



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, October 28, 1992

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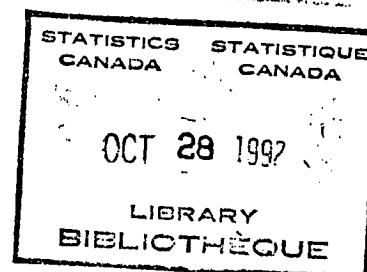
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MAJOR RELEASES

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

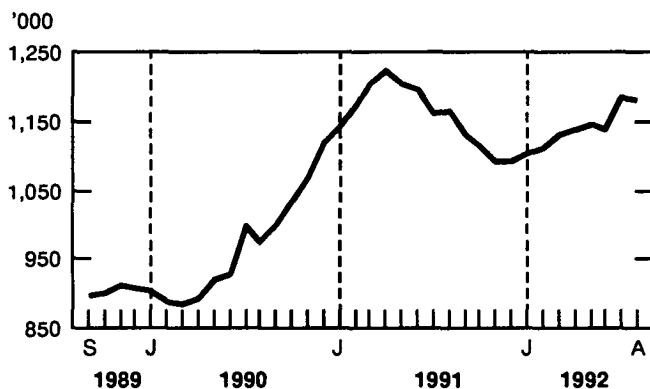
August 1992

Seasonally Adjusted Data

- For the week ended August 15, 1992, the number of beneficiaries¹ who received regular unemployment insurance benefits was estimated at 1,179,000, practically unchanged (-0.3%) from July.

Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Canada

Seasonally adjusted



- Between July and August 1992, the number of beneficiaries who received regular benefits increased 3.4% in Newfoundland and 1.1% in Ontario. Decreases were observed in Saskatchewan (-3.6%) and Quebec (-1.7%). The other provinces and territories had changes of less than 1%.
- In August 1992, the amount paid² for regular benefits, adjusted for seasonal variations and the number of working days, was \$1.3 billion, up 2.5% from the previous month. The number of benefit weeks (payments for regular benefits) was 5.2 million in August, an increase of 2.0% from July.

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

Note to Users

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

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variation

- In August 1992, the estimated number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) was 1,282,000, up 1.2% from a year earlier. Over the same 12-month period, the number of male beneficiaries increased 1.2% to 629,000 and the number of female beneficiaries increased 1.2% to 653,000.
- In the following census metropolitan areas, the year-over-year percentage change in the number of beneficiaries was or exceeded $\pm 10\%$:

| | Beneficiaries August 1992 | % Change from August 1991 |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oshawa | 12,660 | 40% |
| Sudbury | 7,620 | 19% |
| St. Catharines-Niagara | 16,410 | 11% |
| Quebec | 32,510 | 11% |
| Sherbrooke | 8,220 | 10% |
| St. John's | 14,170 | 10% |
| Windsor | 10,470 | -30% |
| London | 11,990 | -13% |

- In August 1992, total disbursements for unemployment insurance benefits^{2,3} were \$1.4 billion, up 12.6% from August 1991. Between January and August 1992, a total of \$13.5 billion

² Benefit payments, number of benefit weeks and number of claims received relate to a complete calendar month. These data are usually final estimates when released. Note 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.

³ Since February 1991, the unemployment insurance disbursements shown include monies paid to schools and colleges to train beneficiaries.

was disbursed. This represents an increase of 8.8% from the same period last year. Year-over-year, for the same eight-month period, the average weekly payment increased 4.8% to \$254.33 and the number of benefit weeks advanced 2.1% to 51.9 million.

- A total of 237,000 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in August 1992, practically unchanged from August 1991. From January to August 1992, a total of 2,379,000 claims were received, a decrease of 2.3% from the year-earlier period.

The August 1992 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$14.70/\$147) will contain data for June, July and August 1992 and will be available in November. See "How to Order Publications".

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

For more information, please call Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087).

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

| Seasonally adjusted data | August 1992 | July 1992 | June 1992 | August 1991 | % change Aug. 1992/ July 1992 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Regular Benefits | | | | | |
| Beneficiaries (000) | 1,179 ^P | 1,183 ^P | 1,136 ^r | 1,162 | -0.3 |
| Amount paid (\$000) | 1,332,780 | 1,300,156 | 1,263,579 | 1,237,993 | 2.5 |
| Weeks of benefits (000) | 5,209 | 5,107 | 4,992 | 5,014 | 2.0 |
| Unadjusted data | August 1992 | July 1992 | June 1992 | August 1991 | % change Aug. 1992/ Aug. 1991 |
| Beneficiaries (000) - All | 1,282 ^P | 1,281 ^P | 1,264 ^r | 1,267 | 1.2 |
| Beneficiaries (000) - Regular | 1,087 ^P | 1,087 ^P | 1,039 ^r | 1,084 | 0.3 |
| Claims received (000) | 237 | 323 | 293 | 236 | 0.0 |
| Amount paid (\$000) | 1,449,948 | 1,438,442 | 1,505,271 | 1,288,004 | 12.6 |
| Weeks of benefits (000) | 5,660 | 5,622 | 5,946 | 5,306 | 6.7 |
| Average weekly benefit (\$) | 251.68 | 249.35 | 248.71 | 240.41 | 4.7 |
| Year-to-date | January to August | | | | % change 1992/1991 |
| | 1992 | | 1991 | | |
| Beneficiaries - Average (000) | 1,446 ^P | | 1,439 | | 0.5 |
| Claims received (000) | 2,379 | | 2,435 | | -2.3 |
| Amount paid (\$000) | 13,510,231 | | 12,414,555 | | 8.8 |
| Weeks of benefits (000) | 51,880 | | 50,826 | | 2.1 |
| Average weekly benefit (\$) | 254.33 | | 242.61 | | 4.8 |

^P Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

"All beneficiaries" includes all claimants who receive regular benefits (e.g., because of lay-off or a voluntary quit) or special benefits (e.g., in case of sickness).

Industrial Product Price Index

September 1992

According to preliminary figures, the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) rose 0.5% to 109.8 in September 1992 from August's revised level of 109.2. Fourteen of the 21 major groups of products registered increases in their indexes, but two decreased and five did not change. The most significant increases were for autos, trucks and other transport equipment (1.2%), paper and paper products (0.9%) and lumber, sawmill and other wood products (2.5%). The only declines were in beverages, and knitted products and clothing, both a marginal 0.1%.

During September, the value of the U.S. dollar rose 2.1% against the Canadian dollar; from the point of view of Canadian producers, export prices denominated in U.S. dollars increased by the same percentage. This phenomenon contributed heavily to the significant increases in all three of the commodity price indices mentioned above.

Compared to September 1991, the IPPI was 2.1% higher. The most important increases over the last 12 months were in lumber, sawmill and other wood products (11.7%), meat, fish, and dairy products (2.6%), primary metal products (1.8%) and paper and paper products (1.5%). The seven declines were all 1.0% or less. The 1.0% decline in rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products was the most important decline and the only one over 0.5%. If petroleum and coal products are excluded, the 12-month change for the index was 2.4%.

Both the first- and the second-stage intermediate goods indices registered increases of 0.6% from August. In final goods, the capital equipment price index rose by 0.6%, while the finished foods and feeds index showed no change and all other finished goods rose 0.5% in price. All five of these indices were higher than a year earlier, ranging from finished foods and feeds at 1.5% to capital equipment at 3.3%.

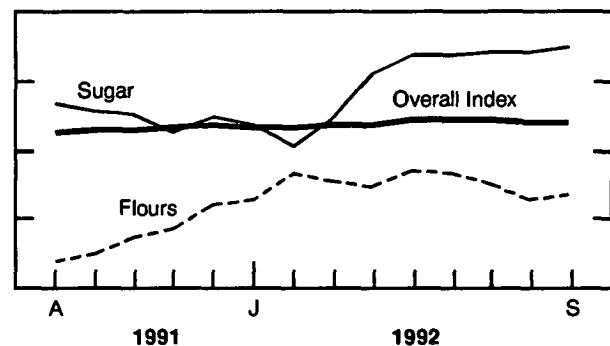
Highlights

- The autos, trucks and other transportation equipment price index rose 1.2% in September due to the increase in the value of exports as the U.S. dollar rose. The index was 5.8% higher than a year ago.

- The paper and paper products price index increased by 0.9% in September, despite declines in the domestic price indices for both newsprint and sulphate woodpulp, because of the increases in the export values as the U.S. dollar rose. Although paper and paper products were only 1.5% higher than a year earlier, pulp was 18.8% higher while newsprint and other paper stock had declined by 5.2%.
- The lumber, sawmill and other wood products index showed a 2.5% increase in September. Generally rising softwood prices, both at home and abroad, were reinforced by the rise in the value of the U.S. dollar. Only Coastal B.C. Red Cedar showed noticeable declines. The lumber, sawmill, and other wood products index stood 11.7% higher than in September 1991, with softwood lumber 20.7% higher.

Fruits, Vegetables, Feeds and Miscellaneous Food Products

Index 1986 = 100



The fruits, vegetable, feed and miscellaneous food price index is made up of six principal components: fruit and vegetable preparations; feeds; flour, wheat, meal and other cereals; breakfast cereal and bakery products; sugar; and miscellaneous food products. These six break down further into 109 separate commodity indices. The overall index stood 1.2% higher in September 1992 than in September 1991. Before plateauing in July, it had risen quite steadily, supported by a rising price index for breakfast cereal

and bakery products. Flour, wheat, meal, and other cereals, and sugar have shown the largest net increases over the last 12 months. The latter tended to decline until February and then rose. The former tended to rise until February, when it plateaued, but it has declined somewhat since July.

The September 1992 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available at the end of November. See "how to Order Publications".

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

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

Industrial Product Price Indexes (1986 = 100)

| Index | Relative Importance ¹ | Index September 1992 ² | September 1992/ August 1992 | September 1992/ September 1991 |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | % change | |
| Industrial Product Price Index - Total | 100.0 | 109.8 | 0.5 | 2.1 |
| Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products | 93.6 | 111.0 | 0.5 | 2.4 |
| Intermediate goods | 60.4 | 108.2 | 0.6 | 1.9 |
| First-stage intermediate goods | 13.4 | 106.2 | 0.6 | 2.7 |
| Second-stage intermediate goods | 47.0 | 108.8 | 0.6 | 1.8 |
| Finished goods | 39.6 | 112.2 | 0.4 | 2.6 |
| Finished foods and feeds | 9.9 | 116.6 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Capital equipment | 10.4 | 111.7 | 0.6 | 3.3 |
| All other finished goods | 19.3 | 110.2 | 0.5 | 2.8 |
| Aggregation by commodities: | | | | |
| Meat, fish and dairy products | 7.4 | 112.0 | 0.2 | 2.6 |
| Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products | 6.3 | 114.1 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Beverages | 2.0 | 122.2 | -0.1 | 1.2 |
| Tobacco and tobacco products | 0.7 | 148.1 | 0.0 | 3.7 |
| Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products | 3.1 | 113.5 | 0.1 | -1.0 |
| Textile products | 2.2 | 109.6 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Knitted products and clothing | 2.3 | 113.4 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Lumber, sawmill, other wood products | 4.9 | 117.0 | 2.5 | 11.7 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 1.7 | 117.9 | 0.0 | -0.5 |
| Paper and paper products | 8.1 | 107.1 | 0.9 | 1.5 |
| Printing and publishing | 2.7 | 127.8 | 0.0 | 2.3 |
| Primary metal products | 7.7 | 103.4 | 0.8 | 1.8 |
| Metal fabricated products | 4.9 | 111.9 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| Machinery and equipment | 4.2 | 117.1 | 0.3 | 1.4 |
| Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment | 17.6 | 104.4 | 1.2 | 5.8 |
| Electrical and communications products | 5.1 | 111.0 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| Non-metallic mineral products | 2.6 | 110.5 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Petroleum and coal products ³ | 6.4 | 92.6 | 0.2 | -0.5 |
| Chemical, chemical products | 7.2 | 114.0 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Miscellaneous manufactured products | 2.5 | 112.1 | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities | 0.4 | 71.5 | 0.7 | 2.4 |

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

² Indexes are preliminary.

³ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw Materials Price Index

September 1992

Preliminary data indicate that the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986=100) rose 1.9% to 109.8 between August and September 1992. The main reason for the increase was a 3.3% rise in mineral fuel prices in September. Other indexes contributing to the upward trend were vegetable products (3.9%), wood (2.9%) and non-ferrous metals (2.0%). The animal and animal products index was the only component that declined significantly in September (-1.1%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels was up 1.2% in September from the previous month.

The RMPI increased by a substantial 7.9% over the last 12 months. The main reasons for this year-over-year increase were higher prices for mineral fuels (10.2%) and wood (17.1%). Other contributing factors were non-ferrous metals (8.0%), vegetable products (2.5%) and animals and animal products (2.0%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels went up 6.7% between September 1991 and September 1992.

Highlights

- The mineral fuels index was up 3.3% in September, largely due to a 3.4% rise in the crude mineral oils index. Coal prices edged up 1.1% from August levels. Since September 1991, the mineral fuels index has posted a significant increase (10.2%), primarily because of the 10.5% increment in the crude mineral oils index, but also because of more modest advances in the coal index (7.6%) over the last 12 months.
- In September the vegetable products index posted its first monthly increase (3.9%) after three consecutive declines. Contributing to the increase were higher prices for wheat (10.3%)

and oilseeds (8.8%). The vegetable products index was up 2.5% over the previous year, mainly due to increases in wheat (17.7%) and oilseed (8.4%) prices. Lower prices for cocoa, coffee and tea (-26.6%) and fresh potatoes (-20.7%) were offsetting factors.

- The wood index was up 2.9% in September, primarily because of a 3.7% increase in log and bolt prices, the 10th in as many months. Over the last 12 months, wood prices have risen 17.1%; logs and bolts led the way with a year-over-year increase of 25.4%.
- The non-ferrous metals index rose 2.0% from August to September, reflecting higher prices for gold (4.7%), zinc concentrates (3.9%) and copper concentrates (1.8%). Since September 1991, the non-ferrous metals index has advanced 8.0%, owing to increases in the indexes for zinc concentrates (24.3%), copper concentrates (8.5%), gold (6.7%) and aluminum materials (11.2%).
- The animal and animal products index posted its fourth consecutive monthly decrease in September, dropping 1.1%. This decline reflects the lower prices reported during the month for fish (-6.2%) and hogs for slaughter (-1.6%). Since September 1991, the animal and animal products index has increased 2.0%, mainly due to higher prices for cattle for slaughter (6.7%). The upward trend was moderated primarily by the fish index, which decreased 7.5% over the last 12 months.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2009.

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

Raw Materials Price Index

(1986 = 100)

| | Relative Importance | Index September 1992 ¹ | Sept. 1992/ August 1992 | September 1992/ September 1991 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | % Change | |
| Raw Materials total | 100 | 109.8 | 1.9 | 7.9 |
| Mineral fuels | 32 | 113.1 | 3.3 | 10.2 |
| Vegetable products | 10 | 91.6 | 3.9 | 2.5 |
| Animal and animal products | 26 | 103.0 | -1.1 | 2.0 |
| Wood | 13 | 144.3 | 2.9 | 17.1 |
| Ferrous materials | 4 | 94.2 | 0.6 | 5.8 |
| Non-ferrous metals | 13 | 101.2 | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Non-metallic minerals | 3 | 99.6 | -0.4 | -1.5 |
| Total excluding mineral fuels | 68 | 108.3 | 1.2 | 6.7 |

¹ These indexes are preliminary.

Provincial Real Gross Domestic Product by Industry

1987-1991

Highlights

Canada

- The recession worsened in 1991 as GDP slid 1.1% after edging down 0.2% in 1990. Goods-producers bore the brunt of the cutbacks, with output tumbling 3.9% following a 2.5% decline in 1990. Production of services inched ahead 0.4%, a smaller gain than in 1990 and the third consecutive year of slow growth.
- Cutbacks by manufacturers were by far the largest contributor to the drop in goods production. Manufacturing output fell 6.6% in 1991 after dropping 5.1% in 1990. Losses were widespread in both years, with producers of transportation equipment trimming production the most. The weakness in manufacturing was evident as early as 1989, when output edged ahead 0.2% following gains of 4.8% in 1987 and 5.1% in 1988.
- Construction output, which has lagged manufacturing by about one year in this recession, dropped 4.4% in 1991 after advancing marginally in 1990. Secondary effects from the drop in construction were evident in lower output of logging, wood, non-metallic mineral products (such as bricks, concrete and ready-mix) and other construction-related materials.
- Utilities was the only major goods-producer to record a substantial advance in output in 1991, as exports of electric energy surged while imports waned.
- Elsewhere in the goods sector, marginally higher mining output was partly offset by losses in fishing, while agriculture production remained virtually unchanged as 1991 grain crops matched the record harvest of the previous year.
- The slowdown in services was mainly due to widespread declines in community, business and personal services, although retail trade and transportation and storage also contributed.
- Cutbacks by 10 of 13 industry groups led a 3.4% decline in community, business and personal services. The previous year, prior to the introduction of the GST, output rose 1.8% and only four groups recorded lower production. An 11.3% plunge in hotel and restaurant services accounted for about two-thirds of the 1991 decline.
- Retail trade fell 3.8% after declining 1.5% in 1990, as consumer confidence waned and growth in disposable income slowed. Widespread declines led a 2.4% drop in transportation and storage output.
- Gains elsewhere in services barely offset these declines. Lower interest rates spurred sales on stock markets and in the secondary housing market and led a 3.8% gain in finance, insurance and real estate. Communications rose 4.0%, down from 7.8% the year before. Wholesale trade gained 1.1%, while government services rose 1.3%. Although advances were reported by all levels of government, defence services dropped for the second year in a row.

Note to Users

This release of Provincial Gross Domestic Product by Industry (15-203, \$35) presents provincial estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Industry. The principal accomplishment embodied here is the extension of coverage to include additional services-producing industries. Coverage now encompasses 75% of national GDP in the base year 1986, an increase of more than 17% since last year. All goods-producing industries and more than half of the services-producing industries are covered.

The analysis presented here highlights the behaviour of real output for the industries covered, by province. As background, an overview of the national economy is presented first, followed by highlights for the provinces. The accompanying table presents GDP estimates for goods-producing industries.

Provinces and Territories, Goods and Selected Services

- The concentration of the recession in manufacturing and construction affected the distribution of activity across the country. Sharp declines in manufacturing in Central Canada, Manitoba, and British Columbia, where it accounts for at least 40% of goods production, caused a disproportionate drop in output in these provinces.
- Residential and non-residential construction declined substantially in most provinces, but cutbacks in supplying industries such as logging and manufacturers of wood products were concentrated in B.C. and, to some extent, in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.
- A spate of energy-related projects boosted engineering construction in a number of provinces. In Newfoundland, construction of new oil facilities related to the Hibernia oil field soared. The New Brunswick economy was spurred by activity on the Belledune coal-fired generating station, while the James Bay projects continued to buttress the economy of Quebec. Work on new oil and gas pipelines in Ontario increased substantially, while construction of oil and gas plants helped boost engineering construction in Saskatchewan and B.C..

- Mining output rose in a number of Western provinces, where production of coal, crude oil and natural gas dominates the mining industry.
- A number of other special factors influenced the provincial distribution of output. Scaling down of the Canadian patrol frigate program reduced shipbuilding in New Brunswick, and the closure of the Canadian Forces base in Summerside diminished output in Prince Edward Island. A poor fish catch on both coasts reduced output in fishing and fish processing in most Maritime provinces, while another near-record harvest kept agriculture output at high levels on the Prairies.
- Restaurant and hotel services and retail trade fell in almost all provinces in the first year following the introduction of the GST, while government, education, and health and social services advanced modestly in many provinces.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 7358-7369 (current price series) and 7904-7915 (constant price series).

The 1984-1991 issue of *Provincial Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (15-203, \$35) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Darryl Rhoades (613-951-3621) or Richard Martel (613-951-2018), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost in 1986 Prices, by Province, Goods Industries

| | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1990 | 1991 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | (millions of dollars) | | | | | (% change) | |
| Canada | 170,259 | 177,176 | 178,739 | 174,255 | 167,380 | -2.5 | -3.9 |
| Newfoundland | 1,936 | 2,207 | 2,154 | 2,129 | 2,055 | -1.2 | -5.8 |
| Prince Edward Island | 430 | 490 | 486 | 471 | 436 | -3.1 | -7.4 |
| Nova Scotia | 3,562 | 3,673 | 3,784 | 3,768 | 3,693 | -0.4 | -2.0 |
| New Brunswick | 3,263 | 3,310 | 3,313 | 3,270 | 3,281 | -1.3 | 0.3 |
| Quebec | 38,605 | 40,255 | 40,079 | 38,963 | 37,079 | -2.8 | -4.8 |
| Ontario | 69,512 | 72,650 | 73,716 | 69,197 | 65,232 | -6.1 | -5.7 |
| Manitoba | 5,411 | 5,214 | 5,349 | 5,675 | 5,269 | 6.1 | -7.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 6,561 | 5,603 | 5,982 | 6,854 | 7,013 | 14.6 | 2.3 |
| Alberta | 22,741 | 24,996 | 24,577 | 25,124 | 25,070 | 2.2 | -0.2 |
| British Columbia | 17,342 | 17,848 | 18,368 | 17,907 | 17,392 | -2.5 | -2.9 |
| Yukon Territory | 313 | 325 | 299 | 309 | 329 | 3.4 | 6.6 |
| Northwest Territories | 584 | 604 | 633 | 590 | 581 | -6.8 | -1.4 |

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

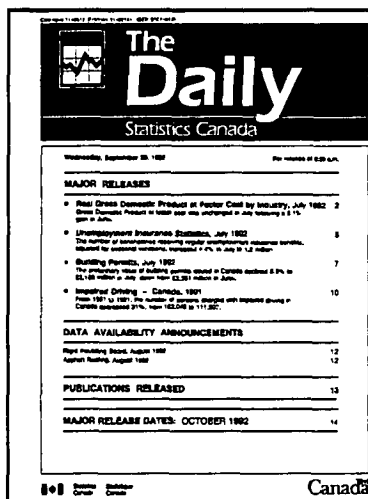
Production and Value of Honey 1991-92

Production and value data for 1991 and a preliminary production estimate for 1992 are now available for honey.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1056.

To order *Production and Value of Honey and Maple Products* (\$10), contact Guy Gervais (613-951-2453).

For further information, contact John Brunette (613-951-0374), Agriculture Division. ■



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, 10-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1187)
Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103)

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The Daily, October 28, 1992

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Provincial Gross Domestic Product by Industry, 1984-1991.

Catalogue number 15-203

(Canada: \$35; United States: US\$42;

Other Countries: US\$49).

Construction Type Plywood, August 1992.

Catalogue number 35-001

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, (Excluding Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island) August 1992.

Catalogue number 35-002

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120;

Other Countries: US\$14/US\$140).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, August 1992.

Catalogue number 35-003

(Canada: \$7.10/\$71; United States: US\$8.50/US\$85;

Other Countries: US\$9.90/US\$99).

Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, September 1992.

Catalogue number 36-004

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, September 1992.

Catalogue number 44-004

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin: Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey, First Quarter, 1992; and For-Hire Trucking (Commodity Origin and Destination) Statistics, 1990. Vol. 8, No. 7.

Catalogue number 50-002

(Canada: \$9.40/\$75; United States: US\$11.25/US\$90;

Other Countries: US\$13.15/US\$105).

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