

Wednesday, December 18, 1991

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MAJOR RELEASE

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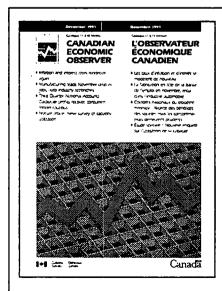
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Income Distributions by Size in Canada, 1990

Average family income in 1990 was an estimated \$51,633, down 1.6% from 1989 after adjustment for inflation as measured by changes in the consumer price index. The 1990 decline reverses a six-year upward trend.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Canadian Economic Observer

December 1991

The December issue of the Canadian Economic Observer, Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, is now available.

The December issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic and statistical events in November, the third quarter national accounts, and a feature article on new survey estimates of capacity utilization. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and major industrial nations.

The Canadian Economic Observer \$22/\$220) can now be ordered from Publication Sales (613-951-7277). For more information, call Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Analysis Section.

MAJOR RELEASE

Income Distributions by Size in Canada

1990

Average family income in 1990 was an estimated \$51,633, down 1.6% from 1989 after adjustment for inflation as measured by changes in the consumer price index. The 1990 decline reverses a six-year upward trend.

Coincident with the decline in average family income there was an increase in the size of the low income population: the proportion of persons below Statistics Canada's low income cut-offs increased to 14.6% in 1990 from 13.6% in 1989. There were an estimated 3,821,000 low income persons, up from 3,487,000 the previous year.

Highlights

- The decline in real income (inflation adjusted) in 1990 was widespread among various types of families. Both non-elderly and elderly families suffered income reductions. Among non-elderly families, the most notable losses were for those with male heads less than 25 years of age (down 10.9% to \$32,387), for female lone-parent families (down 7.3% to \$21,961) and for two-parent families with one earner (down 6.9% to \$41,129).
- The average number of earners per family dropped to 1.75 in 1990 from 1.80 in 1989. This downward shift was similar to the one witnessed during the recession of the early 1980s.
- There were an estimated 1,013,000 children living in families with incomes under the low income cut-offs in 1990, an increase of 150,000 children over the previous year. As a result, the low

income rate for children rose to 17.4% in 1990 from 15.0% in 1989. Children represented 26.5% of the total low income population, up from 24.8%. In contrast, the low income rate for elderly persons continued its declining trend in 1990, decreasing to 19.3% from 21.4% a year earlier.

- Female lone-parent families continued to have a low income rate substantially higher than those of other types of families. Their 1990 rate of 60.6% also showed an increase, up from 52.9% in 1989.
- Families headed by persons under the age of 25 had a 1990 low income rate of 38.4%, up from 28.0% in 1989.

These estimates were prepared from data collected by the Survey of Consumer Finances, a supplement to the April 1991 Labour Force Survey (approximately 45,000 households). The sample excludes the institutional population and households in the Yukon and Northwest Territories and on Indian reserves.

Income Distributions by Size in Canada, 1990, (13-207, \$40) is now available. See "How to Order Publications". For more information concerning these data or on the availability of special request tabulations, contact the Income and Housing Surveys Section (613-951-9775), Household Surveys Division.

Microdata tapes containing information on the 1990 incomes of economic families and of individuals aged 15 years and over, along with sociodemographic characteristics, will be released later. These tapes have been carefully reviewed to ensure that they do not contain information that would allow identification of specific households, families or individuals. The tapes can be ordered by contacting the Household Surveys Division.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canadian Civil Aviation Statistics

October 1991

Preliminary monthly operational data for October 1991 reported by Canadian Level I air carriers on scheduled services show that domestic passenger-kilometres increased by 0.3% while international passenger-kilometres decreased by 11.7% from October 1990.

Available now on CANSIM: matrix 385.

Preliminary civil aviation data for October 1991 will be published in the January issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$9.30/\$93). See "How to Order Publications". For more information on this release, contact Bradley Snider (819-997-6195), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

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

October 1991

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 2 814 100 cubic metres of lumber and ties in October 1991, a decrease of 4.0% from the 2 930 500 cubic metres produced in October 1990.

January to October 1991 production was 26 590 700 cubic metres, a decrease of 7.1% from the 28 633 400 cubic metres produced over the same period in 1990.

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

The October 1991 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.

Soft Drinks

November 1991

Data on soft drinks for November 1991 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 196.

The publication *Monthly Production of Soft Drinks* (32-001,\$2.70/\$27) will be released at a later date. For further information contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

The Daily

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

The Canadian Economic Observer,

December 1991.

Catalogue number 11-010

(Canada: \$22; United States: US\$26;

Other Countries: US\$31).

Income Distribution by Size in Canada, 1990.

Catalogue number 13-207

(Canada: \$40; United States: US\$48;

Other Countries: US\$56).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, October 1991. Catalogue number 31-001

(Canada: \$17.30/\$173; United States: US\$20.80/US\$208; Other Countries:

US\$24.20/US\$242).----

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products,

October 1991.

Catalogue number 41-006

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Electric Lamps, November 1991.

Catalogue number 43-009

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Railway Carloadings, October 1991.

Catalogue number 52-001

(Canada: \$8.30/\$83; United States: US\$10/US\$100;

Other Countries: US\$11.60/US\$116).

Gas Utilities, August 1991. Catalogue number 55-002

(Canada: \$12.70/\$127; United States: US\$15.20/ US\$152; Other Countries: US\$17.80/US\$178).

Canada's International Transactions in

Securities, September 1991. Catalogue number 67-002

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

The Labour Force, November 1991.

Catalogue number 71-001

(Canada: \$17.90/\$179; United States: US\$21.50/US\$215; Other Countries: US\$25.10/US\$251).

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.



How to Order Publications

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7277.

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). Canadian customers, please remember to add 7% Goods and Services Tax. 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 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.