



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 22, 1991

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS

STATISTICS CANADA
STATISTIQUE CANADA
For release at 8:30 a.m.
FEB 22 1991
LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

MAJOR RELEASES

- **The Consumer Price Index, January 1991**
In January, the CPI year-to-year increase was 6.8%, up from the 5.0% reported in December. 2
- **Wholesale Trade, December 1990** 9
Wholesale merchants' sales totalled \$13.5 billion in December 1990, a decrease of 5.5% from a year earlier.
- **International Travel Account, Fourth Quarter and Annual 1990** 11
Unadjusted for seasonal variation, Canada's travel account posted a deficit of \$1.2 billion during the fourth quarter of 1990. Preliminary estimates for the year showed the deficit reached a record level of \$4.5 billion.
- **Court Services in Canada, 1988-89** 13
A total of \$639.9 million was spent in the Canadian court system in 1988-89, of which \$603.6 million (94%) was spent in the provinces and the territories and \$36.3 million was spent in the courts of federal jurisdiction.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mineral Wool Including Glass Insulation, January 1991 14
- Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, December 1990 14
- Shipments of Office Furniture Products, Fourth Quarter 1990 14

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 15

MAJOR RELEASE DATES: February 25-March 1, 1991 16



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index

January 1991

National Highlights

Note to Users

The prices used to calculate the Consumer Price Index include all indirect taxes. In keeping with this principle, users are reminded that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) forms part of the prices used, starting with the January 1991 CPI.

All-items

The All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada increased by 2.6% between December and January to reach a level of 125.0 (1986=100). Most of this increase was associated with changes in taxes, notably the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the elimination of the Federal Sales Tax (FST). As well, Quebec lowered its provincial sales tax rate but expanded the tax base to include many items not previously taxed. Gasoline taxes, drivers' licences and vehicle registration fees were increased in several provinces. Assuming that all prices which contained FST were lowered to reflect its elimination, it is estimated that the net effect of all these tax-related changes was to increase the CPI by about 1.6% in the month of January. It therefore follows that excluding tax changes, the increase in January would be about 1%, which is of the same order of magnitude as the 0.9% monthly increase in January last year.

The major components with the largest contributions to the monthly increase were Housing (2.1%), Food (4.1%) and Clothing (6.1%), while a 0.3% rise in Transportation had a dampening effect. In the case of Food, there were tax effects for restaurant meals and increases of fruit and vegetable prices due to poor growing conditions. In the case of Clothing, the changes in the tax regime had a large impact as clothing contained very little FST and had been largely exempt from Quebec provincial sales tax.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the All-items index rose by 2.5%, up sharply from the increase of 0.2% reported for December.

The year-over-year increase in the CPI, between January 1990 and January 1991 was 6.8%, up from the 5.0% reported for both November and December.

Food

The Food index rose by 4.1% in January following a decline of 0.4% observed in December. This rise resulted from a 2.8% increase in the index for Food Purchased from Stores and an advance of 7.2% in the index for Food Purchased from Restaurants. This latter increase mainly reflected tax changes.

The increase of 2.8% in the index for Food Purchased from Stores resulted largely from higher prices for Fresh Fruit (13.3%), Fresh Vegetables (10.3%), and Soft Drinks (23.4%). Unusually cold weather in the Southwestern United States caused crop damage for both fruits and vegetables, with the California orange crop particularly hard-hit. Orange prices increased 49.9%, accounting for most of the advance in fresh fruit while the rise in fresh vegetable prices resulted from increases for several crops: lettuce 34.0%, carrots 25.7%, cabbage 11.9% and cucumbers 10.6%. Virtually all of the rise in soft drinks was due to prices returning to regular levels from extensive promotions in December.

Over the 12-month period, January 1990 to January 1991, the Food index advanced by 6.0%, up from the 4.3% rise in December. The index for Food Purchased from Stores increased 3.6%, down from 4.1% in December while the index for Food Purchased from Restaurants rose 12.1%, up from 5.2% last month.

All-items excluding Food

On a month-to-month basis, the All-items excluding Food index advanced 2.4% with the Housing (2.1%) and Clothing (6.1%) indexes providing the largest contributions.

The 2.1% increase in the Housing index resulted from advances in each of its three major components: Shelter 2.0%, Household Operations 2.6% and Furniture and Equipment 2.7%. Within Shelter, the main upward contributors were electricity (10.6%), natural gas (10.6%), fuel oil (6.7%) and homeowners' maintenance and repairs (6.1%). In addition to tax increases on these items, electricity rates rose in Ontario, Southern Alberta, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and natural gas rates increased in Southwestern Ontario and on Vancouver Island. The main sources of moderation were new house prices, property insurance, mortgage interest costs and rent. The last three of these are exempt under the GST while new house prices enter the CPI with a one-month lag.

The introduction of the GST and the changes to the Quebec Provincial Sales Tax had the greatest impact on Clothing among the seven major components. The estimated net effect of these tax changes was greater than the observed increase of 6.1% for January, indicating that clothing prices exclusive of taxes declined for the third consecutive month. The changes to the tax base for Quebec Provincial Sales Tax had a very large effect on prices in that province with the Clothing indexes in Quebec City and Montreal rising 12.9% and 12.7%, respectively.

The Private Transportation index declined 0.1% in January while the Public Transportation index rose 3.9%, resulting in an increase of 0.3% for the Transportation component. Within Private Transportation, automotive vehicle prices fell 2.7%, as a net reduction in taxes coincided with weak demand, and the Gasoline index declined 0.5%, while prices for automotive parts and maintenance and parking increased. The index for drivers' licences rose 31.2% as a result of increases in Quebec (69.2%), British Columbia (40.0%), and Prince Edward Island (50.2%) and the index for vehicle registration rose 13.4% as the same three provinces increased their rates 46.4%, 4.9% and 33.3%, respectively. Within Public Transportation, tax change accounted for most of the increase.

The Health and Personal Care index rose 4.5%. This increase resulted from increases of 1.3% for the Health Care index and 6.4% for the Personal Care index. Most health care items are either exempt¹ or zero-rated² for the GST. However, the GST and the Quebec tax changes increased prices for personal care components.

The Recreation, Reading and Education index rose 2.6%. The Recreation component increased 2.1% as the effects of the GST more than offset some seasonal declines within this index. The Reading materials index climbed 9.2%, largely reflecting both the GST and Quebec tax increases. The Education index increased 1.2%, reflecting increased costs for books and supplies.

The Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index increased 2.6% with most of this increase concentrated in the index for Served Alcoholic Drinks, which rose 7.0%. Tobacco prices increased 1.8% and alcohol for home consumption increased 0.9% as these indexes had only small effects from the tax changes.

¹ Tax-exempt supply: The final sales of these goods and services are exempt from GST and the retailer is not entitled to claim input-tax credit.

² Zero-rated supply: The GST rate on the final sales of these goods and services is zero but the retailer can claim input-tax credits.

The Consumer Price Index and Major Components (Not Seasonally Adjusted), Canada (1986 = 100)

	Indexes			Percentage change January 1991 from	
	January 1991	December 1990	January 1990	December 1990	January 1990
All-items	125.0	121.8	117.0	2.6	6.8
Food	120.9	116.1	114.1	4.1	6.0
All-items excluding food	126.0	123.0	117.7	2.4	7.1
Housing	124.0	121.4	117.5	2.1	5.5
Clothing	124.4	117.3	114.7	6.1	8.5
Transportation	122.6	122.2	114.7	0.3	6.9
Health and personal care	127.6	122.1	117.0	4.5	9.1
Recreation, reading and education	128.0	124.7	117.7	2.6	8.8
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	143.9	140.2	130.6	2.6	10.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1986	80.0	82.1	85.5		
All-items Consumer Price Index converted to 1981 = 100	165.5				

Over the 12-month period, January 1990 to January 1991, the All-items excluding Food index rose by 7.1%, up from the increase of 5.0% reported for December.

All-items excluding Food and Energy

The All-items excluding Food and Energy index increased by 2.2% in January, following a decline of 0.1% in December. Between January 1990 and January 1991, the index increased by 6.0%, compared to the increase of 4.0% observed in December.

Goods and Services

The Goods index rose 2.9% in January. Increases by durability classes were quite different, with Durable Goods declining 0.3%, Semi-durable Goods rising 6.4% and Non-durable Goods up 3.2%. The decline for durables reflected the decrease in automobile prices which accounts for more than half the expenditure on durables. The semi-durables component is dominated by clothing which accounts for over 70% of the weight, and by reading materials at 8% of the weight, and both of these indexes had large impacts from the tax changes. The largest part of non-durables, about 45%, is food for home consumption which is largely exempt from tax.

Gasoline, tobacco and alcohol account for another 25% of non-durables and the tax changes had only a small effect on these items. The Services index rose 2.6% in January. Over 50% of services, largely shelter services, are zero-rated or exempt under the GST. Services excluding shelter services rose 4.2%.

Between January 1990 and January 1991, the Goods component increased by 6.1%, up from the 4.5% rise observed in December. The Services index was up by 7.9% compared to 5.5% noted the month before.

City Highlights

Note to Users

The introduction of the Goods and Services Tax was a major factor in the increases for all the city CPIs.

Between December and January, changes in the All-items indexes for cities for which CPI's are published varied from an increase of 1.8% in Toronto to a rise of 3.8% in Charlottetown/Summerside. In Toronto, all of the seven major component indexes except Food registered increases below the national average. In Charlottetown/Summerside, five of the major component indexes had increases above the national average with the most important being Housing (fuel oil increase) and Transportation (increases for gasoline, drivers licences and vehicle registration).

Between January 1990 and January 1991, increases in the All-items indexes for cities ranged from 5.3% in Toronto to 9.3% in Charlottetown/Summerside.

Main Contributors to Monthly Changes in the All-items Index, by City

St. John's

The All-items index rose 2.7%. The Housing component contributed the largest upward impact, as increased charges were observed for fuel oil, electricity, household furnishings and equipment, and homeowners' maintenance and repairs. Local telephone charges and postal rates also advanced. Further upward pressures resulted from higher prices for clothing, restaurant meals, fresh produce and soft drinks. Prices increased for personal care supplies and services, reading materials, and alcoholic beverages served in licensed premises. Recreational expenses and gasoline prices advanced, while new car prices declined. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 7.3%.

Charlottetown/Summerside

Higher charges for fuel oil, electricity, local telephone services and postage were among the main contributors to the 3.8% rise in the All-items index. Higher prices for clothing and restaurant meals exerted a considerable upward impact. The Transportation index advanced, reflecting higher prices for drivers' licenses, vehicle registration fees, parking and gasoline. Taxi fares and vehicle maintenance and repair charges were up as well. Price increases were registered for alcoholic beverages in licensed premises, newspapers and magazines, and personal care supplies and services. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 9.3%.

Halifax

A large part of the 2.6% rise in the All-items index was concentrated in the Housing, Food and Clothing components. The Housing index reflected advances in charges for local telephone services, postage, fuel oil, electricity, homeowners' repairs and household appliances. The rise in the Food index was largely due to higher prices for restaurant meals, soft drinks and fresh produce. Increased prices for alcoholic beverages were observed, as were increased charges for personal care supplies and services. Advances in recreational expenses and prices for reading materials were noted. The Transportation index advanced, reflecting higher prices for gasoline, parking, and taxi fares. Prices for new cars declined. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 8.4%.

Saint John

The All-items index rose 3.1%. A major proportion of the upward movement occurred in the Housing index, where advances were observed in charges for fuel oil, electricity, local telephone service and postage. Household furnishings and equipment prices also advanced. A rise in the Food index had a considerable upward impact, resulting mainly from higher prices for restaurant meals, soft drinks and fresh produce. Prices advanced for clothing, reading materials, alcoholic beverages consumed in licensed premises and personal care supplies and services. Higher transportation charges, most notably for gasoline, taxi fares, and parking, were also registered. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 8.3%.

Quebec City

The 3.5% rise in the All-items index was, in part, due to a sharp rise in the Clothing index. Most of this rise was due to the elimination of the provincial sales tax exemption for clothing under \$500 and footwear under \$125. Food prices rose, particularly for restaurant meals, fresh produce and soft drinks. The Housing index rose, as advances were observed in charges for electricity, fuel oil, local telephone service, and postage. Prices for household furnishings and equipment were up. Other advances were observed in the prices of alcoholic beverages, reading materials, and personal care supplies and services. Higher transportation charges were also registered, particularly relating to vehicle registration fees, drivers' licenses, parking, highway bus travel and gasoline. Prices for new cars declined. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 8.2%.

Montreal

The All-items index rose 3.7%. A sharp rise in the Clothing index, due partly to the elimination of the provincial sales tax exemption on clothing under \$500 and footwear under \$125, was a major contributor to the overall advance. A rise in the Housing index reflected increased charges for water, fuel oil, natural gas and electricity. Higher prices for household furnishings, local telephone service and postage were also observed. Higher transportation charges, particularly for vehicle registration fees, drivers' licenses, parking, local transit fares, taxi fares and highway bus travel, also contributed to the latest change. Charges for personal care supplies and services advanced, as did prices for newspapers and magazines, cigarettes, and alcoholic beverages. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 8.2%.

Ottawa

The All-items index rose 2.6%. Increased charges for electricity, fuel oil, and natural gas were observed, along with higher prices for local telephone service, postage, and household furnishings and equipment. A rise in the Food index mainly reflected higher prices for restaurant meals, soft drinks, fresh produce, bakery products and poultry. Clothing prices rose. Higher charges were reported for vehicle maintenance and repairs, parking, local transit, taxi fares and highway bus travel. Prices for reading materials and for alcoholic beverages served in licensed premises advanced, as did charges relating to personal care services and supplies. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 6.6%.

Toronto

The All-items index rose 1.8%. The rise was concentrated in the Food and Housing components. Within Food, much of the advance was identified with higher prices for restaurant meals, soft drinks, fresh produce and chicken. The rise in the Housing index reflected increased prices for electricity, natural gas, fuel oil, household furnishings and equipment, local telephone service and postage. Higher prices for clothing and increased charges for personal care services and supplies also exerted a notable upward impact. Higher recreational expenses and increased prices for newspapers, magazines and alcoholic beverages were reported. The Transportation index declined, as lower prices for new cars and gasoline were observed. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 5.3%.

Thunder Bay

The 2.3% rise in the All-items index originated from advances in six of the seven major component indexes. Increased charges for electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and local telephone services, combined with higher prices for household furnishings and equipment and increased charges relating to homeowners' maintenance and repairs explained the rise in the Housing index. The advance in the Food index mainly reflected higher prices for restaurant meals, fresh produce and soft drinks. Higher clothing prices and increased charges for personal care supplies and services also exerted a considerable upward influence. Advances in recreational expenses and higher prices for reading materials and for served alcoholic beverages also contributed to the latest change. The Transportation index remained unchanged overall, as lower prices for new cars offset higher taxi fares and increased charges for vehicle maintenance and repairs. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 6.6%.

Winnipeg

The All-items index rose 2.1%. Among the main contributors were increased charges for electricity, natural gas, local telephone service and postage. Higher prices for household furnishings and equipment and increased charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs were also registered. Other notable price increases were observed for clothing, restaurant meals and fresh produce. Advances in recreational and reading expenses, higher prices for served alcoholic beverages, and increased charges relating to personal care supplies and services also contributed to the overall rise. Within the Transportation component, higher prices for vehicle maintenance and repairs were observed, along with increased charges for parking and highway bus travel. These advances were dampened somewhat by lower prices for new cars. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 6.8%.

Regina

Increased charges for natural gas, electricity, local telephone service and postage, coupled with higher prices for household furnishings and equipment and increased charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs were among the main contributors in the 2.2% rise in the All-items index. Price increases for restaurant meals, fresh fruit and clothing also exerted a considerable upward impact. Charges relating to personal care supplies and services advanced, as did

recreational expenses. Prices for reading materials and served alcoholic beverages were up as well. The Transportation index fell slightly due to lower prices for new cars and gasoline. These declines were largely offset by increased charges for vehicle maintenance and repairs, higher local transit fares and a rise in parking charges. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 6.5%.

Saskatoon

The All-items index rose 2.4%. Higher prices for restaurant meals and fresh produce had a major upward impact, as did advances in charges for electricity and natural gas. Charges for household furnishings and equipment, local telephone service and homeowners' maintenance and repairs were up as well. Further upward pressures resulted from higher clothing prices and increased recreational expenses. Advances in charges for personal care supplies and services, for alcoholic beverages served in licensed premises and for reading materials were also registered. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 7.1%.

Edmonton

The All-items index rose 2.8%. Higher prices for food, housing, transportation and clothing had a major upward impact. In Food, prices for restaurant meals, fresh produce, soft drinks, beef and eggs advanced. The rise in the Housing index was partly explained by increased charges for water, electricity, natural gas and local telephone service. Charges for traveller accommodation, homeowners' maintenance and repairs and postage were up as well. Higher transportation charges were observed, particularly for gasoline, local transit and parking. Prices increased for reading materials, served alcoholic beverages, recreational expenses, and charges for personal care services and supplies. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 7.9%.

Calgary

The All-items index rose 2.8%. The Food index advanced, due to higher prices for restaurant meals, fresh produce and soft drinks. Increased charges for electricity, natural gas, water, postage and local telephone service partly explained the rise in the Housing index. Advances in household furnishings and equipment prices, traveller accommodation charges, and homeowners' maintenance and repair costs were also registered. Clothing prices and recreational expenses also increased. Prices for

served alcoholic beverages and reading materials advanced, as did charges relating to personal care supplies and services. The rise in the Transportation index reflected higher prices for gasoline and increased charges for vehicle maintenance and repairs. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 8.2%.

Vancouver

The All-items index rose 2.8%. The Food component rose, as price increases were observed for restaurant meals, fresh produce, beef and soft drinks. A rise in the Housing component reflected increased charges for electricity, natural gas, local telephone and traveller accommodation. Charges for household furnishings and equipment, homeowners' maintenance and repairs and postage were up as well. Advances were observed in clothing prices, in recreational expenses and in charges for personal care supplies and services. In the Transportation index, advances were observed in vehicle insurance premiums, vehicle maintenance and repair costs, gasoline prices, and parking rates. Increased charges for drivers' licenses, vehicle registration fees and highway bus travel were also reported, while new car prices declined. Prices also increased for newspapers and for served alcoholic beverages. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 6.9%.

Victoria

Advances in the Food and Housing components were among the main contributors to the 2.8% rise in the All-items index. Within Food, prices rose for restaurant meals, fresh produce, beef and soft drinks. The rise in the Housing index reflected increased charges for electricity, fuel oil and natural gas, as well as higher prices for household furnishings and equipment and increased charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs. Charges for postage and local telephone service advanced as well. Recreational expenses and prices for clothing, served alcoholic beverages and reading materials also increased. A rise in transportation costs, most notably for insurance premiums, registration fees, drivers' licenses, taxi fares and parking, was noted. Increased charges for vehicle maintenance and repairs and higher prices for gasoline were also registered, while new car prices declined. Since January 1990, the All-items index has risen 7.8%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2201-2230.

Order the January 1991 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$9.30/\$93).

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Shadlock (613-951-9606), Prices Division.

Consumer Price Indexes for Urban Centres

The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.¹

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
St. John's								
January 1991 index	119.6	117.4	117.5	118.2	120.8	123.3	126.4	124.3
% change from December 1990	2.7	3.8	3.0	1.1	1.8	4.4	2.8	1.1
% change from January 1990	7.3	6.7	7.8	6.1	8.7	8.1	6.9	4.8
Charlottetown/Summerside								
January 1991 index	124.7	123.4	120.5	118.7	120.5	130.4	128.2	158.2
% change from December 1990	3.8	3.4	4.0	5.4	3.0	4.9	3.0	4.4
% change from January 1990	9.3	7.3	9.2	7.1	9.6	11.0	8.5	16.1
Halifax								
January 1991 index	124.8	129.4	119.6	119.5	120.8	127.4	123.7	157.3
% change from December 1990	2.6	4.3	2.2	3.9	1.0	3.7	2.0	4.1
% change from January 1990	8.4	7.7	7.9	8.3	8.1	9.4	5.0	16.3
Saint John								
January 1991 index	123.5	123.6	120.1	119.8	120.8	125.9	124.0	154.1
% change from December 1990	3.1	3.5	3.2	4.1	2.2	4.6	2.2	3.1
% change from January 1990	8.3	7.8	8.5	7.7	10.0	8.4	6.3	8.0

Consumer Price Indexes for Urban Centres - Concluded

The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.¹

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
Quebec								
January 1991 index	123.7	118.2	123.3	129.5	117.5	128.3	126.3	142.1
% change from December 1990	3.5	3.8	2.0	12.9	1.6	5.3	2.4	3.6
% change from January 1990	8.2	3.7	7.5	14.0	6.8	10.3	12.0	14.0
Montreal								
January 1991 index	125.3	120.7	125.7	129.4	119.1	128.3	129.3	142.7
% change from December 1990	3.7	3.6	2.3	12.7	2.0	5.9	2.4	4.2
% change from January 1990	8.2	4.1	7.3	13.6	7.0	9.9	12.5	15.0
Ottawa								
January 1991 index	124.6	119.0	123.2	124.3	123.9	132.0	128.4	141.6
% change from December 1990	2.6	4.4	2.1	4.7	1.0	2.6	2.4	2.1
% change from January 1990	6.6	6.6	5.8	6.4	5.7	8.9	8.9	8.1
Toronto								
January 1991 index	127.4	124.0	129.1	124.8	122.7	131.3	129.3	139.6
% change from December 1990	1.8	4.7	1.8	3.5	-1.5	4.1	2.1	1.5
% change from January 1990	5.3	7.1	2.9	5.9	5.5	9.4	8.2	7.1
Thunder Bay								
January 1991 index	123.2	117.5	120.3	123.6	125.1	123.9	127.2	144.6
% change from December 1990	2.3	3.4	2.7	3.9	0.0	3.7	2.5	2.0
% change from January 1990	6.6	5.1	6.4	7.5	6.2	7.5	7.5	9.3
Winnipeg								
January 1991 index	124.3	123.0	119.7	123.6	125.6	127.2	128.5	145.5
% change from December 1990	2.1	3.8	1.5	3.7	0.5	3.8	2.6	1.7
% change from January 1990	6.8	6.4	5.9	7.2	8.4	7.4	7.3	6.1
Regina								
January 1991 index	124.0	125.3	116.3	122.3	128.5	138.8	126.3	142.3
% change from December 1990	2.2	3.6	1.7	4.3	-0.1	3.9	3.7	2.2
% change from January 1990	6.5	7.4	4.3	7.7	8.9	6.5	7.1	6.2
Saskatoon								
January 1991 index	124.5	124.9	117.6	121.4	128.3	149.5	125.4	137.5
% change from December 1990	2.4	3.8	1.6	4.3	1.0	3.2	3.3	2.4
% change from January 1990	7.1	7.7	4.4	7.3	13.2	5.7	6.5	6.6
Edmonton								
January 1991 index	123.9	119.7	119.3	121.2	125.2	123.5	128.0	154.2
% change from December 1990	2.8	4.9	1.9	4.3	2.4	2.2	2.9	1.8
% change from January 1990	7.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	9.5	6.6	7.3	10.7
Calgary								
January 1991 index	123.9	119.8	119.4	122.4	122.7	125.5	127.8	156.5
% change from December 1990	2.8	4.5	2.0	4.2	1.5	4.3	3.6	3.4
% change from January 1990	8.2	8.5	6.6	7.3	9.9	8.9	8.4	11.2
Vancouver								
January 1991 index	123.0	122.2	118.4	117.9	128.1	121.6	126.8	140.2
% change from December 1990	2.8	4.6	1.6	3.6	1.5	5.1	3.8	3.5
% change from January 1990	6.9	9.2	4.5	7.5	7.2	9.5	8.8	9.4
Victoria								
January 1991 index	123.0	121.1	117.4	118.1	129.1	120.0	129.8	141.6
% change from December 1990	2.8	3.7	2.0	3.9	1.9	2.4	4.7	3.6
% change from January 1990	7.8	7.6	6.1	7.3	9.7	7.0	8.8	11.1

¹ For inter city indexes of retail price differentials, refer to Table 23 of the July-September 1989 issue of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (62-010, \$17.25/\$69.00).

Wholesale Trade

December 1990

Highlights

Unadjusted Sales - December 1990

- In December, wholesale merchants' sales were \$13.5 billion, a decrease of 5.5% from the same month a year earlier. The downward trend continued as a year-over-year sales decrease was recorded by wholesalers for the fifth consecutive period and the tenth month in 1990.
- The overall decline between December 1989 and December 1990 sales was primarily attributable, in order of dollar impact, to decreases reported by wholesalers of lumber and building materials (-22.5%), wholesalers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (-23.4%) and wholesalers of other machinery, equipment and supplies (-3.6%). Gains of 3.0% were reported by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products and 0.7% by wholesalers of other products (farm and paper products, agricultural supplies, industrial and household chemicals).
- Regionally, eight provinces posted sales decreases, ranging from -20.6% in Nova Scotia to -2.5% for Ontario. Increases were reported in Newfoundland (+11.4%), Alberta (+5.9%) and the Yukon and Northwest Territories (+1.6%).

Annual 1990 (Preliminary Estimates)

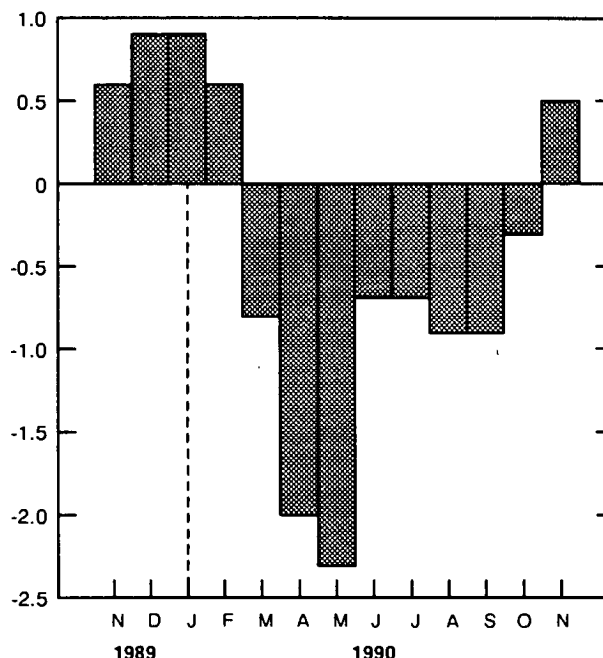
- Preliminary estimates indicate that sales by wholesale merchants fell 3.2% in 1990, after a 0.8% drop in 1989. In 1990, seven of the nine trade groups registered lower sales. The trade groups having the most significant dollar impact on the 1990 overall sales decrease were wholesalers of other machinery, equipment and supplies, down 5.6%, wholesalers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies, falling 14.9%, and wholesalers of lumber and building materials, dropping 8.3%. Gains of 2.9% were reported by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products and 3.7% by wholesalers of other products.

Seasonally Adjusted Sales - November 1990

- Wholesale merchants' sales on a seasonally adjusted basis were up 0.5% over the previous month, to \$14.8 billion in November 1990. This gain, the first recorded in the last nine months, constitutes the third since the beginning of the year (increases of 0.9% for January and 0.6% for February were previously posted). During the last 11 months, sales decreased on average by about 0.6% a month.

Wholesale Merchants Sales

% monthly change, seasonally adjusted
(three-month moving average)



- Four of the nine trade groups registered higher sales than in October 1990. The strongest growth came from wholesalers of other machinery, equipment and supplies (+2.7%), followed by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products (+1.2%).
- Regionally, six provinces and territories registered sales increases, ranging from +3.2% in the Yukon and Northwest Territories to +0.6 for Newfoundland.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 648 and 649.

For more information on this release contact
Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540), Industry Division.

The December 1990 issue of *Wholesale Trade*
(63-008, \$14.40/\$144) will be available the first week
of March. See "How to Order Publications".

Wholesale Merchants Sales, by Trade Group and Region

December 1990

Trade group	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Nov.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Nov.
	1989	1990 ^r	1990 ^p	1990/ Dec. 1989	1989	1990 ^r	1990 ^r	1990 ^r	1990 ^p	1990/ Oct. 1990	1990/ Nov. 1989
	millions of \$			%	millions of \$					%	%
Canada											
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,529	3,753	3,635	3.0	3,559	3,570	3,564	3,596	3,639	1.2	2.2
Apparel and dry goods	244	264	173	-29.0	365	342	328	310	298	-3.9	-18.4
Household goods	566	618	487	-14.0	567	533	539	537	528	-1.6	-6.8
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,446	1,827	1,391	-3.8	1,782	1,703	1,723	1,745	1,744	-0.1	-2.1
Metals, hardware,plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,125	1,099	862	-23.4	1,330	1,083	1,078	1,070	1,074	0.4	-19.2
Lumber and building materials	1,211	1,373	939	-22.5	1,622	1,442	1,393	1,375	1,344	-2.3	-17.2
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	308	287	277	-10.3	377	343	329	326	329	0.9	-12.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,608	3,313	3,477	-3.6	3,628	3,354	3,320	3,292	3,380	2.7	-6.8
Other products	2,265	2,450	2,282	0.7	2,451	2,540	2,502	2,484	2,477	-0.3	1.1
Total, all trades	14,304	14,984	13,523	-5.5	15,681	14,910	14,776	14,735	14,813	0.5	-5.5
Regions											
Newfoundland	140	186	156	11.4	163	170	174	176	177	0.6	8.3
Prince Edward Island	43	35	34	-20.3	41	37	36	35	33	-4.2	-19.2
Nova Scotia	427	334	339	-20.6	416	391	373	359	343	-4.4	-17.5
New Brunswick	269	269	230	-14.3	282	274	270	262	255	-2.7	-9.9
Quebec	3,495	3,836	3,358	-3.9	3,936	3,727	3,728	3,741	3,791	1.4	-3.7
Ontario	5,643	6,151	5,502	-2.5	6,285	5,992	5,956	6,001	6,055	0.9	-3.7
Manitoba	472	468	429	-9.1	518	503	485	480	475	-1.0	-8.3
Saskatchewan	489	501	456	-6.8	557	516	494	492	495	0.8	-11.1
Alberta	1,339	1,392	1,418	5.9	1,376	1,376	1,366	1,378	1,420	3.0	3.2
British Columbia	1,972	1,798	1,585	-19.6	2,095	1,901	1,830	1,801	1,768	-1.8	-15.6
Yukon and Northwest Territories	14	15	15	1.6	20	17	18	18	18	3.2	-8.1

^r Revised figure.

^p Preliminary figure.

International Travel Account

Fourth Quarter and Annual 1990 (Preliminary Estimates)

Highlights

Unadjusted

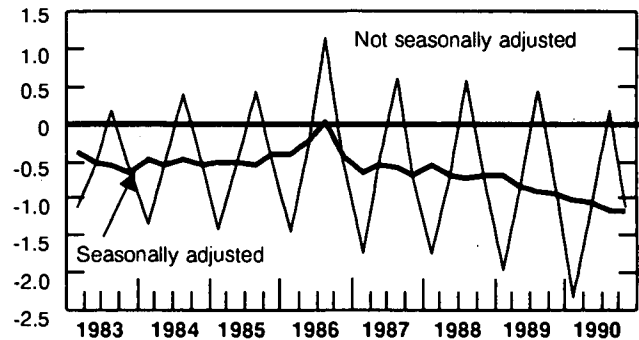
- Unadjusted for seasonal variations, Canada's travel account registered a deficit of \$1,158 million during the last quarter of 1990, the highest-ever deficit for a fourth quarter of a year.
- The travel balance deteriorated both with the United States and with all other countries in 1990. The overall deficit for 1990 stood at \$4,524 million, a result of a stronger rise in payments compared with receipts.
- With stagnant American travel to Canada in 1990, receipts from the United States, at \$4,368 million, were 2.1% higher than in the previous year. The record level of \$4,506 million witnessed in 1986 has still not been surpassed.
- In 1990, receipts from countries other than the United States reached \$3,069 million, 3.9% over 1989 and the slowest annual rate of growth in seven years.
- International travel payments by Canadian residents reached a record \$11,961 million during the year, up 11.7% from 1989. Travel expenditures to the United States increased at a higher rate (14.4%) than payments to all other countries (7.3%) in 1990 compared to 1989.

Seasonally Adjusted

- Seasonally adjusted international transactions in the fourth quarter produced a record deficit for the seventh consecutive quarter. The current quarter deficit was brought about by strong growth in payments by Canadian travellers to the United States while receipts from foreign travellers to Canada increased only marginally.

Travel Account Balance by Quarter

\$ billions



- Both receipts from the United States and all other countries increased in the fourth quarter of 1990 (each by 1.3%), following a decline in the previous quarter.
- Payments to the United States increased 3.8% from the previous quarter, while spending in all other countries dropped 3.3% from the third quarter of 1990.
- After showing a marked improvement during Expo 86, the travel account deficit has maintained a generally downward trend since, with the only exception being the slight recovery brought by the Winter Olympics in the first quarter of 1988.

The October-December issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$38.50/\$154) will be available in April. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. □

International Travel Receipts and Payments

(Millions of \$)

	1989					1990 ^P				
	Q. I	Q. II	Q. III	Q. IV	Total	Q. I	Q. II	Q. III	Q. IV	Total
Unadjusted										
United States										
Receipts	517	1,054	2,006	700	4,277	514	1,083	2,040	731	4,368
Payments	1,783	1,798	1,690	1,331	6,602	2,069	2,048	1,918	1,520	7,555
Balance	-1,266	-744	316	-631	-2,325	-1,555	-965	122	-789	-3,187
All other countries										
Receipts	356	797	1,288	514	2,955	366	847	1,328	528	3,069
Payments	1,074	976	1,189	867	4,106	1,174	1,030	1,305	897	4,406
Balance	-718	-179	99	-353	-1,151	-808	-183	23	-369	-1,337
Total, all countries										
Receipts	873	1,851	3,294	1,214	7,232	880	1,930	3,368	1,259	7,437
Payments	2,857	2,774	2,879	2,198	10,708	3,243	3,078	3,223	2,417	11,961
Balance	-1,984	-923	415	-984	-3,476	-2,363	-1,148	145	-1,158	-4,524
	1989 ^P					1990 ^P				
	Q. I	Q. II	Q. III	Q. IV	Total	Q. I	Q. II	Q. III	Q. IV	Total
Seasonally Adjusted*										
United States										
Receipts	1,080	1,061	1,068	1,068	4,277	1,081	1,092	1,091	1,105	4,368
Payments	1,539	1,622	1,686	1,755	6,602	1,795	1,851	1,918	1,991	7,555
Balance	-459	-561	-618	-687	-2,325	-715	-759	-827	-887	-3,187
All other countries										
Receipts	734	720	738	762	2,955	754	770	768	778	3,069
Payments	979	1,036	1,043	1,048	4,106	1,075	1,097	1,136	1,098	4,406
Balance	-245	-316	-305	-286	-1,151	-322	-327	-368	-320	-1,337
Total, all countries										
Receipts	1,814	1,781	1,806	1,831	7,232	1,834	1,862	1,858	1,882	7,437
Payments	2,518	2,658	2,729	2,803	10,708	2,870	2,948	3,054	3,089	11,961
Balance	-704	-877	-923	-973	-3,476	-1,036	-1,086	-1,195	-1,207	-4,524

* Seasonally adjusted data may not add to totals due to rounding.

^P Preliminary figures.

Court Services in Canada

1988-89

Highlights

- A total of \$639.9 million was spent in the Canadian court system in 1988-89, of which \$603.6 million (94%) was spent in the provinces and territories and \$36.3 million in the courts of federal jurisdiction. At a per-capita cost of \$24.45 to Canadians, this figure excludes building occupancy costs, prisoner escort services, maintenance enforcement programs outside the jurisdiction of local court services, benefits paid outside of local court services budgets, municipal court expenditures, computer-related expenditures in Quebec, native courtworker programs and prosecutorial services.
- There are 711 permanent court locations in Canada: 23 are federal courts, 14 are provincial and territorial courts of appeal, 226 are provincial and territorial superior courts, 315 are provincial and territorial courts, and 133 are municipal courts (131 of which are located in Quebec).

- There were 11,751 staff employed in the Canadian court system in 1988-89, a number virtually unchanged from the previous year. The majority (11,219) worked in the provincial and territorial court systems, with the remainder (532) employed by the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court, the Court Martial Appeal Court, the Tax Court and the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs.

Court Services in Canada provides staff and expenditure information on the organization and costs of criminal, civil and family court services in Canada. It is applicable to the provincial and territorial court systems and the federal system comprised of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Canada, the Court Martial Appeal Court of Canada, the Tax Court of Canada and the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs. Staff and expenditure data are current to March 31, 1989. The bulletin also presents narrative information on the structure and operation of the Canadian court system.

The Juristat Bulletin, *Court Services in Canada* (85-002, Vol. 11, No. 3, \$3.90/\$78) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information, contact Information and Client Services, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (613-951-9023). ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation

January 1991

Manufacturers shipped 2 104 317 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in January 1991, down 44.0% from the 3 760 382 square metres shipped a year earlier and down 28.5% from the 2 945 077 square metres shipped the previous month.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32 and 33).

The January issue of *Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation* (44-004, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

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

December 1990

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 2 159 800 cubic metres of lumber and ties in December 1990, a decrease of 22.0% from the 2 769 100 cubic metres produced in December 1989.

January to December 1990 production was 33 514 300 cubic metres, a decrease of 6.8% from the 35 952 200 cubic metres produced over the same period in 1989.

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

The December 1990 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. ■

Shipments of Office Furniture Products

Fourth Quarter 1990

For the quarter ending December 31, 1990, shipments of office furniture products totalled \$194.0 million, a decrease of 3.4% compared to \$200.8 (revised) million shipped during the same quarter of the previous year.

Manufacturers' shipments of office furniture products for the fourth quarter of 1990 are now available. Data for province of destination as well as exports are also available.

The December 1990 issue of *Shipments of Office Furniture Products* (35-006, \$6.75/\$27) will be available shortly.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Keith Martin (613-951-3518), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Coal and Coke Statistics, November 1990.

Catalogue number 45-002

(Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/
US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/US\$140.00).

**Service Bulletin - Aviation - Aviation Statistics
Centre**, February 1991.

Catalogue number 51-004

(Canada: \$9.30/\$93.00; United States: US\$11.20/
US\$112.00; Other Countries: US\$13.00/US\$130.00).

Electric Power Statistics, November 1990.

Catalogue number 57-001

(Canada: \$10.00/\$100.00; United States: US\$12.00/
US\$120.00; Other Countries: US\$14.00/US\$140.00).

Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics,
Third Quarter 1990.

Catalogue number 61-003

(Canada: \$55.25/\$221.00; United States: US\$66.25/
US\$265.00; Other Countries: US\$77.25/US\$309.00).

Department Store Sales and Stocks, May 1990.

Catalogue number 63-002

(Canada: \$14.40/\$144.00; United States: US\$17.30/
US\$173.00; Other Countries: US\$20.20/US\$202.00).

Retail Trade, November 1990.

Catalogue number 63-005

(Canada: \$14.40/\$144.00; United States: US\$17.30/
US\$173.00; Other Countries: US\$20.20/US\$202.00).

**Canada's Unionized: Workers: A Profile of Their
1987 Labour Market Experience.**

Catalogue number 71-214

(Canada: \$12.00; United States: US\$14.00; Other
Countries: US\$17.00).

**Pension Plan Coverage in Canada: A Profile of
Participants' 1987 Labour Market Experience.**

(Canada: \$12.00; United States: US\$14.00; Other
Countries: US\$17.00).

Labour Force Annual Averages, 1990.

Catalogue number 71-220

(Canada: \$39.00; United States: US\$47.00; Other
Countries: US\$55.00).

Estimates of Labour Income, July-September 1990.

Catalogue number 72-005

(Canada: \$22.50/\$90.00; United States: US\$27.00/
US\$108.00; Other Countries: US\$31.50/US\$126.00).

Juristat Bulletin: Court Services in Canada,
1988-89 (Vol. 11, No. 3).

Catalogue number 85-002

(Canada: \$3.90/\$78.00; United States: US\$4.70/
US\$94.00; Other Countries: US\$5.45/US\$109.00).

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).*

*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.*



1010062777

The Daily, February 22, 1991

MAJOR RELEASE DATES

Week of February 25 – March 1

(Release dates are subject to change)

**Anticipated
date(s) of
release**

Title

Reference period

February

25	Security Transactions with Non-Residents	December 1990
25	Department Store Sales and Stocks	December 1990
26	Industrial Product Price Index	January 1991
26	Raw Material Price Index	January 1991
26	Homicide Statistics	1990 (Preliminary)
27	Private and Public Investment in Canada	Intentions 1991
27	Employment, Earnings and Hours	December 1990
27	Unemployment Insurance Statistics	December 1990
28	National Income and Expenditure Accounts (Gross Domestic Product)	Fourth Quarter 1990
28	Canadian Balance of International Payments	Fourth Quarter 1990
28	Financial Flow Accounts	Fourth Quarter 1990
28	Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry	December 1990

March

1	Building Permits	December 1990
1	Sales of Refined Petroleum Products	January 1991

**The
Daily**

Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada: \$120.00 annually; United States: US\$144.00 annually; Other Countries: US\$168.00 annually

Published by the Communications Division
Statistics Canada, 3-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)
Editor: Bruce Simpson (613-951-1103)

Published under the authority of the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission of the Minister of Supply and Services Canada.