.5
Newfoundland	-0.7	-9.2	-0.5	-0.9
Prince Edward Island	-0.8	-5.9	-1.2	-1.2
Nova Scotia	-0.1	-9.6	0.7	-2.2
New Brunswick	0.8	-15.6	0.7	-2.5
Quebec	-0.2	-6.4	0.8	-3.8
Ontario	-1.4	-9.5	1.0	-1.7
Manitoba	-1.0	-26.5	-1.0	-3.1
Saskatchewan	-0.4	-25.6	-0.1	0.6
Alberta	-0.6	-22.2	-1.3	2.1
British Columbia	0.2	-12.7	0.3	-0.7

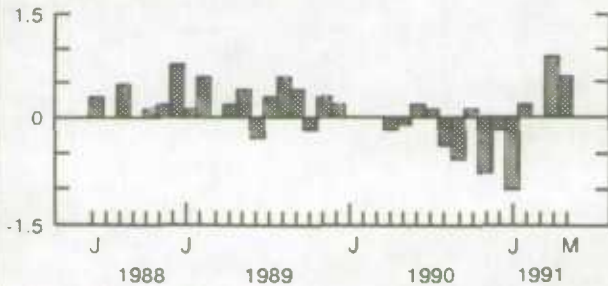
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM AUGUST 9 TO 15, 1991

Division/title	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
			\$US		
AGRICULTURE					
Farm Product Price Index	June 1991	62-003	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS					
Labour Force Information	For the week ended July 20, 1991	71-001P	6.30/63	7.60/76	8.80/88
INDUSTRY					
Construction Type Plywood	June 1991	35-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Department Store Sales and Stocks	February 1991	63-002	14.40/144	17.30/173	20.20/202
Electric Lamps	July 1991	43-009	5/50	6/60	7/70
Oils and Fats	June 1991	32-006	5/50	6/60	7/70
Oil Pipe Line Transport	May 1991	55-001	10/100	12/120	14/140
Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard	June 1991	36-003	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production and Shipments of Steel					
Pipe and Tubing	June 1991	41-011	5/50	6/60	7/70
Pulwood and Wood Residue Statistics	June 1991	25-001	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products	June 1991	41-006	5/50	6/60	7/70
Wholesale Trade	May 1991	63-008	14.40/144	17.30/173	20.20/202
INTERNATIONAL TRADE					
Imports by Commodity	May 1991	65-007	55.10/551	66.10/661	77.10/771
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK					
Building Permits	May 1991	64-001	22.10/221	26.50/265	30.90/309
SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY					
Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics	May 1991	63-011	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
Science Statistics Service Bulletin Vol. 15, No. 5		88-001	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
TRANSPORTATION					
Air Passenger Origin and Destination, Domestic Report	1990	51-204	38	46	53
Railway Operating Statistics	April 1991	52-003	10.50/105	12.60/126	14.70/147

CURRENT TRENDS

Gross Domestic Product

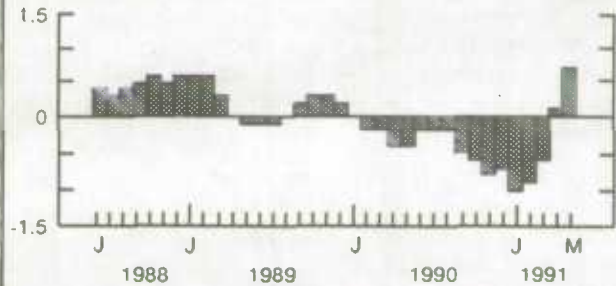
% change,
previous month



Real GDP at factor cost rose 0.6% in May, the second consecutive increase

Composite Leading Indicator

% change,
previous month



The Composite Leading Indicator increased 0.7% in May, the second straight gain following 14 months of decline.

Consumer Price Index

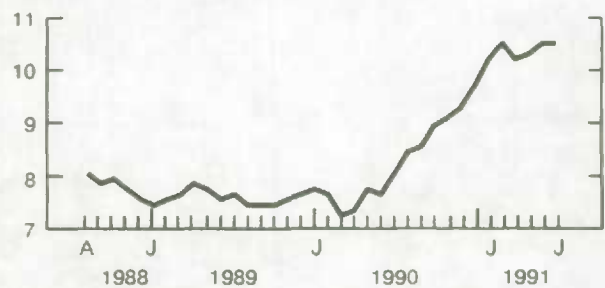
% change,
previous year



The CPI was up 0.5% in June as the food component climbed sharply due to a surge in fresh vegetable prices.

Unemployment Rate

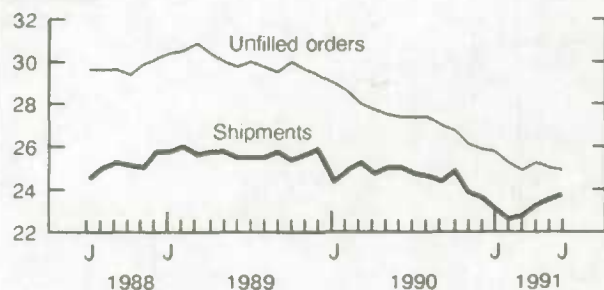
%



In July, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 10.5%, following two monthly increases.

Manufacturing

Billions
of dollars



In June, shipments increased (1.0%) for the fourth consecutive month, while unfilled orders declined 0.5%.

Merchandise Trade

Billions
of dollars



Total merchandise exports fell 3.5% in May and imports dropped 6.2% to the lowest monthly total since July 1988.

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted except the consumer price index.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Period	Level	Change Previous Period	Change Previous Year
GENERAL				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	May	506	0.6%	-1.0%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	May	137.5	0.7%	-4.6%
Profits of Industrial Corporations (\$ billion)	1st Quarter	12.3	-15.9%	-28.9%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	May	15.2	1.5%	-4.1%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	June*	118.3	6.8%	1.9%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	July*	12.4	0.1%	-2.0%
Unemployment Rate (%)	July*	10.5	0.0	2.5
Participation Rate (%)	July*	66.5	-0.1	-0.5
Labour Income (\$ billion)	May	32.2	0.6%	1.8%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May	536.88	0.3%	5.7%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	May	11.6	-3.5%	-7.2%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	May	10.4	-6.2%	-7.6%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	May	1.2	0.3	0.05
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	June*	23.6	1.0%	-5.4%
New Orders (\$ billion)	June*	23.5	1.6%	-5.2%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	June*	24.7	-0.5%	-9.5%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	June*	1.53	-0.03	0.01
Capacity Utilization (%)	1st Quarter	70.5	-4.3	-11.8
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	June	126.7	0.5%	6.3%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	June	108.6	-0.2%	-0.7%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	June	104.0	-0.2%	0.4%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	June*	131.1	-0.1%	-8.7%

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

* New this week.

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Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613) 951-1116

Editor: Alison Gardner (613) 951-1197

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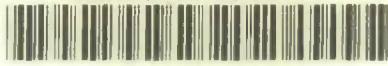
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