



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, November 3, 1992

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

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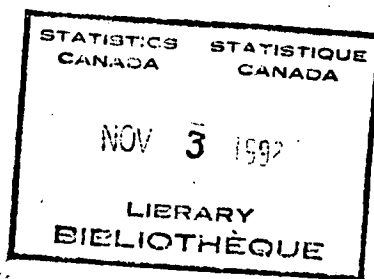
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In 1992, Canadians continue to increase their ownership of what the media has referred to as "cocooning" leisure items.
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A new series of forecasts from a small group of economists is released today.

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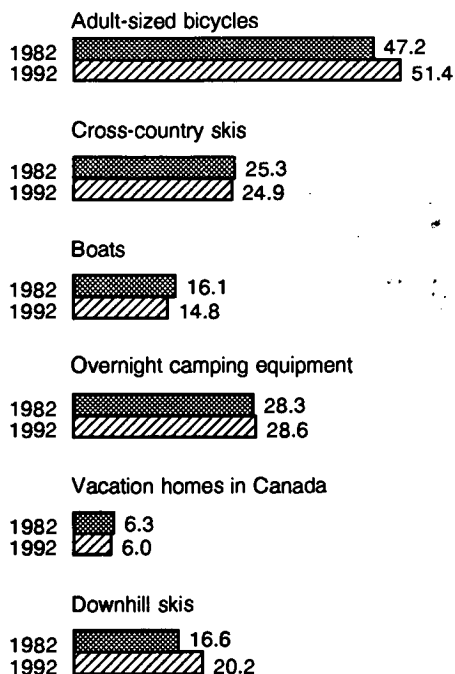
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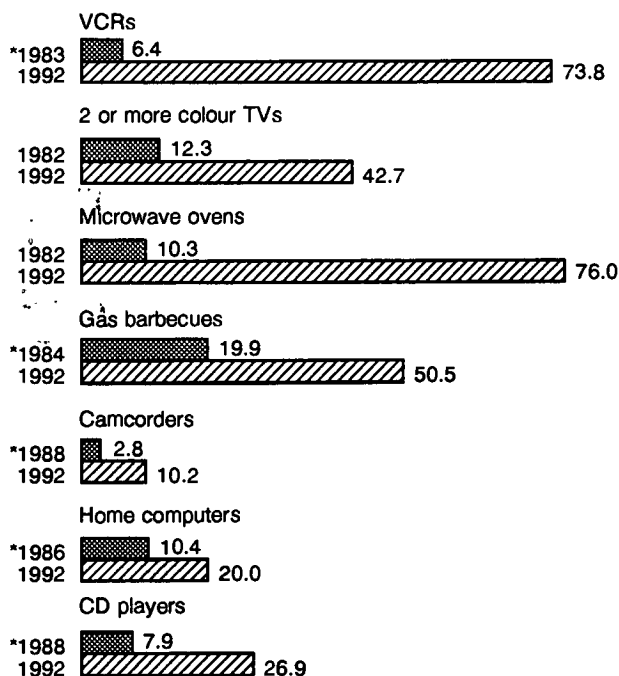
MAJOR RELEASES

Percentage of households with

Recreational Items



Household/entertainment Items



* First time Statistics Canada included item in survey.

Household Facilities and Equipment 1992

Highlights

In 1992, Canadians continue to increase their ownership of what the media has referred to as "cocooning" leisure items, while the ownership of recreational items shows little change over the decade. The compact disc player is becoming a consumer favourite with 26.9% of households now having one, up sharply from 20.9% in 1991, 15.4% in 1990 and 7.9% in 1988. Over four in 10 households (42.7%) now own two or more colour television sets compared to only 12.3% in 1982.

Recreational items, however, do not show similar increases in popularity as "cocooning" items. Adult-sized bicycles are owned by 51.4% of households, virtually unchanged since 1989 (51.6%) and up only

four percentage points since 1982 (47.2%). Cross-country skis appear to have lost popularity with households: in 1992, 24.9% of households have cross-country skis, down from 26.3% in 1989 and 25.3% a decade ago. Meanwhile, one in five households (20.2%) now have downhill skis, unchanged from three years ago but up from 16.6% a decade ago.

- Video cassette recorders (VCRs) are now found in 73.8% of Canadian homes, up from 68.6% last year, 45.2% in 1987 and 6.4% in 1983. Almost one in 10 households (9.8%) now have two or more VCRs.

- The proportion of households with camcorders (or video cameras) almost doubled over the past two years. In 1992, 10.2% of households have camcorders, compared to 5.6% in 1990 and 2.8% in 1988.

- Microwave ovens continue to be popular with Canadians. In 1992, 76.0% of households have a microwave, up from 73.5% in 1991, 43.3% five years ago and 10.3% in 1982.
 - More than half of all households (50.5%) have a gas barbecue, up from 48.1% in 1991, 45.9% in 1990 and 19.9% in 1984.
 - The popularity of home computers almost doubled in the last six years, increasing from 10.4% in 1986 to 20.0% in 1992.
 - Overnight camping equipment regained popularity in recent years with 28.6% of households having some type of equipment, up from 27.1% in 1989. In 1982, 28.3% of households had camping equipment.
 - Other items owned by relatively few households in 1992 and which showed little or no change over the past decade include snowmobiles (6.3%), boats (14.8%) and vacation homes in Canada (6.0%).
 - During the past decade, the proportion of households that occupy single-detached dwellings remained fairly stable (56.6% in 1992). Only slight variations were seen in the proportions that occupy single-attached dwellings (doubles, rows, etc.), apartments (including duplexes and triplexes) and mobile homes.
 - The home ownership rate, now at 63.1%, remained virtually unchanged during the past decade.
 - Among homeowners, about half (50.6%) do not have mortgages, a slight increase from 49.8% in 1987 and 45.8% in 1982.
 - Piped gas continues to be the most popular primary fuel for home heating, although the popularity of other fuels changed considerably over the past 10 years. Piped gas is now used as a primary fuel in 45.3% of dwellings (42.2% in 1982), electricity in 33.9% (21.4% in 1982) and oil in 16.0% (31.0% in 1982).
- For both national and provincial estimates, *Household Facilities and Equipment*, 1992 (64-202, \$28) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".
- For more information concerning these data or on the availability of special request tabulations, contact the Income and Housing Surveys Section (613-951-9778 or fax: 613-951-0562), Household Surveys Division. ■

Short-term Expectations Survey

The following are the forecasts of the year-over-year change in the Consumer Price Index and the unemployment rate for October 1992, of merchandise exports and imports for September 1992 and the month-to-month change in the Gross Domestic Product for August 1992.

The increase in the Consumer Price Index for October was forecast at 1.4%, with minimum and maximum values of 1.2% and 1.8%, respectively. In September, the mean forecast (1.3%) matched the actual outcome.

The mean forecast of the unemployment rate for October was 11.4% (minimum 11.3%, maximum 11.6%). For September, the mean forecast (11.5%) overestimated the outcome by 0.1 percentage points.

September merchandise exports were forecast to be \$13.1 billion, with a minimum and maximum of \$12.7 billion and \$13.3 billion, respectively. For August, the mean forecast of \$13.1 billion overestimated the outcome by \$0.1 billion. The forecast of imports for the same period was \$12.3 billion, with minimum and maximum values of \$12.0 billion and

Note to Users

Since April 1990, Statistics Canada has been canvassing a small group of economic analysts (an average of 23 participants) and requesting from them a one-month-ahead forecast of key economic indicators. This month, participants were asked for forecasts of the year-to-year change in the Consumer Price Index, the unemployment rate, and merchandise exports and imports, as well as a forecast of the monthly change in the Gross Domestic Product.

\$12.5 billion, respectively. For August, the mean forecast of \$12.5 billion overestimated the actual imports by \$0.3 billion.

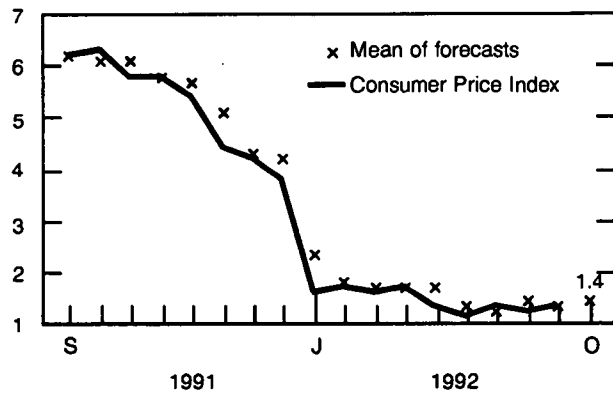
Gross Domestic Product was forecast to have changed by 0.2% between July and August 1992, with minimum and maximum changes of -0.1% and 1.0%. On October 30, Statistics Canada announced that the actual change in GDP for August was 0.5%.

For a complete set of tables or more information concerning this survey, contact Diane Lachapelle (613-951-0568). □

FORECASTS VS. ACTUAL

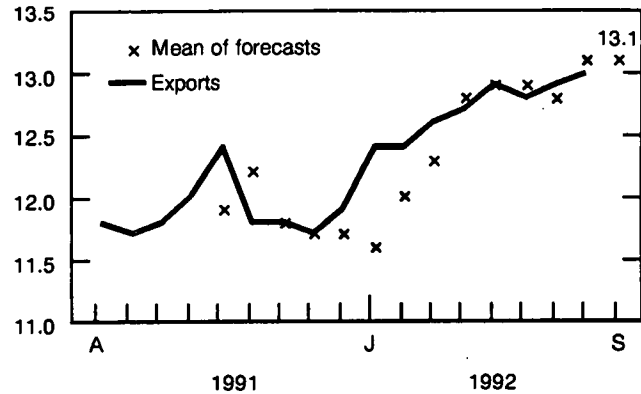
Consumer Price Index

Year-to-year
percentage change



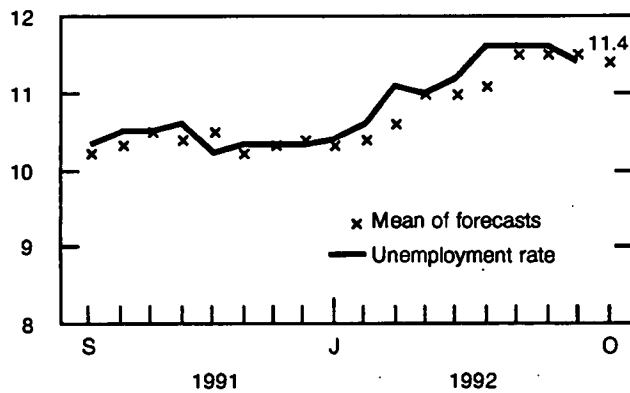
Canadian International Trade Exports

\$ billions



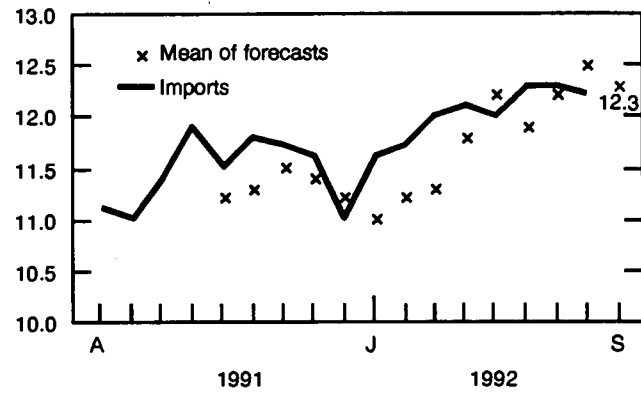
Unemployment Rate

%



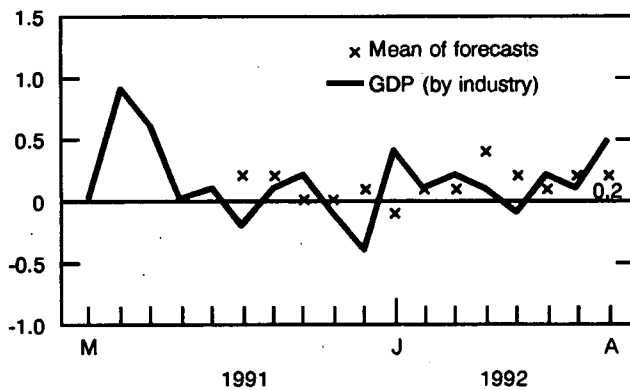
Canadian International Trade Imports

\$ billions



Gross Domestic Product (by Industry)

Percentage change



DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey (All Carriers)

Second Quarter 1992

The results of the Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey, covering the activities of for-hire trucking carriers with annual operating revenues of \$1 million or more, are now available for the second quarter of 1992.

Highlights

- During the second quarter, 1,243 carriers earning \$1 million or more annually generated total operating revenues of \$2.1 billion.
- Total operating expenses for the second quarter of 1992 amounted to \$2.0 billion, a slight increase of 4.0% from the second quarter of 1991. The major expense was salaries and wages, which accounted for 32.7% of the total operating expenses.
- Total operating expenses over total operating revenues resulted in an operating ratio of 0.97 for the second quarter of 1992. This ratio was virtually unchanged from the second quarters of 1991 and 1990.

Detailed data for the second quarter of 1992 will appear in the December issue of *Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin* (50-002, \$9.40/\$75).

For further information, contact Dan Calof (613-951-2519), Transportation Division. ■

Electric Power Statistics

August 1992

Highlights

- Net generation of electric energy in Canada in August 1992 decreased to 37 954 gigawatt hours (GWh), down 1.2% from August 1991. For the same period, exports increased 5.2% to 3 239 GWh and imports increased from 343 GWh to 473 GWh.

- Year-to-date figures in August 1992 showed net generation at 328 746 GWh, up 1.8% over the previous year's period. Year-to-date exports, at 19 855 GWh, were up 37.1% and imports, at 4 676 GWh, were up 0.2% from the year-earlier period.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

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

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

Full-time Enrolment In Trade and Vocational Programs In Canada 1989-1990

Figures for 1989-1990 are now available for full-time enrolment in trade and vocational programs.

Further information is presented in the October issue of *Education Statistics Bulletin: Full-time Enrolment in Trade and Vocational Programs in Canada*, 1989-1990, Vol. 14, No. 7 (81-002, \$4.90/49), which is now available.

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Postsecondary Education Section (613-951-8285), Education, Culture and Tourism Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Household Facilities and Equipment, 1992.

Catalogue number 64-202

(Canada: \$28; United States: US\$34; Other Countries: US\$39).

Imports by Commodity, August 1992.

Catalogue number 65-007

(Canada: \$55.10/\$551; United States: US\$66.10/US\$661; Other Countries: US\$77.10/US\$771).

Education Statistics Bulletin: Full-time Enrolment in Trade and Vocational Programs in Canada, 1989-1990. Vol. 14, No. 7.

Catalogue number 81-002

(Canada: \$4.90/\$49; United States: US\$5.90/US\$59; Other Countries: US\$6.90/US\$69).

Book Publishing, 1990-91.

Catalogue number 87-210

(Canada: \$17; United States: US\$20; Other Countries: US\$24).

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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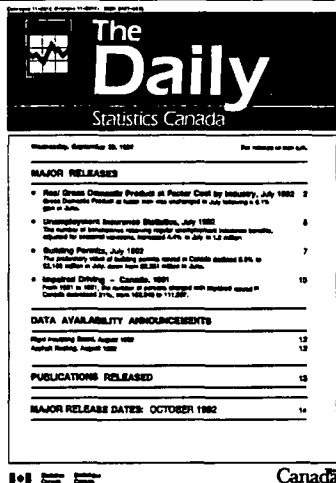
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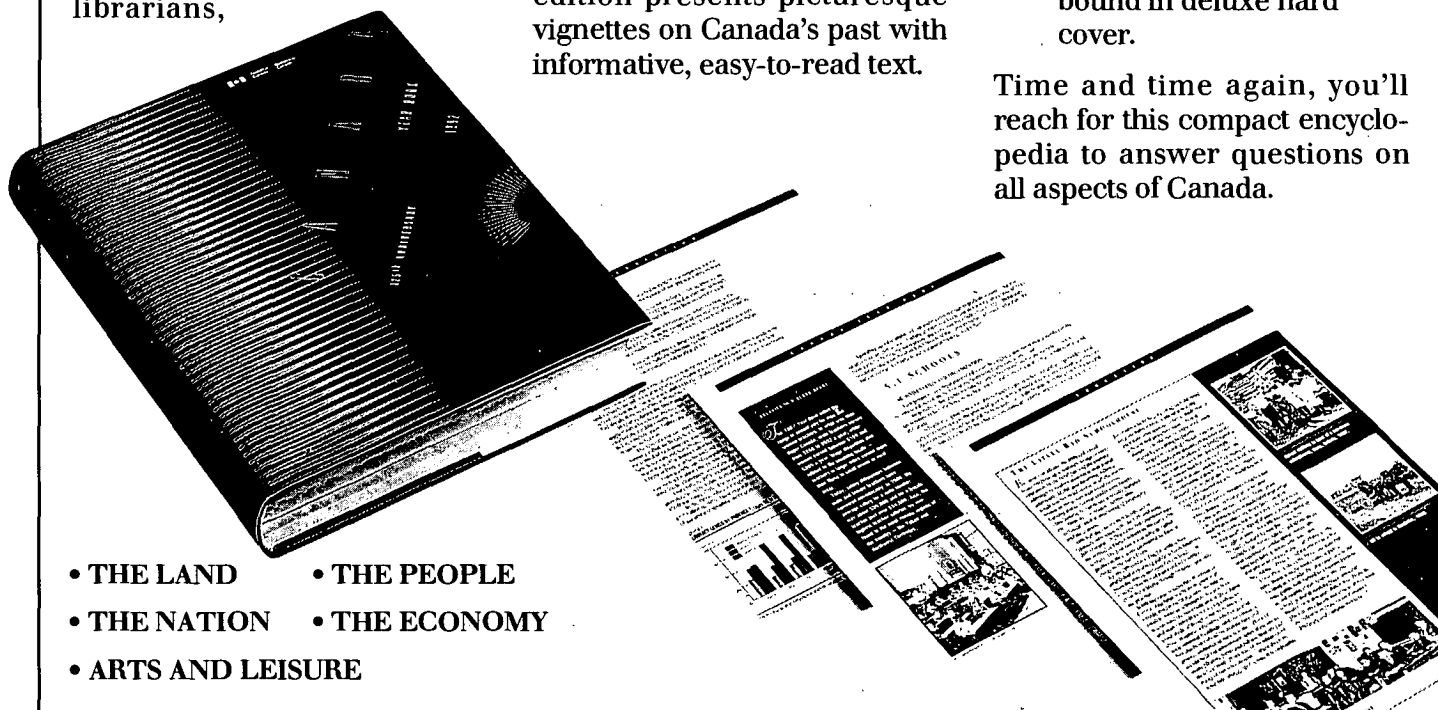
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