

# The Daily

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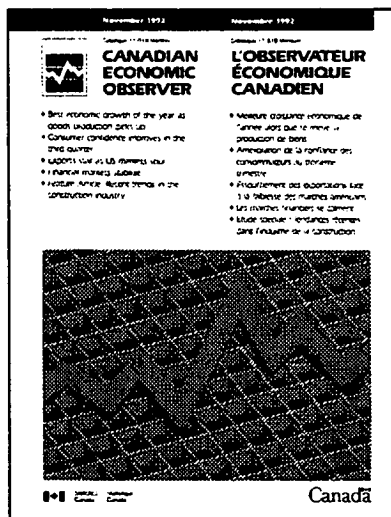
## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Consumer Price Index, October 1992** 2  
In October, the CPI year-to-year increase was 1.6%, up from the 1.3% increase reported in September.
- **Sales of Natural Gas, September 1992** 10  
Sales of natural gas including direct sales in Canada during September 1992 totalled 3 273 million cubic metres, an 8.3% increase over the September 1991 level.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Steel Primary Forms, Week Ending November 14, 1992 11
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### Canadian Economic Observer November 1992

The November issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, presents a monthly summary of the economy and the major economic events in October along with a feature article, "Recent Trends in the Construction Industry." A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and major industrial nations.

The November issue of *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$22/\$220) can now be ordered from Publication Sales. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information, call Philip Cross (613-951-9162), Current Analysis Section.



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## MAJOR RELEASES

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### Consumer Price Index

October 1992

#### National Highlights

##### All-items

The All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI, 1986 = 100) for Canada rose by 0.2% between September and October to reach 128.5. Despite an 8.4% increase in property taxes, the increase was in line with monthly increases seen this year. As a matter of practice, property taxes are introduced into the CPI once a year in October.

Largely as a result of the increase in property taxes, the Housing index rose by 0.4% and was the major component with the largest contribution to the monthly increase. The Clothing index, which advanced by 0.5%, also exerted some upward pressure. The contributions of the other major components were relatively insignificant.

Between October 1991 and October 1992, the All-items index increased by 1.6%, a year-over-year change higher than the 1.3% recorded in September. Between May and September the level ranged between 1.1% and 1.3%; in the first four months of the year, it ranged between 1.6% and 1.7%.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the October All-items CPI rose by 0.1% from its September level, repeating the month-to-month change for September and marginally lower than the 0.2% rates seen in June, July and August. The compound annual rate of increase, based on the seasonally adjusted index levels in the latest three-month period (July to October), was 1.3%, down from the 1.9% and 1.6% increases seen in August and September, respectively.

##### Food

The Food index edged down 0.1% between September and October as a decline of 0.3% in the Food Purchased from Stores component was largely offset by a rise of 0.3% in the prices of Food Purchased from Restaurants.

A number of offsetting movements were noted in the components of Food Purchased from Stores. Fresh fruit prices declined by 7.9%, with the major impact coming from apples (-19.0%), which were at the peak of their harvest. Positive movements were seen for fresh vegetables (3.5%), meat (0.3%) and fish (2.0%). The jump in fresh vegetable prices was a consequence of the market's greater dependence on higher-priced imported products. Within meat, both beef and pork prices rose by 1.7%, while the poultry index decreased by 1.9%, mainly because of special promotions on turkeys for Thanksgiving.

The Food index increased 1.0% over its year-earlier level. This is the second year-over-year increase noted in as many months after eight straight declines. The Food Purchased from Stores component rose 0.6%, breaking the string of year-over-year declines which dated back to October 1991. The Food Purchased from Restaurants component advanced by 1.8% from its October 1991 level.

##### All-items excluding Food

On a month-to-month basis, the All-items excluding Food index rose 0.2%, more than making up the September decline of 0.1%.

The 0.4% rise in the Housing component was primarily the result of the 8.4% jump in property taxes. Property taxes include charges for local governments, for regional governments where applicable, for school boards and, in some municipalities, for special services such as garbage pick-up. The amount levied is based on the assessed value of property and on the tax rates established by local governments and school boards. The increases in Toronto were related mainly to rises in regional and school tax rates. In a number of cities, property assessments increased. This occurred in St. John's but the mill rate did not change. Rebates from provincial governments are also taken into account in calculating this index. A major reason for the increases in Vancouver and Victoria was the discontinuation of supplementary rebates to property owners.

**Annual Percentage Change in Property Taxes,  
Canada and Cities**

|                          | 1991       | 1992       |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| St. John's               | 0.0        | 22.3       |
| Charlottetown/Summerside | 12.0       | 4.3        |
| Halifax                  | 5.2        | 3.9        |
| Saint John               | 7.3        | 2.5        |
| Quebec City              | 6.0        | 6.7        |
| Montreal                 | 6.4        | 7.5        |
| Ottawa                   | 6.7        | 5.1        |
| Toronto                  | 5.0        | 9.8        |
| Thunder Bay              | 6.7        | 7.3        |
| Winnipeg                 | 7.6        | 0.6        |
| Regina                   | 3.9        | 2.7        |
| Saskatoon                | 4.4        | 1.8        |
| Edmonton                 | 7.7        | 5.4        |
| Calgary                  | 6.5        | 7.2        |
| Vancouver                | -2.3       | 21.5       |
| Victoria                 | 1.0        | 16.5       |
| Whitehorse               | 8.4        | 10.5       |
| Yellowknife              | 9.7        | 15.8       |
| <b>Canada</b>            | <b>5.0</b> | <b>8.4</b> |

Within the Housing component, Rent was up 0.2% and was the only other series to have a significant upward impact. Seasonally lower prices for motels and hotels caused a drop of 5.1% for travellers' accommodation. Declines in mortgage interest costs (-0.9%) and homeowners' maintenance and repair charges (-2.2%) also had a strong negative impact.

The Clothing component went up 0.5% in October. Higher prices for some new winter stock coupled with the ending of some promotions were the principal reasons given. The increases were noted across many components of clothing with Men's Wear rising by 0.6%, Women's Wear 0.2%, Boys' Wear 4.0% and Girls' Wear 0.8%. The items exerting the most upward pressure were men's pants (3.5%), women's coats and jackets (1.0%), boys' pants (7.0%) and women's sportswear (0.3%). The increases were dampened by a number of price decreases and new promotions.

The Recreation, Reading and Education index went up 0.1% over the month, due for the most part to advances in ticket prices for stage performances (5.9%) and hockey games (9.9%). Price declines were recorded for home entertainment equipment (-0.7%) and for photographic goods and services (-0.9%).

The Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index and the Health and Personal Care index rose 0.1% in October but had only a minimal effect on the All-items index.

The Transportation component registered a decline in October, falling 0.1%. The decline in the Private Transportation index (-0.2%) reflected a substantial drop in gasoline prices (-0.5%) which resulted from price wars in several parts of the country. The rise of 0.6% in the Public Transportation index was due almost entirely to higher air fares on domestic flights, though a 9.1% decline in rail fares had some offsetting effect.

Over the 12-month period from October 1991 to October 1992, the All-items excluding Food index increased by 1.7%, higher than in the previous two months, but still lower than in the first seven months of the year.

**Energy**

As in September, the Energy index posted a 0.2% decline in October. The 0.5% decrease in gasoline prices was the principal cause, although minor increases for electricity and fuel oil did have some offsetting influence.

**All-items excluding Food and Energy**

The October index for All-items excluding Food and Energy climbed 0.3% after declining 0.1% a month earlier. The October level was 1.7% higher than a year earlier. This increase was slightly above that posted in September and equal to the year-to-year change recorded in August.

**Goods and Services**

The Goods index declined 0.1%, marking the third month in succession that the Goods index has fallen. The index for both non-durable and durable goods slipped by 0.2%, with semi-durable goods, up 0.4%, providing a substantial offsetting effect. The Services index also rose by 0.4%.

From October 1991 to October 1992, the Goods index advanced by 1.1%, higher than the year-over-year movements of 0.2% to 0.5% posted for May through September of this year. The 12-month rise in the Service index was 2.1%, repeating the change posted last month.

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

|   | Indexes         |                   |                 | Percentage change<br>October 1992 from |                 |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
|   | October<br>1992 | September<br>1992 | October<br>1991 | September<br>1992                      | October<br>1991 |
| <b>All-items</b>  | <b>128.5</b>    | <b>128.3</b>      | <b>126.5</b>    | <b>0.2</b>                             | <b>1.6</b>      |
| Food  | 120.6           | 120.7             | 119.4           | -0.1                                   | 1.0             |
| Housing   | 127.0           | 126.5             | 125.6           | 0.4                                    | 1.1             |
| Clothing  | 130.4           | 129.7             | 128.9           | 0.5                                    | 1.2             |
| Transportation  | 121.6           | 121.7             | 118.5           | -0.1                                   | 2.6             |
| Health and personal care  | 132.3           | 132.2             | 128.0           | 0.1                                    | 3.4             |
| Recreation, reading and education   | 132.9           | 132.8             | 132.1           | 0.1                                    | 0.6             |
| Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages  | 170.2           | 170.1             | 165.3           | 0.1                                    | 3.0             |
| All-items excluding food  | 130.3           | 130.0             | 128.1           | 0.2                                    | 1.7             |
| All-items excluding food and energy   | 131.0           | 130.6             | 128.8           | 0.3                                    | 1.7             |
| Goods   | 123.7           | 123.8             | 122.4           | -0.1                                   | 1.1             |
| Services  | 134.3           | 133.7             | 131.6           | 0.4                                    | 2.1             |
| Purchasing power of the consumer<br>dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1986 | 77.8            | 77.9              | 79.1            |  |                 |
| All-items (1981 = 100)  | 170.1           |                   |                 |  |                 |

## City Highlights

Between September 1992 and October 1992, the largest increase in the All-items indexes for cities for which CPIs are published was 0.6% in both Victoria (the driving force being property taxes) and Yellowknife (reflecting price increases for food and for tobacco products and alcoholic beverages). At the other extreme, the All-items indexes for Winnipeg and Edmonton went down by 0.4%. The main contributors to the decline in Edmonton were Food and Housing, while the main contributors in Winnipeg were Housing and Transportation, in particular gasoline.

Between October 1991 and October 1992, increases in city CPIs varied from a low of 0.5% in Charlottetown/Summerside to a high of 3.4% in Vancouver.

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

#### St. John's

The All-items index rose 0.3%, reflecting advances in housing charges and food prices. The rise in the Housing index was mainly due to higher property

taxes and, to a lesser extent, to higher prices for furniture and increased household operating expenses. The Food index rose in response to higher prices for beef, chicken, fresh fruit, restaurant meals, fresh vegetables and soft drinks. Moderating these advances were lower prices for clothing, gasoline and personal care supplies. Increased recreational expenses were also recorded. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.2%.

#### Charlottetown/Summerside

Increased housing charges and higher food prices explained most of the 0.1% rise in the All-items index. Within Housing, most of the advance came from increased electricity charges and higher property taxes, partly offset by declines in household furnishings and equipment prices and decreased charges for traveller accommodation. The rise in the Food index was largely due to higher prices for chicken, beef, fish, cured and prepared meats and cereal products. The Transportation index advanced slightly, as increased air fares and higher prices for gasoline were largely offset by a decline in train fares. Lower prices for personal care supplies and for clothing had a notable dampening effect. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.5%.

## Halifax

The All-items index fell 0.1%. The greatest downward impact came from the Housing index, where price declines were observed for furniture, household equipment, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, mortgage interest costs and traveller accommodation. These declines were partly offset by advances in property taxes, rented accommodation charges and household operating expenses. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for recreational and home entertainment equipment and decreased prices for personal care supplies. A rise in the Food index exerted a notable upward impact and was mainly due to higher prices for pork, chicken, fresh vegetables, bakery products, dairy products, beef and restaurant meals. Higher prices for clothing and alcoholic beverages were also recorded. The Transportation index remained unchanged overall, as increased air fares were offset by decreased rail fares and gasoline prices. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.6%.

## Saint John

The All-items index rose 0.3%. Most of the upward pressure came from higher transportation charges (gasoline and air fares) and increased clothing prices. Higher food prices were recorded, most notably for cereal and bakery products, restaurant meals, pork and fresh produce. The Housing index rose slightly, as increased charges for electricity, higher household operating expenses and a rise in property taxes were largely offset by lower prices for furniture, household textiles and household equipment and by declines in traveller accommodation charges, mortgage interest costs and homeowners' maintenance and repairs. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.8%.

## Quebec City

The 0.5% rise in the All-items index was largely explained by higher property taxes, increased prices for household furnishings and higher prices for restaurant meals and fresh vegetables. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for clothing, personal care supplies and alcoholic beverages. The Transportation index declined due to lower prices for gasoline. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.3%.

## Montreal

Increased housing charges, particularly for property taxes, household operating expenses, rented accommodation and furniture, accounted for most of the 0.3% rise in the All-items index. Higher prices for clothing and alcoholic beverages exerted further upward pressure. Moderating these advances were lower food prices (fresh fruit, soft drinks, prepared meat products and cured meats) and decreased transportation charges (mainly gasoline). Charges for personal care supplies were down as well. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.7%.

## Ottawa

A large part of the 0.3% rise in the All-items index originated in the Food index, where price increases were recorded for dairy products, soft drinks, bakery products, eggs, fresh vegetables, restaurant meals and pork. Further upward pressure came from the Housing index, and mainly reflected advances in property taxes, rented accommodation charges, furniture prices and household operating expenses. Higher prices for clothing and personal care supplies also had a notable upward influence. Moderating these advances were lower prices for gasoline and decreased recreational expenses. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.8%.

## Toronto

The All-items index rose 0.2%, mainly reflecting advances in property taxes, clothing prices and air fares. Charges for personal care supplies and spectator entertainment also advanced. The Food index remained unchanged overall, as higher prices for restaurant meals, fresh vegetables and pork were completely offset by lower prices for fresh fruit, poultry, dairy products and bakery products. Moderating these advances were lower prices for household furnishings, decreased charges for traveller accommodation and lower household operating expenses. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for new houses and decreased mortgage interest costs. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.0%.

### Thunder Bay

The All-items index rose 0.1%. The main sources of upward pressure came from advances in property taxes, increased prices for household textiles and higher recreational expenses (notably fees and dues for recreational facilities, admission to spectator entertainment and recreational equipment prices). Four of the seven major component indexes declined, exerting a considerable dampening effect. The greatest downward impact came from the Food index, where lower prices were recorded for fresh produce, poultry, dairy products, sugar and soft drinks. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for clothing, gasoline, train fares and personal care supplies. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.7%.

### Winnipeg

The All-items index fell 0.4%. The greatest downward impact came from the Transportation index where lower prices for gasoline and train fares were recorded. A drop in the Housing index, reflecting decreased charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs, traveller accommodation, mortgage interest costs and household operating expenses, also exerted a notable downward influence. Lower prices for men's and boys' wear were observed, along with a drop in prices of liquor purchased from stores. The Food index remained unchanged overall, as lower prices for fresh produce, cereal and bakery products and soft drinks offset higher prices for beef and pork. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.8%.

### Regina

Higher transportation charges, particularly for gasoline, accounted for a large part of the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for women's wear and increased recreational expenses. A decline in the Housing index had a major dampening impact, and was mainly due to decreased charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs, lower prices for traveller accommodation and a decline in mortgage interest costs. These declines more than offset advances in property taxes, household furnishings and equipment prices and the cost of new houses. The Food index declined overall, as lower prices were recorded for fresh produce, cereal and bakery products, soft drinks and prepared meats. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.3%.

### Saskatoon

The All-items index remained unchanged overall, due to a number of offsetting effects. A drop in the Housing index had a major downward impact and reflected declines in household furnishings and equipment prices, traveller accommodation charges, mortgage interest costs, household operating expenses and homeowners' maintenance and repair costs. Decreased recreation expenses, notably for home entertainment equipment and recreation equipment, were also recorded. Offsetting these declines were price increases for gasoline, air travel, personal care supplies and prescribed medicines. A rise in the Clothing index also had a notable upward influence. The Food index remained unchanged, as higher prices for beef, fresh vegetables, cured meats, restaurant meals, pork, dairy products and eggs were completely offset by lower prices for fresh fruit, cereal and bakery products, soft drinks and turkey. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.0%.

### Edmonton

The All-items index fell 0.4%, as six of the seven major component indexes declined. The greatest downward impact came from the Housing index, where price declines were recorded for traveller accommodation, household operation, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, household equipment and mortgage interest costs. These declines more than offset higher property taxes and increased charges for rented accommodation. The Food index also declined, reflecting lower prices for fresh fruit, cereal and bakery products, soft drinks, prepared meats and turkey. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for gasoline, decreased train fares and lower recreational expenses. Charges for personal care supplies declined as well. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.6%.

### Calgary

No overall change was recorded in the All-items index as declines in four of the seven major component indexes completely offset advances in the remaining three. The greatest downward pressure came from the Housing index, where declines in traveller accommodation charges, mortgage interest costs and homeowners' maintenance and repair costs more than offset higher charges for property taxes, household furnishings and equipment, and rent. A decline in the Transportation index also exerted a considerable downward impact and was mainly due to

lower prices for gasoline and train travel. Lower prices were also recorded for liquor from stores, cigarettes, and medicinal and pharmaceutical products. Offsetting these declines were higher food prices, notably for beef, fresh vegetables, dairy products, prepared meats and fish. Higher prices for clothing and increased recreation charges were also registered. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.0%.

#### Vancouver

Increased housing charges, most notably for property taxes, and higher recreational expenses explained most of the 0.5% rise in the All-items index. A decline in the Food index had a dampening effect and was mainly due to lower prices for fresh produce, and cereal and bakery products. Lower prices for clothing also exerted a downward influence. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 3.4%.

#### Victoria

The All-items index rose 0.6%. A large part of the overall rise came from the Housing index, where higher property taxes more than offset decreased charges for traveller accommodation and lower prices for household equipment. A rise in the Transportation index also had a notable upward impact, and was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline and increased air fares. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for personal care supplies, increased recreational expenses and higher prices for liquor purchased from stores. Moderating these advances were lower prices for clothing and food, the latter reflecting price decreases for fresh fruit, cereal and bakery products, soft drinks and pork. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.7%.

#### Whitehorse

The All-items index fell 0.1%. Among the main contributors to the overall decline were lower food prices, notably for chicken, bakery products, pork, dairy products and fresh vegetables. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for cigarettes, home entertainment equipment, recreational equipment and personal care supplies. Largely offsetting these declines were advances in housing charges, transportation costs and clothing prices. Higher property taxes were the main contributor to the rise in the Housing index. The Transportation index was up, as advances in vehicle insurance premiums and air fares more than offset lower prices for gasoline and train travel. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.6%.

#### Yellowknife

The All-items index rose 0.6%. The greatest upward impact came from higher prices for alcoholic beverages followed by higher food prices, particularly for beef, bakery products, fresh produce, soft drinks, prepared meats and pork. The Housing index also advanced, as increased property taxes more than offset a drop in charges for traveller accommodation. Further upward pressure came from increased recreational expenses and from higher prices for personal care supplies and non-prescribed medicines. Since October 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.9%.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 2201-2230.

The October 1992 issue of *Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$9.30/\$93) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

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.<sup>1</sup>

|                                 | All-items | Food  | Housing | Clothing | Transportation | Health and Personal care | Recreation Reading and Education | Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|----------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>St. John's</b>               |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 122.6     | 115.2 | 119.1   | 132.1    | 117.6          | 126.9                    | 130.5                            | 144.4                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.3       | 1.4   | 0.8     | -0.7     | 0.1            | -0.6                     | -0.5                             | 0.0                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.2       | -1.5  | 1.0     | 1.5      | 3.7            | 1.4                      | 0.9                              | 3.3                                      |
| <b>Charlottetown/Summerside</b> |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 127.2     | 124.9 | 120.3   | 125.1    | 117.9          | 136.4                    | 132.0                            | 186.7                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.1       | 0.4   | 0.3     | -0.2     | 0.1            | -0.8                     | -0.1                             | 0.2                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 0.5       | -0.5  | 0.2     | -0.2     | 1.9            | 2.6                      | 1.6                              | 0.4                                      |
| <b>Halifax</b>                  |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 126.0     | 127.4 | 119.2   | 127.4    | 118.2          | 130.6                    | 128.7                            | 172.4                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | -0.1      | 0.4   | -0.5    | 1.5      | 0.0            | -0.4                     | -0.7                             | 0.1                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 0.6       | -0.2  | -0.3    | 0.2      | 2.6            | 1.7                      | 2.1                              | 0.5                                      |
| <b>Saint John</b>               |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 125.5     | 125.0 | 120.4   | 128.7    | 118.2          | 131.9                    | 126.8                            | 171.3                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.3       | 0.5   | 0.1     | 1.5      | 0.8            | 0.2                      | -0.3                             | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991      | 0.8       | 2.5   | 0.5     | 0.9      | 1.6            | 3.4                      | 1.4                              | -5.9                                     |
| <b>Quebec City</b>              |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 127.9     | 117.8 | 127.4   | 135.0    | 115.1          | 135.5                    | 136.2                            | 169.3                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.5       | 1.0   | 0.6     | 0.7      | -0.4           | 0.5                      | 0.1                              | 0.5                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.3       | 0.5   | 1.3     | 0.6      | 0.9            | 5.6                      | 0.5                              | 4.6                                      |
| <b>Montreal</b>                 |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 129.9     | 118.7 | 130.6   | 135.3    | 117.6          | 134.1                    | 140.1                            | 172.8                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.3       | -0.5  | 0.9     | 0.6      | -0.3           | -0.7                     | 0.1                              | 0.3                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.7       | 0.7   | 1.7     | 0.8      | 1.5            | 4.1                      | 1.0                              | 4.5                                      |
| <b>Ottawa</b>                   |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 128.4     | 121.0 | 127.0   | 130.1    | 122.8          | 137.5                    | 131.2                            | 166.5                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.3       | 1.3   | 0.2     | 0.6      | -0.2           | 1.3                      | -0.5                             | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.8       | 1.8   | 1.9     | 1.6      | 2.0            | 3.0                      | 0.2                              | 2.8                                      |
| <b>Toronto</b>                  |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 130.0     | 121.7 | 130.0   | 129.9    | 124.3          | 135.7                    | 133.9                            | 164.5                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.2       | 0.0   | 0.2     | 0.8      | 0.2            | 0.4                      | 0.2                              | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.0       | -0.4  | 0.2     | 1.8      | 3.8            | 2.4                      | 0.1                              | 1.9                                      |
| <b>Thunder Bay</b>              |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 127.3     | 119.7 | 126.0   | 129.8    | 121.9          | 126.8                    | 130.8                            | 170.2                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | 0.1       | -0.9  | 0.6     | -0.2     | -0.2           | -0.5                     | 0.7                              | 0.0                                      |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.7       | 2.0   | 2.8     | 2.0      | 1.2            | 1.3                      | 0.2                              | -0.1                                     |
| <b>Winnipeg</b>                 |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index              | 127.3     | 125.8 | 123.4   | 129.5    | 120.6          | 130.3                    | 134.1                            | 163.8                                    |
| % change from September 1992    | -0.4      | 0.0   | -0.4    | -0.2     | -1.1           | 0.7                      | 0.0                              | -0.2                                     |
| % change from October 1991      | 1.8       | 4.1   | 0.2     | 1.8      | 2.8            | 3.6                      | 2.4                              | 1.4                                      |



# 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.<sup>1</sup>

|                              | All-items | Food  | Housing | Clothing | Transportation | Health and Personal care | Recreation Reading and Education | Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages |
|------------------------------|-----------|-------|---------|----------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Regina</b>                |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 128.2     | 127.8 | 118.8   | 129.3    | 128.5          | 141.9                    | 130.2                            | 174.8                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.2       | -0.2  | -0.3    | 0.2      | 1.3            | -0.1                     | 0.2                              | 0.1                                      |
| % change from October 1991   | 1.3       | 0.9   | 0.5     | -3.6     | 4.2            | 1.8                      | 0.2                              | 6.7                                      |
| <b>Saskatoon</b>             |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 127.0     | 127.2 | 119.0   | 128.4    | 122.5          | 153.9                    | 129.4                            | 160.1                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.0       | 0.0   | -0.7    | 0.5      | 1.0            | 1.3                      | -0.5                             | 0.0                                      |
| % change from October 1991   | 1.0       | 1.2   | -0.2    | -3.6     | 4.5            | 2.6                      | 0.7                              | 4.8                                      |
| <b>Edmonton</b>              |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 126.8     | 119.3 | 122.6   | 127.8    | 121.7          | 130.5                    | 132.8                            | 181.1                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | -0.4      | -0.9  | -0.5    | 0.5      | -0.4           | -0.1                     | -0.2                             | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991   | 1.6       | 1.7   | 0.9     | 0.4      | 2.6            | 3.2                      | 1.6                              | 2.1                                      |
| <b>Calgary</b>               |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 126.5     | 120.8 | 121.7   | 128.6    | 119.1          | 128.4                    | 132.4                            | 179.7                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.0       | 0.4   | -0.2    | 0.5      | -0.1           | -0.1                     | 0.2                              | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991   | 1.0       | 0.9   | 0.5     | 0.0      | 1.2            | 2.1                      | 1.9                              | 1.9                                      |
| <b>Vancouver</b>             |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 128.3     | 126.7 | 123.7   | 125.3    | 128.9          | 125.0                    | 130.4                            | 164.6                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.5       | -0.3  | 1.6     | -0.3     | 0.0            | 0.2                      | 0.9                              | -0.1                                     |
| % change from October 1991   | 3.4       | 3.8   | 3.7     | 1.7      | 3.8            | 2.9                      | 1.0                              | 5.8                                      |
| <b>Victoria</b>              |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 127.3     | 125.6 | 121.6   | 126.1    | 127.7          | 125.5                    | 130.2                            | 164.7                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.6       | -0.1  | 1.1     | -0.4     | 0.8            | 0.8                      | 0.5                              | 0.1                                      |
| % change from October 1991   | 2.7       | 3.4   | 2.8     | 1.3      | 3.0            | 4.5                      | -0.4                             | 5.8                                      |
| <b>Whitehorse</b>            |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 123.1     | 116.1 | 123.2   | 128.2    | 113.1          | 126.6                    | 125.7                            | 149.9                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | -0.1      | -1.6  | 0.5     | 0.5      | 0.4            | -0.2                     | -0.2                             | -0.2                                     |
| % change from October 1991   | 0.6       | -1.5  | 1.1     | 0.5      | 1.2            | -1.3                     | 1.5                              | 1.3                                      |
| <b>Yellowknife</b>           |           |       |         |          |                |                          |                                  |  |
| October 1992 index           | 125.0     | 115.0 | 120.9   | 132.0    | 117.7          | 121.1                    | 127.8                            | 165.2                                    |
| % change from September 1992 | 0.6       | 1.1   | 0.3     | 0.1      | 0.0            | 0.5                      | 0.6                              | 2.3                                      |
| % change from October 1991   | 0.9       | -2.4  | 1.2     | 2.2      | 1.5            | 1.4                      | 0.2                              | 3.1                                      |

<sup>1</sup> For inter-city indexes of retail price differentials, refer to Table 23 of the July-September 1991 issue of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (62-010, \$17.25/\$69.00).

## Sales of Natural Gas

September 1992 (Preliminary Data)

### Highlights

- Sales of natural gas including direct sales in Canada during September 1992 totalled 3 273 million cubic metres, an 8.3% increase over the September 1991 level.
- On the basis of rate structure information, sales in September 1992 were as follows (the percentage changes from September 1991 are in brackets): residential sales, 521 million cubic metres (+20.8%); commercial sales, 436 million cubic metres (+7.7%) and industrial sales including direct sales, 2 316 million cubic metres (+6.0%).
- Weather has a significant impact on residential sales of natural gas. The increase in residential sales in September 1992 was primarily due to

colder than normal weather conditions throughout most of Canada.

- From January to September 1992, sales of natural gas amounted to 39 723 million cubic metres, a 3.0% increase over the same period in 1991.
- On the basis of rate structure information, year-to-date sales were as follows (the percentage changes from 1991 are in brackets): residential sales, 9 647 million cubic metres (+3.1%); commercial sales, 7 792 million cubic metres (+0.2%) and industrial sales including direct sales, 22 283 million cubic metres (+4.1%).

The September 1992 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$12.70/\$127) will be available the third week of December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

### Sales of Natural Gas - Preliminary Data

September 1992

|                                 | Rate structure              |                  |                   |                  |                   |             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                                 | Residential                 | Commercial       | Industrial        | Direct           | Total             |             |
|                                 | (thousands of cubic metres) |                  |                   |                  |                   |             |
| Quebec                          | 13 208                      | 47 171           | 258 012           | 1 770            | 320 161           |             |
| Ontario                         | 191 742                     | 140 314          | 536 704           | 167 175          | 1 035 935         |             |
| Manitoba                        | 28 849                      | 25 087           | 31 498            | 664              | 86 098            |             |
| Saskatchewan                    | 49 604                      | 24 638           | 5 316             | 209 676          | 289 234           |             |
| Alberta                         | 171 051                     | 135 790          | 849 721           | -                | 1 156 562         |             |
| British Columbia                | 66 212                      | 63 125           | 97 526            | 158 358          | 385 221           |             |
| <b>September 1992 - Canada</b>  | <b>520 666</b>              | <b>436 125</b>   | <b>1 778 777</b>  | <b>537 643</b>   | <b>3 273 211</b>  |             |
| September 1991 - Canada         | 430 831                     | 405 066          | 1 814 199         | 371 163          | 3 021 259         |             |
| % change                        | 20.8                        | 7.7              |                   | 6.0              | 8.3               |             |
| <b>Year-to-date Canada 1992</b> | <b>9 647 344</b>            | <b>7 792 222</b> | <b>17 888 489</b> | <b>4 394 964</b> | <b>39 723 019</b> |             |
| Year-to-date Canada 1991        | 9 358 960                   | 7 779 566        | 18 038 562        | 3 370 507        | 38 547 595        |             |
| % change                        | 3.1                         | 0.2              |                   | 4.1              | 3.0               |             |
| <b>Degree Days<sup>1</sup></b>  | <b>Que.</b>                 | <b>Ont.</b>      | <b>Man.</b>       | <b>Sask.</b>     | <b>Alta.</b>      | <b>B.C.</b> |
| September 1992                  | 122                         | 82               | 211               | 248              | 262               | 123         |
| September 1991                  | 146                         | 84               | 189               | 194              | 190               | 94          |

<sup>1</sup> A unit measuring the extent to which the outdoor mean temperature (the average of the maximum and minimum) falls below 18 degrees celsius. One degree day is counted for each degree of deficiency below 18 degrees celsius for each calendar day. A higher value indicates a colder month and a lower value a warmer month.

Note: Revised figures will be available in *Gas Utilities* (55-002) and on CANSIM.

- Nil or zero.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Steel Primary Forms

Week Ending November 14, 1992

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel primary forms production for the week ending November 14, 1992 totalled 284 208 tonnes, an 11.6% increase from the preceding week's total of 254 728 tonnes and up 2.3% from the year-earlier 277 829 tonnes. The year-to-date production total at November 14, 1992 was 11 984 028 tonnes, a 6.5% increase from 11 247 355 tonnes produced during the same period in 1991.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

### Railway Carloadings

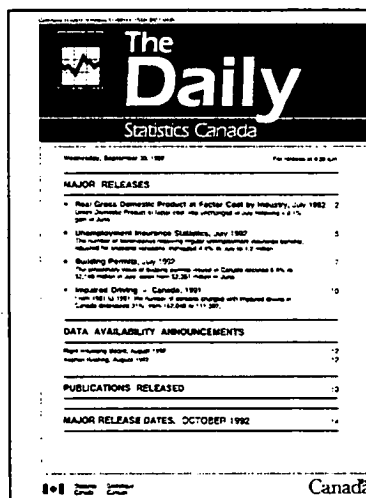
Seven-day Period Ending November 7, 1992

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the seven-day period totalled 4.5 million tonnes, a decrease of 8.3% from the same period last year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 0.5% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 3.4% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded as of November 7, 1992 decreased 4.3% from the previous year.

**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. ■



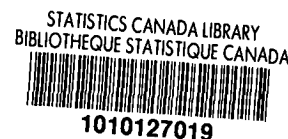
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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Canadian Economic Observer**, November 1992.

**Catalogue number 11-010**

(Canada: \$22/\$220; United States: US\$26/US\$260;  
Other Countries: US\$31/US\$310).

**Monthly Production of Soft Drinks**, October 1992.

**Catalogue number 32-001**

(Canada: \$2.70/\$27; United States: US\$3.20/US\$32;  
Other Countries: US\$3.80/US\$38).

**Primary Iron and Steel**, September 1992.

**Catalogue number 41-001**

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

**Shipments of Plastic Film and Bags**

**Manufactured from Resin**, Quarter Ended  
September 1992.

**Catalogue number 47-007**

(Canada: \$6.75/\$27; United States: US\$8/US\$32;  
Other Countries: US\$9.50/US\$38).

**Energy Statistics Handbook**, November 1992.

**Catalogue number 57-601**

(Canada: \$300; United States: US\$360; Other  
Countries: US\$420).

**Farm Input Price Index**, Second Quarter 1992.

**Catalogue number 62-004**

(Canada: \$18/\$72; United States: US\$22/US\$88;  
Other Countries: US\$25/US\$100).

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