



IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, September 18, 1992

OVERVIEW

■ Exports Grow Faster than Imports

In July, the seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports climbed by \$412 million and imports were up by \$195 million, pushing Canada's trade balance up by \$217 million from June.

■ Manufacturing Activity Sluggish in July

The value of manufacturers' shipments dropped 2.1% in July to \$22.6 billion. New orders and unfilled orders were also down, by 3.1% and 0.5%, respectively.

■ More Visitors from Abroad; Fewer Trips to the U.S.

In July, the seasonally adjusted volume of trips by foreign travellers staying for one or more nights in Canada increased 0.5% while comparable trips by Canadian residents to the United States declined 2.6%.

■ Back Injuries: Leading Cause of Time-loss Claims

Throughout the 1980s, work-related back injuries accounted for more Workers' Compensation claims than injuries to any other body part.



Exports Grow Faster than Imports

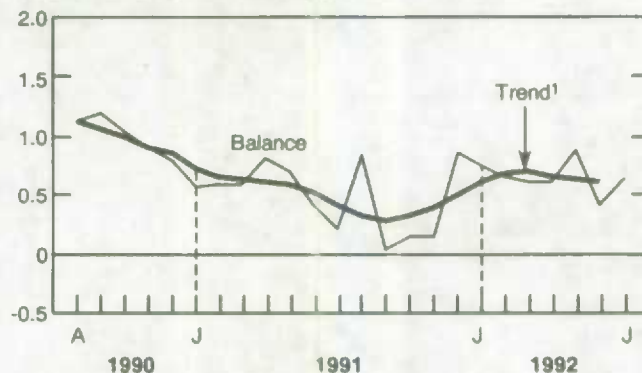
The seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports has risen every month this year except in June when a drop of 1.2% was recorded. In July, exports climbed 3.2% to \$13.1 billion and were 9.0% above the level of July 1991. Exports for the first seven months of 1992 totalled \$88.7 billion, 8.0% higher than the value for the corresponding period in 1991.

In July, almost all of the increase resulted from higher exports of wheat, which rose by \$434 million, but notable advances were also registered for exports of machinery and equipment (\$209 million) and energy products (\$47 million). Moderating the increases were lower exports of automotive products (-\$150 million), forestry products (-\$103 million), industrial goods (-\$80 million) and miscellaneous consumer goods (-\$13 million).

(continued on page 2)

Merchandise Trade Balance

Billions of dollars, seasonally adjusted



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

... Exports Grow Faster than Imports

Seasonally adjusted imports rose 1.6% in July to \$12.5 billion after increasing 2.6% in June. The year-to-date total of the value of imports was \$84.3 billion, 7.6% higher than in the same period in 1991.

Imports of machinery and equipment showed the largest increase in July, rising by \$280 million. Imports of industrial goods were up by \$49 million and agricultural and fishing products advanced by \$32 million. On the down side, imports of energy

products dropped by \$130 million, automotive products fell by \$62 million and miscellaneous consumer goods were down by \$44 million.

In July, Canada's trade balance rose to \$623 million from \$406 million in June.

For further information, order *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade* (catalogue number 65-001P), or contact International Trade Division at (613) 951-9647. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

Manufacturing Activity Sluggish in July

The seasonally adjusted value of Canadian manufacturers' shipments amounted to \$22.6 billion in July, down 2.1% from the revised June figure of \$23.1 billion. This decline more than offset an advance of 0.3% in June and reflected longer than normal plant shutdowns due to extended summer holidays, along with an increase in the number of temporary plant closures. The trend for shipments was unchanged after increasing in the previous four months.

Fourteen of the 22 major groups, accounting for 75% of shipment values, contributed to the decrease. Shipments dropped 7.1% in the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries, the third straight monthly decline. Other noteworthy drops were in the transportation equipment industries (-5.6%), the food industries (-1.5%), and the primary metal industries (-2.9%). Increases were small in eight industry groups except in the refined petroleum and coal products industries where shipments rose 3.6%.

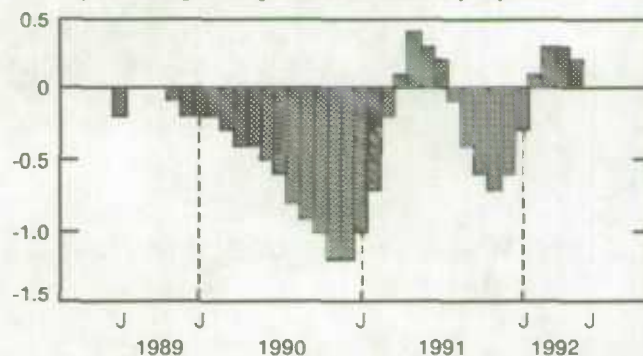
Manufacturers' Shipments, July 1992

Unadjusted Data

Province	Total	
	\$ millions	% change previous year
Canada	21,087	-2.7
Newfoundland	149	-5.0
Prince Edward Island	43	-13.7
Nova Scotia	407	-8.2
New Brunswick	505	11.2
Québec	5,106	-1.8
Ontario	10,554	-3.6
Manitoba	508	4.7
Saskatchewan	312	4.7
Alberta	1,659	2.2
British Columbia	1,836	-8.1

Shipments

Monthly percentage change in trend, seasonally adjusted



Note: The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.

The level of unfilled orders, which if not cancelled would generate shipments, was down 0.5% to \$22.0 billion. Unfilled orders of fabricated metal products fell, 3.8%, as did those of electrical and electronic products, posting a decline of 1.7%. New orders also decreased in July, falling 3.1% to \$22.5 billion, completely offsetting a 2.4% increase in June.

Inventory levels fell for the fifth time in six months, by 0.3% in July to \$33.9 billion. Inventories dropped in 13 of the 22 major industry groups, with the largest declines in the fabricated metal products industries (-3.3%), chemical products industries (-1.2%), and paper and allied products industries (-1.1%). In contrast, primary metal industries and printing and publishing industries showed increases of 1.2% and 4.8%, respectively.

The inventories to shipment ratio increased from 1.47 in June to 1.50 in July.

For further information, order *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (catalogue number 31-001), or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-9832. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

More Visitors from Abroad; Fewer Trips to the U.S.

The seasonally adjusted volume of visits by foreign travellers to Canada staying for one or more nights increased 0.5% in July. Trips of one night or more to Canada by American visitors advanced for the third time this year, by 0.2% in July. Comparable trips by travellers from overseas countries were also up, by 1.7%, offsetting the decline of 1.1% recorded in June.

In July, fewer Canadians crossed the American border. A drop of 2.6% in the number of trips of one night or more by Canadian residents to the United States, by all modes of travel, pushed the overall volume of resident travel down 2.1%. In July 1992,

International Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

July 1992, Seasonally Adjusted

	('000)	% change previous month	% change previous year
One or More Night Trips			
Non-resident Travellers:			
United States	975	0.2	-2.7
Other Countries	246	1.7	1.6
Total	1,221	0.5	-1.8
Residents of Canada:			
United States	1,521	-2.6	-7.9
Other Countries	262	0.7	8.0
Total	1,783	-2.1	-5.9
Auto Re-entries			
Residents of Canada:			
Same-day	4,847	-0.4	0.7
Overnight	1,104	-3.6	-7.0

Back Injuries: Leading Cause of Time-loss Claims

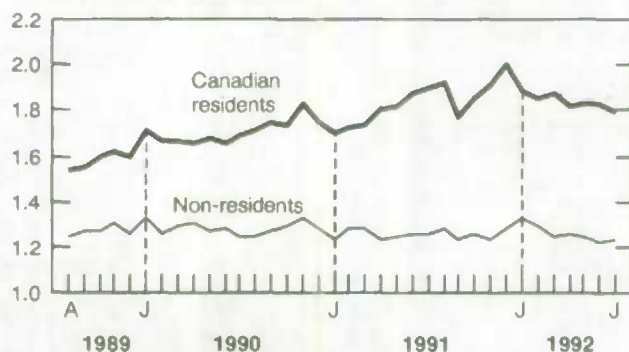
Throughout the 1980s, work-related back injuries accounted for more Workers' Compensation claims than injuries to any other body part, so that by 1990 they constituted 28% of time-loss claims compared with 26% in 1982.

In 1990, Workers' Compensation Boards across Canada paid lost-time benefits to workers for 164,000 back injuries. The next most common claims were for hand, wrist or finger injuries (122,000). Other time-loss claims ranged from 56,000 for foot, ankle or toe injuries down to 25,000 for injuries to the chest, hips or abdomen.

Far more men (121,000) than women (42,000) suffered work-related back injuries in 1990 and the

Trips of One or More Nights between Canada and Other Countries

Millions, seasonally adjusted



the number of trips of one night or more by Canadian residents to the U.S. was 7.9% below the level of July 1991, the fourth straight month to have a year-over-year decrease. A 0.7% increase in the number of trips to countries other than the United States had a moderating effect on the overall decline.

Same-day automobile trips to the U.S. by Canadian residents fell 0.4%. This was a continuation of the downward trend observed since January, which was interrupted in June. In spite of this, when compared with July 1991, same-day automobile trips were 0.7% higher in July 1992. The number of overnight automobile trips to the U.S. also declined in July, dropping 3.6%.

For further information, order *International Travel - Advance Information* (catalogue number 66-001P) or contact *Education, Culture and Tourism Division* at (613) 951-1791.

majority of male workers who made back-injury claims were under age 35 - 37% were aged 25 to 34 and 17% were aged 15 to 24. Women making back-injury claims tended to be older: 54% of women sustaining back injuries were aged 35 and over.

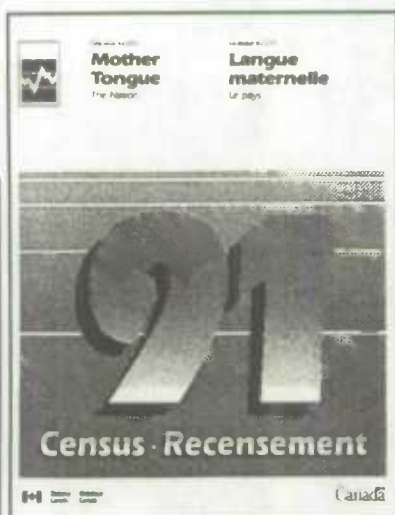
Back-injury claims were most common among men employed in occupations that involved lifting, for example, truck drivers, longshoremen, construction labourers, and motor vehicle mechanics and repairmen. Back injuries were rare among men in most white-collar occupations. Among women, those working in health-related and service occupations accounted for the highest proportions of back injuries.

For further information, order *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (catalogue number 75-001E) or contact *Labour Division* at (613) 951-4050.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM SEPTEMBER 11 to 17, 1992

Division/title	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
AGRICULTURE					
Farm Product Price Index	July 1992	62-003	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
Livestock Report	July 1992	23-008	16.50/66	19.75/79	23/92
CENSUS					
Mother Tongue: The Nation	1991 Census	93-313	40	48	56
CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS					
Canadian Economic Observer	September 1992	11-010	22/220	26/260	31/310
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM					
Culture Service Bulletin – Performing Arts Survey, Vol. 15, No. 2	1989-1990	87-001	4.90/29	5.90/35	6.90/41
Touriscope: International Travel	July 1992	66-001P	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS					
The Labour Force	August 1992	71-001	17.90/179	21.50/215	25.10/251
INDUSTRY					
Coal and Coke Statistics	June 1992	45-002	10/100	12/120	14/140
Department Store Sales and Stocks	January 1992	63-002	14.40/144	17.30/173	20.20/202
Electric Lamps	August 1992	43-009	5/50	6/60	7/70
Energy Statistics Handbook	September 1992	57-601	300	360	420
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries	July 1992	43-005	5/50	6/60	7/70
Oil Pipeline Transport	1991	55-201	22	26	31
Oil Pipeline Transport	June 1992	55-001	10/100	12/120	14/140
Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard	July 1992	36-003	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing	July 1992	41-011	5/50	6/60	7/70
Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics	July 1992	25-001	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products	July 1992	41-006	5/50	6/60	7/70
INTERNATIONAL TRADE					
Exports by Commodity	June 1992	65-004	55.10/551	66.10/661	77.10/771
Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade	July 1992	65-001P	10/100	12/120	14/140
LABOUR					
Employment, Earnings and Hours	June 1992	72-002	28.50/285	34.20/342	39.90/399
SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY					
Science Statistics Service Bulletin: Federal Government Personnel Engaged in Scientific and Technological Activity, Vol. 16, No. 6	1984-85 to 1992-93	88-001	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99

NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



Mother Tongue Data - 1991 Census

The Daily released the third of 10 special issues dedicated to highlights from the 1991 Census. *Mother Tongue - The Nation* (93-313, \$40), one of 24 publications from The Nation series, was also released. "Mother tongue" refers to the first language learned in childhood and still understood by a person at the time of the census.

The data in this publication are based on the combined responses (single or multiple) as reported by all respondents, whether on the short form or the long form. Both official and non-official languages are covered, and information on mother tongue is provided by age and sex for selected languages. These data are most suited for purposes of historical comparisons, since they are more similar to data from previous censuses. Two tables present statistics on mother tongue transmission to children; another presents data on families by mother tongue of husband and wife.

In general, the tables in the publication are presented for Canada, the provinces and territories. However, one table gives data for census metropolitan areas.

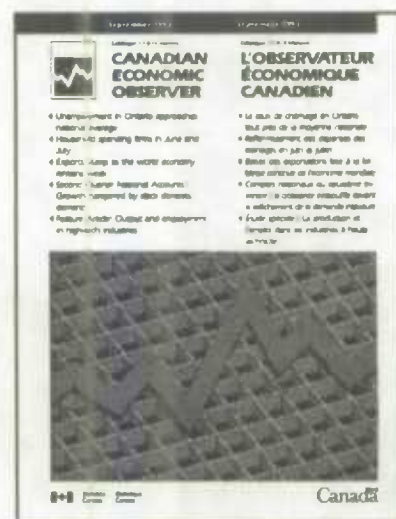
To obtain a copy of *Mother Tongue - The Nation* (catalogue number 93-313), please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

Canadian Economic Observer

The September issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, is now available.

The September issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic events in August, the second quarter national accounts, and a feature article on output and employment in high-tech industries. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and major industrial nations.

Canadian Economic Observer (catalogue number 11-010) can now be ordered from Publication Sales. For more information, call Philip Cross (613-951-9162), Current Analysis Section.



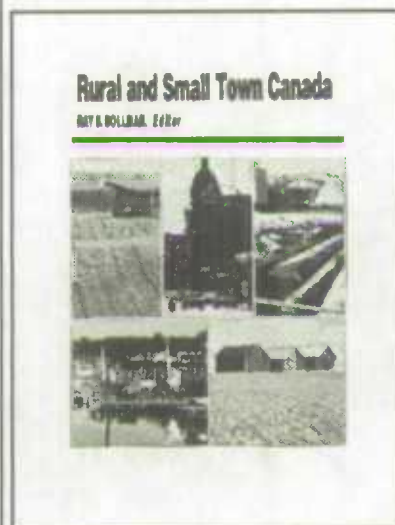
Rural and Small Town Canada

Papers originally presented to the 1990 Conference on Rural and Small Town Canada, organized by Statistics Canada and the Agriculture and Rural Restructuring Group, are now available in publication form. Much of the analysis was based on unpublished tabulations derived from Statistics Canada's databases.

The papers address demographic trends, labour market characteristics of rural Canada, and measures of economic and non-economic well-being of rural Canadians. The publication also provides information to help focus the debate on rural Canada's future.

Copies of the book in either official language are available for \$29.95 from Thompson Educational Publishing, Inc., 11 Briarcroft Road, Toronto, Ontario (416-766-2763, fax: 416-766-0398).

Further information on the contents of the book is available from Ray Bollman (613-951-3747), Agriculture Division, who organized and edited this selection of papers.



CURRENT TRENDS

Gross Domestic Product

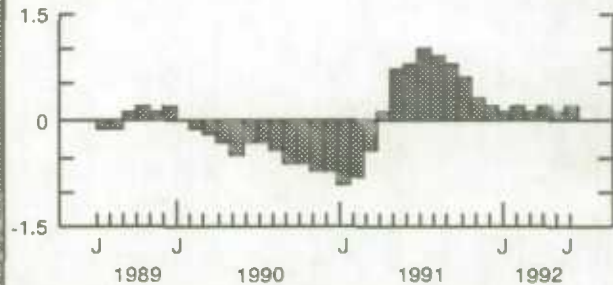
% change,
previous month



Gross domestic product at factor cost crawled up 0.2% in June, following a marginal decline in May and a flat April.

Composite Leading Indicator

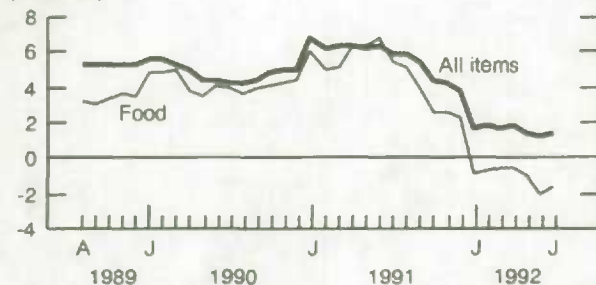
% change,
previous month



The composite leading indicator rose by 0.2% in June following revised monthly gains of 0.1% and 0.2% since January.

Consumer Price Index

% change,
previous year



In July, the year-over-year increase in the all-items CPI stood at 1.3%. The food index declined by 1.7%, marking the seventh straight month to have a year-over-year decrease.

Unemployment Rate

%



The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August stayed at 11.6% for the third consecutive month.

Manufacturing

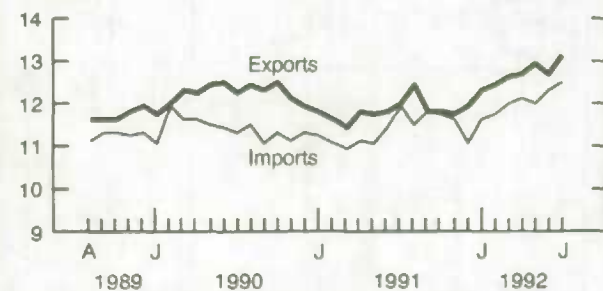
Billions
of dollars



Canadian manufacturers' shipments dropped 2.1% in July to \$22.6 billion and unfilled orders fell by 0.5% to \$22.0 billion.

Merchandise Trade

Billions
of dollars



In July, exports climbed 3.2% to \$13.1 billion after decreasing 1.2% in June. Imports rose by 1.6% to \$12.5 billion, a second straight monthly increase.

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)	June	501.9	0.2%	0.5%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	June	145.2	0.2%	4.8%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	2nd Quarter	9.7	-8.5%	-17.8%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	June	15.3	1.0%	-0.1%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	July	102.9	4.9%	-13.0%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	August	12.2	0.1%	-1.0%
Unemployment Rate (%)	August	11.6	0.0	1.1
Participation Rate (%)	August	65.5	-0.1	-0.8
Labour Income (\$ billion)	June	32.4	0.1%	2.8%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June	549.08	0.0%	3.2%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	July*	13.1	3.2%	9.0%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	July*	12.5	1.6%	5.6%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	July*	0.62	0.22	0.43
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	July*	22.6	-2.1%	-2.7%
New Orders (\$ billion)	July*	22.5	-3.1%	-1.5%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	July*	22.0	-0.5%	-8.2%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	July*	1.50	0.03	-0.03
Capacity Utilization (%)	1st Quarter	69.8	-0.5	-0.4
PRICES				
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)	July	134.7	0.1%	0.0%

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

** New this week.*

I·N·F·O·M·A·T

A Weekly Review

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