



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

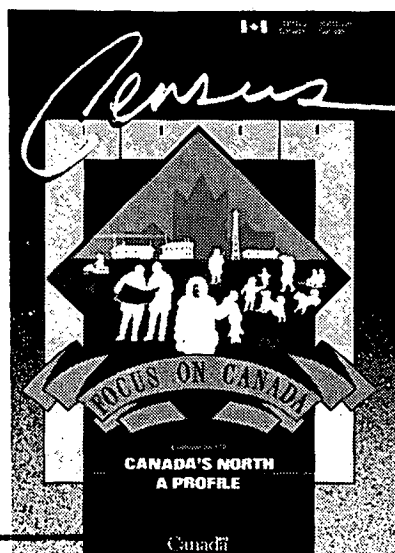
Wednesday, April 18, 1990

For release at 10:00 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Merchandise Trade (H.S. Based), February 1990** 3  
Merchandise exports increased in February for the second consecutive month.
- **Building Permits, January 1990** 5  
The preliminary value of residential building permits increased 13.8% in January 1990 to \$2,219.0 million, from \$1,949.1 million in December 1989.
- **Focus on Canada Series - Canada's North, 1986 Census** 7  
Despite widespread regional variations in the growth rate throughout the North, its total population remained relatively stable between 1981 and 1986.

(Continued on page 2.)



### Focus on Canada Series - Canada's North 1986 Census

Between 1981 and 1986, the population of the Northwest Territories grew by just over 12%, while the population of Labrador declined 9% and that of Northern Quebec declined 11%. Over the same period, there was little change in the number of people living in the Yukon Territory.

*Canada's North* examines the demographic, economic and social conditions of the aboriginal and non-aboriginal populations residing in the northern areas of the country. For the purpose of the report, the Canadian North includes the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Labrador, and Northern Quebec around Ungava and Hudson Bay. *Canada's North* compares the populations of these different northern regions with each other and with the population of the rest of Canada. The study is based on data gathered in the 1986 Census, and includes some 1981 Census data.

*Canada's North* (98-122, \$10), one of the studies in the *Focus on Canada Series*, is now available. See "How to Order Publications". Turn to page 7 of today's *Daily* for further details.

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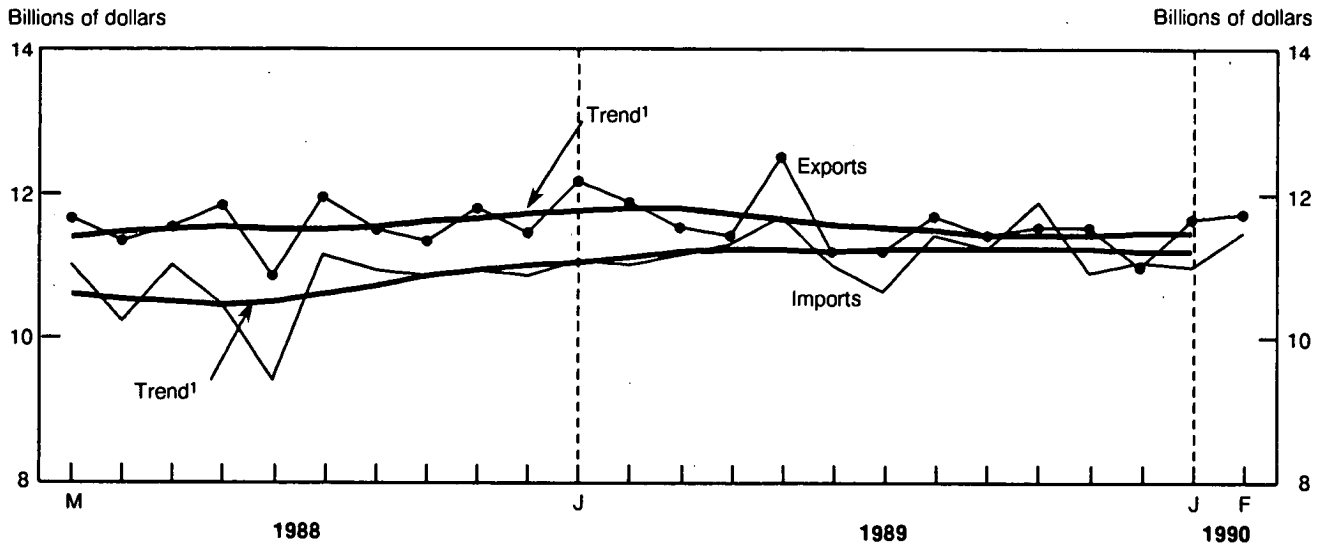
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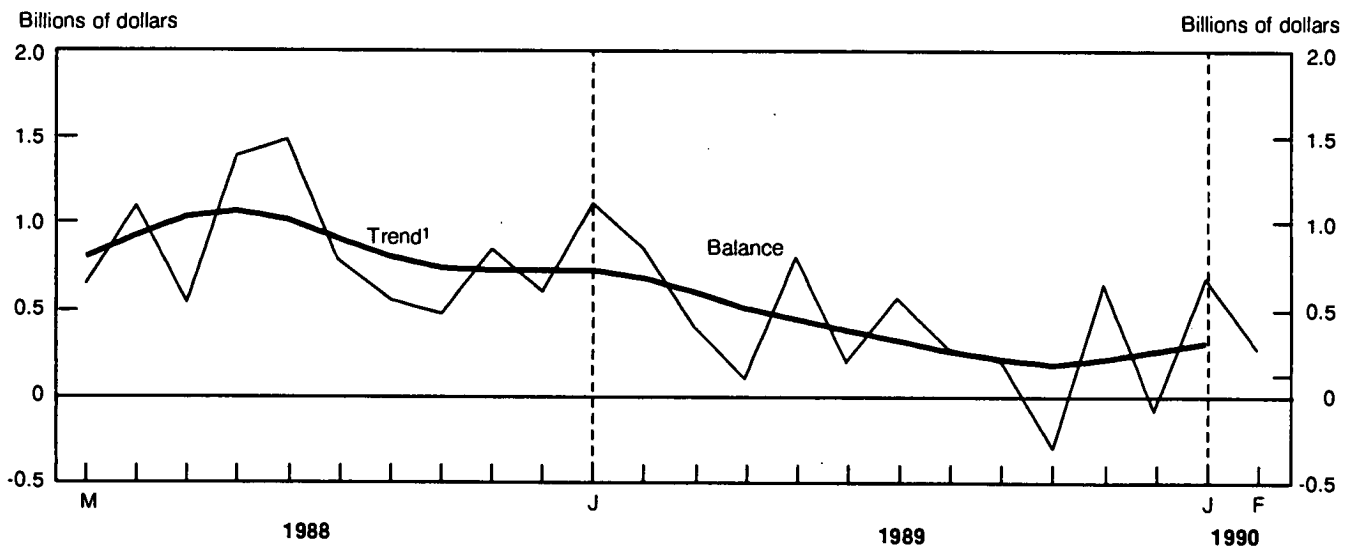
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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Merchandise Trade (Seasonally Adjusted) Balance of Payments Basis



### Merchandise Trade Balance (Seasonally Adjusted) Balance of Payments Basis



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

## Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Merchandise Trade

(H.S. Based)  
February 1990

The increase in seasonally adjusted merchandise exports observed in January 1990 continued into February. Following the January increase of more than 6%, which brought total exports to \$11.6 billion, February exports climbed to \$11.7 billion at a substantially weaker rate of 0.7%. Exports of automotive products registered the largest increase, rising \$300 million in February and thus reversing the decline posted in January of almost \$475 million.

February imports totalled \$11.4 billion, an increase of 4.5% over January. The slight drop in imports in January (-0.8%) followed a 1.5% increase in December 1989. Motor vehicle parts imports were the single most important factor in the growth of imports in February.

Canada's trade balance in February posted a \$264 million surplus, down more than \$400 million from the \$669 million surplus registered in January. The trade balance with Japan, which fell from a slight surplus (\$70 million) in January to a deficit (\$154 million) in February, was a contributing factor to this decline.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633 to 3642, 3651, 3685, 3718, 3887 to 3913.**

For further information on international trade statistics (detailed tables, charts and a more complete analysis) order *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001P, \$10/\$100), now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on statistics, concepts and definitions, order the February 1990 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001, \$17.30/\$173), available the first week of May, or contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-1711) (for analysis information), or Denis Pilon

### Note to Users:

In July 1987, Statistics Canada, Revenue Canada Customs and Excise, the United States Bureau of the Census, and the United States Customs Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the exchange of import data.

Starting with January 1990 data, Statistics Canada no longer publishes export statistics to the United States based on Canadian export documents. Instead, Statistics Canada relies upon import statistics from Canada compiled by the United States Bureau of the Census. Likewise, the United States has also replaced their exports to Canada data with American imports into Canada statistics, compiled by Statistics Canada. This exchange provides a more reliable measure of the bilateral trade and reduces the reporting burden on exporters and brokers in both countries.

**The Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade is now available at 8:30 a.m. instead of 7:00 a.m. This change synchronizes release times in both Canada and the United States.**

Additional details of the implications of this agreement are included in the January 1990 issues of the *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade* (65-001P), the *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (65-001), *Exports by Commodity* (65-004), *Imports by Commodity* (65-007), and in the January to March issues of *Exports by Country* (65-003) and *Imports by Country* (65-006).

Further information can be obtained from the Trade Information Unit (613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

(613-951-4808) (for price index information), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Current Account data, which incorporate merchandise trade statistics as well as data concerning trade in services and capital account movements, are available on a quarterly basis in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001). ■

## Building Permits

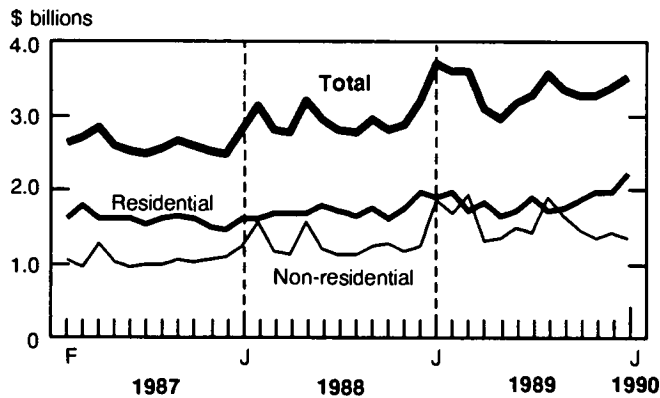
January 1990

### Summary

The preliminary value of building permits issued in Canada in January 1990 reached \$3,526.9 million, up 5.0% over \$3,360.0 million in December 1989. The residential sector was responsible for this increase.

### Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted



Note: Revised data for December, preliminary data for January.

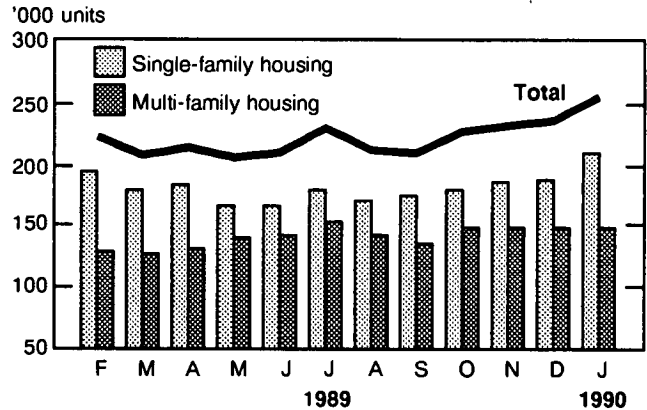
### Residential Sector

- The preliminary value of residential building permits increased 13.8% in January 1990 to \$2,219.0 million, from \$1,949.1 million in December 1989.
- Both the single-family dwelling sector, which increased 16.4% to \$1,591.5 million and, to a lesser extent, the multi-family dwelling sector, which increased 7.9% to \$627.5 million, were responsible for this increase.
- All regions reported gains in the value of residential building permits in January 1990.

- The number of dwelling units authorized in January 1990 totalled 256,704 units at an annual rate (158,304 single detached and 98,400 multiple dwellings), up 9.1% over the December 1989 level of 235,284 units.

### Dwelling Units Authorized in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Note: Revised data for December, preliminary data for January.

### Non-residential Sector

- The preliminary value of non-residential building permits slipped 7.3% to \$1,307.9 million in January 1990, from \$1,410.9 million in December 1989.
- Decreases were registered in both the industrial and the commercial sectors. The value of industrial building permits fell 38.3% to \$296.5 million and the commercial sector declined 5.1% to \$745.5 million. The institutional sector jumped 83.6% to \$265.9 million.
- On a regional basis, Quebec and the Prairies were the only regions to register gains in the value of non-residential building permits in January 1990.

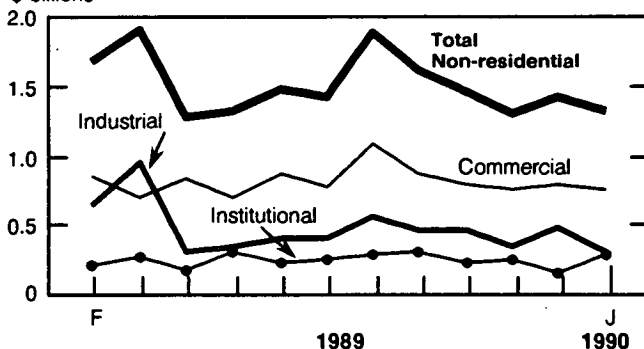
## Short-term Trend

- The short-term trend of construction (excluding engineering projects) was up 0.5% in November to 149.5, from a revised level of 148.7 in October.
- The trend index of residential permits rose 1.7% to 169.4 in November, while the non-residential trend index decreased 1.0% to 128.5.

## Value of Non-residential Permits Issued in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted

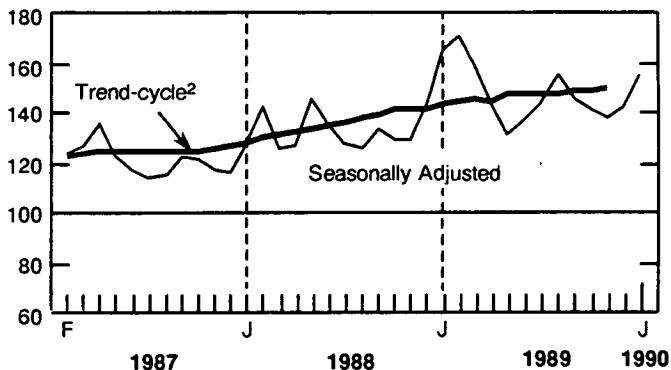
\$ billions



Note: Revised data for December, preliminary data for January.

## Building Permits Indices

1981 = 100<sup>1</sup>



<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.

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

The January 1990 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$22/\$220) is scheduled for release the second week of May. See "How to Order Publications".

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

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## Focus on Canada Series – Canada's North

1986 Census

The distribution of aboriginal and non-aboriginal people in the North has changed in recent years. Between 1981 and 1986, the number of Northerners with aboriginal roots (those who identified themselves as North American Indian, Inuit, or Metis) rose 25%. In contrast, the number of non-aboriginal people declined 12%. As a result, aboriginal people made up 40% of the total Northern population in 1986, up from 32% in 1981.

### Highlights

- In 1986, approximately 56,000 aboriginal people lived in the North - about 8% of all Canadians with native ancestry.
- In the same year, 51% of Northerners were under 25 years of age, compared with 38% of the total Canadian population.
- In terms of level of schooling, the disparity between aboriginal and non-aboriginal persons is greater in the North than in Canada as a whole.
- There are considerable differences in the educational attainment of different aboriginal groups in the North. In 1986, 64% of adult Inuit had less than Grade 9, compared with 55% of Indians, and 30% of Metis.
- In 1986, 61% of all aboriginal people living in Canada's North spoke an aboriginal language at home.
- Compared to non-aboriginal persons in the rest of Canada, non-aboriginal persons in Canada's North tend to have a higher labour force participation rate and tend to be concentrated in professional and administrative activities.
- Aboriginal persons in Canada's North tend to have much lower incomes, be more dependent on government transfers as their principal source of income, and have higher rates of unemployment than do non-aboriginals living in the North.
- Housing quality (whether measured by persons per room or by the presence of central heating facilities) in Canada's North is on average lower than in the rest of Canada.

*Canada's North* (98-122, \$10) is one of 16 publications in the *Focus on Canada Series*. This series highlights social trends and issues based on information from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing.

*Focus on Canada – Canada's North* (98-122, \$10) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on today's release or about other titles in the *Focus on Canada Series*, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. ■

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Federal General Government Employment in Metropolitan Areas

September 1989

Federal general government employment in Census Metropolitan Areas totalled 237,400 in September 1989, an increase of 2,000 over the previous year.

This slight increase of 0.8% is consistent with total federal general government employment over the period September 1988 to September 1989. The increase halted the declining trend that had been evident for federal government employment in metropolitan areas from 1985 to 1988.

#### Note to Users:

*General government includes departments, agencies, boards and commissions, military personnel and RCMP uniformed personnel, but excludes government enterprises.*

*Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) is the main labour market area of an urbanized core having 100,000 or more population. The core is the central, continuously built up area of an urban centre. CMA's are created by Statistics Canada, and are usually known by the name of their largest city.*

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 2719 (annual data).**

Data are also available through special tabulation. For more information or general inquiries on Public Institutions Division's products or services, contact Patricia Phillips (613-951-0767), Public Institutions Division.

For more information on this release, contact Peter Dudley (613-951-1851) or Christine Dominguez (613-951-8510), Public Institutions Division. ■

### Export and Import Price Indexes

February 1990

Current and fixed weighted export and import price indexes, on a balance of payments basis, are now available on a 1981 = 100 basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to February 1990 for the five commodity sections and 62/61 major commodity groups.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642, 3651 and 3685.**

Customs based current and fixed weighted U.S. price indexes are also available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to February 1990 on a 1981 = 100 basis. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 "All Countries" and "U.S. only" SITC section indexes.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3639-3642.**

The February 1990 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001, \$17.30/\$173) will be available the first week of May. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Denis Pilon (613-951-4808), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division. ■

### Sound Recording Survey

1988-89

Preliminary data from the 1988-89 annual Sound Recording Survey (production, releases and sales) are now available.

#### Highlights

- In 1988-89, record label companies reported sales of \$334 million; companies located in Quebec had 21% of the sales and those in Ontario 77%.
- For the first time, the market share of compact discs, at 26%, surpassed the vinyl albums market share of 19%. The market share for tapes remained around 52%.
- Foreign-controlled record label companies continued to dominate the market in 1988-89 with 86% of sales, 79% of full-time employees and 72% of new recordings.

All data can be cross-classified by origin of financial control, size of record/label company as well as by various geographic divisions.

For further information, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-1544), Culture Sub-division, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. ■



## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Service Bulletin, Vol. 18 No. 7: Pack of Canned Tomatoes and Tomato Products, 1989.**  
**Catalogue number 32-023**  
(Canada: \$7.40/\$121; Other Countries: \$8.90/\$145).

**Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Service Bulletin, Vol. 18 No. 18: Pack of Processed Brussels Sprouts, 1989.**  
**Catalogue number 32-023**  
(Canada: \$7.40/\$121; Other Countries: \$8.90/\$145).

**Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard, February 1990.**  
**Catalogue number 36-003**  
(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

**Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, February 1990.**  
**Catalogue number 41-006**  
(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

**Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based), January 1990.**  
**Catalogue number 65-007**  
(Canada: \$52.50/\$525; Other Countries: \$63/\$630).

**The Labour Force, March 1990.**  
**Catalogue number 71-001**  
(Canada: \$17/\$170; Other Countries: \$20.40/\$204).

**Focus on Canada - Canada's North, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 98-122**  
(Canada: \$10; Other Countries: \$11).

### How to Order Publications

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*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.*

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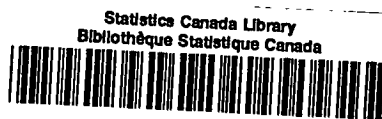
### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada \$105/year; other countries \$126/year

Published by the Communications Division  
Statistics Canada, 3-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)  
Editor: Bonnie Williams (613-951-1103)

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Toll free service: 1-800-472-9708

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Toll free service:  
1-800-663-1551 (except Atlin, B.C.)  
Yukon and Atlin, B.C. Zenith 08913