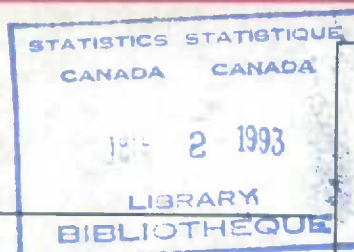




IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS



Friday, July 2, 1993

OVERVIEW

■ Growth of Real Gross Domestic Product Unchanged in April

Real gross domestic product at factor cost was unchanged in April as growth recorded in services output was completely offset by a steep decrease in goods production.

■ UI Beneficiaries: Five-month Downward Movement Interrupted

The seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits remained virtually unchanged at 1.1 million in April. The number of beneficiaries had decreased every month between November 1992 and March 1993.

■ Growth in Average Weekly Earnings Decelerates

Average weekly earnings of Canadian workers rose 0.2% in April to a seasonally adjusted level of \$559.47. Despite the April gain, the year-over-year increase decelerated, from 2.8% in March to 2.5% in April.

■ Industrial Product Price Index Unchanged

The Industrial Product Price Index (1986=100) remained unchanged in May at April's revised level of 112.1.

■ Raw Material Prices Continue to Increase

The Raw Materials Price Index rose 1.2% in May, due to a large increase in the wood index.

Growth of Real Gross Domestic Product Unchanged in April

Real gross domestic product at factor cost was unchanged in April following a 0.6% expansion in March. The average monthly output since December 1992 had been of 0.4%. The pause in April was mainly due to a drop in goods production. Goods producers had led the recovery in recent months and had increased output by 1.0% in March alone.

In April, the 0.8% decrease in goods output followed growth averaging 0.6% per month since November 1992, and was concentrated in

(continued on page 2)

Gross Domestic Product Output by Sector

Index (January 1991 = 100)



Statistics Canada
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Canada

... Growth of Real Gross Domestic Product Unchanged in April

manufacturing and construction. Mining was the only major goods-producing industry to record a gain.

Manufacturers curbed production 1.0% following a 1.9% surge in March. The pullback was concentrated in durable goods, where lower output of wood (-4.9%), transportation equipment (-1.7%), and electrical products (-1.8%) accounted for approximately 70% of the overall manufacturing decline. Even so, smaller declines were widespread as 17 of 21 major groups produced less in April. Higher output of machinery and equipment (3.2%) moderated the losses.

Construction output slipped 1.2% following a 0.4% decline in March. Despite better new housing sales in March and April, residential construction dropped 1.6%, mainly due to less construction of single-family dwellings. Mining output rose for the fourth straight month, this time by 1.2%.

Output of services advanced 0.3%, following similar increases in February and March. This marked a fifth consecutive monthly increase. Finance, insurance and real estate output climbed 0.8% and accounted for almost 60% of the overall increase. Sizeable gains were also recorded in community, business and personal services (0.8%) and in retail trade (1.1%).

Wholesalers recorded lower output for a second month in a row, declining by 1.0% in April. Only three of 11 trade groups posted higher sales. Wholesalers of lumber, machinery and equipment, and wholesalers of food recorded the steepest declines. Transportation and storage services output fell 0.6% after improving in February and March.

For further information, order Gross Domestic Product by Industry (catalogue number 15-001) or contact Industry Measures and Analysis Division at (613) 951-9145. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

UI Beneficiaries: Five-month Downward Movement Interrupted

After five consecutive monthly declines, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits remained virtually unchanged in April. At 1.1 million, the number of beneficiaries stood 4.3% below their level of April 1992, the second year-over-year decrease noted in as many months after eight straight increases.

The largest increase in the number of UI beneficiaries was recorded in the Yukon while the steepest decline was registered in Alberta. (See accompanying table.)

For April, total benefit payments amounted to \$1,243 million, 0.9% less than in the previous month and 0.1% lower than the amount paid in April 1992. The number of weeks paid to beneficiaries totalled 4.8 million, a drop of 2.4% from a year earlier.

For further information, order Unemployment Insurance Statistics (catalogue number 73-001) or contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4045.

Growth in Average Weekly Earnings Decelerates

Average weekly earnings of Canadian workers rose 0.2% in April to a seasonally adjusted level of \$559.47. Despite the April gain, the year-over-year increase decelerated, from 2.8% in March to 2.5% in April. Average weekly earnings grew by more than the national average in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Ontario.

U.I. Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits, April 1993

Seasonally Adjusted

Province/Territory	Total (000)	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Canada	1,093	0.0	-4.3
Newfoundland	63	1.4	-11.5
Prince Edward Island	14	1.9	1.8
Nova Scotia	53	0.2	0.0
New Brunswick	56	0.8	-4.5
Québec	359	0.3	-1.6
Ontario	299	-0.6	-7.7
Manitoba	29	-1.1	-4.8
Saskatchewan	25	0.3	0.1
Alberta	76	-2.8	-3.2
British Columbia	120	-0.1	-2.7
Yukon	2	6.5	50.8
Northwest Territories	2	-1.2	2.1

Weekly earnings in goods-producing industries amounted to \$700.11 in April, up 3.0% from a year earlier. Manufacturing (2.9%), non-durable goods manufacturing (0.6%) and construction (0.2%) industries posted monthly increases. Logging and forestry industries had the steepest decline (-0.5%).

Earnings in service-producing industries rose to \$518.10 and were 2.6% above their year-earlier

(continued on page 3)

... Growth in Average Weekly Earnings Decelerates

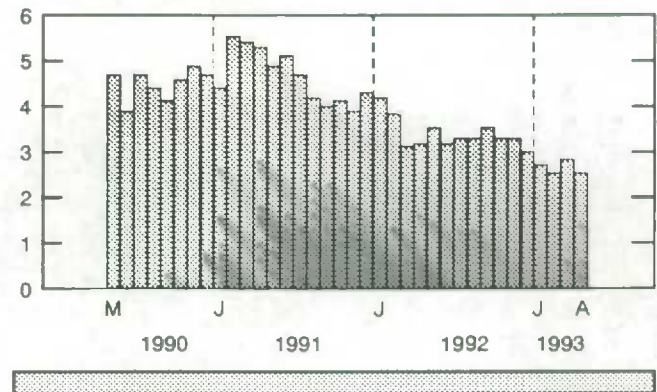
level. Earnings increased in 10 of 11 sectors in April, led by transportation, communication and other utilities (0.6%). The only decline was in public administration (-0.5%).

Employment in April totalled slightly less than 10.0 million, virtually unchanged from March. Over the previous six months, employment had shown an average monthly increase of 0.2%. Employment gains were recorded only in Prince Edward Island, Ontario and British Columbia; all other provinces and the territories recorded small declines.

For further information, order *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (catalogue number 72-002) or contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4090.

Average Weekly Earnings

% change, previous year



Industrial Product Price Index Unchanged

After a 0.2% decrease in April, the first decline seen in 12 months, the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) remained unchanged in May at 112.1. The index was still 3.2% above its year-earlier level, the lowest year-over-year increase since October 1992.

Thirteen of 21 major groups of products registered monthly increases while four decreased and four did not change. During May, the value of the American dollar rose 1.0% against the Canadian dollar, increasing the value of export prices quoted in U.S. dollars. The effect of this change was seen in the price increases for autos, trucks, and other transportation equipment (0.6%).

Higher prices for pork, beef and veal pushed the meat, fish, and dairy products index up 1.2%. Since

January 1992, pork prices have risen 29.9% while beef and veal prices have risen 17.2%.

The lumber, sawmill and other wood products index fell 5.7% – the second consecutive monthly decline over 5% – but it was still 19.5% higher than in May 1992. The decline was primarily attributable to a 9.1% drop in softwood lumber prices. Decreases ranged from close to 30% in the Prairies to under 4.5% in British Columbia and the Atlantic provinces.

The primary metal products index fell for the fourth straight month, this time by 0.5%, due to lower prices for copper and copper alloy (-5.6%) products, and nickel (-2.4%) and aluminum (-0.7%) products.

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

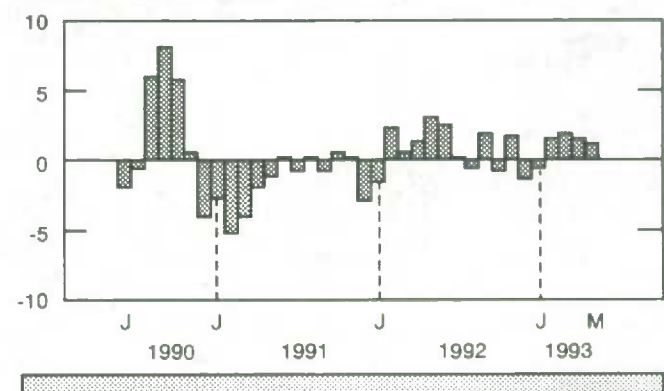
Raw Material Prices Continue to Increase

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986=100) rose 1.2% in May to a level of 115.2, marking its fourth consecutive monthly increase. On a year-over-year basis, the RMPI climbed 9.3%, mainly because of advances in the wood (43.3%) and animals and animal products (4.9%) indexes.

Five of seven major groups of products recorded monthly increases. The non-ferrous metals and mineral fuels indexes dropped slightly, by less than 1%. The wood index recorded the largest increase (5.3%), primarily because of a 7.0% rise in the logs and bolts component which has been on an upward trend since December 1991.

Raw Materials Price Index

% change, previous month



... Raw Material Prices Continue to Increase

The index for animals and animal products was up 1.0% in May, due to a 3.8% rise in cattle and calves prices. A 19.1% increase in the unrefined sugar index pushed the vegetable products index up 1.5%. Meanwhile, grain prices dropped 2.3%.

The mineral fuels index slipped 0.5% after rising by 1.1% in April. Crude oil prices fell 0.6% and natural gas prices dropped 1.0%. The non-ferrous metals index was down for the fourth straight month, this time by 0.8%.

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM JUNE 25 TO 30, 1993

Division/title of publication	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
			\$US		
AGRICULTURE					
Agriculture Economic Statistics – Update	June 1993	21-603E	21/42	25/50	29.50/59
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 4:					
Preliminary Estimates of Field					
Crop Area, Canada	1993	22-002	12/80	14/96	16/112
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION					
Causes of Death	1991	84-208	30		
Health Reports, Vol. 5, No. 1	First Quarter 1993	82-003	26/104	31.25/125	36.50/146
Hospital Statistics: Preliminary					
Annual Report	1990-91	83-241	15		
CENSUS					
Unincorporated Places	1991 Census	93-306	45	54	63
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM					
Focus on Culture, Vol. 5, No. 2	Summer 1993	87-004	6.25/25	7.50/30	8.75/35
INDUSTRY					
Construction Type Plywood	April 1993	35-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Furniture and Fixtures Industries	1990	35-251	35	42	49
Primary Iron and Steel	April 1993	41-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production and Disposition of Tobacco					
Products	May 1993	32-022	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production, Shipments and Stocks on					
Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia	April 1993	35-003	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
Production, Shipments and Stocks on					
Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies	April 1993	35-002	10/100	12/120	14/140
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK					
Building Permits, Annual Summary	1992	64-203	56	67	78
POST-CENSAL SURVEYS PROGRAM					
Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and	1991 Aboriginal				
Social Issues	Peoples Survey	89-533	45	54	63
PRICES					
Industry Price Indexes	April 1993	62-011	18.20/182	21.80/218	25.50/255
TRANSPORTATION					
Railway Operating Statistics, Vol. 73, No. 1	January 1993	52-003	10.50/105	12.60/126	14.70/147

NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues

The information in this publication was obtained from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

Data tables include information for Canada, the provinces and territories, 11 selected census metropolitan areas, and on and off Indian reserves and settlements; data are tabulated for adults and children by both total Aboriginal population and by specific Aboriginal group.

To obtain a copy of *Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues* (catalogue number 89-533, \$45), call Publication Sales at (613) 951-7277. For more information, contact Post-Censal Surveys Program (613-951-4414).

Discovering the Power of Small Area Data

The Small Area and Administrative Data Division of Statistics Canada produces a wide range of information on more than 18 million Canadian taxfilers.

Products can be designed to meet specific data needs. "Designer Data" is developed for individual clients according to exact requirements in terms of content, geography and format.

Data are available for more than 23,000 postal areas in Canada, from the national level to a single postal walk.

The *Daily* of June 25th released the Economic Dependency Profile for 1991. The Economic Dependency Profile is a measure of an area's dependence on transfer payments. For example, for every \$100 of employment income earned in 1991, Canadians received \$23.47 in transfer payments. Newfoundland had the highest economic dependency ratio and the Northwest Territories had the lowest.

For more information on the various products and services available from Small Area and Administrative Data Division, contact Client Services (613-951-9720, fax: 613-951-4745).

Health Reports

In June 1992, the Canadian Council of Cancer Registries and Statistics Canada co-hosted the annual International Association of Cancer Registries Conference. This special issue of *Health Reports*, the first of its kind, summarizes 18 papers from that conference.

The conference's theme was "Co-operation and Collaboration Among Individuals, Organizations and Jurisdictions in Cancer Control". Topics addressed included international registration and data quality, cancer by selected sites, cancer among children, and cancer among different ethnic and occupational groups. These articles offer fresh insights on trends in new cases and treatments, possible causes, and survivorship.

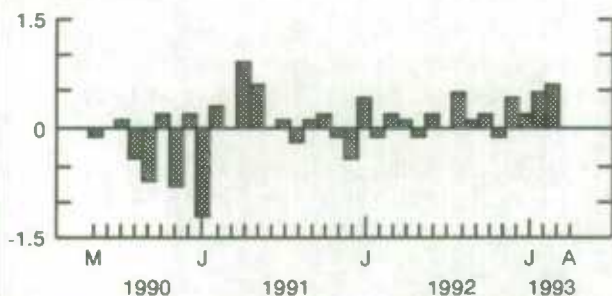
The first quarter 1993 issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (catalogue number 82-003, \$26/\$104) is now available. For further information, contact Information Requests (613-951-1746), Canadian Centre for Health Information.



CURRENT TRENDS

Gross Domestic Product

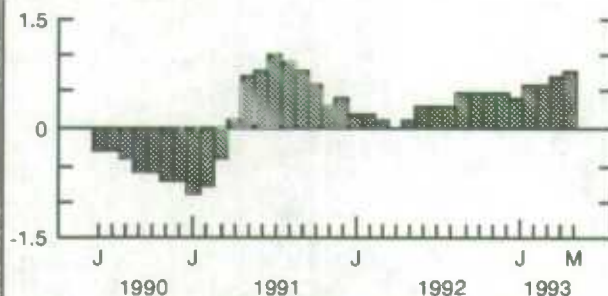
% change,
previous month



Gross domestic product at factor cost was unchanged in April following a 0.6% gain in March and average monthly growth of 0.4% since December.

Composite Leading Indicator

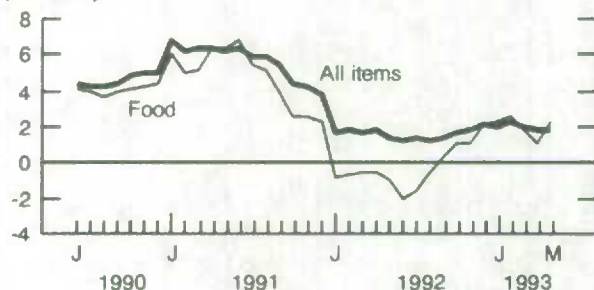
% change,
previous month



The composite leading indicator continued to accelerate in May, rising by 0.8% from April. This marked its largest monthly increase in nearly two years.

Consumer Price Index

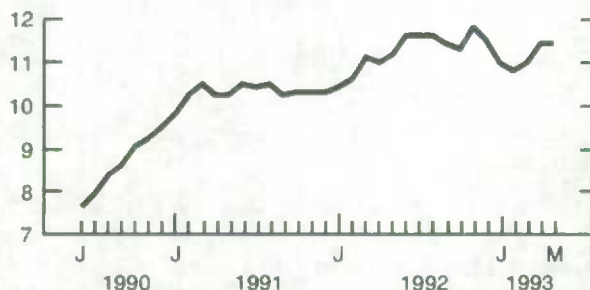
% change,
previous year



The year-over-year increase in the all-items CPI was 1.8% in May, identical to the rise registered in April. The food index rose by 2.2%.

Unemployment Rate

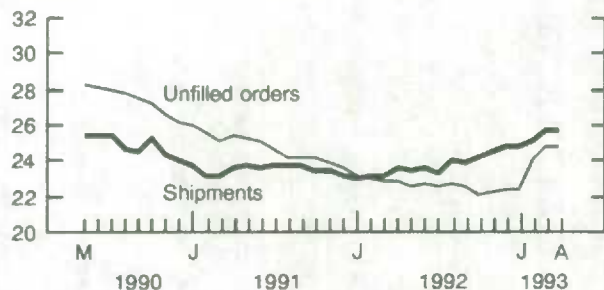
%



In May, the unemployment rate stayed at 11.4%, unchanged from April.

Manufacturing

Billions
of dollars



Canadian manufacturers' shipments decreased by 0.4% in April following six straight monthly increases. The level of unfilled orders edged up by 0.1% after climbing by 3.5% in March.

Merchandise Trade

Billions
of dollars



The seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports climbed 2.3% in April while imports edged down by 0.1%, pushing Canada's trade balance up by \$347 million.

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)	April*	512.3	0.0%	2.3%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	May	152.8	0.8%	6.0%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	1st Quarter	11.4	51.5%	3.3%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	April	16.1	1.0%	4.9%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	April	100.2	1.0%	0.4%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	May	12.3	0.0%	1.0%
Unemployment Rate (%)	May	11.4	0.0	0.2
Participation Rate (%)	May	65.2	-0.1	-0.3
Labour Income (\$ billion)	February	33.0	0.2%	2.6%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	April*	559.47	0.2%	2.5%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	April	14.8	2.3%	17.4%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	April	13.7	-0.1%	14.2%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	April	1.2	0.35	0.50
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	April	25.6	-0.4%	8.8%
New Orders (\$ billion)	April	25.6	-3.4%	9.1%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	April	24.8	0.1%	9.1%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	April	1.34	0.01	-0.14
Capacity Utilization (%)	1st Quarter	78.4	1.7	4.6
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	May	130.1	0.2%	1.8%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	May*	112.1	0.0%	3.2%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	May*	115.2	1.2%	9.3%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	April	136.4	0.5%	1.7%

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

** New this week.*



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KEY RELEASE CALENDAR: JULY 1993*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5	6 Estimates of Labour Income, April Short-term Expectations Survey	7 Help-wanted Index, June	8 New Housing Price Index, May	9 Labour Force Survey, June New Motor Vehicle Sales, May Farm Product Price Index, May
12 Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area, May	13 Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, May	14 Canadian Leading Indicator, June	15 Consumer Price Index, June	16 Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, May Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, May Building Permits, May
19 Department Store Sales - Advance Release, June Sales of Natural Gas, May	20 Neighbourhood Income and Demographics, 1991 Construction Union Wage Rate Index, June	21	22 Retail Trade, May Canada's International Transactions in Securities, May	23 Wholesale Trade, May
26	27	28 Canadian Crime Statistics, 1992 Unemployment Insurance Statistics, May Industrial Product Price Index, June Raw Materials Price Index, June	29 Employment, Earnings and Hours, May Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, June Crude Oil and Natural Gas, May	30 Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, May

* 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**

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