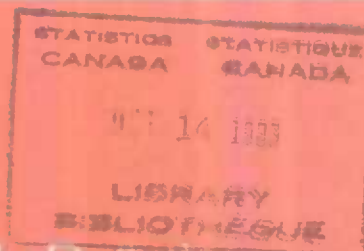


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Weekly Bulletin



October 14, 1983

Labour Force Survey

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 11.3% in September 1983 from 11.8% in August. The participation rate decreased to 64.4% from 64.5% in the preceding month, while the employment/population ratio increased to 57.1% from 56.9%.

For the week ending September 17, 1983, the seasonally adjusted level of employment was an estimated 10,769,000, an increase of 42,000 from August. Employment rose by 24,000 for males 25 years of age and over, by 18,000 for females of the same age group and by 9,000 for males 15 to 24; employment declined by 9,000 for females in the 15 to 24 age group. In September, employment rose by 54,000 in manufacturing and 15,000 in public administration but declined by 9,000 in primary industries other than agriculture. Provincially, the estimated level of employment increased by 33,000 in Quebec, by 23,000 in Ontario and by 8,000 in British Columbia.

(continued on next page)

New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales in units of all new motor vehicles climbed 24.2% in August 1983 from the August 1982 level to a total of 89,636 units. This marked the sixth consecutive monthly rise in total unit sales from the same months of the previous year. Sales of North American passenger cars increased 25.7% in August 1983 to 47,396 units, and domestic commercial vehicles registered a substantial 43.0% gain to 16,771 units. Sales of new passenger cars manufactured overseas rose 8.6% from the same month a year earlier to 21,190 units, and those of overseas commercial vehicles surged 32.0% to 4,279 units.

The share of the Canadian passenger car market held by North American manufacturers in August 1983 was 69.1%, up from 65.9% in August 1982. Japanese manufacturers took 25.7% of the market in August 1983 and European manufacturers 5.2%, while the corresponding percentages for the previous year were 27.6% and 6.5%.

Total dollar value of new motor vehicles sold in August 1983 increased 33.2% from a year earlier to \$1,002.6 million. The value of North American passenger cars sold was \$506.6 million (up 35.6%) and commercial vehicles amounted to \$238.7 million (up

(continued on next page)

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	389.65p	390.49r	
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	18,728.8p	17,717.9p	4.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.	10.87	11.18	3.1
Unemployed	Sept.	1,257,000	1,365,000	-6.4

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	July	3,136.8	2,981.4	4.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	29,506.3p	29,714.0r	-13.4

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	15,384.9p	17,982.0r	11.6
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	16,316.5p	16,289.7r	-3.9

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Aug.	118.5	117.9	5.5
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Aug.	131.0	130.4	-0.5
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Aug.	212.1p	210.2p	4.8
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Aug.	155.0p	151.5p	5.5
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Aug.	300.7p	300.1p	3.6

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	July	1,020.9p	8,213.5p	12.3
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug.	9,154	94,582	39.8

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	July	2,838.9	24,414.5	-4.5
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	June	29.1	195.3	0.1
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	June	6,485.6	47,909.6	-6.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	July	7.5p	47.0p	-9.7

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	7,027p	57,937p	3.0
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	5,973p	46,563p	2.5

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Aug.	18.0p	131.8p	-5.1
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	Aug.	1,093.4p	8,074.0p	-6.7

SALES

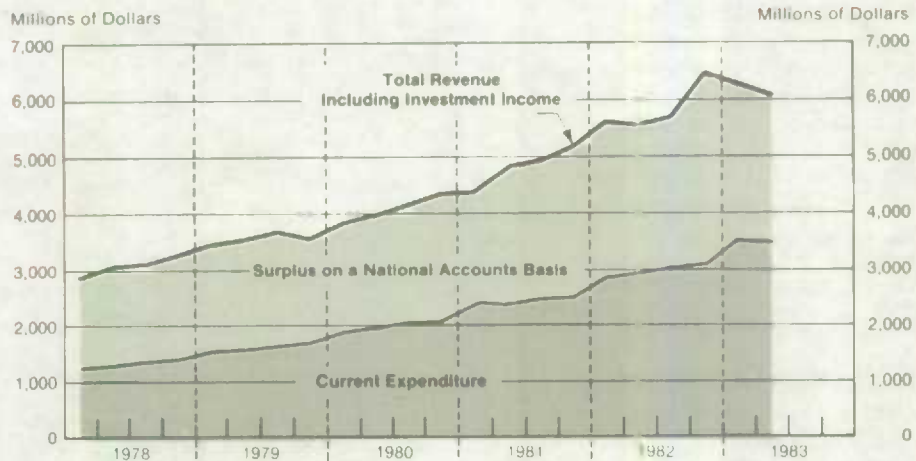
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	850.9	6,215.5	7.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	15,358.1p	112,004.6p	4.3
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,002.6	8,027.0	17.9
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	9,024.6p	57,565.6p	6.3

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted

p - preliminary. r - revised. * - new this week.

Canada Pension Plan

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



Source: Statistics Canada, National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-001)

Canada

...Labour Force Survey

Seasonally adjusted, unemployment was estimated at 1,373,000 in September 1983, down by 56,000 from August. Unemployment declined by 19,000 for males aged 15 to 24, by 31,000 for males 25 and over and by 9,000 for females 25 and over. On a provincial basis, unemployment declined by 33,000 in Ontario, by 11,000 in Quebec, by 10,000 in British Columbia and by 8,000 in Alberta.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in September 1983 were as follows, with August rates in brackets: Newfoundland, 18.2% (19.0%); Prince Edward Island, 12.1% (13.1%); Nova Scotia, 12.6% (13.0%); New Brunswick, 14.8% (14.8%); Quebec, 13.5% (14.0%); Ontario, 9.4% (10.1%); Manitoba, 9.1% (8.8%); Saskatchewan, 7.5% (7.3%); Alberta, 10.5% (11.1%); and British Columbia, 13.4% (14.1%).

The unadjusted employment level for Canada was estimated at 10,867,000 in September 1983, an increase of 323,000 (+3.1%) from a year earlier. Unemployment decreased by 6.4% over the 12-month period to 1,257,000 from 1,343,000. The unemployment rate at 10.4% was down from 11.3% in September 1982, while the participation rate increased to 64.3% from 63.8% and the employment/population ratio rose to 57.1% from 56.1%.

For further information, order the September 1983 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$3.70/\$37).

Restaurants/Caterers/Taverns

Preliminary estimates for August 1983 show restaurant, caterer and tavern establishments in Canada had receipts totalling \$947.9 million, up 4.6% from August 1982.

Revised total receipts for July 1983 were \$969.8 million, an increase of 5.8% over July 1982.

For further information on provincial totals by kind of business and on chains versus independents, order *Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics* (63-011, \$1.55/\$15.50), or contact R. Bennett (613-996-9301), Services Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Telephone Statistics

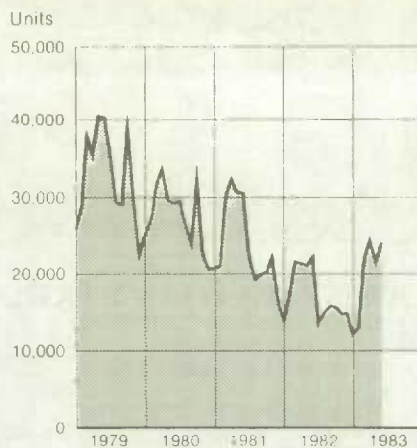
Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported revenues of \$699.1 million in August 1983, up 8.0% from August 1982. Operating expenses increased 10.1% over the period to \$483.7 million. Net operating revenue at \$215.4 million showed an increase of 3.7% from August 1982.

For further information, order the August 1983 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$1.55/\$15.50), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada.

Production of Raw Steel

Preliminary estimates show steel ingot production increased 22.7% to 1 183 862 tonnes in September 1983 from 964 951 tonnes a year earlier.

Sales of New Commercial Vehicles



Source: Statistics Canada, New Motor Vehicle Sales (63-007)

...New Motor Vehicle Sales

44.3%). Sales of overseas passenger cars rose by 17.3% to \$216.7 million, and those of commercial vehicles increased by 41.5% to \$40.5 million.

Cumulative unit sales of all new motor vehicles for the first eight months of 1983 were 726,217 units (up 14.1% from January-August 1982) with a retail value of \$8,027.0 million (up 17.9%).

Seasonally Adjusted Sales

Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates of unit sales of passenger cars built in North America decreased 7.4% from July 1983. Seasonally adjusted sales of passenger cars built overseas increased 42.6% from the previous month, and total sales of all new commercial vehicles (domestic and overseas) were 9.7% higher.

For further information, order the August 1983 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$2.65/\$26.50).

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Industrial Corporations

Second quarter 1983 final survey results for Canadian industrial corporations confirm the continued strong recovery in profits that was indicated in the preliminary estimates: profits rose 47.2% before taxes and 53.4% after taxes on a year-over-year basis, the largest increase in several years.

While the recovery in corporate profits continued into the second quarter of 1983, the balance sheets of large corporations reflected only marginal improvements. Long-term corporate liquidity — specifically measured by the long-term debt to equity relationship — improved slightly for the second consecutive quarter to stand at 67%. This figure, however, remains far from the pre-recession level of 55% posted in the second quarter of 1981.

And working capital of \$33 billion is still substantially below the \$39 billion level of the second quarter of 1981. However, the annualized return on shareholders' equity, although not yet approaching pre-recession levels, recorded a third consecutive quarter of solid gain to stand at 9.1% in the second quarter of 1983; this compares with 5.5% a year earlier and 13.8% two years ago.

Changes Year-Over-Year (Unadjusted)

The mining sector demonstrated strength in the second quarter of 1983 compared to the same quarter in 1982, particularly in the metal mining and mineral fuels industries. Although capital spending is still sluggish and prices of some metals remain weak, \$58 million decline in interest expense, coupled with extensive trimming of operating costs led to an increase in metal mining before-tax profits to \$147 million in the current quarter from \$8 million in the second quarter of 1982.

In the mineral fuels industry, soft demand resulted in a year-over-year sales increase of only 2.0%, but increased operating efficiency along with a decline in interest expense to \$518 million from \$645 million contributed to a 60.1% year-over-year jump in profits before taxes to a level of \$1,113 million in the second quarter of 1983.

In the manufacturing sector, profits before taxes rose 54.2% over the second quarter of 1982 on a sales increase of 7.4%. The transportation equipment industry led the way with before-tax profits leaping to \$599 million currently from \$93 million a year ago.

In the wood industry, product sales are booming (up 24.2%), spurred on by heavy demand from the construction sector, especially in the United States. Lumber prices, severely depressed a few quarters ago, are now at their highest levels in several years.

The chemical industry posted an 8.6% increase in sales and a substantial 77.2% surge in profits before taxes to \$319 million.

For further information, order *Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1983* (61-003, \$10.60/\$42.40).

Department Store Sales

Department stores in Canada had sales totalling \$850.9 million in August 1983, an increase of 9.7% from a year earlier. Cumulative sales for January-August 1983 amounted to \$6,215.5 million, up 7.1% from the same period in 1982.

Department store sales by regions for August 1983 were as follows, with percentage changes from August 1982 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$307.5 million (+12.9%)
- Quebec, \$152.3 million (+6.9%)
- British Columbia, \$138.6 million (+6.8%)
- Alberta, \$117.3 million (+2.8%)
- Atlantic provinces, \$64.4 million (+19.5%)
- Manitoba, \$42.8 million (+6.0%)
- Saskatchewan, \$28.1 million (+23.5%)

Data users should note that the British Columbia figures include as well those for the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Help-wanted Index

The Help-wanted Index (1981=100), which measures changes in the demand for labour as reflected in the help-wanted advertisements placed in the classified sections of 18 Canadian newspapers, rose to 51 in September 1983 from 44 in August on a seasonally adjusted basis. The September index stood at the same level as in July; this represents the highest monthly level for 1983. The quarterly average of the Canada index increased to 49 in the third quarter of 1983, up from 44 in the preceding period and from 38 in the same quarter of 1982.

The seasonally adjusted help-wanted index advanced in three of the five regions from August to September. The index increased in Quebec to 68 from 54, in Ontario to 52 from 45 and in the Prairie provinces to 31 from 29. The index for British Columbia remained at the same level (28), while the index for the Atlantic provinces dropped to 65 from 76.

Inquiries about the index should be directed to Horst Stiebert (613-995-8445), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Direct Selling in Canada

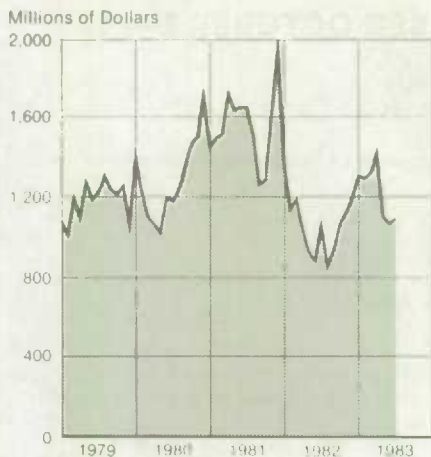
Direct selling by specialized direct-sellers, manufacturers and primary producers to household consumers in Canada increased 1.6% in 1982 to \$2,521.2 million from the revised 1981 level of \$2,482.6 million. In 1980, direct sales totalled \$2,178.9 million.

The personal selling method of distribution — sales to a group of people at house parties or to individuals at their homes through person-to-person contacts — accounted for 29.7% (\$748.9 million) of 1982 direct sales; counter sales at manufacturing premises, 23.4% (\$590.9 million); home delivery (door-to-door canvassing) 22.3% (\$573.8 million); mail order sales, 18.5% (\$465.3 million); direct sales through other channels, 5.6% (\$142.4 million).

Further details will be published in *Direct Selling in Canada, 1982* (63-218, \$4.75).

Building Permits, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada, Building Permits (64-301)

International Travel

Preliminary statistics for August 1983 show that United States residents visiting Canada declined by 1.0% from a year earlier to 5.1 million. Visitors from countries other than the U.S. dropped by 15.4% to 299,000. Canadian residents re-entering this country after visits to the U.S. numbered 4.7 million, up 17.4% from August 1982, while residents returning from other countries increased by 12.4% to 197,000.

For the first eight months of 1983, the international travel flows were as follows: a total of 23.6 million U.S. residents entered Canada, up 0.4% from the January-August 1982 period; visitors from other countries decreased by 12.0% to 1.3 million; Canadians returning from the U.S. increased by 17.7% to 27.3 million and Canadian re-entries from other countries numbered 1.2 million, up 13.3% from 1982.

For further information, order the August 1983 issue of *International Travel — Advance Information* (66-002, \$1.55/\$15.50), or contact Paul L. Paradis (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada in August 1983 totalled 18.0 million tonnes, an increase of 26.6% from a year earlier. The carriers received an additional 1.1 million tonnes from the United States, up 20.6% from August 1982.

Commodities registering notable changes in volumes loaded during the latest month were: coal (+23.9%); grain, other than wheat (+67.8%); iron ore and concentrates (+131.6%) and copper-nickel ores and concentrates (+2,775.3%).

Total loadings in Canada for January-August 1983 showed a decrease of 5.1% from the 1982 period and receipts from U.S. connections decreased by 0.9%.

For further information, order the August 1983 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, \$1.55/\$15.50). For seasonally adjusted revenue

Gross Domestic Product

Economic activity in Canada continued to rise in July 1983, following the strong 1.8% gain in June. Gross Domestic Product, in 1971 prices, increased by a further 0.3% to \$119.5 billion (at annual rates) in July from \$119.1 billion in June. Production has now increased in six of the past seven months, and by July was operating at a level 5.4% higher than last December's low point. The growth in economic activity since the beginning of the year has already made up almost two-thirds of the loss suffered during the downturn but still must increase by a further 2.8% to match the pre-recession levels set in June 1981.

Increased manufacturing activity provided a major contribution to the overall output growth in July, rising by 1.3% to its highest level since the end of 1981. Contributors to the increase in manufacturing output were manufacturers of paper, wood, furniture and clothing.

Another area of strength in July was wholesale trade, with the largest gains recorded by wholesalers of machinery and equipment of all kinds. Forestry output rose to its highest level in two and a half years.

Residential construction showed a decline in July, but high levels of activity have been set in recent months. (For residential construction, the May-July 1983 period was running 28.5% above the February-April level.) Sawmills' production has been spurred by increased housing activity in both Canada and the United States.

Increased activity in finance, insurance and real estate services in July was primarily due to gains by security dealers. Most of the growth in community, business and personal services stemmed from restaurants.

Retail trade declined in July, following the very strong growth recorded in recent months; almost all store-types registered declines; only retailers of household furniture and appliances posted sizeable increases. (The temporary removal of the 7% retail sales tax on furniture and major appliances in Ontario was partly responsible for the gain. The tax exemptions ended August 8, 1983.)

Mining output fell 1.4% in July; sharp output reductions occurred in both metal and non-metal mines as a result of production shutdowns at several major mines.

Following four consecutive monthly increases, output of transportation services declined in July, mainly due to lower air transport activity. A decrease in the output of telephone services led to a decline in communication services.

For further information, order the July 1983 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$3.70/\$37), or contact R. Kennedy (613-995-0568), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 9Z9.

freight loadings, contact Y. Deslauriers (613-995-1976), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.



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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED OCTOBER 7 — 13

	Catalogue No.	In Canada Price per issue/year	Elsewhere Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE STATISTICS			
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 7, September Forecast of Production of Principal Crops, Canada	22-002	\$1.55/\$10.60	\$1.85/\$12.70
The Dairy Review, August 1983	23-001	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
CANSIM			
Canadian Statistical Review, September 1983	11-003E	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
Canadian Statistical Review: Annual Supplement to Section I, 1982	11-206	\$6.35	\$7.60
CENSUS			
Census Tracts: Population, Occupied Private Dwellings, Private Households and Census and Economic Families in Private Households — Selected Social and Economic Characteristics, North Bay, 1981 Census of Canada	95-960	\$5.50	\$6.60
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Census Tracts: Population, Occupied Private Dwellings, Private Households and Census and Economic Families in Private Households — Selected Social and Economic Characteristics, Peterborough, 1981 Census of Canada	95-963	\$5.50	\$6.60
CONSTRUCTION			
The Heavy Engineering Contracting Industry, 1981	64-209	\$7.40	\$8.90
The Highway, Road, Street and Bridge Contracting Industry, 1981	64-206	\$6.35	\$7.60
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM			
Service Bulletin			
Travel-log, Vol. 2, No. 3, Special Announcements	87-003	\$1.50/\$6.35	\$1.80/\$7.60
EXTERNAL TRADE			
Imports by Commodities, July 1983	65-007	\$5.20/\$55	\$6.35/\$63.50
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			
Cement, August 1983	44-001	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.50
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, June 1983	26-006	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, August 1983	43-005	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Gypsum Products, August 1983	44-003	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, July 1983	31-001	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, August 1983	47-004	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Quarries and Sand Pits, 1981	26-225	\$4.75	\$5.70
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, August 1983	43-003	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Service Bulletin			
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, Vol. 11, No. 23, Pack of Apples and Apple Products, 1982	32-023	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES			
Department Store Sales and Stocks, July 1983	63-002	\$3.15/\$31.50	\$3.80/\$37.80
Merchandising Inventories, July 1983	63-014	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
PRICES			
Construction Price Statistics, September 1983	62-007	\$3.15/\$31.50	\$3.80/\$37.80
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS			
Service Bulletins			
Aviation Statistics Centre, Vol. 15, No. 9, Canadian Air Transport Industry, 1983, 1982 and 1981	51-004	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
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