



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, November 4, 1991

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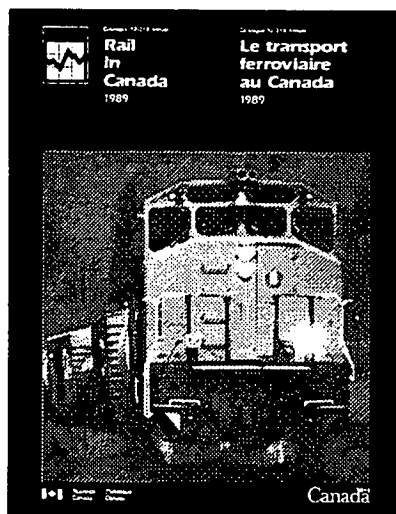
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- **Canadian Composite Leading Indicator, August 1991** 3
The leading indicator registered the same growth in August as in July (1%); this was the fifth straight increase.

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Rail in Canada 1989

This annual publication provides information relating to the size and structure of the Canadian railway transportation industry. Informative graphs, charts and tables help highlight trends in freight tonnage carried, freight transfers, commodities hauled, passengers transported and origin and destination of cargo movements.

In addition to freight traffic operations, the publication's coverage includes total revenue and expenses, subsidies, assets and employment in the railway industry.

In 1989, the rail industry generated \$7.4 billion in total operating revenues, and transported about 247 million tonnes of freight and 31 million passengers. It provided employment to some 75,000 employees.

Rail in Canada, 1989 (52-216, \$45) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Yasmin Sheikh (613-951-2518), Transportation Division.



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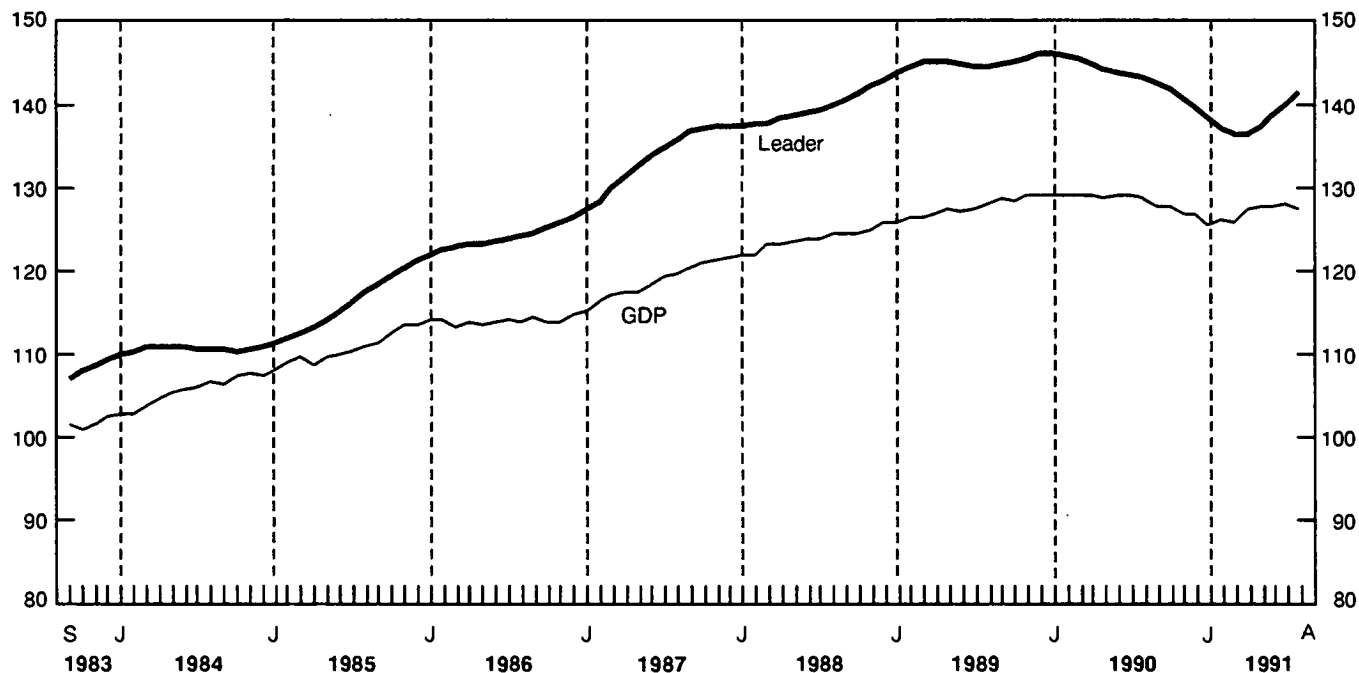
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Composite Leading Indicator and GDP

1981 = 100



Canadian Composite Leading Indicator

August 1991

The leading indicator rose by 1% in August, the same rate of growth as in July, with all 10 components up in both months. Household spending slowed, however, which checked the overall growth rate. Manufacturing demand firmed as a result of rising exports. The steady growth in the leading indicators suggests that the drop in GDP in August does not necessarily signal a renewed downward trend in the economy.

The growth of household demand decelerated in August, as employment weakened and as strikes intensified late in the month. The housing index saw growth cut in half, from 6.1% in July to 3.1%, as housing starts fell while sales of existing homes dropped sharply again in August. Furniture and appliance sales rose for the second consecutive

month, up only 0.4%. Sales of other durable goods slowed due to a drop in car purchases following the expiry of rebates in July and the introduction of the "gas guzzler" tax in Ontario.

After slackening in July, the growth of new orders for durable goods picked up again in August to 1.8%. This was the strongest increase since early in 1988. Growth spread from the construction and motor vehicle industries, which led the initial recovery, to industries related to business investment both here and abroad. Rising shipments accompanied a further drop in inventories, raising the ratio of shipments to stocks by a significant amount in August. The average workweek posted a second straight increase, leading up to a 1.1% jump in manufacturing employment in September.

The Toronto stock market price index rose less rapidly, while the real money supply (M1) edged up by only 0.1%.

The U.S. leading indicator also stopped its recent acceleration, gaining 0.7% in both July and August. After uninterrupted increases since February, the unsmoothed index was flat in August due to weakness in household demand and labour markets. Industrial production was little changed in the United States in August and September, although real GNP recorded a 0.6% gain for the third quarter as a whole.

For further information on this release, or about the next release dates, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Division.

For more information on the economy, order the November issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$22/\$220), available the week of November 18-22. See "How to Order Publications".

Canadian Leading Indicators

	Percentage Change			Level	
	June	July	August	July	August
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)					
Smoothed	0.9	1.0	1.0	140.1	141.5
Unsmoothed	0.3	0.8	0.2	143.9	144.2
Retail trade					
Furniture and appliance sales	0.0	0.2	0.4	981 ⁴	985 ⁴
Other durable goods sales	1.0	1.2	0.4	3,576 ⁴	3,589 ⁴
Housing index¹	6.3	6.1	3.1	124.4	128.2
Manufacturing					
New orders - durables	1.7	1.2	1.8	8,731 ⁴	8,884 ⁴
Shipment to inventory ratio - (finished goods) ²	0.02	0.02	0.03	1.38	1.41
Average workweek (hours)	0.0	0.3	0.3	37.7	37.8
Business and personal services employment (thousands)	0.3	0.2	0.5	1,776	1,785
United States composite leading index (1967 = 100)	0.5	0.7	0.7	189.8	191.2
TSE300 stock price index (1975 = 1000)	1.4	1.2	0.8	3,479	3,508
Money supply (M1) (\$1981)³	0.0	0.1	0.1	23,872 ⁴	23,900 ⁴

¹ Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (MLS).

² Difference from previous month.

³ Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.

⁴ Millions of 1981 dollars.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coal and Coke Statistics

August 1991

Highlights

- Canadian production of coal totalled 6 047 kilotonnes in August 1991, up 8.1% from the corresponding month last year. The year-to-date production figure stood at 46 824 kilotonnes, up 3.0%.
- Exports in August rose 31.6% from August 1990 to 3 054 kilotonnes while imports increased 6.8% to 1 412 kilotonnes. Cumulative figures for the year 1991 show exports of 22 553 kilotonnes, 6.6% above last year's level.
- Coke production increased to 335 kilotonnes, a difference of 47.4% from August 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The August 1991 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, \$10/\$100) will be available the first week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances

September 1991

Canadian electrical appliance manufacturers produced 87,650 kitchen appliances in September 1991, up 5.1% from the 83,363 appliances produced a year earlier.

Year-to-date production of kitchen appliances amounted to 614,026. Corresponding data for the same period in 1990 amounted to 655,995 units.

Data on home comfort products for September 1991 are also now available.

The September 1991 issue of *Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances* (43-003, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-951-3526), Industry Division. ■

Electric Power Statistics

August 1991

Highlights

- Net generation of electric energy in Canada in August 1991 increased to 38 844 gigawatt hours (GWh), up 6.3% from the corresponding month last year. Exports increased 48.5% to 3 078 GWh, while imports decreased from 1 209 GWh to 343 GWh.
- Year-to-date figures for 1991 show net generation at 323 003 GWh, up 5.6% over the previous year's period. Exports, at 14 483 GWh, were up 38.2%, while imports, at 4 668 GWh, were down 66.4%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The August 1991 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$9/\$90) will be available the first week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

Bread and Other Bakery Products Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the bread and other bakery products industry (SIC 1072) totalled \$1,782.2 million, up 5.0% from \$1,697.7 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5392.

The data for this industry will be released in *Food Industries* (32-250, \$35).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

Men's and Boys' Coat Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the men's and boys' coat industry (SIC 2431) totalled \$314.0 million, up 7.6% from \$291.9 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5440.

The data for this industry will be released in *Clothing Industries* (34-252, \$35).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Andy Shinnan (613-951-3510), Industry Division. ■

Children's Clothing Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the children's clothing industry (SIC 2451) totalled \$478.5 million, up 5.3% from \$454.5 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5450.

The data for this industry will be released in *Clothing Industries* (34-252, \$35).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Andy Shinnan (613-951-3510), Industry Division. ■

Prefabricated Wooden Buildings Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the prefabricated wooden buildings industry (SIC 2541) totalled \$510.3 million, up 14.6% from \$445.2 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5463.

The data for this industry will be released in *Wood Industries* (35-250, \$49).

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

Coated and Treated Paper Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the coated and treated paper industry (SIC 2791) totalled \$614.0 million, up 4.3% from \$588.6 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5492.

The data for this industry will be released in *Paper and Allied Products Industries* (36-250, \$35).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613- 951-3531), Industry Division. ■

Paper Consumer Products Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the paper consumer products industry (SIC 2793) totalled \$548.8 million, up 12.5% from \$487.8 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5494.

The data for this industry will be released in *Paper and Allied Products Industries* (36-250, \$35).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613- 951-3531), Industry Division. ■

Pre-engineered Metal Building Industry (Except Portable)

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the pre-engineered metal building industry (except portable) (SIC 3023) totalled \$436.5 million, down 5.0% from \$459.4 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5519.

The data for this industry will be released in *Fabricated Metal Products Industries* (41-251, \$35).

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

Prefabricated Portable Metal Buildings Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the prefabricated portable metal buildings industry (SIC 3032) totalled \$91.1 million, up 3.7% from \$87.9 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5522.

The data for this industry will be released in *Fabricated Metal Products Industries* (41-251, \$35).

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

Custom Coating of Metal Products Industry

1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures

In 1989, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the custom coating of metal products industry (SIC 3041) totalled \$915.9 million, up 7.5% from \$851.7 million in 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5524.

The data for this industry will be released in *Fabricated Metal Products Industries* (41-251, \$35).

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

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

The Sugar Situation, September 1991.

Catalogue number 32-013

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, September 1991.

Catalogue number 32-024

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Rigid Insulating Board, September 1991.

Catalogue number 36-002

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Primary Iron and Steel, August 1991.

Catalogue number 41-001

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Gypsum Products, September 1991.

Catalogue number 44-003

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, September 1991.

Catalogue number 44-004

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Asphalt Roofing, September 1991.

Catalogue number 45-001

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Refined Petroleum and Coal Products Industries, 1988.

Catalogue number 45-250

(Canada: \$35; United States: US\$42; Other Countries: US\$49).

Summary of Canadian International Trade, August 1991.

Catalogue number 65-001

(Canada: \$18.20/\$182; United States: US\$21.80/US\$218; Other Countries: US\$25.50/US\$255).

Rail in Canada, 1989.

Catalogue number 52-216

(Canada: \$45; United States: US\$54; Other Countries: US\$63).

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