



# IN·F·O·M·A·T

## A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, August 28, 1992

### OVERVIEW

#### ■ UI Beneficiaries: Five-month Upward Movement Interrupted

Following five consecutive monthly increases, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits fell 1.1% in June.

#### ■ Raw Material Prices Continue to Rise

The Raw Materials Price Index rose for the sixth straight month in July, this time by 1.8%.

#### ■ Industrial Product Prices Advance Marginally

The Industrial Product Price Index (1986=100) was up 0.1% in July to a level of 108.9.

#### ■ Retail Sales Fluctuate

After a drop of 0.7% in May, seasonally adjusted retail sales increased 1.0% in June to a level of \$15.3 billion.

#### ■ Fourth Straight Month of Increased Wholesaling

In June, wholesale merchants' sales rose to \$15.8 billion, up 0.6% from May.

#### ■ Net Foreign Investment in Canadian Securities Rebounds

In June, total net investment in Canadian securities by non-resident investors rebounded to a near-record \$5.0 billion, after registering less than one-third that level in the previous month.

#### ■ CPI Continues Slow Year-over-year Changes

After hitting a 30-year low of 1.1% in June, the year-over-year increase in the all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada rose to 1.3% in July.

This issue also includes information on department store sales, on young offenders, and on community college enrolment.

### UI Beneficiaries: Five-month Upward Movement Interrupted

The seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits fell by 1.1% in June to a level of 1.1 million, offsetting a 1.1% increase recorded in May. This decline interrupted successive monthly increases which started early in 1992. However, on a year-over-year basis, the number of beneficiaries in June 1992 was 5.0% below the level of June 1991.

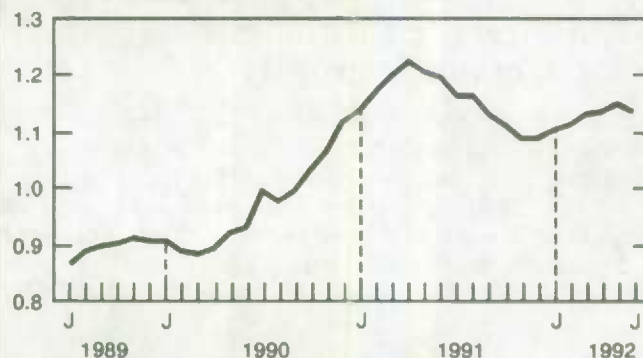
In June, the number of UI beneficiaries decreased in the territories and in all the provinces, except in Ontario. Compared to a year earlier, all 10 provinces recorded declines but the Northwest Territories posted a 14.6% increase. (See accompanying table.)



(continued on page 2)

#### U.I. Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits

Millions, seasonally adjusted



Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

Canada

### ... UI Beneficiaries: Five-month Upward Movement Interrupted

Total benefit payments were up by 0.2% and reached \$1.3 billion. But in spite of four successive increases, payments were 3.3% lower compared to June 1991. After three consecutive monthly increases, the number of benefit weeks slipped 0.2% in June to 5.0 million.

*For further information, order Unemployment Insurance Statistics (catalogue number 73-001) or contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4039.*

### U.I. Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits, June 1992

Seasonally Adjusted

Province/Territory	Total (000)	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-5.0</b>
Newfoundland	70	-4.3	-6.4
Prince Edward Island	13	-10.1	-0.2
Nova Scotia	52	-4.9	-4.6
New Brunswick	58	-3.2	-3.1
Québec	356	-2.1	-6.5
Ontario	332	2.3	-0.8
Manitoba	29	-0.2	-11.3
Saskatchewan	24	-1.2	-4.9
Alberta	77	-0.9	-1.3
British Columbia	121	-0.1	-11.5
Yukon	1	-4.5	-16.8
Northwest Territories	2	-3.6	14.6

### Raw Material Prices Continue to Rise

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986=100) rose 1.8% in July to a level of 109.5, marking its sixth consecutive monthly increase. On a year-over-year basis, raw material prices advanced 6.9%; five of the seven components recorded increases but the overall rise was mainly attributable to the mineral fuels (14.0%) and wood (11.6%) indexes.

In July, the mineral fuels price index, which accounts for 32% of the RMPI, climbed for the sixth straight month, this time by 3.8%. Also advancing

for the sixth month in a row, the wood index was up 2.8% in July and the non-ferrous metals index was up by 3.1%.

Moderating the overall increase, the animal products index, which accounts for one-quarter of the RMPI, edged down 0.6%. The vegetable products index fell 1.6% and the ferrous materials and the non-metallic minerals indexes decreased 0.7% and 0.3%, respectively.

*For further information contact Prices Division at (613) 951-9607.*

### Industrial Product Prices Advance Marginally

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) was up 0.1% in July to a level of 108.9, posting a third consecutive monthly rise. Compared to July 1991, the index increased 0.6% with the highest index gains in autos, trucks and other transportation equipment (3.9%) and in fruit, vegetables and miscellaneous foods products (1.9%).

Eight of the 21 major groups of products recorded monthly advances in July while six decreased and seven remained unchanged. Notable

increases were noted in the indexes for petroleum and coal products (1.2%), chemical products (0.8%), and primary metal products (0.5%).

Declines were reported in knitted products and clothing (-0.9%) and lumber, sawmill and other wood products (-0.4%). Decreases in other groups were marginal.

*For further information, order Industry Price Indexes (catalogue number 62-011), or contact Prices Division at (613) 951-9607.*



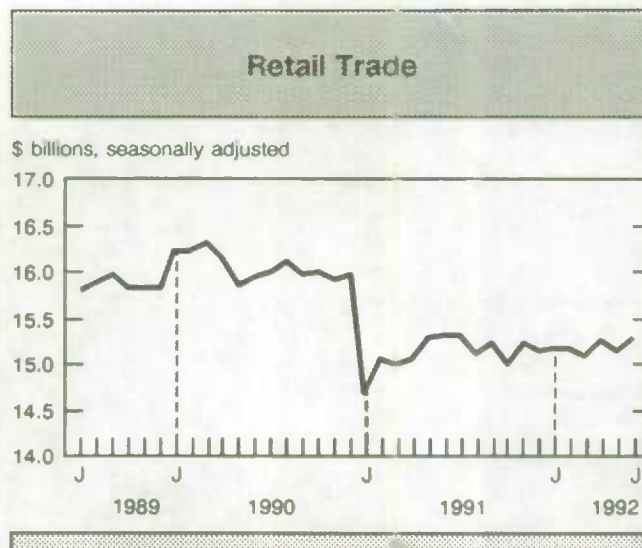
## Retail Sales Fluctuate

Seasonally adjusted retail sales totalled \$15.3 billion in June, an increase of 1.0% from the previous month. The advance followed a 0.7% decline in May and a 1.1% gain in April.

The strong showing in June was broadly-based as 10 of the 16 trade groups recorded higher sales. The most significant increases, in order of dollar value, were reported in the automotive group, which accounts for 34.3% of total sales. Sales by gasoline service stations climbed 5.3% and sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers rose 1.5%.

Other significant increases were recorded by supermarkets and grocery stores (0.6%) and by household furniture and appliance stores (3.5%). Increased sales by supermarkets and grocery stores in June almost offset the decline posted in May (-0.7%). Higher sales by household furniture and appliance stores in June followed two months of lower sales.

Seven of the 10 provinces reported stronger retail sales in June, with gains ranging from 0.3% in Alberta to 3.7% in Newfoundland. Manitoba and Saskatchewan had lower sales.



On a year-over-year basis, retail sales were 0.1% lower than in June 1991, but cumulative retail sales for the first half of 1992 were up 0.9% from the corresponding period in 1991 (sales in early 1991 were unusually low following the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax).

For further information, order *Retail Trade* (catalogue number 63-005), or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-9682.

## Fourth Straight Month of Increased Wholesaling

In June, seasonally adjusted wholesale merchants' sales rose to \$15.8 billion, up 0.6% from May. Compared to June 1991, wholesale sales were up 5.3%.

Five of the nine trade groups recorded increased sales, while three had lower sales. The other machinery, equipment and supplies group enjoyed its second month of strong growth, rising 1.3% in June, which in terms of dollar impact, translated into the most significant sales increase amongst the groups. Increases were also recorded by wholesalers of motor vehicles, parts and accessories (2.0%) and by wholesalers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (2.6%). Wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies suffered a third straight month of declining sales (-0.7% in June), and wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products registered a 1.0% decrease in sales after two months of growth.

From May to June, wholesale merchants' inventories rose 0.7% to \$24.8 billion, a 4.8% increase from June 1991. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of June remained unchanged at 1.57.

Across the provinces and territories, six provinces recorded higher sales and four provinces plus the territories had lower sales. In terms of dollar impact, Québec reported the highest growth in wholesale merchants' sales.

For further information, order *Wholesale Trade* (catalogue number 63-008), or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-3540.

(continued on page 4)

## PROVINCIAL PERSPECTIVES

### Retail and Wholesale Trade, June 1992

Seasonally Adjusted

	Retail Sales		Wholesale Sales	
	\$ millions	% change from previous month	\$ millions	% change from previous month
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,276</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>15,758</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Newfoundland	275	3.7	171	2.9
Prince Edward Island	66	0.0	48	8.5
Nova Scotia	525	3.6	360	0.1
New Brunswick	389	0.8	239	-3.1
Québec	3,763	0.9	3,977	1.4
Ontario	5,619	0.7	6,482	0.6
Manitoba	514	-1.9	592	7.4
Saskatchewan	443	-1.1	477	-0.2
Alberta	1,612	0.3	1,399	-1.0
British Columbia	1,999	2.3	1,996	-1.1
Yukon	15	8.4	17	-9.2
Northwest Territories	32	3.2		

### Net Foreign Investment in Canadian Securities Rebounds

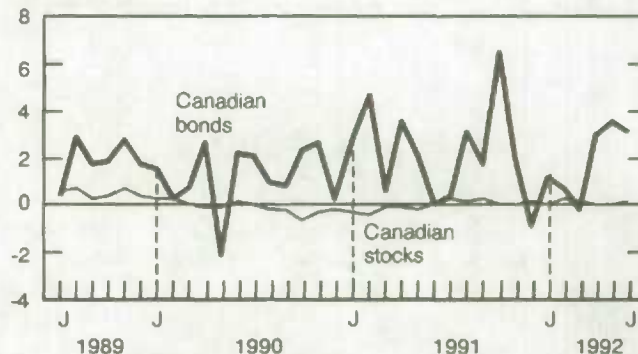
In June, total net investment in Canadian securities by non-resident investors rebounded to a near-record \$5.0 billion, after registering less than one-third that level in the previous month. The cumulative total for the first six months of 1992, at \$17.1 billion, exceeded by far the total for the same period in 1991 (\$10.9 billion).

Though foreign investors acquired a record \$7.3 billion in new issues of Canadian bonds, total net bond sales actually decreased by 11% from May to \$3.1 billion. This was due to large retirements of maturing bonds in the amount of \$4.2 billion, and a sharp drop in net secondary bond market sales to -\$16 million after that market saw an average monthly investment of \$1.5 billion in the two previous months. The primary issuers of the new bonds sold were once again the provinces and their enterprises.

Contributing to the near-record level of total foreign investment in Canadian securities was a net investment of \$1.9 billion in the Canadian money market, a reversal from the disinvestment of \$1.8 billion seen in May. Net sales of Government of Canada treasury bills accounted for \$1.1 billion of foreign net investment in Canadian money market paper.

### Security Transactions

Billions of dollars



Canadian residents added to their holdings of foreign securities for the eighth month in a row in June, this time by \$0.9 billion, an amount consistent with the monthly average for the previous five months of 1992. The bulk of investment by Canadian residents went towards purchases of overseas bonds.

For further information, order Canada's *International Transactions in Securities* (catalogue number 67-002) or contact Balance of Payments Division at (613) 951-1864.



## CPI Continues Slow Year-over-year Changes

The all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada increased by 1.3% between July 1991 and July 1992 to a level of 128.4 (1986=100). The year-over-year change was higher than the 1.1% increase noted in June and matched the 1.3% rise reported in May.

On a monthly basis, the all-items index advanced by 0.2% for the third straight month. Five of the seven major components registered increases, with the largest upward pressure coming from the housing and transportation indexes. The introduction of a tax on services in the province of Québec as part of the harmonization of the Québec Sales Tax with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) was a factor in the monthly rise.

After a 0.1% decrease in June, the housing index rose by 0.4% in July. Summer rates and the introduction of the 4% sales tax in Québec accounted for higher charges for hotel/motel accommodation. The continuing fall of mortgage interest costs, down 0.5% in July, moderated the impact of the increases.

The transportation index rose for the fifth month in a row, this time by 0.8%, as gasoline prices climbed 3.5% and air fares skyrocketed (7.7%). In

addition to increases in air fares to European and Caribbean destinations, largely of a seasonal nature, fares for domestic flights (subject to the new Québec tax) and to U.S. destinations rose as well.

Most of the 0.8% advance in the health and personal care index came from the personal component which rose by 1.0%. The recreation, reading and education index was up 0.3% following no change in June. Both the recreation and reading materials components increased 0.5%.

Following a 0.5% decrease in June, the clothing index fell a further 0.5% in July, marking the fourth month in a row in which the index has declined.

The food index fell 0.2% in July after an advance of 0.8% in June. A rise of 0.3% in the index for food purchased from restaurants was counterbalanced by a drop of 0.3% in the index for food purchased from stores.

Between July 1991 and July 1992, the food index fell by 1.7%, the seventh consecutive month to have a year-over-year decrease.

For further information, order *Consumer Price Index* (catalogue number 62-001) or contact *Prices Division* at (613) 951-9606. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 8.)

## PROVINCIAL PERSPECTIVES: CONSUMER PRICES

### The Consumer Price Index, Percentage Change, July 1992/1991 \*

Province /territory	All-items	Food	Transportation	All items excluding Food and Energy	Housing
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Newfoundland	0.6	-4.3	3.4	1.9	0.0
Prince Edward Island	0.6	-2.9	2.6	1.6	0.8
Nova Scotia	0.9	-1.5	3.9	1.3	0.8
New Brunswick	0.3	-1.1	2.4	0.9	0.7
Québec	1.7	-1.4	3.3	2.6	2.0
Ontario	0.6	-2.9	3.1	1.2	0.9
Manitoba	1.4	-0.6	2.6	1.8	1.6
Saskatchewan	0.6	-1.8	1.1	1.6	1.2
Alberta	1.2	-1.9	3.6	1.9	1.4
British Columbia	2.7	1.2	6.5	3.3	1.6
Yukon	0.9	-1.4	2.1	1.6	1.7
Northwest Territories	0.9	-2.9	2.8	1.4	1.7

\* Data are not seasonally adjusted

## Department Store Sales Slow

Seasonally adjusted department store sales (including concessions) totalled \$1,067 million in June, a decline of 1.2% from the revised May level of \$1,081 million. This decrease was lower than the 2.5% drop in May. Cumulative sales for the first six months of 1992 were virtually the same when compared to the first half of 1991.

Department store stocks totalled \$5,205 million at the end of June, a decrease of 0.6% from the May value of \$5,235 million.

For further information, order *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (catalogue number 63-002) or contact *Industry Division* at (613) 951-9824.

## Majority of Young Offenders Charged with Shoplifting

According to preliminary data from the Uniform Crime Reporting survey, 146,456 young persons, aged 12 to 17, were reported as being charged with a federal statute offence in 1991. Of these, 70% were charged with property offences. This represents an increase of 9% from 1990 and 17% from 1986. In comparison, 230,301 adults were charged with property crimes, representing 43% of all adults charged with Criminal Code offences.

Of those young persons charged with property offences, 42% were charged with theft under \$1,000 (most involved shoplifting), and 27% were charged with break and enter (mostly in residential properties). Motor vehicle theft accounted for 9%; mischief, 9%; possession of stolen goods, 7%; and fraud, arson or theft over \$1,000, the remaining 6%.

The rate of young persons charged with property crimes was 47 per 1,000 youths, a rise of 9% from the 1990 rate (42 per 1,000) and 19% from 1986 (39 per 1,000). Rates of property crimes were higher in the western provinces and were lowest in Québec, New Brunswick and Ontario.

Of all property crime cases heard in youth court, 72% resulted in a finding of guilt. For these cases, 53% of youths were placed on probation and 23% were taken into custody.

*For further information, order Juristat Service Bulletin: Youth Property Crime in Canada, 1990-91 (catalogue number 85-002) or contact the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics at (613) 951-9023.*

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## Community College Enrolment Up

In the fall of 1991, full-time postsecondary enrolment at community colleges and related institutions was up, as compared to fall 1990, 3.8% to 342,000 students. Since the fall of 1989, enrolment has increased by 8%. The institutions in question are postsecondary non-degree granting bodies such as colleges of applied arts and technology, technical institutes, the general and vocational colleges (CEGEP) and other institutions providing training in specialized fields such as agriculture, arts and forestry. Nursing schools and other training programs administered by hospitals, clinics or regional schools are also included.

Between the fall of 1990 and fall 1991, career program enrolment was up 4.0% and enrolment in university transfer programs was up 3.4%. Career programs normally require completion of secondary school and take at least 24 weeks for completion. They prepare a student to enter an occupation upon completion of the program at an occupational level between that of the university-trained professional and the skilled tradesman. University transfer programs require secondary school completion and provide a student with standing equivalent to the first or second year of a university degree program.

Enrolment increases in career programs ranged from 0.5% in Saskatchewan to 15.9% in New Brunswick. British Columbia registered the highest increase in university transfer program enrolment, at 8.7%.

*For further information, contact Education, Culture and Tourism Division at (613) 951-8285.*



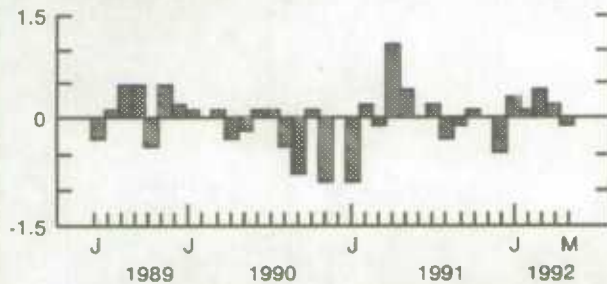
# PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM AUGUST 21 TO 27, 1992

Division/title	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
			\$US		
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Farm Cash Receipts	January-June 1992	21-001	11/44	13.25/53	15.50/62
The Dairy Review	June 1992	23-001	12.20/122	14.60/146	17.10/171
<b>CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS</b>					
Juristat Service Bulletin: Elderly Victims of Violent Crime, Vol. 12, No. 15	1988-1991	85-002	3.60/90	4.30/108	5/126
Juristat Service Bulletin: Youth Property Crime in Canada, Vol. 12, No. 14	1990-91	85-002	3.60/90	4.30/108	5/126
<b>EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM</b>					
Education Statistics Bulletin: Growth of French Immersion in Public Elementary- Secondary Schools, Vol. 14, No. 5	August 1992	81-002	4.90/49	5.90/59	6.90/69
Touriscope: International Travel - Advance Information	June 1992	66-001P	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
<b>INDUSTRY</b>					
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables	June 1992	32-011	5/50	6/60	7/70
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers	July 1992	36-004	5/50	6/60	7/70
Department Store Monthly Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	May 1992	63-004	2.70/27	3.20/32	3.80/38
Electric Lamps	July 1992	43-009	5/50	6/60	7/70
Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation	July 1992	44-004	5/50	6/60	7/70
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks	July 1992	32-001	2.70/27	3.20/32	3.80/38
Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	June 1992	31-001	17.30/173	20.80/208	24.20/242
Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products	July 1992	32-022	5/50	6/60	7/70
Refined Petroleum Products	May 1992	45-004	18.20/182	21.80/218	25.50/255
Shipments of Plastic Film and Bags Manufactured from Resin	Quarter Ended June 1992	47-007	6.75/27	8/32	9.50/38
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Employment, Earnings and Hours	May 1992	72-002	28.50/285	34.20/342	39.90/399
Estimates of Labour Income	January - March 1992	72-005	22.50/90	27/108	31.50/126
<b>PRICES</b>					
Industry Price Indexes	June 1992	62-011	18.20/182	21.80/218	25.50/255
<b>SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>					
Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics	June 1992	63-011	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>					
Air Carrier Operations in Canada	October - December 1991	51-002	24.25/97	29/116	34/136
Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, Vol. 24, No. 8	August 1992	51-004	9.30/93	11.20/112	13/130
Railway Carloadings	June 1992	52-001	8.30/83	10/100	11.60/116

## CURRENT TRENDS

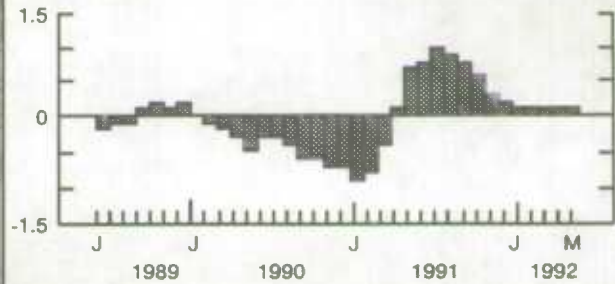
### Gross Domestic Product

% change,  
previous month



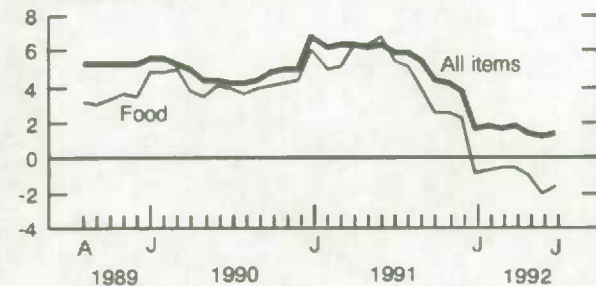
### Composite Leading Indicator

% change,  
previous month



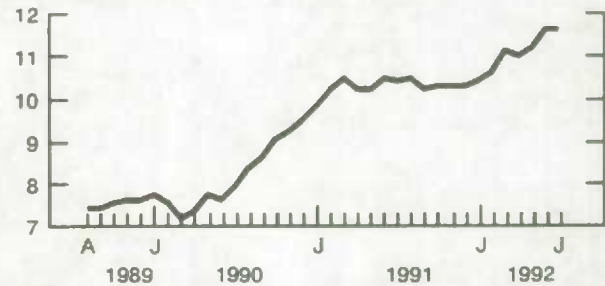
### Consumer Price Index

% change,  
previous year



### Unemployment Rate

%



### Manufacturing

Billions  
of dollars



### Merchandise Trade

Billions  
of dollars



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



## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Period	Level	Change Previous Period	Change Previous Year
<b>GENERAL</b>				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	May	505.6	-0.1%	0.2%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981=100)	May	144.5	0.1%	5.2%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	1st Quarter	10.4	5.1%	-11.9%
<b>DOMESTIC DEMAND</b>				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	June*	15.3	1.0%	-0.1%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	June	97.3	-0.9%	-17.4%
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Employment (millions)	July	12.2	-0.2%	-1.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	July	11.6	0.0	1.6
Participation Rate (%)	July	65.6	-0.2	-0.8
Labour Income (\$ billion)	May	32.4	0.4%	2.9%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June*	549.08	0.0%	3.2%
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	June	12.7	-1.5%	7.4%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	June	12.3	2.7%	8.1%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	June	0.35	-0.52	-0.05
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>				
Shipments (\$ billion)	June	23.3	1.0%	-0.8%
New Orders (\$ billion)	June	23.3	2.6%	-0.4%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	June	21.7	-0.3%	-11.0%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	June	1.46	-0.02	-0.07
Capacity Utilization (%)	1st Quarter	69.8	-0.5	-0.4
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1986=100)	July*	128.4	0.2%	1.3%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986=100)	July*	108.9	0.1%	0.6%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986=100)	July*	109.5	1.8%	6.9%
New Housing Price Index (1986=100)	June	134.5	0.2%	0.1%

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

\* New this week.

# KEY RELEASE CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER 1992\*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>1</b> Short-term Expectations Survey Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, July	<b>2</b> Help-wanted Index, August	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Labour Force Survey, August Field Crop Reporting Series: No. 6 - August Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> New Motor Vehicle Sales, July Estimates of Labour Income, June Farm Product Price Index, July	<b>10</b> New Housing Price Index, July Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area, July	<b>11</b>
<b>14</b> Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, July	<b>15</b> Census of Population: Mother Tongue Data, 1991	<b>16</b> Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, July Department Store Sales - Advance Release, August	<b>17</b> Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Merchandise Trade, July	<b>18</b> The Consumer Price Index, August
<b>21</b> Retail Trade, July Sales of Natural Gas, July	<b>22</b> Wholesale Trade, July Department Store Sales and Stocks, July	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Canada's International Transactions in Securities, July	<b>25</b> Industrial Product Price Index, August Raw Materials Price Index, August
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, August	<b>30</b> Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, July Building Permits, July Unemployment Insurance Statistics, July		

\* Release dates for International Trade, the Consumer Price Index and the Labour Force Survey are fixed; dates for other data series may change.

## I·N·F·O·M·A·T

### A Weekly Review

Published by the Communications Division Statistics Canada.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613) 951-1116

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R.H. Coats Building, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

Catalogue: 11-002E. Price: Canada: \$2.50 per issue, \$125.00 per year; United States: US\$3.00 per issue, US\$150.00 per year; Other Countries: US\$3.50 per issue, US\$175.00. Canadian customers please remember to add 7% GST. To subscribe: send money order or cheque payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publication Sales, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6. To order by telephone dial: 1-800-267-6677 within Canada or 613-951-7277 from all other countries.

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