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- **Wholesale Trade, September 1993** 10  
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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Consumer Price Index

October 1993

In October, the CPI year-to-year increase was 1.9%, unchanged from the increase reported in September.

#### All-items

The All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada moved up 0.2% between September and October to 130.9 (1986=100). Four of the seven major component indexes posted increases that ranged from 0.2% to 0.4%. The remaining three indexes each fell by 0.2%.

Among the four indexes which rose, a 0.2% increase in the Housing index was caused mainly by an average annual rise of 3.0% in property taxes. Of the three major component indexes which fell, the largest impact resulted from the 0.2% decline in the Transportation index.

Between October 1992 and October 1993, the All-items index increased 1.9%, the same rate of increase as in September. Since March 1993, the year-over-year rates of increase in the All-items CPI have fluctuated between 1.6% and 1.9%.

The seasonally adjusted All-items index edged up 0.1%, compared with 0.4% in September. The Food index rose 0.3%, while the All-items excluding Food index edged up 0.1%.

The compound annual rate of change for the seasonally adjusted All-items index in the latest three-month period (from July to October) was 2.5%, the same as in the previous three-month period ending in September.

#### Food

The Food index rose 0.2% in October, following declines of 0.4% in August and 0.6% in September. The latest 0.1% rise in the index for Food Purchased from Stores resulted mainly from higher prices for salad vegetables, oranges, bakery products and beef. This contrasted with a sharp 5.2% drop in poultry prices. The index for Fresh Vegetables rose 4.1%, mainly due to higher prices for celery, cucumbers, lettuce and tomatoes, the effect of which was moderated by declines in the prices of onions, cabbages, carrots and potatoes. Sharp price increases for unsweetened rolls and buns caused the Bakery Products index to advance 1.5%. Beef prices rebounded 0.8% in October because of more stable wholesale prices. The sharp drop in the poultry index

was associated with the marketing of turkey during the Thanksgiving period and with specials for chickens—mainly in Alberta and British Columbia. Lower prices were also noted for cured meat products, canned fish, dairy products and fats and oils.

Between October 1992 and October 1993, the Food index increased 1.5%, up from the 1.2% rise in September. In October, annual increases of 1.7% and 1.0% were observed in the indexes for Food Purchased from Stores and for Food Purchased from Restaurants.

#### All-items excluding food

In October, the All-items Excluding Food index rose 0.2%, the same rate of increase as in August and September. This resulted from an increase of 0.2% in the Housing index and, to a lesser extent, from a 0.4% rise in the Recreation, Reading and Education index. A large part of the overall rise was moderated by the total effect of 0.2% declines in each of the indexes for Transportation, Clothing, and Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages.

Much of the increase in the Housing index came from an average annual rise of 3.0% in property taxes, which are normally recorded in October. This was the smallest increase in this type of tax in over a decade. The latest change represented movements in property taxes between October 1992 and October 1993. Comparable figures for 1991 and 1992 were 5.0% and 8.4% respectively. Changes at the provincial level for the past three years are shown in the table below:

#### Property Tax Index

	October 1990 to October 1991	October 1991 to October 1992	October 1992 to October 1993
	% change		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Newfoundland	0.8	18.3	0.6
Prince Edward Island	12.0	4.3	6.9
Nova Scotia	5.0	4.5	4.1
New Brunswick	5.7	2.7	4.1
Québec	6.1	6.6	1.7
Ontario	5.4	8.0	3.0
Manitoba	7.6	0.6	8.5
Saskatchewan	4.1	2.0	2.0
Alberta	7.4	6.0	4.0
British Columbia	-0.9	19.0	3.3

In October, rises in property taxes and in home maintenance and repair charges combined with a drop in mortgage interest costs resulted in an overall increase of 0.8% in the Owned Accommodation index. Prices also increased for rented accommodation, piped gas, basic telephone services, child care, pet food, paper products and household textiles. The impact of those price increases was partly offset by seasonal declines in hotel/motel rates and by a drop in the prices of furniture and kitchen utensils.

The Recreation, Reading and Education index increased 0.4%, largely because of a 0.6% increase in the Recreation component. Much of this was attributable to higher admission charges to hockey games, higher prices for toys and games, photographic equipment and home entertainment equipment and to increased fees for the use of recreational facilities.

Much of the 0.4% rise in the Health and Personal care index was due to a 0.6% increase in the Personal care index. Part of this increase reflected the recent rise in the Nova Scotia retail sales tax. The Health care index fell 0.1% as the prices of non-prescribed medicines declined 1.0%.

The 1.4% decline in gasoline prices—attributable largely to price wars in several cities of Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia—accounted for a large part of the decline in the Transportation index. The overall decline was also associated with seasonally lower fares for transportation by air and rail. A modest offsetting effect resulted from a 0.4% rise in vehicle maintenance and repair charges.

The 0.2% fall in the Clothing index followed increases of 0.5% in August and 0.2% in September. Moderate price increases, especially for seasonal items in October, were more than offset by price discounts for other clothing items. The Men's Wear index fell 0.5% due to lower prices for suits, furnishings and watches. The Women's Wear index declined 0.1% because of lower prices for pants, skirts, lingerie and jewellery.

The 0.2% decline in Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index resulted mainly from a 0.3% drop in the prices of alcoholic beverages purchased from stores.

Between October 1992 and October 1993, the All-items Excluding Food index increased 1.9%, a slightly lower rate of increase than the 2.0% rate observed in September. For the period from May to August 1993, the year-over-year rate of increase stood at about 1.7%.

### Consumer Price Index and major components (1986 = 100)

	October 1993	September 1993	October 1992	September 1993 to October 1993	October 1992 to October 1993
	unadjusted			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>130.9</b>	<b>130.7</b>	<b>128.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Food	122.4	122.2	120.6	0.2	1.5
Housing	128.7	128.4	127.0	0.2	1.3
Clothing	131.0	131.3	130.4	-0.2	0.5
Transportation	125.7	126.0	121.6	-0.2	3.4
Health and personal care	135.9	135.4	132.3	0.4	2.7
Recreation, reading and education	137.2	136.6	132.9	0.4	3.2
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	172.2	172.5	170.2	-0.2	1.2
All-items excluding food	132.8	132.6	130.3	0.2	1.9
All-items excluding food and energy	133.6	133.5	131.0	0.1	2.0
Goods	125.8	125.8	123.7	0.0	1.7
Services	137.0	136.6	134.3	0.3	2.0
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1986	76.4	76.5	77.8		
All-items (1981 = 100)	173.3				

## Energy

The Energy index fell 0.5% in October, following a rise of 0.4% in September. This decrease was partly caused by a 1.4% drop in gasoline prices. In contrast, the price of piped gas increased 1.6%. Between October 1992 and October 1993, the Energy index moved up 0.6%, after rising 1.0% in September.

## All-items excluding food and energy

The All-items Excluding Food and Energy index edged up 0.1% in October, after rising 0.3% in September. Between October 1992 and October 1993, the index increased 2.0%, down slightly from the 2.2% rise in September.

## Goods and services

In October, the Goods index remained at the same level as in September. Both the indexes for Durables and Semi-durables were unchanged in October, while the index for Non-durables fell 0.1%. At the same time the Services index climbed 0.3%, the same rate as in September.

Between October 1992 and October 1993, the Goods index was up 1.7%, marginally higher than the 1.6% rise in September. During the same period, the Services index rose 2.0%, down slightly from the 2.2% rise in September.

## City highlights

Among the cities for which CPIs are published, changes in the All-items indexes varied from a drop of 0.4% in Calgary to a rise of 0.9% in Halifax. In Calgary, major declines were observed in the Food, Housing, and Transportation indexes. In Halifax, all major component indexes recorded higher than average price increases except the Clothing index. The rise in Nova Scotia's provincial sales tax from 10% to 11% was an important factor behind those increases.

Between October 1992 and October 1993, increases in the All-items indexes for cities fluctuated between a low of 0.7% in Montréal to a high of 3.6% in Vancouver.

## Main contributors to monthly changes in the all-items index, by city

### St. John's

The All-items index fell 0.2%. The greatest downward pressure came from a drop in the Housing index, where lower prices were recorded for fuel oil, household operating expenses and mortgage interest costs. These declines were partly offset by advances in the prices of household furnishings and equipment and a rise in property taxes. Further downward pressure came from lower transportation charges, most notably for gasoline and for air and bus travel. Partly offsetting these declines were higher food prices, particularly for fresh vegetables, dairy products, beef, cereal and bakery products and cured meats. Higher clothing prices also had a major upward impact. Advances in charges for spectator entertainment, fees for health facilities and personal care supplies were recorded as well. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.9%.

### Charlottetown/Summerside

Advances in the Housing, Food and Clothing indexes accounted for most of the 0.6% rise in the All-items index. Within the Housing index, higher property taxes were recorded along with higher charges for household operation, electricity and rented accommodation. The Food index advanced due to higher prices for cereal and bakery products, soft drinks, chicken, and fresh produce. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for personal care supplies and for recreational equipment. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.5%.

### Halifax

The All-items index rose 0.9%. A large part of the advance reflected the increase in the provincial retail sales tax from 10% to 11%. Increased charges for electricity were reported, as the former tax of 50 cents per month was replaced with a tax of 3%. Higher property taxes were also noted. A rise in the Food index had a major upward impact and reflected higher prices for fresh produce, restaurant meals, cereal and bakery products, beef and pork. Gasoline prices rose, following a two cents per litre tax increase. Further upward pressure came from increased recreational charges, higher prices for personal care supplies and price increases for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.1%.

## Saint John

Higher food prices—most notably for beef, cereal and bakery products, fresh produce, chicken and restaurant meals—were a major factor in the 0.3% rise in the All-items index. Increased recreational expenses were also recorded, particularly for home entertainment equipment, fees for health facilities and spectator entertainment. A further upward influence came from the Housing index, which reflected higher prices for household furnishings and equipment, increased household operating expenses and a rise in property taxes. These advances were partly offset by lower prices for clothing, gasoline, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.4%.

## Québec

The All-items index rose 0.2%. Among the main contributors were increased housing charges (property taxes, child care, and household furnishings) and higher recreation costs (spectator entertainment, recreation equipment and fees for health facilities). Further upward pressure came from higher prices for personal care supplies, prescribed medicines and non-prescribed medicines. The Food index also rose, as higher prices for fresh vegetables, beef, bakery products and dairy products were only partly offset by lower prices for poultry, fresh fruit, soft drinks and prepared meats. Dampening the overall advance were lower prices for gasoline, women's wear, girls' wear and alcoholic beverages. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.0%.

## Montréal

The All-items index fell 0.2%, reflecting declines in four of the seven major component indexes. The greatest downward pressure came from the Transportation index, where price declines were recorded for gasoline and air travel. Price drops for home entertainment equipment and recreation equipment also had a notable downward impact. Further downward pressure came from lower prices for alcoholic beverages, women's wear and girls' wear. The Food index remained unchanged overall, as higher prices for fresh produce, bakery products and soft drinks were completely offset by lower prices for beef, poultry, cured and prepared meats and dairy products. The Housing index was also unchanged, as advances in property taxes, household textile prices, child care expenses, and fuel oil prices were completely offset by declines in furniture prices,

traveller accommodation charges and household equipment costs. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 0.7%.

## Ottawa

The All-items index rose 0.1%. Higher housing charges were the major upward influence, and reflected price increases for property taxes, rented accommodation, household equipment and household textiles. The Food index remained unchanged overall, as higher prices for fresh vegetables, beef, cereal and bakery products, pork and restaurant meals were offset by lower prices for soft drinks, dairy products, prepared meats, turkey and fresh fruit. Four of the seven major component indexes declined, with the greatest downward influence from the Transportation index (gasoline and air fares). Further downward pressure came from lower prices for personal care supplies, clothing, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.9%.

## Toronto

The All-items index rose 0.2%. The greatest upward impact came from the Housing index, where advances were reported for property taxes, new house prices, rented accommodation and household operation costs. A rise in the Food index was also recorded, which reflected higher prices for beef, pork, bakery products, chicken, fresh produce and restaurant meals. Higher recreational expenses (recreation equipment, home entertainment equipment, fees for health facilities and admission to hockey games) were also reported. Charges for personal care supplies rose, too. Price declines for men's wear, gasoline and air travel had a dampening effect. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.8%.

## Thunder Bay

The All-items index fell 0.1%, reflecting declines in four of the seven major component indexes. The greatest downward influence came from the Transportation index, where declines were recorded for gasoline, rail fares and air fares. Decreased charges for non-prescribed medicines, personal care supplies and clothing were reported as well. The Food index also declined, largely due to lower prices for fresh vegetables, bread, cured meats, 2% milk, and soft drinks. The Housing index advanced,

reflecting increased charges for owned accommodation (partly due to higher property taxes) and increased prices for household furnishings and equipment. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.0%.

### Winnipeg

Advances in property taxes and food prices (fresh produce, beef, chicken, pork and restaurant meals) largely explained the 0.4% rise in the All-items index. Further upward pressure came from increased recreation charges, most notably for recreation equipment, spectator entertainment and fees for health facilities. Increased charges for personal care supplies were recorded as well. Partly offsetting these advances were price declines for rail fares, gasoline, air fares and clothing. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.9%.

### Regina

Increased charges for property taxes and basic telephone services and a rise in the Food index (most notably for beef, pork, bakery products, prepared meats and restaurant meals) largely explained the 0.2% rise in the All-items index. Increased charges were also recorded for personal care supplies, non-prescribed medicines, recreational expenses and cigarettes. Moderating these advances were lower prices for clothing and for train and air travel. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 3.1%.

### Saskatoon

Despite declines in four of the seven major component indexes, the All-items index rose 0.4%. A large part of the upward movement was due to higher prices for gasoline, basic telephone services, property taxes and rented accommodation. Increased recreation charges were also reported. Moderating the overall advance were lower prices for clothing, personal care supplies, non-prescribed medicines, and fresh produce. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.9%.

### Edmonton

The All-items index rose 0.1%. The greatest upward impact came from the Housing index, where advances were reported for property taxes, rented accommodation and household furnishings and equipment. Increased charges for personal care supplies, higher recreation expenses and a rise in gasoline prices also had a notable upward impact.

Moderating these advances were lower prices for women's wear, poultry, fresh vegetables, dairy products and alcoholic beverages. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 0.9%.

### Calgary

Declines in five of the seven major component indexes resulted in a drop of 0.4% in the All-items index. The Housing index declined as decreased charges for traveller accommodation and lower prices for household furnishings and equipment more than offset increased property taxes and a rise in rented accommodation costs. Price declines for fresh vegetables and poultry caused the Food index to fall, while lower prices for gasoline, lower rail fares and lower air fares caused the Transportation index to drop. Prices for women's wear and alcoholic beverages declined as well. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.5%.

### Vancouver

No overall change was recorded in the All-items index, as a number of offsetting effects took place. The greatest upward impact came from the Housing index, where prices increased for property taxes, household furnishings and rented accommodation. Increased recreational charges were also noted, particularly for spectator entertainment, recreation equipment and fees for health facilities. Further upward pressure came from higher prices for vehicle maintenance and repairs (provincial retail sales tax applied to labour), gasoline and personal care supplies. Offsetting these advances were lower prices for food (particularly for poultry, fresh produce, dairy products, and cereal and bakery products), alcoholic beverages and cigarettes. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 3.6%.

### Victoria

Among the main contributors to the 0.2% drop in the All-items index were lower transportation charges (gasoline, rail fares and air fares) and decreased food prices (fresh vegetables, chicken, soft drinks and beef). Prices for alcoholic beverages declined as well. Partly offsetting these declines were increased charges for personal care supplies and non-prescribed medicines, higher recreation expenses (spectator entertainment and fees for health facilities) and increased housing costs (property taxes, rented accommodation, child care and furniture). Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 2.9%.

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## Whitehorse

Higher food prices (particularly for cereal and bakery products, beef, chicken, cured and prepared meats, and pork) were among the main contributors to the 0.1% rise in the All-items index. Recreation equipment prices rose as did fees for health facilities. Increased charges for owned accommodation, household operation and household equipment also had a notable upward impact. Partly offsetting these advances were lower prices for women's wear and men's wear, decreased fares for air and rail travel, and lower prices for personal care supplies. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 3.2%.

## Yellowknife

Among the main contributors to the 0.4% rise in the All-items index were higher prices for cigarettes and food (fresh produce, cereal and bakery products and restaurant meals). Owned accommodation charges increased along with recreation equipment prices. Partly offsetting these declines were lower prices for women's wear and decreased fares for train and air travel. Since October 1992, the All-items index has risen 1.7%.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 2201-2230.**

The October 1993 issue of *Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$9.30/\$93) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Shadlock (613-951-9606), Prices Division. □

### Consumer price indexes for urban centres

The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.<sup>1</sup>

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
<b>St. John's</b>								
October 1993 index	124.9	118.4	118.6	133.7	120.7	129.6	136.9	152.0
% change from September 1993	-0.2	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1
% change from October 1992	1.9	2.8	-0.4	1.2	2.6	2.1	4.9	5.3
<b>Charlottetown/Summerside</b>								
October 1993 index	130.4	129.2	122.2	130.1	119.3	141.3	136.1	193.3
% change from September 1993	0.6	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.2	0.0
% change from October 1992	2.5	3.4	1.6	4.0	1.2	3.6	3.1	3.5
<b>Halifax</b>								
October 1993 index	128.6	129.4	121.3	128.6	121.7	131.4	134.2	175.1
% change from September 1993	0.9	1.3	0.9	-0.9	0.7	1.2	1.4	0.7
% change from October 1992	2.1	1.6	1.8	0.9	3.0	0.6	4.3	1.6
<b>Saint John</b>								
October 1993 index	127.3	126.4	121.0	132.5	121.2	133.6	131.3	171.6
% change from September 1993	0.3	1.4	0.2	-0.7	-0.2	0.3	1.2	-0.3
% change from October 1992	1.4	1.1	0.5	3.0	2.5	1.3	3.5	0.2
<b>Québec</b>								
October 1993 index	129.2	117.9	128.2	135.4	117.8	138.0	140.3	168.3
% change from September 1993	0.2	0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.7	0.7	-0.2
% change from October 1992	1.0	0.1	0.6	0.3	2.3	1.8	3.0	-0.6
<b>Montréal</b>								
October 1993 index	130.8	118.4	131.1	135.7	119.7	137.2	143.0	174.2
% change from September 1993	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
% change from October 1992	0.7	-0.3	0.4	0.3	1.8	2.3	2.1	0.8
<b>Ottawa</b>								
October 1993 index	130.9	124.8	128.9	130.7	126.1	140.9	135.3	165.5
% change from September 1993	0.1	0.0	0.5	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.1
% change from October 1992	1.9	3.1	1.5	0.5	2.7	2.5	3.1	-0.6
<b>Toronto</b>								
October 1993 index	132.4	124.1	131.8	129.1	128.8	139.5	137.9	165.4
% change from September 1993	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.6	0.4	-0.1
% change from October 1992	1.8	2.0	1.4	-0.6	3.6	2.8	3.0	0.5
<b>Thunder Bay</b>								
October 1993 index	129.8	120.0	127.7	133.1	126.9	129.1	135.3	171.0
% change from September 1993	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.9	0.2	0.0
% change from October 1992	2.0	0.3	1.3	2.5	4.1	1.8	3.4	0.5
<b>Winnipeg</b>								
October 1993 index	131.0	130.5	125.6	132.6	125.8	135.3	140.1	164.6
% change from September 1993	0.4	0.6	0.9	-0.2	-0.3	0.6	0.6	0.0
% change from October 1992	2.9	3.7	1.8	2.4	4.3	3.8	4.5	0.5
<b>Regina</b>								
October 1993 index	132.2	132.1	121.1	139.0	132.4	146.7	135.2	177.4
% change from September 1993	0.2	0.7	0.3	-0.4	-0.1	1.0	0.1	0.1
% change from October 1992	3.1	3.4	1.9	7.5	3.0	3.4	3.8	1.5



# Consumer price indexes for urban centres – Concluded

The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.<sup>1</sup>

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and Personal care	Recreation Reading and Education	Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
<b>Saskatoon</b>								
October 1993 index	130.7	130.3	121.1	138.0	125.9	157.0	134.5	164.1
% change from September 1993	0.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	1.4	-0.4	0.4	-0.1
% change from October 1992	2.9	2.4	1.8	7.5	2.8	2.0	3.9	2.5
<b>Edmonton</b>								
October 1993 index	128.0	113.3	124.8	127.6	126.4	131.9	137.6	182.5
% change from September 1993	0.1	-0.2	0.3	-0.6	0.2	1.1	0.4	-0.2
% change from October 1992	0.9	-5.0	1.8	-0.2	3.9	1.1	3.6	0.8
<b>Calgary</b>								
October 1993 index	128.4	117.9	123.6	128.6	123.7	132.4	138.0	182.2
% change from September 1993	-0.4	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	0.3	0.7	-0.2
% change from October 1992	1.5	-2.4	1.6	0.0	3.9	3.1	4.2	1.4
<b>Vancouver</b>								
October 1993 index	132.9	130.5	126.6	127.5	137.5	129.9	136.2	171.2
% change from September 1993	0.0	-0.8	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.6	-0.5
% change from October 1992	3.6	3.0	2.3	1.8	6.7	3.9	4.4	4.0
<b>Victoria</b>								
October 1993 index	131.0	129.3	123.9	129.0	133.4	131.1	134.3	170.4
% change from September 1993	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.7	1.5	0.1	-0.4
% change from October 1992	2.9	2.9	1.9	2.3	4.5	4.5	3.1	3.5
<b>Whitehorse</b>								
October 1993 index	127.0	121.8	125.4	129.7	116.3	128.3	126.9	165.5
% change from September 1993	0.1	0.8	0.1	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	0.3	0.1
% change from October 1992	3.2	4.9	1.8	1.2	2.8	1.3	1.0	10.4
<b>Yellowknife</b>								
October 1993 index	127.1	119.0	120.8	132.5	121.1	125.0	132.1	169.4
% change from September 1993	0.4	0.8	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.4	1.6
% change from October 1992	1.7	3.5	-0.1	0.4	2.9	3.2	3.4	2.5

<sup>1</sup> For inter-city indexes of retail price differentials, refer to Table 23 of the July-September 1992 issue of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (62-010, \$17.25/\$69.00).

## Wholesale Trade

September 1993 (Preliminary)

Seasonally adjusted, wholesale merchants' sales increased 1.9% to \$17.3 billion in September. This marked the fifth consecutive monthly increase in sales.

### Sales

Except for sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories, which were down slightly (-0.1%), September's increase stemmed from sales gains for all other trade groups. The largest increase (in dollar value) was in other machinery, equipment and supplies, up 3.6% from the previous month. Within this trade group, higher sales of commodities such as computers and related machinery, equipment and packaged software and sales of other electronic machinery, equipment and supplies dominated the overall growth.

Wholesale merchants of lumber and building materials (+3.3%), suppliers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products (+1.1%) and metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (+3.5%) also reported sizeable increases for September.

Eight of the provinces and the territories experienced higher sales. In dollar terms, British Columbia's wholesalers registered the strongest growth, up \$111 million from August (+4.6%). Other

### Note to users

*Wholesalers interact with various sectors of the economy both in buying and selling goods. More specifically, wholesalers purchase through a network of importers, manufacturers and other wholesalers. They sell to other wholesalers, retailers, household consumers, industrial and commercial users, and to foreign markets.*

strong increases were recorded in Quebec (+1.6%) and Ontario (+1.4%); however, lower sales were registered in Saskatchewan (-2.1%) and Manitoba (-1.5%).

### Inventories

Inventories of wholesale merchants totalled \$25.8 billion in September, up 0.4% from the revised August level.

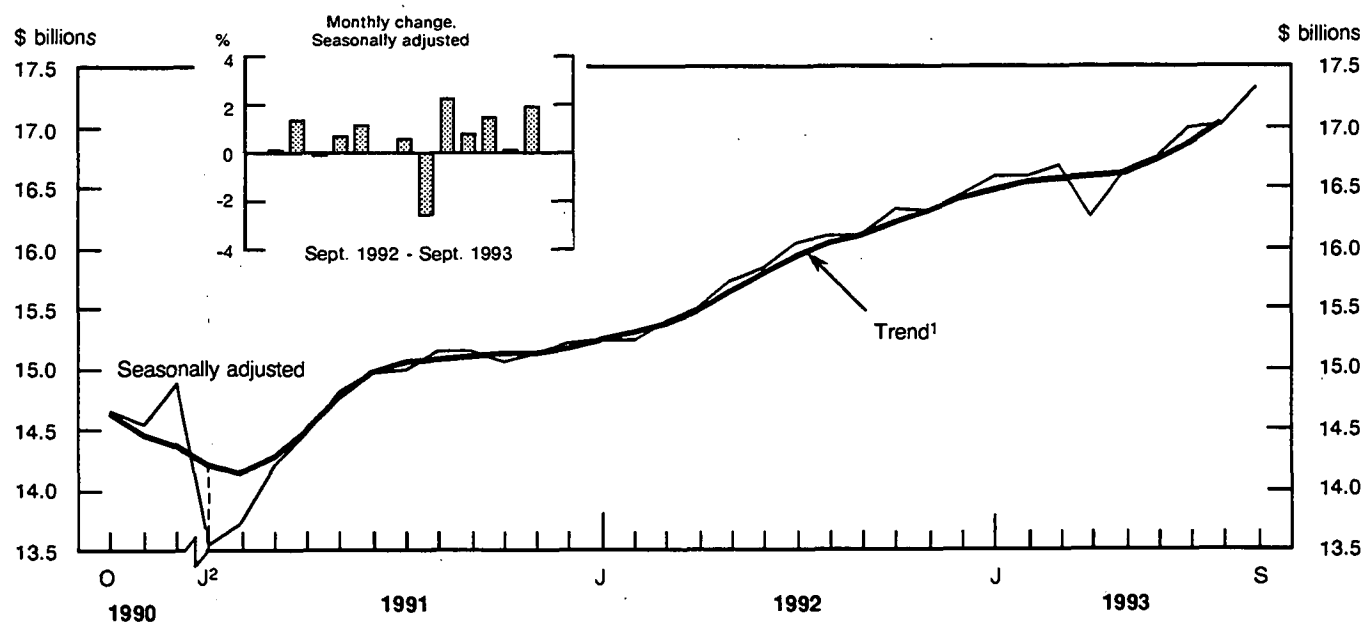
The inventories/sales ratio at the end of September fell to 1.49/1, from 1.51/1 in August.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, 648 and 649.**

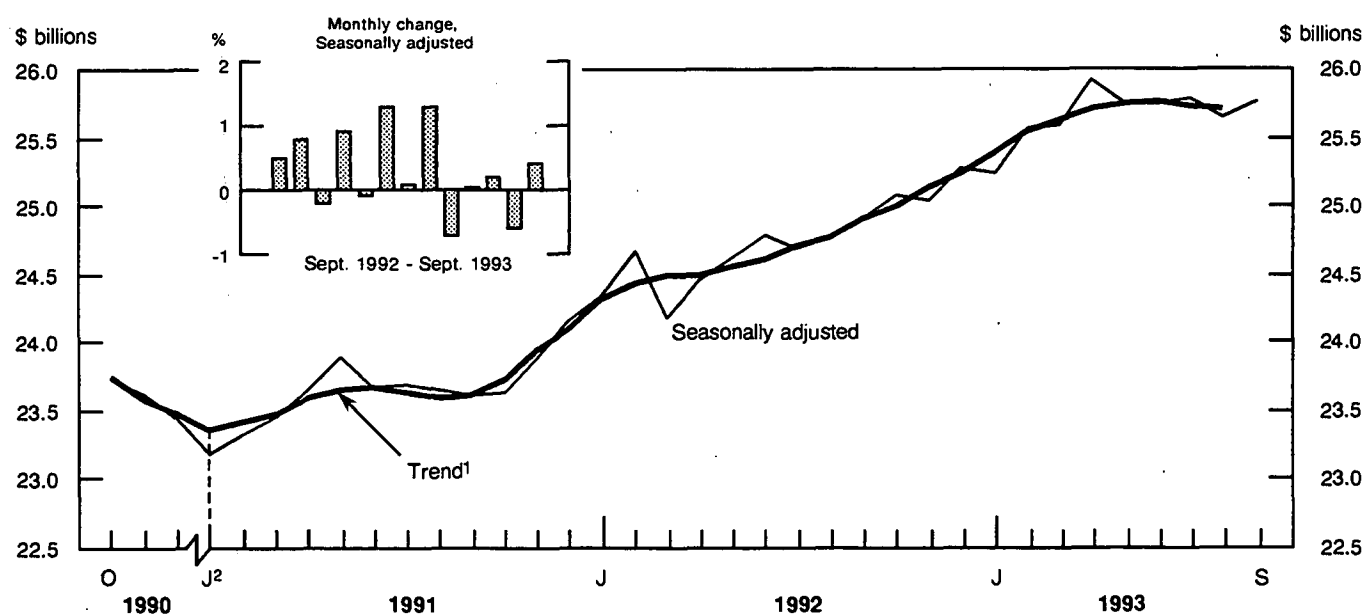
The September issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$14.40/\$144) will be available the second week of December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540) or Gilles Simard (613-951-3541), Industry Division. □

## Wholesale merchants' sales



## Wholesale merchants' inventories



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

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

# Wholesale merchants' sales

Trade group	Sept. 1992	Aug. 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1993P	Sept. 1992 to Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	June 1993 <sup>r</sup>	July 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Aug. 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1993P	Aug. 1993 to Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992 to Sept. 1993	
	\$ millions				\$ millions				% change			
	unadjusted				seasonally adjusted							
Canada												
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	4,433	4,476	4,667	5.3	4,232	4,481	4,459	4,402	4,451	1.1	5.2	
Apparel and dry goods	481	598	545	13.3	393	438	432	445	449	0.8	14.3	
Household goods	689	608	701	1.6	584	591	599	582	591	1.5	1.1	
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,890	1,833	2,053	8.6	1,750	1,835	1,876	1,900	1,898	-0.1	8.5	
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating, equipment and supplies	1,189	1,256	1,344	13.0	1,127	1,174	1,204	1,214	1,256	3.5	11.4	
Lumber and building materials	1,674	1,806	1,871	11.7	1,482	1,532	1,570	1,582	1,634	3.3	10.3	
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	359	435	415	15.4	349	365	371	380	386	1.7	10.5	
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,834	3,628	4,143	8.1	3,705	3,678	3,762	3,824	3,964	3.6	7.0	
Other products	2,565	2,568	2,769	7.9	2,485	2,661	2,724	2,690	2,705	0.6	8.9	
Total, all trades	17,116	17,208	18,507	8.1	16,107	16,755	16,997	17,018	17,334	1.9	7.6	
Provinces and territories												
Newfoundland	192	186	195	1.4	172	171	176	173	173	0.1	0.6	
Prince Edward Island	44	38	39	-12.7	44	41	39	36	38	6.2	-13.5	
Nova Scotia	355	379	404	14.0	340	366	374	371	388	4.5	14.0	
New Brunswick	250	252	263	5.1	231	234	237	235	244	4.0	5.7	
Quebec	4,439	4,281	4,589	3.4	4,034	3,998	4,080	4,046	4,112	1.6	1.9	
Ontario	7,058	6,995	7,615	7.9	6,691	6,945	7,020	7,077	7,177	1.4	7.3	
Manitoba	579	569	573	-1.1	560	585	600	563	555	-1.5	-1.0	
Saskatchewan	529	561	545	3.1	481	519	516	523	512	-2.1	6.5	
Alberta	1,501	1,591	1,663	10.8	1,447	1,546	1,569	1,583	1,613	1.9	11.5	
British Columbia	2,140	2,333	2,595	21.3	2,081	2,330	2,364	2,389	2,500	4.6	20.2	
Yukon and Northwest Territories	28	24	27	-5.5	26	21	21	21	22	3.2	-13.8	

# Wholesale merchants' inventories

Trade group	Sept. 1992	Aug. 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1993P	Sept. 1992 to Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992	June 1993 <sup>r</sup>	July 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Aug. 1993 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1993P	Aug. 1993 to Sept. 1993	Sept. 1992 to Sept. 1993	
	\$ millions				% change		\$ millions				% change	
	unadjusted				seasonally adjusted							
Canada												
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,160	3,318	3,292	4.2	3,100	3,299	3,319	3,291	3,263	-0.9	5.2	
Apparel and dry goods	883	1,064	1,032	16.9	900	1,004	1,019	1,025	1,046	2.0	16.2	
Household goods	1,229	1,353	1,309	6.5	1,229	1,301	1,375	1,353	1,309	-3.3	6.5	
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,550	3,603	3,582	0.9	3,562	3,723	3,695	3,692	3,643	-1.3	2.3	
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating, equipment and supplies	2,166	2,230	2,258	4.3	2,158	2,139	2,161	2,189	2,237	2.2	3.7	
Lumber and building materials	2,343	2,554	2,637	12.5	2,403	2,622	2,588	2,596	2,719	4.7	13.1	
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,279	1,211	1,146	-10.4	1,326	1,234	1,239	1,219	1,197	-1.8	-9.7	
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7,043	7,022	6,957	-1.2	7,067	7,076	7,085	6,997	6,998	--	-1.0	
Other products	3,109	3,208	3,319	6.8	3,149	3,346	3,314	3,291	3,353	1.9	6.5	
Total, all trades	24,762	25,563	25,531	3.1	24,895	25,745	25,796	25,654	25,764	0.4	3.5	

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures.

- Amount too small to be expressed.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Financial Statistics of Education

1989-1990

Spending on education totalled \$45 billion in 1989-1990, a 6.1% increase from the previous year. This was the second lowest increase since 1980-81 (+5.1% in 1987-88).

As a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), education spending reached 6.9% in 1989-1990. This was the second consecutive year when this percentage fell below 7.0%.

The three levels of government provided 91% of total spending on education. The remaining 9.0% was covered by tuition fees and other sources.

The percentage of government total budgetary spending allocated to education remained around 14.0% between 1985-86 and 1989-1990. In 1973-74, the percentage was 18.7%.

Spending on elementary and secondary education rose from \$26.7 billion to \$28.3 billion in 1989-1990, a 6.0% increase from the previous year. These expenditures accounted for 63.5% of total spending on education, 2.3 percentage points less than in 1981-82.

School board expenditures increased at an average annual rate of 7.2% between 1985 and 1989, to total \$18.4 billion. This represented 86.2% of expenditures on elementary and secondary education, the highest proportion in at least 10 years. In constant dollars (1986=100), the average rate of increase in expenditures during this period was 3.2%.

Spending on postsecondary education rose by 7.4% from the previous year to total \$12.7 billion. This was the largest increase since 1984-85. Spending on the university sector accounted for 65% of total expenditures on postsecondary education, or \$8.3 billion.

Spending on vocational training increased by 2.9% in 1989-1990 to total \$3.5 billion. It accounted for 8.0% of total spending on education, a decline of 0.8 percentage points since 1986-87.

*Financial Statistics of Education, 1989-90* (81-208, \$39) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information, contact Anne Drolet (613-951-1668) or François Gendron (613-951-1509), Finance Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. ■

### Basic Summary Tabulations

1991 Census

The *1991 Census 2B Basic Summary Tabulations* are a series of 47 tables based on data collected from a 20% sample of households. Each table features two or more inter-related variables about the population and their dwellings. The data are aggregated for a variety of standard geographical areas, extending from the country as a whole to enumeration areas—the building blocks for all higher geographic levels.

The following tables are now available:

- Q9101 Employed labour force 15 years and over by place of residence and sex(3), showing place of work [for each census subdivision (CSD) of residence by each CSD of work in each province, and in neighbouring province for CSDs in cross-provincial census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations];
- Q9102 Employed labour force 15 years and over by occupation major groups (based on the 1980 classification)(23), age groups(7) and sex(3), showing place of work [for each CSD of residence (CSD 5,000+) by each CSD of work];
- Q9103 Employed labour force 15 years and over by industry divisions (based on the 1980 classification)(19), age groups(7) and sex(3), showing place of work [for each CSD of residence (CSD 5,000+) by each CSD of work].

These tables are offered on magnetic tape and are available at the following geographic levels: census divisions and subdivisions, census metropolitan areas/census agglomerations, census tracts, federal electoral districts and enumeration areas. The diskette version will be available in two weeks.

To order, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. ■

## Production, Shipments and Stocks of Sawmills East of the Rockies

September 1993

Production of lumber in sawmills east of the Rockies increased 18.2% to 2 348 858 cubic metres in September 1993, from 1 987 150 cubic metres after revisions in September 1992.

Stocks on hand at the end of September 1993 totalled 2 663 875 cubic metres, up 5.3% from 2 530 107 cubic metres in September 1992.

At the end of September 1993, year-to-date production totalled 19 145 058 cubic metres, up 15.6% from 16 568 310 cubic metres after revisions for the same period in 1992.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2) and 122 (series 2).**

The September 1993 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies* (35-002, \$10/\$100) will be available later.

For detailed information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

## Shipments of Rolled Steel

September 1993

Rolled steel shipments for September 1993 totalled 1 281 807 tonnes, up 17.5% from 1 090 857 tonnes in August 1993 and up 19.7% from 1 070 885 tonnes in September 1992.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of September 1993 totalled 10 241 783 tonnes, up 13.6% from 9 012 926 tonnes the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22 to 25).**

The September 1993 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For detailed information on this release, contact  
Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

## Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers

October 1993

Domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 186 049 thousand square metres in October 1993, up 10.6% from 168 205<sup>r</sup> (revised) thousand square metres a year earlier.

For January to October 1993, domestic shipments totalled 1 833 059 thousand square metres, up 10.1% from 1 664 256<sup>r</sup> thousand square metres for the same period in 1992.

The October 1993 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

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

## Processed Fruits And Vegetables


September 1993

**Data on processed fruits and vegetables for September 1993 are now available.**

**Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, Monthly (32-011, \$5/\$50) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".**

For further information, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

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# The Daily

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**Friday, September 14, 1992**  
For issues at 2:00 p.m.

**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Laborer Force Survey, August 1992**  
The unemployment rate was 6.2 in August 1992. 2
- **Export Payments: Prices Received, July 1992**  
The Farm Product Price Index rose 0.2% in July. The major index registered no change since July 1992, but the livestock and poultry processors have showed significant price increases since July 1992. 3
- **Automotive Statistics of Saskatchewan, 1992-94**  
Sales of 1992-94, covering all categories in light-duty segment has risen from 226.3 million in 1991 to 248.1 million in 1992-94. The S.E.V. segment from 1989-92 rose the strongest. 6



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**DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**


Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area, July 1992	7
Steel Products, Prices, Values, Sales, September 1, 1992	7
Consumer Confidence, 14-day Period (ending August 7), 1992	7
Automotive Operations Summary, June 1992	8
Change and Cumulative Statistics, July 1992	8
Oil and Gas Field July 1992	9
Canadian Mining Production, September, June 1992	9

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**MAJOR RELEASE DATES: Week of September 13-17** 11



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Canada

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,**  
October 1993.

**Catalogue number 32-022**

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

**Electric Lamps (light bulbs and tubes),**  
October 1993.

**Catalogue number 43-009**

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

**Refined Petroleum Products, August 1993.**

**Catalogue number 45-004**

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

**Consumer Price Index, October 1993.**

**Catalogue number 62-001**

(Canada: \$9.30/\$93; United States: US\$11.20/  
US\$112; Other Countries: US\$13/US\$130).

**Available at 7:00 a.m. today.**

**Financial Statistics of Education,**  
1989-1990 Last Edition.

**Catalogue number 81-208**

(Canada: \$39; United States: US\$47;  
Other Countries: US\$55).

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