



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 28, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Economic dependency profiles, 1992**  
 Canadians who filed tax returns for the 1992 tax year received on average \$25.80 in transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income. That was an increase of almost 10% from 1991 in the ratio of transfer payments to employment income.

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- **Monthly survey of manufacturing, April 1994**  
 After five months of lacklustre performance, the value of manufacturers' shipments grew to \$27.7 billion, up 1.7% in April after a 3.1% surge in March. The backlog of unfilled orders has increased by \$3.0 billion in the latest five months.

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- **Industrial product price index, May 1994**  
 Driven by higher prices for processed raw materials, the year-over-year change in prices for manufactured goods jumped to +4.6% in May, the highest rate among members of the G7.

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- **Raw materials price index, May 1994**  
 The index rose 3.3% in May. Crude oil prices moved up 10.9% and were the major contributor to the change.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Economic dependency profiles

1992

Canadians who filed tax returns for the 1992 tax year received on average \$25.80 in transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income. That was an increase of almost 10% from 1991 in the ratio of transfer payments to employment income.

The largest component of transfer payments was pension benefits (52.1%), followed by non-taxable income and provincial tax credits combined, and, thirdly, by unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Non-taxable income includes social assistance, guaranteed income supplement, spousal allowance, and workers' compensation.

People who filed tax returns in Newfoundland received the highest levels of transfer payments, \$46.52 for every \$100 of employment income. UI benefits accounted for almost half of that province's total transfer payments.

#### Pensions are the largest portion of transfer payments

In 1992, Canadians received an average of \$13.43 in pension benefits for every \$100 of income earned, more than half (52.1%) of total transfer payments. The figure represented an 8.3% increase from \$12.40 in 1991, which was also just over half of that year's total.

Pension benefits included old age security, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan benefits and other pensions. For example, tax-reported Canada Pension Plan payments hit \$15.1 billion in 1992, a 13.3% increase, while tax-reported old age security payments reached \$11.8 billion, a jump of about 8%.

Non-taxable income/provincial tax credits made up the second largest component of total transfer payments, at \$5.08 for every \$100 in employment income. That was up 21.5% from 1991.

Unemployment insurance benefits were the third largest component of transfer payments, at \$5.01 for every \$100 of employment income.

The recession resulted in record payments for unemployment insurance in 1992. The UI fund paid out an all-time high of \$19.3 billion in 1992, according to Statistics Canada's Labour Division. On average, 1.38 million individuals a month received UI benefits.

Nationwide, women who filed tax returns got \$32.68 in transfer payments for every \$100 in employment income, compared with \$22.11 for men.

#### Note to users

The **economic dependency ratio (EDR)** is a ratio of transfer payment dollars to \$100 of employment income earned in an area.

**Transfer payments**, for the purpose of these profiles, are payments made to individuals, either by the federal or provincial governments or by organizations. Except for pension income received from non-governmental sources, all transfer payments referred to in these profiles were made by governments to individuals.

**Transfer payments include:** unemployment insurance, family allowance, child tax credit, goods and services tax credit, old age security, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan, other pensions and non-taxable income and provincial tax credits (includes social assistance, guaranteed income supplement, spousal allowance, workers' compensation benefits, and refundable provincial tax credits for Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario).

#### Economic dependency ratios (EDRs) by postal geography

The Small Area and Administrative Data Division produces data for geographical areas as small as a letter carrier's walk or as large as the nation. The following data on EDRs are for urban forward sortation areas (FSAs) with at least 500 taxfilers. FSAs are specific geographical areas identified by the first three characters of the postal code.

#### An FSA in Montreal receives the highest amount of transfer payments

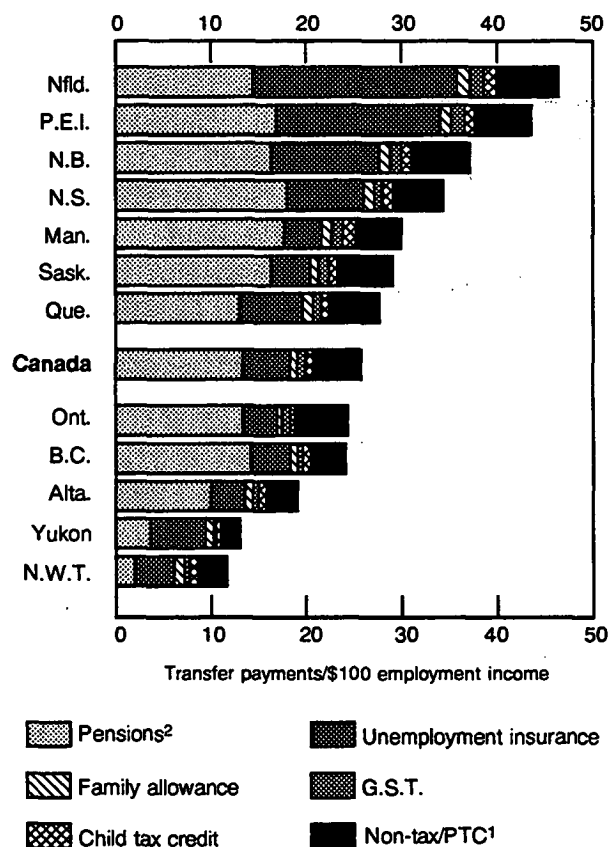
The FSA of H4W in Montreal (Quebec) was the most dependent on transfer payments: \$104.26 of transfer payments were received for every \$100 of employment income earned. This is due in most part to high pension income (\$83.27).

For further information on this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

#### Newfoundland is most dependent on transfer payments

As in 1991, taxfilers in Newfoundland received the highest level of transfer payments, \$46.52 for every \$100 earned. That was an 11.7% increase from 1991. Unemployment insurance benefits were by far the largest contributor to the total transfer payments, \$21.50 out of \$46.52. They included payments made to fishermen hit by fishing restrictions.

# **Pensions were the largest component of transfer payments in 1992**



<sup>1</sup> Provincial tax credits.

<sup>2</sup> Includes QPP/CPP, OAS and other pensions.

Source: Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

Alberta was the province least dependent on transfer payments, receiving \$19.23 for every \$100 of employment income.

Taxfilers in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories received lower transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income than taxfilers in any of the provinces, at \$12.98 and \$11.58, respectively. Unemployment insurance benefits were the largest contributors to their transfer payments.

For all provinces, without exception, economic dependency on transfer payments was higher for women than for men.

# **The Calgary census metropolitan area is still the least dependent on transfer payments**

In 1992, the amount of transfer payments per \$100 of income earned was highest in the census metropolitan area (CMA) of St. Catharines-Niagara, at \$32.87. (Census metropolitan areas are areas with population of 100,000 or more.) The amount was lowest in Calgary, at \$15.93. One-third of transfer payments in St. Catharines-Niagara was made up of pension benefits (\$10.76).

A comparison between males and females by CMA shows that the dependency on transfer payments for female taxfilers is always higher.

# **Glance Bay has the highest dependency on transfers, Yellowknife the lowest**

Of all cities with 10,000 or more taxfilers, Glance Bay (Nova Scotia) had the highest amount of transfer payments per \$100 of employment income, at \$61.99. This high dependency on transfer payments was mostly due to non-taxable income/provincial tax credits (\$14.52) and unemployment insurance benefits (\$14.00). This is mostly accounted for by the large number of mine closures in Glance Bay.

The lowest amount of transfer payments per \$100 of income earned was in Yellowknife (Northwest Territories), at \$5.81.

For further information on this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

# **Components of transfer payments for Canada 1991 and 1992**

	1991	1992
Unemployment insurance	\$4.71	\$5.01
Family allowance	\$0.79	\$0.81
GST credit	\$0.74	\$0.78
Child tax credit	\$0.66	\$0.69
Old age security	\$3.21	\$3.37
CPP/QPP	\$3.91	\$4.31
Other pensions	\$5.28	\$5.75
Non-taxable income/PTC	\$4.18	\$5.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23.47</b>	<b>\$25.80</b>

□

**Economic dependency ratios (EDR) by forward sortation area (FSA)**  
1992

FSA	Name	Five highest EDRs
H4W	Montréal, Que.	104.26
R3B	Winnipeg, Man.	98.30
R3A	Winnipeg, Man.	96.11
N4L	Meaford, Ont.	91.36
H3X	Côte-St.-Luc, Que.	85.67
		Five lowest EDRs
T9J	Fort McMurray, Alta.	5.35
X1A	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	5.15
K2R	Nepean, Ont.	4.71
T8W	Grande Prairie,	4.69
T9K	Fort McMurray, Alta.	3.38

**Economic dependency ratios (EDR) by city\***  
1992

Men and women		Men		Women	
City	EDR	City	EDR	City	EDR
<b>Highest five</b>		<b>Highest five</b>		<b>Highest five</b>	
Glacé Bay, N.S.	61.99	Glacé Bay, N.S.	50.45	Glacé Bay, N.S.	87.66
Shawinigan, Que.	51.43	Shawinigan, Que.	43.42	Shawinigan, Que.	68.42
Grand-Mère, Que.	46.45	Sidney, B.C.	40.54	Grand-Mère, Que.	64.72
Montréal-Nord, Que.	45.93	Port Colborne, Ont.	39.98	Montréal-Nord, Que.	58.92
Port Colborne, Ont.	45.78	Grand-Mère, Que.	38.9	Port Colborne, Ont.	58.62
		Penticton, B.C.	38.9		
<b>Lowest five</b>		<b>Lowest five</b>		<b>Lowest five</b>	
Kanata, Ont.	10.08	Markham, Ont.	8.78	Kanata, Ont.	12.55
Sherwood Park, Alta.	9.97	Sainte-Julie-de-Verchères	8.34	Whitehorse, Yukon	12.43
Kirkland, Que.	9.07	Kirkland, Que.	7.06	Sherwood Park, Alta.	12.4
Fort McMurray, Alta.	5.81	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	4.92	St. Albert, Alta.	12.38
Yellowknife, N.W.T.	5.81	Fort McMurray, Alta.	3.74	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	7.32

\*10,000 or more taxfilers

## Monthly survey of manufacturing

April 1994

Manufacturers boosted shipments (seasonally adjusted) for the second month in a row—up 1.7% to \$27.7 billion in April. In the latest two months, manufacturers' shipments have grown by \$1.3 billion or 5.0%, following five months of small increases and decreases that caused some slippage in monthly shipments. April's increases were widespread as manufacturers in 13 of the 22 major groups (accounting for 80% of total shipments) improved shipment levels.

The backlog of unfilled orders, which will contribute to future shipments unless orders are cancelled, jumped 2.4% to \$31.0 billion. This was the fifth consecutive increase, and it put the current backlog of orders \$3.0 billion higher than the level in November 1993.

### Manufacturers experienced a growth spurt this spring

Five months of relatively no growth in shipments from October 1993 through February 1994 was blamed on a number of factors. Ford and General Motors temporarily shut down selected plants for retooling to new models. Two months of exceptionally cold weather was blamed for curtailing certain activities such as housing starts and construction-related industries. Lastly, a dockworkers' strike on

#### Note to users

With the April 1994 release, the estimated values of shipments, inventories, and orders have been revised back to January 1991. These revisions result from benchmarking to both the 1991 and the 1992 annual survey of manufactures (ASM), since the results of the ASM are now available almost a year earlier. The benchmarking and revision process adjusts monthly sample estimates in the benchmark years (1991 and 1992) to the annual ASM levels, updates the sample, uses new and revised data, and re-estimates the seasonal adjustment factors.

the West Coast adversely affected shipments, especially in the wood industry.

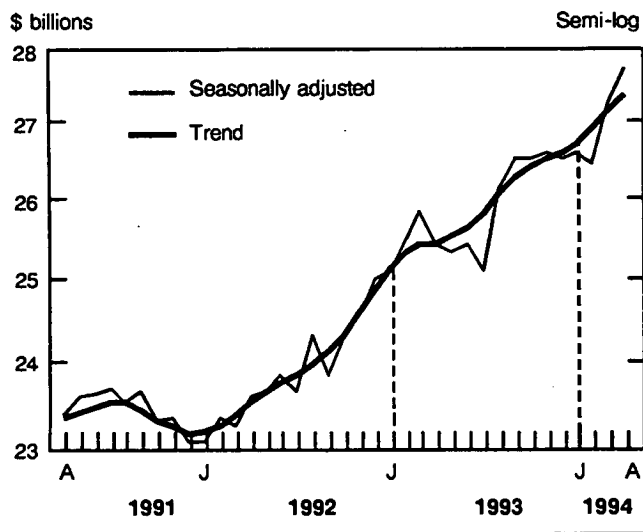
The value of manufacturing shipments rebounded strongly in March (+3.1%) and April (+1.7%). Employment in manufacturing, as reported by the labour force survey, held steady in April after gains totalling 74,000 in February and March.

April's increase in shipments was led by the car and car-part makers, who increased shipments \$186 million or 4.0%. This reflected increasing production of new models at the Ford and General Motors plants, as well as strong sales of cars and trucks in both the United States and Canada. Full production at these plants is not anticipated for another month or two.

Other large increases in shipments were recorded in export-oriented industries, notably by manufacturers of electrical and electronic products (+4.3%), paper and allied products (+2.8%), refined petroleum and coal products (+3.4%), and chemicals (+1.9%).

The value of shipments for the first four months of 1994 was \$108.1 billion, 6.2% higher than in the corresponding period in 1993.

### Shipments

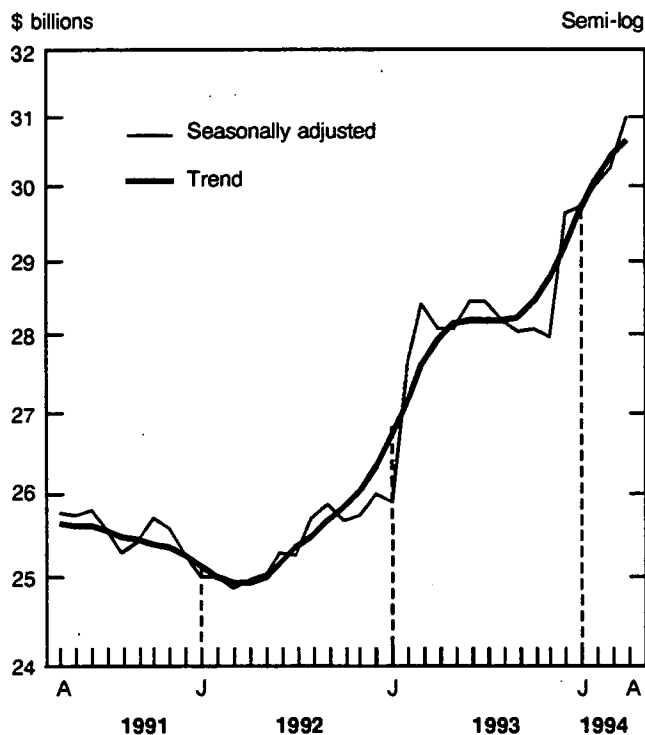


### Orders are pouring in

The April 1994 business conditions survey (released by Statistics Canada on May 3, 1994) indicated that manufacturers were very positive about the backlog of unfilled orders and that satisfaction with orders received had reached a record level. The data from the monthly survey of manufacturing continued to substantiate these opinions.

Since bottoming out in March 1992 at \$24.9 billion, unfilled orders have increased \$6.1 billion or 25%. In the latest five months alone, the backlog has increased by \$3.0 billion. Initially, a few large contracts were awarded in selected industries (notably railroad rolling-stock and aircraft). More recently, orders have snowballed as numerous contracts have been awarded to Canadian manufacturers in other industries such as machinery, primary and fabricated metals, and electrical and electronic products.

## Unfilled orders



In April, the backlog of unfilled orders held by manufacturers increased 2.4% to \$31.0 billion, the fifth increase in a row. April's backlog of unfilled orders increased by more than \$100 million for manufacturers in four industries:

	\$ millions	% change
Transportation equipment	\$244	1.7
Machinery	\$222	6.3
Electrical and electronic products	\$153	3.6
Primary metals	\$109	6.5

Most of the contracts are from foreign sources and include orders destined for Asia, Europe and the United States.

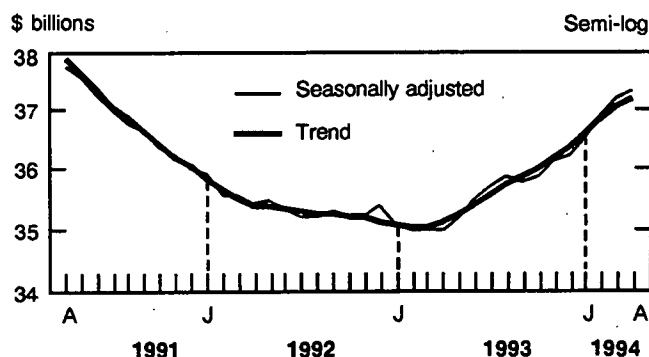
**Unfilled orders are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled.**

New orders are defined as the sum of shipments for the current month (i.e., orders received and shipped within the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

## Inventory levels are rising

Excepting one month, the value of inventories (owned) has risen continuously over the past year—increasing by 6.8% or \$2.4 billion. Most of the increase occurred in the wood products industry as manufacturers stocked up in response to high prices and anticipated construction activity. Manufacturers of fabricated metal products, machinery, and transportation equipment have also boosted inventory levels over the past year.

## Inventories



Inventories (owned) grew 0.4% in April to \$37.3 billion. Most of the increase was attributable to manufacturers of refined petroleum and coal products (+15.2%)—reflecting a jump in crude oil prices—and to fabricated metal producers (+2.8%).

The inventories to shipments ratio fell, however, to 1.35 in April, from 1.36 in March, as the increase in shipments outpaced the increase in inventories.

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

The April 1994 issue of *Monthly survey of manufacturing* (31-001, \$19/\$190) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

Data for shipments by province in greater detail may be available on request. For further information on this release, contact Bob Traversy, Information and Classification Section (613-951-9497) or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division. □

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

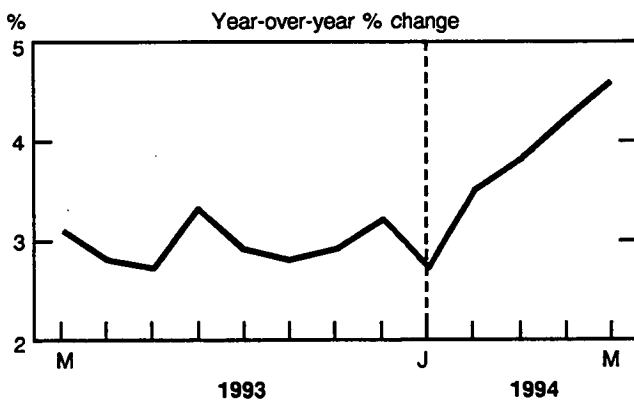
Period	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventories to shipments ratio
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
	seasonally adjusted								
April 1993	25,426	-1.5	34,964	0.0	28,093	-1.1	25,127	-5.5	1.38
May 1993	25,327	-0.4	35,146	0.5	28,082	0.0	25,317	0.8	1.39
June 1993	25,433	0.4	35,434	0.8	28,412	1.2	25,763	1.8	1.39
July 1993	25,077	-1.4	35,695	0.7	28,434	0.1	25,100	-2.6	1.42
August 1993	26,116	4.1	35,838	0.4	28,159	-1.0	25,841	3.0	1.37
September 1993	26,513	1.5	35,765	-0.2	28,050	-0.4	26,404	2.2	1.35
October 1993	26,514	0.0	35,872	0.3	28,069	0.1	26,532	0.5	1.35
November 1993	26,569	0.2	36,121	0.7	27,981	-0.3	26,481	-0.2	1.36
December 1993	26,510	-0.2	36,247	0.3	29,646	6.0	28,175	6.4	1.37
January 1994	26,582	0.3	36,523	0.8	29,745	0.3	26,681	-5.3	1.37
February 1994	26,453	-0.5	36,873	1.0	30,009	0.9	26,717	0.1	1.39
March 1994	27,274	3.1	37,183	0.8	30,288	0.9	27,554	3.1	1.36
April 1994	27,744	1.7	37,337	0.4	31,029	2.4	28,484	3.4	1.35

## Industrial product price index

May 1994 (preliminary)

The year-over-year change in manufacturers' prices accelerated in May, jumping to +4.6%, from +4.2% in April. This rate of change, which has been rising since January, reached its highest level since April 1988. The inflationary pressure in May, however, came only from intermediate goods. The year-over-year change in final goods prices, including goods used by consumers, declined to +3.0%, from +3.5%.

### Manufactured goods prices



The year-over-year change in producer prices in Canada is higher than in any of the other member countries of the G7, the next highest rate is in Italy (which has an appreciably higher level of inflation generally). This is consistent with the Canadian economy being further along in the recovery process than certain other economies in the G7. However, the structure of the Canadian manufacturing sector differs from other G7 countries; the processing of raw materials and the export of these products plays a much larger role in Canada.

Price increases in May were widespread. Manufacturers saw prices rise in 13 major product groups. The most significant increases were for primary metal products, wood products and pulp. Price declines occurred in only two groups. The most significant was for transport equipment.

### Note to users

The industrial product price index (IPPI) differs from the consumer price index (CPI) in that it records what the producer receives, not what the consumer pays. It excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time when a good leaves the plant and the time when the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.

The IPPI includes most of the goods that appear in the CPI. These are generally found in either the finished foods and feeds category or in the other finished goods category. However, the IPPI also includes many other goods of importance to Canadian manufacturers, including intermediate goods and capital goods, but it does not include any services.

Another important difference between the CPI and the IPPI is that the CPI includes imports but not exports, whereas the IPPI includes exports but not imports. Because a large proportion of certain commodities are exported, changes in exchange rates will be strongly reflected in the movement of these product indexes, particularly automobiles, pulp and paper, and, to a lesser extent, lumber and other products. A decline in the value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar would increase the value of prices quoted in that currency.

The absence of services, indirect taxes and distribution costs means that the IPPI reflects only some of the forces behind changes in the overall price level in the economy. But it provides a better idea of changes in the health of many industries than does the CPI. Since the IPPI reflects price changes as goods leave the plant, it may give advance notice of changes in the pattern of consumer inflation; but the impact of these changes can be moderated by changes in wages and prices at other stages of the distribution process. Elements of the IPPI are also frequently used by businesses in contract escalator clauses to track changes in important inputs.

### Year-over-year change in producer prices

Canada	4.6%	May
Italy	4.0%	February
U.K.	2.2%	April
Germany	0.5%	April
United States	-0.4%	April
France	-1.5%	First quarter
Japan	-2.7%	April

### Copper, pulp, lumber and cars

The May increase in primary metal prices (+1.4%) was mainly due to a 10.9% rise in copper and copper alloy product prices. World copper stocks have been declining in the face of resurgent demand by the construction and telecommunications sectors.



Pulp prices were up 3.5% in May, with domestic prices increasing faster than export prices. For sulphate wood-pulp, domestic prices were up 6.1%, compared with 1.7% for export prices. Domestically, the impact of increased demand has been reinforced by concern over a possible strike in the pulp industry in British Columbia.

After two months of declines, prices for lumber, sawmill, and other wood products recovered 1.3% in May. Price increases ranged from 4.0% in Ontario to 12.7% in the Atlantic provinces. In British Columbia, however, prices edged down by less than 1.0%, a result of healthy stocks of western red cedar.

The 0.3% drop in transport equipment prices was primarily due to declines in both domestic and export automobile prices. Domestically, automobile prices dropped 1.3%. The 0.5% decline in the export prices of automobiles was primarily due to the 0.5% depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the Canadian dollar, which reduced the value of U.S. dollars paid to Canadian producers.

### Inflationary pressures

Inflationary pressures came from a number of processed raw materials and from certain other intermediate goods, where much of the output is exported. Those inflationary pressures were moderated by declines in the year-over-year price changes for all three types of finished goods. The overall effect on the Canadian economy may well be an improved profits picture for exporting Canadian manufacturers but relatively little upward pressure on the consumer price index.

### Intermediate goods

Both first-stage and second-stage intermediate goods contributed to the inflationary pressure on the IPPI.

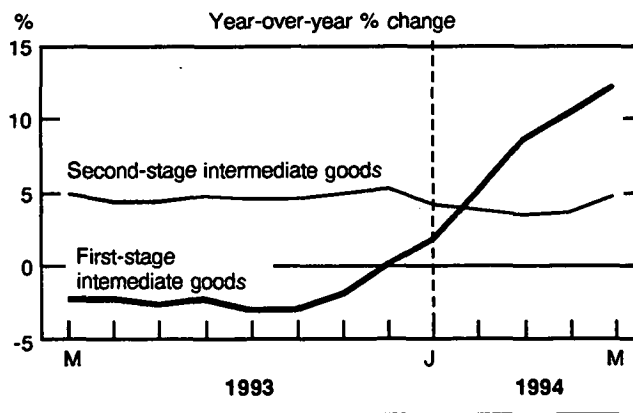
For first-stage intermediate goods, inflationary pressure came primarily from pulp (+3.5%) and copper and copper alloy products (+10.9%). Overall, the year-over-year change in first-stage intermediate goods prices jumped to +11.8% in May. This was its highest level since March 1989. Nevertheless, though prices for first-stage intermediate goods have been rising for the latest six months, they have only regained the levels of three years earlier.

### Definitions

*Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods. First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods. This category is dominated by primary metals, chemicals, and pulp. Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods. Almost half the commodities tracked in the IPPI, and part of every commodity group, fall into this category.*

*Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment. These are divided into foods and feeds (which covers about two-thirds of food, feed, and beverage products), capital equipment (which is dominated by transport equipment, industrial machinery and equipment, and electrical and communications products other than household appliances), and other final goods (of which the largest components are automobiles, gasoline, clothing, various chemical products, and most furniture and appliances).*

### Intermediate goods prices



The year-over-year price change for second-stage intermediate goods increased to +4.3%, from +3.3%. Overall, prices for this category rose 0.3% from April to May, with lumber and timber (+1.5%) having the greatest impact.

## Finished goods

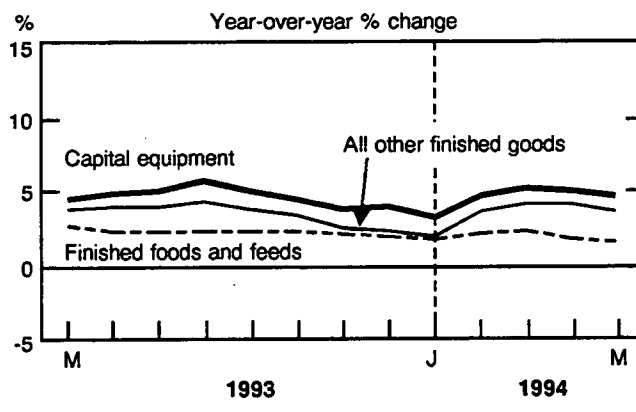
The overall price level for finished goods in May remained virtually unchanged. The year-over-year change in finished goods prices dropped to +3.0%, from +3.5%. Inflationary pressures eased in all three categories. The year-over-year change dropped for foods and feeds (from +1.4% to +1.3%), capital equipment (from +4.7% to +4.3%), and other finished goods (from +3.8% to +3.3%). For both capital equipment and other finished goods, a decline in the prices of automobiles, trucks and buses had a major impact.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The May 1994 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011, \$20/\$200) will be available at the end of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Prices Division.

## Finished goods prices



**Industrial product price indexes**  
 (1986 = 100)

Index	Relative Importance <sup>1</sup>	May 1993	April 1994 <sup>r</sup>	May 1994 <sup>p</sup>	May 1993 to May 1994	April 1994 to May 1994
					% change*	
<b>Industrial product price index – total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>117.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	93.6	113.4	119.0	119.3	5.2	0.3
Intermediate goods	60.4	110.0	115.7	116.3	5.7	0.5
First-stage intermediate goods	13.4	101.7	112.2	113.7	11.8	1.3
Second-stage intermediate goods	47.0	112.3	116.7	117.1	4.3	0.3
Finished goods	39.6	115.1	118.6	118.6	3.0	0.0
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	118.7	120.0	120.2	1.3	0.2
Capital equipment	10.4	115.8	120.9	120.8	4.3	-0.1
All other finished goods	19.3	112.8	116.6	116.5	3.3	-0.1
<b>Aggregation by commodities</b>						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	116.2	117.5	117.6	1.2	0.1
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.3	115.7	121.1	121.2	4.8	0.1
Beverages	2.0	124.3	124.2	125.3	0.8	0.9
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	154.9	164.2	164.2	6.0	0.0
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	114.1	115.7	116.0	1.7	0.3
Textile products	2.2	109.1	111.2	111.2	1.9	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	114.1	115.4	115.4	1.1	0.0
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	132.5	150.4	152.3	14.9	1.3
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	119.1	119.6	119.8	0.6	0.2
Paper and paper products	8.1	105.0	109.3	110.3	5.0	0.9
Printing and publishing	2.7	133.6	139.1	139.0	4.0	-0.1
Primary metal products	7.7	99.3	111.0	112.5	13.3	1.4
Metal fabricated products	4.9	113.8	117.2	117.2	3.0	0.0
Machinery and equipment	4.2	119.1	121.2	121.3	1.8	0.1
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	17.6	109.1	116.8	116.4	6.7	-0.3
Electrical and communications products	5.1	112.2	113.7	113.8	1.4	0.1
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	111.3	115.3	115.3	3.6	0.0
Petroleum and coal products <sup>2</sup>	6.4	91.8	86.5	87.3	-4.9	0.9
Chemicals and chemical products	7.2	115.0	120.7	121.0	5.2	0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	114.5	117.4	117.4	2.5	0.0
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	79.6	84.4	84.6	6.3	0.2

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

<sup>2</sup> This index is estimated for the current month.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

\* Figures are rounded.

## Raw materials price index

May 1994 (preliminary)

Prices of raw materials rose 3.3% between April and May 1994. This increase was mainly due to higher prices for crude oil (+10.9%). Non-ferrous metals, vegetable products, and wood also rose significantly. Lower prices for animals and animal products and for ferrous materials had a marginal impact on the overall monthly change in raw materials prices. The steady rise in prices for crude oil, non-ferrous metals, wood, and vegetable products were the major contributors to the RMPI increasing by 10.1% in the latest six months.

With increases in crude oil prices of more than 25% in the latest two months, prices were almost the same as in May 1993. OECD crude oil stocks were down more than 2% from the first quarter of 1993. This decline was partly due to the exceptionally cold weather in North America and to the attempt by OPEC to control production. Supplies were as tight in the second quarter, with the continuing OPEC supply management and production problems in the North Sea and Colombia.

Non-ferrous metal prices have continued rising since November 1993. In the latest six months, prices for copper concentrates have risen 44%, aluminum materials prices 34%, nickel concentrates 26%, and gold prices 7%. Strong U.S. demand appears to be the driving force behind higher copper

prices. There is no evidence of similar demand for the other base metals; nevertheless, significant price increases have occurred.

Wood prices continued edging up in May. Compared with six months ago, wood prices were 8% higher. Higher prices for softwood logs and bolts, up almost 10% in that period, contributed greatly to the higher wood prices.

Vegetable product prices have been steadily increasing since the last half of 1993. Higher prices for the commodities of wheat, canola, corn and soybeans accounted for most of the price change in the group. Wheat prices were up almost 40% from a year earlier, and canola prices were up nearly 50% for the same period.

Animals and animal products prices fell in May (-1.7%) as did ferrous material prices (-3.4%). The decline in ferrous material prices was mainly due to lower prices for iron and steel scrap (-6.1%), their first decline in 16 months. Iron and steel scrap prices had previously increased by 54% from December 1992 to April 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2009.

The May 1994 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011, \$20/\$200) will be available at the end of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Prices Division.

## Raw materials price index

(1986 = 100)

	Relative Importance <sup>1</sup>	May 1993	April 1994 <sup>r</sup>	May 1994 <sup>p</sup>	May 1993 to May 1994	April 1994 to May 1994
					% change	
<b>Raw materials total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>115.2</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>121.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Mineral fuels	32	105.5	95.6	105.1	-0.4	9.9
Vegetable products	10	97.4	112.5	116.6	19.7	3.6
Animals and animal products	26	111.0	111.6	109.7	-1.2	-1.7
Wood	13	191.1	198.8	200.6	5.0	0.9
Ferrous materials	4	100.4	120.6	116.5	16.0	-3.4
Non-ferrous metals	13	92.5	105.1	111.7	20.8	6.3
Non-metallic minerals	3	99.6	103.8	103.4	3.8	-0.4
Total excluding mineral fuels	68	119.7	127.4	128.7	7.5	1.0

<sup>1</sup> Rounded figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sales of refined petroleum products

May 1994 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products in May totalled 6 755 600 cubic metres, up 309 100 cubic metres (+4.8%) from May 1993. Higher demand for motor gasoline was the largest contributing factor in the overall sales increase. Motor gasoline sales were up 123 400 cubic metres (+4.4%) from May 1993. Other major products that contributed to this increase were sales of diesel fuel oil (+82 200 cubic metres or +5.3%) and light fuel oil (+28 900 cubic metres or +10.7%).

At the end of May 1994, year-to-date sales for all refined products were up 3.5% from the same period last year. Five of the seven major product groups (accounting for 82.7% of the total sales volume) increased sales during the first five months of 1994 compared to 1993. Sales of diesel fuel, at 7 053 900 cubic metres for this period, were up 12.4% from 1993. Increased demand by the drilling, transportation, and mining industries led to this increase.

### Sales of refined petroleum products

	May 1994	May 1993 to May 1994
	thousands of cubic metres	% change
<b>Total, all products</b>	<b>6 755.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Motor gasoline	2 934.1	4.4
Diesel fuel oil	1 635.0	5.3
Light fuel oil	298.4	10.7
Heavy fuel oil	526.0	-0.2
Aviation turbo fuels	380.3	3.7
Petrochemical feedstocks <sup>1</sup>	312.6	2.4
All other refined products	669.2	9.0
	January to May 1994	January- May 1993 to January- May 1994
<b>Total, all products</b>	<b>33 213.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Motor gasoline	13 638.9	3.9
Diesel fuel oil	7 053.9	12.4
Light fuel oil	3 455.1	4.9
Heavy fuel oil	2 873.9	-11.4
Aviation turbo fuels	1 762.0	3.3
Petrochemical feedstocks <sup>1</sup>	1 549.0	1.7
All other refined products	2 880.3	-0.9

<sup>1</sup> Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce petroleum-based chemicals.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The May 1994 issue of *Refined petroleum products* (45-004, \$20/\$200) will be available the third week of August. See "How to order publications".

For further information about this release, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3563), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

### Coal and coke statistics

April 1994

Coal production totalled 5 808 kilotonnes in April 1994, up 7.7% from April 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of April 1994 stood at 23 777 kilotonnes, up 4.3% from the previous year.

Exports in April fell to 2 307 kilotonnes, down 6.7% from April 1993; imports decreased 21.6% to 475 kilotonnes. For January to April 1994, exports totalled 9 155 kilotonnes, 11.5% above last year.

Coke production in April 1994 increased to 320 kilotonnes, up 3.2% from April 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The April 1994 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002, \$11/\$110) will be available the first week of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

### Electric power statistics

April 1994

Net generation of electricity for April 1994 increased to 42 118 gigawatt hours (GW.h), up 5.3% from April 1993. Exports increased 64.0% to 3 520 GW.h, whereas imports decreased from 782 GW.h to 316 GW.h.

Generation by type was as follows: hydro 25 782 GW.h (+1.5%), nuclear 8 403 GW.h (+25.8%), and thermal conventional 7 933 GW.h (-0.03%).

Year-to-date net generation at the end of April 1994 totalled 195 457 GW.h, up 5.5% from the previous year. Year-to-date exports (15 694 GW.h) rose 61.2%; year-to-date imports (1 324 GW.h) declined 49.9% from the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.**

The April 1994 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001, \$11/\$110) will be available the first week of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

## **Gypsum products**

May 1994

Manufacturers shipped 19 036 thousand square metres of plain gypsum wallboard in May 1994, up 16.2% from 16 376 thousand square metres in May 1993 but down 11.5% from 21 509 thousand square metres in April 1994.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of May 1994 totalled 101 193 thousand square metres, up 16.9% from a year earlier.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 39 and 122 (series 11).**

The May 1994 issue of *Gypsum products* (44-003, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

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

## **Process cheese and instant skim milk powder**

May 1994

Production of process cheese in May 1994 totalled 6 414 436 kilograms, up 5.9% from April 1994 but down 2.0% from May 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of May 1994 totalled 28 281 396 kilograms, down from 31 375 051 the previous year.

Production of instant skim milk powder in May totalled 167 769 kilograms, down 40.1% from April 1994 and down 49.4% from May 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of May 1994 totalled 1 307 310 kilograms, compared with 1 870 807 kilograms the year before.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).**

The May 1994 issue of *Production and inventories of process cheese and instant skim milk powder* (32-024, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

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

## **Business services**

1989-1991

Data for the period from 1989 to 1991 on business service industries (major groups 77 and 99) are now available.

For further information on this release, contact Nancy Preston (613-951-0379), Services, Science and Technology Division. ■

## PUBLICATION RELEASED

Canadian international merchandise trade,  
April 1994.  
Catalogue number 65-001  
(Canada: \$19/\$182; United States: US\$22/US\$219;  
other countries: US\$26/US\$255).

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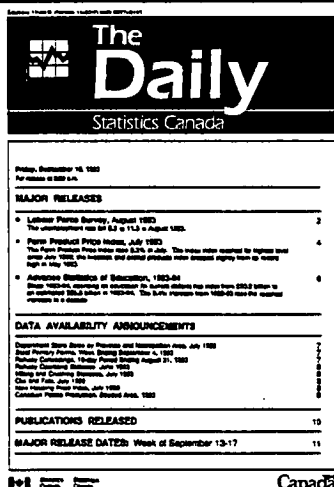
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Catalogue 11-001E. (Canada: \$175; United States: US\$210; other countries: US\$245.)

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103)

Head of Official Release: Jacques Lefebvre (613-951-1088)

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