

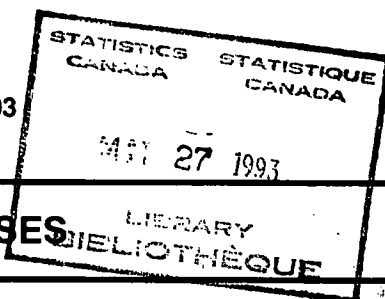


The Daily

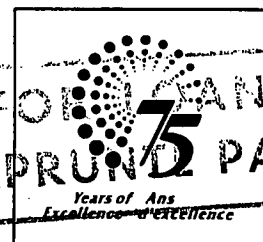
Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 27, 1993

For release at 8:30 a.m.



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MAJOR RELEASES

- International Travel Account, First Quarter 1993** 2
 On a seasonally adjusted basis, the deficit decreased 2.7% from the preceding quarter. This marks the second consecutive improvement in the travel deficit, which has, over the long term, maintained a generally downward trend.
- Industrial Product Price Index, April 1993** 4
 The year-over-year change in the index was 3.9% in April, up from the 3.6% year-over-year change in March; however, the index remained unchanged from March's revised level of 112.3.
- Raw Materials Price Index, April 1993** 6
 The index posted a 1.5% increase for April 1993, mainly because of the 6.2% rise in the wood index. Since April 1992, the index has risen 11.2% again led by a 37.7% increase in the wood index.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Telephone Statistics, March 1993 7
- Electric Power Selling Price Indexes, January-April 1993 7

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

8



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MAJOR RELEASES

International Travel Account

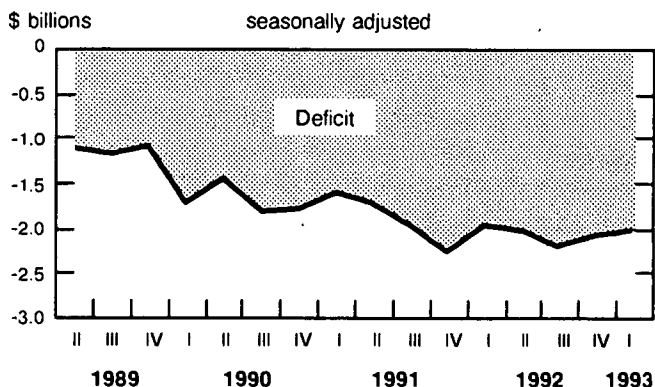
First Quarter 1993 (Preliminary)

International travel transactions produced a seasonally adjusted deficit of \$2.0 billion (in current dollars) during the first quarter of 1993, a decrease of 2.7% from the preceding quarter. Receipts from non-residents and from Canadians' foreign expenditures both decreased. This marks the second consecutive improvement in the travel deficit, which has, over the long term, maintained a generally downward trend.

Receipts from the United States were relatively stable compared with the preceding quarter at \$1.2 billion, while receipts from all other countries decreased 3.2% to \$834 million.

Total payments decreased as expenditures in the United States by Canadian residents dropped 3.8% from the previous quarter to \$2.7 billion. This decrease outweighed the 1.7% increase in payments to all other countries, which amounted to \$1.3 billion. The recent downtrend in payments to the United States follows an uptrend that spanned more than 20 years.

Travel Account Balance



The January-March 1993 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$38.50/\$154) will be available in July 1993. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Ruth McMillan (613-951-1791), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division. □

International Travel Receipts and Payments

	1992 ^P				1993 ^P	
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total	First Quarter
\$ millions						
seasonally adjusted ^a						
United States						
Receipts	1,170	1,170	1,146	1,151	4,637	1,150
Payments	2,742	2,731	2,945	2,832	11,250	2,724
Balance	-1,572	-1,561	-1,799	-1,681	-6,613	-1,574
All other countries						
Receipts	869	844	860	862	3,435	834
Payments	1,269	1,299	1,280	1,267	5,114	1,289
Balance	-400	-455	-419	-405	-1,679	-455
Total, all countries						
Receipts	2,039	2,014	2,006	2,013	8,072	1,984
Payments	4,011	4,030	4,225	4,099	16,364	4,013
Balance	-1,972	-2,016	-2,219	-2,086	-8,292	-2,029
unadjusted						
United States						
Receipts	578	1,227	2,101	731	4,637	574
Payments	3,054	2,871	3,005	2,320	11,250	2,945
Balance	-2,476	-1,644	-904	-1,589	-6,613	-2,371
All other countries						
Receipts	474	913	1,516	532	3,435	458
Payments	1,385	1,207	1,441	1,081	5,114	1,405
Balance	-911	-294	75	-549	-1,679	-947
Total, all countries						
Receipts	1,052	2,140	3,617	1,263	8,072	1,032
Payments	4,439	4,078	4,446	3,401	16,364	4,350
Balance	-3,387	-1,938	-829	-2,138	-8,292	-3,318

^a Seasonally adjusted data may not add to totals due to rounding.^P Preliminary figures.

Industrial Product Price Index

April 1993 (Preliminary)

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI, 1986=100) remained unchanged at March's revised level of 112.3. Indexes for 13 of the 21 major product groups increased, four decreased and four did not change.

The most significant changes were in lumber, sawmill and other wood products (-2.8%), automobiles, trucks and other transport equipment (+0.6%) and chemicals and chemical products (-0.6%). Important changes were noted in primary metal products (-0.5%), paper and paper products (+0.7%) and in meat, fish, and dairy products (+0.5%).

During April, the value of the U.S. dollar rose 1.2%, increasing the value of export prices quoted in U.S. dollars. This particularly affected automobiles, trucks, and other transport equipment. Compared to April 1992, the U.S. dollar was up 6.9%.

Wood Products Index Up Sharply from April 1992

The IPPI was 3.9% higher in April 1993 than in April 1992. This year-to-year change was higher than in March and February, but still lower than the 4.3% increase in January.

Over the last 12 months, the most significant price increases were in lumber, sawmill and other wood products (+31.9%), autos, trucks, and other transport equipment (+6.4%), meat, fish, and dairy products (+4.7%) and petroleum and coal products (+6.7%). The only significant decrease was in primary metal products (-2.2%). Excluding petroleum and coal products, the IPPI rose 3.8% on a year-over-year basis.

The intermediate goods index has fluctuated between 110.0 and 110.8 since January 1993, while the finished goods index has fluctuated between 114.0 and 114.6 since November 1992. In April, first-stage intermediate goods slipped 0.7% from the previous month and fell 2.1% from the previous year. Second-stage intermediate goods remained unchanged from the previous month but rose 6.1% from the previous year.

The three finished goods indexes all posted monthly and yearly increases. The monthly increases ranged from +0.2% for finished foods and feeds to +0.5% for capital equipment. The yearly increases ranged from +2.2% for finished foods and feeds to +4.1% for capital equipment.

Lumber, sawmill and other wood products declined 2.8% in April, after five consecutive monthly increases, but was still 31.9% higher than in April 1992.

This decline was primarily because of a 5.3% decline in softwood prices. Softwood lumber prices fell the most in the Prairies, Quebec and in the Atlantic provinces (prices declined by more than 10%) and fell the least in British Columbia (-1.6%).

Even softwood prices on the B.C. coast rose by 2.7%, as hemlock and fir prices more than recovered from March's decline and as Douglas fir and western red cedar prices continued to climb. For the last few months, B.C. softwood prices have been leading the Canadian softwood lumber market.

Automobiles, trucks and other transportation equipment rose 0.6% in April and stood 6.4% higher than a year before, primarily because of increases in automobile and truck prices. A contributing factor was the effect of the value of the Canadian dollar on export prices.

Domestic automobile prices rose 0.3% from March 1993 and rose 4.3% from April 1992, while export prices rose 1.2% from March 1993 and 8.7% from April 1992. Similarly, domestic truck prices showed no increase from March 1993 and a 6.1% increase from April 1992, while export truck prices increased 1.2% from March 1993 and 11.0% from April 1992.

Chemicals and chemical products slipped 0.6% from March 1993, but still stood 1.1% higher than in April 1992. Downward pressure from March to April came mostly from organic chemicals (-3.7%), while, from April 1992 to April 1993, the upward lift came from synthetic resins (+4.3%).

Primary metal products slipped 0.5% from March 1993 - the third consecutive monthly decline - because of declines for copper and copper alloy products (-5.0), nickel products (-2.4%) and aluminum products (-1.3%). The April primary metal products index has been lower than in the previous April for the last four years.

Overall, the primary metal products index fell in April 1992 (-2.2%), April 1991 (-8.4%), April 1990 (-12.4%) and April 1989 (-24.6%). Since April 1989, declines have been recorded in prices for iron and steel (-9.1%), aluminum products (-38.9%), copper and copper alloy products (-28.8%), nickel products (-68.6%) and other nonferrous metal products (-25.1%).

Meat, fish, and dairy products rose for the sixteenth consecutive month (+0.5%), primarily because of a 0.7% increase in beef and veal prices and a 0.9% increase in pork prices. The index has risen 7.1% from January 1990, primarily because of slow but steady price increases for these meats. Since January 1990, pork prices have risen 23.4% and beef and veal prices have risen 14.1%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The April 1993 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$18.20/\$182) will be available at the end of June. 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	April 1992	March 1993 ^r	April 1993 ^p	April 1992 to April 1993	March 1993 to April 1993
% change						
Industrial Product Price Index – Total	100.0	108.1	112.3	112.3	3.9	0.0
Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	93.6	109.6	113.7	113.8	3.8*	0.0
Intermediate goods	60.4	106.3	111.0	110.8	4.2	-0.2
First-stage intermediate goods	13.4	103.8	102.3	101.6	-2.1	-0.7
Second-stage intermediate goods	47.0	107.0	113.5	113.5	6.1	0.0
Finished goods	39.6	110.7	114.1	114.5	3.4	0.4
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	115.6	117.9	118.1	2.2	0.2
Capital equipment	10.4	110.6	114.5	115.1	4.1	0.5
All other finished goods	19.3	108.3	111.9	112.4	3.8	0.4
Aggregation by commodities:						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	109.8	114.4	115.0	4.7	0.5
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.3	113.6	115.2	115.4	1.6	0.2
Beverages	2.0	122.3	123.9	123.6	1.1	-0.2
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	146.7	154.7	154.7	5.5	0.0
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	113.9	113.9	114.2	0.3	0.3
Textile products	2.2	109.2	109.3	109.3	0.1	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	114.3	113.9	114.0	-0.3	0.1
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	112.4	152.5	148.2	31.9	-2.8
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	117.3	118.5	118.5	1.0	0.0
Paper and paper products	8.1	103.9	103.8	104.5	0.6	0.7
Printing and publishing	2.7	127.4	130.1	131.8	3.5	1.3
Primary metal products	7.7	101.4	99.7	99.2	-2.2	-0.5
Metal fabricated products	4.9	111.7	112.8	113.2	1.3	0.4
Machinery and equipment	4.2	116.7	118.2	118.5	1.5	0.3
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	17.6	102.3	108.1	108.8	6.4	0.6
Electrical and communications products	5.1	111.3	111.4	111.4	0.1	0.0
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	109.8	111.2	111.4	0.2	1.5
Petroleum and coal products ²	6.4	85.7	91.1	91.4	6.7	0.3
Chemical, chemical products	7.2	113.3	115.3	114.6	1.1	-0.6
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	111.5	113.1	113.3	1.6	0.2
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	70.4	78.1	78.3	11.2	0.3

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.

* Figures were rounded.

Raw Materials Price Index

April 1993 (Preliminary)

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI, 1986 = 100) for April 1993 was 113.8, up 1.5% from March 1993. In April, six of the seven major indexes advanced, led by wood (+6.2%). The upward movement was moderated by a 2.3% drop in non-ferrous metals. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels rose 1.7% in April 1993.

The RMPI in April 1993 was 11.2% higher than in April 1992, mainly because of wood (+37.7%), mineral fuels (+9.5%), and animal and animal products (+6.1%). Of the seven major indexes, only non-ferrous metals declined from April 1992 to April 1993. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels rose 12.0% over this 12-month period.

Wood and Mineral Fuels: Most Significant Year-over-year Gains

The 6.2% increase in the wood index was primarily because of the 7.8% rise in the logs and bolts component, which has been on an uptrend since December 1991. Compared with April 1992, the wood index soared 37.7% because of a 51.6% increase in the logs and bolts index.

Mineral fuels rose 1.1% in April 1993, led by a 1.3% increase in crude mineral oil, its principal component, and a 0.4% increase in coal. The natural gas index declined 4.0%, its first monthly decrease since July 1992. The mineral fuels index rose 9.5% from April 1992; all three of its major components

increased over the 12-month period, but the 10% rise in crude mineral oil caused most of the increase.

Vegetable products rose 1.4%, reflecting higher prices for unrefined sugar (+7.2%) and grains (+3.0%). These increases were offset by decreases in cocoa, coffee and tea (-6.7%) and in natural rubber and allied gums (-3.5%).

The vegetable products index climbed 5.6% from a year earlier, reflecting higher oilseeds (+17.0%), unrefined sugar (+19.5%) and raw tobacco (+9.7%) prices. Lower cocoa, coffee and tea (-10%) and fresh fruit (-17.8%) prices were moderating factors.

Animal and animal products posted a small 0.4% increase in April, largely because of a 1.0% increase in cattle and calves prices. From April 1992 to April 1993, the animal and animal products index increased 6.1% - major contributing factors were cattle and calves (+13.1%) and hogs for slaughter (+16.6%).

The non-ferrous metals index fell 2.3% in April because of declines in copper concentrates (-8.3%) and non-ferrous scrap (-6.2%) that were partly offset by a 4.7% rise in precious metals.

The 12-month decline in non-ferrous metals was 2.1% - mainly because of declines for concentrates of copper (-6.5%), zinc (-17.4%), nickel (-16.9%) and aluminum materials (-7.4%) that were moderated by increases for radioactive concentrates (+27.7%) and precious metals (+6.1%).

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	April 1992	March 1993 ^r	April 1993 ^p	April 1992 to April 1993	March 1993 to April 1993
					% change	
Raw Materials total	100	102.3	112.1	113.8	11.2	1.5
Mineral fuels	32	97.0	105.0	106.2	9.5	1.1
Vegetable products	10	90.8	94.6	95.9	5.6	1.4
Animal and animal products	26	103.7	109.6	110.0	6.1	0.4
Wood	13	131.7	170.8	181.4	37.7	6.2
Ferrous materials	4	93.0	99.0	99.5	7.0	0.5
Non-ferrous metals	13	95.4	95.6	93.4	-2.1	-2.3
Non-metallic minerals	3	99.3	99.3	99.6	0.3	0.3
Total excluding mineral fuel	68	104.8	115.4	117.4	12.0	1.7

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Telephone Statistics

March 1993

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$1,168.2 million in March 1993, up 1.0% from March 1992.

Operating expenses totalled \$912.7 million, an increase of 4.7% from March 1992. Net operating revenue totalled \$255.5 million, a decrease of 10.4% from March 1992.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

The March 1993 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$8.30/\$83) will be released shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Electric Power Selling Price Indexes

January-April 1993

Electric Power Selling Price Indexes (1986=100) are now available for the period of January to April 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2020.

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

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



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

The Dairy Review, March 1993.

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Building Permits, March 1993.

Catalogue number 64-001

(Canada: \$22.10/\$221; United States: US\$26.50/US\$265; Other Countries: US\$30.90/US\$309).

How to Order Publications

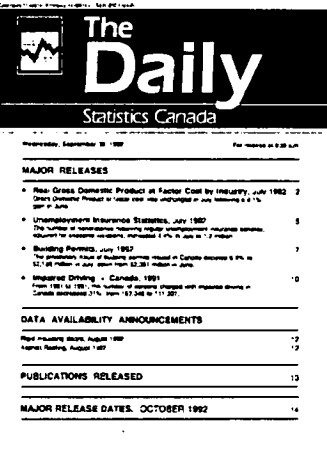
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