

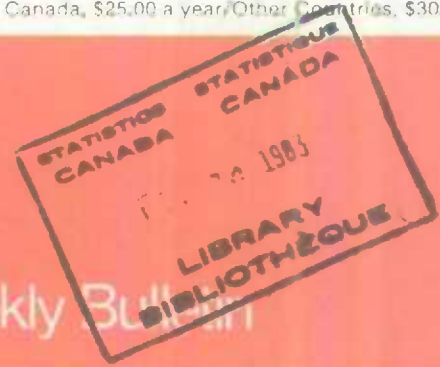


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Weekly Bulletin



February 11, 1983

## Retail Trade

Retail sales in Canada totalled \$10,612.7 million in December 1982, up 6.3% from a year earlier. Sales advanced in 23 of the 28 groups with the largest increases registered by pharmacies, patent medicine and cosmetics stores (+21.3%), automotive parts and accessories stores (+16.8%), and household appliance stores (+15.9%); the largest decreases were reported by family clothing stores (-12.1%), book and stationery stores (-7.1%) and jewellery stores (-5.2%).

Retail sales in December 1982 showed increases from December 1981 in all the provinces except Alberta (-1.7%), British Columbia (-3.3%) and the Yukon and Northwest Territories (-7.5%); gains ranged from 1.9% in Saskatchewan to 14.4% in Prince Edward Island. In the metropolitan areas, sales were higher in Montreal (+10.2%); Toronto (+5.8%); and Winnipeg (+11.8%) but dropped in Vancouver (-3.0%).

Revised total retail trade for November 1982 was \$8,513.1 million, an increase of 3.8% over November 1981. Cumulative sales for January to December 1982 were \$97,351.6 million, up 3.2% over the 1981 total.

Seasonally adjusted, retail sales for December 1982 were up 2.2% from the preceding month to a level of \$8,409.4 million. Sales were up in eight provinces, with Prince Edward Island (+4.5%), Quebec (+4.5%) and Manitoba (+4.3%) showing the most notable increases.

For further information, order the December 1982 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$3.50/\$35).

## Canada's Merchandise Trade

In the fourth quarter of 1982, exports (seasonally adjusted on a balance-of-payments basis) declined 9.1% or \$2.03 billion to \$20.2 billion following an increase of 4.1% in the third quarter, a 4.8% increase in the second quarter, and a 4.2% decrease in the first quarter. Imports declined more steeply in the fourth quarter of 1982, down 13.3% or \$2.34 billion to \$15.2 billion after a 4.4% increase in the third quarter, a 0.5% decrease in the second quarter, and a 9.1% decrease in the first quarter. Consequently, the merchandise trade surplus continued to increase in the fourth quarter, up \$304 million to \$5.02 billion after surpluses of \$4.71 (continued on next page)

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Oct.	399.04p	395.64p	8.0
Labour Income (\$ million)	Oct.	16,958.7p	16,912.3p	3.4
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.*	10.06	10.25	-3.4
Unemployed	Jan.*	1,598,000	1,494,000	45.8

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	3,324.7	3,338.1	-3.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	31,849.6p	32,132.3r	-3.5

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	15,829.7p	14,828.6r	3.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	17,361.9p	16,764.9r	-9.7

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	271.1	271.0	9.3
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Dec.	129.6	129.7	-3.9
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Dec.	201.6p	200.7p	8.2
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Dec.	144.0p	142.7p	-0.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	292.3p	291.2p	4.4

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	964.5p	11,498.6p	-31.3
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	10,498	104,792	-26.4

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Nov.	3,681	39,008	8.0
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.*	32.8	340.1	-0.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Oct.	7,925.6	79,776.4	0.5
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Nov.	7.8p	82.7p	-13.0

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.*	7,026p	84,253p	0.0
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.*	5,000p	66,436p	-13.6

### PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Dec.	14.5p	200.9p	-12.6
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	Dec.	618.3p	11,769.0p	-19.6

### SALES

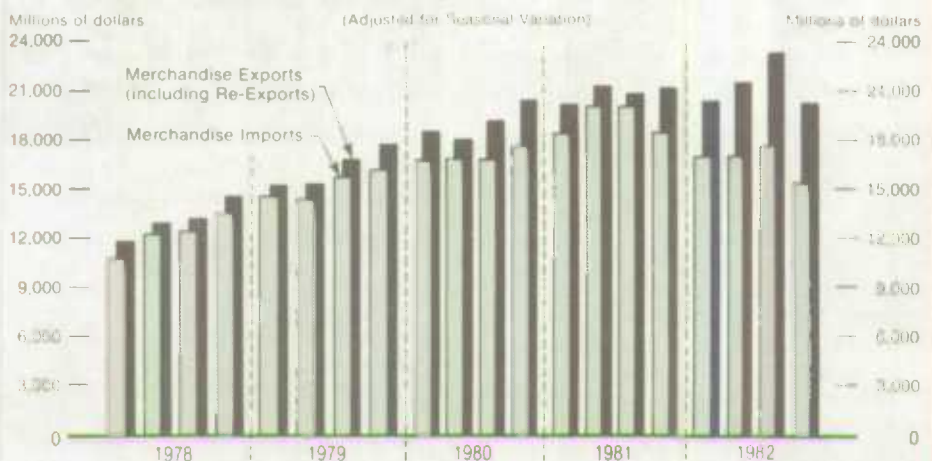
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.*	1,608.3	10,206.4	-0.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	15,232.7p	168,542.3p	-3.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	765.2	9,094.5	-19.0
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.*	10,612.7p	97,351.6p	3.2

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

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

## Canadian Merchandise Exports and Imports\*

Quarter-by-Quarter Movements



\* Balance of Payments Basis

Source: Statistics Canada, Summary of External Trade (65-001)

billion in the third quarter, \$4.58 billion in the second quarter, and \$3.51 billion in the first quarter.

Canada's \$17.8 billion surplus (balance-of-payments basis) for 1982 was twice as large as the previous record surplus in 1980 and \$10.5 billion higher than the 1981 surplus. The main reasons for the \$10.5 billion increase in the 1982 surplus were:

- A dramatic turnaround in motor vehicle product trade with the United States, which swung to a \$2.9 billion surplus in 1982 (customs basis) from a \$1.9 billion deficit in 1981. This marked the first surplus with the U.S. since 1972. The deficit of \$0.7 billion in automotive trade with other countries (notably Japan) resulted in an overall \$2.1 billion surplus for total motor vehicle products.

- A 37.0% or \$2.9 billion drop in crude petroleum imports to \$5 billion and a 13% or \$2.6 billion drop in machinery and equipment imports to \$17 billion.

As in 1981, other main contributors to the 1982 surplus were:

- Forest products, \$10.9 billion balance
- Cereals and preparations, \$5.7 billion balance
- Natural gas, \$4.8 billion balance
- Non-ferrous metals, \$3.2 billion balance
- Petroleum and coal products, \$1.6 billion balance
- Electricity, \$1.1 billion balance.

For further information, order the December 1982 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, \$3/\$30), or contact Gordon Blaney (613-995-6305), Trade Inquiries Unit, Henry Glouchkow or François Bordé (613-995-6115), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Farm Energy Use

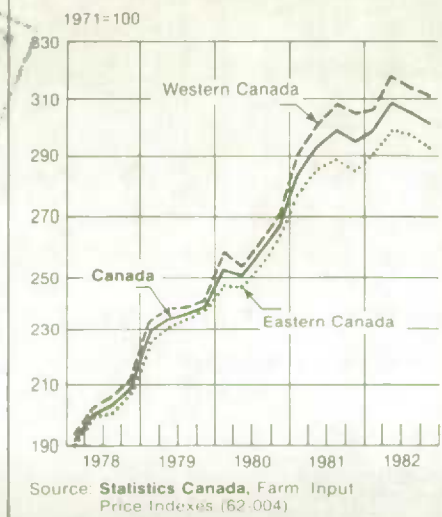
Now available are results of the Farm Energy Use Survey, conducted in July 1982 by Statistics Canada to provide detailed information on energy use on Canadian farms.

Survey results indicate that since 1978, an estimated 80,000 farmers have increased vehicle and machinery maintenance to obtain maximum energy efficiency.

Farmers are taking other initiatives to conserve energy in agriculture, a major energy-using sector of the Canadian economy. During the 1978-1981 period, insulation was added to almost one-half (102,000) the 244,000 farm homes in the country and nearly 40,000 farm buildings other than homes.

Although the 1981 Farm Energy Use Survey will not be repeated, Statistics Canada will be monitoring some major indicators of energy use on an ongoing basis using existing surveys. For further details of the survey, contact Larry Murphy (613-995-4936), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Farm Input Price Indexes



## Farm Input Index

The Farm Input Price Index for Canada (1971=100) declined 1.5% to 300.9 in the fourth quarter of 1982 from its revised third quarter level of 305.6, the second quarterly decline in a row. The decrease reflected drops in the component indexes for animal production (-5.2%), interest (-7.4%) and crop production (-2.3%); partly offsetting were increases in the indexes for machinery and motor vehicles (3.2%), supplies and services (2.7%) and lesser increases for building and fencing (1.1%) and for hired farm labour (1.1%).

On a year-over-year basis, the Farm Input Price Index for Canada was only 2% higher than the same quarter of 1981. Decreases in the indexes for interest (-7.0%) and crop production (-3.0%) largely offset the effects of higher prices in the rest of the groups. The most significant increase was in the machinery and motor vehicles index (7.2%); in this group, higher petroleum prices more than offset a variety of discounts for farm machinery.

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## Energy Statistics

Higher exports have maintained crude oil production levels during the January to November 1982 period, despite a decrease of 14.1% in demand by Canadian refineries. Crude oil receipts decreased substantially (-32.4% for crude imports and -6.5% for domestic crude), but weak domestic demand did not result in an equal decline in Canadian production — a 31.8% jump in exports to the United States sustained domestic production which decreased only 1.5% during the first 11 months of 1982.

As well, refineries in the Atlantic provinces substituted more domestic crude oil for imported crude; this surplus crude oil, available as a result of the decline in demand by refineries in Quebec and Ontario, was moved from Montreal to east coast refineries with the cost of transportation subsidized by the federal Government.

Net recoveries of natural gas from fields totalled 8 346 gigalitres in November 1982, up 7.9% from the same month in 1981. Data for the January-November period show that natural gas production rebounded in 1982 (+2.3%) following two years of decline. The increase in 1982 is attributed to higher Canadian demand for natural gas by the residential and commercial sectors (+15%), especially during the January to April heating period; industrial demand declined 6.3%. Exports to the U.S. remained fairly stable, showing an increase of 2.5% from the 1981 period.

Coal production rose 8% during January to November 1982, reaching a total of 39 008 kilotonnes, almost equal to the figure for the complete year 1981. Electricity production in the first 11 months of 1982 (32 820 gigawatt hours) was down slightly from the same period in 1981 (33 166 GW.h).

For further information, contact Don Wilson or Mike Valiquette (613-996-3139), Energy and Mineral Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Electric Power Statistics

Net generation of electricity in Canada in November 1982 totalled 32 831 gigawatt hours, down from 33 166 GW.h a year earlier. Exports rose to 3 431 GW.h from 3 266 GW.h and imports were up to 166 GW.h from 90 GW.h.

For the first 11 months of 1982, net generation of electric power totalled 340 113 GW.h, down 0.7% from 342 444 GW.h in the January-November 1981 period. Exports declined to 31 164 GW.h from 32 167 GW.h, while imports of electricity rose to 2 702 GW.h from 1 404 GW.h in the year-earlier period.

For further information, order the November 1982 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact Dave Madson (613-996-3139), Energy Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Labour Force Survey

The unadjusted employment level for Canada was estimated at 10,058,000 in January 1983, down 355,000 (-3.4%) from a year earlier. Unemployment climbed 45.8% to 1,598,000 from 1,096,000 over the 12-month period. The unemployment rate at 13.7% was up from 9.5% in January 1982, while the participation rate decreased to 62.3% from 62.4% and the employment/population ratio dropped to 53.8% from 56.5%.

Seasonally adjusted, Canada's unemployment rate moved down to 12.4% in January 1983 from the record December level of 12.8%. The participation rate decreased to 63.6% from 63.9% in the preceding month, while the employment/population ratio remained unchanged at 55.7%.

For the week ending January 15, 1983, the seasonally adjusted level of employment was 10,416,000, unchanged from December. Employment increases in manufacturing (+16,000), and finance, insurance and real estate (+13,000) were offset by declines in construction (-16,000) and transportation, communication and other utilities (-14,000). On a provincial basis, employment declined in Newfoundland (-4,000) and Alberta (-9,000), increased in Quebec (+10,000) and Manitoba (+6,000) and showed little change in the other provinces.

Seasonally adjusted, unemployment was estimated at 1,481,000 in January, down 52,000 from December. (For a number of reasons, this decline should not be interpreted as indicating a significant improvement in the labour market; the January survey results actually indicate little change in the overall unemployment situation compared to December 1982.)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in January 1983 were as follows, with December rates in brackets: Newfoundland, 17.3% (18.1%); Prince Edward Island, 14.4% (13.2%); Nova Scotia, 15.0% (14.6%); New Brunswick, 15.2% (15.0%); Quebec, 14.4% (14.7%); Ontario, 11.2% (12.1%); Manitoba, 10.0% (10.7%); Saskatchewan, 7.7% (7.3%); Alberta, 10.1% (10.6%); and British Columbia, 14.2% (14.7%).

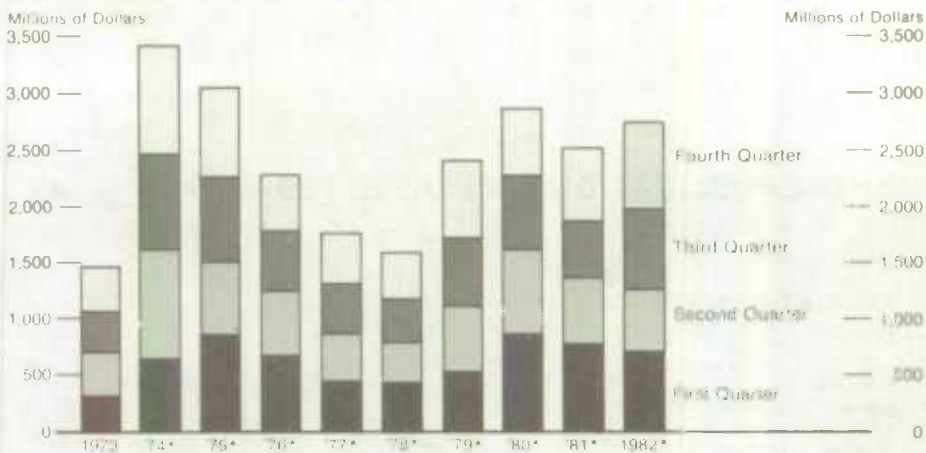
For further information, order the January 1983 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$3.50/\$35).

## Restaurant Statistics

Preliminary estimates for December 1982 show that restaurant, caterer and tavern establishments in Canada had sales totalling \$792.0 million. Final estimates for November 1982 indicate sales of \$766.2 million.

For further information on sales of chains versus independents and provincial sales by kind of business, order the December 1982 issue of *Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics* (63-011, \$1.50/\$15), or contact R. Bennett (613-996-9301).

## Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum to the United States



Source: Statistics Canada, Exports by Commodities (65-004)

\* Includes the export tax

## Department Store Sales

Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$1,608.3 million in December 1982, up 4.3% from a year earlier. Cumulative sales for the year 1982 were \$10,206.4 million, down 0.1% from the 1981 level.

Department store sales by regions for the latest month were as follows, with percentage changes from December 1981 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$598.5 million (+6.4%)
- Quebec, \$280.2 million (+6.1%)
- British Columbia, \$265.3 million (+0.5%)
- Alberta, \$218.7 million (-3.0%)
- Atlantic provinces, \$117.7 million (+9.5%)
- Manitoba, \$80.9 million (+5.5%)
- Saskatchewan, \$47.1 million (+10.6%).

Data users should note that the figures for British Columbia include as well those for the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. See the December 1982 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.50/\$15).

## Business Conditions Survey

Canadian manufacturers reporting to the January Business Conditions Survey expressed more optimism about production for the first quarter of 1983 than they showed for the fourth quarter of 1982. Results show that 29% of the weighted response expect production to be higher from January to March than it was in the October to December 1982 period; the October survey indicated that only 15% expected an increase in production. The proportion expecting lower production decreased to 29% from 50% in the October survey. Manufacturers in all categories except durable and non-durable consumer goods exhibited much more optimism than they did in the October survey.

Regarding new orders, at the Canada level the proportion reporting rising new orders increased to 20% in January 1983 from 8% in October 1982, while those reporting declining new orders decreased to 36% from 59%. Again, for all categories except

durable and non-durable consumer goods the proportion citing rising new orders was higher in January than in October and the proportion indicating declining new orders was lower.

In the January survey, the backlog of unfilled orders at the Canada level was reported to be higher than normal by 3%, lower than normal by 62% and about normal by 35%. In October 1982, 4% reported a higher than normal backlog, 68% lower than normal and 28% about normal.

From last October to January, there was little change in the assessment by manufacturers of the level of finished products inventory. In the latest survey, this inventory was reported to be too high by 38%, too low by 3% and about right by 59%.

For further information, contact T. Newton (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Telephone Statistics

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported revenues of \$667.9 million in December 1982, up 9.0% from a year earlier. Operating expenses increased 10.5% to \$492.4 million. Net operating revenue at \$175.5 million showed an increase of 5.2% over December 1981.

For further information, order the December 1982 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$1.50/\$15).

## Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada in December 1982 totalled 13.9 million tonnes, a drop of 20.9% from a year earlier. The carriers received an additional 0.8 million tonnes from the United States, down 24.1% from December 1981.

Commodities registering notable changes in volumes loaded in the latest month were: wheat (+9.0%); coal (-5.2%); grain, other than wheat (-22.5%); and iron ore and concentrates (-50.1%).



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**THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FEBRUARY 4 — 10**

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
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<b>CANSIM</b>			
Canadian Statistical Review, January 1983	11-003E	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Building Permits, November 1982	64-001	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
<b>CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS</b>			
Current Economic Analysis, December 1982	13-004E	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
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Gross Domestic Product by Industry, October 1982	61-005	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
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Estimates of Employees by Province and Industry, October 1982	72-008	\$3.15/\$31.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics, August 1982	73-001p	N/C	N/C
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			
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Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, December 1982	36-004	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Electric Lamps (Light Sources), December 1982	43-009	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, December 1982	44-004	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Papermakers' and Other Felts, Quarter Ended December 1982	47-003	\$2.65/\$10.60	\$3.20/\$12.70
Production of Selected Biscuits, Quarter Ended December 1982	32-026	\$2.65/\$10.60	\$3.20/\$12.70
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November 1982	35-003	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
Rigid Insulating Board, December 1982	36-002	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Sales of Toilet Preparations in Canada, 1981	46-221	\$3.15	\$3.80
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>			
Department Store Sales by Regions, November 1982	63-004	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Computer Service Industry, 1981	63-222	\$4.75	\$5.70
Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics, November 1982	63-011	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Wholesale Trade, November 1982	63-008	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
International Air Charter Statistics, January-March 1982	51-003	\$5.30/\$21.20	\$6.35/\$25.45
Railway Carloadings, November 1982	52-001	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Railway Transport: Part VI — Employment Statistics, 1981	52-212	\$4.75	\$5.70