

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, February 11, 1992

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For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New Housing Price Index, December 1991** 3
The Canada Total New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100) stood at 133.9 in December, unchanged from November 1991.
- **Farm Product Price Index, December 1991** 4
The Farm Product Price Index fell 0.8% from November.

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Health Indicators, 1991

This is the second edition of a comprehensive set of health indicators. It contains the most current data that are available from a variety of national surveys. The indicators are grouped into four main categories: health determinants, health status, resources, and utilization.

The 1991 edition updates 37 of the original 40 indicators and presents eight new determinant indicators that deal with such diverse topics as exercise frequency, pap smear testing, seatbelt use, measures to improve health, body mass indices, weight change, breast examination, and breakfast food consumption. In the health resource utilization area, much information has been added in the form of a new medical care insurance indicator. This new indicator depicts physician fee practice in terms of services performed, dollar amounts paid, and payments per service for 17 categories of services and for 20 medical specialties.

The 1991 health indicators are packaged in a binder that includes explanatory text, hardcopy tables and graphs, as well as personal computer diskettes that contain the database and software to enable the user to retrieve and analyze 1.2 million data points.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 00060101-00060214.

For further information, contact Norman Dawson (613-951-1653), Canadian Centre for Health Information (FAX 613-951-0792).



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

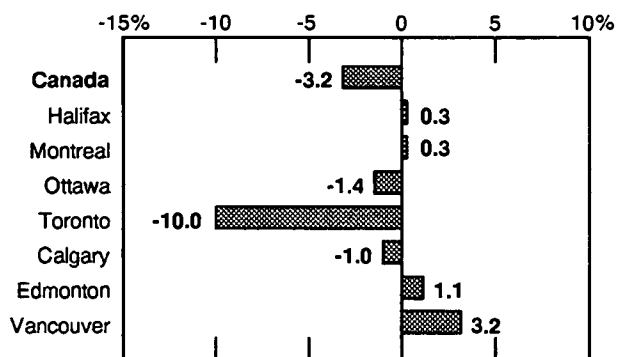
MAJOR RELEASES

New Housing Price Index

December 1991

The New Housing Price Index (1986=100) for Canada stood at 133.9 in December, unchanged from the November 1991 level. The estimated house only index decreased 0.1%, while the land only index increased 0.2%.

Percentage Change in New Housing Price Index from Same Month of the Previous Year, Canada and Selected Cities, December 1991



The largest monthly decrease was registered in St. Catharines-Niagara (-1.6%), while the largest monthly increase was recorded in Ottawa-Hull (0.5%).

This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 3.2% lower than the year-earlier level. Toronto was mainly responsible for this downward movement with a yearly decrease of 10.0% since December 1990.

Prices Division has calculated an analytical index in which current regulations concerning the GST and relevant new housing and federal sales tax rebates are applied to the current price sample to calculate an index that includes the estimated net effect of the GST on purchasers of these houses. In December 1991 this index was 139.5, unchanged from the Canada total level for November 1991.

Users should note that the NHPI reflects selling price changes from the contractor's perspective rather than the purchaser's. The analytical index more closely follows a purchase price concept, although it has not been adjusted for all possible costs.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The first quarter 1992 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$18/\$72) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, please contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division. □

New Housing Price Indexes

1986 = 100

	December 1991	November 1991	December 1990	% change	
				December 1991/ November 1991	December 1991/ December 1990
Canada Total	133.9	133.9	138.3	-	-3.2
Canada (House only)	124.9	125.0	128.1	-0.1	-2.5
Canada (Land only)	160.4	160.1	165.6	0.2	-3.1
St. John's	126.5	126.5	119.1	-	6.2
Halifax	109.6	109.4	109.3	0.2	0.3
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	114.4	114.4	113.6	-	0.7
Quebec City	134.6	134.7	132.9	-0.1	1.3
Montreal	134.8	134.8	134.4	-	0.3
Ottawa-Hull	123.0	122.4	124.8	0.5	-1.4
Toronto	144.6	144.5	160.7	0.1	-10.0
Hamilton	133.7	134.4	140.3	-0.5	-4.7
St. Catharines-Niagara	131.0	133.1	138.0	-1.6	-5.1
Kitchener-Waterloo	128.5	128.6	133.1	-0.1	-3.5
London	145.7	145.7	146.3	-	-0.4
Windsor	127.6	127.6	128.8	-	-0.9
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	132.8	132.8	133.1	-	-0.2
Winnipeg	108.4	108.4	108.9	-	-0.5
Regina	112.9	112.9	109.3	-	3.3
Saskatoon	106.7	106.7	107.7	-	-0.9
Calgary	131.9	131.5	133.2	0.3	-1.0
Edmonton	141.7	141.5	140.1	0.1	1.1
Vancouver	127.7	127.7	123.7	-	3.2
Victoria	122.6	123.1	117.0	-0.4	4.8

- Nil or zero.

Farm Product Price Index

December 1991

The Farm Product Price Index (1986=100) for Canada fell to 90.2 in December, a 0.8% drop from the revised November level of 90.9. The livestock and animal products index fell 1.8%; however, the crops index increased by 1.5%. The overall index remained at its lowest level since 1979, due mainly to sharply lower Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) initial prices for wheat and barley effective August 1, the beginning of the 1991-92 crop year.

The percentage changes in the index between November and December 1991, by province, were as follows:

• Newfoundland	+0.2%
• Prince Edward Island	-1.6%
• Nova Scotia	-0.7%
• New Brunswick	+0.6%
• Quebec	+2.0%
• Ontario	-0.9%
• Manitoba	-0.6%
• Saskatchewan	-0.7%
• Alberta	-3.4%
• British Columbia	-0.2%
• Canada	-0.8%

Livestock and Animal Products

The livestock and animal products index declined 1.8% in December because of lower cattle and hog prices (prices were stable for poultry, eggs and dairy products). Large supplies of red meats and poultry in the United States have pressured prices for beef and pork. The index fell to 96.2, 7.8% below the December 1990 level of 104.3. The livestock index has registered declines in nine of the past 12 months, mainly as a result of falling hog prices.

- The cattle index decreased 4.4% in December to a level of 96.2. Cattle prices have fallen during five of the past six months.
- The hogs index fell by 2.0% in December, the sixth straight month that prices have declined. The index stood at 63.6, 31.7% below the level recorded in June. Slaughter in the United States during the past four months was 10.6% higher than in the same period of 1990, while Canadian slaughter for the September-December period increased by 1.9% from one year earlier.

Crops

The crops index increased by 1.5% in December to a level of 80.5, as the cereals, oilseeds and potatoes indexes all strengthened slightly. The crops index stood 17.0% below the year-earlier level of 97.0, largely as a result of lower initial prices for wheat and barley. The drop in initial prices for the 1991-92 crop year reflects the lower prices that were expected in export markets when the initial prices were set.

- The oilseeds index increased by 1.1% in December, as prices for canola and soybeans improved slightly. The index stood 13.4% below the year-earlier total of 106.3 and at its lowest level since 1987. Final production estimates

indicated that Canadian oilseed supplies should be more than adequate during 1991-92.

- The potatoes index increased 5.5% in December to its highest level since August. The index stood at 129.9, a level 9.9% higher than the previous year's level of 118.2.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The December issue of the *Farm Product Price Index* (62-003, \$7.10/\$71) is scheduled for release on February 17. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Steven Danford (613-951-0375), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division. ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area

December 1991

- Department stores sales including concessions totalled \$2,014 million in December 1991. After removing federal sales tax from the 1990 data and allowing for differences in trading days, department store sales decreased 6.4% from December 1990. Concessions sales totalled \$99.9 million, 5.0% of total department store sales.
- Department store sales during December 1991 for the provinces and the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed were as follows:

Department Store Sales Including Concessions

Province

• Newfoundland	\$29.4 million
• Prince Edward Island	\$10.2 million
• Nova Scotia	\$70.3 million
• New Brunswick	\$45.9 million
• Quebec	\$350.2 million
• Ontario	\$848.5 million
• Manitoba	\$82.1 million
• Saskatchewan	\$58.3 million
• Alberta	\$222.4 million
• British Columbia	\$296.5 million

Metropolitan Area

• Calgary	\$81.5 million
• Edmonton	\$95.7 million
• Halifax-Dartmouth	\$36.6 million
• Hamilton	\$65.0 million
• Montreal	\$195.5 million
• Ottawa-Hull	\$95.4 million
• Quebec City	\$44.7 million
• Toronto	\$327.8 million
• Vancouver	\$161.8 million
• Winnipeg	\$72.3 million

Note to Users:

Department store sales estimates for 1991 exclude the Goods and Services Tax (GST), as well as provincial sales taxes. Prior to January 1991, sales data included the Federal Sales Tax (FST). Due to this change in indirect taxes, data for 1991 are not strictly comparable with those of previous years. For users interested in deriving comparable data, it is estimated that the amount of FST included in department store sales for Canada in 1990 represented 3.5% of total sales. The reliability of this estimate does not permit adjustments at the provincial or metropolitan area level.

Users should note that the year-over-year movement for Prince Edward Island has been affected by a major structural change. The comparisons should therefore be used with caution.

Information on department store sales and stocks by major commodity lines and seasonally adjusted estimates will be released in The Daily on February 24.

Department Store Sales Excluding Concessions

Province

• Newfoundland	\$26.7 million
• Prince Edward Island	\$8.7 million
• Nova Scotia	\$66.9 million
• New Brunswick	\$43.5 million
• Quebec	\$335.6 million
• Ontario	\$804.7 million
• Manitoba	\$77.2 million
• Saskatchewan	\$55.0 million
• Alberta	\$212.6 million
• British Columbia	\$283.1 million

Metropolitan Area

• Calgary	\$77.3 million
• Edmonton	\$92.0 million
• Halifax-Dartmouth	\$35.0 million
• Hamilton	\$61.4 million
• Montreal	\$186.8 million
• Ottawa-Hull	\$90.8 million
• Quebec City	\$42.6 million
• Toronto	\$318.4 million
• Vancouver	\$154.7 million
• Winnipeg	\$67.3 million

Available on CANSIM: matrices 111 and 112 (series 10 to 12).

The December 1991 issue of *Department Store Monthly Sales, by Province and Selected Metropolitan Area* (63-004, \$2/\$20) will be available the fourth week of March. For further information, contact David Roeske (613-951-3559) or Maurice Massaad (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■

Divorces

1990

There were fewer divorces in Canada in 1990, when 78,152 divorces were granted, a 3% decrease from 1989. The divorce rate per 100,000 population also decreased to 294.0 in 1990 from 307.8 in 1989.

Per 100,000 married women aged 15 years and over, the national divorce rate was 1,205.6 in 1990 compared to 1,258.5 in 1989. The highest rates were observed in Alberta (1,434.4) and in the Yukon (1,372.9). The lowest rates were in Newfoundland (757.0) followed by Prince Edward Island (884.6).

More detailed data are now available. For more information please contact Nelson Nault (613-951-2990) or Louise Lapierre (613-951-1634), Canadian Center for Health Information. ■

Railway Carloadings

10-day Period Ending January 31, 1992

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the period totalled 6.6 million tonnes, a decrease of 3.5% from the same period last year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 1.8% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 0.6% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year increased 5.1% 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. ■

Milling and Crushing Statistics

December 1991

Milling

The total amount of wheat milled in December 1991 was 189 669 tonnes, down 9% from the 207 522 tonnes milled in December 1990.

The resulting wheat flour production decreased 6% to 143 663 tonnes in December 1991 from 152 731 tonnes in December 1990.

Crushing

The canola crushings for December 1991 amounted to 146 052 tonnes, up 26% from the 115 655 tonnes crushed in December 1990. The resulting oil production increased 23% to 59 264 tonnes from 48 275 tonnes in December 1990. Meal production increased to 87 305 tonnes, up 29% from the 67 690 tonnes produced in December 1990.

Soybean crushings for December 1991 decreased to 87 867 tonnes, down 5% from 92 723 tonnes crushed a year earlier. As a result, oil production decreased to 16 185 tonnes in December 1991, down 1% from 16 367 tonnes produced in December 1990. Meal production decreased to 66 751 tonnes, down 7% from 71 860 tonnes in December 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5687.

The December 1991 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007, \$13.80/\$138) is scheduled for release in March. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact A.Y. Bertrand (613-951-3859), Agriculture Division. ■

The Dairy Review

December 1991

Creamery butter production in Canada totalled 8 400 tonnes in December, a 15.1% increase from a year earlier. Production of cheddar cheese amounted to 9 600 tonnes, an increase of 21.5% over December 1990.

An estimated 562 000 kilolitres of milk were sold off Canadian farms for all purposes in November 1991, an increase of 2.4% from November 1990.

This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the 11 months of 1991 to 6 646 000 kilolitres, a decrease of 1.4% from January-November 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3428, 5632-5638, 5650-5661, 5664-5667 and 5673.

The December 1991 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001, \$12.20/\$122) is scheduled for release on February 24. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information, contact David Burroughs (613-951-2511), Agriculture Division. ■

The Daily

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Cereals and Oilseeds Review, November 1991.

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(Canada: \$13.80/\$138; United States: US\$16.60/US\$166; Other Countries: US\$19.30/US\$193).

Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances,

December 1991.

Catalogue number 43-003

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

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins,

December 1991.

Catalogue number 46-002

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

Railway Carloadings, November 1991.

Catalogue number 52-001

(Canada: \$8.30/\$83; United States: US\$10/US\$100; Other Countries: US\$11.60/US\$116).

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics, November 1991.

Catalogue number 53-003

(Canada: \$7.10/\$71; United States: US\$8.50/US\$85; Other Countries: US\$9.90/US\$99).

Oil Pipe Line Transport, November 1991.

Catalogue number 55-001

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120; Other Countries: US\$14/US\$140).

Department Store Monthly Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area, November 1991.

Catalogue number 63-004

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

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