



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, November 6, 1991

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## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Large Company Capital Expenditures Survey, 1990-1993** 2  
A survey of 300 of the largest companies in Canada reveals that their capital spending in Canada is expected to advance by 5.1% to \$43.4 billion in current dollars in 1992, but then to decline by about 3.7% to \$41.8 billion in 1993.
- **Help-wanted Index, October 1991** 3  
The Help-wanted Index decreased two points to 70 in October.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, September 1991 4
- Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns, August 1991 4

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 5

## REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES 6



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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Large Company Capital Expenditures Survey

1990-1993

A survey of 300 of the largest companies in Canada reveals that their capital spending in Canada is expected to advance by 5.1 % to \$43.4 billion in current dollars in 1992, and then to decline by about 3.7 % to \$41.8 billion in 1993.

For 1992, the largest contribution to the overall advance is expected to come from energy industries, with their expenditures rising by \$1.3 billion or 6.3%. Growth is also expected for machinery and equipment manufacturers (\$0.5 billion, or 14.2%), transportation services (\$0.2 billion, or 13.0%) and communications (\$0.2 billion, or 4.0%).

These expected increases are only slightly offset by decreases in construction and related activities (\$0.2 billion, or 14.6%) and in consumer goods and services (\$0.1 billion, or 17.5%).

For 1993, the decline in intended capital spending is concentrated in energy industries, where outlays are projected to fall by \$1.4 billion or 6.3%. Decreases are also expected in machinery and equipment (\$0.3 billion or 8.7%) and in construction and related activities (\$0.2 billion or 17.0%).

On average, firms in the survey reported that they expect inflation to be at a level of 4.0 % in both 1992 and 1993. After adjusting for the expected price change, real growth in investment would be about 1.0 % in 1992 followed by a real decline in 1993 of about 7.4%.

#### Note to Users

This is a survey of the capital expenditures of the 300 largest corporations, based only on the value of their fixed assets without regard to their industrial classification. It should, therefore, be noted that coverage by industry varies. However, for many industries, coverage is at least 50% in 1990, and in total, responding firms account for approximately 50% of total spending.

While the spending plans of these large corporations do not perfectly reflect the intentions of all businesses, they do give an indication of what the direction of change might be. Moreover, the intentions of this group of corporations can be made available some four months in advance of those for all businesses. This year's survey was conducted during August and September. Investment intentions for the total economy will be released on February 27, 1992 when data are published in the report Private and Public Investment in Canada: Intentions 1992 (61-205, \$30).

Firms reporting net investment outside Canada indicated that their actual level of spending abroad in 1990 was \$4.6 billion and that they plan to spend \$3.4 billion in 1991, \$3.5 billion in 1992 and \$3.4 billion in 1993.

For more information on this release, contact Richard Landry (613-951-2579) or Susanna Wood (613-951-0655), Investment and Capital Stock Division. Regional reference centres may also be contacted.

### Capital Expenditures of Large Companies<sup>1</sup>

Industry <sup>2</sup>	Actual outlay 1990	Estimated outlay 1991	Intended outlay 1992	Intended outlay 1993	1991/90 % Change	1992/91 % Change	1993/92 % Change
(Current \$, Millions)							
Food, beverage and tobacco	758	821	778	805	8.3	-5.2	3.5
Wood and paper	2,698	1,727	1,717	1,822	-36.0	-0.6	6.1
Chemicals, chemical products and textiles	994	1,053	1,072	1,123	5.9	1.8	4.7
Metallic minerals and metal products	3,958	2,637	2,666	2,674	-33.4	1.1	0.3
Machinery and equipment <sup>3</sup>	3,354	3,403	3,887	3,548	1.5	14.2	-8.7
Energy	16,567	21,207	22,535	21,111	28.0	6.3	-6.3
Construction and related activities	2,166	1,524	1,301	1,079	-29.6	-14.6	-17.0
Transportation services	1,576	1,907	2,155	2,240	21.0	13.0	3.9
Communications	5,606	4,968	5,168	5,183	-11.4	4.0	0.3
Finance and insurance	1,033	1,094	1,187	1,329	5.9	8.5	11.9
Food retailing	310	257	364	299	-17.1	41.8	-18.0
Consumer goods and services	615	716	591	603	16.4	-17.5	2.1
<b>Total all industries</b>	<b>39,635</b>	<b>41,314</b>	<b>43,421</b>	<b>41,816</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>-3.7</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only those firms which reported for the years 1990 to 1993 inclusive have been included in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Classification based on 1980 Standard Industrial Classification for Companies and Enterprises (12-570), reflecting vertical integration of businesses rather than homogeneous industrial activities.

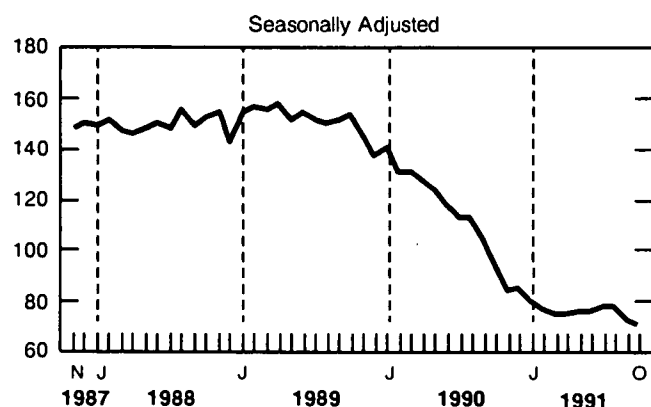
<sup>3</sup> Also includes the transportation equipment and the electrical and electronic products industry sectors.

## Help-wanted Index

October 1991

The Help-wanted Index serves as an early indicator of the demand for labour by monitoring changes in the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 major metropolitan areas.

### Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)



### Highlights – Seasonally Adjusted

- After reaching a peak of 157 in April 1989, the Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) started a decline which accelerated in 1990. In

1991, the downtrend slowed and the index stabilized at 75 in the second quarter. A rise at the start of the third quarter was followed by decreases in September (to 72 from 77) and October (to 70).

### Changes by Region

- Between September and October 1991, the Help-wanted Index decreased 11% in British Columbia (to 72 from 81) and 3% in the Atlantic provinces (to 106 from 109). The index declined one point to 66 in Ontario while it remained unchanged at 82 in Quebec. In the Prairie provinces, the index rose 4% (to 49 from 47).
- Compared with October 1990, the Help-wanted Index was lower in all regions: down 31% in the Prairie provinces, 26% in British Columbia, 25% in Quebec, 24% in Ontario, and 23% in the Atlantic provinces.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 5 and 7).

Since January 1991, only seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Indices have been released in *The Daily*. Users interested in trend-cycle estimates, or indices for selected metropolitan areas, please contact Carole Lacroix-McCann (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division (FAX: 613-951-4087).

### Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100) – Canada and Regions

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
Seasonally Adjusted						
<b>1990</b>						
October	94	138	109	87	71	97
November	84	124	99	74	69	93
December	85	135	96	77	68	87
<b>1991</b>						
January	79	117	88	73	63	85
February	76	120	84	70	57	79
March	74	114	78	71	56	78
April	74	107	86	67	55	80
May	75	118	89	66	52	78
June	75	109	82	70	53	82
July	77	104	86	74	51	85
August	77	114	83	74	54	82
September	72	109	82	67	47	81
October	70	106	82	66	49	72

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

September 1991

Factory shipments of steel wire and specified wire products for September 1991 are now available, as are production and export market data for selected commodities.

Shipments totalled 58 085 tonnes in September 1991, an increase of 4.1% from the 55 819<sup>r</sup> (revised) tonnes shipped during the previous month.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).**

The September 1991 issue of *Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products* (41-006, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

### Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns

August 1991

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled \$1,537 million for August 1991, a decrease of 6.3% from the \$1,640 million reported for the same period of last year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 52.**

The August 1991 issue of *Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns* (63-011, \$6.10/\$61) will be available in approximately three weeks time. See "How to Order Publications".

For detailed information on this release, contact William Birbeck, Services, Science and Technology Division (613-951-3506). ■

**The  
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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Provincial Gross Domestic Product by Industry,**  
1984-1990.

**Catalogue number 15-203**

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

**Other Manufacturing Industries, 1988.**

**Catalogue number 47-250**

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

**Railway Carloadings, August 1991.**

**Catalogue number 52-001**

(Canada: \$8.30/\$83; United States: US\$10/US\$100;  
Other Countries: US\$11.60/US\$116).

**Industry Price Indexes, August 1991.**

**Catalogue number 62-011**

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

**Department Store Monthly Sales by Province and  
Metropolitan Area, August 1991.**

**Catalogue number 63-004**

(Canada: \$2.70/\$27; United States: US\$3.20/US\$32;  
Other Countries: US\$3.80/US\$38).

**Canada's International Transactions in Securities,**  
August 1991.

**Catalogue number 67-002**

(Canada: \$15.80/\$158; United States:  
US\$19/US\$190; Other Countries: US\$22.10/US\$221).

**Estimates of Labour Income, April-June 1991.**

**Catalogue number 72-005**

(Canada: \$22.50/\$90; United States: US\$27/US\$108;  
Other Countries: US\$31.50/US\$126).

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The Daily, November 6, 1991

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Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from Statistics Canada's computerized data retrieval systems CANSIM and Telichart. A telephone inquiry service is also available with toll free numbers for regional clients outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services – from seminars to consultations – are offered. Call or write your regional reference centre for information.

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