



The Daily

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MAJOR RELEASES

Stocks of Canadian grain at July 31, 1994

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Canola and flaxseed

Despite a record canola production in 1993, record marketings in the 1993/94 crop year left only 45 thousand tonnes of canola on farms at July 31, 1994. This is the lowest level since July 1984, when farm stocks were 15 thousand tonnes. Total stocks in all positions were 309 thousand tonnes, down 55.3% from last year.

With the highest marketings since the 1987/88 crop year, farm stocks of flaxseed fell 65.4% from last year's level to 45 thousand tonnes. This is the lowest farm carry-over of flaxseed since 1990 when stocks were 15 thousand tonnes. Total stocks in all positions were 158 thousand tonnes, down 36.8% from last year.

Wheat

Durum wheat farm stocks at July 31 were 450 thousand tonnes, the lowest since 1990. Total stocks in all positions were 1.7 million tonnes, down 18.9% from last year.

Farm stocks of all wheat excluding durum were 3.3 million tonnes, down slightly (-6.3%) from last year's level of 3.5 million tonnes. With marketings down over 2 million tonnes from recent crop year

levels, the decrease in farm stocks can be attributed mainly to a sharp production decline in the 1993 spring wheat crop.

Oats and barley

Despite significantly higher oats marketings, a jump in 1993 production has resulted in July 31 farm stocks of 755 thousand tonnes of oats, up 36.0% from last year's level of 555 thousand tonnes.

The situation for barley is similar to oats. Barley marketings for the 1993/94 crop year were up significantly. But a jump in 1993 production, plus an above-average carry-over from the previous crop year, resulted in higher ending stocks this year than last year. Farm stocks were 2.0 million tonnes at July 31, 1994, up 11.1% from last year's level of 1.8 million tonnes.

Corn and soybeans

Farm stocks of corn for grain were 700 thousand tonnes, down 15.2% from last year's level of 825 thousand tonnes.

At July 31, farm stocks of soybeans were 30 thousand tonnes, a return to more normal levels after last year's tight ending stocks of 4 thousand tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5628.

Field crop reporting series no. 6: Stocks of Canadian grain at July 31, 1994 (22-002, \$15/\$85) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For additional information, contact Tony Dupuis (613-951-0572) or Oliver Code (613-951-8719), Crops Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Short-term expectations survey

The increase in the consumer price index for August is forecast at 0.3%, with minimum and maximum values of +0.2% and +0.4%, respectively. For July, the mean forecast (+0.2%) slightly over-estimated the outcome by 0.1%.

The mean forecast of the unemployment rate for August was 10.1% (minimum 10.0%, maximum 10.5%). For July, the mean forecast was over-estimated at 10.4%, compared to an outcome of 10.2%.

Merchandise exports for July were forecast to be \$18.1 billion with a minimum and maximum of \$17.0 billion and \$18.8 billion, respectively. For June, the mean forecast (\$17.1 billion) under-estimated the outcome of \$18.2 billion. The forecast of imports for July was \$17.2 billion, with minimum and maximum, values of \$16.0 billion and \$18.0 billion, respectively. For June, the mean forecast (\$16.6 billion) under-estimated the outcome by \$0.5 billion.

Note to users

Every month since April 1990, Statistics Canada has canvassed a group of economic analysts (an average of 20), asking them to forecast key economic indicators for the coming month.

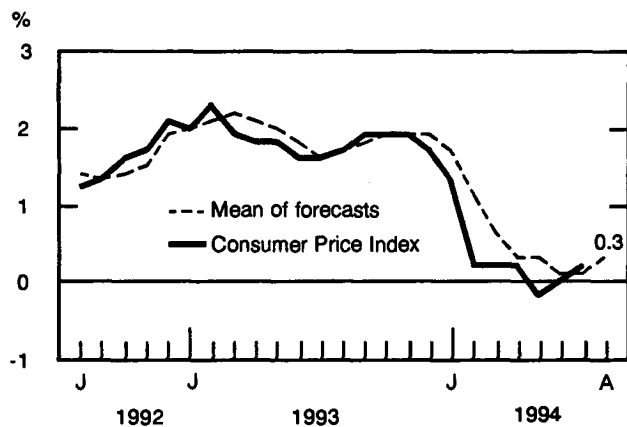
Participants forecast the year-over-year change in the consumer price index and in the unemployment rate for August 1994, the levels of merchandise exports and imports for July, 1994, as well as the month-to-month change in real gross domestic product at factor cost for July 1994. The next release is scheduled for October 5, 1994.

Real gross domestic product at factor cost is forecast to have changed by +0.4% between June and July 1994, (minimum +0.2% and maximum +0.5%). Between May and June, the mean forecast was under-estimated at +0.3% compared to an outcome of +0.5%.

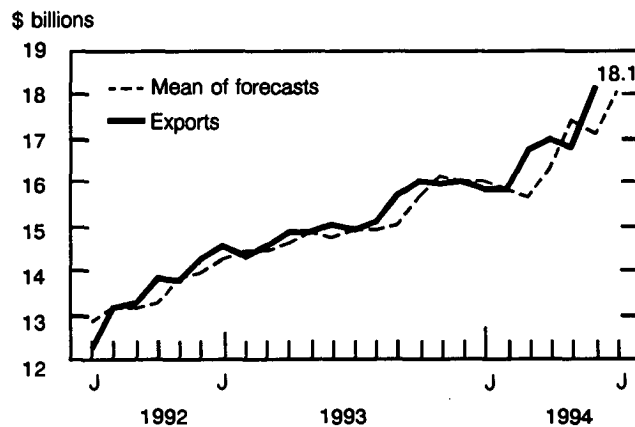
For a set of tables or further information, contact Diane Lachapelle (613-951-0568). □

Forecast vs actual

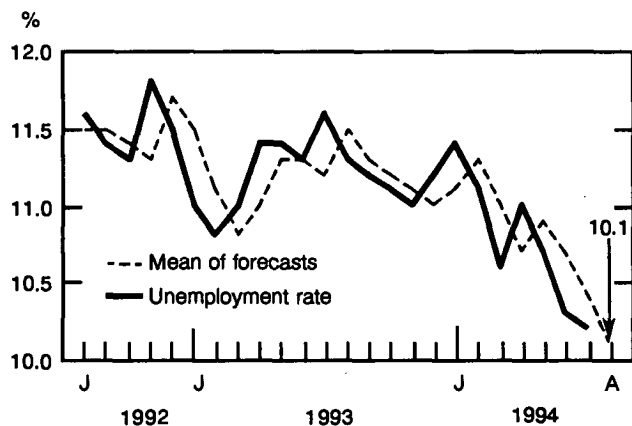
Consumer price index



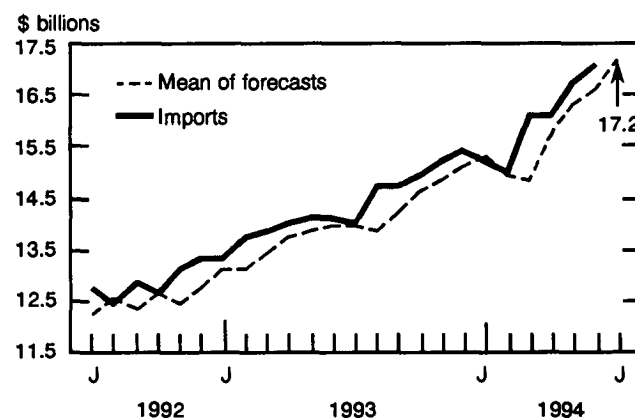
Merchandise exports



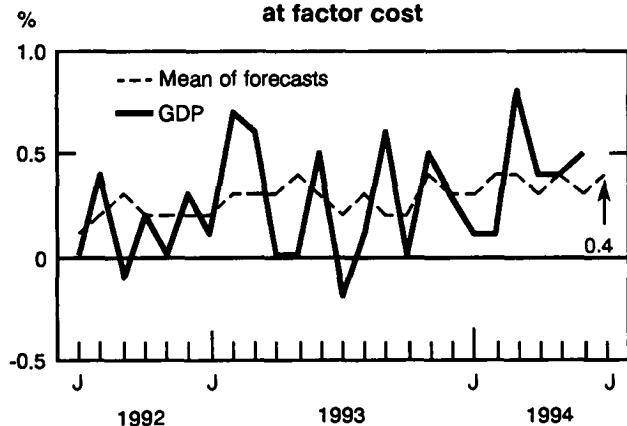
Unemployment rate



Merchandise imports



Gross domestic product
at factor cost



DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending August 14, 1994

The number of railway cars loaded in Canada during the seven-day period increased 18.7% from the year-earlier period. Revenue-freight loaded increased 23.1% to 4.6 million tonnes.

Piggyback traffic tonnage, which is included in total carload traffic, increased 18.7% during the same period.

Tonnage of revenue-freight loaded as of August 14, 1994 increased 6.3% from the previous year.

Cumulative data for 1993 and 1994 have been revised.

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

Electric storage batteries

July 1994

Manufacturers of electric storage batteries sold 110,006 automotive and heavy-duty commercial replacement batteries in July 1994, up 19.4% from 92,127 batteries in July 1993.

For January to July 1994, shipments totalled 991,693 batteries, up 23.3% from 804,402 batteries the previous year.

Sales data for other types of storage batteries are also available.

The July 1994 issue of *Factory sales of electric storage batteries* (43-005, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date.

For more information, contact L. Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division. ■



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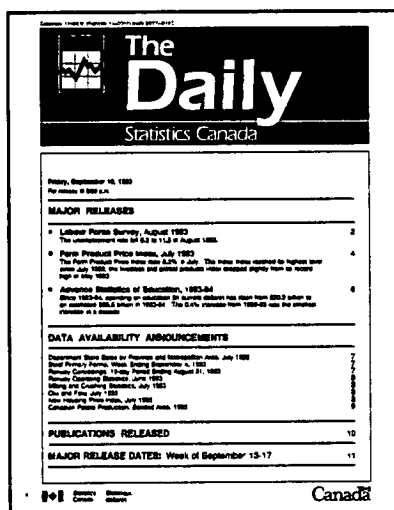
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Editor: Mary Beth Lozinski (613-951-1092)
Head of Official Release: Jacques Lefebvre (613-951-1088)

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