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MAJOR RELEASE

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Manufacturers' shipments decreased 0.7% in December, following no change in November. Unfilled orders continued to decline.

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PUBLICATION RELEASED

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The World Trade Database 1990

The 1990 data for the World Trade Database - a rich data source that reflects Canada's presence in world markets as well as that of its trading partners and international competitors - are now available.

The World Trade Database can generate data on global trade flows, market shares and sources of supply. Over 160 countries, 600 commodity groupings and 300 industries are represented, starting with 1970 data. Adjustments are made to United Nations data to improve the consistency between reporting countries and to estimate the trade of late-reporting and non-reporting countries.

Further information on the World Trade Database can be obtained by contacting Roger Therrien (613-951-6836), International Trade Division.



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MAJOR RELEASE

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

December 1991

Seasonally Adjusted

Shipments decreased 0.7% in December, the third decrease in the last four months (there was no change in November). In terms of value, the largest decreases in December shipments were in the refined petroleum and coal products and in the paper and allied products industries. Unfilled orders declined 0.9%, the eighth monthly decline in a row. With the decrease in December, inventory levels declined in every month during 1991.

The **short-term trend** smooths out irregular month-to-month movements which are not sustained over a longer period. After increasing from April to July, inclusive, the short-term trend for shipments declined in the four most recent periods. The shipments trend for the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries declined for the second month in a row. The trend for unfilled orders has declined since April 1989; the decline in the inventory trend has lasted almost two years.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' **shipments** were \$22.8 billion in December, a decrease of 0.7% from the previous month. Twelve of the 22 major groups recorded decreases with the refined petroleum and coal products (-4.9%) and the paper and allied products industries (-3.5%) reporting the largest decreases in value. This was partly offset by an increase in the transportation equipment industries (3.6%), notably motor vehicles.
- The **trend** for shipments declined over the four most recent periods. For the three most recent periods, shipment trends fell for 12 of the 22 major groups (accounting for 52% of shipment values). Partially offsetting these declines were the trends for three major groups (accounting for 10% of shipment values) that continued to increase. Most of this increase, in value terms, came from the primary metal industry. The

largest industries, in value terms, which experienced declining trends were the transportation equipment, paper and allied products, fabricated metal, and the refined petroleum and coal products industries.

- **Inventories** (owned) decreased 0.7% in December to \$34.2 billion with 14 of the 22 major groups recording decreases. The primary metal (-2.9%) and the electrical and electronic products industries (-2.3%) recorded the largest decreases. The **trend** for inventories (owned) has been declining since January 1990.
- The **inventories to shipments ratio**, 1.50 in December, showed no change for the fourth consecutive month. The **trend**, which had been declining since February 1991, remained unchanged in the three most recent periods.
- **Unfilled orders** decreased 0.9% to \$23.6 billion, the eighth consecutive decline. Decreases in the transportation equipment (-1.2%) and in the electrical and electronic products industries (-1.7%) were partially offset by small increases in several industries. The **trend** continued to fall but at a slower pace than previously.

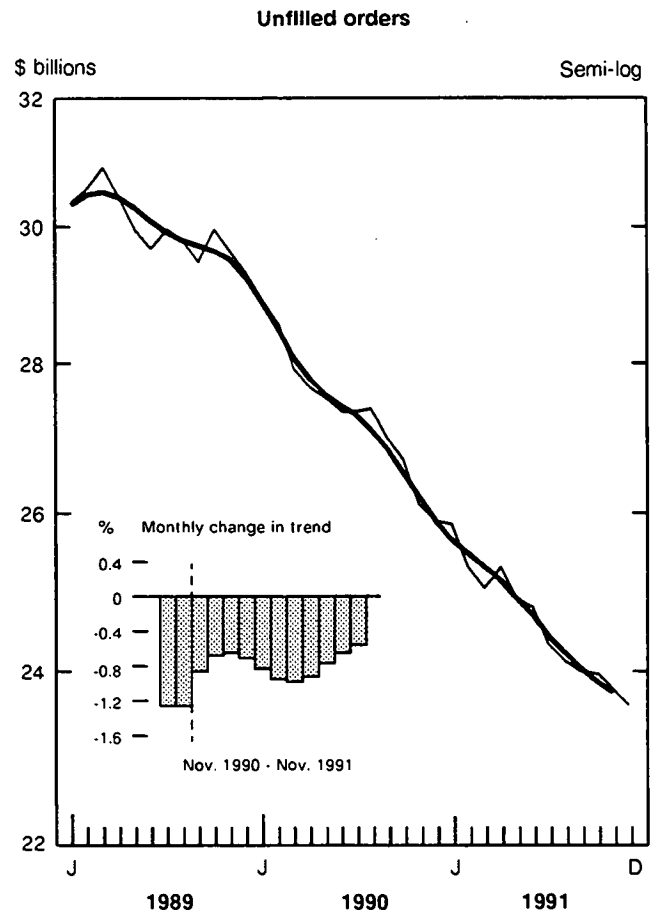
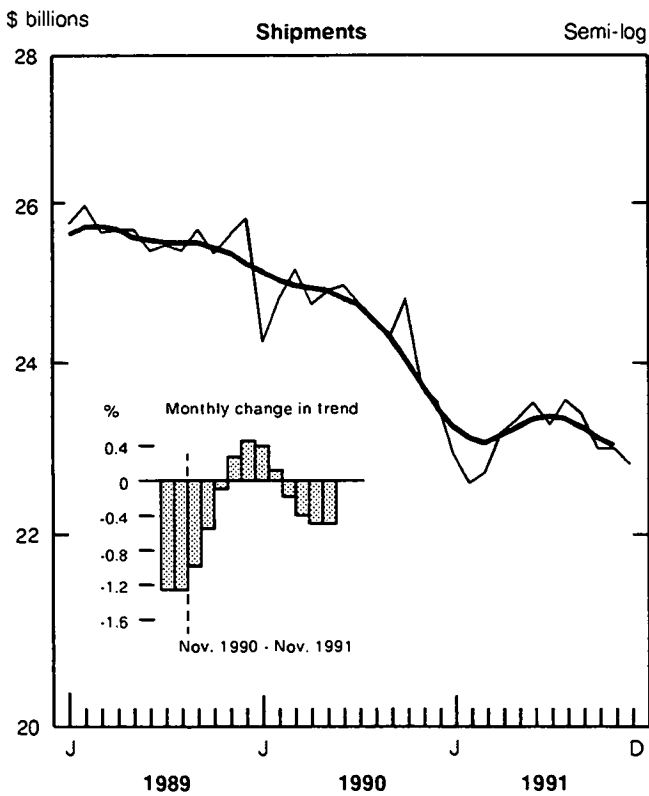
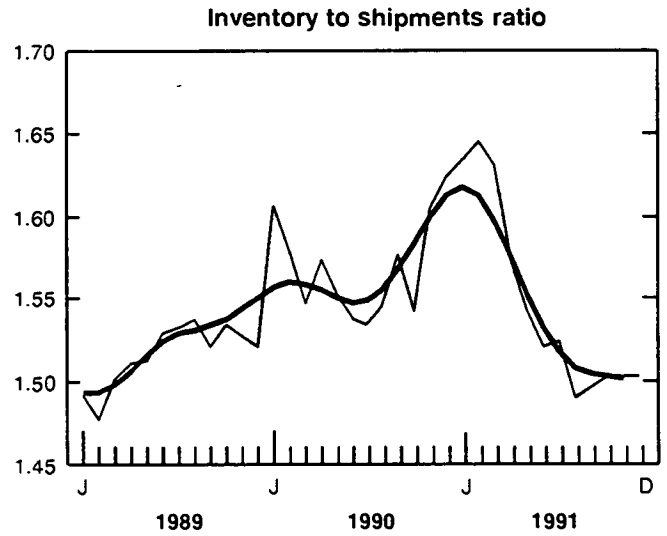
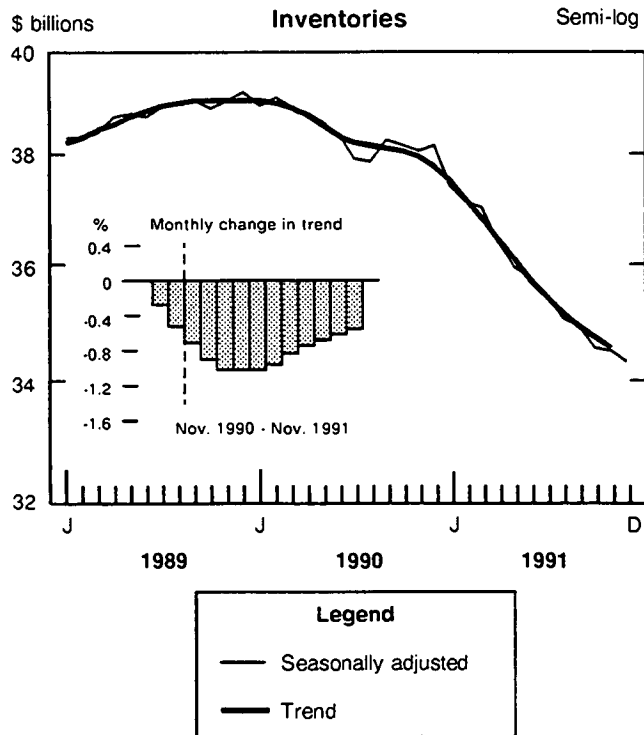
Unfilled orders are the stock of orders which will generate future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled. New orders are defined as the sum of shipments for the current month (i.e., orders received this month and shipped within the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

- **New orders** decreased 0.8% to \$22.6 billion in December, the fourth decrease in a row. The **trend** for new orders declined in the four most recent periods.

The Year 1991

- Shipments decreased 5.9% in 1991 to \$276.6 billion. In comparison, shipments decreased 4.2% in 1990 but increased 3.0% in 1989. Average monthly inventory owned fell 7.1% in 1991 compared to a decline of 1.0% in 1990.

Manufacturers' Inventories, Shipments and Unfilled Orders, Seasonally Adjusted, December 1991



-
- Major groups which experienced the largest decreases in shipments for 1991 compared to 1990, in order of dollar impact, were paper and allied products (-10.9%), fabricated metals (-12.7%), primary metals (-9.6%), machinery (-17.6%), transportation equipment (-3.2%), wood (-9.2%) and non-metallic mineral products (-17.0). Only two major groups, the beverage (5.4%) and tobacco industries (9.9%) experienced increases in 1991.
 - The average level of unfilled orders dropped 10.2% in 1991 following an 8.8% decrease in 1990.
 - On a provincial basis, decreases in shipments in 1991, in order of dollar impact, occurred in

Ontario (-5.2%), Quebec (-7.7%), British Columbia (-6.8%), Manitoba (-12.8%), and New Brunswick (-8.1%). All provinces recorded decreases in shipments in 1991; in contrast, four provinces posted increases in 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

The December 1991 *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001, \$17.30/\$173) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For further information, please contact Bob Traversy (613-951-9497) or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division. □

Shipments, Inventories and Orders in all Manufacturing Industries

December 1991

Period	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted			
	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders
	\$ millions							
December 1990	21,354	37,411	25,267	20,790	23,492	38,118	25,830	23,245
January 1991	21,544	37,613	25,631	21,908	22,898	37,393	25,806	22,874
February 1991	20,950	37,789	25,215	20,533	22,564	37,106	25,277	22,036
March 1991	22,990	37,683	25,083	22,858	22,700	36,991	24,997	22,420
April 1991	23,526	36,914	25,335	23,778	23,138	36,377	25,271	23,412
May 1991	25,065	36,147	25,189	24,919	23,312	35,953	24,875	22,916
June 1991	24,451	35,497	24,867	24,128	23,503	35,718	24,754	23,381
July 1991	21,560	35,027	24,377	21,070	23,249	35,397	24,283	22,778
August 1991	23,179	34,850	24,222	23,024	23,516	35,040	24,095	23,329
September 1991	24,254	34,528	24,020	24,052	23,345	34,902	23,970	23,220
October 1991	24,970	34,214	23,967	24,917	22,969	34,504	23,954	22,953
November 1991	23,189	34,203	23,553	22,774	22,958	34,481	23,768	22,771
December 1991	20,914	33,568	23,099	20,461	22,787	34,248	23,562	22,581

Period	Seasonally Adjusted									
	Shipments		Inventories		Inventory to shipments ratio		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend	S.A.	Trend
	Month-to-month % change				Ratio		Month-to-month % change			
December 1990	-0.9	-1.3	0.2	-0.5	1.62	1.61	-0.9	-1.2	0.6	-1.2
January 1991	-2.5	-1.0	-1.9	-0.7	1.63	1.62	-0.1	-0.9	-1.6	-0.5
February 1991	-1.5	-0.6	-0.8	-0.9	1.64	1.61	-2.0	-0.7	-3.7	-0.4
March 1991	0.6	-0.1	-0.3	-1.0	1.63	1.60	-1.1	-0.6	1.7	0.0
April 1991	1.9	0.3	-1.7	-1.0	1.57	1.58	1.1	-0.7	4.4	0.2
May 1991	0.8	0.5	-1.2	-1.0	1.54	1.55	-1.6	-0.8	-2.1	0.3
June 1991	0.8	0.4	-0.7	-0.9	1.52	1.53	-0.5	-1.0	2.0	0.3
July 1991	-1.1	0.1	-0.9	-0.8	1.52	1.52	-1.9	-1.0	-2.6	0.1
August 1991	1.2	-0.2	-1.0	-0.7	1.49	1.51	-0.8	-0.9	2.4	-0.1
September 1991	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.7	1.50	1.50	-0.5	-0.8	-0.5	-0.3
October 1991	-1.6	-0.5	-1.1	-0.6	1.50	1.50	-0.1	-0.6	-1.2	-0.3
November 1991	0.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.5	1.50	1.50	-0.8	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4
December 1991	-0.7	*	-0.7	*	1.50	*	-0.9	*	-0.8	*

* The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin

February 1992

- A 29% increase recorded in charter passenger-kilometres in November 1991 marked the first increase in Level I air carriers' charter data since December 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

- Preliminary second quarter 1991 data indicated that the top three transborder city-pairs were Toronto-New York, Montreal-New York, and Toronto-Chicago. These city-pairs reported decreases of 13%, 7% and 5%, respectively, from the same period in 1990.
- Preliminary data reported by Level I air carriers indicate that 63% of the passengers carried on domestic scheduled services travelled on discount fares during the first two quarters of 1991, up from 61% in 1990. In terms of passenger-kilometres, discount fares accounted for 68% of total volume during the first half of 1991, which represented an increase of about three percentage points compared to a year earlier.
- During the second quarter of 1991, the average fare paid by air passengers on all city-pairs in the domestic southern sector rose 1% over the previous year to reach \$189.

The *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (51-004, \$9.30/\$93) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Aviation Statistics Centre (819-997-1986), Transportation Division. ■

Steel Primary Forms

Week Ending February 8, 1992

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel primary forms production for the week ending

February 8, 1992 totalled 287 985 tonnes, up 8.1% from the preceding week's total of 266 495 tonnes and up 11.6% from the year-earlier level of 257 943 tonnes. The cumulative total in 1992 was 1 429 630 tonnes, an increase of 1.1% from 1 414 344 tonnes for the same period in 1991.

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

Short-term Debt of Local Governments

December 1991

At December 30, 1991, the estimates on the short-term debt (treasury bills and other short-term paper) of local governments totalled \$484 million, up \$167 million from September 1991 but down \$75 million from December 30, 1990. Revised estimates for previous quarters are also available.

For further information on these data, contact Marlene Vollmer (613-951-1830), Public Institutions Division.

For more information or general inquiries on Public Institutions Division's products or services, contact Donald Dubreuil (613-951-0767). ■

Production of Eggs

December 1991

Canadian egg production in December 1991 was 39.8 million dozen, a 0.9% decrease from December 1990. The average number of layers increased by 0.2% between December 1990 and 1991, while the number of eggs per 100 layers decreased to 2,255 from 2,280.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry* (\$115), contact Guy Gervais (613-951-2453).

For further information on this release, contact Benoit Levesque (613-951-2550), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Pack of Processed Lima Beans

1991

The data on pack of processed lima beans for 1991 are now available. The publication *Pack of Selected Processed Vegetables* (32-240, \$13) will be released at a later date.

For further information, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■



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