



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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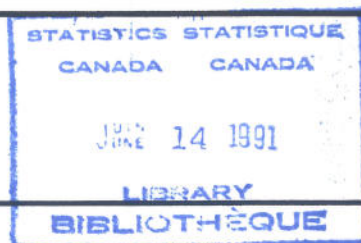


MAJOR RELEASES

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MAJOR RELEASES

Canada-United States Price and Volume Comparisons Based on Purchasing Power Parities

Considering expenditures on all goods and services contained in Gross Domestic Product, 1.23 Canadian dollars were needed in Canada in 1990 to buy as much as one U.S. dollar could buy in the United States. This was just one cent less than in 1985, when the purchasing power parity was 1.24 Canadian dollars to one U.S. dollar.

However, the purchasing power parities varied greatly – depending on the category of expenditures. For instance, the 1990 parity for tobacco was 2.34 and that for construction was 1.10.

Prices in 1990: Higher in Canada

Although purchasing power parities remained rather stable between 1985 and 1990, Canada became a more expensive country than the United States over that period, because of the increased value of the Canadian dollar on the exchange market (1.37 Canadian dollars to one U.S. dollar in 1985, compared with 1.17 in 1990).

Taking into account the entire spectrum of goods and services contained in Gross Domestic Product, Canadian prices in 1990 were 5% higher than U.S. prices – in 1985, by contrast, Canadian prices were 9% lower than U.S. prices. As for individual consumption by households, Canada was 7% more expensive than the United States in 1990, but 8% less expensive in 1985.

Real Expenditures Per Capita: Lower in Canada

Between 1985 and 1990, Canadian real expenditures per capita grew relative to the United States, but remained at a lower level.

In real terms, Canada's 1990 per capita expenditures on Gross Domestic Product represented 94.6% of the U.S. figure, up from 91.5% in 1985. Analogous data for expenditures on individual consumption were 88.0% in 1990 and 85.1% in 1985.

Real expenditures relative to the United States varied substantially according to their category. For instance, in 1990, the average Canadian purchased

Nature and Uses of Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs)

A Purchasing Power Parity tells how much it costs in another country to buy the quantity and quality of goods and services that could be purchased in a given country for one unit of its currency. PPPs – not exchange rates – should be used for converting the expenditures on consumption and investment in different countries into a common currency, in order to compare their economic performance in real terms. PPPs can also be used, in conjunction with exchange rates, to make intercountry comparisons of price levels.

A comparison of tobacco consumption between Canada and the United States illustrates the nature and uses of PPPs. In 1990, Cdn. \$2.34 was needed in Canada to buy the same quantity and quality of tobacco as one U.S. dollar could buy in the United States. According to the 1990 exchange rate, Cdn. \$2.34 was valued at two U.S. dollars, which indicates that Canadian tobacco prices were twice as high as U.S. tobacco prices (for a comparative price level index of 200%). This represents a significant increase in Canadian tobacco prices relative to the United States since 1985, when Canadian tobacco prices were only 35% higher (for an index of 135%). The change in comparative price levels is consistent with the fall in per capita real consumption of tobacco compared with the United States – from 93.7% in 1985 to 80.5% in 1990.

only 82% of the personal vehicles bought by an average American. By contrast, the average Canadian used almost 172% of the public transport services that the average American used.

Further Sources and Information

These data are from a special bilateral study that is part of an ongoing program of international comparisons based on purchasing power parities. The program is carried out by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities, in order to help member countries assess their relative economic performance.

The results of the bilateral study were published in a recent report, *Purchasing Power Parities and Real Expenditures for Canada and the United States, 1990* (OECD, Paris, 1993). Statistics Canada provided Canadian price and expenditure data, while the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis provided analogous data for the United States.

For further information about international comparisons based on purchasing power parities, contact Gaston Levesque (613-951-3359) or Bohdan

Schultz (613-951-9495), Central Research Section, Prices Division, or contact Katharine Kemp (613-951-3814), National Accounts, Environment Division.

Selected Results of the Bilateral Comparison of Canada and the United States

Selected Components of Gross Domestic Product (ICP classification) ¹	Purchasing Power Parities ²		Comparative Price Levels ³		Indices of Real Value Per Capita ⁴	
	1985	1990	1985	1990	1985	1990
	(U.S. dollar = 1.00)		(U.S. = 100)		(U.S. = 100)	
Gross Domestic Product	1.24	1.23	91	105	91.5	94.6
Individual consumption by households	1.26	1.25	92	107	85.1	88.0
Food	1.39	1.32	102	113	80.1	81.4
Tobacco	1.84	2.34	135	200	93.7	80.5
Personal transport equipment	1.24	1.34	91	115	80.7	82.0
Purchased transport services	1.23	1.15	90	98	136.6	171.9
Collective consumption by government	1.25	1.24	91	107	67.8	72.1
Gross fixed capital formation	1.17	1.15	86	98	106.4	134.8
Construction	1.08	1.10	79	94	137.0	176.3
Machinery and equipment	1.34	1.23	98	105	71.0	89.9

¹ The International Comparison Project (ICP) classification, created for the United Nations ICP, groups expenditures by reference to final consumers, and not to spending agents, as the System of National Accounts (SNA) classification does in National Accounts.

² These purchasing power parities have been calculated using the Fisher index formula.

³ These comparative price levels are the results of dividing purchasing power parities of the Fisher form by the average exchange rate, which was 1.37 Canadian dollars to one U.S. dollar in 1985 and 1.17 in 1990.

⁴ These indices of real values are the results of dividing Canadian expenditures per capita, converted into U.S. dollars using purchasing power parities of the Fisher form, by the corresponding expenditures per capita in the United States.

Source: Purchasing Power Parities and Real Expenditures for Canada and the United States, 1990 (OECD, Paris, 1993).

Crude Oil and Natural Gas

March 1993 (Preliminary)

Marketable production of natural gas, at 11.1 billion cubic metres in March 1993, posted a 12.1% gain from March 1992. Year-to-date production at the end of March 1993 rose 9.2% to 32.2 billion cubic metres from the year before.

Exports of natural gas, at 5.5 billion cubic metres, rose 11.0% from March 1992. Year-to-date exports, at 16.0 billion cubic metres, posted a 13.2% gain from the 1992 period.

Production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons in March amounted to 8.9 million cubic metres, a 2.3% increase from March 1992. Year-to-date production at the end of March 1993 rose 0.3% from the same period in 1992, to 25.1 million cubic metres.

Imports of crude oil increased 31.7% from March 1992 to 3.2 million cubic metres. Year-to-date imports for 1993 amounted to 8.5 million cubic metres, a 19.1% increase over 1992.

Exports of crude oil decreased 0.6% from March 1992 to 4.1 million cubic metres. Year-to-date exports were 12.1 million cubic metres, 1.1% lower than in 1992.

The March 1993 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, \$10/\$100) will be available the first week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gerard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Crude Oil and Natural Gas

	March 1992	March 1993	March 1992 to March 1993	January to March 1992	January to March 1993	January- March 1992 to January- March 1993
	thousands of cubic metres		% change	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent¹						
Production	8 668.4	8 869.6	2.3	25 062.5	25 129.7	0.3
Exports	4 146.0	4 119.5	-0.6	12 233.6	12 100.7	-1.1
Imports	2 395.5	3 154.1	31.7	7 142.2	8 503.6	19.1
Refinery receipts	6 744.9	7 646.5	13.4	20 065.1	21 746.5	8.4
	millions of cubic metres		% change	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural Gas²						
Marketable production	9 936.6	11 136.0	12.1	29 478.8	32 199.6	9.2
Exports	4 952.0	5 495.3	11.0	14 093.5	15 956.3	13.2
Canadian sales	5 885.2	6 528.0	10.9	19 077.0	20 682.8	8.4

¹ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, industry own use, etc.

² Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc. ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard

April 1993

Waferboard production totalled 207 539 cubic metres in April 1993, a 15.7% increase from 179 379 cubic metres produced in April 1992. Particleboard production reached 112 373 cubic metres, up 13.6% from 98 882^r (revised) cubic metres the previous year. Production of fibreboard for April 1993 was 8 647 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, a 15.5% increase from 7 485 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, of fibreboard produced in April 1992.

At month's end, year-to-date production of waferboard totalled 766 352 cubic metres, up 22.5% from 625 493 cubic metres produced in 1992. Year-to-date particleboard production was 414 448 cubic metres, up 14.4% from 362 234^r cubic metres produced in 1992. Year-to-date production of fibreboard reached 32 341 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, up 6.9% from 30 259 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, in 1992.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3 and 4) and 122 (series 8 and 34).

The April 1993 issue of *Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard* (36-003, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

Processed Fruits And Vegetables

April 1993

Data on processed fruits and vegetables for April 1993 are now available.

Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables - Monthly (32-011, \$5/\$50) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

Blow-moulded Plastic Bottles

First Quarter 1993

Production and shipment data for the first quarter of 1993 for blow-moulded plastic bottles are now available.

Production and Shipments of Blow-moulded Plastic Bottles (47-006, \$6.75/\$27) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Provincial Economic Accounts,
Preliminary Estimates, 1992.
Catalogue number 13-213P
(Canada: \$26; United States: US\$31;
Other Countries: US\$36).

Energy Statistics Handbook, June 1993.
Catalogue number 57-601
(Canada: \$300; United States: US\$360;
Other Countries: US\$420).

Summary of Canadian International Trade,
March 1993.

Catalogue number 65-001

(Canada: \$18.20/\$182; United States:
US\$21.80/US\$218; Other Countries:
US\$25.50/US\$255).

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