



# IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

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Friday, September 10, 1993

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## OVERVIEW

### ■ Sales of New Motor Vehicles Stronger in July

New motor vehicle sales climbed 7.0% in July to a seasonally adjusted level of 100,000 units.

### ■ Aggregate Wages and Salaries Barely Growing

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries grew by 0.8% in June after decreasing by 0.1% in April and 0.7% in May.

### ■ Help-wanted Indexes Decline in Three Regions in August

There were fewer job prospects for Canadians in August as the number of help-wanted ads declined in Québec, Ontario and the Atlantic region.

### ■ Costs of CPP and QPP Rising

The combined employee and employer contribution rate for the Canada and Quebec Pension Plan (CPP/QPP) is projected to double by year 2016.

### ■ The Labour Market: Mid-year Review

Despite mixed signals, labour market conditions during the first half of 1993 showed slight signs of improvement from a year earlier.

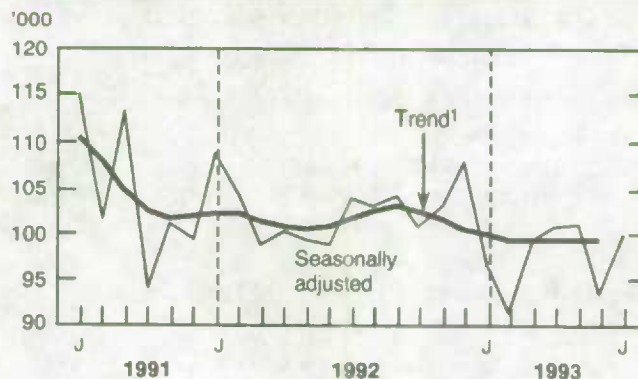
## Sales of New Motor Vehicles Stronger in July

Sales of new motor vehicles climbed 7.0% in July to a seasonally adjusted level of 100,000 units, after dropping by 7.4% in June. The increase follows a nine-month downtrend in sales.

Sales of passenger cars posted strong improvement in July, rising by 7.4% to 62,000 units. This was the first increase in three months. Following two straight months of declines, sales of imported cars were buoyant, climbing by 12.0% to 22,000 units. In contrast, sales of North American built cars increased moderately, by 5.1% to 40,000 units.

(continued on page 2)

Sales of New Motor Vehicles,  
in Units, Canada



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a moving average of the data.



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### ... Sales of New Motor Vehicles Stronger in July

Sales of commercial vehicles advanced by 6.4% to 38,000 units, more than offsetting the 4.7% drop posted in June.

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

## Aggregate Wages and Salaries Barely Growing

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries grew by 0.8% in June after decreasing by 0.1% in April and 0.7% in May. At \$29.3 billion, aggregate wages and salaries were 2.7% higher than in June 1992, a slight improvement compared to 2.0% growth in May.

The increase was widespread as 12 out of 14 industry groups registered higher wages and salaries. The biggest growth occurred in the construction industry (3.2%), followed by mines, quarries and oil wells (2.7%).

Wages and salaries in local administration showed further weakness in June, falling by 2.5%. Health and welfare services, which account for almost 10% of aggregate wages and salaries, recorded a decline of 0.4%.

All provinces and territories posted increases during the month, except for Newfoundland and Saskatchewan, but most of the increases did not quite offset declines posted in May. In Saskatchewan, wages and salaries decreased for the third straight month. In Newfoundland, this was the fourth monthly decrease since January.

### Wages and Salaries, June 1993

Seasonally Adjusted

Province/ Territory	Wages and Salaries (millions of \$)	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
<b>Canada</b>	<b>29,281</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Newfoundland	381	-0.1	0.3
Prince Edward Island	96	0.8	2.3
Nova Scotia	726	0.3	0.5
New Brunswick	594	1.2	4.5
Québec	6,611	0.7	1.4
Ontario	12,351	0.9	1.7
Manitoba	956	0.9	1.9
Saskatchewan	749	-0.2	0.1
Alberta	2,892	0.7	2.6
British Columbia	3,728	0.7	6.0
Yukon and Northwest Territories	163	1.3	-1.4

For further information, order *Estimates of Labour Income* (catalogue number 72-005), or contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4058.

## Help-wanted Indexes Decline in Three Regions in August

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted index for Canada (1991=100) dropped by 2% in August to 85, partly offsetting the 5% gain in July. The Help-wanted Index has followed an irregular pattern since January, but generally remained near this level.

### Changes in Indexes by Region from July

- Atlantic region: down 4% to 87;
- Québec: down 3% to 93;
- Ontario: down 2% to 81;
- Prairie region: up 2% to 84;
- British Columbia: up 7% to 89.

Compared to August 1992, more help-wanted ads appeared in Québec, British Columbia and in the Atlantic and Prairie regions, when the indexes were at 82, 86, 84 and 81, respectively. The current index for Ontario was below last year's level of 85.

For further information, contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4045.



## Costs of CPP and QPP Rising

A feature article entitled "C/QPP Costs and Private Pensions" is presented in the Autumn 1993 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*. It examines the possible impact of rising costs of the Canada and Quebec Pension Plan (CPP/QPP) on employer-sponsored registered pension plans (RPPs).

When the Canada and Quebec Pension Plan was introduced in 1966, a few employers terminated their own registered pension plans, but most integrated their plans with the CPP/QPP. Some employees discontinued their RPP membership because of the CPP/QPP contribution requirement.

The combined employee and employer contribution rate for the CPP/QPP has increased annually, from 3.6% of pensionable earnings in 1986 to 5.0%

in 1993. Furthermore, a contribution schedule currently legislated for the CPP has projected a rate of 10.1% by year 2016.

While participation in the CPP/QPP is mandatory for virtually all workers aged 18 and older, RPPs are largely provided at the employers' discretion. The higher contributions legislated for the CPP/QPP may have an effect on the establishment of new RPPs or even cause the termination of some of those now in existence.

For further information, order *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (catalogue number 75-001E) or contact Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division at (613) 951-7569.

## The Labour Market: Mid-year Review

The 1993 issue of *The Labour Market: Mid-year Review* is the latest report providing data on labour market and other leading indicators for the first six months of 1993. The supplement is included in the Autumn 1993 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*.

During the first half of 1993, Canadian labour market indicators revealed unstable and mixed signals. In general, however, labour market conditions showed slight signs of improvement from a year earlier. For example, the employment gain of 121,000 in the first half of 1993 contrasted with a 58,000 decline in the same period in 1992 when employment remained heavily influenced by the recession.

### Other highlights from the report include:

- Between January and June 1993, full-time employment was little changed, compared with a large drop of 69,000 over the same period in 1992. In contrast, part-time employment saw an increase of 123,000 during the same period in 1993. In June 1993, part-timers accounted for a record high proportion of the total employed (18%).
- Blue-collar workers were – and still remain – the hardest hit by the recession. Their level of employment in June 1993 was still 328,000 below that of June 1990.
- The unemployment rate averaged 11.2% between January and June 1993. This represents little change from what it was during the same period in 1992 (11.0%) but was an improvement over the last half of 1992 when the rate averaged 11.5%.

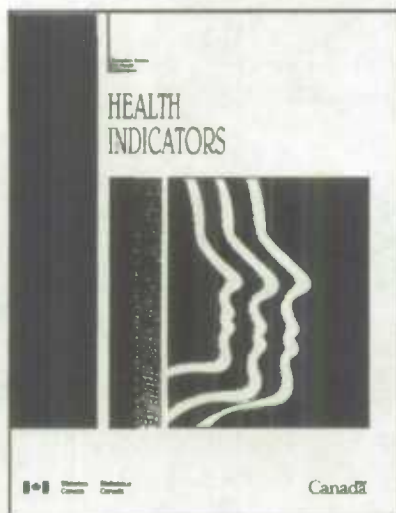
For further information, order *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (catalogue number 75-001E) or contact Household Surveys Division at (613) 951-9480.

# PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM SEPTEMBER 3 TO 9, 1993

Division/title of publication	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
			\$US		
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Cereals and Oilseeds Review	June 1993	22-007	13.80/138	16.60/166	19.30/193
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 6: Stocks of Canadian Grain	at July 31, 1993	22-002	12/80	14/96	16/112
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Geography Guide Book	1991 Census	92-310E	10	12	14
1991 Census Geography: A Historical Comparison	1991 Census	92-311E	20	24	28
<b>INDUSTRY</b>					
Asphalt Roofing	July 1993	45-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Cement	July 1993	44-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Coal and Coke Statistics	June 1993	45-002	10/100	12/120	14/140
Electric Lamps	July 1993	43-009	5/50	6/60	7/70
Gypsum Products	July 1993	44-003	5/50	6/60	7/70
Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins	July 1993	46-002	5.60/56	6.70/67	7.80/78
Production and Inventories of Process					
Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder	July 1993	32-024	5/50	6/60	7/70
Rigid Insulating Board	July 1993	36-002	5/50	6/60	7/70
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products	July 1993	41-006	5/50	6/60	7/70
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>					
Summary of Canadian International Trade	June 1993	65-001	18.20/182	21.80/218	25.50/255
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Unemployment Insurance Statistics	June 1993	73-001	14.70/147	17.60/176	20.60/206
<b>LIBRARY SERVICES</b>					
Guide to Managing Statistics Canada Publications in Libraries	May 1993 Update	11-208UE	35	42	49
<b>SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>					
Science Statistics Service Bulletin: The Provincial Distribution of R&D in Canada, Vol. 17, No. 6	1979-1991	88-001	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99



## NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



### Health Indicators, Third Edition

*Health Indicators'* third edition features 58 indicators that consolidate the most recent data from various databases and national surveys on health status, health determinants, resources and the use of resources.

Designed to meet the needs of a range of health professionals and special interest groups, particularly those developing health policies and programs, this database may be used to follow the evolution of the population's health status and to track indicators of program performance.

The package includes explanatory text, model tables and charts, as well as computer diskettes (DOS) of the database and software. Users will be able to retrieve and analyze 1.4 million data points.

*For literature or further information, please contact Norman Dawson (613-951-1653, fax: 613-951-0792), Canadian Centre for Health Information.*

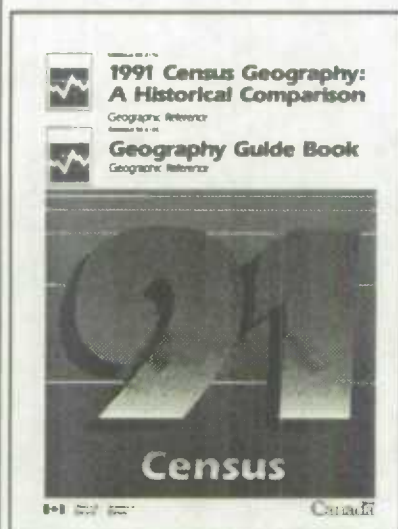
### Canadian Merchandise Trade Statistics on CD-ROM

Revised monthly merchandise trade statistics are available on two new CD-ROM diskettes for 1988-1990 and 1991-92. Data can be accessed on value, quantity, Canadian province and U.S. state for over 20,000 commodities and 200 countries. Import and export statistics are presented separately at their most detailed level.

The built-in TIERS software makes it easy to select, retrieve, sort, aggregate, save and/or print the data. Descriptions of each commodity are also included on the diskettes.

*Canadian Merchandise Trade CD-ROM, 1988-1990 (\$1,750) and Canadian Merchandise Trade CD-ROM, 1991-1992 (\$1,500) are now available. Purchase both for \$3,000. A 50% discount is available to educational institutions. All prices are subject to Statistics Canada's Licence Agreement.*

*For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-9647), International Trade Division, or your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.*



### Geography Guide Book and 1991 Census Geography: A Historical Comparison

The *Geography Guide Book* (catalogue number 92-310E, \$10) is designed to assist those who are unfamiliar with Statistics Canada's geographical data. Five case studies illustrate how geographic data, products and services can be used in sales and marketing.

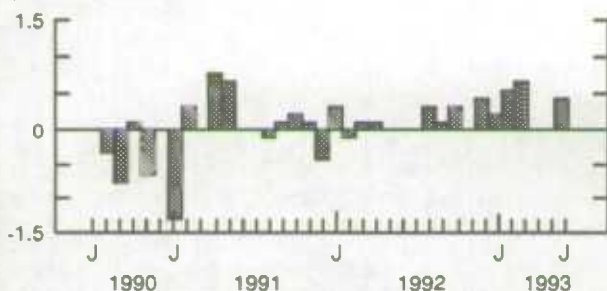
*1991 Census Geography: A Historical Comparison* (catalogue number 92-311E, \$20) shows how to find, understand and compare geographic data from the 1986 and 1991 Censuses. It also reports changes in geographic areas and other differences between the two censuses.

*To order these publications, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.*

## CURRENT TRENDS

### Gross Domestic Product

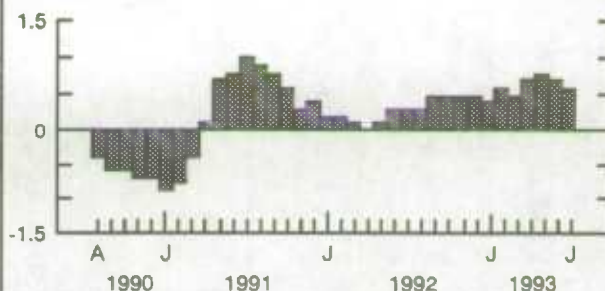
% change,  
previous month



After remaining unchanged in April and May, real gross domestic product at factor cost expanded 0.4% in June.

### Composite Leading Indicator

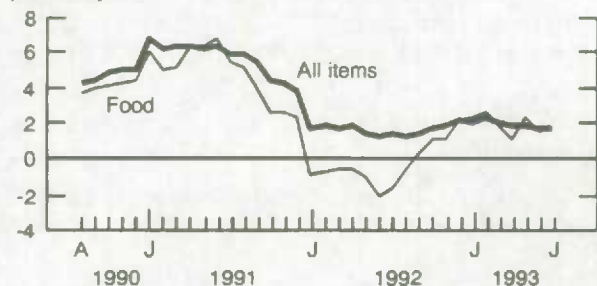
% change,  
previous month



The composite leading indicator continued its year-long advance in July, rising by 0.6% from June.

### Consumer Price Index

% change,  
previous year



The year-over-year increase in the all-items CPI was 1.6% in July, unchanged from June's rise. The food index also rose by 1.6%.

### Unemployment Rate

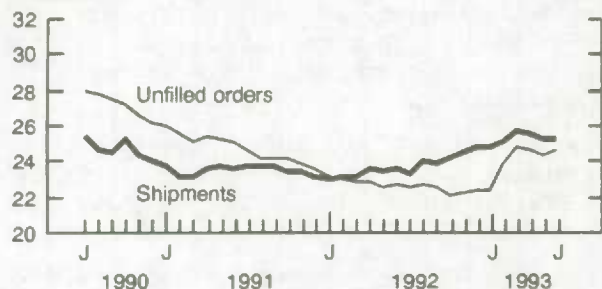
%



The unemployment rate reached 11.6% in July, its highest level since November 1992 when the rate hit a 10-year high of 11.8%.

### Manufacturing

Billions  
of dollars



Canadian manufacturers' shipments edged up by 0.5% in June, and the level of unfilled orders increased 1.0%.

### Merchandise Trade

Billions  
of dollars



In June, seasonally adjusted merchandise imports rose 0.1% while exports remained unchanged. As a result, the merchandise trade balance was unchanged at \$900 million.

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)	June	516.9	0.4%	2.9%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	July	154.8	0.6%	6.8%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	2nd Quarter	14.0	22.8%	35.9%
<b>DOMESTIC DEMAND</b>				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	June	16.0	-0.7%	3.8%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	July*	99.8	7.0%	-3.8%
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Employment (millions)	July	12.4	-0.3%	1.4%
Unemployment Rate (%)	July	11.6	0.3	0.0
Participation Rate (%)	July	65.4	-0.2	-0.1
Labour Income (\$ billion)	June*	33.2	0.8%	2.9%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June	558.60	0.6%	1.8%
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	June	14.7	0.0%	15.9%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	June	13.8	0.1%	10.7%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	June	0.90	0.0	0.69
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>				
Shipments (\$ billion)	June	25.2	0.5%	7.2%
New Orders (\$ billion)	June	25.4	2.8%	7.6%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	June	24.5	1.0%	8.9%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	June	1.37	0.0	-0.1
Capacity Utilization (%)	2nd Quarter	78.3	-0.2	3.3
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	130.5	0.2%	1.6%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	112.2	0.2%	2.8%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	July	112.7	-1.9%	4.3%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	June	136.1	0.2%	1.2%

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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Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613) 951-1187

Editor: Louise Larouche (613) 951-1197

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Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's computerized data retrieval systems. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for clients who are located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services – from seminars to consultations – are also offered. Call or write your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre for more information.

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