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MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial Product Price Index

September 1993 (Preliminary)

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986 = 100) in September 1993 rose to a new high, 112.9, up 0.1% from August's 112.8. Indexes for 10 of the 21 major groups of products increased, four remained unchanged, and seven declined. Price changes were dominated by two product groups (lumber, sawmill and other wood products and primary metal products) but their effects virtually cancelled out each other. The lumber, sawmill and other wood products price index rose 2.0% while the primary metal products price index declined by 1.4%. Other price increases of lesser importance occurred in petroleum and coal products (+0.8%) and chemical and chemical products (+0.4%). Partly offsetting these increases were price declines in paper and paper products.

In September, the year-to-year increase in the IPPI was 2.7%, the same as in July but considerably below January's year-to-year change of 4.4%. Year-to-year price changes reflect the slowing of prices in recent months. The price index for first-stage intermediate goods was down 3.8% from September 1992, the largest year-to-year decline in this index since May 1992. The year-to-year increase in the second-stage intermediate goods index fell back to June and July's figure of 3.9%, from August's 4.3%. The year-to-year increase in the prices of foods and feeds was back up to July's 1.9% from August's 1.8%. The year-to-year increases, however, for both capital equipment and all other finished goods were down compared to August, at 4.6% and 3.5% compared to 5.3% and 3.9%.

Lumber and Primary Metal Prices

The lumber, sawmill and other wood products price index again moved upwards, rising 2.0% in September, for a second consecutive increase

following a four-month period of declines. The increase was primarily due to a 2.8% rise in softwood lumber prices. East of the Rockies, price increases ranged from 4.3% in Québec to 12.0% on the Prairies. In British Columbia, the interior saw a 2.9% increase but, on the coast, prices declined by 1.8% overall. The price index for B.C. western red cedar was down by 2.8% and that for B.C. hemlock and fir was down by 0.8%. The lumber, sawmill and other wood products price index was 16.8% higher in September 1993 than in September 1992.

The decline in the price index for primary metals was the result of price declines generally for non-ferrous metals. Iron and steel product prices, however, edged upward 0.4%. Nickel prices fell by 11.1%. There were also declines in the price indexes for aluminum products (-2.4%), copper and copper alloy products (-1.6%) and other non-ferrous metals (-2.8%). The price declines were the result of rising world stockpiles of these metals and the situation was worsened, in some cases, by continuing high exports of these metals by the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The decline in the paper and paper product price index was the result of declines in prices both for pulp (-1.5%) and for newsprint (-0.8%).

The increase in the chemical and chemical products index was primarily the result of a 2.2% increase in the organic industrial chemicals price index, while the increase in the petroleum and coal products index was principally the result of the 1.2% increase in the gasoline and fuel oil price index.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The September 1993 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available at the end of November. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)

	Relative Importance ¹	September 1992	August 1993 ^r	September 1993 ^p	September 1992 to September 1993	August 1993 to September 1993
					% change*	
Industrial Product Price Index -						
Total	100.0	109.9	112.8	112.9	2.7	0.1
Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	93.6	111.1	114.5	114.5	3.1	0.0
Intermediate goods	60.4	108.3	110.7	110.8	2.3	0.1
First-stage intermediate goods	13.4	106.4	103.0	102.4	-3.8	-0.6
Second-stage intermediate goods	47.0	108.9	112.9	113.2	3.9	0.3
Finished goods	39.6	112.3	116.0	116.1	3.4	0.1
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	116.6	118.8	118.8	1.9	0.0
Capital equipment	10.4	112.0	117.1	117.2	4.6	0.1
All other finished goods	19.3	110.2	114.0	114.1	3.5	0.1
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	112.3	116.5	116.4	3.7	-0.1
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.3	114.0	116.6	116.6	2.3	0.0
Beverages	2.0	122.0	124.5	124.5	2.0	0.0
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	148.1	163.9	163.9	10.7	0.0
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	113.5	113.6	113.7	0.2	0.1
Textile products	2.2	109.3	109.6	109.9	0.5	0.3
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	113.6	114.3	114.4	0.7	0.1
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	117.5	134.5	137.2	16.8	2.0
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	117.8	119.5	119.5	1.4	0.0
Paper and paper products	8.1	106.9	104.9	104.3	-2.4	-0.6
Printing and publishing	2.7	127.9	135.3	136.3	6.6	0.7
Primary metal products	7.7	103.2	101.5	100.1	-3.0	-1.4
Metal fabricated products	4.9	111.6	114.4	114.3	2.4	-0.1
Machinery and equipment	4.2	117.1	119.3	119.6	2.1	0.3
Autos, trucks, other transpor- tation equipment	17.6	104.5	111.3	111.4	6.6	0.1
Electrical and communications products	5.1	111.7	112.5	112.6	0.8	0.1
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	110.5	111.0	110.9	0.4	-0.1
Petroleum and coal products ²	6.4	93.0	88.7	89.4	-3.9	0.8
Chemicals and chemical products	7.2	114.0	116.5	117.0	2.6	0.4
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	112.1	115.1	114.9	2.5	-0.2
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	72.2	80.8	79.8	10.5	-1.2

¹ Weights are derived from the "make" matrix of the 1986 Input/Output table.

² This index is estimated for the current month.

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

* Figure is rounded.

Raw Materials Price Index

September 1993 (Preliminary)

Preliminary data for September 1993 indicate the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986=100) reached 112.0, down 1.0% from the August revised level of 113.1. Major contributors to the decrease in the overall index were lower prices for mineral fuels (-2.0%), non-ferrous metals (-3.4%) and wood (-0.9%). Increases in prices for animals and animal products (+0.9%) partially offset these declines. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels was down 0.5% from August.

The RMPI increased 2.3% from the September 1992 figure, primarily due to higher prices for wood (+31.6%), animals and animal products (+7.8%), vegetable products (+6.0%) and ferrous materials (+11.7%). The significant year-to-year decline in prices for mineral fuels (-14.6%) and the decline in prices for non-ferrous metals (-8.8%) contributed to moderating the year-to-year rise. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels increased 10.5% over the last 12 months.

The RMPI after rising steadily from February to May has since been decreasing. The primary reasons are that prices for wood and crude oil were increasing from February to May. Wood prices continued to increase in June and July, but at a slower rate, and fell in August and September. Crude oil prices decreased overall from June to September.

The mineral fuels index was down 2.0% in September as a result of lower prices for crude oil (-2.3%). On a year-to-year comparison, the mineral fuels index was 14.6% lower than in September 1992, primarily due to crude oil prices, down 16%. Since

May, prices have generally been dropping for crude oil, with the September index at a level comparable to what it was in the early part of 1992.

The non-ferrous metals index fell 3.4% in September mostly because of decreases in the prices of gold (-6.5%), copper concentrates (-3.0%), alumina (-4.1%), and nickel concentrates (-8.9%). Compared to September 1992, the non-ferrous metals index was 8.8% lower. The main reasons were lower prices for concentrates of copper (-17.8%), zinc (-31.3%) and nickel (-34.6%). Gold prices (+8.2%) partially offset the downward year-to-year movement.

The wood index in September decreased 0.9%, reflecting lower prices for softwood logs and bolts (-1.3%). The year-to-year movement showed an increase of 31.6%, explained mostly by the increase in prices for softwood logs and bolts (+42.0%). The wood index after rising 28.7% between January and July has declined for the second consecutive month, but still remains by far the major upward contributor to the annual movement in the RMPI.

The animals and animal products index increased in September (+0.9%) due to higher prices for hogs (+3.6%) and cattle for slaughter (+1.0%). The year-to-year increase in the animals and animal products index (+7.8%) reflects significantly higher prices for hogs (+27.0%) and cattle for slaughter (+12.9%). Hog and cattle prices have shown an upward trend in prices since 1992.

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 ¹	September 1992	August 1993 ^r	September 1993 ^p	September 1992 to September 1993	August 1993 to September 1993
					% change	
Raw Materials total	100	109.5	113.1	112.0	2.3	-1.0
Mineral fuels	32	112.2	97.8	95.8	-14.6	-2.0
Vegetable products	10	92.0	98.1	97.5	6.0	-0.6
Animals and animal products	26	103.0	110.0	111.0	7.8	0.9
Wood	13	143.7	190.9	189.1	31.6	-0.9
Ferrous materials	4	94.2	104.1	105.2	11.7	1.1
Non-ferrous metals	13	101.2	95.5	92.3	-8.8	-3.4
Non-metallic minerals	3	99.4	99.0	99.1	-0.3	0.1
Total excluding mineral fuels	68	108.2	120.2	119.6	10.5	-0.5

¹ Rounded figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending October 14, 1993

The number of railway cars loaded in Canada during the seven-day period increased by 5.2% from the same period last year; revenue-freight loaded increased by 7.6% to 4.6 million tonnes.

Piggyback traffic tonnage, which is included in total carload traffic, increased by 0.5% during the same period.

The tonnage of revenue-freight loaded as of October 14, 1993 decreased 2.9% from the previous year.

Cumulative data for 1992 and 1993 have been revised.

For further information, please contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■



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Residential Care Facilities, Aged, 1990-91.

Catalogue number 83-237

(Canada: \$15; United States: US\$18; Other
Countries: US\$21).

Residential Care Facilities, Mental, 1990-91.

Catalogue number 83-238

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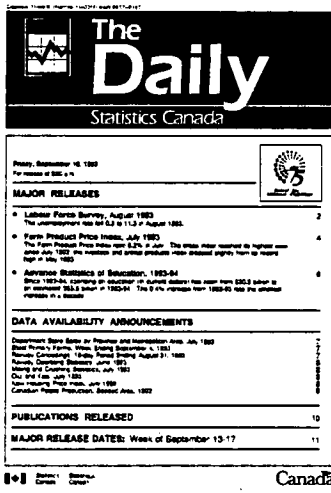
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