



IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

Friday, December 11, 1992

OVERVIEW

■ Aggregate Wages and Salaries Maintain Slower Gains

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries continued to rise marginally, increasing by 0.3% in September.

■ New Housing Prices Continue to Show Little Change

The New Housing Price Index for Canada edged up by 0.1% in October after slipping by 0.1% in September.

■ Sales of New Motor Vehicles Sagging

Sales of new motor vehicles fell for the second time in three months, by 3.6% in October. Sales have been generally weak since January.

■ Both Employment and Unemployment Up in November

The seasonally adjusted level of employment edged up again in November. However, due to increased participation in the labour market, the unemployment rate also rose to a nine-year high of 11.8%.

■ Recent Immigrants: Almost Half are Asian-born

According to figures from the 1991 Census, the proportion of Asian-born immigrants increased to almost half of all immigrants who came to Canada between 1981 and 1991.

■ RRSP Contributions Rise Sharply in 1991

For the 1991 tax year, over four million Canadians deposited more than \$14.6 billion into registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs), a jump of 30% from 1990.

This issue also includes information on university enrolments and on the farm product price index.

Aggregate Wages and Salaries Maintain Slower Gains

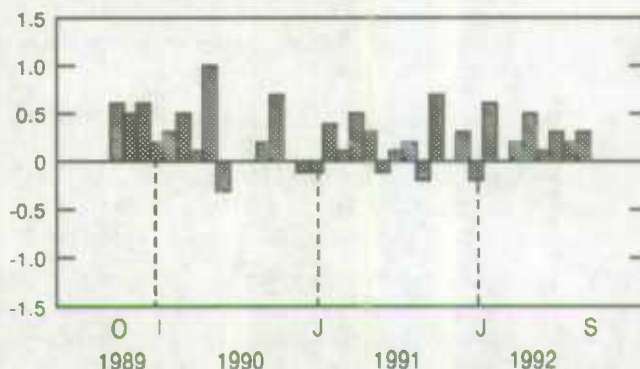
Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries continued to rise marginally, increasing by 0.3% in September to \$29.1 billion. Similarly, monthly gains of the preceding five months averaged 0.3%. The rate of growth, on a year-over-year basis, advanced from 2.5% in both July and August to 3.0% in September.

Of the industry groups that recorded gains, wages and salaries in forestry advanced by 2.5% after increasing by 3.9% in August. In federal administration and other government offices, wages and salaries grew by 1.5%, more than offsetting a decrease of 0.7% in August. Wages and salaries in mines, quarries and oil wells rose 1.2% in September after posting an average monthly drop of 1.5% in the previous four months. Other notable gains were in local administration (1.1%) and finance, insurance and real estate (0.7%).

(continued on page 2)

Wages and Salaries

% change, previous month



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... Aggregate Wages and Salaries Maintain Slower Gains

These increases were moderated by declines in construction (-1.9%) and in education and related services (-1.7%).

All provinces and territories recorded higher wages and salaries in September except for Ontario, where a slight decline was noted.

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

New Housing Prices Continue to Show Little Change

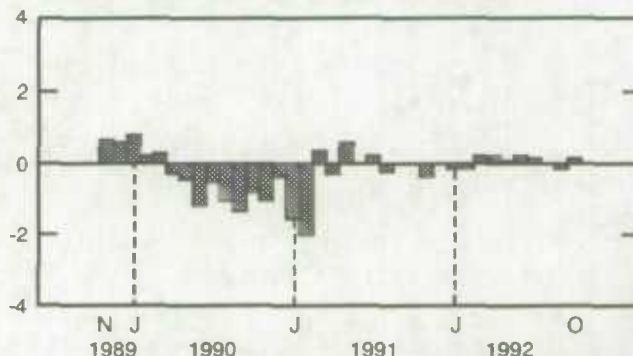
The New Housing Price Index (1986=100) for Canada continues to show little change. In October, the index edged up by 0.1% to 134.7 and was only slightly above its year-earlier level of 134.4.

Of the 20 cities included in the total index, five posted increases, 10 declined and five remained unchanged. Gains in Vancouver (0.9%) and Victoria (0.5%) had the strongest impact on the total index while Hamilton showed the largest decrease (-0.6%). On a year-over-year basis, the index for Vancouver recorded the steepest increase (10.0%) and the index for Toronto posted the largest drop (-5.0%).

The House Only Index advanced for the first time in four months, by 0.1% to a level of 124.2 but was 1.1% below its year-earlier level. The Land Only Index rose 0.6% in October to 166.3 and was 3.5% higher than a year earlier.

New Housing Price Index

% change, previous month



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

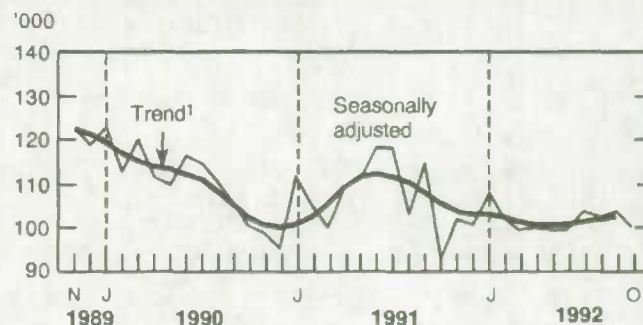
Sales of New Motor Vehicles Sagging

Seasonally adjusted sales of all new motor vehicles fell by 3.6% in October to a level of 100,000 units. This was the second fall in three months. New motor vehicle sales have been generally weak in 1992. However, sales in October were 8.0% higher than a year ago when sales hit a trough; the October results interrupted nine consecutive year-over-year declines.

Sales of passenger cars continued to sag, falling for the third straight month. Sales of North American passenger cars amounted to 41,000 units, unchanged from September, while sales of imported passenger cars decreased 2.5% to 24,000 units.

Sales of commercial vehicles dropped in October for the first time in six months, by 8.3% to 35,000 units. Even though lower than in the previous month, sales were 15.7% above last year's level.

New Motor Vehicle Sales, Canada, in Units



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

For further information, order *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (catalogue number 63-007) or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-9824.

Both Employment and Unemployment Up in November

In November, the seasonally adjusted level of employment edged up by 0.1% for the fourth straight month to 12.3 million. For adults, employment increased by 37,000, bringing the gain for the last six months to 94,000. For youths, employment declined by 24,000 in November, continuing the downward trend which began more than three years ago. The number of full-time employees grew for the third consecutive month, this time by 21,000, while part-time employment decreased by 8,000.

Even though employment rose by 13,000, unemployment was also up (by 84,000) because 97,000 persons entered the labour market. The rise in unemployment was noted among women (60,000),

mostly adult. The number of unemployed youths climbed by 32,000, divided evenly between young men and young women.

Since the beginning of the year, the unemployment rate increased by 1.4 percentage points, from 10.4% in January to a nine-year high of 11.8% in November. For those aged 15 to 24, the unemployment rate soared to 18.4%. For young men, the rate rose 1.2 percentage points to 20.9% and for young women the rate climbed 1.4 percentage points to 15.6%. All provinces registered higher unemployment rates with two major exceptions - Ontario and British Columbia where the rates fell by 0.3 and 0.4 percentage points, respectively.

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 8.)

PROVINCIAL PERSPECTIVES

Labour Force Survey Results for November 1992

| | Labour Force | | Employment | | Unemployment | |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------|
| | '000 | % change previous month | '000 | % change, previous month | '000 | Rate (%) |
| Canada | 13,898 | 0.7 | 12,253 | 0.1 | 1,645 | 11.8 |
| Newfoundland | 242 | 2.5 | 189 | 2.2 | 53 | 21.9 |
| Prince Edward Island | 65 | 0.0 | 54 | 0.0 | 12 | 18.1 |
| Nova Scotia | 420 | 1.0 | 364 | 0.0 | 56 | 13.3 |
| New Brunswick | 333 | 1.5 | 291 | 0.7 | 42 | 12.6 |
| Québec | 3,415 | 0.9 | 2,925 | -1.0 | 490 | 14.3 |
| Ontario | 5,298 | 0.0 | 4,720 | 0.4 | 578 | 10.9 |
| Manitoba | 539 | 0.9 | 488 | 0.0 | 51 | 9.5 |
| Saskatchewan | 482 | 0.6 | 438 | -0.2 | 44 | 9.1 |
| Alberta | 1,373 | 0.6 | 1,229 | -0.6 | 144 | 10.5 |
| British Columbia | 1,735 | 1.5 | 1,558 | 1.9 | 177 | 10.2 |

Recent Immigrants: Almost Half are Asian-born

This week, Statistics Canada released data on immigration and citizenship from the 1991 Census. Census data show that the share of immigrants in the total population has been relatively stable since the Second World War. In 1991, immigrants represented 16.1% of the total population, a slight increase from the 15.6% recorded in the 1986 Census.

If the proportion of immigrants in the total population has been relatively stable, the origins of immigrants who arrived between 1981 and 1991 are very different from the origins of those who arrived before 1961 and in the 1960s and the 1970s.

While the proportion of European-born has declined steadily since the 1960s, the proportion of Asian-born increased to almost half of all immigrants who came to Canada between 1981 and 1991. India was the birthplace reported by the greatest number of Asian immigrants while the United Kingdom and Italy were most often reported

by European immigrants. European-born immigrants were the second largest group, accounting for 25% of all immigrants who arrived during the ten-year period. An additional 10% of recent immigrants were born in Central and South America, 6% in the Caribbean, 6% in Africa, 4% in the United States and 1% in Oceania (Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands).

Because immigrants tend to settle in certain regions, their influence is felt unevenly across the country. In 1991, 4.3 million immigrants were living in Canada, but 94% of all immigrants lived in just four provinces: Ontario, Québec, British Columbia and Alberta. Immigrants continued to exhibit a strong preference for Ontario as their place of residence, with over half living in that province in 1991. A high degree of urbanization also continued to characterize the immigrant population in 1991 Census data.

For further information, order Immigration and Citizenship (catalogue number 93-316) or contact Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division at (613) 951-2561.

RRSP Contributions Rise Sharply in 1991

For the 1991 tax year, over four million Canadians deposited more than \$14.6 billion into registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs), a jump of 30% or \$3.4 billion from 1990. In 1990, RRSP contributions had dropped 15.8% from 1989. Nearly 600,000 more Canadians made an RRSP contribution in 1991, a rise of 14% from 1990. The median for 1991 contributions was \$2,000 and the average age of the RRSP purchaser was 42.

Changes in RRSP eligibility rules, and notification by Revenue Canada of contribution limits, together served to increase both the amount of contributions and the number of contributors in 1991.

The Northwest Territories recorded again the highest percentage increase in the number of individuals contributing to an RRSP in 1991 (28%), followed closely by the Yukon (25%). The smallest increases were reported in Québec (11%), Newfoundland (12%) and Manitoba (12%).

For further information contact the Small Area and Administrative Data Division at (613) 951-9720.

University Enrolment Continues to Increase

Preliminary data for the fall of 1992 indicate that the upward trend that has dominated university enrolment for the past 12 years is continuing. Compared to 1991, the number of full-time students attending Canadian universities increased by 3.2% last fall to a record high of 572,000.

The preliminary count of part-time students increased as well. Last fall, 321,000 students enrolled, a rise of 2.5% over 1991. The increase occurred solely at the undergraduate level (3.4%), while part-time graduate level enrolment decreased by 3.6%.

In 1992, 15% of the population aged 18 to 24 were enrolled in full-time university programs, compared to 10% in 1982. During this decade there has also been a growing number of mature students

Preliminary Fall Enrolment in Canadian Universities, Fall 1992-1993

| | Undergraduate | | Graduate | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Full-time | Part-time | Full-time | Part-time |
| Canada | 501,460 | 281,165 | 70,333 | 40,042 |
| Newfoundland | 13,068 | 4,385 | 883 | 496 |
| Prince Edward Island | 2,739 | 900 | 12 | 11 |
| Nova Scotia | 26,987 | 6,787 | 2,483 | 1,416 |
| New Brunswick | 18,000 | 5,332 | 1,002 | 517 |
| Québec | 114,038 | 106,927 | 20,391 | 18,544 |
| Ontario | 203,766 | 97,217 | 27,181 | 12,171 |
| Manitoba | 18,703 | 15,387 | 2,195 | 1,414 |
| Saskatchewan | 21,996 | 8,863 | 1,853 | 918 |
| Alberta | 45,272 | 16,078 | 5,434 | 2,034 |
| British Columbia | 36,891 | 19,289 | 8,899 | 2,521 |

(continued on page 5)

... University Enrolment Continues to Increase
 registering. Full-time students 30 years of age and over now represent 11% of enrolment, up from 8% in 1982.

For further information contact Education, Culture and Tourism Division at (613) 951-1526.

Farm Product Prices Decrease

The Farm Product Price Index (1986=100) fell to 96.4 in October, down 1.2% from the revised September level of 97.6. This decline follows a 0.8% increase in August and no change in July. Even though the Canadian Wheat Board initial prices for wheat and barley for the 1992-93 crop year were set at levels slightly above those prevailing in July, the low quality of the crop depressed average prices and held the index at low levels not seen since 1980.

The crops index dropped for the fifth straight month, down 4.1% in October, as the cereals, oilseeds and potatoes indexes all declined. The cereals index plunged for the fifth month in a row, this time by 6.1%, as both wheat and barley prices

fell due to increased sales of lower-quality grain. The potatoes index recorded a sharp drop, falling 13.2%, its third decrease in as many months. The oilseeds index decreased 0.8% after two consecutive monthly gains, as increases in flaxseed prices were offset by lower canola prices.

The livestock and animal products index rose for the third straight month but the rate of growth has decelerated, from 3.0% in August to 2.5% in September and to 0.2% in October. The hogs index was up by 2.3% but the cattle and calves index fell 0.5%.

For further information, order Farm Product Price Index (catalogue number 62-003), or contact Agriculture Division at (613) 951-2441.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM DECEMBER 4 TO 10, 1992

| Division/title | Period | Catalogue Number | Price: Issue/Subscription | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | | | Canada (\$Cdn.) | United States | Other Countries |
| | | | \$US | | |
| DEMOGRAPHY | | | | | |
| Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada | 1992 | 91-209E | 26 | 31 | 36 |
| EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM | | | | | |
| Touriscope: International Travel | 1990 | 66-201 | 34 | 41 | 48 |
| HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS | | | | | |
| Labour Force Information | November 1992 | 71-001P | 6.30/63 | 7.60/76 | 8.80/88 |
| HOUSING, FAMILY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS | | | | | |
| Immigration and Citizenship | 1991 Census | 93-316 | 40 | 48 | 56 |
| INDUSTRY | | | | | |
| Asphalt Roofing | October 1992 | 45-001 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Cement | October 1992 | 44-001 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Department Store Monthly Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area | September 1992 | 63-004 | 2.70/27 | 3.20/32 | 3.80/38 |
| Department Store Sales and Stocks | June 1992 | 63-002 | 14.40/144 | 17.30/173 | 20.20/202 |
| Electric Power Statistics | September 1992 | 57-001 | 10/100 | 12/120 | 14/140 |
| Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries | October 1992 | 43-005 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Footwear Statistics | October 1992 | 33-002 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins | October 1992 | 46-002 | 5.60/56 | 6.70/67 | 7.80/78 |
| New Motor Vehicle Sales | April 1992 | 63-007 | 14.40/144 | 17.30/173 | 20.20/202 |
| Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder | October 1992 | 32-024 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Oil Pipeline Transport | September 1992 | 55-001 | 10/100 | 12/120 | 14/140 |
| Rigid Insulating Board | October 1992 | 36-002 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances | October 1992 | 43-003 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products | October 1992 | 41-006 | 5/50 | 6/60 | 7/70 |
| Wholesale Trade | September 1992 | 63-008 | 14.40/144 | 17.30/173 | 20.20/202 |
| INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS | | | | | |
| Gross Domestic Product by Industry | September 1992 | 15-001 | 12.70/127 | 15.20/152 | 17.80/178 |
| INTERNATIONAL TRADE | | | | | |
| Exports by Commodity | September 1992 | 65-004 | 55.10/551 | 66.10/661 | 77.10/771 |
| Summary of Canadian International Trade | September 1992 | 65-001 | 18.20/182 | 21.80/218 | 25.50/255 |
| LABOUR | | | | | |
| Unemployment Insurance Statistics | September 1992 | 73-001 | 14.70/147 | 17.60/176 | 20.60/206 |
| Work Injuries | 1989-1991 | 72-208 | 30 | 36 | 42 |
| SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | | | | | |
| Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics | September 1992 | 63-011 | 6.10/61 | 7.30/73 | 8.50/85 |
| Service Industries Service Bulletin: Specialty Advertising Distributors, 1986-1990, Vol. 4, No. 6 | December 1992 | 63-015 | 7.20/43 | 8.65/52 | 10/60 |

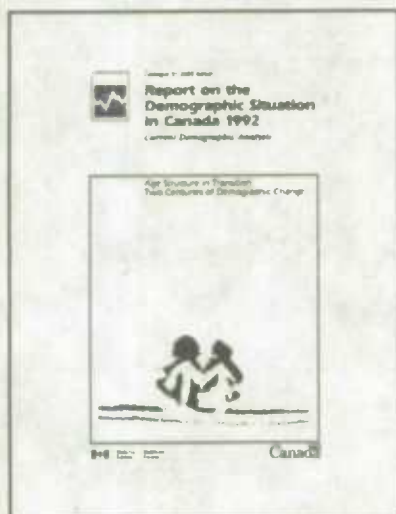
NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA

Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada - 1992

Statistics Canada released its sixth annual *Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada* in the Current Demographic Analysis series. The report contains 160 pages of analysis, 71 tables never before published or updated and 16 charts.

Among the trends which are confirmed, we note that after a reluctance to marry, and a reduced propensity for living in couple, there is now a clear attraction for solo living.

Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada 1992 (catalogue number 91-209E, \$26) is now available. For more information, contact Jean Dumas (613-951-2327), Research and Analysis Section, Demography Division.



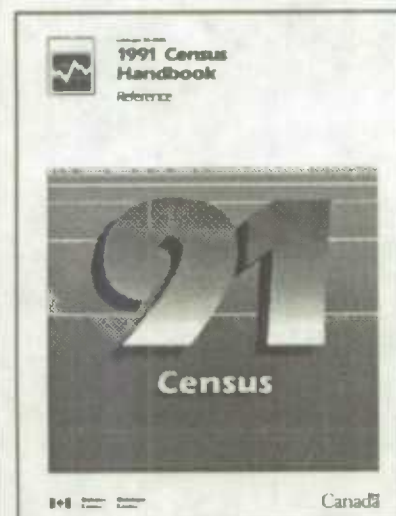
1991 Census Handbook

The *1991 Census Handbook* is now available. This publication offers a basic introduction, for both new and experienced census data users, to the census program and the processes involved in conducting Canada's largest survey.

Readers are given a brief history of census-taking, a description of the procedures used to protect the confidentiality of information collected, a question-by-question outline of the 1991 Census, a description of census variables and census geography and a section on data quality. For the first time, the handbook presents an overview of the Census of Agriculture.

A summary of products and services and information on how census data are used are also included.

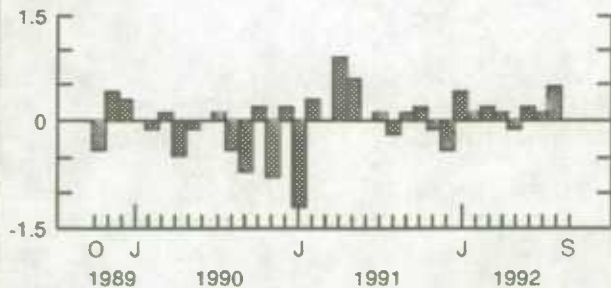
To obtain a copy of the *1991 Census Handbook* (catalogue number 92-305E, \$25) contact the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



CURRENT TRENDS

Gross Domestic Product

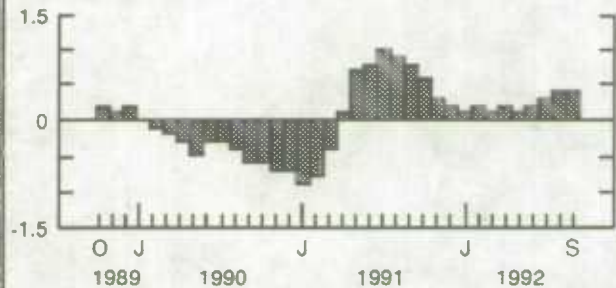
% change,
previous month



Gross domestic product at factor cost was unchanged in September. Services output was also unchanged while goods production edged down.

Composite Leading Indicator

% change,
previous month



In September, the composite leading indicator rose by 0.4% for the second straight month.

Consumer Price Index

% change,
previous year



In October, the year-over-year increase in the all-items CPI stood at 1.6% and the food index showed an increase of 1.0%.

Unemployment Rate

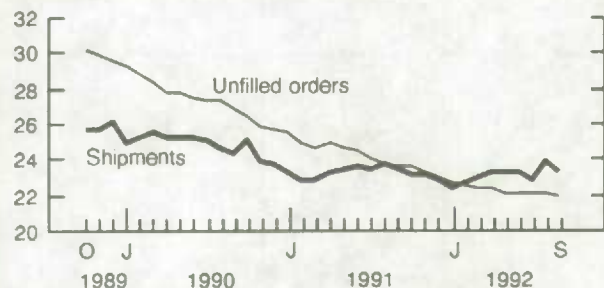
%



In November, the unemployment rate climbed by half a percentage point to a nine-year high of 11.8%.

Manufacturing

Billions
of dollars



Canadian manufacturers' shipments fell 2.5% in September to \$23.2 billion. The level of unfilled orders was down for the second time in three months to \$21.8 billion.

Merchandise Trade

Billions
of dollars



In September, exports were up 0.1% to \$13.1 billion and imports climbed 2.5% to \$12.7 billion.

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) | September | 504.9 | 0.0% | 1.1% |
| Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100) | September | 147.0 | 0.4% | 3.3% |
| Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion) | 3rd Quarter | 10.7 | 6.3% | -15.0% |
| DOMESTIC DEMAND | | | | |
| Retail Trade (\$ billion) | September | 15.5 | -0.2% | 1.7% |
| New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units) | October* | 99.9 | -3.6% | 8.0% |
| LABOUR | | | | |
| Employment (millions) | November* | 12.3 | 0.1% | -0.7% |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | November* | 11.8 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Participation Rate (%) | November* | 65.6 | 0.4 | -0.4 |
| Labour Income (\$ billion) | September* | 32.6 | 0.3% | 3.1% |
| Average Weekly Earnings (\$) | September | 553.19 | 0.3% | 3.4% |
| INTERNATIONAL TRADE | | | | |
| Merchandise Exports (\$ billion) | September | 13.1 | 0.1% | 11.3% |
| Merchandise Imports (\$ billion) | September | 12.7 | 2.5% | 7.7% |
| Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion) | September | 0.44 | -0.31 | 0.43 |
| MANUFACTURING | | | | |
| Shipments (\$ billion) | September | 23.2 | -2.5% | -1.0% |
| New Orders (\$ billion) | September | 23.0 | -3.4% | -0.8% |
| Unfilled Orders (\$ billion) | September | 21.8 | -0.8% | -7.0% |
| Inventory/ Shipments Ratio | September | 1.47 | 0.04 | -0.03 |
| Capacity Utilization (%) | 3rd Quarter | 75.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 |
| PRICES | | | | |
| Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100) | October | 128.5 | 0.2% | 1.6% |
| Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100) | October | 110.4 | 0.5% | 2.9% |
| Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100) | October | 110.0 | 1.1% | 7.4% |
| New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100) | October* | 134.7 | 0.1% | 0.2% |

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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