



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, March 15, 1991

For release at 8:30 a.m.

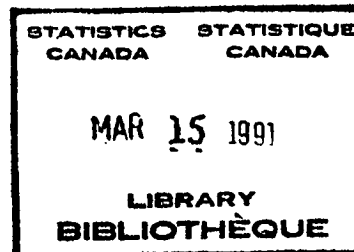
MAJOR RELEASE

- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, January 1991** 2
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NOT FOR LOAN
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MAJOR RELEASE

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

January 1991

Seasonally Adjusted

Shipments were down 1.5% in January following decreases in November and December. Inventories were down 1.4% and unfilled orders declined 0.7%, the sixth monthly decrease in a row.

The **short-term trend** for shipments has declined at a constant rate of 0.9% a month for the last three periods and has been on a downward path for 16 months (apart from a short pause between April and June 1990). The unfilled orders trend was down an average of 0.8% a month for the last three periods and has been declining for 22 months, except for two small increases in August and September 1989.

The inventories trend has remained unchanged for the last four periods, after declining in the previous seven months. As a result of the stable inventories trend and the decline in the shipments trend, the trend for the inventory to shipments ratio increased from 1.51 in July 1990 to 1.57 in December 1990.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' **shipments** were \$23.4 billion in January, a decrease of 1.5% from the previous month. Decreases in the electrical and electronic products (-9.2%), fabricated metals (-5.2%) and wood (-8.0%) industries were partly offset by an increase in the paper and allied products industry (4.2%). In 19 out of 22 major industry groups, the trends were decreasing, in most cases at a slightly slower pace than in the previous period.
- **Inventories** (owned) decreased 1.4% to \$36.8 billion. A major decrease in the refined petroleum and coal products industry (-13.5%) and a decrease in the chemical products industry (-2.4%) were partly offset by increases in electrical and electronic products and primary metal industries. The trend for inventories remained at the same level for the last four periods.

Note: The appendix in the March 1990 issue of Monthly Survey of Manufacturing contains estimated values of shipments, inventories and orders revised back to January 1987.

- The **inventories to shipments ratio** remained at 1.58 in January. The trend continued to increase from 1.51 in July to 1.57 in December.
- **Unfilled orders** decreased for the sixth consecutive month, down 0.7% in January to \$26.5 billion. A decrease in the transportation equipment industry accounted for most of the decline. Monthly decreases in the trend have gone from -0.2% in July 1990 to an average of -0.8% between October and December.

Unfilled orders are the stock of orders which will generate future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled.

New orders are defined as the sum of shipments for the current month (i.e., orders received and shipped within the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

- **New orders** decreased 1.2% to a level of \$23.2 billion in January. Decreases in the trend have averaged 1.1% a month for the last four periods.

Year-to-date

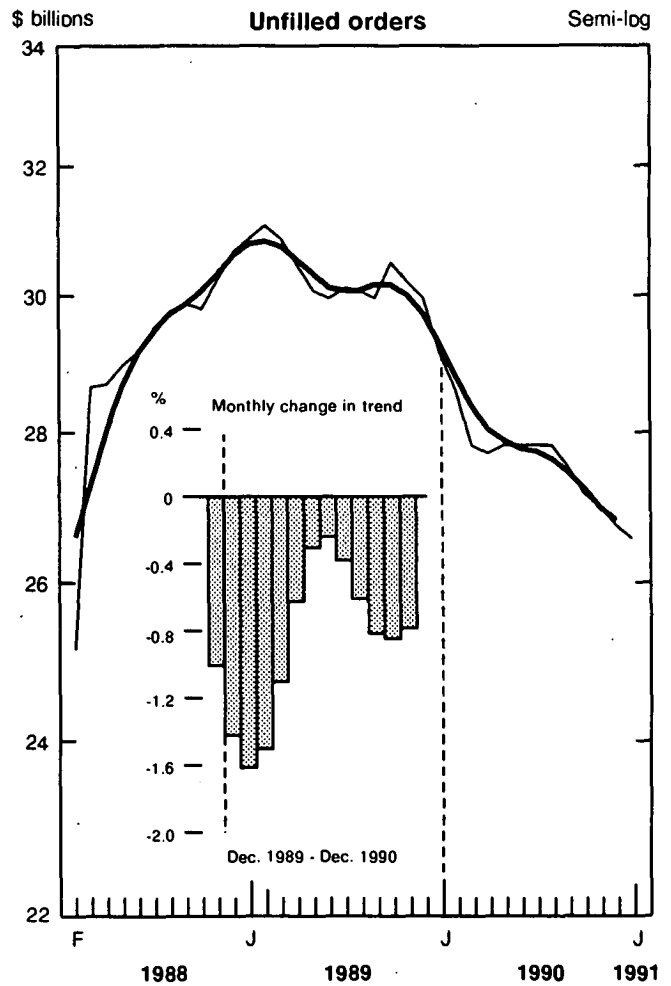
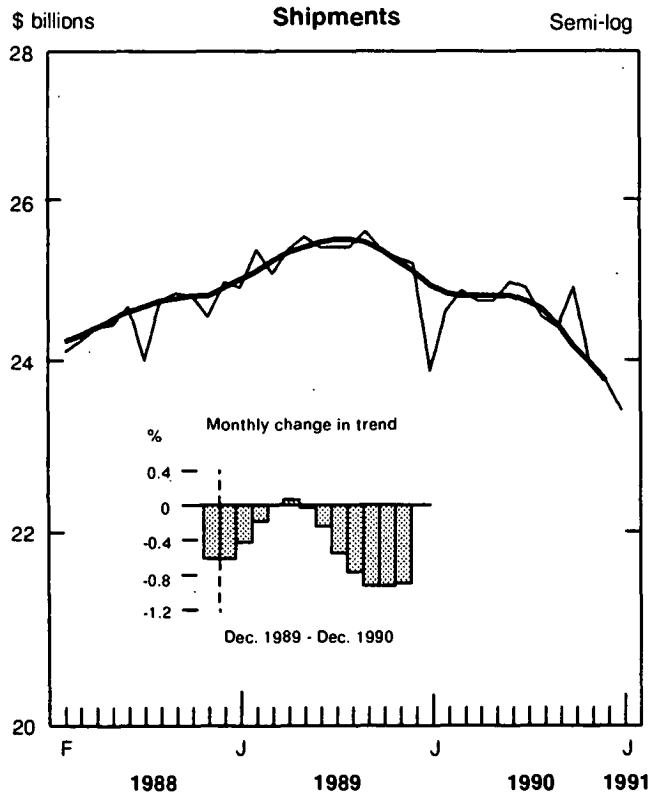
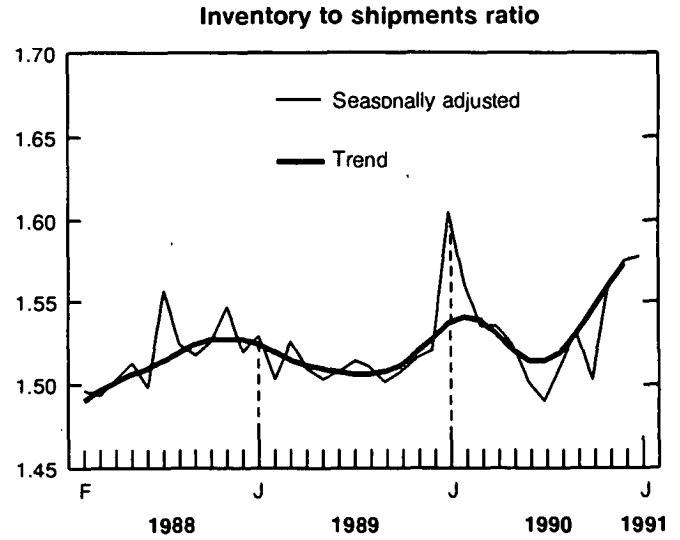
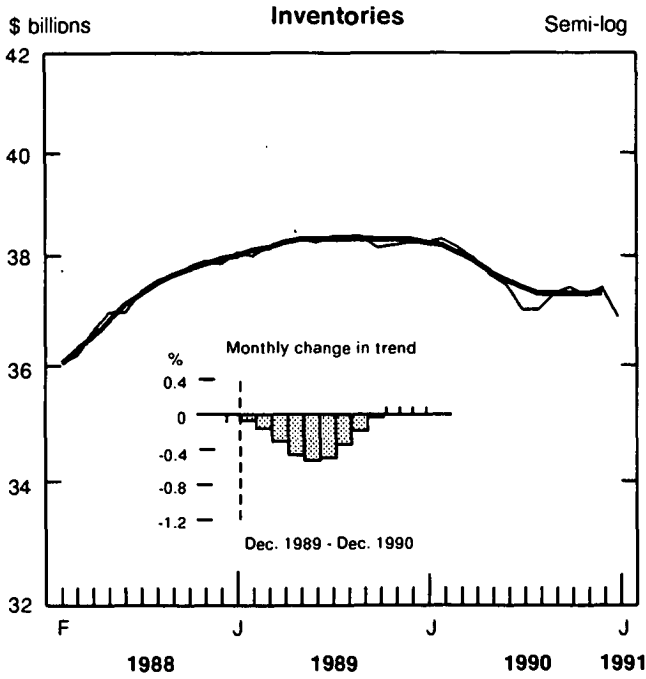
- Manufacturers' shipments for January 1991 were estimated at \$23.4 billion, 2.1% lower than the January 1990 level.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

For more information, consult the January 1991 issue of *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001, \$17.30/\$173), available shortly.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For further information, contact Bob Traversy (613-951-9497) or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division. □

Manufacturers' Inventories, Shipments and Unfilled Orders, January 1991





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Shipments, Inventories and Orders in All Manufacturing Industries

January 1991

Period	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted			
	Shipments	Inven- tories	Unfilled orders	New orders	Shipments	Inven- tories	Unfilled orders	New orders
\$ millions								
January 1990	22,546	38,406	29,103	22,555	23,856	38,237	29,139	23,068
February 1990	23,117	38,944	28,861	22,875	24,564	38,316	28,619	24,044
March 1990	26,276	38,646	28,374	25,789	24,844	38,135	27,803	24,028
April 1990	24,452	38,456	28,210	24,288	24,706	37,926	27,687	24,590
May 1990	26,795	37,878	28,404	26,989	24,706	37,642	27,826	24,845
June 1990	26,465	37,333	27,869	25,931	24,940	37,438	27,807	24,920
July 1990	22,702	36,745	27,833	22,665	24,859	37,014	27,802	24,854
August 1990	24,326	36,918	27,861	24,354	24,516	37,021	27,788	24,502
September 1990	24,775	36,964	27,350	24,264	24,352	37,312	27,520	24,084
October 1990	26,728	37,018	26,891	26,269	24,881	37,378	27,125	24,487
November 1990	24,456	36,944	26,717	24,283	23,901	37,255	26,979	23,755
December 1990	21,462	36,784	26,031	20,776	23,722	37,373	26,708	23,450
January 1991	22,006	37,021	26,298	22,273	23,363	36,849	26,525	23,180

	Seasonally adjusted									
	Shipments		Inventories		Inventory to shipments ratio		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend
	Month to month % change				Ratio		Month to month % change			
January 1990	-5.2	-0.6	0.0	0.0	1.60	1.54	-2.6	-1.4	-7.4	-1.2
February 1990	3.0	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	1.56	1.54	-1.8	-1.6	4.2	-0.6
March 1990	1.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.3	1.53	1.54	-2.9	-1.5	-0.1	0.1
April 1990	-0.6	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	1.54	1.53	-0.4	-1.1	2.3	0.6
May 1990	0.0	0.1	-0.7	-0.5	1.52	1.52	0.5	-0.6	1.0	0.7
June 1990	0.9	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	1.50	1.51	-0.1	-0.3	0.3	0.4
July 1990	-0.3	-0.3	-1.1	-0.3	1.49	1.51	0.0	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
August 1990	-1.4	-0.5	0.0	-0.2	1.51	1.52	-0.1	-0.4	-1.4	-0.6
September 1990	-0.7	-0.8	0.8	0.0	1.53	1.53	-1.0	-0.6	-1.7	-1.0
October 1990	2.2	-0.9	0.2	0.0	1.50	1.54	-1.4	-0.8	1.7	-1.1
November 1990	-3.9	-0.9	-0.3	0.0	1.56	1.56	-0.5	-0.9	-3.0	-1.1
December 1990	-0.8	-0.9	0.3	0.0	1.58	1.57	-1.0	-0.8	-1.3	-1.1
January 1991	-1.5	*	-1.4	*	1.58	*	-0.7	*	-1.2	*

* The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics,
January 1991.

Catalogue number 25-001

(Canada: \$6.10/\$61.00; United States:
US\$7.30/US\$73.00; Other Countries:
US\$8.50/US\$85.00).

Department Store Sales and Stocks, June 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)

Exports by Country, January-December 1990.

Catalogue number 65-003

(Canada: \$82.75/\$331.00; United States:
US\$99.25/US\$397.00; Other Countries:
US\$115.75/US\$463.00).

Imports by Country, January-December 1990.

Catalogue number 65-006

(Canada: \$82.75/\$331.00; United States:
US\$99.25/US\$397.00; Other Countries:
US\$115.75/US\$463.00).

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**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.

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MAJOR RELEASE DATES

Week of March 18-22
(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
March		
20	Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Merchandise Trade	January 1991
20	Sales of Natural Gas	January 1991
21	Field Crop Reporting Series: No 2 - March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Area, Canada	
21	Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas	December 1990
22	The Consumer Price Index	February 1991
