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STATISTICS CANADA STATISTIQUE CANADA

JAN 6 1993



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MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Help-wanted Index, December 1992** 3
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- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 5
A new series of forecasts from a small group of economists is released today.
- **Industrial Product Price Index, November 1992** 7
The IPPI (1986 = 100) rose 0.2% to 110.6 in November 1992, 3.1% higher than a year earlier.

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Shipping in Canada 1991

- **Domestic and International Shipping Statistics, 1991:** Domestic and international shipping generated a combined 350.8 million tonnes of cargo handled at Canada's ports in 1991, down 0.7% from 1990. International tonnage accounted for 66.8% of all tonnage handled in 1991, compared with 66.1% in 1990. International loadings surged 5.7% in 1991.
- **Financial and Operating Statistics, 1990:** Some 195 Canadian-domiciled marine carriers operated 2,607 vessels. Each of the firms surveyed in 1990 recorded revenues of at least \$500,000. Together, these firms had revenues of \$2.65 billion (+2.2%) and expenses of \$3.35 billion (+3.4%).
- **Special Studies:** *Shipping in Canada, 1991* includes two special studies detailing specific aspects of the Canadian marine industry. The first, "A Comparison of International Marine Cargo Data and International Trade Data 1989-1990", provides an overview of two distinct databases which measure marine cargo movements in terms of tonnage and value. The second, "The Ports of Seattle and Vancouver: Regional Aspects of Containerized Trade", chronicles the potential for expanded container trade at the port of Vancouver.

Vancouver: Regional Aspects of Containerized Trade", chronicles the potential for expanded container trade at the port of Vancouver.

Shipping in Canada, 1991 (54-205, \$41) is now available. See "How to Order Publications". For further information, contact Anna MacDonald (613-951-0291), Transportation Division.



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Canada

MAJOR RELEASES – Concluded

- **Raw Materials Price Index, November 1992** 9
The Raw Materials Price Index fell 0.2% in November due to a 3.5% decrease in the non-ferrous metals index.
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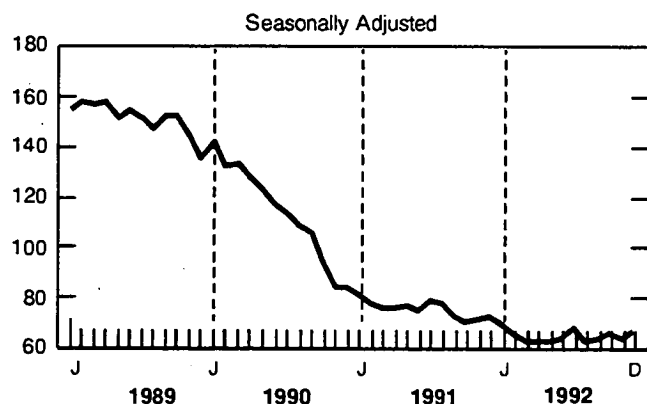
MAJOR RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

December 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.

Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)



Highlights - Seasonally Adjusted

- Over the past year, the Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) decreased from 72 in December 1991 to 62 in March 1992. Generally, the index remained at this level until November. In December, the index increased three points to 66.

Note to Users

With the release of next month's data, the base period of the Help-wanted Index will be revised from 1981 to 1991. The revised index will be available starting with January 1981. A historical series will be published in an occasional report, Help-wanted Index 1981-1992 (71-540), scheduled for release in April.

Changes by Region

- Between November and December 1992, all regional Help-wanted Indexes increased. The index advanced 9% in Quebec (from 67 to 73), 5% in the Atlantic provinces (from 94 to 99) and Ontario (from 61 to 64), 2% in the Prairie provinces (from 44 to 45) and 1% in British Columbia (from 70 to 71).
- Compared with December 1991, the Help-wanted Index was down in all regions: -16% in Quebec, -8% in the Prairie provinces and -5% in the other three regions.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 5, 6 and 7).

The annual averages for 1992 are now available. 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.

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

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
Seasonally Adjusted						
1991						
December	72	104	87	67	49	75
1992						
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
June	63	92	70	59	43	69
July	67	90	80	64	42	70
August	62	90	69	59	44	69
September	63	90	71	61	41	69
October	65	103	73	60	43	74
November	63	94	67	61	44	70
December	66	99	73	64	45	71
Annual Average	65	95	74	60	45	69

Short-term Expectations Survey

The following are the forecasts of the year-over-year change in the Consumer Price Index and of the unemployment rate for December 1992, merchandise exports and imports for November 1992 and the month-to-month change in the Gross Domestic Product for October 1992.

The increase in the Consumer Price Index for December is forecast at 1.9%, with minimum and maximum values of 1.4% and 2.3%, respectively. In November, the mean forecast (1.5%) underestimated the outcome of 1.7%.

The mean forecast of the unemployment rate for December is 11.7% (minimum 11.2%, maximum 12.0%). For November, the mean forecast (11.3%) underestimated the outcome by 0.5 percentage points.

November merchandise exports are forecast to be \$13.8 billion, with a minimum and maximum of \$13.1 billion and \$14.1 billion, respectively. For October, the mean forecast (\$13.2 billion) underestimated the actual level of \$13.9 billion. The forecast of imports for the same period is \$12.4 billion, with minimum and maximum values of \$12.0 billion and \$12.8 billion, respectively. For October, the mean forecast of \$12.6 billion overestimated the actual imports by \$0.4 billion.

Note to Users

Since April 1990, Statistics Canada has been canvassing a small group of economic analysts (an average of 23 participants) and requesting from them a one-month-ahead forecast of key economic indicators. This month, participants were asked for forecasts of the year-to-year change in the Consumer Price Index, the unemployment rate, and merchandise exports and imports, as well as for a forecast of the monthly change in the Gross Domestic Product.

The release dates for the coming months are scheduled as follows:

February 2	September 7
March 9	October 5
April 6	November 2
May 4	December 1
June 1	January 5
July 6	February 1
August 3	

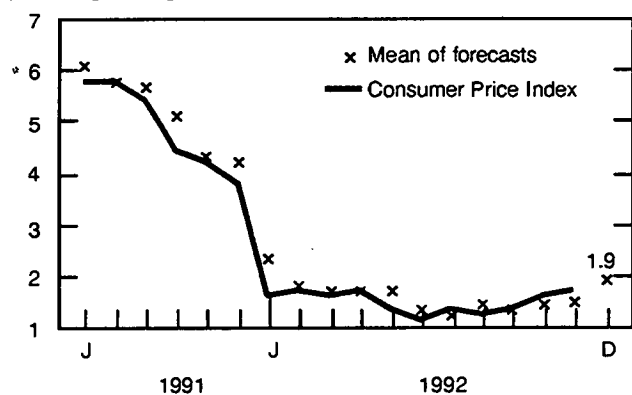
Gross Domestic Product was forecast to have changed by 0.2% between September and October 1992, with minimum and maximum changes of -0.1% and 0.4%. On December 24th, Statistics Canada announced that the actual change in GDP for October was 0.2%.

For a complete set of tables or more information concerning this survey, contact Diane Lachapelle (613-951-0568). □

FORECASTS VS. ACTUAL

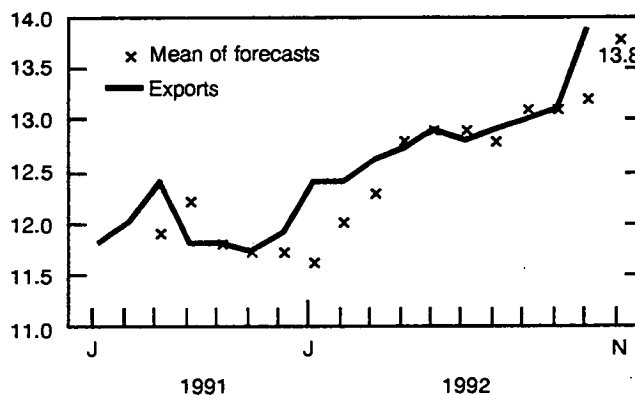
Consumer Price Index

Year-to-year percentage change



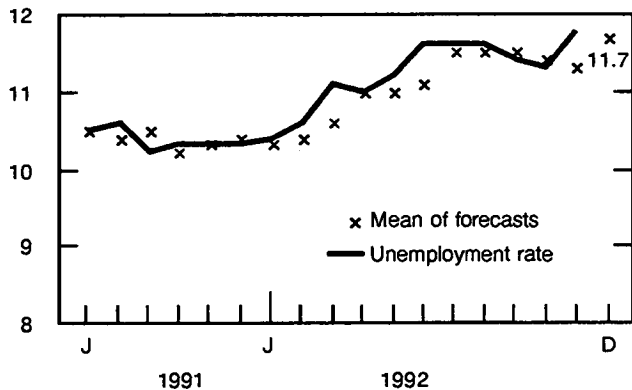
Canadian International Trade Exports

\$ billions



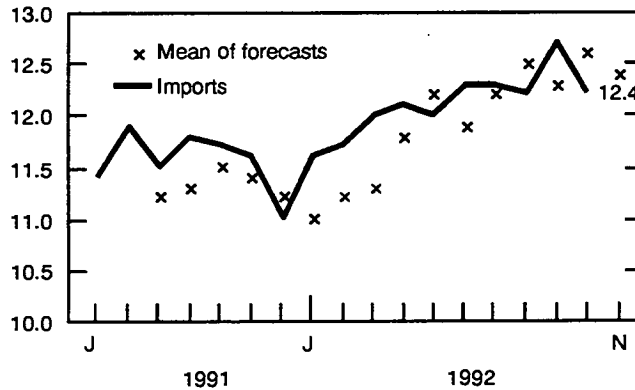
Unemployment Rate

%



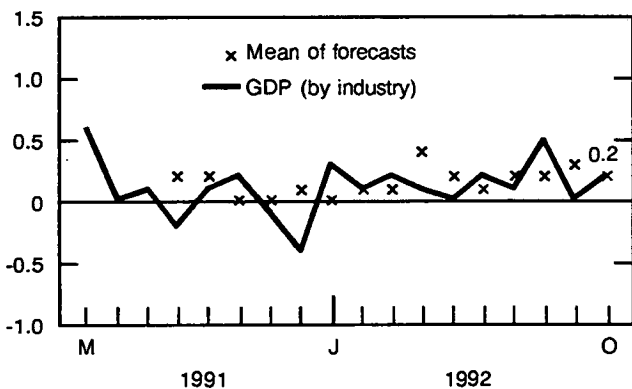
Canadian International Trade Imports

\$ billions



Gross Domestic Product (by Industry)

Percentage change



Industrial Product Price Index

November 1992

According to preliminary figures, the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) rose 0.2% to 110.6 in November 1992. Fifteen of the 21 major groups of products registered increases in their indexes, while three decreased and three remained unchanged. Significant price increases occurred in lumber, sawmill and other wood products (2.6%) and in autos, trucks, and other transportation equipment (0.7%). Tobacco products also increased by 2.7%. There was a significant decline in primary metal product prices (-2.5%). The U.S. dollar continued to strengthen in value against the Canadian dollar in November, rising 1.1%, and was an important contributing factor to the rise of the IPPI by increasing the prices of export goods denominated in U.S. dollars.

Compared to November 1991, the IPPI was 3.1% higher. The strength of the U.S. dollar, which was 11.8% higher against the Canadian dollar than a year earlier, contributed to this 12-month increase. The most important increases from a year earlier were in autos, trucks and other transport equipment (7.8%), lumber, sawmill and other wood products (14.2%), paper and paper products (4.9%) and meat, fish and dairy products (3.8%). The five declines were all less than 1.0%, the most important being rubber, leather, and plastic fabricated products (-0.9%). If petroleum and coal products are excluded, the 12-month change for the index was 3.2%.

This was the sixth consecutive month that a year-to-year increase was recorded for the IPPI index; each increase was larger than the previous month's increase. The intermediate goods index has recorded year-to-year price increases for four consecutive months, each larger than the previous month's increase. Finished goods has recorded year-to-year increases for 10 consecutive months; for four consecutive months the increases have been getting larger.

The first-stage intermediate goods index declined 1.4% in November, but the second-stage intermediate goods index continued to rise, increasing 0.5%. Finished foods and feeds (0.2%), capital equipment (0.4%) and other finished goods (0.5%) all showed price increases compared to October. Compared to a year earlier, all five categories of industrial products showed higher prices. The largest increase was in capital equipment (4.7%) and the smallest was in finished foods and feeds (1.7%).

Highlights

- The lumber, sawmill and other wood products index increased 2.6% in November, as softwood lumber prices rose 4.8%. Softwood prices were higher right across the country. The veneer and plywood area was also very active, with a 1.6% increase in the index as softwood veneer and plywood prices rose 2.4%. Contributing to these price increases were the declining Canadian dollar and a strong export market in the United States. The lumber, sawmill, and other wood products index stood 14.2% higher than a year earlier, with softwood lumber and ties prices increasing 24.6%.
- The autos, trucks and other transportation equipment index rose 0.7% in November as automobile prices rose 0.9%. Domestic automobiles recorded a 0.1% price increase while export automobiles showed a 1.1% price increase, largely due to the increase in the value of the U.S. dollar. The overall price index stood 7.8% higher than a year earlier, with domestic car prices 0.3% lower and export car prices 13.1% higher.
- The primary metal products index declined 2.5%, due to declines in the prices of non-ferrous metal products. The largest decline was in nickel product prices (-14.6%), but there were also declines in aluminum product (-3.1%) and copper and copper alloy product (-3.3%) prices. Compared to November 1991, the primary metal products index was 0.2% lower in November 1992, due to declines in iron and steel product (-3.5%) and nickel product (-12.0%) prices.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The November 1992 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available at the end of January. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Industrial Product Price Indexes

(1986 = 100)

Index	Relative Importance ¹	Index November 1992 ²	November 1992/ October 1992	November 1992/ November 1991
			% change	
Industrial Product Price Index - Total	100.0	110.6	0.2	3.1
Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	93.6	111.7	0.2	3.2
Intermediate goods	60.4	108.5	0.1	2.9
First-stage intermediate goods	13.4	104.5	-1.4	3.2
Second-stage intermediate goods	47.0	109.7	0.5	2.9
Finished goods	39.6	113.7	0.4	3.4
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	116.8	0.2	1.7
Capital equipment	10.4	114.1	0.4	4.7
All other finished goods	19.3	112.0	0.5	3.7
Aggregation by commodities:				
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	112.6	0.4	3.8
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.2	114.1	-0.1	0.9
Beverages	2.0	122.5	0.1	1.6
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	153.7	2.7	4.9
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	113.7	0.0	-0.9
Textile products	2.2	109.4	0.1	0.1
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	113.5	0.0	-0.2
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	118.9	2.6	14.2
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	117.9	0.2	-0.3
Paper and paper products	8.1	107.9	0.2	4.9
Printing and publishing	2.7	128.9	0.1	2.4
Primary metal products	7.7	99.3	-2.5	-0.2
Metal fabricated products	4.9	112.0	0.0	0.4
Machinery and equipment	4.2	117.4	0.1	1.6
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	17.6	107.7	0.7	7.8
Electrical and communications products	5.1	111.9	0.1	1.0
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	110.5	0.1	-0.3
Petroleum and coal products ³	6.4	94.6	0.5	1.3
Chemical, chemical products	7.2	114.5	0.2	0.9
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	112.3	0.1	1.0
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	70.7	-0.6	10.6

¹ Weights are derived from the "make" matrix of the 1986 Input/Output table.² Indexes are preliminary.³ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw Materials Price Index

November 1992

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986 = 100) fell 0.2% in November 1992, primarily due to decreases in the mineral fuels (-0.7%) and non-ferrous metals (-3.5%) indexes. This downward movement was offset by increases in the indexes for vegetable products (2.5%), wood (1.0%) and animal and animal products (0.5%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels rose 0.2% over the previous month.

With six of the seven RMPI components posting higher figures, the overall index was up 7.4% from November 1991. The largest year-over-year increases were in mineral fuels (4.2%), wood (19.3%) and animal and animal products (6.7%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels increased 9.1% from November 1991 to November 1992.

Highlights

- The mineral fuels index was down slightly (-0.7%) in November, mainly because of a decrease in the crude mineral oils index (-0.9%). Since November 1991, however, the mineral fuels index has risen 4.2%, a direct result of the 4.1% increase in crude mineral oil prices.
- The non-ferrous metals index was down 3.5%, largely due to lower prices for concentrates of copper (-4.2%), nickel (-14.7%) and zinc (-7.8%). From November 1991 to November 1992, the non-ferrous metals index rose 2.7%. A major factor in this rise was the 19.3% increase in the radioactive concentrates index; offsetting this were declining prices for nickel (-15.1%) and copper (-1.8%) concentrates.

- The vegetable products index rose 2.5% between October and November 1992, reflecting higher prices for wheat (5.7%), rapeseed (7.1%) and cocoa, coffee and tea (8.6%). The vegetable products index increased 9.7% from November 1991 to November 1992, mainly due to increases in the indexes for oilseeds (20.6%), wheat (13.1%), potatoes (27.2%) and unrefined sugar (18.3%).
- The November 1992 wood index was up slightly (1.0%), following a 1.1% increase in log and bolt prices, the 12th consecutive monthly increase for this component. The pulpwood index also contributed to this upward movement, rising 0.7% above October's level. The wood index was 19.3% higher than in November 1991 because of major increases in log and bolt prices (27.7%) and a small rise in the pulpwood index (0.8%).
- The animal and animal products index rose 0.5% over October's level, mainly due to increases in the cattle for slaughter (1.4%) and hogs for slaughter (1.7%) indexes. From November 1991 to November 1992, the animal and animal products index increased 6.7%, primarily due to higher prices of cattle (19.3%) and hogs (20.0%) for slaughter. These increases were offset somewhat by the fish index, which declined 6.5%.
- Despite posting only a very slight change in November 1992, the ferrous materials index was up 7.1% from November 1991, mainly because of a 9.0% increase in the iron ore index.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2009.

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

Raw Materials Price Index

(1986 = 100)

	Relative Importance	Index November 1992 ¹	November 1992/ October 1992	November 1992/ November 1991
				% Change
Raw Materials total	100	110.2	-0.2	7.4
Mineral fuels	32	114.7	-0.7	4.2
Vegetable products	10	92.8	2.5	9.7
Animal and animal products	26	105.2	0.5	6.7
Wood	13	145.5	1.0	19.3
Ferrous materials	4	93.8	0.0	7.1
Non-ferrous metals	13	94.2	-3.5	2.7
Non-metallic minerals	3	100.8	1.4	-0.1
Total excluding mineral fuel	68	108.2	0.2	9.1

¹ These indexes are preliminary.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending December 21, 1992

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the seven-day period totalled 4.2 million tonnes, an increase of 0.2% from the same period the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic increased 19.6% from the same period the previous year. The number of cars loaded increased 21.5% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded as of December 21, 1992 decreased 4.6% from the previous year.

Note: Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic. All 1991 figures and 1992 cumulative data have been revised.

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

Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder

November 1992

Production of process cheese in November 1992 totalled 6 148 997 kilograms, an increase of 9.6% from October 1992 and an increase of 20.7% from the revised November 1991 total. From January to November 1992, production totalled 70 012 782 kilograms, compared to the year-earlier 70 290 761^r (revised) kilograms.

Total production of instant skim milk powder during November was 481 269 kilograms, an increase of 2.2% from October 1992 but a decrease of 4.0%

from the revised November 1991 total. Year-to-date production totalled 4 386 384 kilograms at the end of November, compared to 4 118 991^r kilograms for the corresponding period in 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).

The November 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. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins

November 1992

Canadian chemical firms produced 140 723 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in November 1992, a 5.4% increase from the 133 468^r (revised) tonnes produced in November 1991.

From January to November 1992, production totalled 1 519 241 tonnes, up 6.6% from the 1 424 841^r tonnes produced during the same period in 1991.

Data are also available on Canadian production of three other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals for November 1992 and November 1991.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The November 1992 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins* (46-002, \$5.60/\$56) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin:
Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey (Large
Carriers and All Carriers), Second Quarter 1992.**

Vol. 8, No. 8.

Catalogue number 50-002

(Canada: \$9.40/\$75; United States: US\$11.25/US\$90;
Other Countries: US\$13.15/US\$105).

Shipping in Canada, 1991.

Catalogue number 54-205

(Canada: \$41; United States: US\$49;
Other Countries: US\$57).

**Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics,
October 1992.**

Catalogue number 63-011

(Canada: \$6.10/\$61; United States: US\$7.30/US\$73;
Other Countries: US\$8.50/US\$85).

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Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed
Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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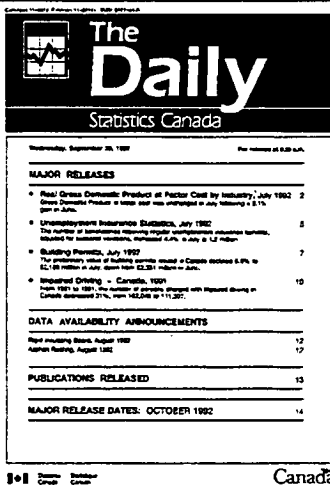
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Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada: \$120.00 annually; United States: US\$144.00 annually;
Other Countries: US\$168.00 annually

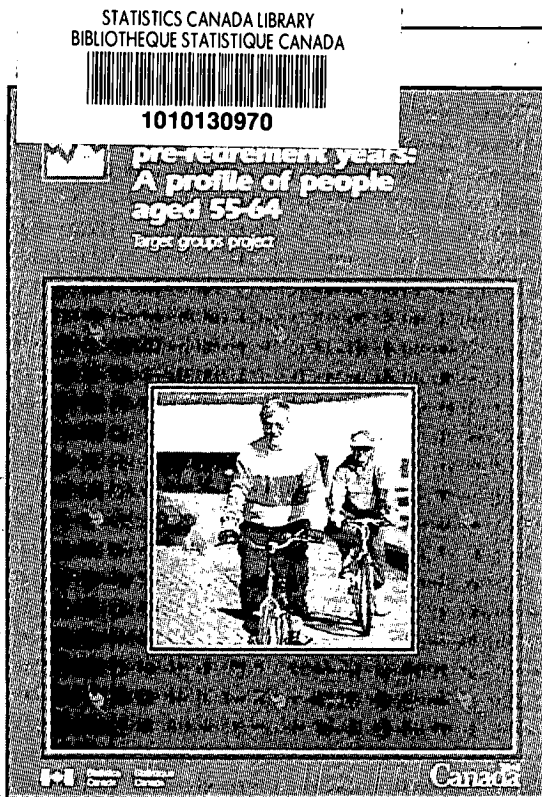
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The Pre-Retirement Years...

An Age of Transition



In 1990, Canadians aged 55-64 numbered almost 2.4 million. While much has been written about people aged 65 and over, the pre-retirement age group has received little attention. The Target Group's publication, *Canadians in the Pre-Retirement Years: A Profile of People Aged 55-64* provides a comprehensive, statistical overview of the population nearing retirement age.

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- Health
- Education
- Work
- Income
- Housing
- Activity Patterns

Written in an **easy-to-read** style and supported by **more than 40 charts and tables**, the information at the core of *Canadians in the Pre-Retirement Years* is taken from many published and unpublished sources including: a variety of Statistics Canada publications and the General Social Survey.

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