

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, January 25, 1990

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For release at 10:00 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASE

- **Wholesale Trade, November 1989** 2  
Wholesale merchants' sales decreased 1.8% from a year earlier.

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

STATISTICS CANADA	STATISTIQUE CANADA
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### The Canadian Economic Observer January 1990

The January issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer*, Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, is now available.

The January issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic and statistical events in December, and a feature article on rates of return of trustee pension funds. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

*The Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$21/\$210) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162), International and Financial Economics Division.



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## MAJOR RELEASE

### Wholesale Trade

November 1989

#### Sales

Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for November 1989 were \$16.2 billion, a decrease of 1.8% from November 1988. In the first 11 months of 1989, cumulative sales were up 2.1% compared to the corresponding period in 1988.

In November 1989, five of the nine trade groups registered decreases from a year earlier: wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-14.6%), wholesalers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment (-6.7%), wholesalers of apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise (-4.2%), wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories (-2.6%) and wholesalers of lumber and building materials (-1.7%). Two of the three largest trade groups recorded increases from November 1988 to November 1989: wholesalers of food (+5.8%) and other wholesalers (+1.1%).

Wholesale trade decreases between November 1988 and November 1989 were posted in three of the five regions. The province of Quebec registered the sharpest decrease at 3.8%, followed by Ontario with a decrease of 3.1%. The strongest increase (4.2%) was registered in the Prairie provinces.

#### Inventories

Inventory levels in November 1989 were 1.4% higher than those reported in November 1988. The ratio of inventories-to-sales at the end of November 1989 stood at 1.41:1, up from 1.37:1 recorded in the corresponding month of 1988.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 44 and 50.**

The November 1989 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5.80/\$58) will be available the third week of February. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540), Industry Division.

### WHOLESALE TRADE (Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for November 1989/1988)

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	October 1989/88 <sup>r</sup>	November 1989/88 <sup>p</sup>	January-November 1989/88 <sup>p</sup>	October 1989/88 <sup>r</sup>	November 1989/88 <sup>p</sup>	November 1988	November 1989 <sup>p</sup>
<b>Total all trades</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>1.41</b>
Food	5.0	5.8	6.5	3.1	7.3	0.64	0.65
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	7.5	3.1	-1.7	6.9	5.2	0.85	0.86
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	-10.6	-4.2	-3.1	-2.4	1.7	1.80	1.91
Motor vehicles and accessories	-4.2	-2.6	-1.3	3.8	--	1.81	1.86
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	-20.7	-14.6	-23.7	3.5	-0.4	4.19	4.89
Other machinery, equipment and supplies <sup>1</sup>	-1.4	-5.5	2.3	4.6	6.1	1.33	1.50
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	3.8	-6.7	4.7	4.6	3.6	1.54	1.71
Lumber and building materials	0.5	-1.7	-3.1	-5.5	-1.0	1.51	1.52
Other wholesalers <sup>2</sup>	7.8	1.1	8.5	-3.8	-7.6	1.35	1.23
<b>Regions</b>							
Atlantic provinces	5.5	2.4	2.5	4.0	3.1	1.34	1.35
Quebec	-0.9	-3.8	-0.6	-4.5	-3.7	1.38	1.39
Ontario	0.6	-3.1	3.7	5.0	4.7	1.32	1.43
Prairie provinces	3.6	4.2	1.9	0.6	-1.1	1.71	1.62
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	0.4	-1.6	2.8	4.9	4.9	1.11	1.18

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

<sup>1</sup> Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

<sup>2</sup> Includes: farm products (excluding grain); paper and paper products; scrap and waste materials; and wholesalers, n.e.s.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Deliveries of Major Grains

November 1989

Producer deliveries of major grains by prairie farmers showed an increase over November 1988, except in the case of oats where marketings decreased slightly. Deliveries for November 1988 and November 1989 were as follows (in thousand tonnes):

	1988	1989
• Wheat (excluding durum)	1 534.7	1 881.2
• Durum wheat	176.3	550.9
• Total wheat	1 711.0	2 432.1
• Oats	91.1	56.7
• Barley	345.8	711.6
• Rye	10.3	20.4
• Flaxseed	12.8	32.4
• Canola	264.3	316.5
• Total	2 435.3	3 569.7

Available on CANSIM: matrices 976-981.

The November 1989 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007, \$13.10/\$131) is scheduled for release in February. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Anthony Dupuis (613-951-3871), Agriculture Division. ■

### Steel Primary Forms (Steel Ingots)

Week Ending January 20, 1990

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel primary forms production for the week ending January 20, 1990 totalled 265 730 tonnes, an increase of 0.3% over the preceding week's total of 264 974 tonnes, but down 10.9% from the year-earlier level of 298 269 tonnes. The cumulative total in 1990 was 737 343 tonnes, a decrease of 12.9% from 846 510 tonnes for the same period in 1989.

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

### Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers

December 1989

Canadian domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 144 536 thousand square metres in December 1989, a decrease of 1.6% from the 146 932 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

January-to-December 1989 domestic shipments totalled 2 199 418 thousand square metres, down 2.1% from the 2 246 154 thousand square metres for the same period in 1988.

The December 1989 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$4.70/\$47) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division. ■

### Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)

November 1989

Commodity-country export trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S. Based) for November 1989 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3686-3713 and 3719.

The November 1989 issue of *Exports by Commodity* (H.S. Based) (65-004, \$52.50/\$525) will be available the second week of February. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), International Trade Division. ■

### Computer Services

1987

Data are now available on the computer services industry for 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 7461 and 7462.

Information will be published at a later date in *Computer Services Industry* (63-222, \$25). See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Marlene Sterpan (613-951-3490), Services Division. ■



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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Canadian Economic Observer, January 1990.**  
**Catalogue number 11-010**  
(Canada: \$21/\$210; Other Countries: \$25.20/\$252).

**Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables,**  
October 1989.  
**Catalogue number 32-011**  
(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

**Oil Pipe Line Transport, October 1989.**  
**Catalogue number 55-001**  
(Canada: \$9.50/\$95; Other Countries: \$11.40/\$114).

**Gas Utilities - Transport and Distribution**  
**Systems, 1988.**  
**Catalogue number 57-205**  
(Canada: \$26; Other Countries: \$31).

**Department Store Sales and Stocks, June 1989.**  
**Catalogue number 63-002**  
(Canada: \$13.70/\$137; Other Countries:  
\$16.40/\$164).

**Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S.**  
**Based), November 1989.**  
**Catalogue number 65-001**  
(Canada: \$17.30/\$173; Other Countries:  
\$20.80/\$208).

### How to Order Publications

*Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7277.*

*Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications and provide full information on publications required (catalogue number, title, issue).*

*Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.*

*A national toll-free telephone order service is now in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.*

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### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

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Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)

Editor: Bonnie Williams (613-951-1103)

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