



# The Daily

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## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Retail Trade, August 1990** 2  
Seasonally adjusted retail sales decreased by 0.2% in August, following two consecutive monthly gains.
- **Sales of Natural Gas, August 1990** 4  
Sales of natural gas (including direct sales) in Canada during August 1990 totalled 2 708.3 million cubic metres, a 7.5% decrease from the level recorded the previous year.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Retail Trade

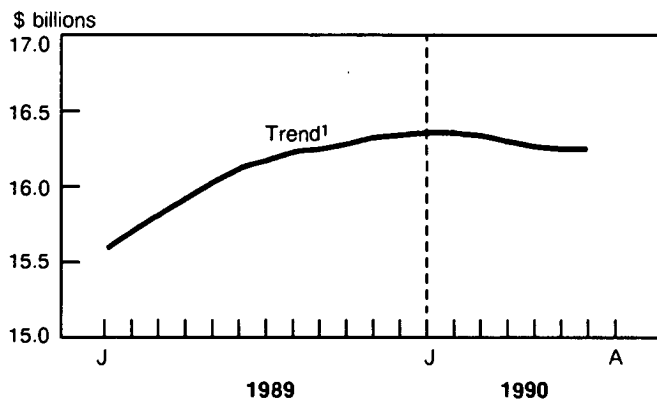
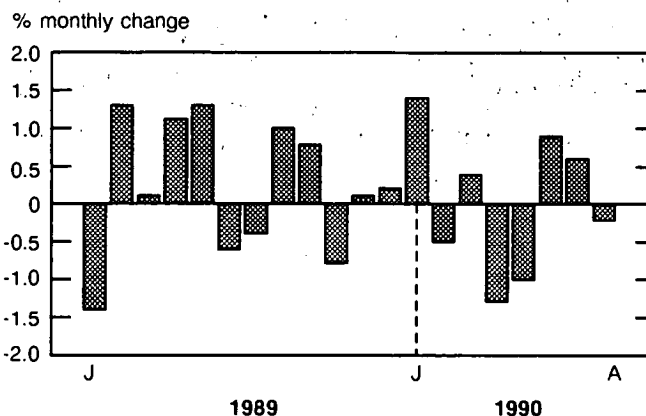
August 1990

### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales decreased 0.2% in August to \$16.3 billion. Excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers, retail sales increased 0.4% in August.
- The overall 0.2% decline in retail sales in August followed two consecutive monthly gains. Retail sales have shown a generally downward trend since February 1990 in spite of the increases in June and July. The 0.4% gain excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers followed increases of 0.8% in July and 0.5% in June.
- The overall decline in August was primarily attributable, in order of dollar impact, to decreases reported by motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers (-2.0%), household furniture and appliance stores (-1.5%) and general merchandise stores (-0.3%).
- Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers' sales have fluctuated markedly during 1990 but with a generally declining trend. Household furniture and appliance store sales have been declining on average by about 1.2% per month since February 1990. The 0.3% decrease by general merchandise stores followed two consecutive monthly increases. The 0.1% gain by supermarkets and grocery stores constitutes the third consecutive monthly increase.
- In the first half of the year, the weakness in retail sales was largely concentrated in Ontario and Quebec. The slowdown broadened in August to include the Maritimes and Western Canada.
- Provincial growth rates varied considerably in August, with notable declines recorded in Prince Edward Island (-2.9%), Manitoba (-2.4%) and New Brunswick (-1.6%). Together, the Yukon and Northwest Territories recorded an increase of 0.7%.

### Retail Sales, Canada, Seasonally Adjusted



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

### Year-to-date

- Cumulative retail sales for the first eight months of 1990 amounted to \$126.5 billion, up 2.2% over the corresponding period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2399 (seasonally adjusted), 2400 (not seasonally adjusted) and 2398 (department store type merchandise totals for the provinces and territories).

The August 1990 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$14.40/\$144) will be available the first week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3552), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Retail Sales, by Trade Group and by Region

August, 1990.

Trade group	Unadjusted				Seasonally Adjusted						
	Aug 1989	July 1990 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 1990 <sup>p</sup>	Aug 1990/ Aug 1989	Aug 1989	May 1990 <sup>r</sup>	June 1990 <sup>r</sup>	July 1990 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 1990 <sup>p</sup>	Aug 1990/ July 1990	Aug 1990/ Aug 1989
	millions of \$			%	millions of \$					%	%
Canada											
Supermarkets and grocery stores	3,493	3,516	3,737	7.0	3,427	3,471	3,477	3,547	3,549	0.1	3.6
All other food stores	300	307	319	6.4	289	300	308	301	305	1.3	5.3
Drug and patent medicine stores	743	785	824	10.9	738	802	811	816	814	-0.2	10.2
Shoe stores	171	148	171	-0.2	171	161	169	169	170	0.8	-0.5
Men's clothing stores	151	148	157	3.8	188	181	184	188	193	2.6	2.6
Women's clothing stores	320	307	329	3.0	331	342	353	348	346	-0.5	4.6
Other clothing stores	389	309	374	-3.8	384	373	376	370	372	0.4	-3.2
Household furniture and appliance stores	837	716	753	-10.1	812	755	745	739	728	-1.5	-10.3
Household furnishings stores	229	211	219	-4.5	217	211	206	207	208	0.4	-4.2
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	3,754	3,699	3,502	-6.7	3,713	3,505	3,573	3,570	3,500	-2.0	-5.7
Gasoline service stations	1,264	1,276	1,297	2.6	1,163	1,195	1,180	1,184	1,191	0.6	2.5
Automotive parts, accessories and services	991	1,022	1,031	4.0	971	982	974	981	1,007	2.6	3.7
General merchandise stores	1,676	1,521	1,686	0.6	1,737	1,686	1,719	1,739	1,733	-0.3	-0.3
Other semi-durable goods stores	612	640	646	5.4	612	660	660	657	655	-0.4	6.9
Other durable goods stores	464	432	474	2.0	471	469	468	467	477	2.1	1.2
All other retail stores	1,057	1,072	1,132	7.1	976	959	987	998	1,009	1.1	3.4
Total, all stores	16,452	16,110	16,650	1.2	16,201	16,052	16,189	16,282	16,256	-0.2	0.3
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	12,698	12,411	13,148	3.5	12,488	12,548	12,616	12,712	12,757	0.4	2.2
Department store type merchandise	5,593	5,217	5,632	0.7	5,662	5,641	5,690	5,701	5,696	-0.1	0.6
Regions											
Newfoundland	305	305	322	5.7	294	286	297	300	307	2.2	4.5
Prince Edward Island	76	73	72	-4.7	67	65	65	66	64	-2.9	-4.7
Nova Scotia	554	546	563	1.6	534	521	537	545	537	-1.5	0.5
New Brunswick	422	419	428	1.4	408	412	419	416	409	-1.6	0.3
Quebec	4,084	3,880	4,060	-0.6	4,001	3,915	3,960	3,938	3,964	0.7	-0.9
Ontario	6,111	5,997	6,143	0.5	6,116	6,016	5,990	6,097	6,103	0.1	-0.2
Manitoba	582	577	594	2.1	576	583	586	598	583	-2.4	1.2
Saskatchewan	524	525	552	5.4	514	505	525	536	537	0.4	4.5
Alberta	1,672	1,619	1,685	0.8	1,644	1,605	1,637	1,646	1,648	0.1	0.2
British Columbia	2,074	2,123	2,184	5.3	2,002	2,084	2,070	2,108	2,094	-0.6	4.6
Yukon and Northwest Territories	49	46	47	-4.2	46	46	45	43	44	0.7	-4.3
Yukon	23	20	21	-5.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northwest Territories	27	26	26	-2.9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> Revised.

.. Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

## Sales of Natural Gas

August 1990 (Preliminary Data)

Sales of natural gas (including direct sales) in Canada during August 1990 totalled 2 708.3 million cubic metres, a 7.5% decrease from the level recorded the previous year.

On the basis of rate structure information, sales in August 1990 were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from August 1989 in brackets: residential sales, 344.7 million cubic metres (-2.7%); commercial sales, 293.5 million cubic metres (-2.2%); and industrial sales (including direct sales), 2 070.1 million cubic metres (-9.0%).

Year-to-date figures for 1990 indicate that sales of natural gas amounted to 35 916.8 million cubic metres, a 5.2% decrease from the level recorded during the same period in 1989.

On the basis of rate structure information, year-to-date sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from 1989 in brackets: residential sales, 8 920.7 million cubic metres (-4.2%); commercial sales, 7 368.4 million cubic metres (-4.2%); and industrial sales (including direct sales), 19 627.8 million cubic metres (-6.0%).

Order the August 1990 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$12.70/\$127), available the third week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

## Sales of Natural Gas - Preliminary Data

August 1990

	Rate structure				
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Direct	Total
	(thousands of cubic metres)				
New Brunswick	-	-	-	-	-
Quebec	14 866	42 853	256 830	3 825	318 374
Ontario	160 411	115 321	477 979	115 059	868 770
Manitoba	18 861	7 821	34 870	2 524	64 076
Saskatchewan	19 477	9 686	3 742	101 303	134 208
Alberta	86 248	70 980	885 783	-	1 043 011
British Columbia	44 859	46 856	120 953	67 243	279 911
<b>August 1990 - Canada</b>	<b>344 722</b>	<b>293 517</b>	<b>1 780 157</b>	<b>289 954</b>	<b>2 708 350</b>
August 1989 - Canada	354 210	300 041	2 001 632	273 508	2 929 389
% change	-2.7	-2.2	-9.0		-7.5
<b>Year-to-date - Canada 1990</b>	<b>8 920 685</b>	<b>7 368 402</b>	<b>16 990 252</b>	<b>2 637 507</b>	<b>35 916 846</b>
Year-to-date - Canada 1989	9 315 772	7 687 173	18 158 703	2 715 038	37 876 686
% change	-4.2	-4.2	-6.0		-5.2

**Note:** Revised figures will be available in the "Gas Utilities" publication (Catalogue #55-002) as well as on CANSIM.

- nil or zero

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending October 7, 1990

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.7 million tonnes, a decrease of 8.0% from the same period last year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 14.2% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 11.0% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 0.6% lower than that loaded in the previous year.

**Note:** Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carloadings traffic. All 1989 figures and 1990 cumulative data have been revised.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

### Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers

September 1990

Canadian domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 184 554 thousand square metres in September 1990, a decrease of 7.0% from the 198 471 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

January to September 1990 domestic shipments totalled 1 580 615 thousand square metres, down 6.6% from the 1 692 787<sup>r</sup> (revised) thousand square metres for the same period in 1989.

The September 1990 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

### Electric Lamps

September 1990

Canadian light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 24,330,804 light bulbs and tubes in September 1990, a decrease of 4.0% from the 25,340,173 units sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales for 1990 amounted to 177,281,744 light bulbs and tubes, up 0.4% from the 176,573,292 sold during the January-September period in 1989.

The September 1990 issue of *Electric Lamps* (43-009, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division. ■

### Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia

August 1990

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 2 591 900 cubic metres of lumber and ties in August 1990, a decrease of 12.8% from the 2 972 000 cubic metres produced in August 1989.

January to August 1990 production was 23 067 900 cubic metres, a decrease of 4.5% from the 24 165 600 cubic metres produced over the same period in 1989.

**Available on CANSIM:** matrix 53 (series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2).

The August 1990 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$7.10/\$71) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604) 666-2671, Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9.

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## **Grain Marketing Situation Report**

September 1990

The situation report for September is now available. This report presents up-to-date information on the Canadian and world grain supply and market situation.

For further detailed information on this release, contact Karen Gray (204-983-2856), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Electric Lamps**

Third Quarter 1990

Data on manufacturers' production, imports and inventories of electric lamps for the third quarter of 1990 are now available.

For more detailed information contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-951-3526), Industry Division. ■

## **Manufacturing Shipments of Selected Clothing Commodities**

1989

Estimates for domestically-manufactured shipments of clothing commodities subject to import restraints (i.e. import control groups monitored by Industry, Science and Technology Canada) are now available from the 1989 annual survey of manufactures.

For further detailed information, contact Andy Shinnan (613-951-3510), Industry Division. ■

## **Release of a Pilot Longitudinal Administrative Database**

A pilot longitudinal file containing income and demographic data for families for the years 1982 to 1986 has been created for a 10% sample of the Canadian population. This file will lend itself particularly to research on income dynamics and the impact of social benefits on Canadian families.

Since this is a pilot project for research applications, no standard tables or other standard outputs are planned.

Special tabulations can be produced from this file at cost-recovery rates, and subject to confidentiality constraints. Since this is a large database, the cost of tabulations is not insignificant.

For further information contact Client Services, Small Area and Administrative Data Division (613-951-9720). ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Monthly Production of Soft Drinks,**  
September 1990.

**Catalogue number 32-001**

(Canada: \$2.70/\$27.00; United States:  
US\$3.20/US\$32.00; Other Countries:  
US\$3.80/US\$38.00).

**Department Store Sales and Stocks,**  
February 1990.

**Catalogue number 63-002**

(Canada: \$14.40/\$144.00; United States:  
US\$17.30/US\$173.00; Other Countries:  
US\$20.20/US\$202.00).

**Gas Utilities, July 1990.**

**Catalogue number 55-002**

(Canada: \$12.70/\$127.00; United States:  
US\$15.20/US\$152.00; Other Countries:  
US\$17.80/US\$178.00).

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*A national toll-free telephone order service is 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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