



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, June 3, 1992

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STATISTICS CANADA STATISTIQUE CANADA

JUN 3 1992

## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, March 1992**  
 Led by the electrical and electronic products and the chemical industries, shipments increased 0.9% in March, the second consecutive monthly increase.

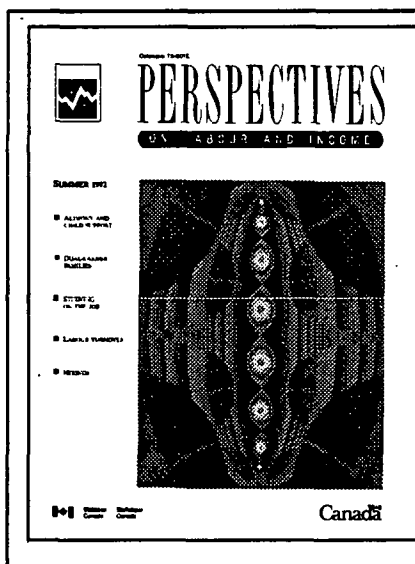
3
- **Help-wanted Index, May 1992**  
 The Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981 = 100) remained unchanged at 62 in May.

7
- **Canada's Older Workers: A Profile of Their Labour Market Experience, 1988**  
 In 1988, roughly 3.6 million persons aged 45 to 69 were in the labour force at some time during the year, representing one-quarter of Canada's total labour force.

9
- **Alimony and Child Support, 1988**  
 In 1988, support payments averaged about \$4,600 or nearly \$400 per month.

10

(Continued on page 2)



### Perspectives on Labour and Income Summer 1992

The Summer 1992 edition of Statistics Canada's quarterly journal on labour and income topics, released today, features articles on alimony and child support payments (see page 10 of today's *Daily*), the changing profile of dual-earner families, studying on the job, and two studies on labour turnover - one, an overview and the other, a look at hirings.

Each quarter, *Perspectives on Labour and Income* uses results from many data sources to examine and offer insights on emerging issues. Articles review recent labour market developments as well as current income issues.

The Summer 1992 edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (75-001E, \$13.25/\$53) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

To obtain further information on this release, contact Cécile Dumas (613-951-6894) or Doreen Duchesne (613-951-6893), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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**DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Cement, April 1992	11
Cable Television, 1991	11

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**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED** 12

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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### Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

March 1992

#### Seasonally Adjusted

Led by the electrical and electronic products and the chemical industries, shipments increased 0.9% in March, the second consecutive monthly increase. Shipments for all manufacturing excluding the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries increased 1.4% in March following a small increase in February and declines in December 1991 and January 1992. The motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries decreased in March 1992, reflecting a number of temporary shutdowns and continuing the pattern of alternating increases and decreases seen over the past eight months.

Unfilled orders declined 0.1% despite some large orders in the fabricated metal products industries. The inventory to shipments ratio decreased for the second consecutive month.

The **short-term trend** smooths out irregular month-to-month movements which are not sustained over a longer period. After increasing from April to July inclusive, the short-term trend for shipments declined in the seven most recent periods. The two recent monthly increases in the value of shipments have not been sufficient to turn the trend around but have contributed to a slowing of the decline. The shipments trend for the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industries declined for the sixth consecutive month. The trend for unfilled orders has declined since April 1989; the decline in the inventory trend has lasted more than two years. However, each of these trends has declined at a slower pace in recent months.

#### Highlights

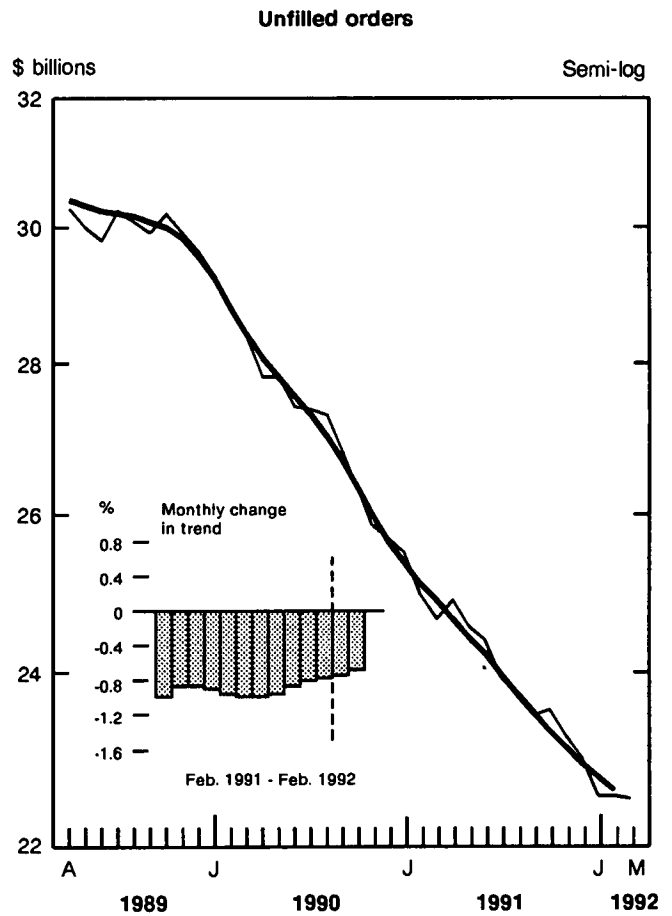
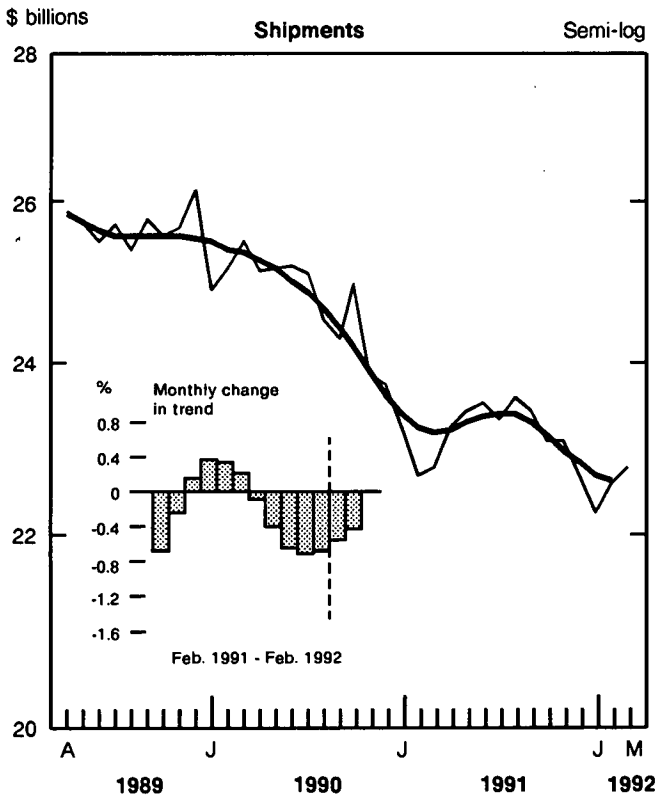
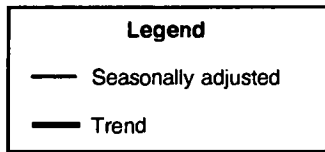
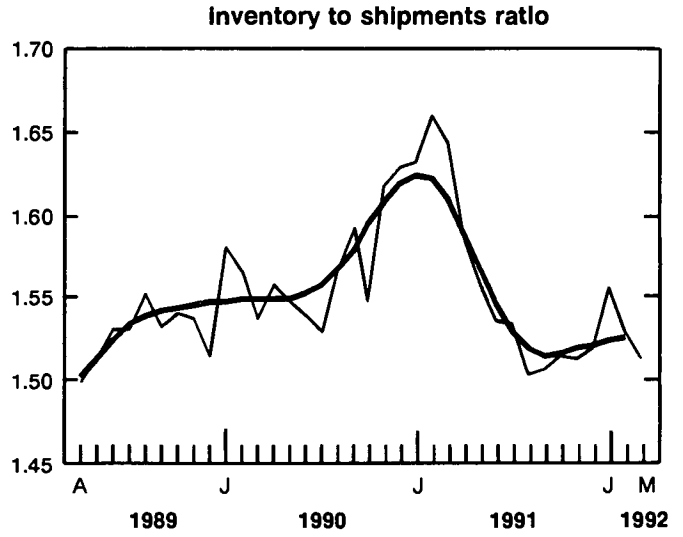
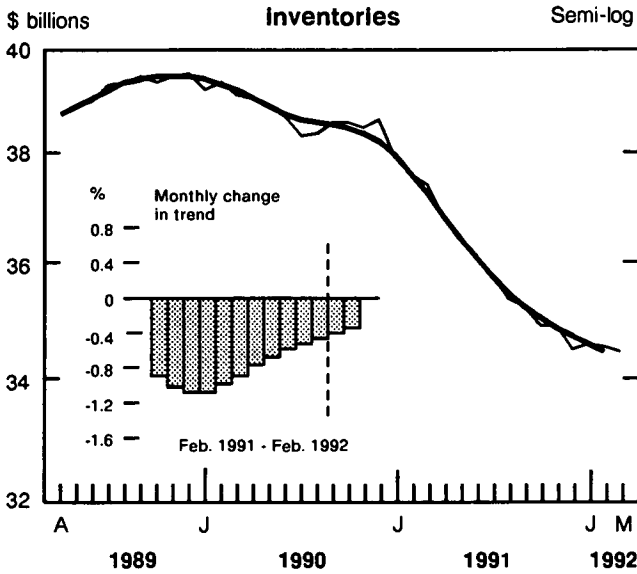
- Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian manufacturers' **shipments** were \$22.8 billion in March, an increase of 0.9% from the previous month. Fourteen of the 22 major groups recorded increases with the electrical and electronic products (8.1%) and the chemical industries (5.4%) reporting the largest increases in value. These increases were partially offset by decreases in the wood (-4.8%) and the transportation equipment industries (-1.4%).

#### Note to Users

*With the March 1992 release, the estimated values of shipments, inventories and orders have been revised back to the January 1989 period. 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 fell for the seventh month in a row but at a slower pace over the two most recent periods. Seventeen of the 22 major groups (accounting for 73% of shipment values) contributed to the declining trend. However, the trends for eight of these groups have been declining at a slower pace in recent months. The most significant decrease in the most recent period, in order of dollar impact, was in the transportation equipment industries, with the motor vehicle industry trend declining the most.
- Other industries which experienced significant decreases in the trend, in order of dollar impact, were the fabricated metal, the primary metal and the electrical and electronic products industries. For each of these industries, except for a brief period in the summer of 1991, the trend has been declining since early 1990, though at a slower pace in recent months.
- Among the five industries with an increasing trend, the wood industry had the largest increase in the most recent period and has been increasing since March 1991.
- **Inventories** (owned) decreased 0.2% in March to \$34.4 billion with 12 of the 22 major groups recording decreases. Electrical and electronic products (-1.6%) and transportation equipment (-0.8%) industries recorded the largest decreases. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in the wood industries (1.8%). The **trend** for inventories (owned) has been declining since January 1990, but at a slower pace over the last nine periods.

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



- The **Inventories to shipments ratio** decreased from 1.53 in February to 1.51 in March. The **trend**, which had shown no change from November 1991 to January 1992, rose slightly in February.
- **Unfilled orders** declined 0.1% to \$22.5 billion, following no change in February. The largest decreases were in transportation equipment (-1.3%) and primary metals industries (-3.6%). These decreases were almost completely offset by an increase in the fabricated metals industries (14.0%). The **trend** continued to fall but at a slower pace in recent months.

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 0.8% to \$22.7 billion, the second consecutive increase following five monthly declines. The **trend** for new orders has declined since August 1991 but at a slower pace over the last three periods.

#### Year-to-date

- Manufacturers' shipments for the first three months of 1992 were estimated at \$67.5 billion, 1.6% lower than in the corresponding period in 1991. This compares with year-to-date results for January and February, which were 4.3% and 2.0% lower, respectively, than their corresponding 1991 levels.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

For more information, the March 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 are 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**

March 1992

Period	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted			
	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders	Shipments	Inventories	Unfilled orders	New orders
	\$ millions							
March 1991	23,092	38,137	24,664	22,868	22,752	37,377	24,629	22,449
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	20,562	34,767	22,448	20,455	22,231	34,577	22,539	21,809
February 1992	21,512	35,177	22,499	21,563	22,553	34,487	22,541	22,556
March 1992	23,759	35,161	22,536	23,796	22,751	34,404	22,517	22,728

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			
March 1991	0.4	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0	1.64	1.61	-1.2	-0.9	1.5	-0.1
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	-0.9	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	-0.6	-1.0	-0.6	1.51	1.51	0.3	-0.9	-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	-0.7	-1.1	-0.5	1.52	1.52	-1.2	-0.8	-1.5	-0.6
January 1992	-2.0	-0.6	0.3	-0.4	1.56	1.52	-1.8	-0.8	-2.7	-0.5
February 1992	1.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	1.53	1.53	0.0	-0.7	3.4	-0.4
March 1992	0.9	*	-0.2	*	1.51	*	-0.1	*	0.8	*

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

## Help-wanted Index

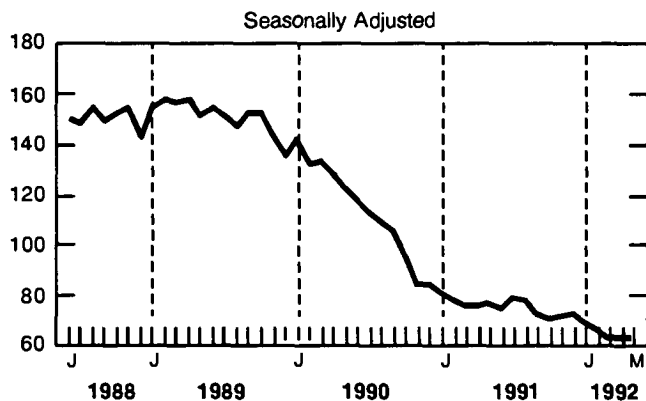
May 1992

The Help-wanted Index serves as an early indicator of the demand for labour by monitoring changes in the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 major metropolitan areas.

### Highlights – Seasonally Adjusted

- In May, the Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) remained unchanged at 62. The index peaked at 157 in February 1989. Then it started a decline which accelerated in 1990. In 1991, the downtrend slowed. For the first three months of 1992, the index continued to decrease, stabilizing at 62 in March.

**Help-wanted Index, Canada  
(1981 = 100)**



#### Note to Users

Help-wanted indices for census metropolitan areas and trend-cycle estimates are available on request. The trend-cycle estimates can also be obtained directly from CANSIM.

#### Now Available

The report, Help-wanted Index 1981-1991 (\$30), is now available. It provides historical data, describes recent trends of the index, displays charts which relate the index to other labour market indicators, and explains in the Technical Notes the construction of the index.

To order the report or to obtain further information, contact Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039).

### Changes by Region

- Between April and May 1992, the Help-wanted Index increased in all regions except Quebec, where it declined 12% (to 69 from 78). The index increased 8% in the Atlantic provinces (from 85 to 92), 7% in Ontario (from 56 to 60), 6% in British Columbia (from 64 to 68) and 2% in the Prairie provinces (from 44 to 45).
- Compared with May 1991, the Help-wanted Index was lower in all regions, falling 23% in Quebec, 22% in the Atlantic provinces, 15% in the Prairie provinces, 13% in British Columbia and 10% in Ontario.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 5 and 7).**

For further information, contact Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division, (FAX: 613-951-4087). □

**Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100), Canada and Regions - Seasonally Adjusted**

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
<b>1991</b>						
May	76	118	90	67	53	78
June	74	102	84	70	53	82
July	78	108	86	74	52	84
August	77	115	83	74	54	81
September	72	107	84	67	47	79
October	70	105	83	66	49	73
November	71	99	88	63	51	73
December	72	104	87	67	49	75
<b>1992</b>						
January	69	110	88	60	46	68
February	65	90	74	61	46	74
March	62	87	74	55	49	67
April	62	85	78	56	44	64
May	62	92	69	60	45	68



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## Canada's Older Workers: A Profile of Their Labour Market Experience

1988

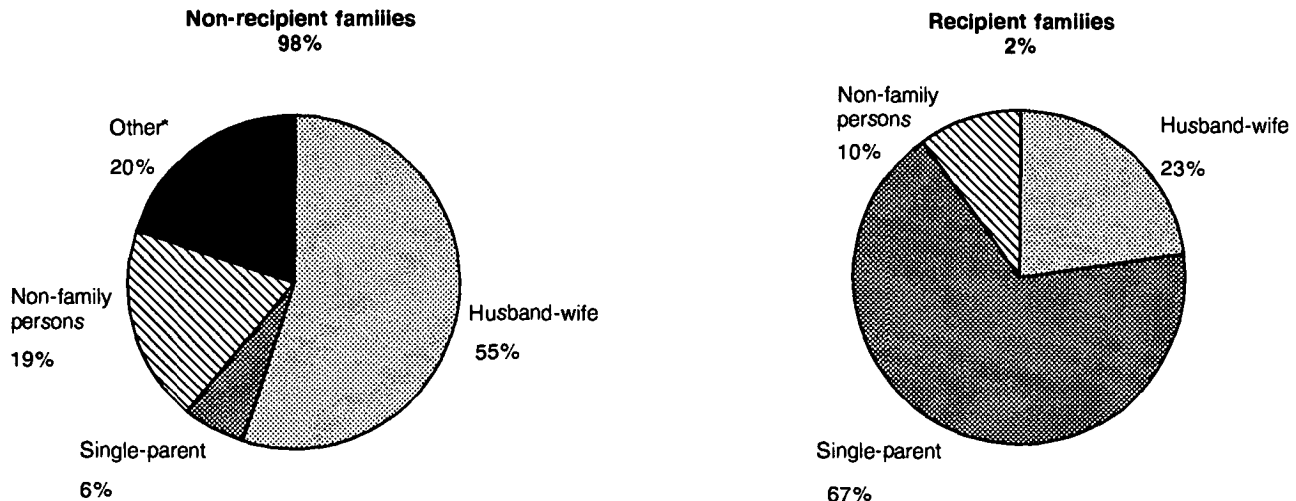
### Highlights

- In 1988, roughly 3.6 million persons aged 45 to 69 were in the labour force at some time during the year, accounting for one-quarter of Canada's total labour force.
  - Canada's work force aged 45 to 69 comprised 2.1 million men (59%) and 1.5 million women (41%).
  - In 1988, some 2.1 million Canadians aged 45 to 69 who held paid-worker jobs were employed for the entire year. While 78% of male older workers who held a paid-worker job were employed the entire year, the percentage for female older workers was 72%. By comparison, for the 25 to 44 age group, only 74% of men and 65% of women who held a paid-worker job were employed for the entire year.
  - The average weekly earnings for all unionized paid-worker jobs held by older workers was \$592, compared to \$460 for non-unionized paid-worker jobs.
- Average full-time job tenure increased with age, more for men than for women. For the 25 to 34 age group, average job tenure was 4.1 years for men and 3.8 years for women, for the 35 to 44 age group, 8.9 years and 6.7 years, and for the 45 to 64 age group, it was 14.2 years and 10.2 years.
  - In 1988, about 394,000 persons in the 45 to 69 age group (6.6%) were unemployed at some time during the year. This percentage decreased steadily with age. For Canada's youth (those aged 16 to 24) the rate was 28%, for the 25 to 34 age group it was 18%, and for the 35 to 44 age group it was 11%.

*Labour Market Activity Survey, Canada's Older Workers: A Profile of their 1988 Labour Market Experience (71-208, \$12), the latest publication from the Profile series to analyze data from the Labour Market Activity Survey, is now available. See "How to Order Publications".*

For more detailed information on this release, contact Stephan Roller (613-951-4625), Household Surveys Division. ■

**In 1988, the Majority of Alimony Recipients Were From Single-parent Families**



\* Includes male recipients who represented 2% of all recipients.  
 Source: Small Area and Administrative Data Division

**Alimony and Child Support  
 1988**

**Highlights**

- In 1988, some 289,000 men reported paying \$1.3 billion in alimony and child support, for an average amount of \$4,500. In the same year, 239,000 women reported receiving \$1.1 billion in support payments, for an average of \$4,600. (The difference between the number of payers and recipients is explained in the article.)
- The average amount of support paid represented 9% of the average pre-tax income of payers. The equivalent proportion for recipients was 15%.
- Receiving alimony payments appears to be extremely important for single-parent families with children under the age of 18. The per capita income of recipient families of this type was 45% to 56% higher than that of non-recipient families, depending on the number of children in these families.
- Support payments accounted for 38% of the average income of "non-family" persons (women who were not members of nuclear families). These women were generally older than other

**Note to Users**

With the growing number of single-parent families and the many criticisms of the present system's method for determining alimony and child support payments, such disbursements are becoming a subject of increasing concern. The Summer 1992 edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income* features a study entitled "Alimony and Child Support," which focuses on the family characteristics and income of those who make or receive support payments.

In this article (and the accompanying chart), families not receiving alimony or support payments are referred to as non-recipient families and the families receiving such payments are referred to as recipient families.

recipients and a high proportion had no labour market ties.

- Recipient husband-wife families were much less dependent on support payments. For them, alimony comprised 6% of their average pre-tax income.

For further information, contact Diane Galarneau (613-951-4626), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

The Summer 1992 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (75-001E, \$13.25/\$53) is now available. See "How to Order Publications". ■

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Cement

April 1992

Canadian manufacturers shipped 658 040 tonnes of cement in April 1992, a 19.4% decrease from the 816 069 tonnes shipped a year earlier but a 48.8% increase from the 442 215r (revised) tonnes shipped in March 1992.

January to April 1992 shipments totalled 1 725 071r tonnes, down 11.3% from the 1 945 091 tonnes shipped during the same period in 1991.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 and 122 (series 35).**

The April 1992 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

### Cable Television

1991

Preliminary 1991 data are now available for the cable television industry.

The Vol. 22, No. 1 issue of *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$8.20/\$49) is scheduled for release shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

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



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The Daily, June 3, 1992

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Labour Force Information, May 1992.**  
**Catalogue number 71-001P**  
(Canada: \$6.30/\$63; United States: US\$7.60/US\$76;  
Other Countries: US\$8.80/US\$88).  
Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, June 5, 1992.

**Labour Market Activity Survey, Canada's Older Workers: A Profile of Their 1988 Labour Market Experience.**  
**Catalogue number 71-208**  
(Canada: \$12; United States: US\$14; Other Countries: US\$17).

**Perspectives on Labour and Income, Summer 1992.**  
**Catalogue number 75-001E**  
(Canada: \$13.25/\$53; United States: US\$16/US\$64;  
Other Countries: US\$18.50/US\$74).

**Census Overview of Canadian Agriculture, 1971-1991.**  
**Catalogue number 93-348**  
(Canada: \$49; United States: US\$59; Other Countries: US\$69).  
Available at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 4, 1992.

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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*A national toll-free telephone order service is in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.*

**The  
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