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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Unemployment Insurance Statistics, April 1992** 2
 The number of beneficiaries who received regular benefits, adjusted for seasonal variations, remained virtually unchanged at 1.1 million. Increases in the eastern and central provinces were balanced by decreases in the western provinces and the territories.
- **Wholesale Trade, April 1992** 4
 Wholesale merchants' sales in April were unchanged at the national level from the previous month, remaining at \$15.3 billion.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Railway Operating Statistics, December 1991 7
- Electric Lamps, May 1992 7
- Local Government Long-term Debt, May 1992 7
- Average Prices of Selected Farm Inputs, May 1992 7

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 8



MAJOR RELEASES

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

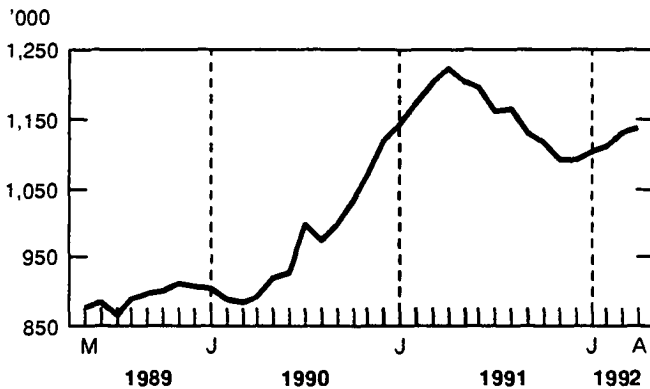
April 1992

Seasonally Adjusted Data

- For the week ended April 18, 1992, the number of beneficiaries¹ who received regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled an estimated 1,134,000, almost unchanged (+0.6%) from a month earlier.
- Between March and April 1992, beneficiaries receiving regular benefits increased in the Atlantic provinces (except for New Brunswick), Quebec and Ontario, but decreased in all the western provinces and the territories. The largest increases occurred in Ontario (5.3%), Newfoundland and Nova Scotia (both 1.7%), and Prince Edward Island (1.2%). The most important decreases were observed in Saskatchewan (-4.8%), Alberta (-3.4%), the Yukon (-2.0%), British Columbia (-1.7%), and Manitoba (-1.6%).

Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Canada

Seasonally adjusted



- In April 1992, the amount paid² for regular benefits, adjusted for seasonal variations and the number of working days, increased 2.1% to \$1.2 billion. The number of benefit weeks (payments for regular benefits) increased 1.4% to 4.9 million.

Note to Users

Sub-provincial beneficiaries data are available on request; for example, tables which show the number of beneficiaries by metropolitan area and by sex and type of benefit. In addition, tabulations, based on aggregations of postal codes, can be produced for areas of specific interest to users.

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variation

- In April 1992, the estimated number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) was 1,540,000, down 2.7% from the same month a year ago. Over the same 12-month period, the number of male beneficiaries decreased 4.2% to 914,000 and female beneficiaries declined 0.4% to 626,000.
- In the following census metropolitan areas the year-over-year percentage change in the number of beneficiaries exceeded $\pm 10\%$:

	Beneficiaries April 1992	% Change April 1992/1991
Sudbury	7,490	19%
London	12,590	-29%
Windsor	10,780	-22%
Hamilton	23,560	-15%
Victoria	10,300	-15%
Kitchener	15,410	-15%
Vancouver	66,570	-12%
Ottawa	19,110	-10%

¹ The number of beneficiaries represents a count of persons who qualified for unemployment insurance benefits during a specific week of the reference month.

² Benefit payments, number of benefit weeks, and number of claims received relate to a complete calendar month. These data are usually final estimates when released. It should be noted that these estimates are affected by the number of working days available during the reference month to process claims and to pay benefits. If short-term comparisons are made, it is not uncommon to observe different trends between these data and the number of beneficiaries.

- In April 1992, total disbursements for unemployment insurance benefits^{2,3} were \$1.8 billion, up 1.0% from April 1991. Since January, \$7.5 billion has been paid, up 11.2% from the same period last year. For the same four-month period, the average weekly payment increased 5.0% to \$257.13, and the number of benefit weeks advanced 3.6% to 28.5 million.
- A total of 261,000 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in April 1992, down 12.2% from the same month a year ago. Since the start of the year, 1,289,000 claims have been received. This is a decrease of 3.3% as compared with the same period in 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735-5736.

The April 1992 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$14.70/\$147), containing data for February, March and April 1992, will be available in July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information, please call Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division or fax (613- 951-4087).

³ Since February 1991, the unemployment insurance disbursements shown have included monies paid to schools and colleges to train beneficiaries.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	April 1992	March 1992	February 1992	April 1991	% change April 1992/ March 1992
Regular Benefits					
Seasonally adjusted data					
Beneficiaries (000)	1,134 P	1,128 P	1,110 r	1,224	0.6
Amount paid (\$000)	1,231,876	1,206,588	1,200,706	1,243,968	2.1
Weeks of benefits (000)	4,897	4,832	4,792	5,139	1.4
					% change April 1992/ April 1991
Unadjusted data					
Beneficiaries (000) - All	1,540 P	1,593 P	1,592 r	1,583	-2.7
Beneficiaries (000) - Regular	1,272 P	1,315 P	1,310 r	1,361	-6.5
Claims received (000)	261	293	273	297	-12.2
Amount paid (\$000)	1,796,585	1,950,061	1,745,017	1,778,357	1.0
Weeks of benefits (000)	6,778	7,357	6,602	7,219	-6.1
Average weekly benefit (\$)	256.05	256.91	257.94	244.65	4.7
January to April					
	1992	1991	% change 1992/1991		
Year-to-date					
Beneficiaries - Average (000)	1,571 P	1,574	-0.2		
Claims received (000)	1,289	1,332	-3.3		
Amount paid (\$000)	7,539,301	6,781,374	11.2		
Weeks of benefits (000)	28,534	27,531	3.6		
Average weekly benefit (\$)	257.13	244.78	5.0		

P Preliminary figures.

r Revised figures.

Wholesale Trade

April 1992

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales were \$15.3 billion in April, unchanged from the previous month. This follows a 0.9% increase in March and a 0.2% decline in February.
- Sales performance was mixed as five of the nine trade groups reported lower sales in April. In terms of dollar impact, the decreases were posted by wholesalers of other machinery, equipment and supplies (-2.1%), "other products" (farm and paper products, agricultural supplies, industrial and household chemicals, etc.) (-2.2%), and lumber and building materials (-1.7%). For these three groups, this was the first decline since January. Tempering the declines were higher sales by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products (+1.7%) and motor vehicles, parts and accessories (+3.1%).

- Regionally, in terms of dollar impact, British Columbia registered the most significant increase (+2.1%), while the most notable sales decrease was recorded in Ontario (-0.8%).

Seasonally Adjusted Inventories

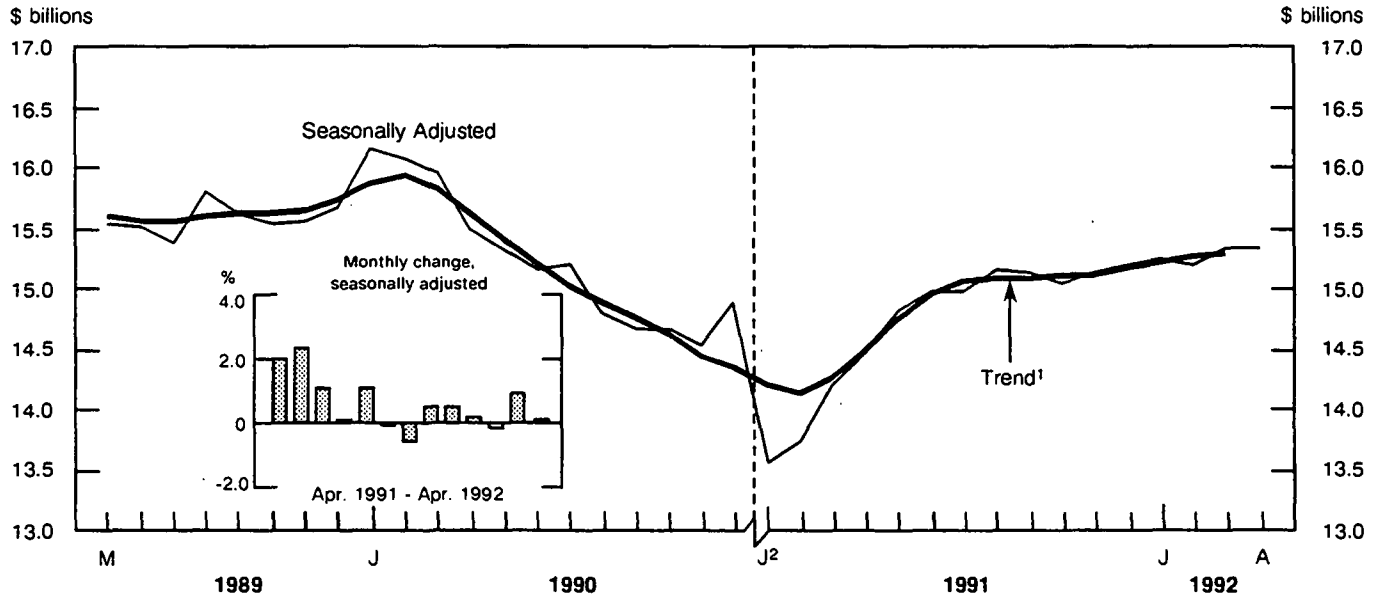
- In April, wholesale merchants' inventories were \$24.3 billion, up 0.9% from the previous month.
- The inventories-to-sales ratio at the end of April was 1.59:1, up from 1.57:1 recorded the month before.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 649 (sales, seasonally adjusted), 648 (sales, not seasonally adjusted), 61 (inventories, seasonally adjusted) and 59 (inventories, not seasonally adjusted).

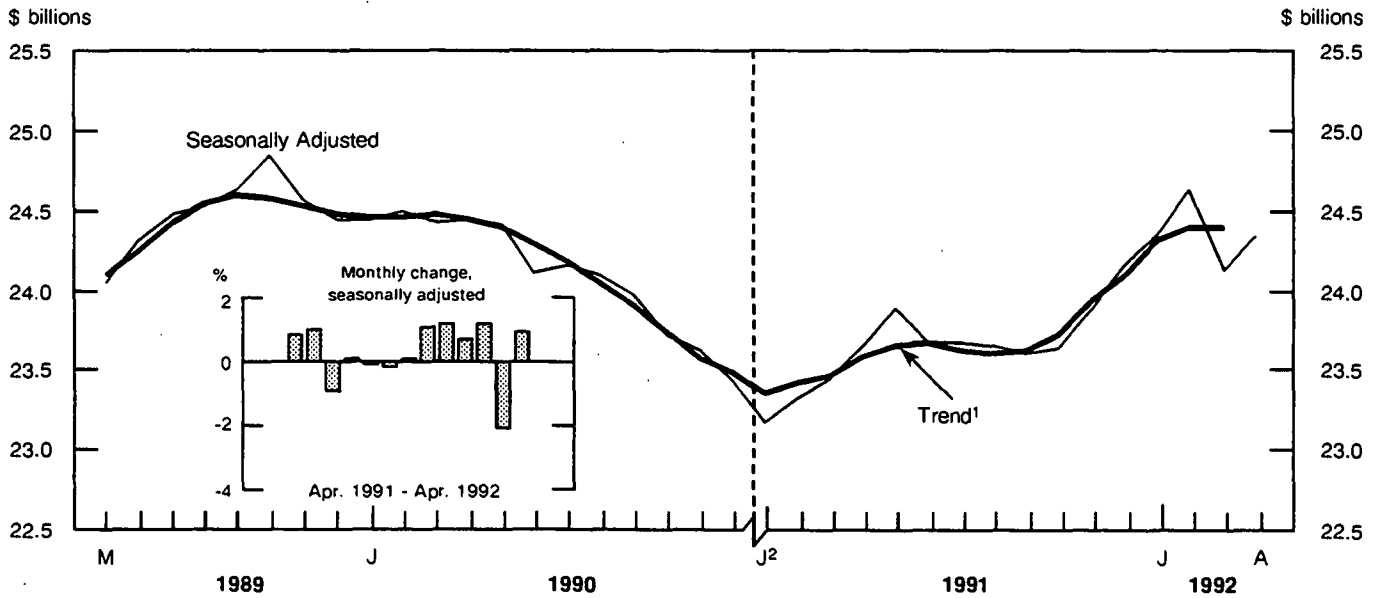
The April issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$14.40/\$144) will be available the second week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Larry Murphy (613-951-9683) or Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540), Industry Division. □

Wholesale Merchants' Sales



Wholesale Merchants' Inventories



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

² Prior to 1991, data included the Federal Sales Tax. Its successor, the Goods and Services Tax is not included in the 1991 and later data.

Wholesale Merchants' Sales, by Trade Group and Region

April 1992

Trade group	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	April 1991	March 1992 ^r	April 1992 ^p	April 1992/ 1991	April 1991	Jan. 1992 ^r	Feb. 1992 ^r	March 1992 ^r	April 1992 ^p	April/ March 1992	April 1992/ 1991
	millions of \$				%	millions of \$				%	%
Canada											
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,733	3,674	3,955	6.0	3,680	3,874	3,849	3,813	3,878	1.7	5.4
Apparel and dry goods	327	476	354	8.1	334	370	377	379	367	-3.0	10.1
Household goods	494	526	520	5.3	498	538	527	522	542	3.7	8.9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,865	1,964	2,005	7.5	1,724	1,714	1,658	1,753	1,808	3.1	4.9
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,023	1,065	1,113	8.8	980	1,088	1,075	1,048	1,084	3.4	10.6
Lumber and building materials	1,297	1,253	1,425	9.9	1,261	1,392	1,408	1,427	1,402	-1.7	11.2
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	357	335	440	23.0	303	338	336	359	355	-1.3	17.0
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,356	3,942	3,511	4.6	3,247	3,423	3,446	3,475	3,404	-2.1	4.8
Other products	2,526	2,603	2,599	2.9	2,443	2,492	2,518	2,552	2,497	-2.2	2.2
Total, all trades	14,978	15,837	15,923	6.3	14,468	15,231	15,193	15,329	15,335	--	6.0
Regions											
Newfoundland	143	140	141	-1.2	156	162	162	157	158	0.9	1.3
Prince Edward Island	34	37	41	20.2	35	40	41	41	42	2.9	18.8
Nova Scotia	368	308	329	-10.8	351	348	336	313	323	3.2	-7.9
New Brunswick	230	232	247	7.1	233	247	246	251	257	2.4	10.4
Quebec	3,706	3,808	3,837	3.5	3,602	3,677	3,696	3,735	3,742	0.2	3.9
Ontario	6,300	6,797	6,708	6.5	6,020	6,356	6,324	6,382	6,333	-0.8	5.2
Manitoba	489	495	516	5.5	483	503	506	518	501	-3.3	3.8
Saskatchewan	467	401	434	-7.1	454	473	470	453	448	-1.0	-1.3
Alberta	1,387	1,432	1,499	8.0	1,338	1,424	1,398	1,433	1,443	0.7	7.9
British Columbia	1,837	2,169	2,155	17.3	1,780	1,980	1,996	2,028	2,070	2.1	16.3
Yukon and Northwest Territories	17	20	18	6.7	16	20	19	19	18	-5.7	13.3

Wholesale Merchants' Inventories, by Trade Group

April 1992

Trade group	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	April 1991	March 1992 ^r	April 1992 ^p	April 1992/ 1991	April 1991	Jan. 1992 ^r	Feb. 1992 ^r	March 1992 ^r	April 1992 ^p	April/ March 1992	April 1992/ 1991
	millions of \$				%	millions of \$				%	%
Canada											
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,692	2,751	2,840	5.5	2,683	2,784	2,847	2,810	2,834	0.8	5.6
Apparel and dry goods	802	868	855	6.6	791	867	857	852	834	-2.1	5.4
Household goods	1,011	1,152	1,160	14.7	1,011	1,110	1,152	1,152	1,160	0.7	14.7
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,493	3,558	3,600	3.0	3,392	3,582	3,642	3,387	3,487	2.9	2.8
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,079	2,047	2,117	1.9	2,000	2,082	2,099	2,041	2,029	-0.6	1.5
Lumber and building materials	2,238	2,522	2,647	18.3	2,168	2,347	2,419	2,429	2,548	4.9	17.5
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,489	1,494	1,490	--	1,405	1,393	1,408	1,412	1,395	-1.2	-0.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7,253	7,051	7,199	-0.7	7,130	7,099	7,140	7,025	7,026	--	-1.5
Other products	3,151	3,088	3,134	-0.5	3,064	3,068	3,071	3,001	3,025	0.8	-1.3
Total, all trades	24,208	24,531	25,041	3.4	23,644	24,332	24,634	24,110	24,338	0.9	2.9

^r Revised figure.

^p Preliminary figure.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Railway Operating Statistics

December 1991

The seven major railways in Canada reported a combined net operating loss of \$216.0 million in December 1991. Operating revenues of \$588.2 million were up \$20.9 million or 3.7% from the December 1990 figure.

Revenue freight tonne-kilometres were up 12.2% from December 1990. Freight train-kilometres increased 15.4% and freight car-kilometres increased 10.0%.

All 1990 figures have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 142.

The December 1991 issue of the *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$10.50/\$105) is to be released the third week of July.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Transportation Division. ■

Electric Lamps

May 1992

Canadian light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 16,885,194 light bulbs and tubes in May 1992, a decrease of 16.6% from the 20,248,893 units sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales for 1992 amounted to 111,751,916 light bulbs and tubes, down 1.4% from the 113,348,845 sold during the same period in 1991.

The May 1992 issue of *Electric Lamps* (43-009, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division. ■

Local Government Long-term Debt

May 1992

Estimates of the accumulated long-term debt of local governments in Canada (except Ontario) at the end of May 1992 are now available.

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

Data are also available through custom and special tabulations. For more information or general inquiries on Public Institutions Division products or services, contact Patricia Phillips, Data Dissemination and External Relations Co-ordinator (613-951-0767).

Average Prices of Selected Farm Inputs

May 1992

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

Matrix	Geographic Regions
550	Newfoundland
551	Prince Edward Island
552	Nova Scotia
553	New Brunswick
554	Quebec - East
555	Quebec - South
556	Quebec - West-central
557	Quebec - East-central
558	Quebec - West
559	Ontario - South
560	Ontario - North
561	Ontario - Central
562	Ontario - East
563	Ontario - West
564	Manitoba - Southwest
565	Manitoba - Northwest
566	Manitoba - Central
567	Manitoba - East
568	Saskatchewan - Southeast
569	Saskatchewan - Southwest
570	Saskatchewan - West-central
571	Saskatchewan - East-central
572	Saskatchewan - North
573	Alberta - Southeast
574	Alberta - South-central
575	Alberta - Southwest
576	Alberta - East-central
577	Alberta - West-central
578	Alberta - Northeast
579	Alberta - North-West
580	British Columbia - West
581	British Columbia - East
582	British Columbia - North

For further information, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division. ■



PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation,
May 1992.

Catalogue number 44-004

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

Refined Petroleum Products, March 1992.

Catalogue number 45-004

(Canada: \$18.20/\$182; United States:
US\$21.80/US\$218; Other Countries:
US\$25.50/US\$255).

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics, April
1992.

Catalogue number 53-003

(Canada: \$7.10/\$71; United States: US\$8.50/US\$85;
Other Countries: US\$9.90/US\$99).

Exports by Country, January-March 1992.

Catalogue number 65-003

(Canada: \$82.75/\$331; United States:
US\$99.25/US\$397; Other Countries:
US\$115.75/US\$463).

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