

Wednesday, April 25, 1990

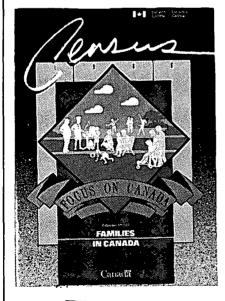
For release at 10:00 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- Unemployment Insurance Statistics, February 1990
 The seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries who received regular benefits decreased 0.6% to 892,000 in February.
- Focus on Canada Series Families in Canada, 1986 Census
 The 1980s witnessed continuing diversity in family forms. However, in the
 1986 Census, husband-wife families remained the predominant group,
 accounting for 87.3% of all families down slightly from 88.7% in 1981.

(Continued on page 2)

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Focus on Canada Series - Families in Canada

Focus on Canada Series Families in Canada examines the diversity of family forms and patterns that have emerged in Canada. The report focuses on the kinds of households and families that are becoming increasingly prevalent - small (one- or two-person) households, non-family households, and lone-parent families. Families in Canada also examines regional and differences divorce. cultural in marriage, cohabitation. The study is primarily based on data from the 1981 and 1986 Censuses, but these data are supplemented with information from the 1985 General Social Survey.

Families in Canada (98-127, \$10), one of the studies in the **Focus on Canada Series**, is now available. See "How to Order Publications". Turn to page 5 of today's Daily for further details.

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MAJOR RELEASES

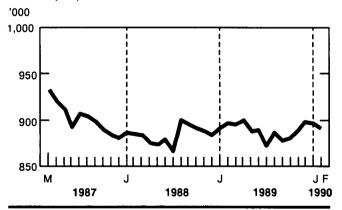
Unemployment Insurance Statistics February 1990

Seasonally Adjusted

- For the week ended February 17, 1990, preliminary estimates show that the number of beneficiaries¹ receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled 892,000, down slightly (-0.6%) from the preceding month.
- Between January and February 1990, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits increased 5.3% in the Northwest Territories and 3.3% in British Columbia. The number decreased 3.7% in Newfoundland, 3.4% in Nova Scotia, 3.3% in the Yukon, and 1.6% in Prince Edward Island. For the other provinces the decrease was less than 1%.
- In February 1990, total benefit payments, adjusted for seasonal variations and the number of working days, increased 4.4% from the preceding month to \$1,024 million. The number of benefit weeks advanced 3.7% to 4.5 million.

Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Canada

Seasonally Adjusted



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

Unadjusted

- In February 1990, the total number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) stood at 1,239,000, a slight decrease (-0.6%) from the same month a year ago. For the same period, the number of male beneficiaries increased 0.5% to 732,000, while the number of female beneficiaries declined 2.1% to 507,000.
- Benefits paid during February 1990 totalled \$1,205 million², up 8.7% from February 1989. For the first two months of 1990, \$2,491 million have been paid to beneficiaries, up 8.9% over the same period last year. During this period, the average weekly payment increased 7.3% to \$232.98, and the number of benefit weeks advanced 1.5% to 11.0 million.
- A total of 231,000 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in February 1990, up 5.7% from the same month a year earlier. Since the start of 1990, 620,000 claims have been received. This represents an increase of 11.1% over the same period last year.

The seasonally adjusted data are revised annually when final data for a complete calendar year become available. This release shows the revised data.

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).

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. 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.

The February 1990 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$13.70/\$137), containing data for December 1989, and January and February 1990 will be available in May. 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.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	February 1990	January 1990	December 1989	February 1989	February/ January 1990
	Seasonally Adjusted				% change
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000) Weeks of benefit (000)	1,023,717 4,487	980,380 4,325	1,034,554 4,645	949,440 4,452	4.4 3.7
Beneficiaries - Regular benefit (000)	892P	897P	['] 898r	896r	-0.6
					February 1990/1989
	Unadjusted				% change
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000)	1,204,828	1,286,475	1,010,677	1,108,022	8.7
Weeks of benefit (000)	5,150	5,544	4,453	5,088	1.2
Average weekly benefit (\$)	233.95	232.07	226.98	217.77	7.4
Claims received (000)	231	389	333	218	5.7
Beneficiaries (000)					
Total	1,239P	1,233P	1,101	1,246 ^r	-0.6
Regular benefits	1,073P	1,077P	93 8 r	1,088r	-1.4
	January to February			1990/1989	
	1990		1989		
					% change
Benefits					
Amount paid (\$000)	2,491,304		2,287,75 8	•	8.9
Weeks of benefit (000)	10,693		10,535		1.5
Average weekly benefit (\$)	232.98		217.15		7.3
Claims received (000)	620		558		11.1
Beneficiaries Year-to-date average (000)	1,036P		1,240 ^r		-0.3

Revised figures

Focus on Canada Series – Families in Canada

1986 Census

Highlights

- In 1986, 80.1% of all families comprised nowmarried couples, down from 83.1% in 1981.
 Another 7.2% were couples living common-law, up from 5.6% in the previous census, and the remainder were lone-parent families, which increased to 12.7% from 11.3%.
- In 54% of all lone-parent families in Canada in 1986, the parent was a separated or divorced woman. In Alberta and British Columbia, this figure exceeded 60%, but in the Northwest Territories, it was only 34%.
- Common-law unions were most frequent among young adults. Approximately one in nine women aged 20-24 and men aged 25-29 reported living in such unions. At these ages, many of the common-law unions were first unions and were preludes to legal marriage with the same partner.

- Now-married couples with children at home had declined from 55% of all families in 1981 to 51.9% in 1986. Over the same period, loneparent families and common-law couples whose children lived with them increased from 13.2% to 15.4% of all families in Canada.
- Common-law couples without children at home also increased between the two censuses, from 3.7% of all families in 1981 to 4.5% in 1986. Between the two censuses, the proportion of now-married couples without children living with them remained at 28%.

Focus on Canada – Families in Canada (98-127, \$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 – Families in Canada (98-127, \$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.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mineral Wool

March 1990

Manufacturers shipped 3 384 951 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in March 1990, up 11.5% over the 3 037 115 square metres shipped a year earlier, but down 5.4% from the 3 576 845 square metres shipped the previous month.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of March 1990 totalled 10 722 178 square metres, an increase of 15.5% over the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32 and 33).

The March issue of *Mineral Wool including Fibrous Glass Insulation* (44-004,\$4.70/\$47) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Production, Shipments and Stocks of Sawmills East of the Rockies

February 1990

Production of lumber in sawmills east of the Rockies decreased 4.3% to 1 853 345 cubic metres in February 1990, from 1 936 512 cubic metres after revisions in February 1989.

Stocks on hand at the end of February 1990 totalled 2 708 127 cubic metres, a decrease of 2.3% compared to 2 773 287^r cubic metres in February 1989.

Year-to-date production in 1990 amounted to 3 694 960 cubic metres, a decrease of 2.2% compared to 3 779 604 cubic metres after revisions for the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2, 2.2, 3.2) and 122 (series 2).

The February 1990 issue of *Production*, *Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies* (35-002, \$9/\$90) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

The Sugar Situation, March 1990. Catalogue number 32-013

(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,

March 1990.

Catalogue number 32-022

(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

Primary Iron and Steel, February 1990.

Catalogue number 41-001

(Canada: \$4.70/\$47; Other Countries: \$5.60/\$56).

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, Vol. 22,

No. 4, April 1990.

Catalogue number 51-004

(Canada: \$8.90/\$89; Other Countries: \$10.70/\$107).

Gas Utilities, December 1989. Catalogue number 55-002

(Canada: \$12.10/\$121; Other Countries:

\$14.50/\$145).

Focus on Canada - Families in Canada, 1986

Census.

Catalogue number 98-127

(Canada: \$10; Other Countries: \$11).

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.

The Daily

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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