

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 23, 1992

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## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Employment, Earnings and Hours, April 1992** 2  
 Seasonally adjusted, average weekly earnings for April increased slightly from March (+0.4%), and were up 3.2% from April 1991.
- **Retail Trade, April 1992** 5  
 Seasonally adjusted, total retail sales rose 0.8% in April following a decline of 0.5% in March and virtually no change in February and January.
- **Department Store Sales and Stocks, April 1992** 8  
 Seasonally adjusted, department store sales totalled \$1,105 million in April, a 4.4% increase from March 1992.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Employment, Earnings and Hours

April 1992

#### Seasonally Adjusted Data

#### Highlights

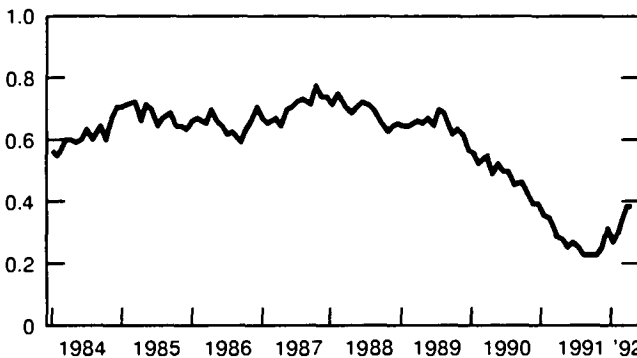
In April, the preliminary seasonally adjusted estimate of average weekly earnings for all employees in the industrial aggregate<sup>1</sup> was \$545.58, up 0.4% from March. Earnings increased 3.2%<sup>2</sup> (\$16.73) compared to April 1991.

Durable goods manufacturing industries (+7.1%) had the greatest year-over-year growth in earnings of all goods-producing industries, due in part to the year-over-year increase (+2.6%) in average weekly hours worked by employees paid by the hour.

The year-over-year increase in average weekly earnings in the service-producing industries was 3.3%, with the business services and the wholesale trade industries increasing 7.2% and 4.9%, respectively.

#### Diffusion Index, Employment Industrial Aggregate, Canada, April 1992

Diffusion index value



Employment in Canadian industry (seasonally adjusted) was estimated at 9,982,000, virtually unchanged from March 1992. Employment in logging and forestry industries increased 7.1%, while the mining industry increased 3.4%. On a year-over-year basis, however, industrial aggregate employment decreased 2.6%.

#### Note to Users

The Survey of Employment, Earnings and Hours (SEPH) that was introduced in 1983 delivers the most current monthly employment, earnings and hours data by industry.

The SEPH estimates back to January 1983 have been revised and are now on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification. The revised time series, which incorporate corrections for major data discontinuities, present a more accurate portrait of trends in employment, earnings and hours over the history of the survey.

Some new products have been developed in conjunction with the historical revision. These include seasonally adjusted data, diffusion indices and more data disaggregated by large and small firms.

The diffusion index measures how widespread change is for a specific variable. The diffusion index shows the percentage of industries that registered increases for a specific SEPH variable. For example, between October 1990 and October 1991, industrial aggregate employment for Canada declined by approximately 697,000. Of the 214 three-digit SIC industries in SEPH (1980 SIC), 167 experienced employment declines, while 47 experienced increases. The diffusion index for October 1991 was therefore  $47/214 = 0.22$ .

The April diffusion index for employment stood at 0.38, unchanged from March (refer to Note to Users).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9440-9452 and 9639-9898.

Data are available from *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$28.50/\$285) and by special tabulation. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release or on the program, products and services, contact Sylvie Picard (613-951-4090) or fax (613-951-4087), Labour Division.

<sup>1</sup> The industrial aggregate is the sum of all industries with the exception of agriculture, fishing and trapping, religious organizations, private households and military personnel.

<sup>2</sup> Not adjusted for inflation. □

## Employment, Earnings and Hours

April 1992 (seasonally adjusted)

Industry Group - Canada (1980 S.I.C.)	Number of employees*					
	April 1992 <sup>P</sup>	March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1991	April 1992/1991	January- December 1991/1990	January- December 1990/1989
	Thousands			Year-over-year % change		
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>9,981.5</b>	<b>9,979.2</b>	<b>10,247.4</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Goods-producing industries</b>	<b>2,332.7</b>	<b>2,336.3</b>	<b>2,494.4</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>-10.4</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
Forestry	54.2	51.5	58.0	-6.6	-1.3	-8.3
Mines, quarries & oil wells	133.0	128.5	150.1	-11.4	-4.8	-1.8
Manufacturing	1,594.9	1,602.2	1,702.1	-6.3	-10.4	-5.9
Construction	416.6	423.8	449.0	-7.2	-16.2	-0.7
<b>Service-producing industries</b>	<b>7,646.4</b>	<b>7,636.5</b>	<b>7,750.6</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Transportation, communication & other utilities	810.9	808.9	818.5	-0.9	-4.3	1.7
Trade	1,872.0	1,883.9	1,911.1	-2.0	-6.8	5.0
Finance, insurance & real estate	659.9	658.5	679.6	-2.9	-0.6	2.0
Community, business & personal services	3,732.9	3,710.8	3,763.7	-0.8	-2.8	2.4
Public administration	715.5	716.6	715.2	0.0	2.3	1.5
<b>Industrial aggregate - Provinces</b>						
Newfoundland	140.5	139.8	143.6	-2.2	-5.7	2.4
Prince Edward Island	38.3	38.0	37.5	2.1	-3.0	3.2
Nova Scotia	283.7	283.8	289.4	-2.0	-4.6	1.8
New Brunswick	224.1	225.0	230.5	-2.8	-1.9	1.7
Quebec	2,426.0	2,432.6	2,542.5	-4.6	-4.4	-0.2
Ontario	4,014.7	4,026.9	4,121.8	-2.6	-7.0	-0.4
Manitoba	374.5	376.5	378.4	-1.0	-5.4	1.5
Saskatchewan	299.0	298.4	295.9	1.1	-4.6	1.5
Alberta	969.8	951.3	999.4	-3.0	-4.0	3.1
British Columbia	1,204.1	1,201.0	1,189.1	1.3	-2.3	5.5
Yukon	11.7	11.4	10.4	12.5	-4.6	-6.6
Northwest Territories	20.5	20.2	20.4	0.5	-3.7	-0.9
	Average weekly earnings*					
	Dollars			Year-over-year % change		
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>545.58</b>	<b>543.17</b>	<b>528.85</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Goods-producing industries</b>	<b>680.04</b>	<b>679.32</b>	<b>653.72</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Forestry	695.14	700.78	681.68	2.0	6.1	2.9
Mines, quarries & oil wells	928.61	924.01	902.36	2.9	5.3	5.3
Manufacturing	652.79	649.69	619.25	5.4	4.2	5.1
Construction	630.86	641.49	637.70	-1.1	2.1	5.5
<b>Service-producing industries</b>	<b>504.78</b>	<b>501.86</b>	<b>488.81</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Transportation, communication & other utilities	705.04	703.17	678.19	4.0	5.9	3.6
Trade	401.18	397.18	391.39	2.5	4.3	4.3
Finance, insurance & real estate	587.28	582.45	562.68	4.4	3.8	0.3
Community, business & personal services	473.62	471.52	454.87	4.1	6.5	6.2
Public administration	716.03	709.07	714.16	0.3	1.9	8.3
<b>Industrial aggregate - Provinces</b>						
Newfoundland	506.23	505.16	501.81	0.9	4.7	3.2
Prince Edward Island	441.09	436.06	432.05	2.1	3.0	4.0
Nova Scotia	489.99	485.08	478.68	2.4	4.5	5.4
New Brunswick	494.19	488.90	478.71	3.2	5.3	3.8
Quebec	530.15	526.77	516.75	2.6	4.4	5.4
Ontario	575.37	571.94	551.11	4.4	5.0	4.5
Manitoba	484.29	483.77	472.81	2.4	3.5	3.5
Saskatchewan	471.70	474.52	463.20	1.8	4.4	4.7
Alberta	544.16	540.34	532.57	2.2	5.4	4.7
British Columbia	545.59	546.00	535.42	1.9	4.0	3.4
Yukon	671.20	667.44	623.23	7.7	7.8	3.9
Northwest Territories	714.04	715.45	688.94	3.6	6.0	5.1

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary estimates.

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

\* For all employees.

## Employment, Earnings and Hours

April 1992 (data not seasonally adjusted)

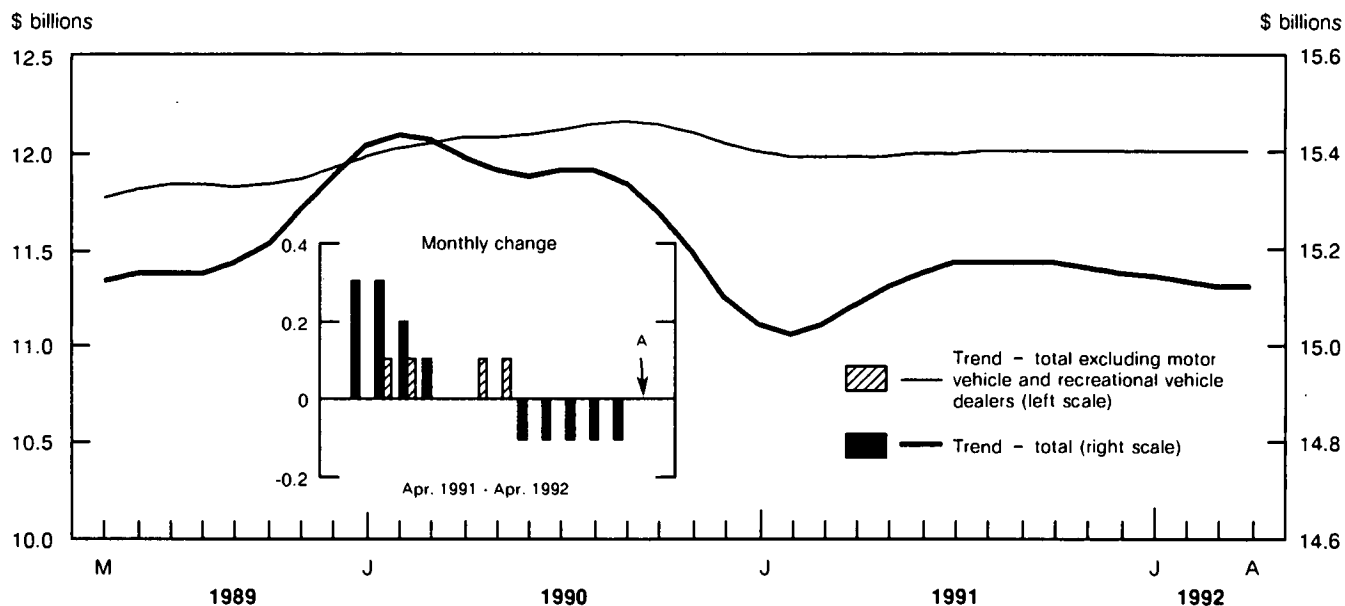
Industry Group – Canada (1980 S.I.C.)	Number of employees*					
	April 1992 <sup>P</sup>	March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1991	April 1992/1991	January- December 1991/1990	January- December 1990/1989
	Thousands			Year-over-year % change		
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>9,872.1</b>	<b>9,814.0</b>	<b>10,140.7</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Goods-producing industries</b>	<b>2,253.4</b>	<b>2,209.7</b>	<b>2,411.8</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-10.4</b>	<b>-4.4</b>
Forestry	40.2	41.5	42.8	-6.1	-1.3	-8.4
Mines, quarries & oil wells	128.4	126.6	144.8	-11.3	-4.8	-1.8
Manufacturing	1,573.0	1,557.8	1,679.5	-6.3	-10.4	-5.9
Construction	378.5	351.9	413.7	-8.5	-16.2	-0.8
<b>Service-producing industries</b>	<b>7,618.8</b>	<b>7,604.3</b>	<b>7,728.9</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Transportation, communication & other utilities	796.0	791.3	805.0	-1.1	-4.3	1.7
Trade	1,846.5	1,846.8	1,891.1	-2.4	-6.8	5.0
Finance, insurance & real estate	650.2	649.5	670.5	-3.0	-0.6	2.0
Community, business & personal services	3,752.1	3,739.2	3,785.5	-0.9	-2.8	2.5
Public administration	707.1	709.5	707.9	-0.1	2.3	1.6
<b>Industrial aggregate – Provinces</b>						
Newfoundland	133.4	130.5	136.5	-2.3	-5.7	2.4
Prince Edward Island	35.6	34.9	35.0	1.9	-3.0	5.1
Nova Scotia	274.6	273.1	280.8	-2.2	-4.6	1.8
New Brunswick	214.3	213.7	221.6	-3.3	-1.9	1.7
Quebec	2,393.3	2,383.4	2,511.6	-4.7	-4.4	-0.2
Ontario	3,978.5	3,960.4	4,097.3	-2.9	-7.0	-0.4
Manitoba	370.8	370.5	374.8	-1.1	-5.4	1.5
Saskatchewan	294.6	292.6	291.7	1.0	-4.6	1.5
Alberta	951.9	936.6	981.0	-3.0	-4.0	3.1
British Columbia	1,194.3	1,187.9	1,181.2	1.1	-2.3	5.5
Yukon	11.0	10.5	9.7	13.5	-4.6	-6.6
Northwest Territories	19.8	19.8	19.6	1.0	-3.7	-0.8
	Average weekly earnings*					
	Dollars			Year-over-year % change		
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>545.85</b>	<b>541.81</b>	<b>528.88</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Goods-producing industries</b>	<b>684.52</b>	<b>684.16</b>	<b>659.21</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Forestry	724.67	732.57	715.20	1.3	6.1	2.9
Mines, quarries & oil wells	939.77	931.52	913.78	2.8	5.3	5.3
Manufacturing	656.05	654.40	622.60	5.4	4.2	5.1
Construction	631.94	641.80	642.54	-1.6	2.1	5.5
<b>Service-producing industries</b>	<b>504.84</b>	<b>500.44</b>	<b>488.21</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Transportation, communication & other utilities	704.65	699.68	677.59	4.0	5.9	3.6
Trade	401.93	395.75	391.82	2.6	4.3	4.3
Finance, insurance & real estate	588.59	580.20	563.76	4.4	3.8	0.3
Community, business & personal services	471.98	469.66	453.24	4.1	6.5	6.2
Public administration	722.70	713.54	718.57	0.6	2.0	8.3
<b>Industrial aggregate – Provinces</b>						
Newfoundland	508.23	507.93	503.54	0.9	4.7	3.2
Prince Edward Island	445.97	439.74	435.87	2.3	3.0	4.0
Nova Scotia	489.99	485.08	478.68	2.4	4.5	5.4
New Brunswick	494.19	488.90	478.71	3.2	5.3	3.8
Quebec	530.15	526.77	516.75	2.6	4.4	5.4
Ontario	575.22	568.75	550.75	4.4	5.0	4.5
Manitoba	482.92	482.58	472.16	2.3	3.5	3.5
Saskatchewan	473.14	471.44	465.49	1.6	4.4	4.8
Alberta	541.59	539.73	528.89	2.4	5.4	4.7
British Columbia	545.73	544.85	536.04	1.8	4.0	3.4
Yukon	671.20	667.44	623.23	7.7	7.8	3.9
Northwest Territories	714.04	715.45	688.94	3.6	6.0	5.1

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary Estimates.

<sup>r</sup> Revised Estimates.

\* For all employees.

**Retail Sales Trends<sup>1</sup> - Canada**



<sup>1</sup> Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data. Data prior to 1991 have been adjusted to remove the Federal Sales Tax to be comparable to January 1991 and subsequent data.

**Retail Trade**

April 1992

**Highlights**

**Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Sales in Current Dollars**

- Preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales rose 0.8% in April to \$15.2 billion, following a decline of 0.5% in March and virtually no change in February and January. Excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers, retail sales increased 0.6% in April, in contrast to the 0.5% decrease in March.
- The overall gain was broadly based with 11 of 16 trade groups recording higher sales. The most significant increases, in order of dollar impact, were registered by motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers (+1.6%) and general merchandise stores (+2.1%).

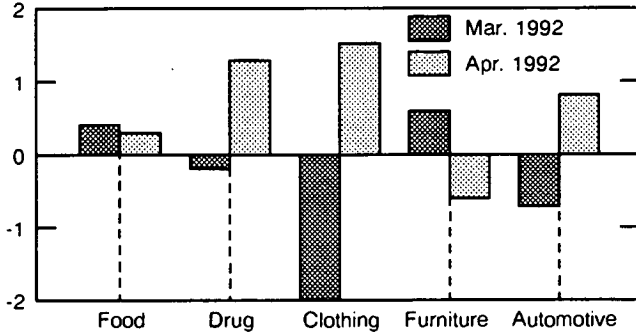
- Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers recorded higher sales in April following decreases in March (-0.5%) and February (-0.6%). Sales of general merchandise stores have shown a pattern of alternating gains and losses over the last year around a stable trend.
- The April increase in retail sales was concentrated in two provinces: Quebec (+1.4%) and Ontario (+1.0%). Notable declines were recorded in Manitoba (-4.3%) and Alberta (-2.2%).

**Trends**

- As illustrated in the chart, after declining sharply from August 1990 to February 1991 and rising moderately up to July 1991, the trend for total retail trade has been decreasing slightly ever since. The recent downtrend is due mainly to declining sales of recreational and motor vehicle dealers. Retail sales excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers have remained almost unchanged since last July.

**Retail Sales, by Major Group  
Seasonally Adjusted**

% monthly change



**Year-to-date**

- Cumulative retail sales in current dollars for the first four months of 1992 amounted to \$54.6 billion, up 2.1% from the corresponding period in 1991. However, users are reminded that estimates for early 1991 were unusually low following the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 2399 (seasonally adjusted), 2400 (not seasonally adjusted), 2398 (department store type merchandise totals for the provinces and territories).**

The April 1992 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$18.20/\$182) will be available the first week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact John Svab (613-951-3549) or Maurice Massaad (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. □

**Retail Sales, by Trade Group and by Region**

April 1992

Trade group	Unadjusted				Seasonally Adjusted						
	April 1991 <sup>r</sup>	March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1992 <sup>p</sup>	April 1992/ 1991 <sup>r</sup>	April 1991 <sup>r</sup>	Janu- ary 1992 <sup>r</sup>	Feb- ruary 1992 <sup>r</sup>	March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1992 <sup>p</sup>	April 1992/ March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1992/ 1991 <sup>r</sup>
	millions of \$		%		millions of \$				%		
<b>Canada</b>											
Supermarkets and grocery stores	3,421	3,402	3,590	4.9	3,618	3,618	3,630	3,648	3,657	0.2	1.1
All other food stores	283	264	295	4.3	299	298	294	291	295	1.4	-1.2
Drug and patent medicine stores	765	811	837	9.4	801	845	850	848	859	1.3	7.2
Shoe stores	131	100	124	-5.5	135	128	130	129	129	0.1	-4.7
Men's clothing stores	133	95	117	-12.1	148	141	136	130	130	0.3	-12.0
Women's clothing stores	304	252	290	-4.6	308	297	299	292	295	1.2	-4.2
Other clothing stores	286	262	288	0.8	315	306	309	305	314	2.9	-0.3
Household furniture and appliance stores	574	578	586	1.9	631	632	645	651	647	-0.5	2.6
Household furnishings stores	162	163	172	6.0	172	180	187	185	183	-1.1	6.5
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	3,709	3,285	3,681	-0.8	3,074	3,155	3,135	3,118	3,169	1.6	3.1
Gasoline service stations	1,122	1,071	1,058	-5.7	1,191	1,171	1,146	1,126	1,121	-0.4	-5.9
Automotive parts, accessories and services	923	772	866	-6.2	906	871	863	863	859	-0.5	-5.1
General merchandise stores	1,561	1,421	1,641	5.1	1,719	1,715	1,745	1,713	1,749	2.1	1.8
Other semi-durable goods stores	457	411	469	2.7	501	517	507	506	506	-0.1	1.0
Other durable goods stores	339	308	357	5.4	405	405	414	413	419	1.6	3.5
All other retail stores	724	718	759	4.9	821	868	857	845	847	0.3	3.2
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>14,895</b>	<b>13,915</b>	<b>15,130</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>15,044</b>	<b>15,147</b>	<b>15,144</b>	<b>15,063</b>	<b>15,180</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers</b>	<b>11,186</b>	<b>10,630</b>	<b>11,449</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>11,969</b>	<b>11,992</b>	<b>12,009</b>	<b>11,945</b>	<b>12,011</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Department store type merchandise	4,712	4,403	4,881	3.6	5,135	5,166	5,220	5,172	5,232	1.2	1.9
<b>Regions</b>											
Newfoundland	273	252	271	-1.0	276	289	285	277	273	-1.5	-1.0
Prince Edward Island	60	56	63	4.8	63	67	64	65	64	-1.4	2.7
Nova Scotia	480	461	503	4.7	490	506	480	501	499	-0.4	1.9
New Brunswick	378	354	381	0.9	386	388	383	385	382	-0.7	-1.1
Quebec	3,796	3,432	3,902	2.8	3,720	3,749	3,693	3,695	3,748	1.4	0.8
Ontario	5,445	5,044	5,537	1.7	5,514	5,614	5,647	5,559	5,616	1.0	1.9
Manitoba	515	481	512	-0.6	520	530	535	530	507	-4.3	-2.6
Saskatchewan	427	413	446	4.4	432	452	446	457	449	-1.8	3.9
Alberta	1,566	1,510	1,562	-0.3	1,595	1,606	1,583	1,607	1,571	-2.2	-1.5
British Columbia	1,914	1,870	1,910	-0.2	1,944	1,959	1,952	1,973	1,948	-1.3	0.2
Yukon	13	12	13	2.7	14	14	15	15	14	-2.4	0.1
Northwest Territories	28	29	30	9.7	30	30	30	31	32	2.8	6.7

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figure.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figure.

## Department Store Sales and Stocks

April 1992

### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Data

- Department store sales (including concessions) totalled \$1,105 million in April 1992, an increase of 4.4% from the previous month's total (revised) of \$1,059 million.
- Cumulative sales for the first four months of 1992 increased slightly (+0.5%) when compared to the same period in 1991.

- Department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$5,199 million at the end of April, a decrease of 0.7% from the March 1992 value (revised) of \$5,235 million.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 112 (series 5-6) and 113.

The April 1992 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$14.40/\$144) will be available in September.

For further information, contact Tom Newton (613-951-3552) or David Roeske (613-951-3559), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

### Department Store Sales, Canada (including concessions)

	Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted				
	April 1991	March 1992	April 1992	April 1991	January 1992 <sup>r</sup>	February 1992 <sup>r</sup>	March 1992 <sup>r</sup>	April 1992 <sup>p</sup>
	millions of \$			millions of \$				
Total Sales	956	851	1,020	1,075	1,044	1,092	1,058	1,105
Total Stocks	5,053	5,135	5,284	4,943	5,290	5,126	5,235	5,199
Stock to Sales Ratio	5.3	6.0	5.2	4.6	5.1	4.7	4.9	4.7

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> Revised.



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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

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### Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers

May 1992

Canadian domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 160 237 thousand square metres in May 1992, a decrease of 5.7% from the 169 960 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

January to May 1992 domestic shipments totalled 794 072<sup>r</sup> (revised) thousand square metres, a decrease of 2.4% from the 813 919 thousand square metres for the same period in 1991.

The May 1992 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division. ■

**The  
Daily**

### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

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