



IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS

Friday, November 19, 1993



OVERVIEW

■ Manufacturers Record Strong Gain in Shipments

After increasing by 4.2% in August, the seasonally adjusted value of Canadian manufacturers' shipments rose a further 1.4% in September as 19 of 22 major industry groups recorded gains.

■ Planned Construction Activity Declines Further

In September, all regions reported declines in the seasonally adjusted value of building permits issued in Canada.

■ Growth of Canada's Net Worth Modest in 1992

Canada's net worth – total assets less liabilities – increased a modest 2.3% in 1992 to \$2.2 trillion, due mainly to weak growth in tangible assets.

■ Family Expenditures Rise for Shelter but Decline for Food

Among the shifts in the 1992 distribution of total expenditure after personal taxes, the proportion of total expenditure increased on shelter but decreased on food.

■ International Travel Relatively Stable in September

In September, the flow of foreign travellers to Canada continued to show little variation. The overall volume of resident travel remained unchanged.

■ Farm Product Prices: Down in September but Up from 1992

The Farm Product Price Index fell 2.1% in September, the second decline in three months, but stood 3.6% above its year-earlier level.

Manufacturers Record Strong Gain in Shipments

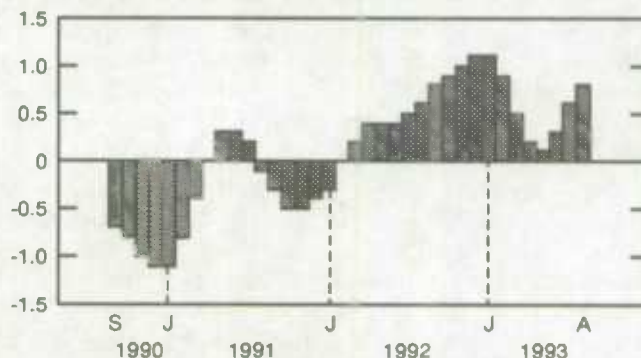
The value of Canadian manufacturers' shipments rose 1.4% in September to a seasonally adjusted level of \$26.3 billion. This increase follows a solid gain of 4.2% in August and pushes shipments for the first nine months of the year to \$228.6 billion, up 8.6% from the corresponding period in 1992.

Increases were widespread as 19 of 22 major industry groups, accounting for 95% of shipment values, recorded higher shipment levels. Much of the strength in recent months has come from export-oriented industries, notably the automotive sector, wood and primary metals, and coincided with the U.S. economy gaining strength.

(continued on page 2)

Shipments

Monthly percentage change in trend, seasonally adjusted



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



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

... Manufacturers Record Strong Gain in Shipments

Inventory levels edged down by 0.1% to \$35.1 billion, the first decline after six straight months of increases. The steepest declines were in the refined petroleum and coal products (-9.1%) and food (-0.8%) industries. The inventories to shipments ratio slipped from 1.35 in August to an historical low of 1.33 in September.

The level of unfilled orders decreased 0.6% to \$24.2 billion, the fifth decline in six months. Transportation equipment accounted for most of September's drop. (Unfilled orders are a stock of orders which, if not cancelled, will contribute to future shipments.) New orders, however, increased 1.5% to \$26.2 billion, after rising by 4.2% in August.

Trends

The trend for shipments, which had been slowing during the first five months of the year, picked up in June, rose 0.6% in July and 0.8% in August. The advance reflected strong shipment levels in the motor vehicles, parts and accessories, wood, and primary metals industries.

Following three years of declines, the trend for inventories continued to advance for the fifth month in a row, this time by 0.4%. For unfilled orders, the trend decreased for the first time in a year (-0.1%). The trend for new orders rose 0.3% in July and 0.6% in August after declining in April and May.

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 8.)

Planned Construction Activity Declines Further

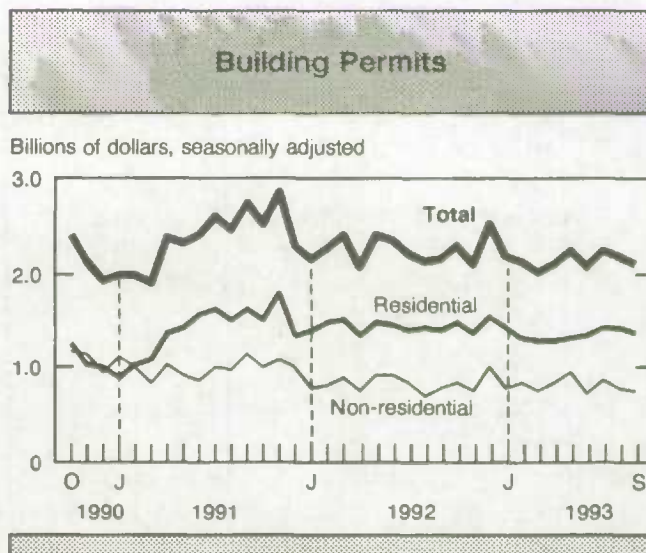
After rising by 9.5% in July, the seasonally adjusted value of building permits issued in Canada has declined for two months in a row, by 3.1% in August and a further 4.5% in September. All regions reported declines, ranging from -0.7% in Ontario to -11.3% in Québec. At \$2.1 billion, the September figure was 3.5% below its year-earlier level of \$2.2 billion.

The value of residential building permits decreased 4.2% in September to \$1.4 billion, after increasing by a total of 11.0% in the previous five months. All regions registered decreases in the value of residential building permits except Ontario (2.4%), where the single-family dwelling sector recorded a notable gain of 7.8%.

The value of residential building permits for the January-September period dropped 5.7% from the same period in 1992. For that period, Ontario recorded the largest decline (-16.7%) while British Columbia posted the biggest increase (8.0%).

The value of residential building permits dropped sharply in September in the multi-family dwelling sector, down 12.0% to \$406 million. The downturn came mostly from the Prairies (-29.3%), Québec (-20.0%) and the Atlantic region (-15.2%). Permits for single-family dwellings fell slightly, by 0.4% to \$951 million.

In the non-residential sector, the value of building permits decreased 5.1%, from \$762 million in August to \$724 million in September. The



Prairies (-14.3%), Ontario (-6.1%) and Québec (-5.6%) shared in the non-residential sector slump due mainly to the poor performance of the institutional sector.

Even though the value of building permits for industrial projects climbed 10.5%, it was not enough to offset declines in institutional (-12.7%) and commercial (-5.7%) projects.

For further information, order *Building Permits* (catalogue number 64-001) or contact *Investment and Capital Stock Division* at (613) 951-2025.

Growth of Canada's Net Worth Modest in 1992

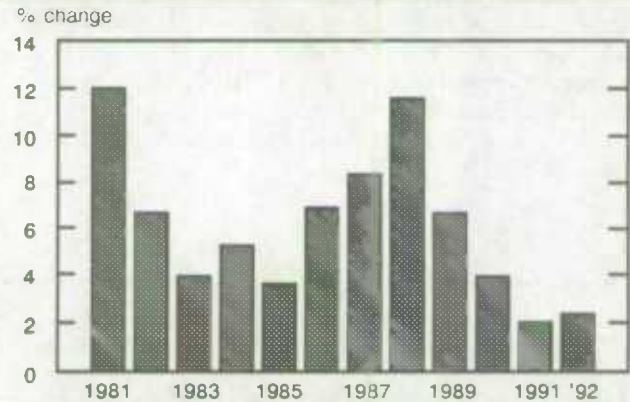
Total national assets amounted to just over \$6.0 trillion at the end of 1992, about nine times Gross Domestic Product. Canada's national wealth, the value of all tangible assets excluding natural resources, was \$2.5 trillion, of which \$300 billion was accounted for by non-resident claims. Canada's net worth – total assets less liabilities – increased a modest 2.3% in 1992 to \$2.2 trillion, due to weak growth in tangible assets. This amounted to \$78,200 on a per capita basis, up from \$77,300 at the end of 1991.

For 1992 as a whole, there was a further softening in the demand for funds that reflected the very slow pace of economic recovery despite declines in interest rates. Credit market debt (consumer credit, mortgages, loans, short-term paper and bonds) of domestic non-financial sectors totalled \$1.5 trillion by year-end 1992.

Credit market debt of the personal sector reached \$461 billion, growing 5%. Consumer credit debt was repaid, on balance, in 1992. Nevertheless, household debt (consumer credit plus mortgage credit) continued to grow more rapidly than disposable income. Household debt was \$14,400 per person in 1992, up from \$13,800 in 1991, and reached a record 86% of personal disposable income.

Governments accounted for the largest share of net new borrowing during the year, while demand by non-financial corporations continued to weaken as in the previous two years. The depreciation of the Canadian dollar, which had a significant impact on foreign-currency denominated issues, accounted for some of the increase in indebtedness of Canadian sectors.

National Net Worth



Note to Users

The National Balance Sheet Accounts estimates for 1992 and earlier years have been revised, in some cases back to 1961.

The debt of all governments – federal, provincial and local – totalled \$589 billion, up 10.3% from 1991. This brought the public debt per capita to \$21,700, up from \$20,100 in 1991.

For further information, order *National Balance Sheet Accounts, 1983-92* (catalogue number 13-214) or contact *National Accounts and Environment Division* at (613) 951-3640.

Family Expenditures Rise for Shelter but Decline for Food

The 1992 survey of family expenditures was conducted in both urban and rural areas of the 10 provinces. Results are based on information provided by 9,492 households. Data show that the share for shelter of total household expenditures after personal taxes increased to 22%, the highest proportion recorded since the first national survey in 1969. Meanwhile, the share for food decreased to 16% in 1992, down from 17% in 1986 and from 22% in 1969.

Between 1986 and 1992, average total household expenditure before taxes increased by 29%, from \$35,179 to \$45,548. On a comparable basis, average personal taxes rose 42% over the same period, accounting for almost 20% of total

household expenditure in 1992. Average household spending after personal taxes rose from \$28,689 in 1986 to \$36,179 in 1992.

Average household expenditure on automobile purchases decreased by 13% between 1986 and 1992, while spending on truck purchases (including minivans) doubled for the same period. Spending on maintenance and repair showed a 30% increase.

Average household expenditure on VCRs was cut by nearly half, partly because 72% of households owned a VCR in 1992 compared to 43% in 1986. In contrast, average household spending on computer equipment and supplies almost tripled during the six-year period. The proportion of households that owned computer equipment doubled, from 11% in 1986 to 22% in 1992.

(continued on page 4)

... Family Expenditures Rise for Shelter but Decline for Food

Spending on videotape rentals plus cablevision (in-home audio-visual entertainment) increased by 83% between 1986 and 1992. Over the same period, expenditures on motion picture showings, live sports spectacles plus live staged performances (outside-the-home audio-visual entertainment) rose only 27%.

Expenditure patterns vary not only by income, but by family size and many other family characteristics.

For further information, contact Household Surveys Division at (613) 951-4633.

International Travel Relatively Stable in September

The flow of foreign travellers to Canada increased in September but the level of this type of travel has shown little variation since the end of 1986. Trips of one or more nights to Canada by residents of the United States rose by 3.3% to a seasonally adjusted level of 1.0 million, and comparable trips by travellers from other countries rose 1.3% to 264,000.

The number of Canadian residents' trips of one or more nights to all countries (by all modes of travel) was stable in September at 1.7 million, following an increase in August of 1.3%. A rise of 0.2% in the number of trips to the United States was offset by a drop of 1.2% in the number of trips to countries other than the United States.

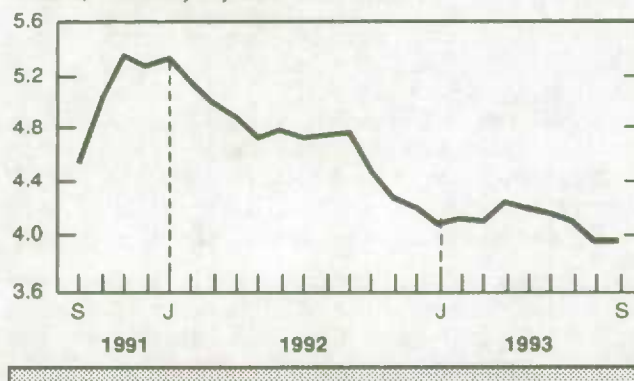
International Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

September 1993, Seasonally Adjusted

	('000)	% change previous month	% change previous year
One or More Night Trips			
Non-resident Travellers:			
United States	1,002	3.3	3.0
Other Countries	264	1.3	6.7
Total	1,266	2.9	3.8
Residents of Canada:			
United States	1,445	0.2	-8.6
Other Countries	275	-1.2	2.8
Total	1,720	0.0	-6.9
Auto Re-entries			
Residents of Canada:			
Same-day	3,951	-0.1	-16.9
Overnight	996	-0.9	-10.7

Same-day Trips by Canadian Residents to the United States, by Automobile

Millions, seasonally adjusted



Same-day car trips by Canadians to the United States were virtually unchanged and totalled 4.0 million, the lowest level since December 1989. After peaking at 5.3 million trips in November 1991, the trend in same-day cross-border car trips has been generally downward since February 1992.

The downtrend in car trips of one or more nights to the U.S. also continued, decreasing by 0.9% to 1.0 million in September. Meanwhile, car trips of one or more nights to Canada by Americans climbed 10.6% to 701,000.

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

Farm Product Prices: Down in September but Up from 1992

The Farm Product Price Index (1986=100) fell to 103.7 in September, a 2.1% decrease from the revised August level of 105.9. This marked the second decline in three months but the index was still 3.6% above its year-earlier level of 100.1.

The crops index fell for the third time this year, by 8.3% in September to 87.9, and reached its lowest level since October 1992. This decline followed average monthly increases of 1.7% in the previous three months.

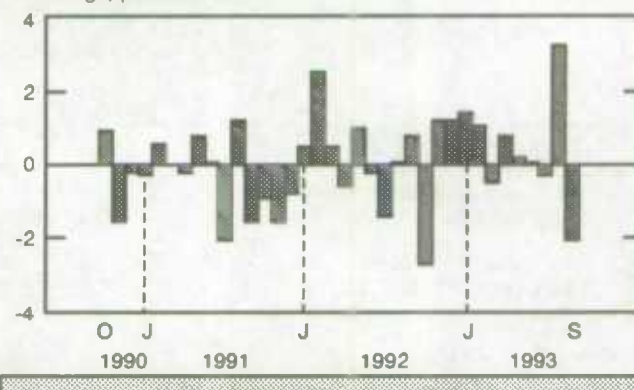
The cereals index dropped 13.4% to 67.5 and remained at a low level last seen in 1972. The decline resulted from lower Canadian Wheat Board initial prices set for wheat and barley. The oilseeds index decreased 2.4% in September as canola,

The Farm Product Price Index September 1993

	Crops		Livestock and Animal Products	
	% change from		% change from	
	August 1993	Sept. 1992	August 1993	Sept. 1992
Canada	-8.3	-2.8	1.3	6.9
Newfoundland	-1.3	-2.6	-0.4	0.4
Prince Edward Island	-10.6	37.6	-0.6	1.6
Nova Scotia	-0.3	1.1	0.5	1.8
New Brunswick	-7.7	38.6	0.5	7.9
Québec	-1.1	1.5	0.3	4.9
Ontario	-1.2	14.3	-0.2	3.6
Manitoba	-12.4	-11.1	2.6	7.7
Saskatchewan	-12.5	-12.7	2.2	15.6
Alberta	-12.2	-9.6	3.7	13.6
British Columbia	-9.3	-7.3	3.1	3.0

Farm Product Price Index

% change, previous month



flaxseed, and soybean prices all showed decreases in most provinces. However, the oilseeds index stood 11.0% above its year-earlier level, a continuation of the year-over-year increases experienced since June 1992. After increasing sharply in recent months, the potatoes index tumbled 11.2% in September (potato prices tend to drop when supplies from the new harvest become available). Despite the decline, the index stood at 171.0, 38.3% above the previous year's level of 123.6.

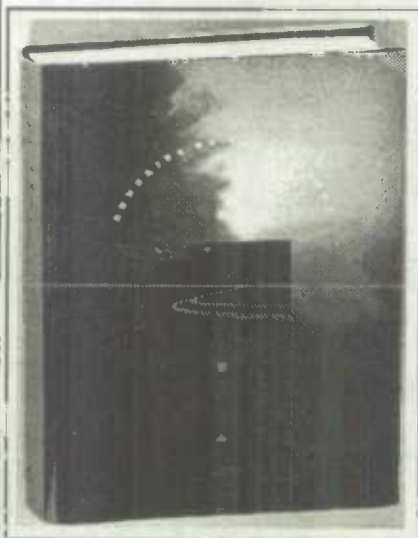
After increasing by 4.4% in August, the livestock and animal products index rose a further 1.3% in September to 113.4, and stood 6.9% above its September 1992 level. The cattle and calves index was up by 4.0% while the hogs index dropped 3.5%. Hog prices, however, have been generally rising since the beginning of 1992.

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM NOVEMBER 12 TO 18, 1993

Division/title of publication	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (Cdn.\$)	United States	Other Countries
			US\$		
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS					
Canada's International Transactions in Securities	August 1993	67-002	15.80/158	19/190	22.10/221
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION					
Nursing in Canada: Registered Nurses	1992	83-243	15	18	21
COMMUNICATIONS					
Canada Year Book	1994	11-402E	65	72	84
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM					
Touriscope: International Travel, Advance Information, Vol. 9, No. 9	September 1993	66-001P	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
INDUSTRY					
Energy Statistics Handbook	November 1993	57-601	300	360	420
Metal Mines	1991	26-223	26	31	36
Oil Pipeline Transport	August 1993	55-001	10/100	12/120	14/140
Oils and Fats	September 1993	32-006	5/50	6/60	7/70
Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard	September 1993	36-003	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing	September 1993	41-011	5/50	6/60	7/70
Shipments of Plastic Film and Bags	Quarter Ended				
Manufactured from Resin	September 1993	47-007	6.75/27	8/32	9.50/38
Transportation Equipment Industries	1991	42-251	35	42	49
LABOUR					
Employment, Earnings and Hours	August 1993	72-002	28.50/285	34.20/342	39.90/399
SERVICES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY					
Radio and Television Broadcasting	1992	56-204	26	31	36
Science Statistics Service Bulletin: Federal Government Personnel Engaged in Scientific and Technological (S&T) Activities	1985-86 to 1993-94	88-001	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
TRANSPORTATION					
Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics	September 1993	53-003	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99

NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA



Canada Year Book - 1994

The 1994 *Canada Year Book* has been released. This beautiful book comprises 22 chapters of captivating text and more than 100 feature articles, tables and improved charts to form a comprehensive overview of Canadian life and issues today: current events, culture, geography, economy, demography, government, industry, and more.

Highlights drawn from the 1991 Census and hundreds of surveys make this a publication of record, a must-have for everyone who relies on current knowledge of Canada: teachers, students, librarians, business people, researchers and policy makers — anyone interested in the state of the nation.

The 1994 *Canada Year Book* is hardcover, with more than 145 large-format photographic images and over 700 pages of text and analysis.

The 1994 Canada Year Book (catalogue number 11-402E, \$65,) is now available. To order, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre or call Publications Sales (toll-free 1-800-267-6677). For more information, contact Jonina Wood at (613) 951-1114, Communications Division.

1991 Agriculture-Population Linkage Database

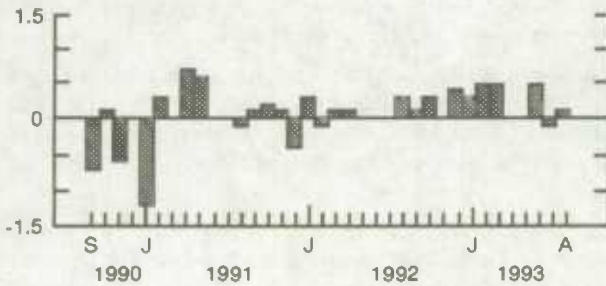
New data from the 1991 Agriculture-Population linkage database were released on November 16, 1993, in an addendum to *The Daily*. These findings provide the most in-depth look ever at Canadian farm operators.

As well as presenting information on occupation, education, mobility and place of birth of farm operators, the addendum provides comparisons between the farm operators and the general working population.

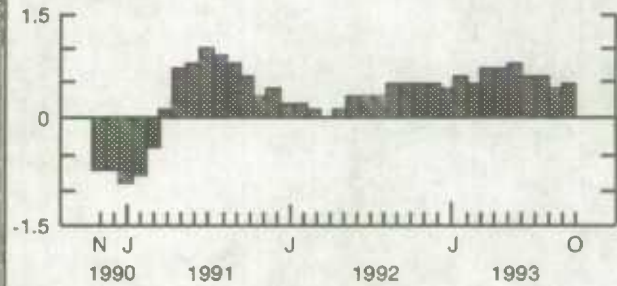
To learn more about Census of Agriculture's products and services, contact the User Services Unit, Census of Agriculture (613-951-8711 or toll-free in Canada: 1-800-465-1991).

CURRENT TRENDS

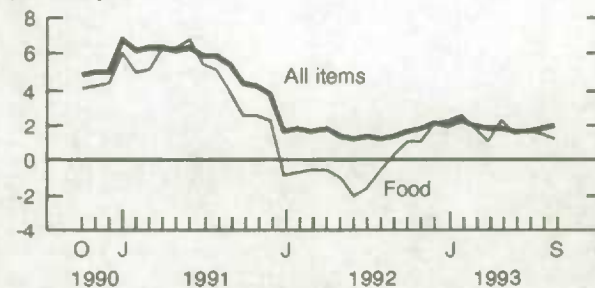
Gross Domestic Product

% change,
previous month

Composite Index

% change,
previous month

Consumer Price Index

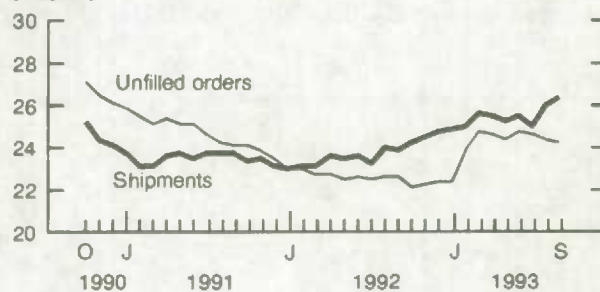
% change,
previous year

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
GENERAL				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	August	517.3	0.1%	2.6%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	October	157.2	0.5%	7.1%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	2nd Quarter	14.0	22.8%	35.9%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	August	16.3	0.3%	4.7%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	September	97.0	-1.8%	-6.8%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	October	12.4	-0.2%	1.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	October	11.1	-0.1	-0.2
Participation Rate (%)	October	64.9	-0.2	-0.4
Labour Income (\$ billion)	August	33.2	-0.1%	2.6%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	August	560.61	-0.1%	1.7%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	August	14.9	-0.3%	10.8%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	August	14.3	4.9%	17.0%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	August	0.60	-0.72	-0.62
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	September*	26.3	1.4%	10.8%
New Orders (\$ billion)	September*	26.2	1.5%	10.3%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	September*	24.2	-0.6%	7.7%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	September*	1.33	-0.02	-0.12
Capacity Utilization (%)	2nd Quarter	78.3	-0.2	3.3
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	September	130.7	0.1%	1.9%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	September	112.9	0.1%	2.7%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	September	112.0	-1.0%	2.3%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	September	136.6	0.1%	1.6%

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

* New this week.

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