



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, July 24, 1990

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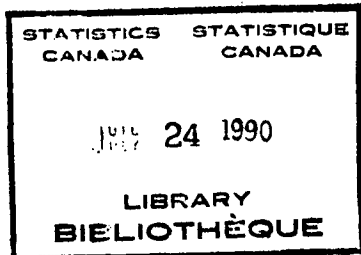
MAJOR RELEASE

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MAJOR RELEASE

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

May 1990

Both shipments and unfilled orders increased slightly in May following decreases of about 1% in April. New orders increased for the second month in a row, but remained below the December 1989 level.

Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturers' shipments and unfilled orders increased slightly in May 1990, as large increases in transportation equipment industries were mostly offset by decreases in the rest of manufacturing. Shipments in the transportation equipment industries rebounded from a large decrease in the previous month. The increase may be partly related to the possibility of a strike in the motor vehicle industry.

New orders were up for the second month in a row and were greater than the value of shipments for the first time since October 1989. Inventories declined for the third month in a row, as manufacturers continued to keep them under tight control.

The **short-term trends** for shipments and unfilled orders continued to fall, but at a slower rate. For the first time in seven months, the trend for new orders did not decline, but remained at the same level as in the previous month. The inventories trend, which had been virtually flat throughout most of 1989, has been declining slightly in recent months.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' **shipments** increased 0.1% to \$24.6 billion in May 1990. An 8.8% jump for transportation equipment industries was largely offset by a 1.7% decrease in the rest of manufacturing. Transportation equipment industries had dropped 6.6% in April.

The **trend** for shipments fell for the eighth month in a row. The rate of decline, however, has slowed from -0.7% in January to -0.3% in April. The trend for transportation equipment industries was positive for the first time since September 1989. The trend for manufacturing excluding transportation equipment declined for the ninth month in a row.

- **Inventories** (owned) decreased by 0.6% to \$37.8 billion. Refined petroleum and coal and transportation equipment industries accounted for most of the May decrease. The trend for inventories has declined for the last four months.
- The **inventories-to-shipments ratio** decreased slightly from 1.55:1 in April to 1.54:1 in May. The trend, which increased from October 1989 to February 1990, has remained stable at 1.55:1 for the last three months.
- **Unfilled orders** edged up 0.1% to \$27.6 billion. An increase of 2.7% for transportation equipment industries was largely offset by a 2.3% decrease for the rest of manufacturing. The trend for unfilled orders declined for the sixth month in a row.

Unfilled orders are a backlog or stock of orders which will generate future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled.

New orders, on the other hand, represent current demand for manufactured products. They are defined to include shipments for the current month (i.e. orders received this month and shipped within the same month) and the change in unfilled orders.
- **New orders** increased 1.2% to \$24.7 billion. Despite increases in three of the last four months, new orders remained below December 1989 levels. The trend showed no change from the previous month, following seven consecutive monthly declines.

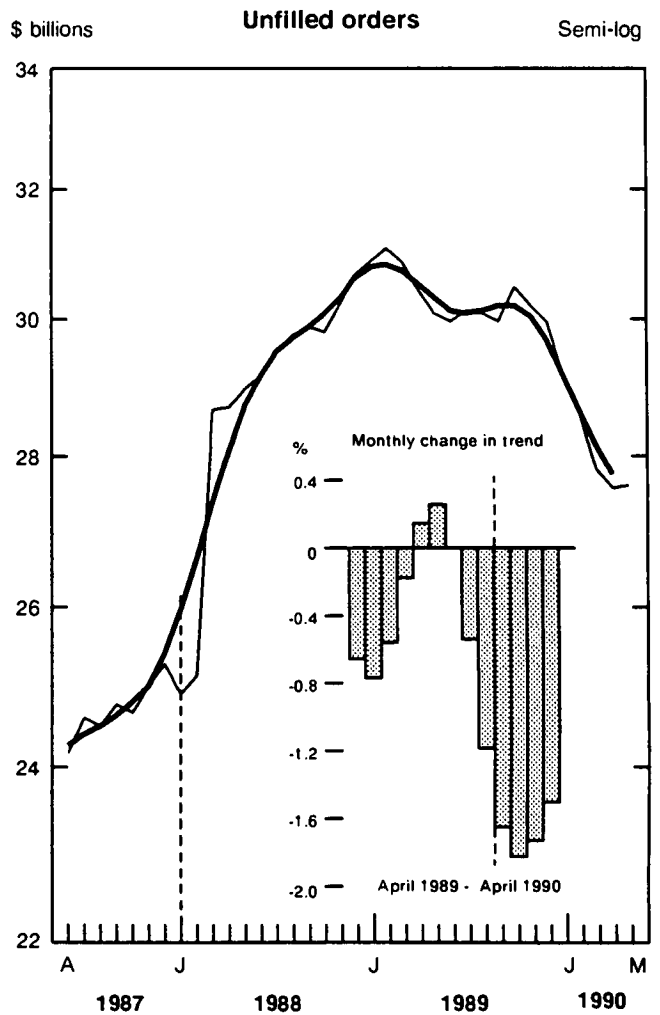
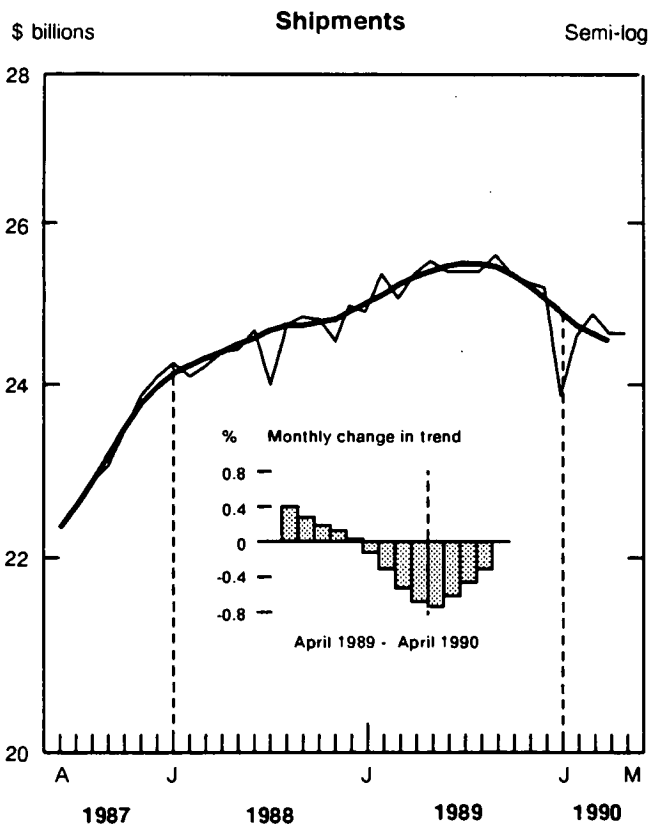
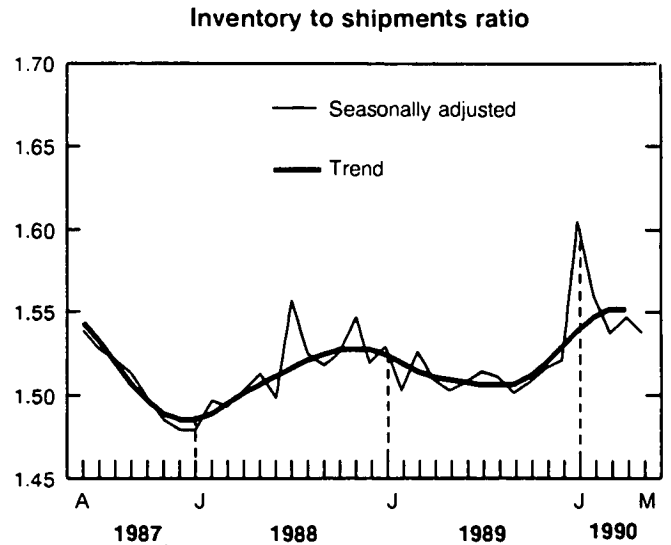
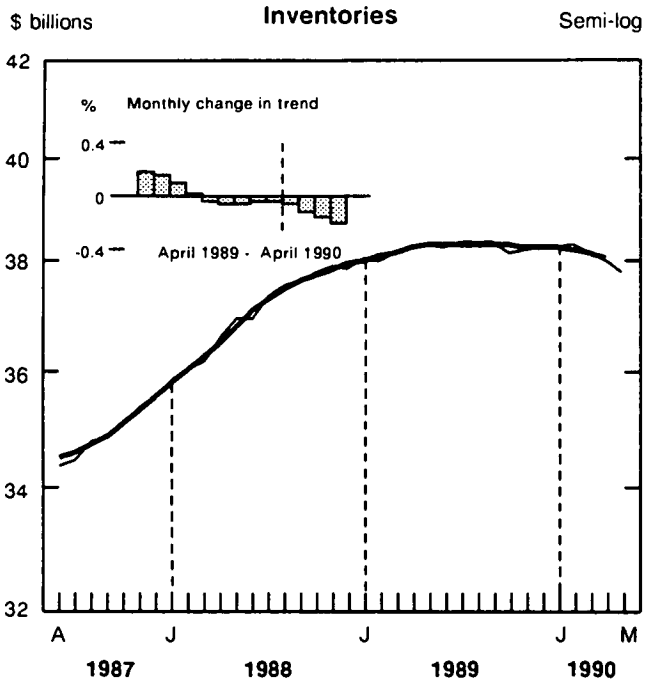
Year-to-date

- Cumulative shipments for the first five months of 1990 were estimated at \$122.4 billion, 2.9% lower than the value for the corresponding period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

For more information, consult the May 1990 issue of *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001, \$17.30/\$173), available shortly.

Manufacturers' Inventories, Shipments and Unfilled Orders, May 1990



Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For further information, contact Michel Labonté (613-951-3508) or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division.

Note: The appendix in the March 1990 issue of catalogue 31-001 contains estimated values of shipments, inventories and orders revised back to January 1987.

Shipments, Inventories and Orders in all Manufacturing Industries

May 1990

	Unadjusted				Seasonally Adjusted					
Period	Shipments	Inven- tories	Unfilled orders	New orders	Shipments	Inven- tories	Unfilled orders	New orders		
1989	\$ millions									
May	27,275	38,535	30,785	26,881	25,511	38,340	30,092	25,148		
June	27,083	38,159	30,114	26,412	25,376	38,241	29,961	25,245		
July	22,580	38,132	30,181	22,647	25,352	38,360	30,111	25,503		
August	25,165	38,370	30,020	25,004	25,376	38,355	30,046	25,311		
September	26,272	37,988	29,624	25,875	25,580	38,362	29,920	25,455		
October	26,552	37,842	29,954	26,883	25,333	38,173	30,494	25,907		
November	26,012	37,865	29,590	25,647	25,229	38,216	30,177	24,912		
December	22,926	37,681	29,095	22,431	25,161	38,255	29,927	24,911		
1990										
January	22,546	38,406	29,103	22,555	23,856	38,237	29,139	23,068		
February	23,117	38,944	28,861	22,875	24,564	38,316	28,619	24,044		
March	26,255	38,658	28,358	25,752	24,823	38,148	27,786	23,990		
April	24,366	38,485	28,200	24,208	24,582	38,017	27,552	24,347		
May	26,638	37,993	28,187	26,624	24,602	37,783	27,591	24,641		
Seasonally Adjusted										
Shipments		Inventories		Inventory to shipments ratio		Unfilled orders		New orders		
S.A. Trend		S.A. Trend		S.A. Trend		S.A. Trend		S.A. Trend		
1989	Month to month % change				Ratio		Month to month % change			
May	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.50	1.51	-1.2	-0.8	0.9	0.2
June	-0.5	0.2	-0.3	0.1	1.51	1.51	-0.4	-0.6	0.4	0.3
July	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	1.51	1.51	0.5	-0.2	1.0	0.4
August	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.51	1.51	-0.2	0.1	-0.8	0.2
September	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.50	1.51	-0.4	0.2	0.6	-0.1
October	-1.0	-0.3	-0.5	-0.1	1.51	1.51	1.9	0.0	1.8	-0.6
November	-0.4	-0.5	0.1	0.0	1.51	1.52	-1.0	-0.5	-3.8	-1.0
December	-0.3	-0.7	0.1	0.0	1.52	1.53	-0.8	-1.2	0.0	-1.1
1990										
January	-5.2	-0.7	0.0	-0.1	1.60	1.54	-2.6	-1.6	-7.4	-0.9
February	3.0	-0.6	0.2	-0.1	1.56	1.55	-1.8	-1.8	4.2	-0.6
March	1.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	1.54	1.55	-2.9	-1.7	-0.2	-0.3
April	-1.0	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	1.55	1.55	-0.8	-1.5	1.5	0.0
May	0.1	*	-0.6	*	1.54	*	0.1	*	1.2	*

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

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment and Remuneration

March 1990

Highlights

- Provincial and territorial general government employment, excluding Saskatchewan, increased 1.2% (5,900 employees) between March 1989 and 1990, to an estimated 478,000 employees.
- Provincial and territorial government business enterprise employment increased 3.6% (5,500 employees) between March 1989 and 1990, to an estimated 158,000 employees.
- The January to March 1990 general government data for Saskatchewan are not currently available, but will be released with the provincial and territorial data for June 1990.
- General government is defined as departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and government-owned institutions engaged in education, health or social services but excludes government business enterprises. The Public Institutions Division's provincial and territorial government employment series is the only measure of provincial and territorial employment that includes all industry categories of employment.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2722 (employment and remuneration data by month, by province), **series 1** (general government employment data), **series 2** (corresponding pay data), **series 3** (government business enterprise employment data) and **series 4** (corresponding pay data).

Information concerning this release may be obtained from Peter Dudley (613-951-1851) or Ishtiaq Khan (613-951-8306), Employment Section, Public Institutions Division.

Data are available through standard tables or special tabulations. For more information on these and other Public Institutions Division's products, contact Patricia Phillips, Data Dissemination, (613-951-0767/FAX 613-951-0661). ■

Retail Chain and Department Stores 1988

- Retail chain organizations in Canada reported annual sales totalling \$52.5 billion in 1988, up 5.8% over the 1987 level of \$49.6 billion.
- The number of chain organizations in Canada decreased by 121 to 1,187 in 1988. The maximum number of chain outlets operating during the year rose by 659 to 36,986 stores.
- All provinces recorded increases in chain store sales, ranging from 10.6% in the Territories to 0.5% in Saskatchewan.
- Canadian department store organizations reported sales of \$13.3 billion in 1988, a gain of 2.8%. The number of department store organizations decreased to 14 in 1988, from 15 in 1987. The number of department store outlets decreased to 837 in 1988, from 842 in the previous year.

Detailed information for 1988, including sales for kinds of business, floor area data, and certain financial statistics are now available.

Order *Retail Chain and Department Stores, 1988* (63-210, \$34), available in September. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact David Roeske (613-951-9236), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■

Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based) May 1990

Commodity-country export trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S.) for May 1990 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

The May 1990 issue of *Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-004, \$55.10/\$551) will be available the second week of August. See "How to Order Publications".

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

**Quarterly Hospital Information System -
Hospital Indicators**

April-December 1989

For more information contact Peter Mix
(613-951-1650), Health Care Section, Canadian
Centre for Health Information. ■

Hospital statistics for the third quarter of the 1989-90
fiscal year are now available.

These estimates and indicators are based on data
reported through the Quarterly Hospital Information
System and will be revised as more complete
information becomes available.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Primary Iron and Steel, May 1990.
Catalogue number 41-001

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

Electric Lamps (Light Bulbs and Tubes), June 1990.

Catalogue number 43-009

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

Service Industry Bulletin Vol. 2, No. 2, The Scientific and Technical Services Industry, 1987.
Catalogue number 63-015

(Canada: \$7.20/\$43.00; United States:
US\$8.65/US\$52.00; Other Countries:
US\$10.00/US\$60.00).

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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.

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