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Statistics Canada

Friday, May 29, 1992

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- **Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, March 1992** 3
Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost advanced 0.3% in March following a 0.2% gain in both January and February.
- **Financial Statistics of Enterprises, First Quarter 1992** 8
In the first quarter of 1992, operating profits of incorporated Canadian enterprises increased 5% to \$10.4 billion.
- **International Travel Account, First Quarter 1992** 11
On a seasonally adjusted basis, Canada's international travel account deficit amounted to \$2.0 billion during the first quarter of 1992.
- **Building Permits, March 1992** 14
The preliminary value of building permits issued in Canada increased 6.1% in March to \$2,382 million, up from \$2,245 million in February.
- **Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, April 1992** 15
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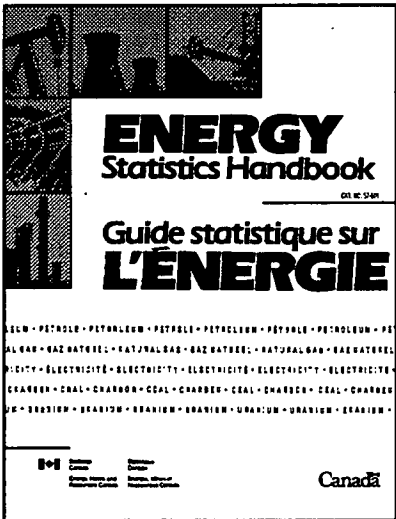
Canada

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

MAJOR RELEASE DATES: June 1992



Energy Statistics Handbook

May 1992

The new *Energy Statistics Handbook*, a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, provides current monthly and historical annual energy data covering the last 12 years. This is the most comprehensive source of detailed information on the energy field available and a useful tool for those who analyze and follow the availability, production and use of energy in Canada.

Data is organized and presented in a logical, easy-to-use manner by energy type. The publication also has supportive sections on prices and conversion factors (such as how to change a volume of natural gas to its heat content or how to change cubic metres of crude oil to metric tons of coal equivalent). Economic indicators (money market, housing starts, gross domestic product, etc.) are included to enhance understanding of the links between macroeconomic indicators and energy statistics.

On ordering, subscribers receive a binder with dividers, definitions and sources, and 200 pages of tables. Eleven monthly updates of tables will follow, so users will always have the most recent data available.

The *Energy Statistics Handbook* (57-601, \$300 for 12 monthly issues) is now available. See "How to Order Publications". **Single issues are not available.**

For further information on this release, contact Don Wilson (613-951-3566), Energy Section, Industry Division.

MAJOR RELEASES

Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry

(seasonally adjusted data)
March 1992

Monthly Overview

Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost advanced 0.3% in March following a 0.2% gain in both January and February. Goods production jumped 0.5%, following a flat February and a 0.2% gain in January. Services production continued to grow moderately, advancing 0.2% in March. Overall output in the first quarter was 0.1% above the fourth quarter of 1991 and 1.4% above that of a year earlier.

Goods-producing Industries

The 0.5% surge in goods production in March was the largest monthly increase since May 1991. Advances in manufacturing and construction accounted for most of the dollar gains. Marginal increases in agriculture, utilities and fishing were more than offset by declines in forestry and mining.

Manufacturing output rose 0.6% as 13 of 21 major groups recorded higher output, compared to only eight in February. Manufacturers of primary metals, electrical and electronic products and fabricated metal products accounted for most of the gains. Producers of transportation equipment, printers and publishers, and petroleum and coal refiners posted the largest losses.

Following five consecutive monthly declines, output of primary metals jumped 5.0%. Increased demand for these products was reflected in recent price increases (following several monthly declines) and in a gain in exports. Primary steel producers accounted for about three-quarters of the gain as they boosted output 10.0%, the largest monthly gain since July 1991. Smelters and refiners increased output 4.2%. Lower production of steel pipe and tube and rolled aluminum and copper partly offset these gains.

Producers of electrical products raised output 1.5% after four consecutive monthly declines. Output of telecommunications equipment (up 4.7%) and office, store, and business machines (up 1.8%) accounted for most of the gain. Cutbacks led by producers of lighting equipment partly offset these advances.

Production of fabricated metal products rose 1.7% following several monthly declines. Although the increases were widespread, producers of power boilers and fabricated metal structures accounted for about two-thirds of the increase. Manufacturers of stamped, pressed and coated metals posted the largest losses, decreasing output 3.5%.

Elsewhere in manufacturing, output of transportation equipment fell 0.6% as higher production of motor vehicle parts was more than offset by declines in motor vehicle assemblies and in aircraft and railroad rolling stock. Following eight monthly declines, printing and publishing output dropped a further 1.4%. Production of refined petroleum and coal products dropped 2.6%.

Following five consecutive monthly declines construction output rose 1.7%. Higher output of singles accounted for most of the 2.3% increase in residential construction. Non-residential construction rose 2.3%, led by higher activity on public and commercial projects. Gains in engineering construction contributed to the strength.

Following a 0.7% drop in February, forestry and logging fell 5.2% to its lowest level since January 1991. This was the largest monthly decline since November 1990 and may reflect developing uncertainty associated with U.S. tariffs on softwood lumber.

After a sharp 2.9% increase in February, mining output fell 0.2% as production of potash and coal fell and as a 10.5% drop in drilling activity extended its long-term decline. These cutbacks were partly offset by higher production of crude oil and natural gas.

Services-producing Industries

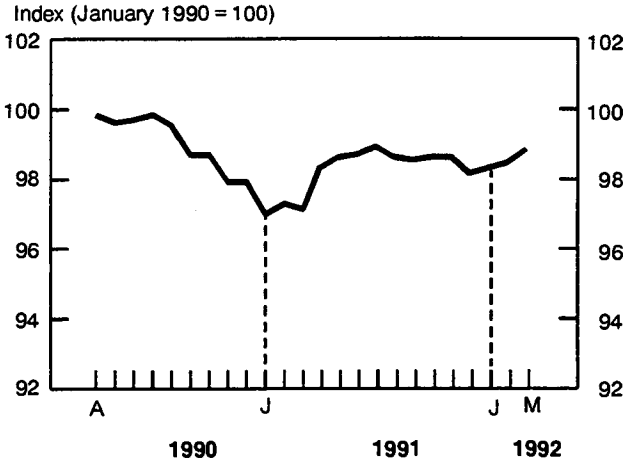
The 0.2% gain in March left services output 1.8% above its year-earlier level. Finance, insurance and real estate, wholesale trade, and transportation and storage led the widespread advances. Community, business and personal services, and communications also contributed to the higher output. These gains were partly offset by declines in retail trade and in government services.

Following three consecutive monthly gains, finance, insurance and real estate advanced 0.4% to a level 5.8% above that of a year earlier. Increased activity by investment companies and insurance and security brokers paced trust, other finance and real estate to a 0.9% advance, and accounted for most of the gains in March.

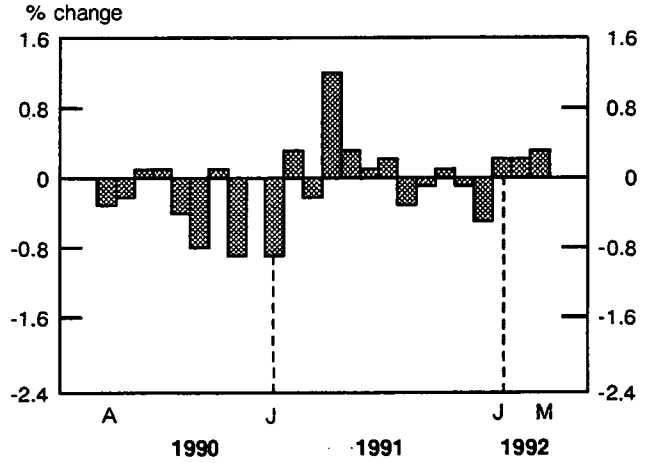
Gross Domestic Product

Seasonally adjusted at 1986 prices

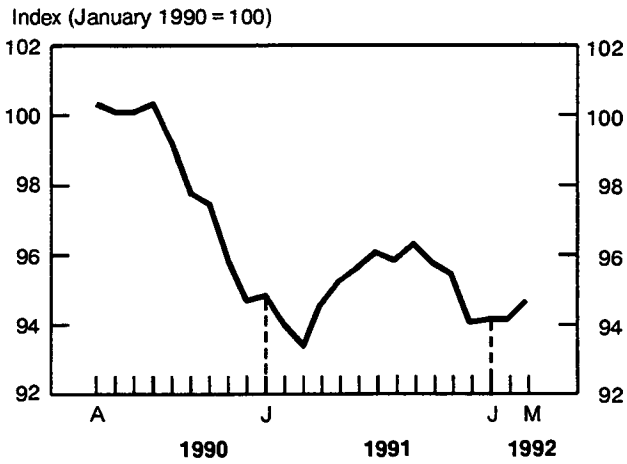
Total Economy



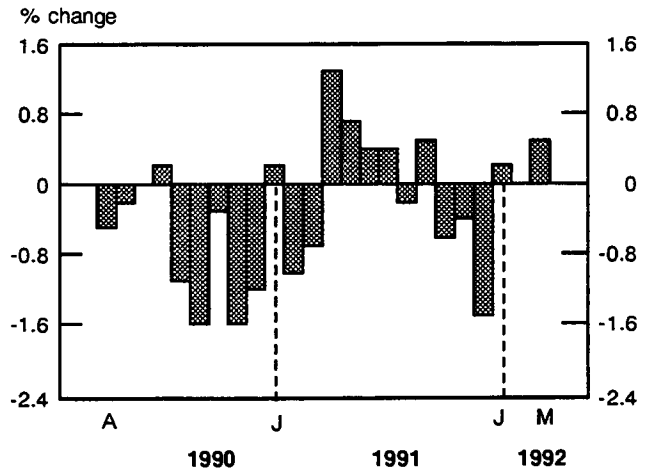
Total Economy



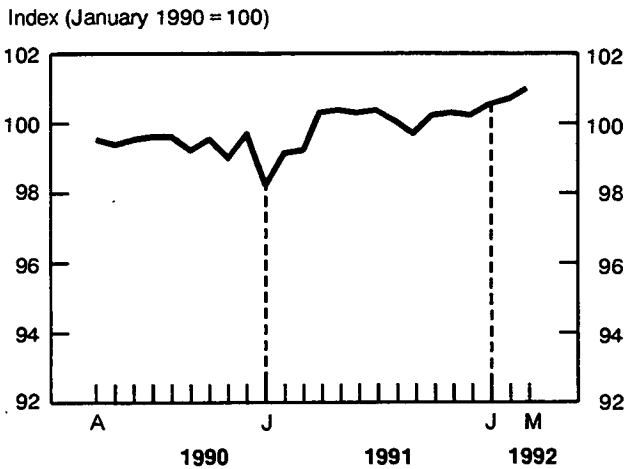
Goods



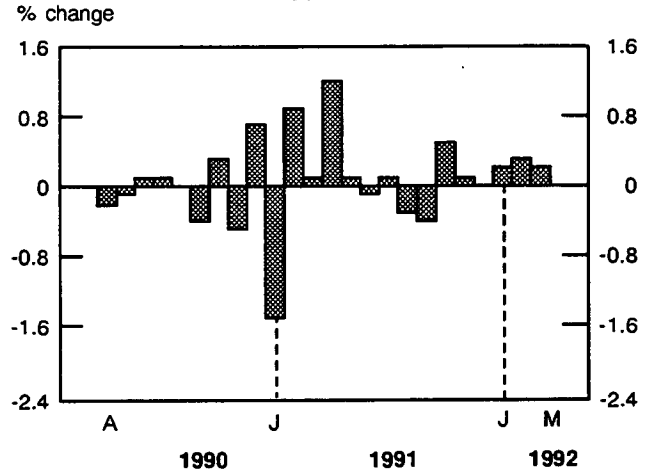
Goods



Services



Services



After declining in February, wholesale trade advanced 0.9%. Wholesalers of newsprint and pulp, motor vehicles and machinery and equipment led the gains as six of 11 trade categories recorded higher sales, compared to four in February. Wholesalers of food and hardware posted the largest losses.

Following a decline in February, transportation and storage output rose 0.8%. Transportation services advanced 0.3% as higher truck and water transport services were partly offset by lower rail services. Increased throughput of natural gas paced pipeline services to a 1.7% gain. Grain elevator operators led storage services, up 7.5%.

Following several monthly declines, community, business, and personal services output rose 0.2%. Although gains were widespread, amusement and health services accounted for about 80% of the advance. These advances were partly offset by a 0.4% decline in food and accommodation services.

Communications output rose 0.7%. Increased broadcasting activity accounted for most of the gain, advancing 3.8%. Telecommunication carriers, because of increased long distance calling, and the post office contributed to the strength.

Following four consecutive increases, retail trade dropped 1.0%. Losses, led by motor vehicle dealers and department stores, accounted for most of the decline, as 12 of 18 store types posted weaker sales, compared to 10 in February. Grocery and furniture and appliance stores, however, recorded the largest gains.

Quarterly Overview

Output rose 0.1% in the first quarter of 1992 after dropping 0.2% in the fourth quarter of 1991 and increasing 0.1% in the third quarter. Bolstered by narrow gains, services output rose 0.5%. Goods production fell 0.8%, a slower decline than its 1.0% drop in the fourth quarter of 1991.

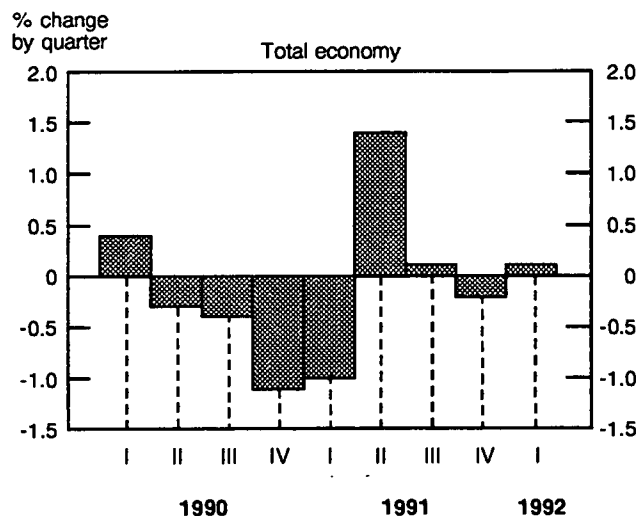
Services-producing Industries

The 0.5% increase in services left output 1.9% higher than a year earlier. Most of the gain was accounted for by trust, other finance, and real estate as activity by investment companies and real estate agents surged. Excluding this industry, services output rose 0.2%. Elsewhere, increases in retail trade, transportation and storage, and communications were partly offset by a decline in community, business, and personal services.

Finance, insurance, and real estate output rose 1.9% to a level 6.1% above that of a year earlier. Trust, other finance and real estate advanced 3.8%,

Gross Domestic Product

Seasonally adjusted at 1986 prices



as the generally strong activity in security and real estate markets evident in 1991 continued into the first quarter of 1992.

Following declines in the two previous quarters, retail trade rose 0.9% to stand 1.9% above its first quarter of 1991 level, when the GST was introduced. Motor vehicle dealers, service station operators, and grocery stores posted the largest gains as nine of 18 store types recorded higher sales. Losses, led by retailers of women's clothing, partly offset these gains.

Transportation and storage output advanced 1.0% following a 1.4% decline in the fourth quarter of 1991. A 6.9% increase in natural gas throughput by pipelines and a 15.8% advance in storage services by grain elevators accounted for most of the gain. Transportation services dropped 0.6% as higher rail and water transport output was offset by declines led by truck transport.

Following a flat fourth quarter, wholesale trade rose 0.4% to a level 9.2% above the first quarter of 1991, when the GST was introduced. Wholesalers of machinery and equipment, grain and lumber posted the largest gains as six of 11 trade categories recorded higher sales. Wholesalers of motor vehicles recorded the largest losses.

Following five consecutive quarterly declines, community, business, and personal services dropped a further 1.1% to its lowest level since the third quarter of 1988. Food and accommodation services, fell 3.4%, accounting for about half of the dollar drop. Declines in personal, health, and business services contributed to the weakness.

Goods-producing Industries

The 0.8% decline in goods production left output 0.3% above its level of a year earlier. Construction and manufacturing recorded the largest dollar drops. Declines in mining, forestry and fishing contributed to the weakness.

Construction dropped 2.1% after a 1.2% decline in the fourth quarter of 1991 and after average growth of 2.1% during the second and third quarters. Following an average 5.5% increase over the three previous quarters, residential construction, led by a decline in the output of singles, dropped 5.8% in the first quarter of 1992. The weakness in non-residential construction evident in 1991 continued into the first quarter of 1992, as declines in work on commercial projects led a 2.6% drop. Engineering construction was unchanged.

Following a decline in the previous quarter, manufacturing output fell 0.6% to a level 0.3% above that of a year earlier. Producers of electrical and electronic equipment, primary metals and non-metallic mineral products accounted for about 58% of the dollar decline. Gains in transportation equipment and wood partly offset the losses.

Manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment reduced output 4.2%. Declines were widespread with producers of electronic equipment accounting for about 64% of the dollar losses, reducing their output 7.3%.

Following a drop in the previous quarter, primary metal production slumped 4.1%. Manufacturers of iron and steel accounted for about half of the dollar losses, reducing their output 5.2%. Producers of steel pipe and tubes, and smelters and refiners, contributed to the weakness.

Following a 4.2% drop in the fourth quarter, non-metallic mineral production plunged 7.0%. Declines were widespread as reductions in clay, cement, and ready mix reflected the weakness in the construction industry.

After declining 1.2% in the fourth quarter, output of transportation equipment rose 3.4%. Motor vehicle assemblies output rose 5.7% and parts production, led by steering mechanisms, increased 2.3%. Higher output of aircraft and railroad rolling stock contributed to the strength.

Wood production jumped 4.4%. Sawmill operators and veneer and plywood producers accounted for most of the gains as they increased output 5.9% and 8.9%, respectively, in response to improved conditions in international markets early in the quarter.

Elsewhere in manufacturing notable declines in output by metal fabricators (-2.1%) and printers and publishers (-3.5%) were partly offset by a 6.3% increase in the output of beverages.

Mining output decreased 0.4%. A 1.4% increase in the production of crude oil and natural gas was more than offset by widespread declines, led by other metal mines and drilling activity.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4670-4674.

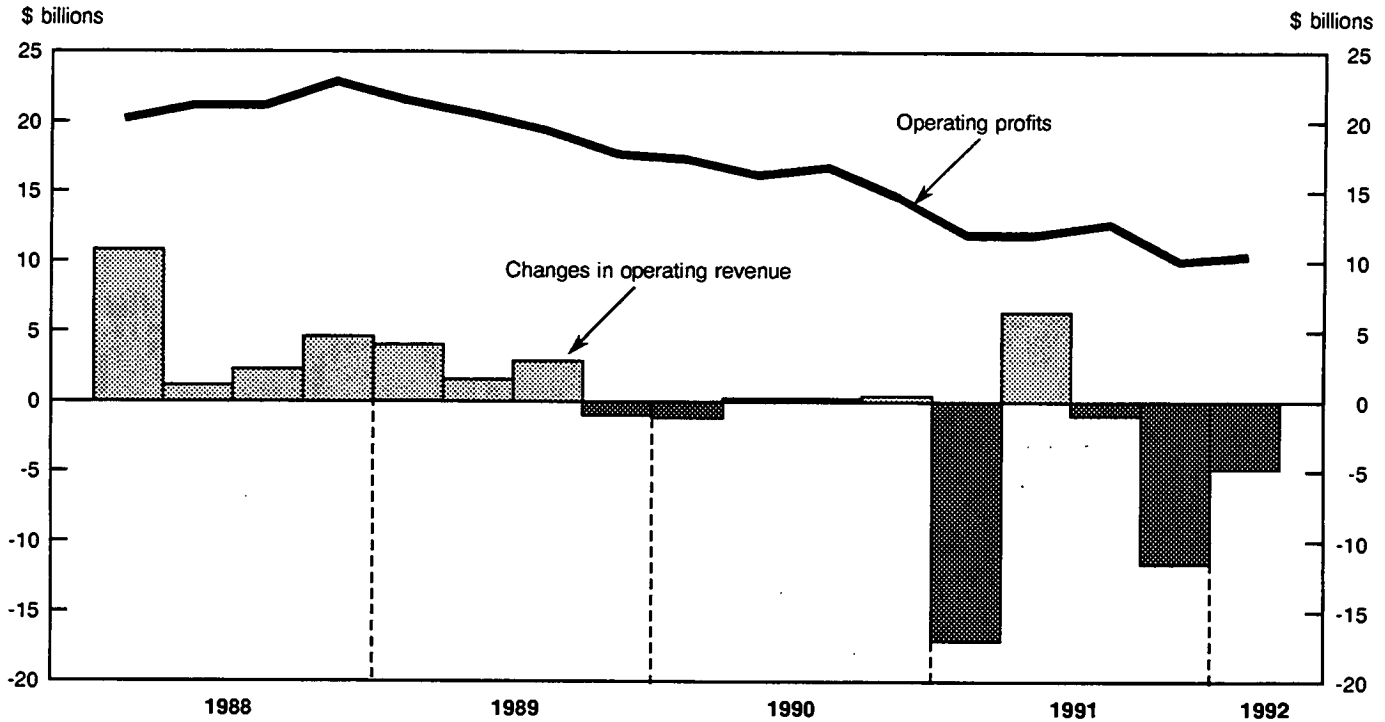
The March 1992 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (15-001, \$12.70/\$127) is scheduled for release in June.

For information, contact Lyle Sager (613-951-9164), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. □

Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, at 1986 Prices by Month
(Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)

	1991		1992		
	March	December	January	February	March
	(\$ millions)				
Total Economy	496,373.0	501,270.1	502,245.8	503,170.5	504,762.7
Business Sector:	405,506.1	409,764.7	410,796.2	411,600.9	413,311.9
Goods:	164,522.4	165,792.4	166,051.6	166,033.5	166,949.3
Agriculture	11,504.9	11,513.4	11,548.8	11,475.6	11,504.4
Fishing and Trapping	883.6	855.8	824.4	828.0	830.4
Logging Industry	2,518.3	2,507.5	2,565.6	2,547.6	2,415.6
Mining Industries	19,851.9	19,720.0	19,369.2	19,933.2	19,903.2
Manufacturing Industries	83,023.6	83,212.3	83,875.6	83,648.7	84,157.7
Construction Industries	30,623.6	31,568.2	31,408.8	31,098.0	31,615.2
Other Utility Industries	16,116.5	16,415.2	16,459.2	16,502.4	16,522.8
Services:	240,983.7	243,972.3	244,744.6	245,567.4	246,362.6
Transportation and Storage	21,432.3	21,530.6	21,860.4	21,739.2	21,910.0
Communication Industries	19,055.3	19,527.0	19,543.2	19,574.4	19,713.6
Wholesale Trade	25,331.0	27,190.9	27,223.2	27,168.0	27,416.4
Retail Trade	29,225.4	29,465.5	29,626.8	29,701.2	29,407.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	82,885.8	85,801.7	86,222.4	87,312.0	87,693.6
Community, Business and Personal Services	63,053.9	60,456.6	60,268.6	60,072.6	60,221.8
Non-business Sector:	90,866.9	91,505.4	91,449.6	91,569.6	91,450.8
Goods:	948.2	911.0	904.8	910.8	902.4
Services:	89,918.7	90,594.4	90,544.8	90,658.8	90,548.4
Government Service Industry	33,456.9	33,994.6	34,128.0	34,172.4	34,045.2
Community and Personal Services	53,094.9	53,415.3	53,271.6	53,300.4	53,342.4
Other Services	3,366.9	3,184.5	3,145.2	3,186.0	3,160.8
Other Aggregations:					
Goods-producing Industries	165,470.6	166,703.4	166,956.4	166,944.3	167,851.7
Services-producing Industries	330,902.4	334,566.7	335,289.4	336,226.2	336,911.0
Industrial Production	119,940.2	120,258.5	120,608.8	120,995.1	121,486.1
Non-durable Manufacturing	39,939.1	39,222.9	39,718.6	39,619.6	39,525.0
Durable Manufacturing	43,084.5	43,989.4	44,157.0	44,029.1	44,632.7

Financial and Non-financial Enterprises
Quarterly Operating Profits and Changes in Operating Revenue (seasonally adjusted)



Financial Statistics for Enterprises

First Quarter 1992

Profits Summary

(seasonally adjusted)

In the first quarter of 1992, operating profits of incorporated Canadian enterprises increased 5% to \$10.4 billion. This followed a 21% decline in operating profits in the fourth quarter of 1991, a 6% increase in the third quarter, a 0.5% increase in the second quarter and a 19% decline in the first quarter of 1991. Profits remained in the first quarter of 1992 less than half of the \$22.9 billion recorded in the fourth quarter of 1988.

Operating profits of the non-financial industries rose \$1.5 billion to \$7.7 billion in the first quarter of 1992. Profits were up in 14 of the 22 industries, with the largest increases recorded in transportation services, electronic equipment and computer services, and chemicals and textiles.

Operating profits of the financial industries were significantly reduced in the first quarter of 1992, falling

Note to Users

A new statistical series on the statement of changes in financial position starts with this quarter's release.

to \$2.7 billion from \$3.7 billion. The chartered banks' operating profits fell to \$0.9 billion in the first quarter from \$2.1 billion in the previous quarter.

Industry Highlights

(seasonally adjusted)

Non-financial Industries

Transportation Services

Operating profits rebounded to \$445 million in the first quarter of 1992 from \$79 million in the fourth quarter; profits were virtually unchanged from the average recorded over the first three quarters of 1991. In the final quarter of 1991, operating profits were reduced by high operating costs associated with the restructuring of operations.

Electronic Equipment and Computer Services

Operating profits recovered to \$406 million from last quarter's low of \$49 million. The first quarter results compare favourably with the \$227 million average quarterly profits in the first three quarters of 1991.

Wood and Paper

Operating losses in the first quarter of 1992 were \$306 million compared to losses of \$655 million in the final quarter of 1991. Profits had been tumbling consistently over the past four years since peaking at \$1.9 billion in the fourth quarter of 1987. Excess newsprint capacity and depressed paper product prices have been cited as major factors for the operating losses. However, lumber prices recovered somewhat in the quarter and helped reduce industry losses.

Chemicals, Chemical Products and Textiles

Operating profits in the first quarter rose to \$801 million from \$457 million the previous quarter. The current results are just under the \$866 million average profits registered over the first three 1991 quarters. Quarterly profits averaged \$1.2 billion in 1989.

Financial Industries

Chartered Banks: Booked in Canada operating profits decreased 57% to \$895 million in the first quarter of 1992. Lower interest rates and higher loan loss provisions accounted for the decrease in operating profits. Throughout the 1988-1991 period, operating profits averaged \$1.2 billion.

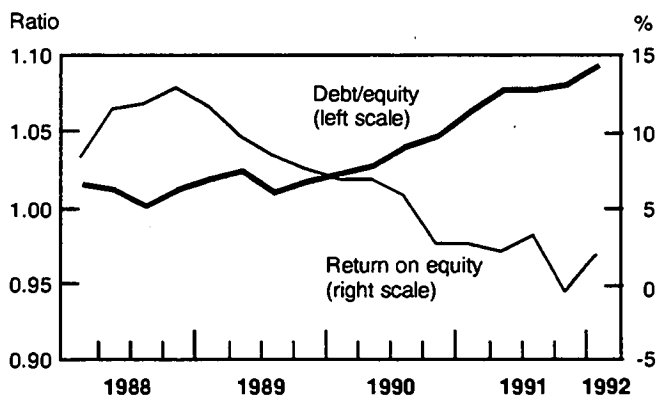
Property and Casualty Insurers: Operating profits increased \$79 million in the first quarter to \$393 million, following an increase of \$122 million in the previous quarter. Profits ranged between \$192 million and \$412 million throughout 1991.

Trust Companies: Operating losses fell to \$19 million in the first quarter of 1992 from \$207 million in the fourth quarter of 1991. The decrease was mostly attributable to lower loan loss provisions. Profits had fallen for the three previous quarters.

Statement of Changes in Financial Position

This statement shows the applications of cash generated during the quarter and the sources of that cash. Among the three major applications of cash, a 20% decline in cash was used to pay dividends, a smaller decline in cash was applied to fixed assets and a large decline in cash was used for investments. Among the investment applications, all three components declined.

Financial and non-financial Enterprises - Financial Ratios



Operations generated \$11 billion less cash in the first quarter of 1992 than in the fourth quarter of 1991. Cash from financing activities also decreased significantly. Deposits generated a smaller amount of cash in the first quarter of 1992 than in the previous quarter for banks and other deposit-accepting institutions. Otherwise, there was a general increase in financing activities in the first quarter.

Financial Ratios

Return on Equity: The rate of return on shareholders' equity, a measure of profitability, recovered to 1.8% from -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 1991. This ratio averaged 2.5% in the earlier 1991 quarters and recently peaked at 13% in 1988.

Debt to Equity: This solvency indicator rose to 1.09 from 1.08 in the fourth quarter of 1991, unchanged from the third and second quarters of 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3860-3869, 3914-3971, 3974-3981.

The first quarter 1992 issue of *Quarterly Financial Statistics for Enterprises* (61-008, \$23/\$92) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gail Campbell or Bill Potter for non-financial industries data (613-951-9843), or Robert Moreau for financial industries data (613-951-2512), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. □

Selected Financial Statistics

First Quarter 1992

	1st Quarter 1992	4th Quarter 1991	3rd Quarter 1991	2nd Quarter 1991
	(\$ billions)			
Balance Sheet				
Cash and Deposits	83.4	83.4	79.2	78.6
Accounts Receivable	122.5	127.9	134.1	133.5
Inventories	125.4	126.2	129.3	131.1
Investments	416.1	413.8	408.4	400.0
Loans	621.1	617.9	605.8	600.3
Capital Assets	443.2	443.7	451.1	449.2
All Other Assets	156.6	147.1	148.7	146.0
Total Assets	1,968.3	1,960.0	1,956.6	1,938.7
Deposits (Financial Institutions)	584.5	580.3	569.7	569.2
Accounts Payable	166.2	168.4	167.5	162.6
Borrowing	465.9	463.6	468.1	465.5
All Other Liabilities	325.3	318.7	316.5	309.0
Total Liabilities	1,541.9	1,531.0	1,521.8	1,506.3
Share Capital	220.9	219.7	213.4	210.1
Retained Earnings (Including Surplus)	205.5	209.3	221.4	222.3
Total Equity	426.4	429.0	434.8	432.4
Statement of Changes in Financial Position				
Cash from Operating Activities	13.1	24.0	..	..
Cash from Financing Activities	7.2	10.6	..	..
Cash Applied to Investment Activities	4.0	12.2	..	..
Cash Applied to Fixed Assets	9.2	10.0	..	..
Cash Applied to Dividends	5.7	7.0	..	..
Seasonally Adjusted Income Statement				
Operating Revenue	262.0	266.8	278.3	279.3
Operating Profit	10.4	9.9	12.6	11.8
Profit before extraordinary gains	1.9	-0.8	3.3	2.1
Net Profit	1.9	-1.0	3.3	2.0

.. Not available. ■

International Travel Account

First Quarter 1992
(Preliminary Estimates)

Seasonally Adjusted Data

Seasonally adjusted data, which highlight trends, show that international travel transactions produced a seasonally adjusted deficit of \$2.0 billion, in current dollars, during the first quarter of 1992. The improvement in the balance compared to the fourth quarter of 1991 reflected lower Canadian foreign expenditures (- 3.1%) and higher receipts from non-residents (+ 6.7%).

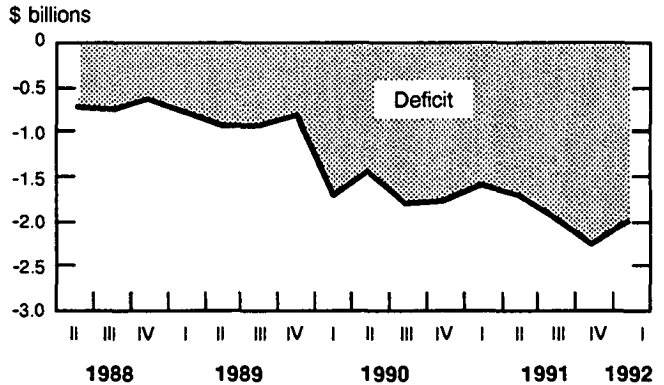
Highlights

- Compared with the preceding quarter, receipts from the United States increased 4.9% to \$1.2 billion, while receipts from all other countries increased 9.1% to \$864 million.
- Total payments decreased as expenditures in the United States by Canadian residents dropped 6.5% from the previous quarter to \$2.8 billion. This decrease outweighed the 5.5% increase in payments to all other countries, which rose to \$1.3 billion.

Unadjusted Data

- Canada's international travel account, in current dollars, showed a record \$3.4 billion deficit during

Travel Account Balance (seasonally adjusted)



the first quarter of 1992. The travel balance deteriorated with the United States, registering the largest deficit ever (-\$2.5 billion). Meanwhile, the travel balance with all other countries also deteriorated compared to the same quarter of 1991, reaching -\$911 million.

The January-March 1992 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$38.50/\$154) will be available in July. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. □

International Travel Receipts and Payments

	1991 ^P					1992 ^P
	Q.I	Q.II	Q.III	Q.IV	Total	Q.I
Seasonally Adjusted*						
(millions of \$)						
United States						
Receipts	1,114	1,159	1,134	1,112	4,519	1,167
Payments	2,462	2,593	2,784	2,965	10,804	2,771
Balance	-1,348	-1,434	-1,650	-1,853	-6,285	-1,604
All other countries						
Receipts	873	808	810	792	3,283	864
Payments	1,144	1,094	1,120	1,202	4,561	1,268
Balance	-271	-286	-310	-410	-1,278	-404
Total, all countries						
Receipts	1,987	1,967	1,944	1,904	7,802	2,032
Payments	3,606	3,687	3,904	4,167	15,365	4,039
Balance	-1,619	-1,720	-1,961	-2,263	-7,563	-2,008
Unadjusted						
United States						
Receipts	554	1,190	2,071	704	4,519	578
Payments	2,746	2,822	2,801	2,435	10,804	3,054
Balance	-2,192	-1,632	-730	-1,731	-6,285	-2,476
All other countries						
Receipts	468	879	1,440	496	3,283	474
Payments	1,250	1,014	1,267	1,030	4,561	1,385
Balance	-782	-135	173	-534	-1,278	-911
Total, all countries						
Receipts	1,022	2,069	3,511	1,200	7,802	1,052
Payments	3,996	3,836	4,068	3,465	15,365	4,439
Balance	-2,974	-1,767	-557	-2,265	-7,563	-3,387

* Seasonally adjusted data may not add to totals due to rounding.

^P Preliminary figures.

Building Permits

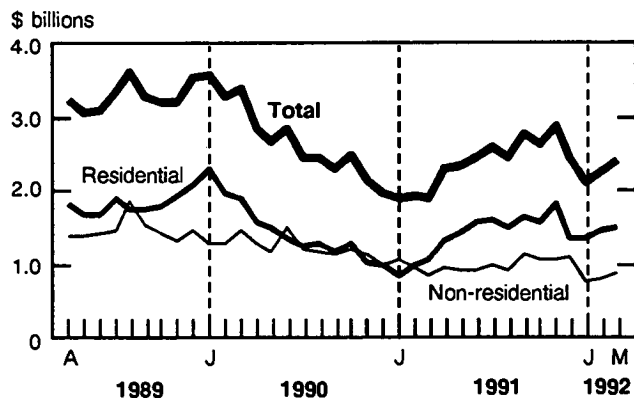
(seasonally adjusted data)
March 1992

Summary

The preliminary value of building permits issued in Canada increased 6.1% in March to \$2,382 million, up from \$2,245 million in February. Both the residential and non-residential construction sectors showed increases in the value of building permits.

Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

Seasonally adjusted



Note: Revised data for February, preliminary data for March.

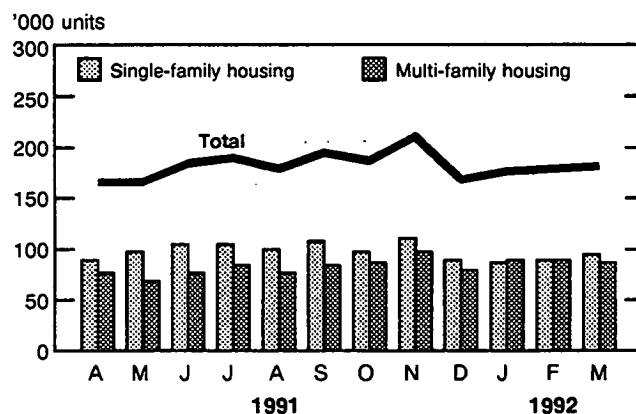
Residential Sector

- The preliminary value of residential building permits increased 3.6% in March to \$1,498 million, up from \$1,446 million in February. This was the third consecutive increase in the value of residential permits since December 1991.
- The value of building permits was up 7.1% in the single-family dwelling sector to \$1,015 million, but it fell 3.0% in the multi-family dwelling sector to \$483 million.

- Ontario (+7.2%) and British Columbia (+9.1%) were the only regions to report increases in the value of residential building permits in March.
- The preliminary total number of dwelling units authorized in March was up by only 0.9% to 180,000 units at an annual rate. The number of single-dwelling units increased 4.1% to 93,000 units, but the number of multiple-dwelling units declined 2.4% to 87,000 units.

Dwelling Units Authorized in Canada

Seasonally adjusted at annual rates



Note: Revised data for February, preliminary data for March.

Advance Estimate of the Residential Sector for April 1992

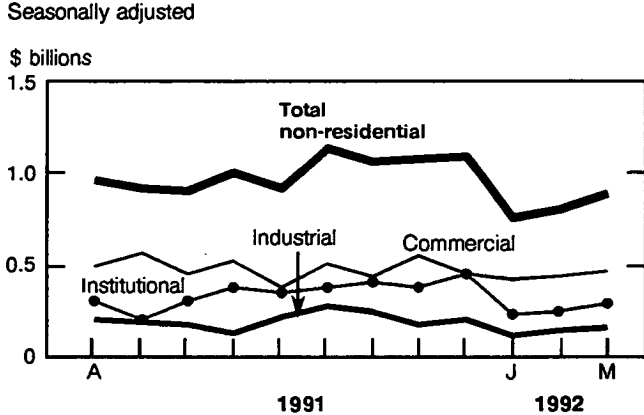
- The advance estimate for April indicated that the value of residential building permits issued in Canada declined to \$1,286 million, down 13.4% from the revised value¹ for March (\$1,484 million).
- The advance estimate of dwelling units authorized in April declined 15.5% to 150,000 units at annual rates, down from the revised 178,000 units reported in March.

¹ The addition of data due to the advance estimate for April results in a revision of seasonally adjusted figures for previous months, including March.

Non-residential Sector

- The preliminary value of non-residential building permits increased 10.6% in March to \$884 million, up from \$799 million in February. This was the largest increase reported in the value of non-residential projects since September 1991.
- For the second consecutive month, all three components of the non-residential sector recorded increases in the value of building permits. The value of building permits in the institutional sector was up 24.5% to \$284 million due to increased activities in Ontario and British Columbia. However, both the commercial (+5.4% to \$456 million) and industrial (+4.0% to \$144 million) sectors recorded smaller increases in the value of building permits.

Value of Non-residential Permits Issued in Canada
Seasonally adjusted



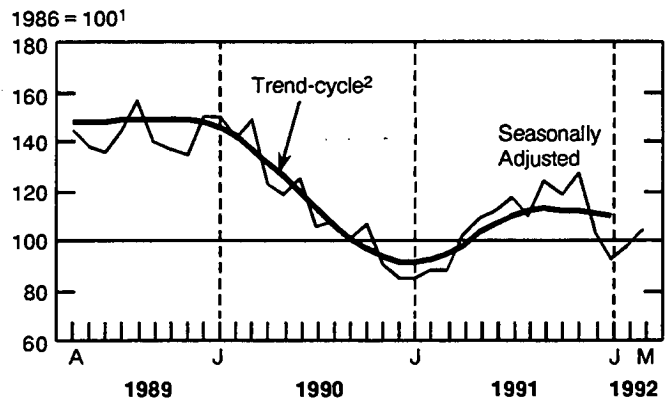
Note: Revised data for February, preliminary data for March.

- All regions, with the exception of Quebec (-13.8%), reported increases of at least 11.9% in the value of non-residential building permits in March.

Short-term Trend

- The short-term trend (excluding engineering projects) continued to fall in January 1992, declining 1.1% to 108.6.
- The non-residential trend index declined in January to its lowest level since March 1986 (-1.9% to 95.8). The residential trend index also declined in January (-0.7% to 118.0).

Building Permits Indices



1 This series is deflated by using the construction input price index which includes cost of material and labor.
2 The trend-cycle shows the seasonally-adjusted value of building permits without irregular influences which can obscure the short-term trend. In order to reduce the number of false signals in the construction activity series, the trend-cycle is published with a two-month lag.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The March 1992 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$22.10/\$221) is scheduled for release the third week of June.

For further information on statistics, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689). For analytical information, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-2025), Current Investment Indicators Section, Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

April 1992

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that sales of refined petroleum products totalled 6.7 million cubic metres in April 1992, a 1.3% increase from March 1992.
- This increase was attributable to higher sales of diesel fuel oil (1.3%), heavy fuel oil (0.5%) and "all other refined products" (5.9%). Sales of light fuel oil (-0.7%) and motor gasoline (-0.2%) decreased.

Unadjusted Sales

- Total sales of refined petroleum products decreased 2.6% from April 1991, to 6.3 million cubic metres. Of the four main products, motor

gasoline (-3.5%) and heavy fuel oil (-1.5%) decreased, but light fuel oil (5.1%) and diesel fuel oil (1.8%) increased.

- Cumulative sales of refined petroleum products for the first four months of 1992 amounted to 25.8 million cubic metres, up 4.0% from the corresponding period in 1991. Within this total, heavy fuel oil sales increased 19.6%, light fuel oil 8.6%, motor gasoline 2.9% and diesel fuel oil 0.4%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The April 1992 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$18.20/\$182) will be available the third week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gérard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

	January 1992 ^r	February 1992 ^r	March 1992 ^r	April 1992 ^p	April 1992/ March 1992
Seasonally Adjusted					
(thousands of cubic metres)					
Total, All Products	6 863.7	6 696.9	6 577.0	6 664.4	1.3
Motor Gasoline	2 806.5	2 793.3	2 761.0	2 754.7	-0.2
Diesel Fuel Oil	1 296.0	1 300.4	1 301.2	1 318.2	1.3
Light Fuel Oil	518.5	510.6	537.6	534.0	-0.7
Heavy Fuel Oil	851.3	669.3	675.4	678.5	0.5
All Other Refined Products	1 391.4	1 423.3	1 301.8	1 379.0	5.9
Total					
	April 1991	April 1992 ^p	January- April 1991	January- April 1992 ^p	Cumulative 1992/1991
Unadjusted					
(thousands of cubic metres)					
Total, All Products	6 415.6	6 251.2	24 851.5	25 844.5	4.0
Motor Gasoline	2 729.3	2 633.1	9 989.3	10 281.1	2.9
Diesel Fuel Oil	1 183.7	1 205.2	4 538.6	4 557.7	0.4
Light Fuel Oil	514.0	540.0	2 943.1	3 196.9	8.6
Heavy Fuel Oil	709.2	698.6	2 614.8	3 127.4	19.6
All Other Refined Products	1 279.4	1 174.3	4 765.7	4 681.4	-1.8

^p Preliminary.
^r Revised.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder

April 1992

Production of process cheese in April 1992 totalled 6 128 442 kilograms, a decrease of 9.7% from the revised March 1992 figure but an increase of 2.1% from the revised April 1991 figure. The 1992 year-to-date production totalled 22 968 267^r (revised) kilograms, compared to the corresponding 1991 amount of 25 948 470^r kilograms.

Total production of instant skim milk powder during April 1992 was 468 791 kilograms, a 21.5% increase from March 1992 and a 38.9% increase from April 1991. Cumulative year-to-date production totalled 1 579 153 kilograms, compared to the 1 578 302 kilograms reported for the corresponding period in 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).

The April 1992 issue of *Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder* (32-024, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

Average Prices of Selected Farm Inputs

April 1992

April 1992 average prices for selected farm inputs are now available on CANSIM by geographic regions as follows:

CANSIM Matrix	Geographic Region
550	Newfoundland
551	Prince Edward Island
552	Nova Scotia
553	New Brunswick
554	Quebec - East
555	Quebec - South
556	Quebec - Westcentral
557	Quebec - Eastcentral
558	Quebec - West
559	Ontario - South

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Ontario - North
Ontario - Central
Ontario - East
Ontario - West
Manitoba - Southwest
Manitoba - Northwest
Manitoba - Central
Manitoba - East
Saskatchewan - Southeast
Saskatchewan - Southwest
Saskatchewan - Westcentral
Saskatchewan - Eastcentral
Saskatchewan - North
Alberta - Southeast
Alberta - Southcentral
Alberta - Southwest
Alberta - Eastcentral
Alberta - Westcentral
Alberta - Northeast
Alberta - Northwest
British Columbia - West
British Columbia - East
British Columbia - North

For further information, contact Vaclav Krabicka (613-951-3342), Prices Division. ■

Electric Power Statistics

March 1992

Net generation of electric energy in Canada in March 1992 increased to 45 317 gigawatt hours (GWh), up 2.4% from the corresponding month a year earlier. Exports increased 21.7% to 1 763 GWh, while imports increased from 532 GWh to 839 GWh.

Year-to-date figures show net generation at 141 373 GWh, up 3.7% over the figure of the previous year. Exports, at 6 368 GWh, were up 62.8% and imports, at 2 091 GWh, were up 12.4%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The March 1992 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$10/\$100) will be available the first week of June. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Characteristics of International Travellers

1990 and 1991 (Quarterly and Annual)

Preliminary data on the characteristics (age groups, purpose of trip, etc.) of Canadians travelling abroad are now available.

Preliminary data on the characteristics of residents of the United States and other countries who visited Canada during 1990 and 1991 are also now available.

For further information, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Fruit and Vegetable Production, May 1992.

Catalogue number 22-003

(Canada: \$18/\$72; United States: US\$21.50/US\$86;
Other Countries: US\$25.25/US\$101).

The Sugar Situation, April 1992.

Catalogue number 32-013

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

**Quarterly Shipments of Office Furniture Products,
Quarter Ended March 31, 1992.**

Catalogue number 35-006

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

Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, April 1992.

Catalogue number 36-004

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

Electric Lamps, April 1992.

Catalogue number 43-009

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

Oil Pipe Line Transport, February 1992.

Catalogue number 55-001

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

Gas Utilities, January 1992.

Catalogue number 55-002

(Canada: \$12.70/\$127; United States: US\$15.20/
US\$152; Other Countries: US\$17.80/US\$178).

Energy Statistics Handbook, May 1992.

Catalogue number 57-601

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

Leisure and Personal Services, 1987-89.

Catalogue number 63-233

(Canada: \$30; United States: US\$36;
Other Countries: US\$42).

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MAJOR RELEASE DATES: JUNE 1992

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
June		
3	Help-wanted Index	May 1992
3	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	March 1992
4	Census of Agriculture	1991
5	Labour Force Survey	May 1992
9	New Motor Vehicle Sales	April 1992
9	Farm Product Price Index	April 1992
10	New Housing Price Index	April 1992
10	Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	April 1992
12	Travel Between Canada and Other Countries	April 1992
16	Department Store Sales - Advance Release	May 1992
16	Canadian Composite Leading Indicator	March 1992
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	April 1992
17	Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing Industries	First Quarter 1992
18	Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Merchandise Trade	April 1992
18	Sales of Natural Gas	April 1992
19	The Consumer Price Index	May 1992
22	Income and Expenditure Accounts (Gross Domestic Product)	First Quarter 1992
22	Financial Flow Accounts	First Quarter 1992
22	Canadian Balance of International Payments	First Quarter 1992
23	Retail Trade	April 1992
23	Employment, Earnings and Hours	April 1992
23	Department Store Sales and Stocks	April 1992
24	Wholesale Trade	April 1992
24	Unemployment Insurance Statistics	April 1992
25	Canada's International Transactions in Securities	April 1992
26	Industrial Product Price Index	May 1992
26	Raw Materials Price Index	May 1992
26	Sales of Refined Petroleum Products	May 1992
29-July 3	Estimates of Labour Income	March 1992
30	Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry	April 1992
30	Building Permits	April 1992
30	Field Crop Reporting Series: No. 4 - Preliminary Estimates of Principal Field Crop Area, Canada	
30	Major Release Dates	July 1992

The July 1992 release schedule will be published on June 30, 1992. **Users note:** This schedule can be retrieved from **CANSIM** by the command **DATES**. Contact Greg Thomson (613-951-1116), Communications Division.



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