

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, July 11, 1990

For release at 10:00 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New Housing Price Index, May 1990** 2
 Downward movements in Victoria, Vancouver, Kitchener-Waterloo, Calgary and Toronto all contributed to a 0.3% decrease in the Canada Total New Housing Price Index for May.
 - **Farm Product Price Index, May 1990** 3
 Farm prices increased 1.6% over April.
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DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Milling and Crushing Statistics, May 1990 5
 - Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard, May 1990 5
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MAJOR RELEASES

New Housing Price Index

May 1990

The New Housing Price Index (1986=100) for Canada stood at 145.6 in May, down 0.3% from April 1990. Decreases in Victoria (-2.9%), Vancouver (-1.3%), Kitchener-Waterloo (-1.0%), Calgary (-0.5%) and Toronto (-0.3%) all contributed to this decline.

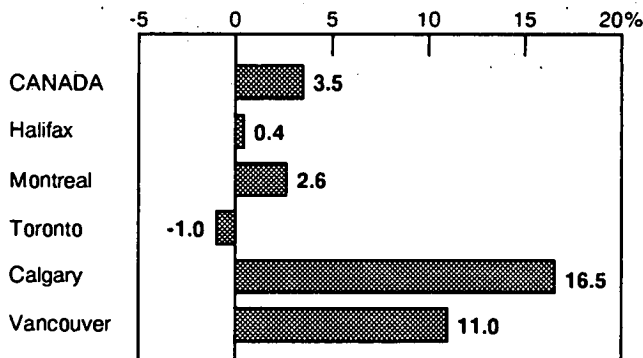
Although Toronto accounts for over one-third of the Canada Total index weight, Toronto's decrease did not have as much downward impact on the Canada level index as the significant decline exhibited in British Columbia by Vancouver and Victoria.

Between April and May 1990, the estimated House Only Index decreased 0.8%, while the estimated Land Only Index increased 0.4%.

This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 3.5% higher than the year-earlier level. This increase represents a considerably slower rate of increase when compared with the same period last year, when the index stood 14.6% higher on a yearly basis.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

Percentage Change in New Housing Price Index from Same Month of the Previous Year, Canada and Selected Cities, May 1990



The second quarter 1990 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007,\$18/\$72) will be available in September. See "How to Order Publications".

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

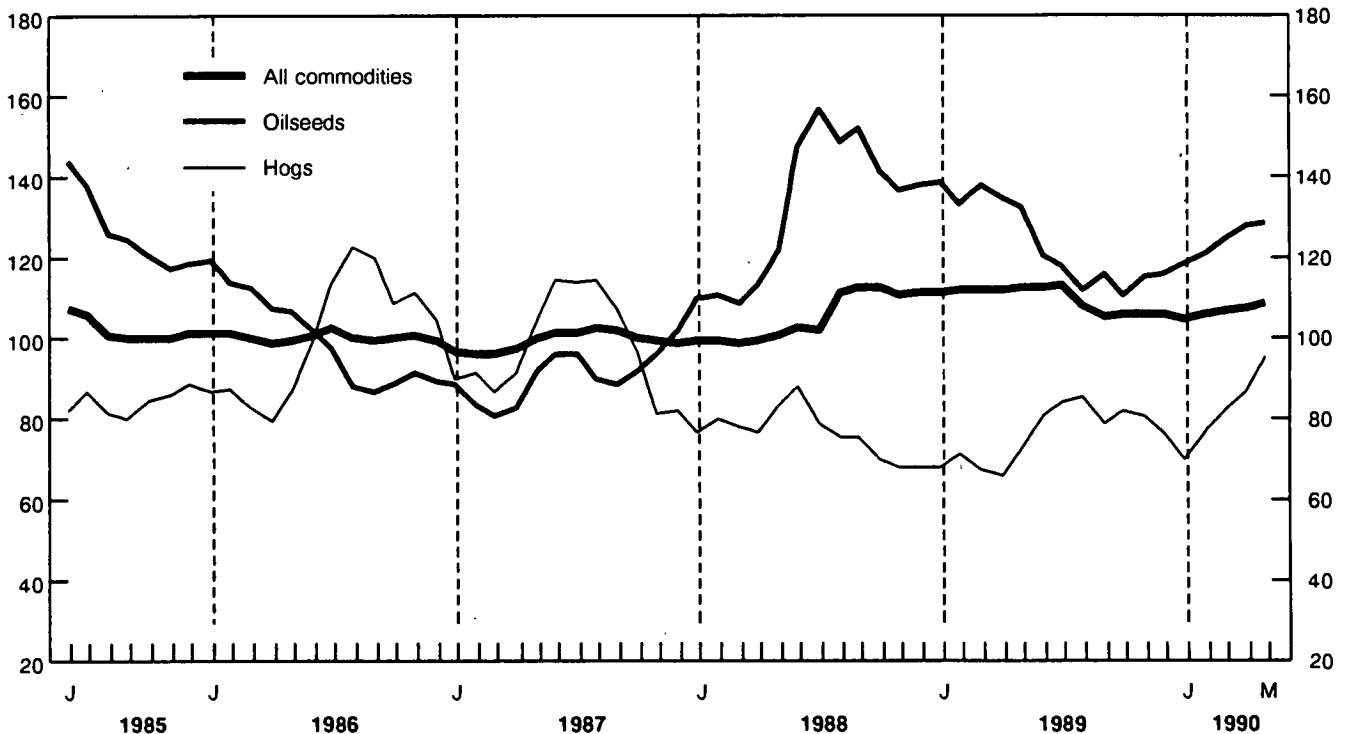
New Housing Price Indexes

1986 = 100

	May 1990	April 1990	May 1989	May/April 1990	May 1990/1989
					% change
Canada Total	145.6	146.1	140.7	-0.3	3.5
Canada (House Only)	137.0	138.1	134.4	-0.8	1.9
Canada (Land Only)	170.1	169.5	157.5	0.4	8.0
St. John's	115.8	115.8	112.2	-	3.2
Halifax	109.6	109.6	109.2	-	0.4
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	113.5	112.6	111.7	0.8	1.6
Quebec City	129.8	129.8	127.0	-	2.2
Montreal	133.6	133.4	130.2	0.1	2.6
Ottawa-Hull	124.4	124.5	117.9	-0.1	5.5
Toronto	179.4	180.0	181.3	-0.3	-1.0
Hamilton	147.4	147.3	141.3	0.1	4.3
St. Catharines-Niagara	142.3	141.6	128.5	0.5	10.7
Kitchener-Waterloo	142.2	143.6	137.0	-1.0	3.8
London	145.1	144.8	137.6	0.2	5.5
Windsor	128.3	128.3	123.3	-	4.1
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	135.0	134.2	125.4	0.6	7.7
Winnipeg	108.8	108.6	106.3	0.2	2.4
Regina	108.8	108.8	106.6	-	2.1
Saskatoon	107.5	107.5	106.6	-	0.8
Calgary	137.9	138.6	118.4	-0.5	16.5
Edmonton	138.2	137.9	117.6	0.2	17.5
Vancouver	139.0	140.9	125.2	-1.3	11.0
Victoria	125.6	129.3	114.1	-2.9	10.1

The survey has been discontinued in Prince George.
 - Nil or zero.

Farm Product Price Index (1986 = 100)



Farm Product Price Index

May 1990

The Farm Product Price Index (1986=100) for Canada stood at 108.9 in May, up 1.6% over the revised April level of 107.2. The crops index increased 0.5%, and the livestock and animal products index rose 2.3%. The overall index remained 3.4% below the year-earlier level of 112.7. Cereal and oilseed prices for the 1989-90 crop year (August 1 - July 31) have been much lower than the previous crop year, as 1989 North American grain production rebounded from the drought-reduced 1988 level.

The percentage changes in the index between April and May 1990 by province were as follows:

- Newfoundland +1.3%
- Prince Edward Island -6.9%
- Nova Scotia +1.9%
- New Brunswick -1.5%
- Quebec +4.6%
- Ontario +2.1%
- Manitoba +1.5%

- Saskatchewan +0.4%
- Alberta +0.4%
- British Columbia +0.9%
- Canada +1.6%

Crops

The crops index rose 0.5% in May to 114.3, as prices for cereals and oilseeds increased. The index, however, stood 14.4% below the year-earlier level of 133.5. Grain prices for the 1989-90 crop year have fallen below those of the previous crop year, but have been trending upwards since November 1989, mainly due to increasing oilseed prices. Grain prices in the previous crop year were the highest in four years, as drought in North America reduced crop production.

- The cereals index increased 0.7% in May to 110.8. The cereals index has been fluctuating between 108.8 and 110.8 for the last six months, and remained 19.9% below year-earlier levels.

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- The oilseeds index rose 0.7% in May to 128.4. Oilseed prices remained 3.1% below year-earlier levels, despite increases since November 1989.
 - The potatoes index decreased 0.5% in May to 168.1. The index stood 12.4% below the year-earlier level and 24.2% below the record level attained in July 1989.
 - The hog index rose 15.3% to 99.4 in May, its highest level since September 1987. Hog prices in both Canada and the U.S. have been increasing since January as a result of good consumer demand and strong futures prices, especially for pork bellies. The May index stood 37.7% above the year-earlier level of 72.2.
 - The cattle index decreased 0.2% to 107.1 in May. This was down 0.5% from the year-earlier level. The cattle index has been quite stable during the last 12 months, fluctuating between 106.4 and 108.3.

Livestock and Animal Products

The livestock and animal products index increased 2.3% in May to 105.6, as hog prices increased 15.3% and cattle prices decreased 0.2%. Poultry prices rose 0.6%, while egg prices fell 2.6%. The May increase in the livestock index was a continuation of the generally rising trend which has occurred throughout 1989 and the first half of 1990, mainly resulting from higher hog prices.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The May issue of the *Farm Product Price Index* (62-003,\$7.10/\$71) is scheduled for release on July 23. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Mario Menard (613-951-2446), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division. ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Milling and Crushing Statistics

May 1990

Milling

The total amount of wheat milled in May 1990 was 187 441 tonnes, down 4.0% from the 195 762 tonnes milled in May 1989.

The resulting wheat flour production decreased 2% to 145 083 tonnes in May 1990, from 147 737 tonnes in May 1989.

Crushing

Canola crushings for May 1990 amounted to 82 759 tonnes, down 42% from the 143 282 tonnes in May 1989. Resulting oil production decreased 43% to 32 578 tonnes, from 57 546 tonnes in May 1989. Meal production decreased 42% to 47 232 tonnes, from 81 966 tonnes in May 1989.

Soybean crushings for the same month increased 42% to 107 463 tonnes, from 75 558 tonnes a year earlier. As a result, oil production increased 47% to 19 533 tonnes in May 1990, from 13 298 tonnes in May 1989. Meal production also increased, up 43% to 82 840 tonnes from 57 889 tonnes in May 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5687.

The May 1990 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007, \$13.80/\$138) is scheduled for release in August. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact A. Dupuis (613-951-3871), Agriculture Division. ■

Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard

May 1990

Canadian firms produced 188 707 cubic metres of waferboard in May 1990, an 11.4% increase over the 169 389 cubic metres produced a year earlier. Particleboard production reached 101 321 cubic

metres, down 8.6% from 110 898 cubic metres the previous year. Production of fibreboard for May 1990 was 9 154 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, an increase of 10.4% over the 8 291 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, produced in May 1989.

Cumulative production of waferboard for 1990 totalled 928 883 cubic metres, up 10.7% over the 839 355 cubic metres produced during the previous year. Particleboard production was 498 907 cubic metres, down 2.0% from the 509 210 cubic metres for January to May 1989. Year-to-date production of fibreboard reached 41 992 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, up 5.7% over the 39 735 thousand square metres, basis 3.175mm, for the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3 and 4) and 122 (series 8 and 34).

The May 1990 issue of *Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard* (36-003, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Steel Pipe and Tubing

May 1990

Steel pipe and tubing production for May 1990 totalled 122 284 tonnes, a decrease of 18.0% from the 149 031 tonnes produced a year earlier.

Year-to-date production totalled 642 504 tonnes, down 7.7% from the 696 385 tonnes produced during the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 35.

The May 1990 issue of *Steel Pipe and Tubing* (41-011 \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gerry Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Coal and Coke Statistics, April 1990.

Catalogue number 45-002

(Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/US\$140.00).

Gas Utilities, March 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).

Electric Power Statistics, April 1990.

Catalogue number 57-001

(Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/US\$140.00).

Department Store Sales and Stocks, September 1989.

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).

Unemployment Insurance Statistics, April 1990.

Catalogue number 73-001

(Canada: \$14.70/\$147.00; United States: US\$17.60/US\$176.00; Other Countries: US\$20.60/US\$206.00).

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