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Quarterly Business Conditions Survey, Canadian Manufacturing Industries

July 1990

Seasonally Adjusted

The balance of opinion concerning the backlog of unfilled orders, orders received, finished products inventories, and expected production decreased significantly in the July 1990 survey. Results are close to those recorded in the January 1982 survey, but are still well above the lowest levels experienced in the last three quarters of 1982. Most of the decrease was accounted for by the transportation equipment industry, except for the backlog of unfilled orders, where the decrease was mainly in the electrical and electronic products industries. (It should be noted that manufacturers' opinions are given relative to current situations; comparisons over long periods of time should therefore be interpreted with caution).

Highlights

- The balance of opinion concerning **expected volume of production** over the next three months decreased nine points, from a level of -4 in April to -13 in July 1990. The transportation equipment industry accounted for most of the decline. The balance of opinion on production prospects was negative for a third quarter in a row, following 10 positive quarterly balances.
- The balance of -13 in July is calculated by subtracting the pessimistic 34% indicating "lower than normal" volume of production, from the optimistic 21% indicating a "higher than normal" volume of expected production.
- The balance of opinion concerning the **backlog of unfilled orders** decreased from -35 in April 1990 to -41 in the July 1990 survey. The balance has been declining for the last 11 surveys. The electrical and electronic products industries accounted for most of the decrease.
- The **finished products inventories** balance of opinion decreased from -28 in April to -31 in July 1990. The last levels are close to those recorded for the October 1981 and January 1982 surveys.

Note to Users:

Individual responses to the Business Conditions Survey are weighted by the value of the respondent's shipments reported to the annual Census of Manufactures. The proportions, therefore, reflect the magnitude of the individual manufacturer's contribution to the total. The balance is the difference between the proportion associated with the positive-type response (e.g. higher volume of production) and the proportion related to the negative-type response (e.g. lower volume of production). Both the raw data (raw) and seasonally adjusted (s.a.) data are given for the balance. The seasonally adjusted value for the neutral components (e.g. expected production about the same) is calculated by subtracting the sum of the seasonally adjusted values of the other two components from 100.

- The July 1990 balance for **orders received** decreased six points from a level of -25 in April 1990 to -31. The balance remained at a large negative level, which was the sixth negative balance recorded since the January 1989 survey. The decrease was caused mainly by transportation equipment industries. The provinces of Ontario and Quebec recorded the largest drops.

Unadjusted

- The main **source of production difficulties** continued to be a shortage of skilled labour, although the proportion was quite stable at 7% in the first three quarters of 1990, compared with highs ranging between 11% to 13% in July and October 1989. This was followed closely by a shortage of working capital which increased by one point to 6%.

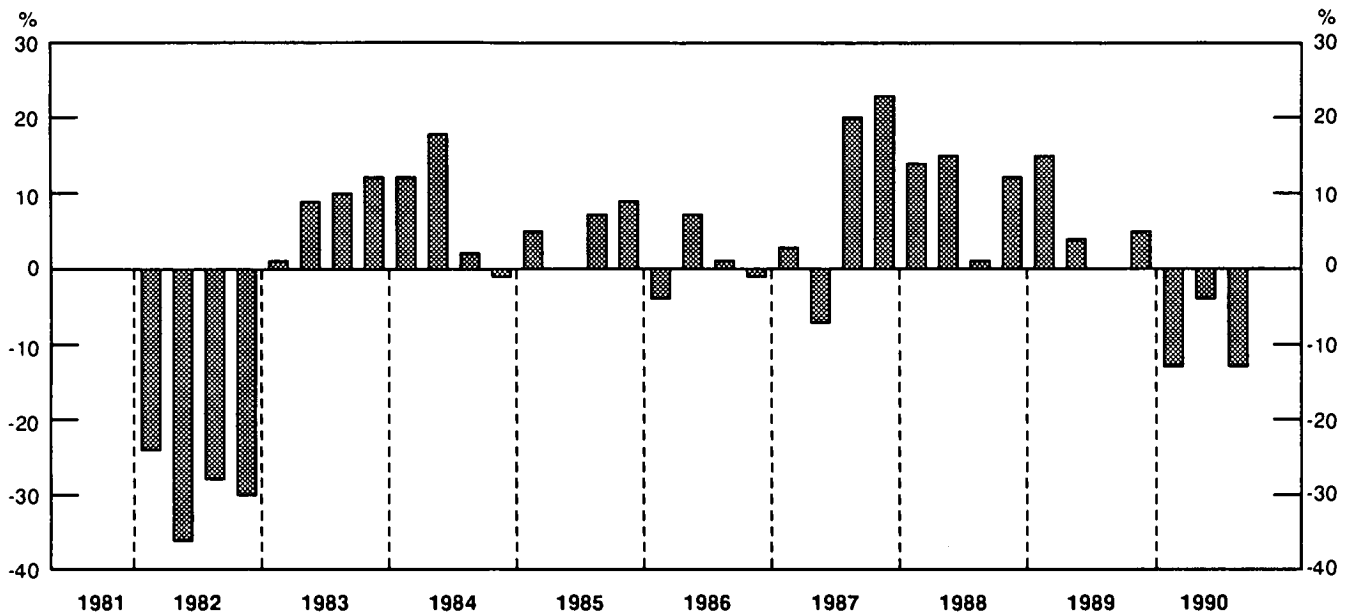
The *Business Conditions Survey* is carried out in January, April, July and October and the majority of responses are recorded in the first two weeks of these months. Results are based on replies from about 5,000 manufacturers.

Data users should note the April 1990 results have been revised to include responses received after the first release of these results.

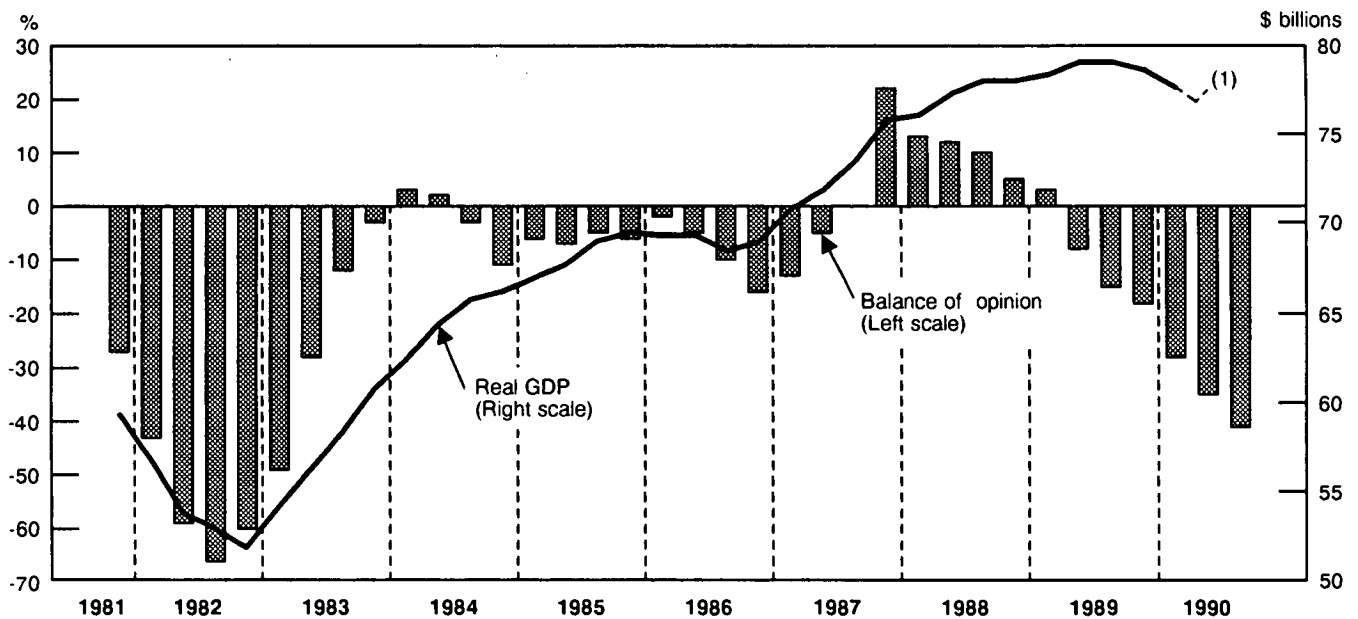
Available on CANSIM (raw data only): matrices 2843-2845.

For further information on this release, contact C. Robillard (613-951-3507), Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section, Industry Division. ☐

**Balance of Opinion for Expected Volume of Production
Next Three Months vs Last Three Months**



**Balance of Opinion on Backlog of Unfilled Orders
and Real GDP for Manufacturing Industries**
Seasonally adjusted



Business Conditions Survey, Canadian Manufacturing Industries

July 1990

All Manufacturing Industries	July 1989	October 1989	January 1990	April 1990	July 1990
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Volume of Production During Next Three Months Compared with Last Three Months Will Be:

	Seasonally Adjusted				
About the Same	52	47	41	44	45
Higher	24	29	23	26	21
Lower	24	24	36	30	34
Balance	0	5	-13	-4	-13

Raw

Balance	-13	10	-22	15	-29
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Orders received are:

	Seasonally Adjusted				
About the Same	53	63	47	49	41
Rising	21	14	15	14	14
Declining	26	23	38	37	45
Balance	-5	-9	-23	-23	-31

Raw

Balance	-4	-13	-26	-19	-32
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Present Backlog of Unfilled Orders is:

	Seasonally Adjusted				
About Normal	71	64	55	51	45
Higher than Normal	7	9	9	7	7
Lower than Normal	22	27	37	42	48
Balance	-15	-18	-28	-35	-41

Raw

Balance	-11	-17	-30	-36	-38
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Finished Product Inventory on Hand is:

	Seasonally Adjusted				
About Right	67	76	63	58	59
Too Low	5	4	5	7	5
Too High ¹	28	20	32	35	36
Balance	-23	-16	-27	-28	-31

Raw

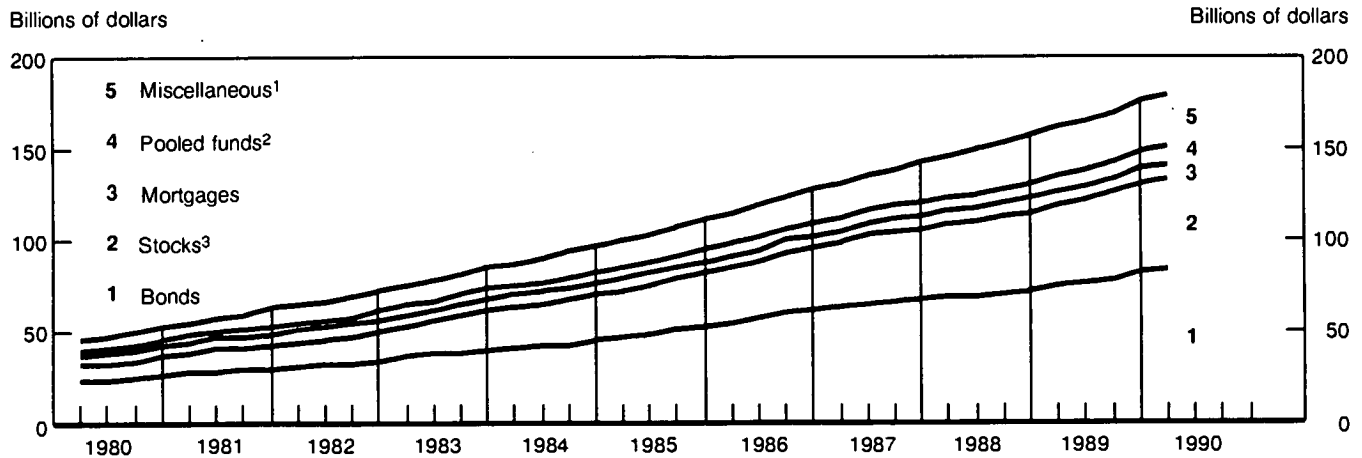
Balance	-22	-15	-28	-28	-31
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Sources of Production Difficulties:

	Raw				
Working Capital Shortage	3	5	3	5	6
Skilled Labour Shortage	13	11	8	7	7
Unskilled Labour Shortage	3	3	1	1	1
Raw Material Shortage	4	4	5	5	5
Other Difficulties	4	5	4	4	5
No Difficulties	78	75	82	81	78

¹ No evident seasonality.

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held by Trusteed Pension Funds, 1980 - 1990



¹ Includes cash, deposits, short-term securities, some accruals and receivables, real estate and lease-backs.

² Includes pooled funds of trust companies and of investment counsellors, mutual and investment funds, segregated and deposit administration funds.

³ Includes venture capital investments since the third quarter of 1986.

Trusteed Pension Funds

First Quarter 1990¹

Assets

- The book value of assets held in trusteed pension funds at the end of the first quarter of 1990 was estimated at \$179.1 billion, up 2% over the previous quarter and 11% over the previous year. This is the third consecutive year that assets have grown by approximately 2% between the fourth and the first quarters; in the four years preceding that, however, the growth rate was closer to 3%.
- Bonds and stocks continued to be the two major forms of investment, accounting for 46% and 29% respectively of the total assets. Cash, deposits, short-term securities plus some accruals and receivables represented 13% of the total; mortgage holdings accounted for another 4%. The remaining assets were divided between such investment vehicles as real estate, and pooled, mutual and segregated funds.

¹ Based on a survey of 217 funds, which constitute approximately 6% of all trusteed pension funds and hold over 87% of the total assets.

- The amount invested in stocks rose just 2.4% from the fourth quarter of 1989, down from increases of more than 3% in each of the quarters of 1989. This reduced growth coincides with a drop in the TSE 300 Composite Index registered during the same period. In contrast, the 3.3% increase in the amount held in short-term investments² was the largest recorded since the last quarter of 1988. This can likely be related to the rise in the bank rate that occurred in the first quarter of 1990.

Income and Expenditures

- First quarter income of trusteed pension funds, estimated at \$6.1 billion, was up 12% over 1989. Expenditures increased 14%, to \$2.6 billion. The net income or new money entering the funds in the first quarter (calculated by deducting expenditures from income) amounted to \$3.4 billion, 11% higher than in 1989.

² Includes cash, deposits, some accruals and receivables.

- Profits generated from the sale of securities were down 39% from the previous quarter, following a drop of 31% in the fourth quarter of 1989. Increases averaging close to 33% had been recorded in the first three quarters of 1989. First quarter profits accounted for just 7% of the total income in 1990, a drop from the high of 28% recorded in 1987.
- Investment income, which constituted 57% of total revenue in the first quarter of 1990, was 22% higher than in the same quarter of 1989. This was the largest 12-month increase recorded since 1982.
- Employer and employee contributions, the other principal sources of income for the funds, increased 33% and 10%, respectively, over the first quarter of 1989. Together, they represented 36% of the total income. The growth in employer contributions for the first quarter was the highest recorded since 1978.
- Payments to retired employees or their survivors continued to be the major component of the expenditures, constituting 75% of the total. These payments rose by 10% over the first quarter of 1989, to \$2 billion.
- Losses on the sale of securities were 875% higher than in the fourth quarter of 1989 and about 360% over those of the first quarter 1989. As a proportion of total expenditures, they rose from 0.6% to 5.4% from December 31, 1989 to March 31, 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5749.

The first quarter 1990 issue of *Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds* (74-001, \$11/\$44) will be available in August. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information, contact Johanne Pineau (613-951-4034), Pensions Section, Labour Division. ■

Crude Oil and Natural Gas

April 1990

Highlights

- Preliminary figures indicate that production of crude oil and equivalent in April 1990 totalled 7.8 million cubic metres, down 1.4% from April 1989 and the 14th decrease in the last 15 months. Both exports (-0.4%) and imports (-9.8%) declined from levels recorded in April 1989. Year-to-date figures show production and exports down 3.2% and 6.8%, respectively, while imports are up 11.2% over the 1989 period. Refinery receipts are running at 2.8% above the level of the first four months of 1989.
- Marketable production of natural gas, at 8.1 billion cubic metres, increased 1.1% over April 1989, the 11th increase in the last 13 months. Exports were up 2.1%, while Canadian sales were down 4.8% for the same period. On a cumulative basis, production was down 0.6%, exports up 3.9% and domestic sales down 5.3%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 127 and 128.

The April 1990 issue of *Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, \$10/\$100) will be available the second week of August. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gérard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division. □

Crude Oil and Natural Gas

	April 1990	% Change from April 1989	January- April 1990	% Change from January- April 1989
(thousands of cubic metres)				
Crude Oil and Equivalent				
Production	7 847.5	-1.4	31 075.9	-3.2
Exports	2 903.1	-0.4	11 613.5	-6.8
Imports	2 358.1	-9.8	10 489.9	11.2
Refinery receipts	6 836.1	-9.7	29 931.7	2.8
(millions of cubic metres)				
Natural Gas				
Marketable production	8 112.4	1.1	33 971.3	-0.6
Exports	3 169.4	2.1	13 060.4	3.9
Canadian sales	4 808.0	-4.8	23 688.3	-5.3

Machinery and Equipment Price Indexes

First Quarter 1990

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index by industry of purchase (1986 = 100, MEPI) reached a preliminary level of 104.0 in the first quarter of 1990, up 0.7% over its fourth quarter level of 103.3. This is the seventh consecutive quarterly increase.

The domestic and imported components both rose by 0.6% in the latest quarter. This is the fourth consecutive increase in the imported component, but it would have been a decrease were it not for the decline of the Canadian dollar against the American dollar.

On a year-over-year basis, the total index was up 3.1%, based on an increase in the domestic prices component of 3.9%, and an increase in the imported prices component of 2.3%. This represents an acceleration in the year-over-year rate of change of the composite index after a deceleration in the previous quarter.

The manufacturing division and the transportation, communication, storage and utility division were responsible for most of the quarterly increase in MEPI, both with 1.0% changes; the index for construction division also increased by 1.0%. On a year-over-year basis, forestry showed the largest increase at 3.8%, however it has little influence on

MEPI due to its small weight. The manufacturing division, and transportation, communication, storage and utility divisions were also responsible for most of the year-over-year increase in MEPI, with index changes of 3.5% and 2.7%; also important were agriculture division (3.4%), and community, business and personal services division (3.1%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2023, 2024 and 2025.

First quarter 1990 estimates for MEPI were previously released on a 1971 time base with a 1971 basket or weighting pattern. This marks the first release of 1986 = 100 MEPI series. They incorporate expenditure weights representing average purchases of new machinery and equipment by industries for the years 1979-83, expressed in 1986 prices. Because these series are based on an updated 1979-83 basket, their quarterly movements differ from those of the 1971 = 100 series.

More information on the new series will be available in the second quarter 1990 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$18/\$72), which 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. □

Machinery and Equipment Price Indexes

(1986 = 100)

	Relative Importance ¹	Index			Percent Change	
		1 st Q 1990	4 th Q 1989	1 st Q. 1989	1 st Q. 1990/ 4 th Q. 1989	1 st Q. 1990/ 1 st Q. 1989
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	100.0	104.0	103.3	100.9	0.7	3.1
SIC DIVISIONS						
1. Agriculture	11.0	111.3	111.3	107.6	0.0	3.4
2. Forestry	1.5	109.5	108.8	105.5	0.6	3.8
3. Fishing	0.6	103.4	103.6	101.1	-0.2	2.3
4. Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells	6.0	99.8	99.2	97.3	0.6	2.6
5. Manufacturing	29.9	104.6	103.6	101.1	1.0	3.5
6. Construction	3.5	99.5	98.5	97.3	1.0	2.3
7. Transportation, Communication, Storage and Utilities	25.9	102.4	101.4	99.7	1.0	2.7
8. Trade	4.0	104.1	103.6	100.7	0.5	3.4
9. Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	102.1	102.0	99.4	0.1	2.7
10. Community, Business and Personal Services	11.1	102.6	102.5	99.5	0.1	3.1
11. Public Administration	4.7	103.0	102.4	100.2	0.6	2.8

* These indexes are preliminary

¹ Division weights are based on 1979-83 value of capitalized expenditures on new machinery and equipment by industry (Survey of Private and Public Investment in Canada, 1986) at 1986 prices

Local Government Employment and Remuneration

March 1990

Highlights

Employment

- Local government employment increased by 3.9% or 12,000 employees since March 1989, to a total of 329,000 employees. This is a continuation of the upward trend that began in March 1985.
- Most of the employment increase (86%) took place in municipalities with a population of more than 10,000. Three provinces, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia accounted for much of the increase which took place chiefly in their Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs).
- Employment in Census Metropolitan Areas has increased by 15% since March 1985. For the period March 1985 to March 1990, employment in Ontario CMAs had the largest growth at 20%.

Note to Users

For local government employment purposes, the universe is defined as including municipalities, boards, commissions and conservation authorities but excluding schools, hospitals and local government business enterprises.

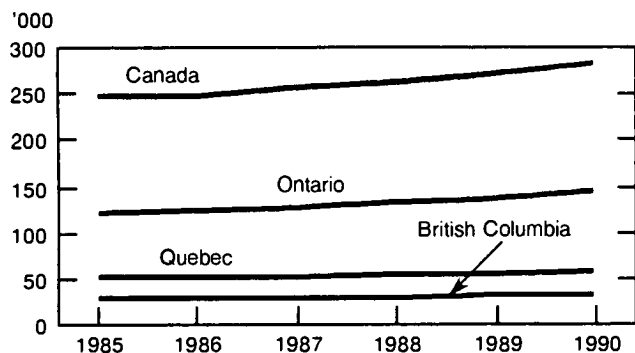
A Census Metropolitan Area is defined as the main labour market area of an urban area (the urbanized core) of at least 100,000 population, based on the previous census.

Total remuneration is defined as all monies paid to employees during the month before any deductions for income tax, pension plans, unemployment insurance, etc. but excluding supplementary income payments for employer contributions to pension and medical plans or other benefits.

Comparative rates of growth for British Columbia and Quebec were 12% and 8%, respectively, over the same five-year period.

- In Ontario, most of the increase in employment occurred in Toronto, with a five-year growth of 22% or 11,000 employees and Ottawa (21%) or 2,300 employees. In Quebec, the employment growth was principally in Montreal with a five-year

Chart 1
Employment in Municipalities over 10,000 population



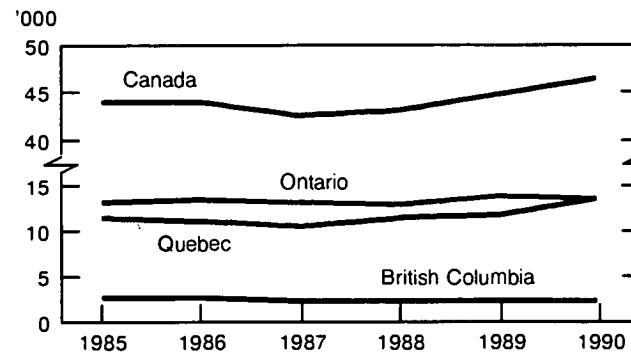
increase of 7% or 2,500 employees. For British Columbia, the increase in employment took place in Vancouver with a five-year growth of 11% or 1,900 employees.

- Local government employment in municipalities with populations greater than 10,000 has increased continuously since 1985. Employment in this group has increased 15% between March 1985 and March 1990.
- For small municipalities, employment has increased 6.3% since March 1985. This lower rate of increase, as compared to municipalities over 10,000, is due to decreases in employment during the March 1985 to March 1987 period. This was followed by employment increases in the ensuing three years.
- Local government employment represents 2.7% of the total employed labour force in Canada.

Remuneration

- Total remuneration for local governments for the March 1990 quarter was estimated at \$2.4 billion. The quarterly March gross payroll for local government employees has grown steadily over

Chart 2
Employment in Municipalities under 10,000 population



the past five years. Since March 1985, total remuneration, including retroactive payments, and all other special payments, increased by \$666.3 million or 39%.

- Total local government remuneration amounted to 26% of the estimated total for the three levels of government and 3% of total salaries and wages for all industries in Canada.

Available on CANSIM: local government employment and remuneration data by month, by province and territory, are located in matrix 2725. Employment and remuneration data for municipalities over 10,000 population by metropolitan and major urban area are located in matrix 2726.

For further information on this release, contact Mahed Fathy (613-951-1843) or Peter Dudley (613-951-1851), Public Institutions Division.

Data are available through standard tables and special tabulations on request. For further information or general information on products and services of the Public Institutions Division, please contact Patricia Phillips, Data Dissemination, (613-951-0767) or FAX (613-951-0661). ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cement

June 1990

Canadian manufacturers shipped 1 230 130 tonnes of cement in June 1990, a decrease of 10.1% from the 1 368 946 tonnes shipped a year earlier, but an increase of 9.3% over the 1 125 776 tonnes shipped in May 1990.

January to June 1990 shipments reached 5 004 050 tonnes, down 3.6% from the 5 192 270 tonnes shipped during the same period in 1989.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 and 122 (series 35).

The June 1990 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

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

Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products

Second Quarter 1990

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products totalled \$11.5 million for the second quarter 1990, a decrease of 5.3% from the \$12.1 million shipped during the second quarter of 1989.

Manufacturers' shipments of Canadian made solid fuel-burning heating products are now available, as are data on the number of units shipped.

The 1990 Second Quarter issue of *Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products* (25-002, \$4.75/\$19) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Bruno Pépin (613-951-9837), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, June 1990.

Catalogue number 32-024

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

Gypsum products, June 1990.

Catalogue number 44-003

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

Security Transactions with Non-residents, May 1990.

Catalogue number 67-002

(Canada: \$15.80/\$158.00; United States: US\$19.00/US\$190.00; Other Countries: US\$22.10/US\$221.00).

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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.

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	May 1990	July 27, 1990
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Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics	May 1990	July 10, 1990
Railroad Rolling Stock Industry	1988 Annual Survey of Manufactures	July 20, 1990
Railway Carloadings	May 1990	July 6, 1990
	Seven-day Period Ending June 21, 1990	July 6, 1990
	Nine-day Period Ending June 30, 1990	July 10, 1990
	Seven-day Period Ending July 7, 1990	July 19, 1990



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Railway Freight Origin and Destination	1988	July 13, 1990
Railway Operating Statistics	February 1990	July 3, 1990
	March 1990	July 10, 1990
Raw Materials Price Index	June 1990	July 31, 1990
Research and Development		
Expenditures, Industrial	1981 to 1990	July 6, 1990
Retail Chain and Department Stores	1988	July 24, 1990
Retail Trade	May 1990	July 20, 1990
Rigid Insulating Board	June 1990	July 31, 1990
Sawmills East of the Rockies	May 1990	July 25, 1990
Sawmills in British Columbia	May 1990	July 23, 1990
Security Transactions with Non-residents	May 1990	July 26, 1990
Soft Drinks	June 1990	July 18, 1990
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Steel Exports	June 1990	July 17, 1990
Steel Industries, Other Primary	1988 Annual Survey of Manufactures	July 6, 1990
Steel Pipe and Tubing	May 1990	July 11, 1990
Steel, Primary Forms	May 1990	July 12, 1990
Steel Primary Forms (Steel Ingots)	Week Ending June 30, 1990	July 6, 1990
	Week Ending July 7, 1990	July 12, 1990
	Week Ending July 14, 1990	July 19, 1990
Steel, Shipments of Rolled	May 1990	July 16, 1990
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products	May 1990	July 10, 1990
	June 1990	July 31, 1990
Sugar Sales	June 1990	July 9, 1990
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International Merchandise	May 1990	July 17, 1990
Travel Between Canada		
and Other Countries	May 1990	July 13, 1990
Unemployment Insurance Statistics	May 1990	July 25, 1990
Urban Transit and Passenger Bus Statistics	May 1990	July 9, 1990
Vegetables and Fruits, Processed	March 1990	July 9, 1990
	April 1990	July 18, 1990
	May 1990	July 27, 1990
Waferboard and Fibreboard, Particleboard	May 1990	July 11, 1990
Wage and Salary Earners - Canada		
and Provinces	1988	July 20, 1990
Wholesale Trade	May 1990	July 23, 1990