



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 2, 1992

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MAJOR RELEASE

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- **Canadian Composite Leading Indicator, July 1992** 2
The composite index rose 0.3% in July, after gains of 0.2% in June and 0.1% in May.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reference Map Series - Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 1991 Census	4
Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, August 1992	4
Electric Power Statistics, July 1992	4
Coal and Coke Statistics, July 1992	4

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 5

MAJOR RELEASE DATES: Week of October 5-9 6



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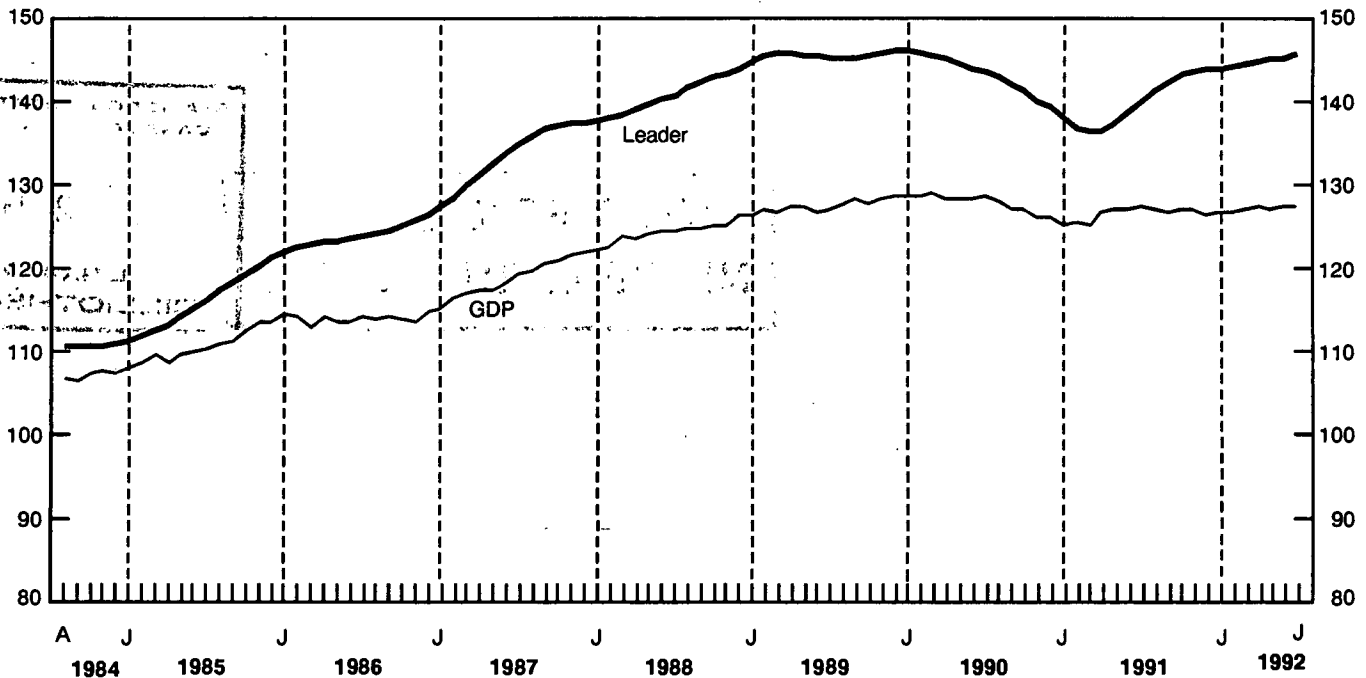
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MAJOR RELEASE

Composite Leading Indicator and GDP

1981 = 100



Composite Leading Indicator

July 1992

The leading indicator rose again in July, up 0.3% after alternating gains of 0.2% or 0.1% in every month since January. Only four of the 10 components contributed to growth, compared to seven in June, as manufacturing demand weakened. The housing index spearheaded the growth in July. The unsmoothed index rose 0.1% after a 1.1% gain in June.

Household demand continued to improve, after a lacklustre start to the year. The housing index accelerated from 1.4% growth in June to 1.9% in July, reflecting gains in both house sales and housing starts. Subsequently, housing starts fell in August, despite lower inventories of unsold homes, notably in Quebec and Ontario. Furniture and appliance sales picked up with the housing market in July, with growth

rising to 0.3% from 0.1% in June. Sales of other durable goods were stable, after nine straight declines.

After oscillating between gains and losses since last March, new orders for durable goods fell again in July. The auto industry led the drop, as exports faltered. Orders for investment goods also weakened. The ratio of shipments to inventories was unchanged, as both fell in tandem. The average workweek was flat, after a 0.3% gain in June.

The financial market indicators remained mixed. The stock market index fell by 0.5%, its fifth straight drop, as natural resource stocks remained very weak. The money supply rose 0.1% for the third month in a row.

The U.S. leading indicator slowed to a 0.3% increase in July. Residential building permits recovered strongly after four consecutive drops. New orders for consumer goods rose slightly and initial claims for unemployment insurance edged down.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For more information on the economy, the October issue of *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$22/\$220) will be available the week of October 19-23. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release or about the next release dates, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Division. ■

Canadian Leading Indicators

	Percentage Change			Level	
	May	June	July	June	July
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	0.1	0.2	0.3	145.3	145.7
Unsmoothed	-0.3	1.1	0.1	146.7	146.9
Retail trade					
Furniture and appliance sales	0.2	0.1	0.3	1,025.8 ⁴	1,028.8 ⁴
Other durable goods sales	-0.3	-0.1	0.0	3,524.2 ⁴	3,523.7 ⁴
Housing index¹	1.3	1.4	1.9	129.7	132.1
Manufacturing					
New orders - durables	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	8,986 ⁴	8,948 ⁴
Shipment to inventory ratio - finished goods ²	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.38	1.38
Average workweek (hours)	0.0	0.3	0.0	38.2	38.2
Business and personal services employment (thousands)	-0.7	-0.5	-0.3	1,735	1,729
United States composite leading index (1967 = 100)	0.4	0.4	0.3	203.6	204.2
TSE300 stock price index (1975 = 1000)	-0.8	-0.8	-0.5	3,438	3,422
Money supply (M1) (\$1981)³	0.1	0.1	0.1	24,598⁴	24,632⁴

¹ Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (MLS).

² Difference from previous month.

³ Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.

⁴ Millions of 1981 dollars. ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reference Map Series - Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts 1991 Census

This collection of colourful maps is a new product that depicts the boundaries of census tracts, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations and their parts (urbanized core, urban fringe and rural fringe). Where applicable, census subdivisions, primary census metropolitan areas and primary census agglomerations are featured.

Also shown on the reference maps are rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and other significant features. The map scales range from 1:25,000 to 1:2,000,000.

The new *Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts* (92-320, \$75) from the Reference Map Series is now available. The maps are available as a collection for \$75 or individually for \$5.

To obtain this product or for more information, see "How to Order Publications." ■

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins

August 1992

Canadian chemical firms produced 134 740 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in August 1992, a 2.5% decrease from the 138 153^r (revised) tonnes produced in August 1991.

January to August 1992 production totalled 1 100 308 tonnes, up 8.7% from the 1 012 044 tonnes produced during the same period in 1991.

Data are also available on Canadian production of three other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals for August 1992 and August 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The August 1992 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins* (46-002, \$5.60/\$56) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division. ■

Electric Power Statistics

July 1992

Highlights

- Net generation of electric energy in Canada in July 1992 decreased to 36 607 gigawatt hours (GWh), down 0.8% from July 1991. Exports increased 35.9% to 3 460 GWh, but imports decreased from 716 GWh to 417 GWh.
- Year-to-date figures in July 1992 showed net generation at 290 791 GWh, up 2.3% over the previous year's period. Exports, at 16 616 GWh, were up 45.7%, but imports, at 4 203 GWh, were down 2.8%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The July 1992 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$9/\$90) will be available the first week of October. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Coal and Coke Statistics

July 1992

Highlights

- Canadian production of coal totalled 4 904 kilotonnes in July 1992, down 5.3% from July 1991. The year-to-date production figure in July 1992 stood at 39 870 kilotonnes, down 2.2% from the year-earlier period.
- Exports in July fell to 1 997 kilotonnes, down 11.2% from July 1991, but imports increased 8.2% to 1 121 kilotonnes. Cumulative figures as of July 1992 showed exports of 18 236 kilotonnes, 6.5% below the year-earlier level.
- Coke production increased to 317 kilotonnes in July 1992, up 1.8% from July 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The July 1992 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, \$10/\$100) will be available the first week of October. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Rigid Insulating Board, August 1992.

Catalogue number 36-002

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

Asphalt Roofing, August 1992.

Catalogue number 45-001

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

**Quarterly Report on Energy Supply-demand in
Canada, 1992-I.**

Catalogue number 57-003

(Canada: \$31.75/\$127; United States: US\$38/
US\$152; Other Countries: US\$44.50/US\$178).

**Consumer Prices and Price Indexes,
April-June 1992.**

Catalogue number 62-010

(Canada: \$18/\$72; United States: US\$21.50/US\$86;
Other Countries: US\$25.25/US\$101).

**Census Metropolitan Areas, Census
Agglomerations and Census Tracts,
Reference Maps.**

Catalogue number 92-320

(Canada: \$75; United States: US\$90;
Other Countries: US\$105).

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requirements of American National Standard for
Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed
Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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MAJOR RELEASE DATES

Week of October 5-9
(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
October		
6	Short-term Expectations Survey	
7	Help-wanted Index	September 1992
7	Estimates of Labour Income	July 1992
7	Field Crop Reporting Series: No. 7 - September Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada	
8	Farm Product Price Index	August 1992
9	Labour Force Survey	September 1992
9	New Motor Vehicle Sales	August 1992
9	New Housing Price Index	August 1992
9	Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	August 1992