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The Daily

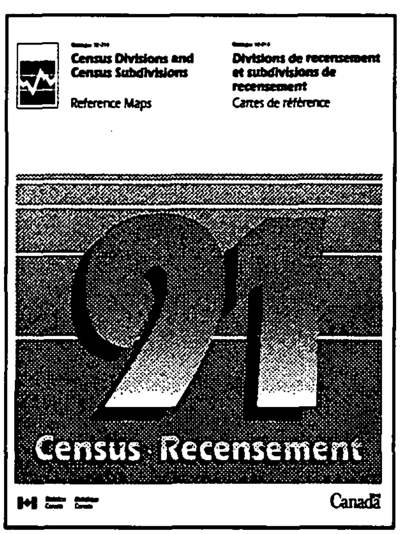
Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 16, 1992 **For release at 8:30 a.m.**

MAJOR RELEASES

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

(continue on page 2)



Census Reference Map Series: Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions

1991 Census

The first of a two-publication series of reference maps, illustrating various geographic areas of the 1991 Census, is now available. This publication presents the reference maps of Canada's census divisions and census subdivisions. Census divisions are areas such as counties and regional districts; census subdivisions include cities, municipalities, towns, and villages. Each province and territory is covered by one to four maps, with scales ranging from 1:375,000 to 1:6,000,000.

These colourful maps also depict the boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations plus physical features like major roads, railroads and bodies of water. Reference maps will be available for other geographical areas such as census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations, census tracts, federal electoral districts, and enumeration areas.

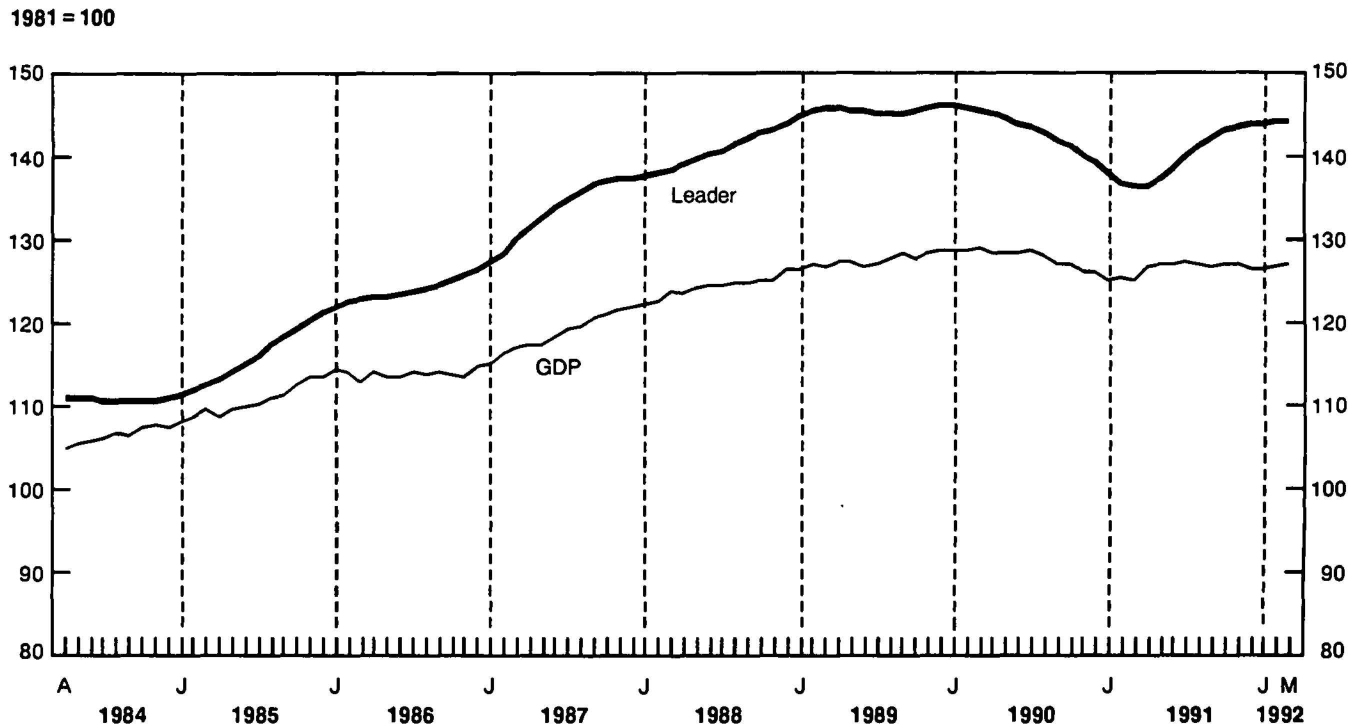
Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions, Reference Maps (92-319, $75) is now available. To obtain any of these census reference maps individually or as a set, see "How to Order Publications."

For further information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Reference Centre.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS - Concluded

MAJOR RELEASES

Composite Leading Indicator and GDP



Canadian Composite Leading Indicator

March 1992

Note to Users

Following customary practice, data for the leading indicator have been revised back to January 1988 with the release of March data.

The leading indicator was up 0.1% in March, the same growth as recorded in January and February. The sluggish performance of the index, which began to slow last August, reflected a downturn in services and the stock market in March. Overall, five of the 10 components were down, up from four in February, while only four rose. The unsmoothed version of the index fell 0.6% in March after a 1.4% gain in February.

Household demand remained slow in March, at a time of rapidly deteriorating labour market conditions. The housing index rose for the first time since October 1991, but the gain was small and will be restrained by lower existing house sales in April and a downturn in housing starts in May. Furniture and appliance sales picked up in line with housing in March. Sales of other durable goods fell, however, led by another slowdown in auto demand. Personal services accounted for most of the deterioration in services employment in March.

The manufacturing indicators remained lacklustre. New orders for durable goods fell less rapidly than in January and February, but inventories continued to rise at a fast clip, which lowered the ratio of shipments to stocks of finished goods. The average workweek levelled off again in March, after a gain in February.

The financial market indicators were mixed. Growth in the money supply was steady at 0.5%, after a 0.6% gain in February. The stock market, however, posted its first drop since December, led by weakness in financial services.

The growth of the U.S. leading indicator was unchanged at 0.3% in March, after an upturn in February. This conforms with less vigorous gains in final demand in March and April. Personal income growth was restrained by the efforts of firms to control payrolls. As a result, Canadian exports to the U.S. grew less rapidly in March than at the turn of the year.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For more information on the economy, the June issue of *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, $22/$220) will be available this week. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release or about the next release dates, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Division.

Canadian Leading Indicators

	Percentage Change			Level	
	January	February	March	February	March
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**144.1**	**144.2**
Unsmoothed Composite	-0.6	1.4	-0.6	144.8	144.0
Retail trade					
Furniture and appliance sales	0.2	0.5	0.6	1,008.3[4]	1,014.8[4]
Other durable goods sales	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	3,543.6[4]	3,534.8[4]
Housing index[1]	-1.6	-0.5	0.5	124.3	124.9
Manufacturing					
New orders – durables	-1.2	-0.8	-0.4	8,997[4]	8,957[4]
Shipment to inventory ratio – finished goods[2]	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	1.35	1.34
Average workweek (hours)	0.0	0.3	0.0	38.1	38.1
Business and personal services employment (thousands)	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	1,782	1,771
United States composite leading index (1967 = 100)	0.2	0.3	0.3	200.2	200.9
TSE300 stock price index (1975 = 1000)	0.3	0.5	-0.2	3,527	3,521
Money supply (M1) ($1981)[3]	0.4	0.6	0.5	24,346[4]	24,463[4]

1 *Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (MLS).*
2 *Difference from previous month.*
3 *Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.*
4 *Millions of 1981 dollars.*

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

April 1992

Seasonally Adjusted

Shipments increased 1.1% in April, the third increase in a row. As was the case in February, the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries accounted for most of the April increase. Over the past nine months, this industry has displayed a pattern of alternating increases and decreases. Shipments for all manufacturing excluding the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries declined 0.1% in April following a strong increase of 1.8% in March.

Unfilled orders decreased for the sixth consecutive month. Over the last two months, large orders have been received in the fabricated metal industries and in the machinery industry. However, these increases have been more than offset by decreases in most other industries (as manufacturers reduced their backlog of orders) and by order cancellations, notably in the aircraft industry. The inventory to shipments ratio fell for the fourth consecutive month, dropping below 1.50 for the first time since February 1989.

The **short-term trend** smooths out irregular month-to-month movements which are not sustained over a longer period. For the first time since July 1991, the trend for shipments rose. This was largely attributed to the sharp rise in the trend for the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries. The shipments trend for the rest of manufacturing continued to decline but at a considerably slower pace in recent months. The trend for unfilled orders has fallen since April 1989 and, over the last seven periods, at a rate of about -0.8% a month. The decline in the inventory trend has lasted more than two years, but at a slower pace in recent months.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' **shipments** were $23.1 billion in April, an increase of 1.1% from the previous month. Eleven of the 22 major groups (accounting for 48% of shipment values) recorded increases with the transportation equipment (7.3%), paper and allied products (2.9%) and refined petroleum and coal products industries (2.2%) reporting the largest increases in value. The most significant decrease was in the electrical and electronic products industries (-8.1%).

Note to Users

As announced last month, the estimated values of shipments, inventories and orders have been revised back to January 1989. These revisions result from benchmarking to the 1989 Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM). The benchmarking and revision process adjusts monthly sample estimates in the benchmark year (1989) to the annual ASM levels, updates the sample, uses new and revised data and then re-estimates the seasonal adjustment factors.

The **trend** for shipments rose for the first time since July 1991. Eight of the 22 major groups (accounting for 55% of shipment values) contributed to the increase in the trend. The most significant increases in the most recent period, in order of dollar impact, were registered in the transportation equipment, refined petroleum and coal products and paper and allied products industries.

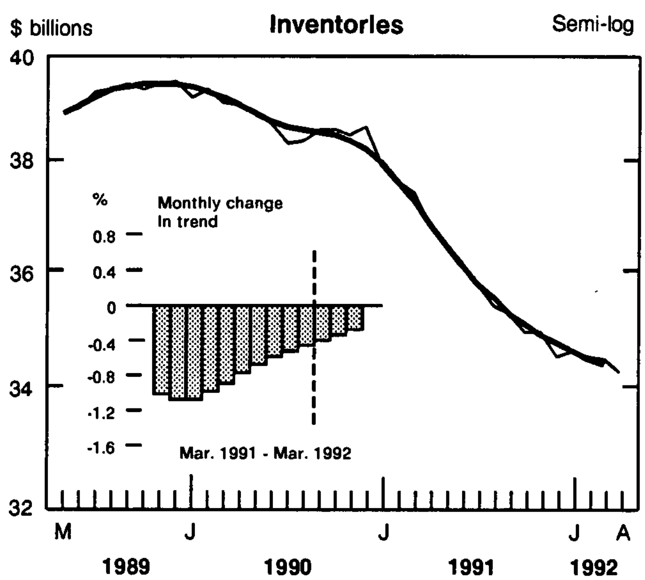
The trends for 14 of the 22 major groups declined in the most recent period as well as in the two previous periods. The largest decreases, in order of dollar impact, were in the primary metal, electrical and electronic products and chemicals industries. However, in most of these 14 industries, the trend has been falling at a progressively slower pace.

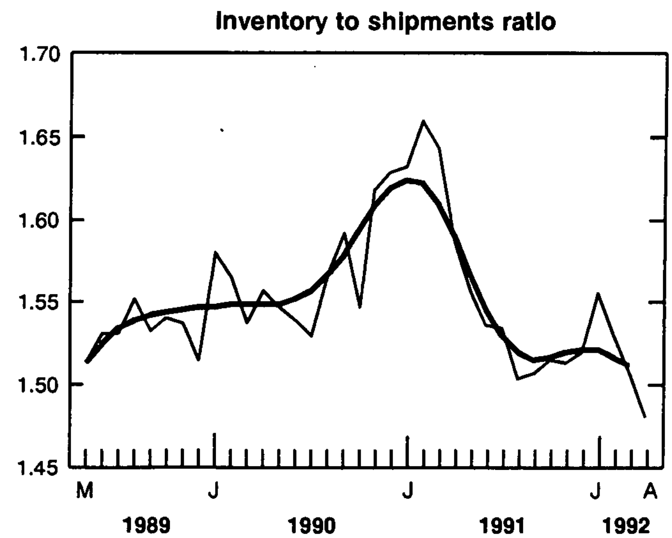
- **Inventories** (owned) decreased 0.6% in April to $34.2 billion with 12 of the 22 major groups recording decreases. The transportation equipment (-1.9%), electrical and electronic products (-1.1%) and chemicals industries (-1.0%) recorded the largest decreases. The **trend** for inventories (owned) has been declining since January 1990 but at a slower pace over the last 10 periods.

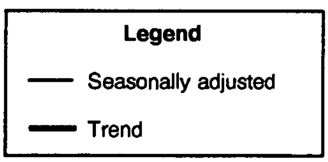
- The **inventories to shipments ratio** decreased from 1.51 in March to 1.48 in April. The **trend**, which had shown no change from October 1991 to February 1992, declined slightly in March.

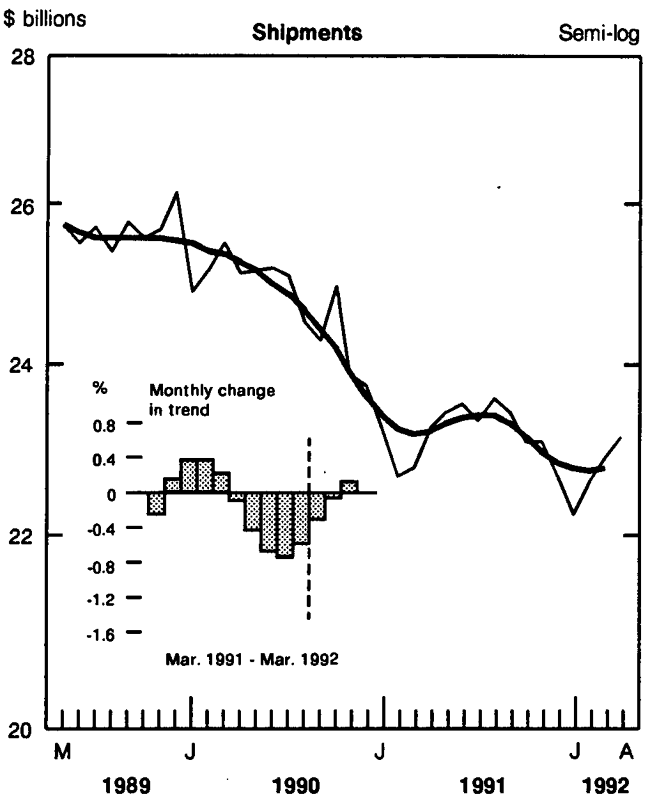
- **Unfilled orders** declined 0.3% to $22.3 billion, the sixth consecutive decrease. However, decreases in the last three months have been much smaller than in the previous three months. The largest decrease in April 1992 was in the transportation equipment industry (-2.6%), notably the result of cancellations in the aircraft industry. The largest increase was in the machinery

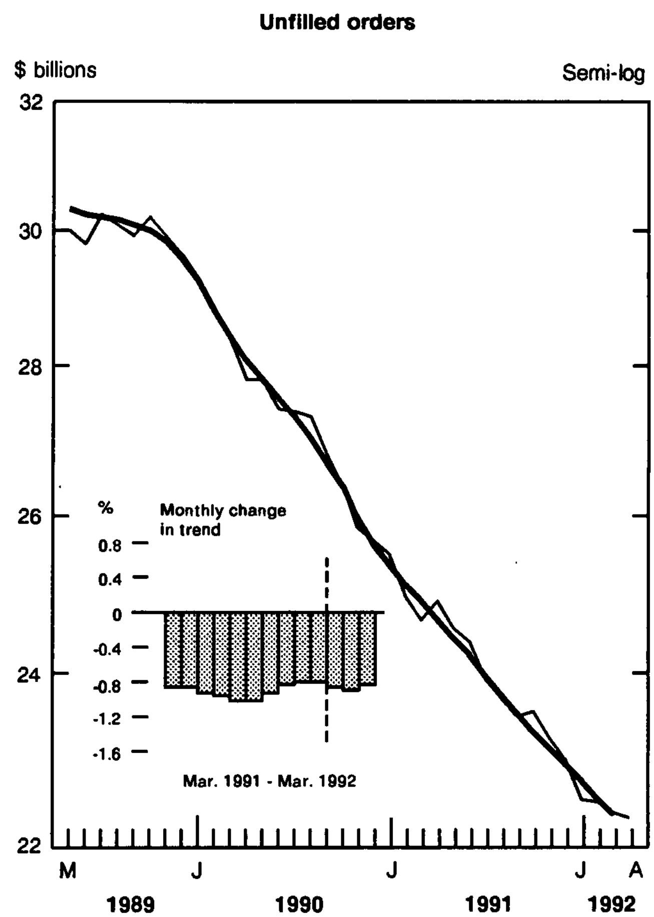
Manufacturers' Inventories, Shipments and Unfilled Orders, Seasonally Adjusted, April 1992











industry (9.6%), the result of domestic and foreign orders. The **trend** has fallen at about the same pace since September 1991.

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** increased 1.4% to $23.0 billion, the third consecutive increase following five monthly declines. The **trend** for new orders rose for the first time since July 1991.

Year-to-date

- Manufacturers' shipments for the first four months of 1992 were estimated at $90.8 billion, 1.2% lower than the value for the corresponding period in 1991. This compares with year-to-date results for January, February and March which were, respectively, 4.3%, 2.0% and 1.6% lower than their corresponding 1991 levels.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

For more information, the April 1992 issue of *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001, $17.30/$173) will be available shortly.

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

April 1992

Period	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted			
	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders
	$ millions							
April 1991	23,702	37,364	24,940	23,978	23,209	36,818	24,872	23,453
May 1991	25,189	36,689	24,754	25,002	23,410	36,450	24,527	23,065
June 1991	24,567	35,868	24,430	24,243	23,500	36,070	24,364	23,337
July 1991	21,664	35,376	24,003	21,237	23,297	35,745	23,917	22,851
August 1991	23,222	35,166	23,872	23,091	23,568	35,394	23,688	23,338
September 1991	24,329	34,794	23,573	24,031	23,403	35,213	23,465	23,180
October 1991	25,037	34,568	23,503	24,967	23,047	34,868	23,546	23,128
November 1991	23,286	34,589	23,098	22,880	23,062	34,865	23,234	22,750
December 1991	20,873	33,825	22,555	20,331	22,684	34,465	22,960	22,410
January 1992	20,532	34,763	22,451	20,428	22,221	34,562	22,519	21,780
February 1992	21,479	35,185	22,468	21,496	22,566	34,485	22,479	22,526
March 1992	23,825	35,187	22,385	23,743	22,872	34,424	22,346	22,740
April 1992	23,467	34,740	22,311	23,393	23,113	34,201	22,282	23,049

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			
April 1991	2.0	0.1	-1.5	-1.1	1.59	1.59	1.0	-0.9	4.5	0.2
May 1991	0.9	0.4	-1.0	-1.1	1.56	1.57	-1.4	-0.9	-1.7	0.3
June 1991	0.4	0.4	-1.0	-1.0	1.53	1.54	-0.7	-1.0	1.2	0.3
July 1991	-0.9	0.2	-0.9	-0.9	1.53	1.53	-1.8	-1.0	-2.1	0.2
August 1991	1.2	-0.1	-1.0	-0.8	1.50	1.52	-1.0	-1.0	2.1	-0.1
September 1991	-0.7	-0.4	-0.5	-0.7	1.50	1.51	-0.9	-0.9	-0.7	-0.3
October 1991	-1.5	-0.7	-1.0	-0.6	1.51	1.52	0.3	-0.8	-0.2	-0.6
November 1991	0.1	-0.7	0.0	-0.5	1.51	1.52	-1.3	-0.8	-1.6	-0.7
December 1991	-1.6	-0.6	-1.1	-0.4	1.52	1.52	-1.2	-0.8	-1.5	-0.6
January 1992	-2.0	-0.3	0.3	-0.4	1.56	1.52	-1.9	-0.9	-2.8	-0.4
February 1992	1.6	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	1.53	1.52	-0.2	-0.9	3.4	-0.1
March 1992	1.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	1.51	1.51	-0.6	-0.8	0.9	0.2
April 1992	1.1	*	-0.6	*	1.48	*	-0.3	*	1.4	*

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

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department Store Sales – Advance Release
May 1992

Department stores sales, including concessions, for May were $1,057 million. Sales for the major department stores were $573 million and sales for the junior category were $484 million.

For further information on this release, contact Tom Newton (613-951-3552) or Diane Lake (613-951-9842), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■

Tobacco Products
May 1992

Canadian tobacco product firms produced 3.94 billion cigarettes in May 1992, a 2.4% increase from the 3.85[r] (revised) billion cigarettes manufactured during the same period in 1991. Production from January to May 1992 totalled 18.70 billion cigarettes, down 7.3% from 20.18[r] billion cigarettes for the corresponding period in 1991.

Domestic sales in May 1992 totalled 2.94 billion cigarettes, a decrease of 16.3% from the 3.51 billion cigarettes sold in May 1991. Year-to-date sales for 1992 totalled 14.24[r] billion cigarettes, down 12.3% from 1991 cumulative amount of 16.23 billion cigarettes.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 46.

The May 1992 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products* (32-022, $5/$50) will be available shortly.

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

Shipments of Rolled Steel
April 1992

Rolled steel shipments for April 1992 totalled 1 039 011 tonnes, an increase of 1.8% from the preceding month's total of 1 020 527 tonnes and an increase of 12.7% from the year-earlier 921 865[r] (revised) tonnes.

Year-to-date shipments in 1992 totalled 3 820 233 tonnes, an increase of 13.8% compared to 3 357 194[r] tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).

The April 1992 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, $5/$50) will be available at a later date.

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

For-hire Trucking (Commodity Origin and Destination) Statistics
1990

Preliminary 1990 data are now available from the For-hire Trucking (Commodity Origin and Destination) Survey. The survey measures the inter-city commodity movements (distances of 25km or more) of Canadian-domiciled for-hire carriers.

Highlights

- A total of 149.2 million tonnes of commodities was transported within Canada in 1990, a drop of 8.2% compared to 162.4 million tonnes in 1989.

- Revenue earned on domestic shipments was $4.8 billion in 1990, down 10.5% from 1989.

- About 60 billion tonne-kilometres were recorded within Canada, compared to 54.4 billion tonne-kilometres during 1989.

More detailed information is available by contacting Robert Larocque (613-951-2486) or Kathie Davidson (613-951-8779), Transportation Division, or fax (613-951-0579). ■

Fruit and Vegetable Area Survey
1992

The results of the 1992 Fruit and Vegetable Area Survey that was conducted in May 1992 are now available. The survey provides estimates of fruit and vegetable areas planted at the provincial and regional levels for 1992. For tree fruits, grapes and berries, estimates are available for total cultivated area and bearing area. Vegetable and bearing fruit areas planted include detail on areas for the fresh and processing markets.

Data from the 1991 Census of Agriculture are incorporated where available and appropriate.

Special tabulations are available on a cost-recovery basis.

To order *Fruit and Vegetable Area Survey, 1992* ($25), contact Guy Gervais (613-951-2453). The survey results will be incorporated into the planted area series published in the August issue of *Fruit and Vegetable Production* (22-003, $18/$72).

For further information, please contact John Brunette (613-951-3857) or Sandra Hanisch (613-951-3866), Agriculture Division. ■

Stocks of Frozen Poultry Products

June 1, 1992

Preliminary data on cold storage of frozen poultry products at June 1, 1992 and revised data for May 1, 1992 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.

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

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

Soft Drinks

May 1992

Data on soft drinks for May 1992 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 196.

The publication *Monthly Production of Soft Drinks* (32-001, $2.70/$27) will be released at a later date.

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, March 1992.
Catalogue number 15-001
(Canada: $12.70/$127; United States: US$15.20/US$152; Other Countries: US$17.80/US$178).

The Labour Force, May 1992.
Catalogue number 71-001
(Canada: $17.90/$179; United States: US$21.50/US$215; Other Countries: US$25.10/US$251).

Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions, Reference Maps.
Catalogue number 92-319
(Canada: $75; United States: US$90; Other Countries: US$105).

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