



# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

Wednesday, January 29, 1992

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JAN 29 1992

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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- **Unemployment Insurance Statistics, November 1991** 3  
Since January 1991, 3.5 million claims for unemployment insurance benefits have been received, up 6.0% from the same period a year earlier.
- **Industrial Product Price Index, December 1991** 5  
The index increased 0.1% in December 1991, following a similar decrease in November. However, the year-to-year decrease remained at November's level of -3.1%, which was the largest decrease in more than three decades.
- **Raw Materials Price Index, December 1991** 7  
The index was down 1.6% to 101.3 mainly due to a 5.5% fall in the mineral fuels component.
- **Health Reports, Third Quarter 1991** 8

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### Health Reports

Third Quarter 1991

The third quarter 1991 issue of *Health Reports* features analytical articles examining trends in cesarean section deliveries in Canada and in mortality and hospitalization for peptic ulcers. This issue also studies the availability of psychiatric services in Canada and presents a new method of measuring hospital productivity that combines inpatient and outpatient services.

The National Task Force on Health Information advises that "capacities to link data elements are of crucial importance for health information development". *Health Reports* examines how linkage of health records can be better exploited for statistical purposes.

Also included are highlights on nursing in Canada, residential care facilities, and preliminary annual hospital data.

The third quarter 1991 issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (82-003, \$26/\$104) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Nelson Nault (613-951-2990), Canadian Centre for Health Information.

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Unemployment Insurance Statistics

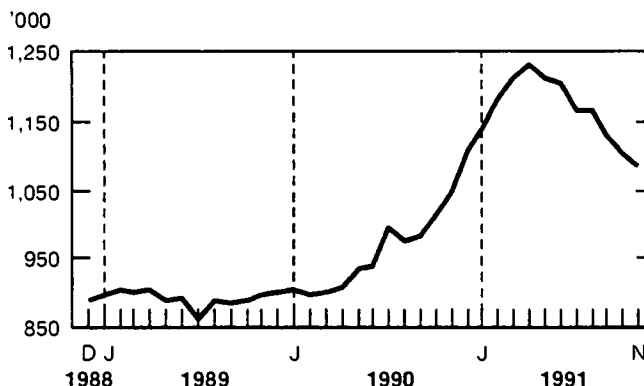
November 1991

#### Seasonally Adjusted Data

- For the week ended November 16, 1991, the preliminary estimate of the number of beneficiaries<sup>1</sup> who received regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled 1,081,000, down 1.7% from a month earlier.

#### Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Canada

Seasonally adjusted



- Between October and November 1991, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits decreased 9.4% in the Yukon, 3.3% in Manitoba, 3.0% in British Columbia, 1.8% in Ontario, 1.6% in Quebec, 1.4% in the Northwest Territories and 1.1% in Nova Scotia. In Saskatchewan, the number of beneficiaries rose 1.5%. There was little change in the other provinces.
- In November 1991, total unemployment insurance disbursements<sup>2</sup>, adjusted for seasonal variations and the number of working days, increased 3.4% to \$1,602 million. The number of benefit weeks declined 1.9% to 5.8 million.

#### Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variation

- In November 1991, the number of beneficiaries<sup>1</sup> (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) was 1,215,000, up 6.4% from November 1990. Over the same period, the number of male beneficiaries

#### Note to Users

Sub-provincial beneficiaries data are available on request; for example, tables are available which show the number of beneficiaries by metropolitan area, gender, and type of benefit. In addition, tabulations based on aggregations of postal codes can be produced for areas of specific interest to users.

rose 8.0% to 667,000, and the number of female beneficiaries advanced 4.5% to 547,000.

- In the following census metropolitan areas the year-over-year percentage changes in the number of beneficiaries exceeded the national average (6.4%):

	Beneficiaries November 1991	% Change from November 1990
• Sudbury	5,990	17%
• Saskatoon	6,990	15%
• Saint John, N.B.	5,390	14%
• Edmonton	27,890	13%
• Winnipeg	23,290	12%
• Toronto	112,720	11%
• Montréal	155,850	9%
• Halifax	12,800	8%
• Windsor	9,170	8%

- Unemployment insurance benefit payments during November 1991 were \$1,317 million<sup>2</sup>, up 24.4% from November 1990. Since January 1, 1991, payments have totalled \$16,283 million, an increase of 35.5% compared with the same period a year earlier. For the same 11-month period, the average weekly payment increased 5.5% to \$243.11, and the number of benefit weeks advanced 26.9% to 66.2 million.

<sup>1</sup> The number of beneficiaries represents a count of persons who qualified for unemployment insurance benefits during a specific week of the reference month.

<sup>2</sup> Disbursements, number of benefit weeks, and number of claims received relate to a complete calendar month, and these data are usually final estimates when released. It should be noted that these estimates are affected by the number of working days available during the reference month to process claims and to pay benefits. If short-term comparisons are made, it is not uncommon to observe different trends between these data and the number of beneficiaries.

- A total of 411,000 claims<sup>2</sup> (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in November 1991, a decrease of 10.6% from November 1990. Since January 1, 1991, 3,507,000 claims have been received, up 6.0% from 1990.

The November 1991 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$14.70/\$147) contains data for September, October, and November 1991. It will be available in February. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, please call Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division (FAX: 613-951-4087).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735- 5736.

### Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	November 1991	October 1991	September 1991	November 1990	% change Nov. 1991/ Oct. 1991
Seasonally adjusted					
<b>Benefits</b>					
Amount paid (\$000)	1,602,072	1,549,883	1,553,382	1,234,727	3.4
Weeks of benefit (000)	5,825	5,939	5,868	5,179	-1.9
<b>Beneficiaries - Regular benefit (000)</b>	<b>1,081<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>1,100<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>1,129<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
					% change Nov. 1991/ Nov. 1990
Unadjusted					
<b>Benefits</b>					
Amount paid (\$000)	1,316,505	1,344,343	1,207,706	1,058,633	24.4
Weeks of benefit (000)	5,059	5,393	4,901	4,556	11.0
Average weekly benefit (\$)	248.25	243.99	241.98	232.38	6.8
<b>Claims received (000)</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>-10.6</b>
<b>Beneficiaries (000)</b>					
Total	1,215 <sup>P</sup>	1,112 <sup>P</sup>	1,112 <sup>r</sup>	1,141	6.4
Regular benefits	979 <sup>P</sup>	910 <sup>P</sup>	916 <sup>r</sup>	975	0.4
January to November					
	1991	1990		% change 1991/1990	
<b>Benefits</b>					
Amount paid (\$000)	16,283,108	12,014,206		35.5	
Weeks of benefit (000)	66,178	52,136		26.9	
Average weekly benefit (\$)	243.11	230.44		5.5	
<b>Claims received (000)</b>	<b>3,507</b>	<b>3,307</b>		<b>6.0</b>	
<b>Beneficiaries</b>					
<b>Year-to-date average (000)</b>	<b>1,359<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>1,102</b>		<b>23.4</b>	

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures

.. Figures not available

## Industrial Product Price Index

December 1991

According to preliminary figures, the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) edged up to 107.6 in December 1991 from November's level of 107.5. Of the 21 indexes for major groups of products, eight increased, while seven decreased and six remained unchanged. The main indexes that increased were fruit, vegetable, feed and miscellaneous food products (0.5%) and lumber, sawmill and other wood products (0.4%). An additional factor in December was the 1.0% increase in the value of the U.S. dollar; this had an upward effect on prices of exports that are denominated in U.S. currency. Mainly affected was the autos, trucks and other transport equipment index, which increased 0.3%. These increases were partially offset by price decreases for petroleum and coal products (-1.1%).

Since December 1990, the IPPI has decreased 3.1%, the steepest year-to-year decrease registered since 1956, when the complete set of price indexes for manufactured goods was introduced. This contrasts with the positive rate shown in January 1991 (2.2%). The major contributors to the yearly change were the indexes for primary metal products (-8.2%), paper and paper products (-12.4%) and petroleum and coal products (-23.6%). The primary metals and the paper and paper products groups were also the main cause of the change in the year-to-year decrease for first stage intermediate goods, which went from -2.5% in January 1991 to -12.1% in December. Of indexes that increased over the year, those that had the biggest impact on the overall change were autos, trucks and other transport equipment (2.2%), tobacco and tobacco products (10.6%) and printing and publishing (3.4%). Despite these increases, the year-to-year change for finished goods also declined from 4.0% in January 1991 to 0.2% in December. This is the lowest year-to-year change for finished goods since July 1988. Excluding petroleum and coal products, the 12-month change was -1.5% in December.

### Highlights

- The fruit, vegetable, feed and miscellaneous food products index increased 0.5% due mainly to higher prices for wheat flour (4.0%), refined sugar (2.3%) and miscellaneous food products (0.5%).

### Note to Users

*Specific indexes for patented and non-patented drugs in the pharmaceutical component of the IPPI are now available.*

Over the last 12 months, the fruit, vegetable, feed and miscellaneous food products index has risen by 1.2%, mainly as a result of an increase in prices for fruit and vegetable preparations (2.8%) and miscellaneous food products (1.8%).

- The lumber, sawmill and other wood products index showed an increase of 0.4% due primarily to higher prices for softwood lumber and ties (1.1%). Over the last 12 months, increases for softwood lumber and ties products (5.5%) were mainly responsible for the 1.2% increase in the lumber, sawmill and other wood products index.
- According to initial estimates, the petroleum and coal products index fell 1.1% due to lower prices for gasoline and other petroleum products. On a year-to-year basis, the petroleum and coal products index declined 23.6% mainly as a result of lower prices for gasoline and fuel oils.
- After 14 consecutive monthly declines, the paper and paper products index remained unchanged in December at 104.2. An increase in the pulp index (1.5%) was offset by a decrease in the newsprint and other paper stock index (-0.5%). Higher prices for pulp were experienced on both domestic and export markets. Over the last 12 months, the pulp index has fallen 29.8%, while the newsprint and other paper stock group and the paper products group indexes dropped 7.6% and 3.0%, respectively.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The December 1991 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available near the end of February. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Section (613-951-9607), Prices Division. □

**Industrial Product Price Indexes**  
(1986 = 100)

Index	Relative Importance <sup>1</sup>	Index December 1991 <sup>2</sup>	December 1991/ November 1991	December 1991/ December 1990
			% change	
<b>Industrial Product Price Index - Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>107.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
<b>Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>93.6</b>	<b>108.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>Intermediate goods</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>105.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-5.1</b>
First-stage intermediate goods	13.4	102.8	0.1	-12.1
Second-stage intermediate goods	47.0	106.8	0.0	-3.0
<b>Finished goods</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>110.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	114.9	0.0	1.1
Capital equipment	10.4	109.1	0.1	1.9
All other finished goods	19.3	108.1	0.0	-1.3
<b>Aggregation by commodities:</b>				
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	108.3	-0.1	-1.4
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.3	113.6	0.5	1.2
Beverages	2.0	120.6	0.0	3.3
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	146.7	0.1	10.6
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	114.3	-0.2	-1.6
Textile products	2.2	109.3	-0.1	0.2
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	114.0	0.1	1.6
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	104.6	0.4	1.2
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	118.4	0.0	1.2
Paper and paper products	8.1	104.2	0.0	-12.4
Printing and publishing	2.7	126.0	0.0	3.4
Primary metal products	7.7	101.3	-0.1	-8.2
Metal fabricated products	4.9	112.6	0.1	0.4
Machinery and equipment	4.2	115.4	0.0	1.0
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	17.6	100.5	0.3	2.2
Electrical and communications products	5.1	110.2	0.2	-0.3
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	110.8	0.0	-0.8
Petroleum and coal products <sup>3</sup>	6.4	92.1	-1.1	-23.6
Chemical, chemical products	7.2	113.6	0.1	-4.1
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	111.2	-0.1	1.4
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	63.8	-0.5	-22.1

<sup>1</sup> Weights are derived from the "make" matrix of the 1986 Input/Output table.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> This index is estimated for the current month.

## Raw Materials Price Index

December 1991

Preliminary estimates for the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986 = 100) showed a 1.6% decrease to 101.3 in December. Contributors to this decline were the mineral fuels index that fell by 5.5% and the non-ferrous metals price index that was down 2.7%. However, the remaining five components of the RMPI rose, particularly the wood index (+1.9%) and the vegetable products index (+2.1%). This was the first time since May 1990 that more components went up than went down. After several months of decline, the RMPI excluding mineral fuels rose 0.4% compared to November.

In December 1991, the RMPI was down 15.7% from December 1990. The decrease was due to declines in six of seven components of the total index. The main changes were a 31.0% drop in mineral fuel prices and a 16.1% decrease in the non-ferrous metals index. Excluding the mineral fuels component, the RMPI was down 5.6% in December 1991 compared to December 1990.

### Highlights

- The mineral fuels price index fell by 5.5% as a result of lower prices for crude mineral oils (-6.0%). However, the price of natural gas was up by 4.0%. The mineral fuels index was down 31.0% from December 1990, due primarily to a 32.6% drop in the prices of crude mineral oils.
- The non-ferrous metals index was down 2.7% from November. This decline was mainly due to

the 7.8% drop in the price of copper concentrates. Other changes, the 12.2% increase in the price of zinc concentrates and the 1.8% drop in the price of aluminum materials, offset each other. Over the past year, the non-ferrous metals index has dropped 16.1%. The main contributors to this decline were lower prices for aluminum materials (-29.7%), concentrates of copper (-13.8%) and radio-active concentrates (-35.2%).

- The wood price index rose 1.9% in December. Prices of logs and bolts were up 2.9% but prices of softwood pulpwood went down 0.2% and prices of hardwood pulpwood fell by 0.4%. On a year-to-year basis, the wood price index was up 2.1%. All of its four components were up, also.
- The vegetable products index was up 2.1% from November. This was mainly due a 7.8% price increase for unrefined sugar and a 4.9% rise in grain prices. However, the overall increase was moderated by a 3.2% drop in raw tobacco prices. Over the latest 12 months, the vegetable products index fell 2.7% due primarily to drops in the prices of unrefined sugar (-16.1%) and oilseeds (-8.0%). A 7.5% increase in grain prices moderated the overall decline.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2009.

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Section at (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

### Raw Materials Price Index

(1986 = 100)

	Relative Importance	Index December 1991 <sup>1</sup>	December 1991/ November 1991	December 1991/ December 1990
				% Change
<b>Raw Materials total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-15.7</b>
Mineral fuels	32	104.0	-5.5	-31.0
Vegetable products	10	89.6	2.1	-2.7
Animal and animal products	25	99.0	0.4	-6.1
Wood	13	124.2	1.9	2.1
Ferrous materials	4	88.0	0.5	-4.5
Non-ferrous metals	13	89.2	-2.7	-16.1
Non-metallic minerals	3	101.1	0.2	-3.3
Total excluding mineral fuels	68	100.0	0.4	-5.6

<sup>1</sup> These indexes are preliminary.

## Health Reports

Third Quarter 1991

### Highlights

#### Trends in Cesarean Section Deliveries in Canada

- Approximately one of every five deliveries in Canada in 1988-89 (19.5 per 100 hospital deliveries) was by cesarean section compared to one in 17 two decades earlier.
- Among the 15 countries studied, Canada had the second highest rate and was preceded only by the United States (24.7). The Canadian rate (19.5) was almost double that of the United Kingdom (10.0).
- Provincially, the rates in 1988-89 were highest in Newfoundland (23.3) and lowest in Manitoba (15.5). The rates in the other provinces were British Columbia 22.2, Alberta 17.1, Saskatchewan 17.4, Ontario 20.3, Quebec 19.0, New Brunswick 20.8, Nova Scotia 19.9 and Prince Edward Island 18.1.
- In 1988-89, 38.2% of all cesarean sections were repeat cesarean sections, compared with about 20% in 1970.
- Vaginal births after cesarean (VBAC) in Canada increased to 15.6 per 100 previous cesarean sections in 1988-89, up from less than 5.0 a decade earlier. VBAC rates were highest in Manitoba (26.9), which also had the lowest cesarean section rate in Canada.

#### National Health Insurance in Canada and Private Psychiatry

(Study by A. Richman)

- There is a lack of psychiatric services available in Canada, notwithstanding a doubling of the number of psychiatrists between 1972-73 and 1988-89.

- The lack of services is due largely to uneven geographic distribution of psychiatric services. As the supply of psychiatrists increases, more psychiatrists settle in urban areas.
- Because most psychiatrists are in fee-for-service rather than in hospital practice, gaps in service are most pronounced in hospitals and in programs for the severely disabled.
- General practitioners report that their patients who suffer from depression have inadequate access to psychiatric services. Psychiatrists are spending more time in psychotherapy and less time with general practitioners, who may not be getting the back-up they require to help treat psychological disturbances.

#### Peptic Ulcers: Mortality and Hospitalization

- The age-standardized mortality rates for peptic ulcers decreased during 1951-1988 by 69.4% for men (8.5 to 2.6 per 100,000 population) and by 32% for women (2.2 to 1.5).
- Separation rates from hospitals during 1969-1988 also decreased by 59.8% for men (242.7 to 97.6 per 100,000 population) and by 35.6% for women (103.2 to 66.5).
- The elderly show the highest rates for both deaths and hospitalization from peptic ulcers.
- The peptic ulcer mortality rate for men was almost four times the rate for women in 1951, but the slower decline in the rate for women resulted in the gap narrowing considerably. By 1988 the rates were fairly similar.

The third quarter 1991 issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (82-003, \$26/\$104) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Nelson Nault (613-951-2990), Canadian Centre for Health Information. ■



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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey

Third Quarter 1991, Large Carriers

Third quarter 1991 results of the Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey for Large Carriers, covering the activities of for-hire trucking carriers with annual operating revenues of \$25 million or more, are now available.

#### Highlights

- Carriers earning \$25 million or more annually generated total operating revenues of \$795.0 million. This was a decrease of 0.7% from the second quarter of 1991, when the total operating revenues were \$800.6 million.
- Domestic movements accounted for 82.7% of the total operating revenues, while international movements accounted for 17.2%. International movements into Canada (northbound movements) accounted for 53.9% of total international revenues, while the remaining 46.1% of international revenues were from movements originating in Canada (southbound movements).
- Total operating expenses were \$781.4 million, down 1.3% from the second quarter 1991 level of \$791.7 million. The major operating expenses were: salaries and wages (which accounted for 37.4% of the total); fuel (6.0%); payments to owner-operators, including their fuel (22.9%); and other purchased transportation expenses (5.5%).
- The ratio of total operating expenses to total operating revenues was 0.983. This was a deterioration from the operating ratio recorded in the third quarter of 1990 (0.972), but a slight improvement over the 0.989 of the second quarter of 1991.
- The distance travelled by company drivers was 225.9 million kilometres, while owner-operators drove 252.1 million kilometres. Revenues per kilometre were \$1.66, a slight increase of \$0.01 from the second quarter of 1991.

For further information on this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486), Transportation Division. ■

### Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending January 14, 1992

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 4.5 million tonnes, an increase of 13.4% over the same period in 1991.
- Piggyback traffic increased 0.1% from the same period in 1991. The number of cars loaded increased 1.5% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year increased 13.1% from 1991.

**Note:** Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic. All 1991 figures and 1992 cumulative data have been revised.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

### Electric Power Selling Price Indexes

September-December 1991

Electric Power Selling Price Indexes (1986 = 100) are now available for September to December 1991.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 2020.**

The December 1991 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available at the end of February. See "How to order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division. ■

### Grain Marketing Situation Report

December 1991

The situation report for December 1991 is now available. This report presents up-to-date information on the Canadian and world grain supplies and on the market situation.

For further detailed information on this release, contact Karen Gray (204-983-2856), Agriculture Division. ■



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