



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, October 25, 1990

For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASE

- **Building Permits, August 1990** 2  
The preliminary value of building permits issued in Canada decreased 1.7% in August to \$2,440.5 million, down from \$2,481.9 million in July.

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## MAJOR RELEASE

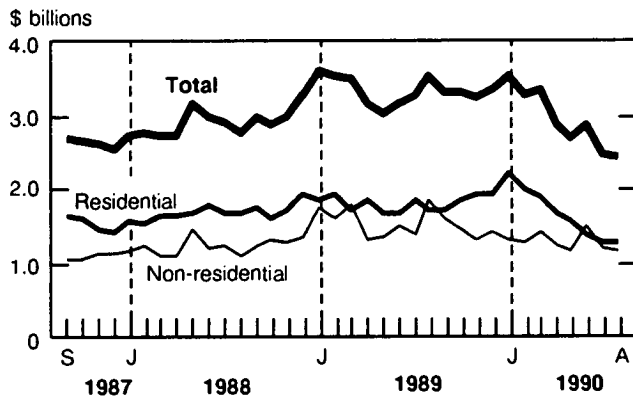
### Building Permits

August 1990

The preliminary value of building permits issued in Canada decreased 1.7% in August to \$2,440.5 million, down from \$2,481.9 million in July. The non-residential sector accounted for all of the decline.

#### Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

Seasonally adjusted



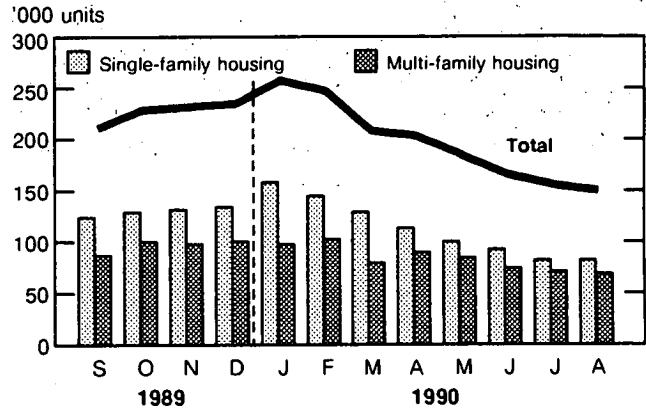
Note: Revised data for July, preliminary data for August.

#### Residential Sector

- The preliminary value of residential building permits was up (+0.4% to a level of \$1,286.5 million) in August, the first increase in the last six months.
- The single-family sector recorded a 2.6% gain to \$911.2 million, while the multi-family dwelling sector continued to decline (-4.5%) to \$375.3 million.
- Ontario and the Prairies were the only regions to report gains in the value of residential building permits in August.
- The number of dwelling units authorized has been decreasing since the beginning of the year. In August it fell 2.4% to 149,856 units at an annual rate (81,588 single detached and 68,268 multiple dwellings), a level comparable to that registered at the beginning of the year 1985.

### Dwelling Units Authorized in Canada

Seasonally adjusted at annual rates



Note: Revised data for July, preliminary data for August.

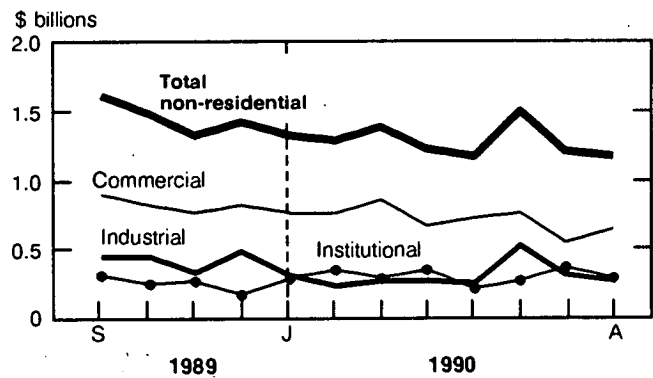
#### Non-residential Sector

- The preliminary value of non-residential building permits continued to show a trendless movement (alternating increases and decreases), decreasing 3.9% in August to \$1,154.0 million from \$1,200.5 million in July.

#### Value of Non-residential Permits

Issued in Canada

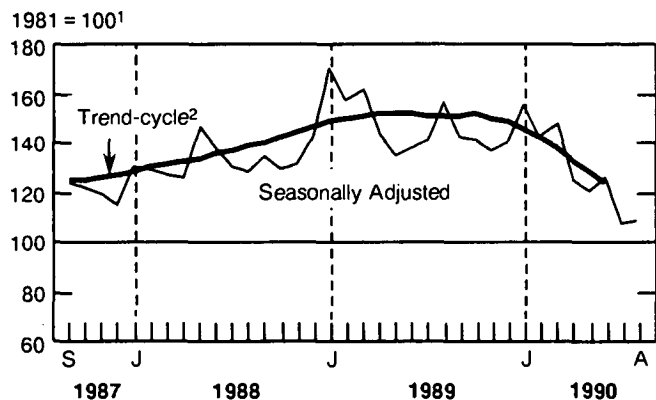
Seasonally adjusted



Note: Revised data for July, preliminary data for August.

- Decreases were registered in the industrial sector, which fell 14.5% to \$258.0 million, and the institutional sector, which dropped 25.2% to \$270.5 million. The commercial sector increased 16.4% to \$625.5 million.

### Building Permits Indices



<sup>1</sup> This series is deflated by using the construction input price index which includes cost of material and labor.

<sup>2</sup> The trend-cycle shows the seasonally-adjusted value of Building Permits without irregular influences which can obscure the short-term trend.

- On a regional basis, Ontario was the only region to report a gain in the value of non-residential building permits in August.

### Short-term Trend

- For the first half of the year, the short-term trend (excluding engineering projects) has shown a downward trend similar to the one observed between 1981 and 1982. In June the index posted a significant decrease of 3.6% to 123.1.
- The trend index of residential permits dropped 5.2% to a level of 131.9 while the non-residential trend index fell 1.6% to 113.9.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 9-15), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The August 1990 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$22/\$220) is scheduled for release the second week of November.

For further information on statistics, contact Pierre Pichette or Marcel Poirier (613-951-2585), for analysis information Louise Marmen (613-951-2583), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Motor Carrier Freight – Quarterly Survey Second Quarter 1990

The results of the Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey 1990, covering the activities of for-hire trucking carriers earning \$1 million or over annually, are now available for the second quarter of 1990.

#### Highlights

- All carriers (earning \$1 million or over annually) generated total operating revenues of \$2,136.3 million during the second quarter of 1990. Some 80.7% of the revenues were generated domestically while 19.3% were from international movements. Revenues generated from international movements into Canada were 15.5% higher than the revenues from movements out of Canada.
- Salaries and wages accounted for 32.1% of the total operating expenses, fuel 7.7%, payments to owner operators 21.5% and other purchased transportation expenses 8.0%.
- Operating expenses recorded were \$2,079.7 million during second quarter of 1990, resulting in an operating ratio of 0.973.
- This ratio is a deterioration from the ratio of 0.930 recorded for the same quarter of 1989 but a marginal improvement over the 0.987 ratio for the first quarter of 1990.

For further information, contact Yasmin Sheikh (613-951-2518), Transportation Division. ■

### Gypsum Products September 1990

Manufacturers shipped 21 002 thousand square metres of plain gypsum wallboard in September 1990, down 17.0% from the 25 301<sup>r</sup> (revised) thousand square metres shipped in September 1989 and down 4.3% from the 21 956 thousand square metres shipped in August 1990.

Year-to-date shipments were 198 268 thousand square metres, a decrease of 6.7% from the January to September 1989 period.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 39 and 122 (series 11).**

The September 1990 issue of *Gypsum Products* (44-003, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

### Steel Primary Forms Week Ending October 20, 1990

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel primary forms production for the week ending October 20, 1990 totalled 151 579 tonnes, an increase of 12.5% from the preceding week's total of 134 707 tonnes but down 47.8% from the year-earlier level of 290 541 tonnes. The cumulative total in 1990 was 10 158 223 tonnes, a decrease of 19.1% from 12 559 992 tonnes for the same period in 1989.

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

### Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based) August 1990

Commodity-country export trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S.) for August 1990 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

The August 1990 issue of *Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-004, \$55.10/\$551) will be available the second week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

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

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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### **Fruit and Vegetable Production, October 1990.**

#### **Catalogue number 22-003**

(Canada: \$18.00/\$72.00; United States: US\$21.50/US\$86.00; Other Countries: US\$25.25/US\$101.00).

### **Surface and Marine Transport Service**

#### **Bulletin – Motor Carrier Freight**

#### **Quarterly Survey, 1990.**

Vol 6, No. 6.

#### **Catalogue number 50-002**

(Canada: \$9.40/\$75.00; United States: US\$11.25/US\$90.00; Other Countries: US\$13.15/US\$105.00).

### **Industrial Corporations – Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1990.**

#### **Catalogue number 61-003**

(Canada: \$55.25/\$221.00; United States: US\$66.25/US\$265.00; Other Countries: US\$77.25/US\$309.00).

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