



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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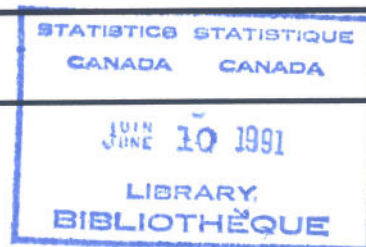
- **Composite Indicator, May 1993** 2
The composite indicator continued to accelerate in May, rising 0.8%, its largest increase in almost two years. Steady growth in manufacturing and financial markets again led the gain.
- **New Housing Price Index, April 1993** 4
The New Housing Price Index for Canada increased 0.5% in April 1993 from March 1993. New housing prices in Vancouver continued to register notable increases.

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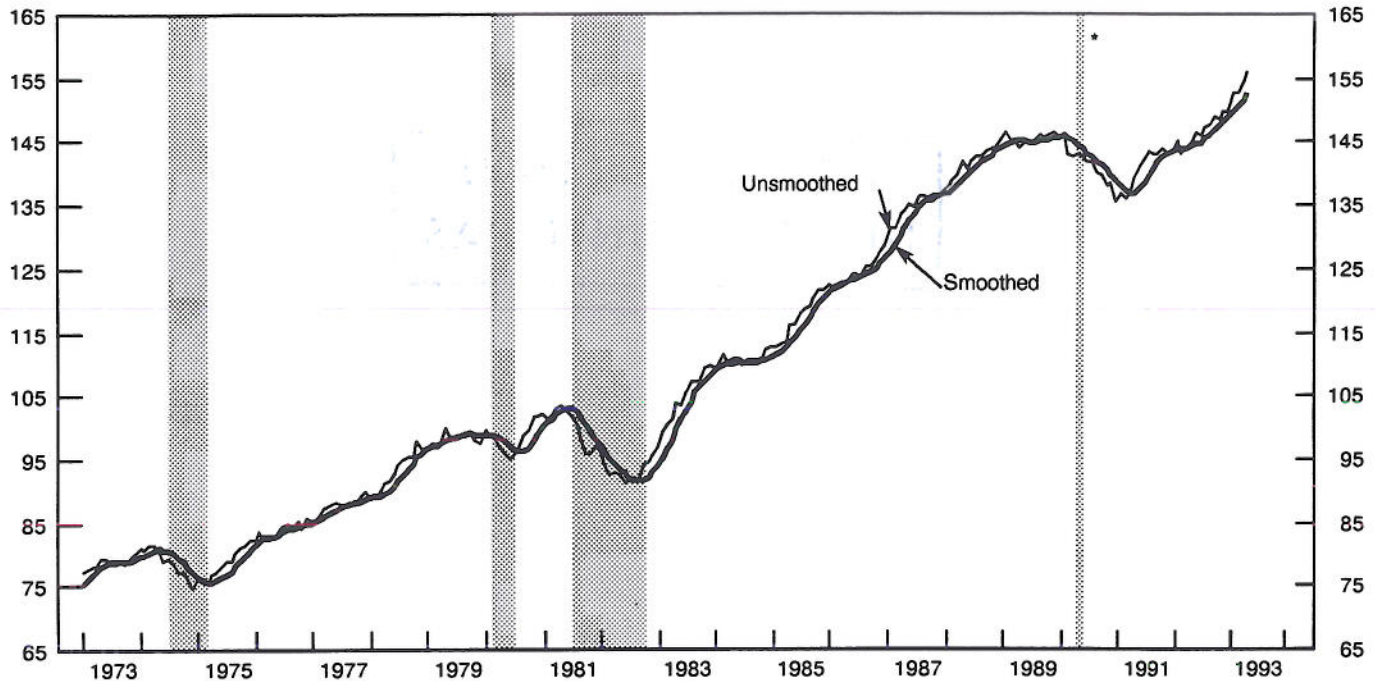
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Composite Indicator

1981 = 100



* Shaded areas represent periods of recession; the April 1990 onset of recession is tentative, and no end-date has yet been proposed.

Composite Indicator

May 1993

The leading indicator continued to accelerate in May, rising 0.8%, its largest increase in almost two years. Steady growth in manufacturing and financial markets again led the gain. Seven of the 10 components were up (one more than in April), one component was unchanged and two were down. The unsmoothed index grew 0.5% in May — its sixth straight gain.

Household demand continued to thaw from a winter freeze. Strength in house sales contributed to further gains in furniture and appliance sales. Purchases of other durable goods were stable, as higher car sales reversed a declining trend observed early in the year. Housing starts fell in May, but existing house sales in April recovered about half of

their losses since last October. Demand for personal services registered its largest increase in over a year, but this was outweighed by slumping employment in business services.

New orders for durable goods built further upon the increase posted last month, the best since 1988. Rising household demand reinforced export growth. Shipments also grew markedly, raising their ratio to stocks for the eighth month in a row. Firms resorted to a longer workweek to meet labour requirements, as manufacturing employment dipped in May for the first time since last November.

The financial market indicators posted their best gains in almost five years. Growth in the stock market index picked up from 2.4% to 3.0% — its fourth straight increase. The money supply expanded by 1.1%.

The U.S. leading indicator slowed, as inventories that were accumulated during severe storms in March depressed manufacturing demand. However, U.S. household demand recovered strongly in April, and employment grew sharply in April and May.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For more information on the economy, order the June issue of *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$22/\$220), which will be available the week of June 14-18. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release or about the next release dates, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Division.

Composite Indicators

Data used in the composite index calculation for:	December 1992	January 1993	February 1993	March 1993	April 1993	May 1993	Last month of data available
							% change
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	148.2	148.8	149.7	150.6	151.6	152.8	0.8
Unsmoothed	149.7	150.0	152.4	152.6	154.6	155.4	0.5
Housing index ¹	134.6	130.5	126.1	122.0	120.8	119.3	-1.2
Business and personal services employment (thousands)	1,768	1,776	1,780	1,783	1,783	1,782	-0.1
United States composite leading index (1967 = 100)	205.0	205.9	206.9	208.0	208.8	209.2*	0.2
TSE300 stock price index (1975 = 1000)	3,333	3,321	3,332	3,375	3,456	3,560	3.0
Money supply (M1) (millions of 1981 \$) ²	25,371	25,501	25,728	25,895	26,168	26,465	1.1
Manufacturing							
Average workweek	38.3	38.3	38.3	38.4	38.4	38.5	0.3
New orders – durables (millions of 1981 \$)	9,073.6	9,168.9	9,365.8	9,507.2	9,756.7	10,072.9**	3.2
Shipment to inventory ratio	1.41	1.42	1.43	1.44	1.45	1.46**	0.01 ³
Retail Trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (millions of 1981 \$)	1,043.0	1,050.3	1,056.7	1,065.9	1,072.9	1,078.2**	0.5
Other durable goods sales (millions of 1981 \$)	3,573.6	3,588.0	3,600.7	3,610.0	3,610.0	3,610.0**	0.0

¹ Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (MLS).

² Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.

³ Difference from previous month.

* This is the April value as published in May.

** This is the March value as published in May.

New Housing Price Index

April 1993

The New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100) for Canada stood at 136.4 in April, up 0.5% from March 1993. The estimated house only index increased 0.6% and the land only index increased 0.3%.

The largest monthly increases were in the Vancouver (+2.2%) and the Sudbury-Thunder Bay (+1.0%) indices. The Toronto index registered the largest monthly decrease (-0.4%) among the five city indices that decreased.

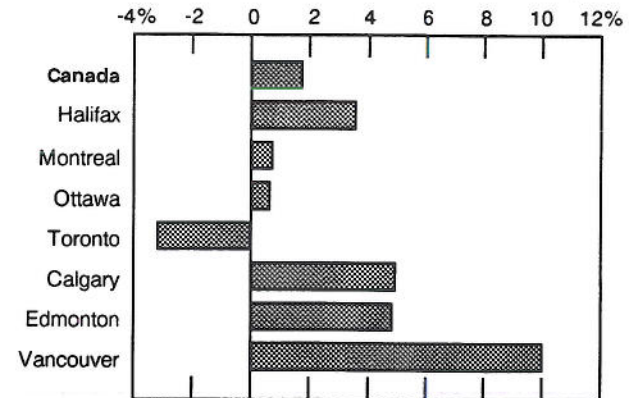
This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices was up 1.7% from a year earlier. This movement was influenced by year-over-year increases in Vancouver (+10.0%), Regina (+6.7%) and Calgary (+4.9%). However, these increases were partly offset by decreases in Hamilton (-3.7%), Toronto (-3.2%) and St. Catharines-Niagara (-3.0%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The second quarter 1993 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$18/\$72) will be available in September. See "How to Order Publications".

New Housing Price Index

% change from April 1992 to April 1993



For more detailed information on this release, please contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

New Housing Price Indexes

1986 = 100

	April 1992	March 1993	April 1993	April 1992 to April 1993	March 1993 to April 1993
	% change				
Canada Total	134.1	135.7	136.4	1.7	0.5
House only	124.6	125.4	126.1	1.2	0.6
Land only	162.3	167.6	168.1	3.6	0.3
St. John's	126.8	127.0	127.0	0.2	-
Halifax	109.8	113.4	113.6	3.5	0.2
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	115.4	115.6	115.6	0.2	-
Quebec City	135.2	134.4	135.3	0.1	0.7
Montreal	134.8	134.8	135.7	0.7	0.7
Ottawa-Hull	122.9	122.9	123.6	0.6	0.6
Toronto	141.8	137.8	137.3	-3.2	-0.4
Hamilton	132.5	127.8	127.6	-3.7	-0.2
St. Catharines-Niagara	133.0	129.2	129.0	-3.0	-0.2
Kitchener-Waterloo	125.4	126.5	126.4	0.8	-0.1
London	146.5	145.6	146.0	-0.3	0.3
Windsor	127.3	127.4	127.4	0.1	-
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	131.5	133.3	134.6	2.4	1.0
Winnipeg	108.3	112.8	112.8	4.2	-
Regina	115.3	122.4	123.0	6.7	0.5
Saskatoon	107.2	111.3	111.3	3.8	-
Calgary	132.9	139.6	139.4	4.9	-0.1
Edmonton	141.0	147.7	147.8	4.8	0.1
Vancouver	133.1	143.3	146.4	10.0	2.2
Victoria	126.8	130.7	131.3	3.5	0.5

- Nil or zero.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area

April 1993

Department store sales including concessions totalled \$1,002.6 million in April 1993, down 1.7% from April 1992. Concessions sales totalled \$53.9 million, 5.4% of total department store sales.

Department Store Sales Including Concessions

	Sales (\$ millions)	April 1992 to April 1993 % change
Province		
Newfoundland	14.3	+2.2
Prince Edward Island	4.3	+1.7
Nova Scotia	34.9	+3.3
New Brunswick	22.8	+0.3
Quebec	195.0	-3.4
Ontario	413.6	+0.1
Manitoba	42.7	+0.1
Saskatchewan	28.4	-4.0
Alberta	108.0	-3.3
British Columbia	138.5	-5.2
Metropolitan Area		
Calgary	38.6	-4.0
Edmonton	46.0	-5.4
Halifax-Dartmouth	17.2	-1.5
Hamilton	30.0	+2.9
Montreal	104.7	-2.5
Ottawa-Hull	46.0	-7.5
Quebec City	26.0	-3.8
Toronto	156.7	+0.4
Vancouver	71.5	-7.6
Winnipeg	38.0	+0.4

Information on department store sales and stocks by major commodity lines will be available in *The Daily* on June 21, 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 111, 112 (series 1, levels 10-12).

The April 1993 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$14.40/\$144) will be available in July.

For further information, contact Diane Lake (613-951-9824) Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■

Steel Primary Forms

Week Ending June 5, 1993 (Preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 5, 1993 totalled 252 961 tonnes, down 0.6% from the week-earlier 254 589 tonnes and down 5.5% from the year-earlier 267 587 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 6 151 920 tonnes, a 4.2% increase from 5 904 386 tonnes for the same period in 1992.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

Steel Primary Forms

April 1993

Steel primary forms production for April 1993 totalled 1 244 990 tonnes, an increase of 7.1% from 1 162 295 tonnes the previous year.

Year-to-date production at the end of the month totalled 4 741 234 tonnes, up 3.9% from 4 561 097 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

The April 1993 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

Railway Carloadings

10-day Period Ending May 31, 1993

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the 10-day period totalled 5.3 million tonnes, a decrease of 15.8% from the same period last year.

Piggyback traffic decreased 7.6% and the number of cars loaded decreased 8.7% from the same period last year.

The tonnage of revenue freight loaded as of May 31, 1993 decreased 5.9% from the previous year.

Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flatcars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic. All 1992 figures and 1993 cumulative data have been revised.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

Railway Carloadings

April 1993

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 20.0 million tonnes in April 1993, a decrease of 3.9% from April 1992. The carriers received an additional 1.3 million tonnes from U.S. connections during April.

Total loadings for the January to April period decreased 8.0% from the year-earlier period. Receipts from U.S. connections increased 13.5% during the same period.

All 1992 figures and 1993 cumulative data have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

The April 1993 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, \$8.30/\$83) will be released the third week of June.

For seasonally adjusted data on revenue freight loadings, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528), Transportation Division. ■

Civil Aviation Statistics

First Quarter 1993

Preliminary monthly financial data for January, February and March 1993 are now available. In the first quarter of 1993, Canadian Level I air carriers reported an increase of 15% in interest expenses while both operating revenues and expenses decreased by 2%.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

Preliminary civil aviation data for the first quarter of 1993 are published in the June issue of *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$9.30/\$93). See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Robert Lund (819-997-6188), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

Production of Eggs

April 1993

Egg production in April 1993 totalled 39.3 million dozen, a 0.8% increase from April 1992. The average number of layers decreased by 1.1% between April 1992 and 1993, but the number of eggs per 100 layers increased from 2,228 to 2,271.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry* (\$115/year), contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039).

For further information on this release, contact Conrad Barber-Deuck (613-951-2549), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Apparent per Capita Food Consumption

1991 and 1992

Estimates of apparent per capita consumption of cereals, sugars and syrups, pulses and nuts, beverages, dairy products and by-products, poultry, eggs, and meats are now available for 1991 and 1992.

Available on CANSIM: tables 00190101-00190103, 00190109-00190111 and 00190113-00190114.

The May issue of *Apparent Per Capita Food Consumption in Canada — Part I, 1992* (32-229, \$27) will be available shortly.

For further information, contact Gerry Mason (613-951-0574), Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances,
April 1993.

Catalogue number 43-003

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;
Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries,
April 1993.

Catalogue number 43-005

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;
Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

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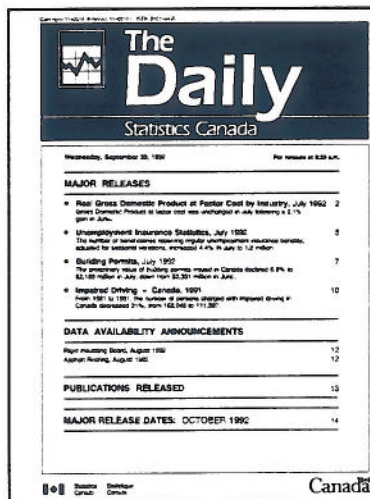
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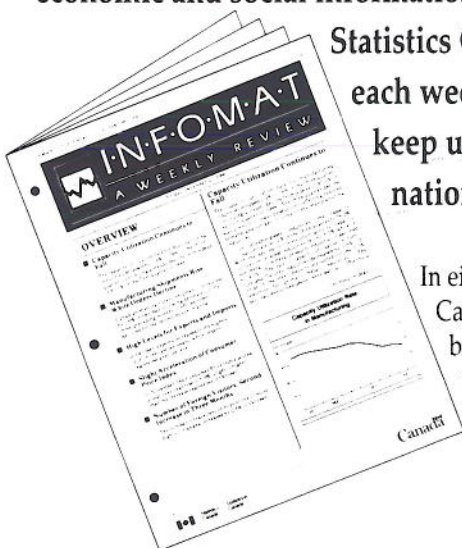


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