c.1

Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, March 20, 1992 **For release at 8:30 a.m.**

MAJOR RELEASES

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index
February 1992

National Highlights

All-items

The All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada rose 1.7% between February 1991 and February 1992, reaching a level of 127.1 (1986 = 100) in the latest month. This 12-month rise was similar to the 1.6% rise observed between January 1991 and January 1992.

On a month-to-month basis, the All-items index for Canada edged up by 0.1% between January and February. This followed an increase of 0.5% observed in January. The 2.2% increase in the Clothing index contributed predominantly to the overall upward pressure. Other noticeable contributors to the upward thrust resulted from increases in the Recreation, Reading and Education index (0.6%), in the Housing index (0.1%) and in the Food index (0.2%). At the same time, a substantial proportion of the above increases was dampened by a drop of 1.1% in the Transportation index.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the All-items index moved up by 0.2% following a marginal 0.1% rise in January and no change in December 1991.

The compound annual rate of increase, based on the seasonally adjusted index levels over the latest three-month period (November 1991 to February 1992) was 0.9%, down from the 1.3% rise observed for January.

Food

The Food index rose by 0.2% in February following an increase of 0.8% in January. The latest rise resulted from increases of 0.1% posted by each of the indexes for Food Purchased from Stores and that for Food Purchased from Restaurants. (The discrepancy between the change in the total and the change in the components is due entirely to rounding effects.)

The 0.1% rise in the index for Food Purchased from Stores resulted from a large number of offsetting price movements. Higher prices were found for fresh vegetables (notably for tomatoes and cucumbers), for fresh fruit (particularly for bananas and grapefruit), for beef, dairy products, bakery products and concentrated fruit juices. A large proportion of the increases was offset by lower prices mainly for carbonated beverages, pork, chicken, cured meat, prepared and ready cooked meat, eggs, fish, pasta products, cereal grain products, sugar and coffee. The price drops on many of these products resulted, in part, from price wars occurring in grocery stores in some of the eastern provinces and in some parts of Quebec and Ontario.

Over the 12-month period, February 1991 to February 1992, the Food index declined by 0.8%, following a drop of 1.0% reported for January. The latest drop was mainly attributable to a 2.3% fall in the index for Food Purchased from Stores, as the index for Food Purchased from Restaurants rose by 2.4%. The 12-month changes in the index for Food Purchased from Stores have declined continuously since October 1991.

All-items Excluding Food

On a month-to-month basis, the All-items excluding Food index edged up 0.1% in February after rising by 0.4% in January. The latest rise was explained by small increases in the Recreation, Reading and Education index (0.6%), the Housing index (0.1%) and in the Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index (0.2%). The 2.2% advance in the Clothing index was counterbalanced by a decline of 1.1% in the Transportation index.

The latest 2.2% advance in the Clothing index followed a rise of 0.4% in January, but these were preceded by four months of continuous declines extending from September to December of 1991. In February, the Women's Wear index rose by 2.9%, while the Men's Wear index climbed less rapidly by 1.7%. In addition, the Girls' Wear and Boys' Wear indexes rose by 1.6% and 1.7%, respectively. The latest increases were traceable to a large number of promotional prices and prices on seasonal items returning to their regular levels.

The 0.6% increase in the Recreation, Reading and Education index was attributable mainly to a rise of 0.7% in the Recreation index. Much of the increase in the Recreation index was explained by a 9.2% average rise in quotations for packaged holiday tours. February marks the start of the high season for such types of vacation trips. Other less noticeable price increases were noted for sporting and athletic equipment and photographic goods. Some offsetting effects resulted from lower prices for selected home entertainment equipment and a drop in membership fees and dues associated with fitness centres. The Reading index rose by 0.3% following subscription increases noted for two daily newspapers and several weekly and monthly magazines.

The 0.1% rise in the Housing index reflected a large number of offsetting price movements. Higher charges were posted for rented accommodation and for services related to child care, basic telephone and water. Higher prices were also observed for household textiles, selected furniture and appliances, and horticultural goods. Offsetting these advances, to a large extent, were declines in owned accommodation charges largely due to lower mortgage interest costs and a further drop in new house prices. Other price declines were noted for fuel oil and piped gas, pet food, detergent and soap, household chemical specialties and paper products. Some further declines in traveller accommodation charges were observed. In addition, long distance telephone charges to some countries of Western Europe fell.

The drop of 1.1% in the Transportation index exerted a major dampening effect on the overall performance of the All-items excluding Food index. The Private Transportation and the Public Transportation indexes fell by 1.1% and 0.8%, respectively. The fall in the former was due to a 5.2% drop in gasoline prices, continuing the trend in falling prices noted since October. In February 1992, gasoline prices were 8.5% below their levels a year ago. A drop of 2.3% in air fares explained the latest fall in the Public Transportation index. Lower excursion fares in Canada and to some European destinations and a decline in domestic "seat-sale" prices caused the overall fall in air fares.

A rise of 0.2% in the Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index and a drop of 0.2% in the Health and Personal Care index contributed marginally to the overall change. The increase in the former was caused by a 0.4% rise in the prices of alcoholic beverages. The price of alcoholic beverages purchased in stores rose mainly in New Brunswick and Quebec. The 0.2% decline in the Health and Personal Care index resulted mainly from a drop of 0.7% in selected personal care supplies.

Over the 12-month period, February 1991 to February 1992, the All-items excluding Food index increased by 2.2%, slightly above the 2.1% rise reported for January.

All-items Excluding Food and Energy

In February, the All-items excluding Food and Energy index increased by 0.4%, up from the 0.2% rise observed in January. Over the 12-month February 1991 to February 1992 period, the index climbed by 2.8%, marginally lower than the 2.9% increase registered in January.

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

	Indexes			Percentage change February 1992 from	
	February 1992	January 1992	February 1991	January 1992	February 1991
All-items	**127.1**	**127.0**	**125.0**	**0.1**	**1.7**
Food	119.9	119.7	120.9	0.2	-0.8
Housing	126.0	125.9	123.9	0.1	1.7
Clothing	130.4	127.6	127.7	2.2	2.1
Transportation	119.1	120.4	120.2	-1.1	-0.9
Health and personal care	129.2	129.4	127.6	-0.2	1.3
Recreation, reading and education	131.4	130.6	129.2	0.6	1.7
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	166.9	166.6	144.3	0.2	15.7
All-items excluding food	128.7	128.6	125.9	0.1	2.2
All-items excluding food and energy	129.6	129.1	126.1	0.4	2.8
Goods	123.0	123.0	121.6	0.0	1.2
Services	132.0	131.8	129.0	0.2	2.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1986	78.7	78.7	80.0		
All-items (1981 = 100)	168.3				

Goods and Services

The Goods index remained unchanged in February while the Services index climbed by 0.2%. This contrasted with the Goods index rising by 0.8% and the Services index by 0.2% in January. In February, the stability noted in the Goods index resulted from a 2.0% rise in the index for Semi-durable Goods while the Non-durable Goods index fell by 0.6% and the Durable Goods index remained unchanged. Between February 1991 and February 1992, the Goods index rose 1.2% while the Services index was up 2.3%. These advances compared to increases of 0.7% and 2.6% registered by the Goods and the Services indexes, respectively, between January 1991 and January 1992.

City Highlights

Between January and February, changes in the All-items indexes for cities for which CPIs are published varied from a decline of 0.1% in both Winnipeg and Edmonton to an increase of 0.8% in St. John's. In both Winnipeg and Edmonton, greater than average declines were registered in the Transportation and Health and Personal Care indexes. In addition, Winnipeg reported a small drop in its Housing index. In St. John's, higher than average increases were posted in the Food and Clothing indexes.

Between February 1991 and February 1992, increases in city CPIs ranged from a low of 0.4% in Charlottetown/Summerside to a high of 2.6% in Montreal.

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

St. John's

Advances in prices for women's wear, fresh produce, dairy products and soft drinks were among the main contributors to the 0.8% rise in the All-items index. Increased charges for household furnishings and equipment and higher recreational expenses also contributed to the overall rise. Between February 1991 and February 1992, the All-items index rose 1.5%.

Charlottetown/Summerside

Higher clothing prices were the dominant factor in the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Other notable contributors were higher prices for fresh vegetables and soft drinks, and increased charges for personal care supplies. Further upward pressure resulted from higher charges for cablevision services and increased prices for packaged holiday trips. The Housing index fell slightly as decreased charges for owned accommodation, electricity and long-distance telephone calls more than offset higher charges for fuel oil and rented accommodation. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.4%.

Halifax

The All-items index rose 0.4%, with most of the advance associated with a sharp rise in the Clothing index. Increased charges for rented accommodation, higher household operating expenses and increased prices for packaged holiday trips were also recorded. The Food index fell slightly, reflecting lower prices for sugar, pork, cured and prepared meats, cereal and bakery products and eggs. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.6%.

Saint John

The 0.3% rise in the All-items index was largely attributable to higher prices for clothing and, to a lesser extent, to higher prices for food. The rise in the latter reflected higher prices for fresh produce, bakery products and chicken. Further upward pressure resulted from higher prices for personal care supplies and packaged holiday trips. A considerable moderating effect was exerted by the Housing index, where declines in electricity charges, owned accommodation costs and household furnishings and equipment prices were recorded. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.1%.

Quebec City

Higher food prices, particularly for fresh produce and beef, and a rise in clothing prices explained most of the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. The Housing index advanced slightly, as increased charges for basic telephone services and higher prices for household textiles more than offset declines in furniture prices and decreased charges for long-distance telephone calls. Lower prices for gasoline had a major dampening effect. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.3%.

Montreal

No overall change was recorded in the All-items index, as declines in three of the major component indexes offset advances in the remaining four. Most of the upward pressure came from higher prices for clothing and food, the latter due mainly to price increases for fresh produce, restaurant meals and bakery products. The downward pressure came mainly from the Transportation index, and was largely the result of lower prices for gasoline. The Housing index fell slightly, reflecting decreased charges for owned accommodation, fuel oil and long-distance telephone calls. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.6%.

Ottawa

The All-items index remained unchanged overall. Higher prices for clothing exerted a major upward thrust, as did price increases for alcoholic beverages. A major offset resulted from lower food prices, mainly reflecting price decreases for dairy products, soft drinks, cereal and bakery products, beef, cured and prepared meats and chicken. Price declines for gasoline, air fares, personal care supplies and non-prescribed medicines were also recorded. The Housing index registered no change due to several offsetting price movements. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.4%.

Toronto

Higher clothing prices, increased charges for packaged holiday trips and higher prices for alcoholic beverages were among the main contributors to the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Within the Housing index, price increases were recorded for rented accommodation, water, child care, household textiles and basic telephone services. These advances were completely offset by decreased charges for owned and traveller accommodation and lower charges for long-distance telephone calls. A considerable dampening effect was exerted by lower prices for gasoline, air fares and personal care supplies. The Food index fell marginally. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.3%.

Thunder Bay

Increased housing charges, particularly for rented and owned accommodation and for household furnishings and equipment, explained a large part of the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Higher clothing prices and increased recreational expenses also exerted a considerable upward impact. The Food index rose marginally, reflecting several offsetting price movements. Dampening these advances were lower prices for served alcoholic beverages, gasoline and air travel. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.2%.

Winnipeg

The All-items index fell 0.1%, reflecting declines in three of the seven major component indexes. The greatest downward pressure came from the Transportation index where lower prices for gasoline and decreased air fares were recorded. Other notable declines were registered for personal care supplies, long-distance telephone calls and for owned accommodation. A major upward influence resulted from higher clothing prices and increased charges for packaged holiday trips. Prices for beer purchased from stores advanced as well. The Food index also rose, reflecting higher prices for fresh vegetables, bakery products, beef, pork and dairy products. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.2%.

Regina

The All-items index registered a marginal 0.1% increase, with the largest upward influence originating in the Clothing index. Price increases for household furnishings and equipment and increased charges for rented accommodation also exerted a notable upward impact. Higher food prices were recorded, particularly for fresh vegetables, bakery products, dairy products, prepared meats and chicken. A drop in gasoline prices had a major dampening effect. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.6%.

Saskatoon

The All-items index rose slightly (0.1%), as a rise in the Clothing index exerted a major upward influence. Other notable advances were observed in the prices of household furnishings and equipment, and in overall food prices, particularly for fresh vegetables, beef and bakery products. A notable dampening effect was exerted by the Transportation index, as lower prices for gasoline were recorded. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 0.5%.

Edmonton

The All-items index fell 0.1%, largely due to lower prices for gasoline and decreased air fares. Higher food prices exerted a considerable upward influence, most notably for beef, fresh vegetables, bakery products, cured and prepared meats, dairy products and chicken. Price advances for packaged holiday trips and alcoholic beverages added further upward pressure. The Housing index remained unchanged overall as several offsetting price movements were observed. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.3%.

Calgary

Advances in the Clothing and Food indexes, the latter reflecting higher prices for beef, fresh vegetables, chicken and soft drinks, explained a large part of the 0.4% rise in the All-items index. Higher prices for alcoholic beverages and household textiles were recorded, along with increased charges for rented, owned and traveller accommodation. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for packaged holiday trips, recreational equipment and personal care supplies. Moderating these advances was a fall in gasoline prices and air fares. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 2.3%.

Vancouver

Advances in the Food, Clothing and Housing indexes accounted for most of the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Within Food, higher prices were recorded for fresh produce, beef, bakery products, restaurant meals and dairy products. The rise in the Housing index reflected increased charges for child care, rented and owned accommodation, furniture and water. Moderating these advances were declines in three major component indexes, with the greatest downward impact caused by lower prices for gasoline. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.9%.

Victoria

Higher clothing prices and increased housing charges (particularly for rented and owned accommodation, child care and water) were among the main contributors to the 0.4% rise in the All-items index. Other notable price increases were observed for fresh produce, bakery products and restaurant meals, as well as for personal care supplies and services. Higher prices for packaged holiday trips, recreational equipment and newspapers added further upward pressure. The overall rise was dampened by decreased charges for gasoline, air fares and served alcoholic beverages. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.4%.

Whitehorse

The 0.2% rise in the All-items index was mainly due to increased recreational expenses and higher prices for food and clothing. Within Recreation, price increases were recorded for home entertainment equipment and cablevision services, while the Food index reflected higher prices for poultry, fresh vegetables, pork, bakery products and dairy products. Moderating these advances were decreased air fares and lower prices for served alcoholic beverages. The Housing index fell marginally, as lower prices for fuel oil, long-distance telephone calls and household textiles more than offset price increases for electricity and furniture. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.2%.

Yellowknife

Advances in the Clothing and Food indexes accounted for most of the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Within Food, most of the increase was due to higher prices for fresh produce, beef, and cereal and bakery products. Price increases for served alcoholic beverages, personal care supplies and non-prescribed medicines were also recorded. The Housing index rose slightly, as higher prices for household furnishings and equipment more than offset lower prices for fuel oil and decreased charges for long-distance telephone service. Partially offsetting these advances were declines in air fares, and lower prices for recreational and home entertainment equipment. Since February 1991, the All-items index has risen 1.9%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2201-2230.

The February 1992 issue of the *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.[1]

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
St.John's								
February 1992 index	121.6	115.2	118.1	131.0	116.3	126.3	130.6	139.9
% change from January 1992	0.8	1.4	0.3	4.4	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
% change from February 1991	1.5	-2.9	0.9	6.4	-2.0	2.9	3.5	12.0
Charlottetown/Summerside								
February 1992 index	126.0	123.5	119.7	122.1	116.6	133.0	131.3	186.3
% change from January 1992	0.2	0.2	-0.1	3.7	-0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.2
% change from February 1991	0.4	-1.5	-1.3	0.8	-3.2	2.2	2.5	17.8
Halifax								
February 1992 index	125.7	128.4	119.5	127.3	116.6	126.9	127.6	172.2
% change from January 1992	0.4	-0.1	0.2	5.3	-0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.1
% change from February 1991	0.6	-1.5	0.3	1.6	-2.3	-0.8	3.4	9.5
Saint John								
February 1992 index	125.0	123.5	119.6	127.4	117.5	127.5	126.1	181.0
% change from January 1992	0.3	0.7	-0.6	4.8	0.0	0.7	0.6	-0.2
% change from February 1991	1.1	-1.0	-0.4	1.4	-0.8	0.7	1.7	17.4
Quebec City								
February 1992 index	126.8	118.5	126.0	134.4	115.3	130.6	132.5	166.2
% change from January 1992	0.2	1.1	0.1	0.9	-0.8	0.5	0.0	-0.1
% change from February 1991	2.3	-0.6	2.3	2.1	-0.3	2.6	3.9	16.9
Montreal								
February 1992 index	128.5	119.9	128.4	134.7	116.4	130.1	136.1	170.8
% change from January 1992	0.0	0.3	-0.1	1.1	-1.2	-0.3	0.1	0.1
% change from February 1991	2.6	-0.6	2.2	2.5	-0.9	1.6	4.1	19.2
Ottawa								
February 1992 index	126.7	117.0	125.7	129.8	121.9	132.8	130.9	163.1
% change from January 1992	0.0	-1.2	0.0	1.7	-0.2	-1.1	0.2	0.8
% change from February 1991	1.4	-1.8	1.9	2.0	-0.8	0.3	1.0	15.1
Toronto								
February 1992 index	128.9	120.5	130.3	130.4	120.2	133.5	133.1	161.9
% change from January 1992	0.2	-0.1	0.0	2.5	-1.1	-0.4	1.3	0.3
% change from February 1991	1.3	-2.3	1.5	1.7	-0.8	1.5	1.0	15.9
Thunder Bay								
February 1992 index	126.1	118.5	124.1	130.1	121.2	125.7	130.5	167.6
% change from January 1992	0.2	0.1	0.6	1.4	-0.3	0.6	1.0	-1.6
% change from February 1991	2.2	1.2	3.1	2.6	-2.3	1.6	1.5	15.6
Winnipeg								
February 1992 index	125.6	123.1	123.4	129.9	117.1	127.2	130.1	162.1
% change from January 1992	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	1.4	-1.4	-0.8	0.5	0.5
% change from February 1991	1.2	0.3	2.7	2.5	-4.6	0.2	0.9	11.6
Regina								
February 1992 index	125.4	125.5	117.6	129.7	122.6	139.0	129.4	160.6
% change from January 1992	0.1	0.3	0.3	2.4	-2.0	-0.3	0.4	0.6
% change from February 1991	1.6	0.4	0.9	2.9	-1.0	1.0	2.6	12.7

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.[1]

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
Saskatoon								
February 1992 index	124.6	124.9	118.4	128.7	117.6	150.8	126.9	149.7
% change from January 1992	0.1	0.5	0.3	2.5	-1.8	0.1	0.0	-0.4
% change from February 1991	0.5	0.4	0.3	2.9	-4.6	1.0	1.4	8.8
Edmonton								
February 1992 index	125.3	120.7	122.0	129.0	116.0	127.2	130.5	178.6
% change from January 1992	-0.1	1.3	0.0	3.3	-2.9	-0.5	0.2	0.4
% change from February 1991	2.3	1.4	1.9	2.6	0.4	1.0	1.7	14.6
Calgary								
February 1992 index	125.7	121.4	121.9	129.6	115.3	125.7	130.3	178.0
% change from January 1992	0.4	0.9	0.2	2.8	-0.8	0.6	0.3	0.7
% change from February 1991	2.3	0.7	2.2	2.0	0.6	1.9	1.4	12.7
Vancouver								
February 1992 index	125.6	125.5	119.9	124.3	126.9	122.1	129.0	156.3
% change from January 1992	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.0	-1.6	-0.7	-0.1	0.4
% change from February 1991	1.9	2.0	1.0	2.7	0.8	0.2	1.7	11.0
Victoria								
February 1992 index	125.1	124.0	118.2	125.9	127.5	123.6	129.8	156.5
% change from January 1992	0.4	0.6	0.3	2.5	-0.2	1.4	0.2	-0.1
% change from February 1991	1.4	1.6	0.5	3.4	-0.5	1.7	-0.2	10.4
Whitehorse								
February 1992 index	122.6	118.1	122.2	125.6	111.7	128.5	125.3	148.5
% change from January 1992	0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.9	-0.3	-0.2	1.4	-0.3
% change from February 1991	1.2	0.9	1.7	-0.7	-3.3	2.3	1.5	8.6
Yellowknife								
February 1992 index	124.1	117.9	119.8	130.7	116.3	121.0	125.0	161.1
% change from January 1992	0.2	0.9	0.1	1.9	-0.4	0.8	-0.6	0.3
% change from February 1991	1.9	1.2	1.4	2.2	-2.6	3.9	0.8	9.7

[1] *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).* ■

Field Crop Reporting Series No. 2: March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Areas, Canada

1992

The 1992 area estimates reported here represent Canadian farmers' seeding intentions as of the beginning of March. The comparative 1991 data are based on the 1991 National Farm Survey and other sample surveys. The 1991 Census of Agriculture area data will be published in June.

Wheat

Canadian farmers intend to seed a record 31.3 million acres of spring wheat (excluding durum) in 1992, 4% above the 1991 area. A potential for lower U.S. 1992 Hard Red Winter Wheat production, low 1991-92 carryover, strengthening prices, and good delivery opportunities may be factors underlying current plans. The planned increase is largley confined to Hard Red Spring Wheat. The area of the second largest category, Prairie Spring Wheat, is expected to be relatively unchanged, as poor yields in Manitoba last year will likely result in a 22% decrease in Prairie Spring Wheat plantings in that province. Durum wheat plantings are expected to decline by 16% to 4.2 million acres.

Coarse Grains

The total area intended for barley, grain corn, oats and rye in 1992 is expected to be similar to 1991 or 18.4 million acres. The area intended for barley is 11.3 million acres, 4% lower than last year. Grain corn area should remain relatively unchanged at 2.6 million acres. Farmers intend to increase the area of oats by 18%.

Oilseeds

The total area intended to be seeded to oilseeds in 1992 is 3% below 1991, at 10.4 million acres. Canola area is expected to be similar to last year at 8.1 million acres. The area of soybeans is expected to fall 5% to 1.36 million acres, largely as a result of increased winter wheat plantings. Canola and soybean plantings are pressured by weak prices and the large world supplies that are expected. Flaxseed plantings will drop 25% to only 985 thousand acres, the lowest area since 1976. A burdensome carryover and low prices have made flaxseed an unattractive crop for the 1992 season.

Special Crops

The area of the five major western specialty crops is expected to increase by 15% to 2.1 million acres. The intended lentil area is 730 thousand acres, 23% above last year's record area. The area of dry peas is expected to be 610 thousand acres, up 24% from 1991. The area intended for mustard seed is up 21%, while canary seed and sunflower seed areas will be down 11% and 10%, respectively.

Summerfallow

Western farmers intend to leave 3% fewer acres in fallow in 1992. The total area of summerfallow is expected to be 19.4 million acres, the lowest since 1940. Increased wheat plantings and adequate spring moisture in most regions have contributed to the decrease in the amount of land farmers intend to leave fallow.

Data Quality

The estimates of seeding intentions are based on a telephone survey of 10,000 farm operators during the period of February 24 to February 28, 1992. The areas that will be seeded in the spring of 1992 may differ from these intended areas because of subsequent events. Changes in market outlook, expected prices and spring weather conditions, as well as these seeding intentions estimates themselves, may alter prospective cropping patterns.

The estimates of actual seed areas will be released on June 30. The next crop report, *Stocks of Canadian Grain at March 31,* will be released on April 29.

Field Crop Reporting Series No. 2: March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Area, Canada, 1992 (22-002, $12/$80) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For additional information, contact Crops Section, Agriculture Division (613-951-8717). ■

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Telephone Statistics
January 1992

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of $1,104.1 million in January 1992, down 0.4% from January 1991.

Operating expenses were $835.1 million, an increase of 1.9% from January 1991. Net operating revenue was $269.0 million, a decrease of 7.2% from January 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

The January 1992 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, $8.30/$83) is scheduled for release the week of March 30. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact J.R. Slattery (613-951-2205), Services, Science and Technology Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Field Crop Reporting Series No. 2: March Intentions of Principal Field Crop Area, Canada, 1992.
Catalogue number 22-002
(Canada: $12/$80; United States: US$14/US$96; Other Countries: US$16/US$112).

Employment, Earnings and Hours, December 1991.
Catalogue number 72-002
(Canada: $38.50/$385; United States: US$46.20/US$462; Other Countries: US$53.90/US$539).

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.

How to Order Publications

Simplify your search for data with the Statistics Canada Catalogue 1992. *It includes sources for key statistics on all areas of Canadian social and economic activity. Using the keyword index, you'll find what you need in seconds. For easy access to over 800 Statistics Canada products and services, order the Statistics Canada Catalogue 1992 (11-204E, $13.95; United States: US$17; Other Countries: US$20).*

You may purchase Statistics Canada publications by writing to Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or by calling 613-951-7277.

Please enclose a cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications. Provide full information on each publication order (catalogue number, title, issue). Canadian customers, please add 7% GST to your order.

To order Statistics Canada products and services toll-free, dial 1-800-267-6677 from within Canada. For orders from outside Canada, dial 613-951-7277.

Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.

The Daily

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-L, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)
Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103)

MAJOR RELEASE DATES

Week of March 23-27, 1992

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
March		
23	**Retail Trade**	January 1992
24	**Wholesale Trade**	January 1992
24	**Department Store Sales and Stocks**	January 1992
25	**Canada's International Transactions in Securities**	January 1992
25	**Unemployment Insurance Statistics**	January 1992
27	**Industrial Product Price Index**	February 1992
27	**Raw Materials Price Index**	February 1992
27	**Sales of Refined Petroleum Products**	February 1992