Canadian International Trade

On a seasonally adjusted, balance of payments basis, preliminary estimates indicate that Canada's exports recovered strongly in August, rising 11.8% or $1.0 billion to a level of $9.9 billion, following four consecutive monthly declines. The increase was concentrated in automotive products.

Following a 1.8% drop in July, imports increased 2.9% or $253 million to a record level of $9.9 billion.

The net effect of these movements was to increase the merchandise trade surplus to $1.0 billion in August from a four-year low of $247 million in July.

Commodity Analysis

The increase in exports in August was attributable to a $876 million rise in end products of which the most notable change was a gain of $672 million in automotive products. Exports of automotive parts registered a more moderate growth of 9.3% to $924 million with shipments to the United States. Haulers worked extended hours after the strike settlement on July 1.

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index remained unchanged at 44 in the Atlantic Provinces (from 139 to 224) and 3.0% in British Columbia from 33 to 34. It remained unchanged at 44 in the Prairie Provinces while it declined 11.1% in Quebec (from 90 to 80) and 1.0% in Ontario (from 96 to 95).

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LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

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<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<td>Exports - Balance of Payments Basis(1)</td>
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<td>Imports - Balance of Payments Basis(1)</td>
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<td>Department Store Sales</td>
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<td>Manufacturers' Shipments(1)</td>
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<td>New Motor Vehicle Sales(1)</td>
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<td>Retail Sales(1)</td>
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Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

- new this week.

Help-wanted Index, Canada

Source: Statistics Canada

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100) for Canada increased 1.3% from 79 to 80 between August and September 1985. By region, the index advanced 61.2% in the Atlantic Provinces (from 139 to 224) and 3.0% in British Columbia (from 33 to 34). It remained unchanged at 44 in the Prairie Provinces while it declined 11.1% in Quebec (from 90 to 80) and 1.0% in Ontario (from 96 to 95).

The Canada average increased 8.5% from 71 to 77 between the second and third quarters of 1985. Advances between the quarters were recorded in all regions.

Order the September 1985 issue of Help-wanted Index (71-003, $2.50/$25), or contact Horst Stiebert or Jean-Pierre Maynard at 613-990-9900, Labour Division.
...International Trade
August 18 to bring inventories back to normal;
• Financing incentives offered on North American cars set sales records in the United States for the August 21-31 period and peak sales were continuing in early September. Increased exports in August were meeting some of this demand.

Virtually all of the increase in total imports in August can be attributed to increases posted in the automotive sector: automobile parts increased 14.5% to a level of $1.7 billion following an increase of 5.9% in July; cars increased 4.7% to a level of $1.0 billion, after a 3.1% rise in August; trucks declined 27.3% after a gain of 23.9% in July. Offsetting the decline in August was an increase of 54.2% in petroleum and coal products.

Order the August 1985 Summary of Canadian International Trade (65-001, $15/$100; other countries, $3/$150). To order, contact G. Blane (649-997-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Judith Frederick (613-990-9784), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division. For summary information, order Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade (65-001p, $5/$50).

Electric Power Statistics
The net generation of electricity in Canada in July 1985 increased by 5.9% to 33,518 gigawatt hours from 31,646 gigawatt hours a year earlier. Exports of electric power increased 13.7% to 4,535 gigawatt hours from 3,184 gigawatt hours, and imports decreased by 44.4% to 14.0 gigawatt hours.

During 1985 to date, the net generation of electricity totalled 258,136 gigawatt hours, up 5.0% from the January-July 1984 level of 245,904 gigawatt hours.

Order the July 1985 issue of Electric Power Statistics (65-001p, $8/$80), or contact Dave Madsen (613-991-3565), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Vending Machine Operators
Vending machine operators in Canada reported sales of $379.0 million in 1984, up 11.2% from $340.9 million in 1983. The number of operators increased from 681,683 to 141,476 over the same period. Following is a breakdown of sales by type of machine in the latest year, with percentage changes from 1983 in brackets:
- Cigarette machines - 23,032 units, $19.5 million (+ 12.9%);
- Coffee machines - 36,393 units, $81.3 million (+ 31.9%);
- Soft drink machines - 27,221 units, $74.0 million (+ 6.4%);
- Milk, juice and hot and cold beverage combination machines - 3,613 units, $16.7 million (+ 6.0%);
- Pastry, confectionery, snack and confectionery combination machines - 14,526 units, $54.2 million (+ 12.9%);
- Fresh food combination machines - 4,335 units, $24.5 million (+ 16.8%);
- All other vending machines - 32,366 units, $8.7 million (+ 10.4%).

Order the 1984 edition of Vending Machine Operators (63-313, $15), or contact Gilles Courtois (613-991-3551), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Infomat Weekly Bulletin
Published by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada.
Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-991-1103)
Editor: Rachelle Pilon (613-991-1107)
R.H. Coats Building, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

Catalogue: 11-002E. Price: Canada, $2/$100; other countries, $3/$150. To subscribe: send money order or cheque payable to the Receiver General for Canada to Publication Sales and Services, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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Estimates of Labour Income
Labour income for July 1985 was estimated at $21,068.9 million, an increase of $1,316.6 million or 6.7% from July 1984. Adjusted for seasonal variation, wages and salaries increased by $202.5 million between June 1985 and July 1985 to $18,827.3 million.

Order the July-September 1985 issue of Estimates of Labour Income (72-005, $15/$50), or contact Germaine Gauthier (613-990-9900), Labour Income Section, Labour Division.

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment
Employees of provincial and territorial governments and government enterprises totalled 652,931 as of June 1985, an overall increase of 10,148 (1.6%) from June 1984. General government employees increased by 11,638 (2.4%) while those in government enterprises declined by 1,490 (0.9%).

Gross payroll (including overtime and retroactive payments) for April-June 1985 was $4,305.6 million, an increase of $152.6 million (3.7%) from the corresponding quarter in 1984.

Order the April-June 1985 issue of Provincial and Territorial Government Employment (72-007, $15/$50), or for further information contact Terry Moore (613-990-8306) or Peter Dudley (613-991-1845), Public Institutions Division.

Divorces - Canada and Provinces
A total of 65,172 divorces were recorded in Canada in 1984, down about 5% from a total of 68,567 for 1983. Declines were observed in all provinces and in the Northwest Territories.

Order the Marriages and Divorces, 1984 (88-298, $12/$13), or contact Jean Shane (613-991-1772), Health Division.

Provincial Government Finance
The financial assets of provincial and territorial governments stood at $85,942.7 million on March 31, 1984, up 7.7% or $6,117.1 million from the March 31, 1983 total of $79,825.6 million.

Liabilities during 1983 increased 14.4% or $12,066.9 million to $96,007.0 million compared to $83,940.1 million the previous year.

Order the 1983 issue of Provincial Government Finance: Assets, Liabilities and Source and Application of Funds (65-009, $25), or contact P.A. Blouin (613-996-5637), Assets and Liabilities Section, Public Institutions Division.

Principal Field Crops
Canadian production of the seven major grains, including grain corn, is estimated at 48.8 million tonnes, up 6% from 1984. Production in Western Canada for the major grains, excluding corn, is estimated at 48.9 million tonnes, a 6% increase from last year's drought-reduced harvest, but 7% below the 1983 harvest.

Western wheat production is estimated at 21.0 million tonnes, up 4% from 1984. Durum wheat production, concentrated in the southern prairies, dropped 10% from 1984 despite record seeded acreage this year. Durum yield is placed at 16.0 bushels per acre, the lowest since 1967. Western Canadian production of barley is estimated at 10.4 million tonnes, up 13% from 1984 and remains similar to the August 15 estimate. Western production of oats is up 7% from 1984 and up 3% from the August estimate.

Western Canadian production of canola-seed is estimated at 1,116 thousand tonnes, a 7% decrease from 1984. Flaxseed production is expected to total 900 thousand tonnes, up 3% over last year and the highest since 1970.

Ontario growers anticipate grain corn production of 5,609 thousand tonnes, up 4% from the 1984 record production. Soybean production is expected to reach an unprecedented 1,029 thousand tonnes, 10% more than last year's record. The winter wheat output is estimated at a record 971.6 thousand tonnes with a record yield of 68.0 bushels per acre, surpassing the previous record by 10.6 bushels per acre.

Quebec grain corn production, a record is estimated to increase by 11% from 1984. Barley is expected to increase by 30% while oats will decrease by 6%.

Contact the Crops Section, Agriculture and Natural Resources Division (613-990-8717).
New Motor Vehicle Sales

Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 1,237,317 units in August 1985, up 26.4% from August 1984. The principal factors accounting for the high level of sales in August were the sales of passenger cars built overseas, which reached 30,850 units, up 56.8% from August 1984, and the sales of commercial vehicles, domestic and imported, which totalled 11,842 units, up 39.1% over the same period. Likewise, sales of North American manufactured passenger cars increased 12.8% over this period to 61,025 units, while sales of North American manufactured commercial vehicles rose by 43.9% to 27,274 units.

The Canadian sales of North American manufactured vehicles were to some extent influenced by sales incentive programs such as consumer financing discounts and specified option packages. As consumer financing discounts and specified option packages.

Security Transactions with Non-residents

Net sales of outstanding Canadian bonds to non-residents gave rise to a net capital inflow of $364 million in August, $58 million higher than in July. The net inflow in August included substantial investments in provincial and corporate bonds. Geographically, over half of the net bond sales were to Japan.

Trading with non-residents in outstanding Canadian equities resulted in a net outflow of $25 million in August. This contrasted with the sizeable net inflows recorded in the previous six months, which totalled over $600 million. The net divestment in equities largely resulted from trading with the United Kingdom, partially offset by a small net inflow from the United States.

A net inflow of $14 million was recorded from trading in outstanding foreign securities, reflecting a reduction in resident holdings of foreign equities.


Housing Starts

Housing starts in August were at a seasonally adjusted rate of 169,000 units for all areas, a 4.3% increase from July. This annual peak was led by a sustained increase in the single family dwelling sector. Quebec and Ontario were the most active markets.

Order the August 1985 issue of Housing Starts and Completions (64-002, $15/$150), scheduled for release the second week of November, or contact P. Pichette (613-990-9689), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

New Housing Price Indexes

The New Housing Price Index (1981=100) for Canada stood at 96.4 in August 1985, up 0.5% from its July level of 95.9. This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 1.4% higher than the year-earlier level of 95.1, the largest 12-month increase observed since May 1984.

Between July 1985 and August 1985 the largest increases in the price index were noted for Hamilton (1.6%), Edmonton (1.4%) and Kitchener (1.1%).

Between August 1984 and August 1985, the largest year-over-year increase in prices was noted for St. Catharines-Niagara (13.3%), followed by Kitchener (11.3%), Saint John-Moncton (9.5%), Hamilton (7.4%), Halifax (6.8%), Windsor (6.0%), Quebec City (5.1%), Winnipeg (4.9%), Montreal (3.9%), London (3.9%), Calgary (3.7%), Toronto (3.3%), Regina (3.1%), Saskatoon (2.0%) and St. John's (1.5%).

The largest year-over-year decrease was noted for Victoria (-6.5%), followed by Vancouver (-5.0%), Edmonton (-4.3%) and Ottawa-Hull (-1.9%).

Order the third quarter 1985 issue of Construction Price Statistics (62-007, $15/$60), or contact the Prices Division (613-990-9601).

Department Store Sales by Regions

Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling $979.9 million in August 1985, an increase of 12.3% from a year earlier.

Cumulative sales for the period January to August 1985 totalled $6,864.0 million, up 5.4% from the same period in 1984.

On a regional basis, department store sales during the month were as follows (percentage change from August 1984 in parentheses):
- Atlantic Provinces, $72.8 million (+9.3%)
- Quebec, $190.3 million (+16.2%)
- Ontario $358.9 million (+14.7%)
- Manitoba $63.0 million (+11.9%)
- Saskatchewan: $31.5 million (+15.5%)
- Alberta, $129.1 million (+10.5%)
- British Columbia, $147.4 million (+7.1%)

Data users should note that since January 1985, total sales for the Yukon and Northwest Territories are not included with British Columbia's total.

Order the August 1985 issue of Department Store Sales by Regions (63-004, $4.50), or contact E. Yablonski (613-990-9662), Services Division.

Restaurants/Caters/Taverns

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled $1,146.2 million for August 1985, an increase of 10.3% from the $1,039.0 million reported for the same period last year.

Order the August 1985 issue of Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns (63-011, $5.50), or contact E. Yablonski (613-990-9662), Services Division.

Cable Television

Preliminary estimates show cable television revenues for the year ended August 31, 1984 were $593 million, up 11% from $535 million in the preceding fiscal year.

Programming, technical, sales and administrative expenses increased 13% to $366 million from $325 million a year earlier. Depreciation was estimated at $90 million, interest at $68 million and other income was $1 million. Pre-tax profits totalled $69 million compared to $65 million in 1983.

Order the Vol. 15, no. 6 Communications Service Bulletin (56-001, $6.50/$39), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-990-8893), Services Division.

Telephone Statistics

The 14 major telephone systems reported revenues of $1.1 billion in 1985, up 8.8% over 1983. Operating expenses totalled $611 billion, an increase of 8.1% over 1983. Net operating revenue reached $3.0 billion, an increase of 10.5% over 1983. Telephone toll messages increased 6.5% to 1.6 billion.

Order the Vol. 15, no. 7 Communications Service Bulletin (56-001, $6.50/$39), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-990-9662), Services Division.
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## Agriculture/Natural Resources
- **Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 7: September Forecast of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada**
  - Catalogue No.: 22-002
  - Price per issue/year: $7/$48 in Canada, $8/$54 elsewhere
- **Index of Farm Production, 1984**
  - Catalogue No.: 21-203
  - Price per issue/year: $17 in Canada, $18 elsewhere
- **Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry, July 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 22-003
  - Price per issue/year: $10/$100 in Canada, $11/$110 elsewhere
- **Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, September 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 32-012
  - Price per issue/year: $10/$100 in Canada, $11/$110 elsewhere

## CANSIM
- **Canadian Statistical Review, September 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 11-003E
  - Price per issue/year: $20/$200 in Canada, $21.50/$215 elsewhere

## Econometric Analysis
- **Quarterly Economic Summary: Statistical Supplement, October 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 13-007E
  - Price per issue/year: $25/$100 in Canada, $26/$104 elsewhere

## Education, Culture and Tourism
- **Arts and Culture: a Statistical Profile, 1982/1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 87-527
  - Price per issue/year: $14 in Canada, $15 elsewhere

## Gross National Product
- **National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Second Quarter 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 13-001
  - Price per issue/year: $15/$60 in Canada, $16/$64 elsewhere

## Industry
- **Agricultural Implement Industry, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 42-202
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Appliance, Radio and Television Manufacturers, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 43-212
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Biscuit Manufacturers, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 32-202
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, July 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 32-011
  - Price per issue/year: $4/$40 in Canada, $5/$50 elsewhere
- **Commercial Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment Manufacturers, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 42-215
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Consumption of Purchased Fuel and Electricity, 1982**
  - Catalogue No.: 57-204
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Electric Lamps, August 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 43-009
  - Price per issue/year: $4/$40 in Canada, $5/$50 elsewhere
- **Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, July 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 31-001
  - Price per issue/year: $15/$150 in Canada, $16/$160 elsewhere
- **Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, August 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 44-004
  - Price per issue/year: $4/$40 in Canada, $5/$50 elsewhere
- **Paint and Varnish Manufacturers, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 46-210
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Pharmaceuticals, Cleaning Compounds and Toilet Preparations, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 46-223
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **Retail Trade, July 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 63-005
  - Price per issue/year: $14/$140 in Canada, $15/$150 elsewhere
- **Rubber Products Industries, 1983**
  - Catalogue No.: 33-206
  - Price per issue/year: $20 in Canada, $21 elsewhere
- **The Sugar Situation, August 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 32-013
  - Price per issue/year: $4/$40 in Canada, $5/$50 elsewhere
- **Wholesale Trade, July 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 63-008
  - Price per issue/year: $5/$50 in Canada, $6/$60 elsewhere

## International and Financial Economics
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## International Trade
- **Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, August 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 65-001p
  - Price per issue/year: $5/$50 in Canada, $6/$60 elsewhere

## Labour
- **Employment, Earnings and Hours, June 1985**
  - Catalogue No.: 72-002
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- **Estimates of Labour Income, April-June 1985**
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  - Price per issue/year: $15/$60 in Canada, $16/$64 elsewhere
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  - Price per issue/year: $12/$120 in Canada, $13/$130 elsewhere

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  - Catalogue No.: 31-003
  - Price per issue/year: $20/$80 in Canada, $21/$84 elsewhere

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