

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, February 28, 1990

For release at 10:00 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Unemployment Insurance Statistics, December 1989**

Unemployment insurance benefits paid in 1989 totalled \$11.5 billion, up 6.2% over 1988.

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- **Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, January 1990**

Seasonally adjusted sales of refined petroleum products decreased 3.4% from December 1989.

4
- **Industrial Product Price Index, January 1990**

The year-over-year rate of change stood at -0.3%, its lowest level since March 1987.

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- **Raw Materials Price Index, January 1990**

The RMPI rose 1.2% in January, primarily as a result of higher prices for crude mineral oil.

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DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Livestock Report, January 1990

8
- Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based), December 1989

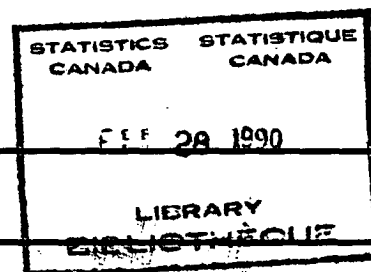
8
- Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey, Third Quarter 1989

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

- MAJOR RELEASE DATES: MARCH 1990**

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MAJOR RELEASES

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

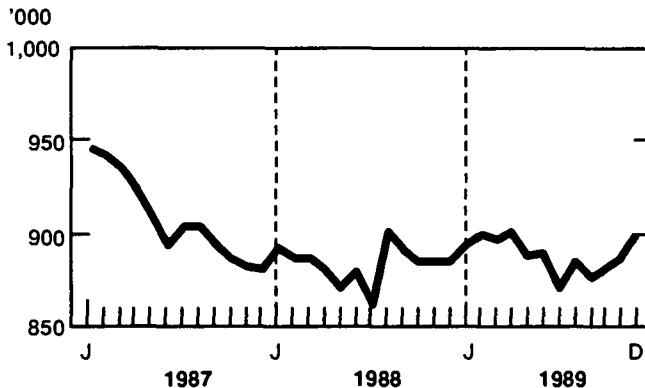
December 1989

Seasonally Adjusted

- For the week ended December 16, 1989, preliminary estimates show that the number of beneficiaries¹ receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled 900,000, up 1.5% over the preceding month.

Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Canada

Seasonally Adjusted



- Between November and December 1989, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits increased 4.2% in Nova Scotia, 3.5% in Ontario, 3.0% in Newfoundland, 2.6% in the Northwest Territories, and 1.1% in Quebec. The number decreased 4.9% in Saskatchewan, and 2.3% in Alberta. There were only small changes in the other jurisdictions.

¹ The number of beneficiaries represents a count of persons who qualified for unemployment insurance benefits during a specific week of the reference month.

- In December 1989, total benefit payments, adjusted for seasonal variations and the number of working days, increased 8.3% over the preceding month, to \$1,048 million. The number of benefit weeks increased 6.2% to 4.7 million.

Unadjusted

- In December 1989, the total number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) stood at 1,085,000, up 0.7% over the same month a year ago. For the same period, the number of male beneficiaries increased 2.5% to 596,000, while the number of female beneficiaries declined 1.6% to 489,000.
- Benefits paid during December 1989 totalled \$1,011 million², up 3.3% over December 1988. For the year 1989, payments to beneficiaries totalled \$11,528 million, up 6.2% over 1988. The increase in the annual benefit payments is attributable to a 6.5% rise in the average weekly payment, to \$215.88. This was slightly offset by a 0.2% decrease in the number of benefit weeks, to 53.4 million.
- A total of 333,000 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in December 1989, a 2.4% increase over the same month a year earlier. For 1989, the number of claims received totalled 3,215,000, down 0.5% from last year.

² Benefits paid, number of benefit weeks, and number of claims received relate to a complete calendar month, and these data are usually final estimates when released. However, the reader should note that the November 1989 data for claims received have been revised by 20,000 to 366,000. It should also be noted that these data are affected by the number of working days available during the reference month to process claims and to pay benefits. In making short-term comparisons it is not uncommon to observe different trends between these data and the number of beneficiaries.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735, and 5736. The last two matrices contain monthly data, starting in January 1984, on beneficiaries by sex and Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) or Census Agglomeration (CA).

Insurance Statistics (73-001, \$13.70/\$137) containing data for October, November, and December will be available in March. See "How to Order Publications".

Unpublished beneficiaries data, including statistics for small areas defined by data users, are also available on request.

For special tabulations or further information, contact André Picard (613-951-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-951-4044), Labour Division. □

The December 1989 issue of *Unemployment*

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	December 1989	November 1989	October 1989	December 1988	% change December 1989/ November 1989
Seasonally Adjusted					
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000)	1,047,515	966,803	982,257	991,700	8.3
Weeks of benefit (000)	4,657	4,387	4,437	4,821	6.2
Beneficiaries - Regular benefit (000)	900^P	887^P	881^r	885^r	1.5
					% change December 1989/ December 1988
Unadjusted					
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000)	1,010,677	862,239	827,748	978,019	3.3
Weeks of benefit (000)	4,453	3,938	3,850	4,593	-3.1
Average weekly benefit (\$)	226.98	218.95	214.97	212.92	6.6
Claims received (000)	333	366	312	325	2.4
Beneficiaries (000)					
Total	1,085 ^P	963 ^P	862 ^r	1,078 ^r	0.7
Regular benefits	928 ^P	812 ^P	729 ^r	924 ^r	0.4
January-to-December					% change
	1989		1988		1989/1988
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000)	11,528,036		10,852,400		6.2
Weeks of benefit (000)	53,399		53,527		-0.2
Average weekly benefit (\$)	215.88		202.75		6.5
Claims received (000)	3,215		3,231		-0.5
Beneficiaries					
Year-to-date average (000)	1,027 ^P		1,015 ^r		1.2

^P Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

January 1990

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted

- Seasonally adjusted preliminary estimates of January sales of refined petroleum products totalled 7.2 million cubic metres (m³), a 3.4% decrease from December 1989.
- Of the four main products, only diesel fuel registered an increase (3.6%), its fourth consecutive monthly increase. Sales of the other three main products all declined. Motor gasoline fell 1.8%, the first drop in four months. Light fuel oil fell 20.7%, but this decrease follows a 33.7% increase in December 1989. The decrease of 1.5% in heavy fuel oil sales represented the third straight for sales of this product.

Unadjusted

- Preliminary estimates indicate that total sales of refined petroleum products declined 1.1% from January 1989, recording a volume of 7.0 million m³. Only two of the four main products contributed to the January decrease. Motor gasoline sales were down 1.7%. Heavy fuel oil sales declined 4.0%, the second drop in six months. Sales of the remaining two major products, diesel fuel and light fuel oil, grew 4.7% and 1.9% respectively.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The January 1990 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$17.30/\$173) will be available the last week of April. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

January 1990

	October 1989	November 1989	December 1989 ^r	January 1990 ^p	January 1990/ December 1989
(thousands of cubic metres)					%
Seasonally Adjusted					
Total, All Products	7 229.7	7 270.4	7 436.8	7 186.4	-3.4
Main Products:					
Motor Gasoline	2 866.6	2 937.2	2 955.4	2 901.0	-1.8
Diesel Fuel Oil	1 440.5	1 445.6	1 460.3	1 513.3	3.6
Light Fuel Oil	548.8	529.4	707.8	560.9	-20.7
Heavy Fuel Oil	920.2	903.4	799.5	787.2	-1.5
	January 1988	January 1989	January 1990 ^p	January 1989/ January 1988	January 1990/ January 1989
(thousands of cubic metres)					%
Unadjusted					
Total, All Products	6 488.9	7 028.6	6 950.2	8.3	-1.1
Main Products:					
Motor Gasoline	2 413.9	2 581.9	2 538.8	6.9	-1.7
Diesel Fuel Oil	1 080.3	1 200.8	1 256.9	11.2	4.7
Light Fuel Oil	1 008.8	1 035.9	1 055.7	2.7	1.9
Heavy Fuel Oil	717.4	921.6	885.4	28.5	-4.0

^p Preliminary.

^r Revised.

Industrial Product Price Index

January 1990

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1981=100) edged up 0.1% to 130.4 in January 1990, from December's revised level of 130.3, according to preliminary figures. This was the first monthly increase in the last six months. A monthly decline of 2.0% for primary metal products was more than offset by an estimated increase of 1.0% for petroleum and coal products and a gain of 0.8% for fruits, vegetables, feeds and other food products, as well as by the large number of smaller increases shown by most groups of finished goods.

Since January 1989, the IPPI has fallen 0.3%. From 3.9% in March 1989, the year-to-year rate of change has steadily declined during the past 10 months. The intermediate goods index continued to show a steadily declining rate of yearly change, from 5.1% in March 1989 to -2.2% in January 1990. This was largely due to declines in the price of non-ferrous base metals, which contributed to lowering the yearly rate of change for first-stage goods from 12.5% in March 1989 to -10.8% in January. On the other hand, the finished products index has remained fairly stable, with yearly rates of 2.5% in March 1989 and now hovering around 3% (2.7% in January). Excluding petroleum and coal products, the 12-month change was -1.3%.

Highlights

- As it has almost every month since the beginning of 1989, the primary metal products index declined in January (-2.0%), mainly in response to price decreases of 16.0% for nickel products and 3.9% for aluminum products. With a slight increase of 0.2%, the copper and copper alloy products helped moderate the overall decline. During the past 12 months, the primary metal products index has fallen 17.1%, with decreases

ranging from 56.1% for nickel products to 9.7% for other non-ferrous metal products and only 0.7% for iron and steel products. No component registered an increase.

- The index for rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products slipped 0.2% in January, due mainly to a decrease of 0.7% registered by the plastic fabricated products component. This partially reflected declines of 5.7% for foamed and expanded plastics and 1.0% for plastic bags and shipping sacks.
- According to initial estimates, the petroleum and coal products price index rose 1.0% during the past month, largely as a result of higher prices for fuel oils and other fuel. Over 12 months, the petroleum and coal index has risen 11.6%.
- The index for fruits, vegetables, feeds and other food products showed a rise of 0.8% in January, due mainly to increases of 2.2% for bakery products, 1.9% for sugar and 1.0% for miscellaneous food products.
- In January, the index for furniture and fixtures increased 0.7% mainly reflecting increases for household type furniture, wooden (2.1%) and bed springs and mattresses (2.0%). In the last 12 months, the index for furniture and fixtures has risen 3.6%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1960-1967 and 1970.

The January 1990 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$17.30/\$173) will be available at the end of March 1990. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Section (613-951-9607), Prices Division. □

Industrial Product Price Indexes
(1981 = 100)

Index	Relative Importance ¹	Index January 1990 ²	% Change	
			January 1990/ December 1989	January 1990/ January 1989
Industrial Product Price Index - Total	100.0	130.4	0.1	-0.3
Total IPPI excluding Petroleum and Coal Products³	89.3	133.9	0.0	-1.3
Intermediate goods	61.6	126.8	-0.2	-2.2
First stage intermediate goods	14.6	120.9	-1.4	-10.8
Second stage intermediate goods	47.0	128.6	0.2	0.5
Finished goods	38.4	135.9	0.4	2.7
Finished foods and feeds	10.3	141.2	0.4	2.2
Capital equipment	10.2	138.0	0.4	2.3
All other finished goods	17.9	132.3	0.4	3.2
Aggregation by commodities:				
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.7	128.7	0.0	0.9
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	7.0	131.5	0.8	0.3
Beverages	1.9	158.6	0.0	2.5
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	172.2	0.6	4.8
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	2.8	135.1	-0.2	0.8
Textile products	2.4	121.9	0.4	1.9
Knitted products and clothing	2.4	130.7	0.6	2.8
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.3	127.9	0.2	2.5
Furniture and fixtures	1.5	147.4	0.7	3.6
Paper and paper products	8.1	142.9	-0.1	-0.8
Printing and publishing	2.4	160.6	0.4	2.7
Primary metal products	8.8	120.6	-2.0	-17.1
Metal fabricated products	5.3	138.0	0.4	2.4
Machinery and equipment	4.8	138.1	0.2	3.3
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	11.6	131.2	-0.1	0.1
Electrical and communication products	5.0	137.3	0.1	1.0
Non-metallic mineral products	2.5	144.9	0.6	2.3
Petroleum and coal products ³	10.7	101.1	1.0	11.6
Chemical, chemical products	7.1	130.0	0.0	-5.2
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.3	141.6	0.1	1.1
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.8	83.5	-0.4	-11.5

¹ Weights are derived from the "make" matrix of the 1981 Input/Output table.

² Indexes are preliminary.

³ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw Materials Price Index

January 1990

Monthly Change

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1981=100) rose 1.2% between December 1989 and January 1990, to a preliminary level of 100.3. The RMPI excluding the mineral fuels component declined by 0.6%. Five out of seven components rose, while two declined. The main contributors to the monthly change were:

- The mineral fuels index was up 4.1%, mainly as a result of an estimated 4.9% increase in crude mineral oil prices.
- The vegetable products index rose 1.9%, as prices were up for potatoes (24.0%), citrus and tropical fruits (16.8%) and unrefined sugar (4.0%).
- The animal and animal products index was down (1.4%), mainly as a result of lower prices for hogs (-12.2%), and eggs (-5.6%). These decreases were partially offset by higher prices for fish (3.7%).
- Non-ferrous metals prices were down 2.8%, led by lower prices for concentrates of zinc (-6.9%) and nickel (-16.5%). Precious metals were also down in the month.

Annual Change

Between January 1989 and January 1990, the RMPI increased 3.0%. The RMPI excluding the mineral

fuels component declined 6.7%. While three components rose, four decreased. The main contributors to the annual change were:

- The mineral fuels index was up 21.7%, due largely to higher prices for crude mineral oil, up 27.9%.
- Increases in the prices for hogs (10.6%), cattle for slaughter (3.8%), fish (8.1%) and shellfish (17.9%) were largely responsible for the animal and animal products index rising by 2.9%. The furs, hides and skins index was down 8.5%, as fur prices dropped almost one-third.
- The vegetable products index was down 8.8%, primarily as a result of lower prices for grains (-14.5%) and oilseeds (-20.2%). The index for cocoa, coffee and tea was also down (-32.4%), though the index for unrefined sugar was up 35.1% and potato prices were higher by 13.3%.
- Indexes for both ferrous and non-ferrous metals declined: ferrous (-10.6%) and non-ferrous (-27.1%), as prices for almost all metals and scraps declined significantly.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1980.

The January 1990 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$17.30/\$173.00) will be available at the end of March. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Raw Materials Price Index

(1981 = 100)

	Relative Importance	Index January 1990 ¹	% Change	
			January 1990/ December 1989	January 1990/ January 1989
Raw materials total	100	100.3	1.2	3.0
Mineral fuels	45	89.6	4.1	21.7
Vegetable products	11	87.4	1.9	-8.8
Animal and animal products	20	115.2	-1.4	2.9
Wood products	8	132.3	0.5	2.8
Ferrous materials	2	99.0	0.1	-10.6
Non-ferrous metals	11	98.9	-2.8	-27.1
Non-metallic minerals	3	131.5	0.6	-1.9
Total excluding mineral fuels	55	109.2	-0.6	-6.7

¹ These indexes are preliminary.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Livestock Report

January 1, 1990

Total pig numbers for Canada at January 1, 1990 are estimated at 10,694,000, a 3% decrease from the year-earlier level of 11,018,300. Sows for breeding and bred gilts are estimated at 1,060,400, a decrease of 3% from 1,092,400 a year earlier. Farrowings during the fourth quarter of 1989 decreased by 5%. Farrowings are expected to decrease by 2% during the first quarter and remain unchanged in the second quarter of 1990.

Total cattle and calves in Canada at January 1, 1990 are estimated at 11,200,600 head, up 2% from the year-earlier level of 11,016,100. Beef cows are estimated at 3,445,800, 2% higher than 3,367,500 at January 1, 1989. Beef cows were up 4% in the East and 2% in the West. Dairy cows have declined and are estimated at 1,428,900 at January 1, 1990, 1% less than the 1,449,100 a year ago.

Sheep and lamb numbers in Canada at January 1, 1990 are estimated at 512,800, up 7% from the 481,200 at January 1, 1989. Sheep one year and over increased by 5%, while the number of lambs under one year increased by 10%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9500-9510, 1151, 1166, 5645.

The January 1, 1990 issue of *Livestock Report* (23-008, \$15.75/\$63) will be available March 7. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Bernard E. Rosien (613-951-2511), Agriculture Division. ■

Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based)

December 1989

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

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3887-3913 and 3718.

The December 1989 issue of *Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-007, \$52.50/\$525) will be available the second week of March 1990. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey

Third Quarter 1989

The results of the Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Trucking Survey, covering the activities of the for-hire trucking industry in the third quarter of 1989, are now available.

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Farm Cash Receipts, January-December 1989.
Catalogue number 21-001
(Canada: \$10.50/\$42; Other Countries: \$12.50/\$50).

The Sugar Situation, January 1990.
Catalogue number 32-013
(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

Production and Stocks of Tea, Coffee and Cocoa,
Quarter Ended December 1989.
Catalogue number 32-025
(Canada: \$6.70/\$26; Other Countries: \$7.75/\$31).

Quarterly Shipments of Office Furniture Products,
Quarter Ended December 31, 1989.
Catalogue number 35-006
(Canada: \$6.50/\$26; Other Countries: \$7.75/\$31).

How to Order Publications

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MAJOR RELEASE DATES: MARCH 1990

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
March		
1	National Income and Expenditure Accounts (Gross Domestic Product)	Fourth Quarter 1989
1	Balance of International Payments	Fourth Quarter 1989
1	Financial Flow Accounts	Fourth Quarter 1989
1	Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry	December 1989
2-5	Canadian Composite Leading Indicator	December 1989
2	Building Permits	December 1989
6	Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics	Fourth Quarter 1989
7	Private and Public Investment in Canada	Intentions 1990
7	Help-wanted Index	February 1990
9	Labour Force Survey	February 1990
9	New Motor Vehicle Sales	January 1990
9	New Housing Price Index	January 1990
9	Estimates of Labour Income	December 1989
12	Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	January 1990
12	Farm Product Price Index	January 1990
14	Travel Between Canada and Other Countries	January 1990
16	The Consumer Price Index	February 1990
20	Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade	January 1990
20	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	January 1990
20	Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing Industries	Fourth Quarter 1989
21	Field Crop Reporting Series: No. 2, March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Area, Canada	
21	Financial Institutions: Financial Statistics	Fourth Quarter 1989
23	Security Transactions with Non-residents	January 1990
26	Department Store Sales and Stocks	January 1990
27	Employment, Earnings and Hours	January 1990
28	Unemployment Insurance Statistics	January 1990
29	Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry	January 1990
30-April 6	Retail Trade	January 1990
30-April 6	Wholesale Trade	January 1990
30	Industrial Product Price Index	February 1990
30	Raw Materials Price Index	February 1990
30	Sales of Refined Petroleum Products	February 1990
30	Crude Oil and Natural Gas	December 1989
30	Major Release Dates	April 1990

The April 1990 release schedule will be published on March 30, 1990. Users note: This schedule can be retrieved from CANSIM by the command DATES. Contact Greg Thomson (613-951-1116), Communications Division.