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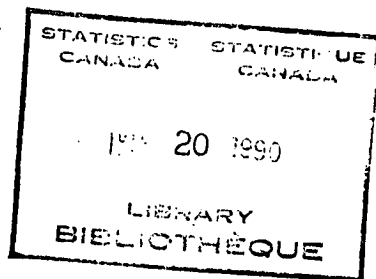
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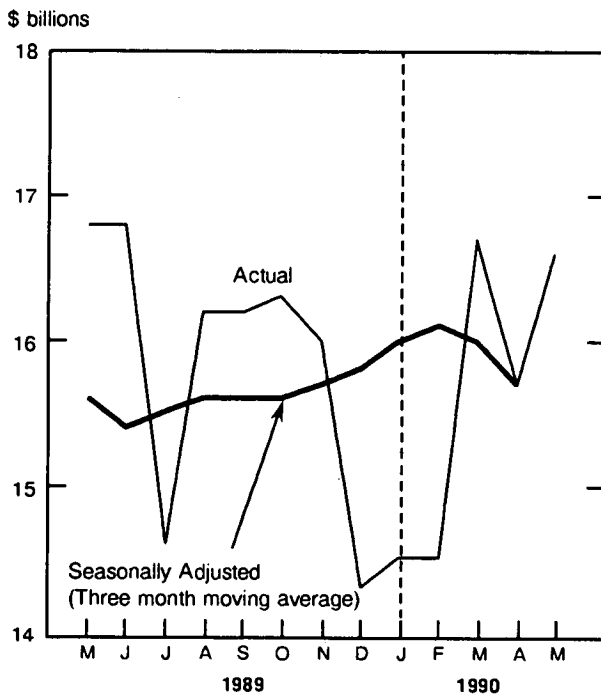
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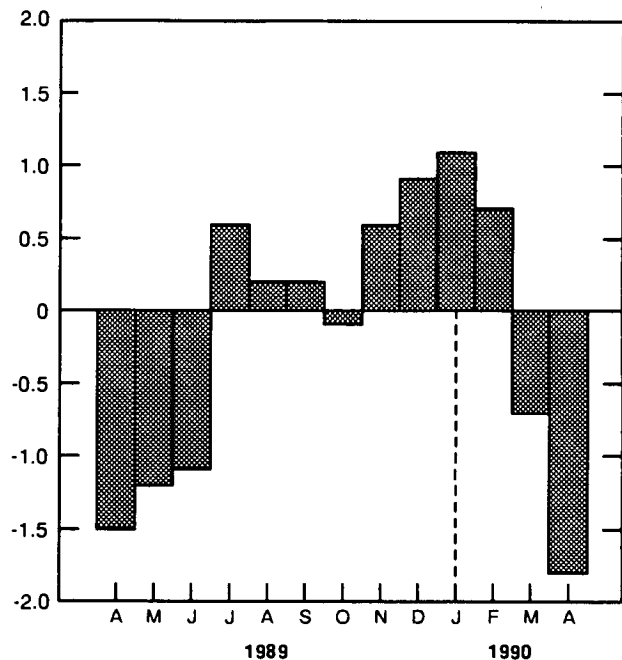
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MAJOR RELEASES

Wholesale Merchants' Sales



% monthly change, seasonally adjusted (Three month moving average)



Wholesale Trade

May 1990

Highlights

Unadjusted Sales - May 1990

- In May, wholesale merchants' sales were \$16.6 billion, a decrease of 1.6% from the same month a year earlier. The downward trend continued as a year-over-year sales decrease was recorded for the fourth time in five months.
- The overall decline between May 1989 and May 1990 sales was primarily attributable, in order of dollar impact, to decreases reported by wholesalers of motor vehicles, parts and accessories (-7.2%), wholesalers of other machinery, equip-

ment and supplies (-3.3%), wholesalers of lumber and building materials (-5.7%) and wholesalers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (-6.8%). Gains were reported by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products (+3.3%) and wholesalers of other products (+3.5%).

- Regionally, eight provinces and the territories posted sales decreases, ranging from -9.3% in Prince Edward Island to -1.6% for Manitoba. Increases were registered in Alberta (2.5%) and British Columbia (1.4%).

Year-to-date

- In the first five months of 1990, cumulative sales were estimated at \$77.9 billion, 0.6% lower than the value for the corresponding period in 1989.

Seasonally Adjusted Sales - April 1990

- Wholesale merchants' sales on a seasonally adjusted basis were down 1.8% from the previous month, to \$15.7 billion in April 1990. Sales declined for the second consecutive month.
- Eight of the nine trade groups registered lower sales than in March 1990. The trade group having the most significant dollar impact on the overall sales decrease, was wholesalers of other machinery, equipment and supplies (-2.8%). Higher sales were reported by wholesalers of apparel and dry goods, up 0.1%.

- Regionally, declines were registered in eight provinces and the territories, ranging from -9.5% in Yukon and Northwest Territories to -1.1% for Ontario. Gains were recorded in Alberta (0.9%) and Newfoundland (0.5%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 648 and 649.

The May 1990 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$17.40/\$174) will be available the second week of August. See "How to Order Publications".

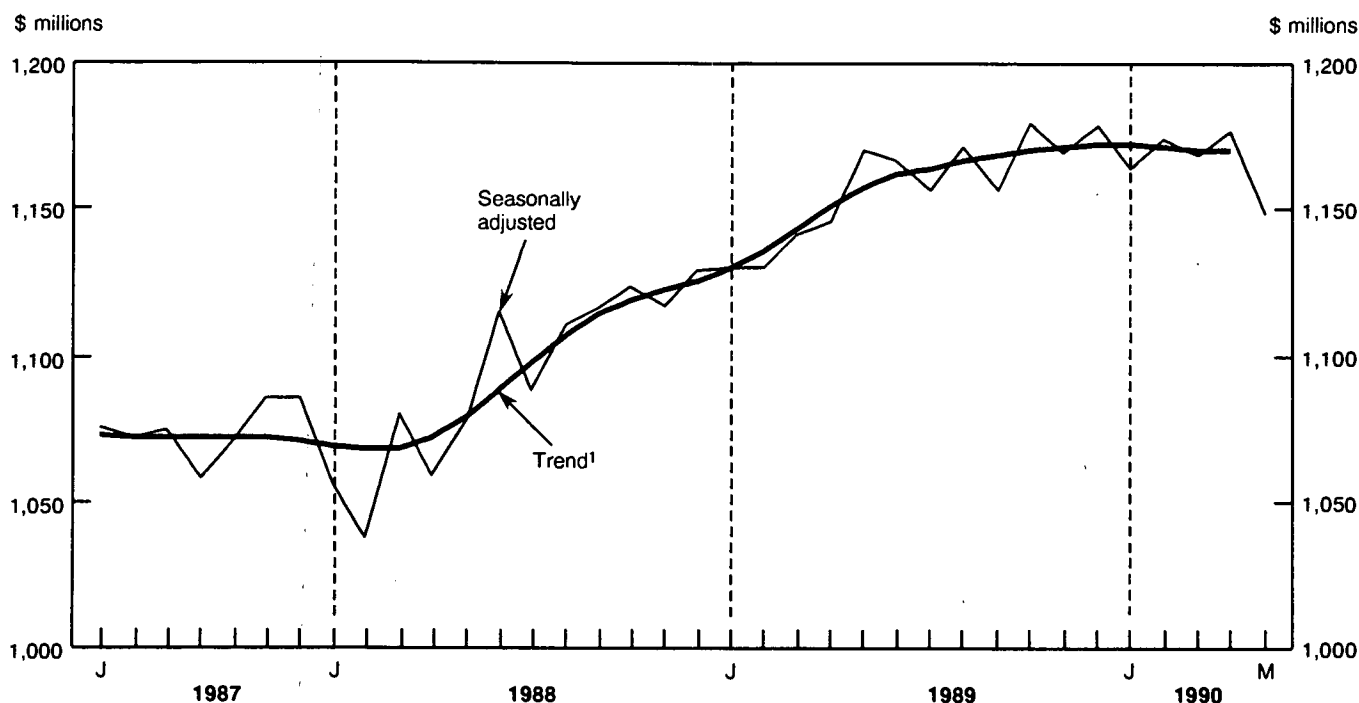
For more information on this release, contact Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540) or Larry Murphy (613-951-3589), Industry Division.

**Wholesale Merchants Sales, by Trade Group and Region
May 1990**

Trade Group	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 1989	April 1990 ^r	May 1990 ^p	May 1990/1989	April 1989	Jan. 1990 ^r	Feb. 1990 ^r	March 1990 ^r	April 1990 ^p	April 1990/ March 1990	April 1990/ 1989
Canada											
	millions of \$				millions of \$						
				%						%	%
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,617	3,557	3,738	3.3	3,455	3,619	3,619	3,622	3,576	-1.3	3.5
Apparel and dry goods	331	367	300	-9.2	433	385	391	400	400	0.1	-7.8
Household goods	533	539	538	1.0	551	594	589	571	562	-1.6	2.0
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	2,048	1,826	1,900	-7.2	1,787	1,770	1,793	1,774	1,741	-1.9	-2.6
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,430	1,303	1,333	-6.8	1,398	1,352	1,319	1,295	1,267	-2.2	-9.4
Lumber and building materials	1,881	1,630	1,773	-5.7	1,573	1,602	1,577	1,574	1,543	-1.9	-1.9
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	457	445	466	1.9	384	365	374	381	380	-0.2	-0.9
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,794	3,651	3,670	-3.3	3,887	3,839	3,900	3,869	3,762	-2.8	-3.2
Other products	2,743	2,365	2,838	3.5	2,334	2,451	2,526	2,496	2,459	-1.5	5.4
Total, all trades	16,833	15,684	16,557	-1.6	15,803	15,978	16,087	15,982	15,691	-1.8	-0.7
Regions											
Newfoundland	179	147	170	-5.0	173	156	157	157	158	0.5	-8.7
Prince Edward Island	42	36	38	-9.3	43	41	42	40	39	-2.8	-8.0
Nova Scotia	447	416	417	-6.8	420	419	410	413	407	-1.5	-3.0
New Brunswick	297	265	277	-6.8	302	276	274	273	268	-2.0	-11.3
Quebec	4,317	3,794	4,181	-3.1	3,942	4,118	4,111	3,993	3,845	-3.7	-2.5
Ontario	6,678	6,372	6,564	-1.7	6,396	6,256	6,355	6,359	6,288	-1.1	-1.7
Manitoba	600	516	590	-1.6	521	519	524	522	511	-2.0	-2.0
Saskatchewan	596	525	577	-3.2	497	558	540	521	507	-2.7	2.0
Alberta	1,588	1,500	1,628	2.5	1,486	1,445	1,470	1,497	1,511	0.9	1.7
British Columbia	2,069	2,097	2,097	1.4	1,999	2,173	2,174	2,157	2,101	-2.6	5.1
Yukon and Northwest Territories	20	17	18	-6.9	24	21	21	20	18	-9.5	-23.5

^r Revised.^p Preliminary.

Department Store Sales, Canada



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

Department Store Sales and Stocks May 1990

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, department store sales including concessions totalled \$1,148 million in May 1990, a decrease of 2.4% from the previous month's revised total of \$1,177 million.
- In the first five months of 1990, department store sales have fluctuated markedly, while registering on average a modest decline. Gains in February and April did not fully offset declines in the other months.

- Department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$4,762 million at the end of May, a decline of 0.6% from the April 1990 revised value of \$4,793 million. This decrease followed an increase of 1.5% in April.
- The ratio of stocks-to-sales stood at 4.15:1 in May, an increase from the average ratio of 4.06:1 observed in the three previous months.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 112.

Order the May 1990 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$13/\$130), available the third week of September. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Maurice Massaad (613-951-9682) or Roger Laplante (613-951-3552), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. □

Department Store Sales, Canada (including concessions)

	Unadjusted				Seasonally Adjusted						
	May 1989	April 1990	May 1990	May 1990/ 1989	May 1989	Feb. 1990 ^r	March 1990 ^r	April 1990 ^r	May 1990 ^p	May 1990/ April 1990	May 1990/ 1989
	millions of \$			%	millions of \$					%	%
Total Sales	1,143.8	1,055.0	1,127.3	-1.4	1,170.6	1,173.8	1,168.7	1,176.7	1,148.4	-2.4	-1.9
Total Stocks	4,687.7	4,912.9	4,809.9	+ 2.6	4,654.3	4,778.0	4,720.3	4,792.9	4,762.2	-0.6	+ 2.3
Stock to Sales Ratio	4.10	4.66	4.27		3.98	4.07	4.04	4.07	4.15		

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Air Carrier Operations in Canada

January-March 1989

The number of passengers carried by Canadian air carriers on charter services increased by 13% during the first quarter of 1989, surpassing the two million mark in a quarter for the first time. This occurred despite a drop of 17% in charter passengers carried by the three Level I air carriers, Air Canada, Canadian Airlines International Ltd. (Canadian), and Wardair. While the Level I carriers reported a decrease of 186,000 charter passengers, the rest of the industry more than compensated with an increase of 431,000 charter passengers carried.

The decrease in Level I charter passengers carried occurred almost completely in international markets. However, for the Canadian industry as a whole, passengers carried on international routes increased by 270,000. This increase reflects the operations of a group of specialized charter carriers who perform mostly international operations using large jet aircraft. Several carriers which accounted for most of the increase began operations in 1987 or 1988, including Canada 3000 (formerly Air 2000), Odyssey International (a division of Soundair Corporation), Vacationair, Air Transat and Minerve Canada.

Compared to a year earlier, the first quarter 1989 economy fare index for domestic scheduled services advanced by 7% in unadjusted terms, while the discount fare index rose by 8%. For the international markets, the economy fare index rose by nearly 3%, while the discount fare index decreased by over 3%.

The decrease in the utilization of discount fares in the first quarter of 1989 was apparent in all provinces and territories, with the exception of Alberta and British Columbia and the territories. Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, with respective decreases of about nine and seven percentage points compared to the same period in 1988, posted the largest declines.

The January-March 1989 issue of *Air Carrier Operations in Canada* (51-002, \$24.25/\$97) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Robert Lund (819-997-6192), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia

May 1990

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 2 943 900 cubic metres of lumber and ties in May 1990, a decrease of 6.8% from the 3 159 200 cubic metres produced in May 1989.

January to May 1990 production was 14 973 400 cubic metres, an decrease of 1.3% from the 15 177 800 cubic metres produced over the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 53 (series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2).

The May 1990 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$7.10/\$71) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604-666-2671), Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9. ■

Stocks of Frozen Meat Products

July 1, 1990

Total frozen meat in cold storage as of July 1 amounted to 30 955 tonnes as compared with 30 446 tonnes last month and 31 579 tonnes a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9517-9525.

To order *Stocks of Frozen Meat Products* (\$11.50/\$115), a statistical bulletin, contact Guy Gervais (613-951-2453).

For more information on this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-2510), Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, June 1990.
Catalogue number 32-001

(Canada: \$2.70/\$27.00; United States:
US\$3.20/US\$32.00; Other Countries:
US\$3.80/US\$38.00).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,
June 1990.

Catalogue number 32-022

(Canada: \$5.00/\$50.00; United States: \$6.00/\$60.00;
Other Countries: \$7.00/\$70.00).

Financial Institutions – Financial Statistics, First
Quarter 1990.

Catalogue number 61-006

(Canada: \$44.00/\$176.00; United States:
US\$52.75/US\$211.00; Other Countries:
US\$61.50/US\$246.00).

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