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Statistics Canada

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- **Help-wanted Index, November 1991** 3
In November, the Help-wanted Index remained unchanged from the previous month at 70.

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RRSP and Investment Statistics 1990

The 1990 edition of the RRSP and Investment Statistics Database, offering access to an impressive collection of data on Canadian investment characteristics for close to 24,000 postal areas, is now available.

The database contains data on some 44 variables, including amounts and sources of RRSP contributions, demographic characteristics of Canadian savers and investors, and income derived from savings and investments. This will be of particular interest to the financial services community as it provides key financial market data for small geographical areas.

The package is available in print form, on diskette and magnetic tape. It can be purchased for Canada, for each province or by postal area.

For further information, see page 2 of today's *DAILY* or contact the Small Area and Administrative Data Division (613-951-9720).



MAJOR RELEASES

RRSP and Investment Statistics

1990

Highlights

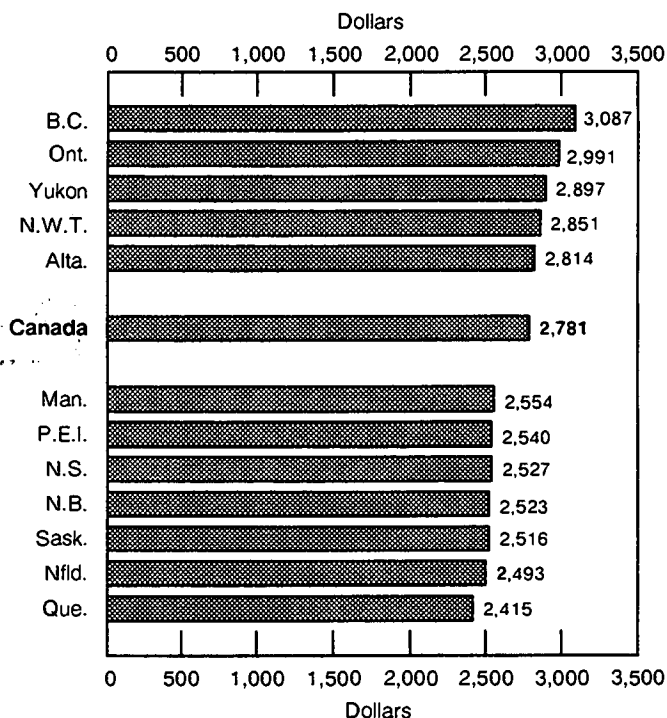
RRSPS

- For the 1990 tax year, over four million Canadians deposited more than \$11.2 billion into registered retirement-savings plans (RRSPs), a decrease of 15.8% or \$2.1 billion from 1989. Nearly 100,000 fewer Canadian tax filers made an RRSP contribution in 1990, a decline of 2.4% from the previous year.
- The average age of the RRSP purchaser at the national level was 42. The province or territory with the lowest average age of contributor was the Northwest Territories (36 years of age).
- While British Columbia ranked third in terms of the number of tax filers reporting RRSP contributions in 1990, it ranked first for the average size of contribution at \$3,087. This is 11% higher than the national average of \$2,781.
- The Northwest Territories recorded the highest percentage increase in the number of individuals contributing to an RRSP in 1990 (2.9%). Other increases were also recorded in Alberta (1.8%), the Yukon (1.7%), Prince Edward Island (1.0%), Newfoundland (0.6%) and New Brunswick (0.5%).
- All the other provinces recorded a decrease in the number of individuals contributing to an RRSP. However, Ontario, which posted the sharpest drop among all the provinces and territories, with a decrease of 4.6%, is also the only province in Canada which recorded a decrease that was lower than the national percentage drop of -2.4%.

Investors

- For the 1990 tax year, nearly 1.4 million people reported dividend income. The sum of their dividends plus interest income amounted to \$15.8 billion, a decrease of nearly \$166 million from 1989.
- The number of individuals receiving dividends declined by 6.7%. At the provincial level, the largest decrease was recorded in Quebec (-8.5%), followed by Ontario (-7.9%) and Alberta (-7.0%).

Average Contribution to RRSPs, 1990



- The highest percentages of tax filers reporting dividend income in 1990 were 8.9% (9.7% in 1989) in Ontario, 8.7% (9.5%) in British Columbia and 8.6% (9.3%) in Alberta.

Savers

- A total of 7.9 million people, or 44% of all tax filers in Canada, reported interest income for the 1990 tax year. The total amount reported reached \$21.9 billion, an increase of \$3.4 billion (18.6%) over the 1989 tax year.
- Saskatchewan recorded the highest proportion of savers at 50.5% of taxfilers, while the Northwest Territories was the lowest at 25.2%. Quebec showed the highest increase in the number of savers compared with 1989 at 9.2%. Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Newfoundland all showed increases exceeding 7.5%.

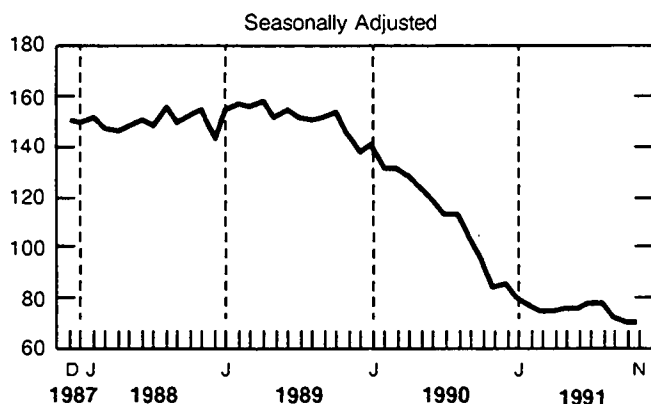
For further information on this release, please contact the Small Area and Administrative Data Division (613-951-9721). ■

Help-wanted Index

November 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 trend slowed and the index reached 75 in the second quarter. After increasing to 77 in July, the index then declined in September and October, and remained unchanged at 70 in November.

Changes by Region:

- Between October and November 1991, the Help-wanted Index increased 6.1% in Quebec (to 87 from 82) and 4.1% in the Prairie provinces (to 51 from 49). The index remained unchanged at 72 in British Columbia, and it decreased 6.6% in the Atlantic provinces (to 99 from 106) and 4.5% in Ontario (to 63 from 66).
- Compared with November 1990, the Help-wanted Index was lower in all regions: down 26% in the Prairie provinces, 23% in British Columbia, 20% in the Atlantic provinces, 15% in Ontario, and 12% in Quebec.

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 (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division (FAX: 613-951-4087). □

Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100), Canada and Regions – Seasonally Adjusted

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
1990						
November	84	124	99	74	69	93
December	85	135	96	77	68	87
1991						
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
November	70	99	87	63	51	72

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics

September 1991

In September 1991, a total of 73 Canadian urban transit systems with gross annual total operating revenues of \$1 million or more (subsidies included) carried 114.7 million fare passengers, an increase of 15.6% from the previous month. Operating revenues from urban and suburban services totalled \$100.3 million, up 10.4% over August 1991.

During the same period, 22 passenger bus carriers earning \$1 million or more annually from intercity and rural bus operations carried 1.0 million

fare passengers, down 31.9% from the previous month. Earnings from these operations were \$20.8 million, a 28.9% decrease from the August 1991 operating revenues.

All 1990 figures and 1991 cumulative data have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 351 and 352.

The September 1991 issue of *Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics* (53-003, \$7.10/\$71) will be available the fourth week of November. See "How to Order Publications". For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Transportation Division, K1A 0T6. ■



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The Daily, December 4, 1991

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Farm Cash Receipts, January-September 1991.

Catalogue number 21-001

(Canada: \$11/\$44; United States: US\$13.25/US\$53;
Other Countries: US\$15.50/US\$62).

**Consumption of Containers and Other Packaging
Supplies by the Manufacturing Industries, 1988.**

Catalogue number 31-212

(Canada: \$26; United States: US\$31; Other
Countries: US\$36).

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

Catalogue number 32-024

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

**Production, Sales and Stocks of Major
Appliances, October 1991.**

Catalogue number 43-010

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

**Summary of Canadian International Trade,
September 1991.**

Catalogue number 65-001

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

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