

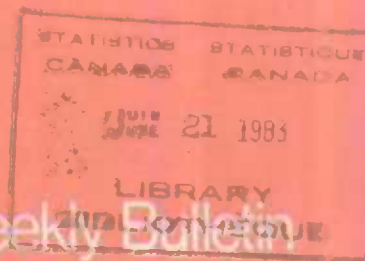


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Weekly Bulletin



June 17, 1983

Retail Trade

Preliminary estimates show retail trade in April 1983 totalled \$8,371.0 million, an increase of 3.7% from a year earlier. Among the 28 kinds of businesses covered, 21 posted higher sales with the most notable increases for household appliance stores (+15.1%), furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores (+12.1%) and household furniture stores (+11.3%). Major decreases were reported by florists (-6.5%), jewellery stores (-5.9%) and service stations (-3.2%).

Sales increases from April 1982 were posted in all provinces except Alberta (-0.7%), and the Yukon and Northwest Territories (-14.3%), gains ranging from +0.3% in British Columbia to +7.1% in New Brunswick. Sales were higher in April 1983 in all metropolitan areas covered: Toronto (+4.5%), Winnipeg (+4.3%), Montreal (+2.4%) and Vancouver (+0.4%).

Seasonally adjusted, preliminary retail sales estimates for April 1983 were at a level of \$8,304.5 million, down 2.8% from the revised \$8,547.5 million estimate for March 1983. All provinces reported lower sales, decreases ranging from -7.7% in New Brunswick to -0.4% in Saskatchewan.

For further information, order the April 1983 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$3.70/\$37), or contact Jean-Pierre Simard (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 9Z9.

Foreign Trade/Automotive

Canada's balance of trade in automotive products with the United States strengthened by \$280 million in the first quarter of 1983, increasing to an \$815 million surplus from the \$535 million surplus posted in the first quarter of 1982.

The higher surplus in the latest quarter reflected a slight \$55 million increase to \$1.8 billion in the surplus on vehicles (cars, trucks and other motor vehicles) coupled with a \$215 million decline in the deficit on parts to \$1.09 billion. Total exports were up by 26.2% as a result of a 31% rise in passenger car exports and a sharp 47% jump in parts exports. Overall imports climbed by 21.8% because of an 82% increase in passenger car imports and a 10% rise in parts imports.

The deficit on trade in automotive products (customs basis) with overseas

(continued on next page)

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar*	409.80p	407.13p	6.6
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.	16,180.9p	16,136.9p	1.0
Persons with Jobs (million)	May*	10.69	10.33	-0.1
Unemployed	May*	1,493,000	1,570,000	20.3

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	3,052.1	2,686.8	9.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Mar.	31,863.7p	31,934.7r	-8.5

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	16,726.4p	14,963.1r	-0.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	17,292.8p	17,263.3r	-7.7

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Apr.	115.8	115.8	6.6
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Apr.	129.8	129.6	-3.8
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Apr.	210.9p	208.3p	6.4
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Apr.	153.1p	149.0p	1.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	296.0p	295.2p	2.9

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Mar.	1,274.0p	2,789.1p	-2.3
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Apr.	12,413	35,991	1.9

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Feb.	3,223	7,219	4.4
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Feb.*	33.6	70.4	-5.0
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Feb.	8,515.1	18,407.7	-6.4
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Apr.*	5.4p	26.4p	-10.1

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	7,418p	28,063p	2.1
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	6,019p	22,598p	-2.8

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	May*	18.1p	79.8p	-10.1
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	Mar.	1,079.7p	2,659.6p	-27.3

SALES

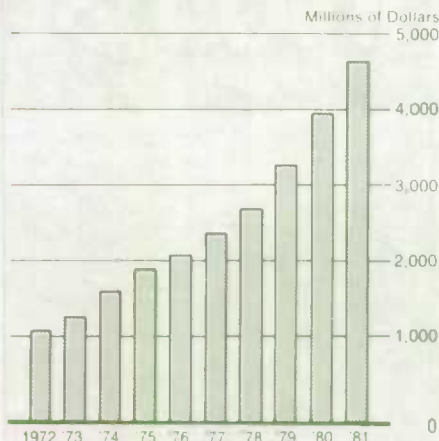
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	775.3	2,790.4	4.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Mar.	16,696.8p	45,123.5p	-0.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.*	1,244.8	3,644.4	11.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	8,124.7p	21,783.7p	5.5

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

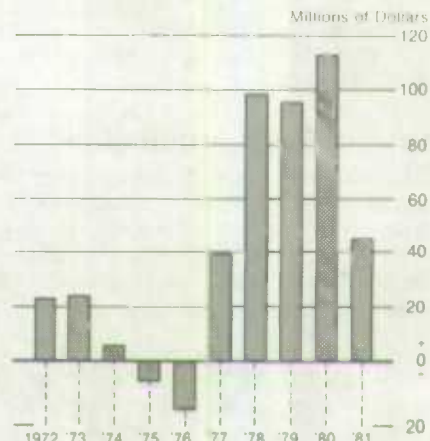
p - preliminary. r - revised. * - new this week.

Air Carriers of All Financial Levels

Operating Revenues



Net Income After Taxes



Source: Statistics Canada, Air Carrier Financial Statements (51-206)

Canada

countries more than doubled, rising to \$345 million in the first quarter of 1983 from \$140 million in the first quarter of 1982. The deficit increase of \$210 million was due to a 53% drop in exports, rather than a rise in imports (up only 4%).

For further information, contact Gordon Blaney (613-995-6305), Trade Information Unit, Henry Glouchkow or François Bordé (613-995-6115), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Capacity Utilization Rates

Capacity utilization in Canadian manufacturing industries increased during the first quarter of 1983, turning around after a steady decline which began in the third quarter of 1981. The increase for total manufacturing was 6.0% to 67.2% of capacity from 63.4% in the previous quarter. (The current level is still down 18.7% from the 82.7% level posted in the second quarter of 1981, just before the rate began to decline.)

Durable manufacturing industries showed an 8.3% increase in capacity utilization to 58.4% in the first quarter of 1983 from 53.9% in the fourth quarter of 1982, while in non-durable manufacturing industries, the increase was 4.1% to 76.1% from 73.1%.

For further information, order the first quarter 1983 issue of *Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing* (31-003, \$5.30/\$21.20), or contact P. Koumanakos (613-995-4219), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 9Z9.

Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for January-April 1983 totalled an estimated \$6,220.1 million, down fractionally by 0.2% from the year-earlier level of \$6,230.7 million.

Receipts from the sale of field crops declined slightly in the latest period to \$3,112.7 million; increased cash receipts for wheat, rapeseed and soybeans were offset by lower levels for rye, flaxseed, corn and potatoes. Cash receipts from the sale of livestock and livestock products were up marginally from the January-April 1982 level to \$2,972.2 million.

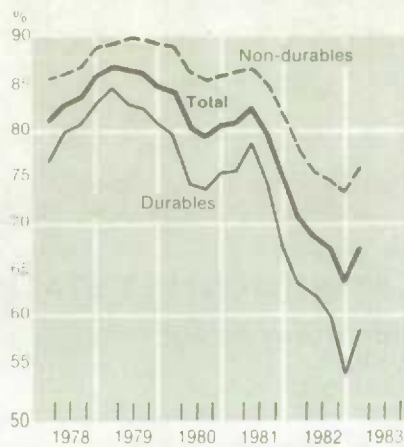
For further information, order the January-April 1983 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, \$1.55/\$15.50).

Index of Farm Production

Production of agricultural commodities in Canada in 1982 reached a record level for the second year in a row: the Canada Index of Farm Production (1971=100) increased 3.3% in 1982 to 133.2 following an 11.1% increase recorded in 1981.

The Index of Farm Production measures the change, through time, in the economic production of agricultural commodities. For further information regarding these index numbers, order the 1982 issue of *Index of Farm Production* (21-203, \$4.75).

Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing



Source: Statistics Canada, Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing (31-003)

Refined Petroleum Products

Preliminary data show net sales in Canada of all refined petroleum products plunged 12.4% in April 1983 to 5 677.7 thousand cubic metres from 6 481.2 thousand cubic metres a year earlier.

Canadian refineries produced 5 427.5 thousand cubic metres of refined petroleum products in the latest month, down 11.0% from 6 100.3 thousand cubic metres in April 1982.

For further information, order the April 1983 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$3.70/\$37).

Gas Utilities

Preliminary data show that sales of natural gas in Canada amounted to 4 558 million cubic metres in March 1983, a drop of 10.3% from 5 082 million cubic metres a year earlier.

Exports of natural gas to the United States were reported at 1 778 million cubic metres in the latest month, down 10.6% from 1 989 million cubic metres in March 1982.

Infomat

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Labour Force Survey

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased slightly to 12.4% in May 1983 from 12.5% in April. The participation rate rose to 64.4% from 64.2% in the preceding month and the employment/population ratio advanced to 56.4% from 56.1%.

For the week ending May 21, 1983, the seasonally adjusted level of employment was estimated at 10,597,000, an increase of 63,000 from April. There were increases recorded in all the major age/sex groups: employment rose 31,000 for males aged 15-24 and by 14,000 for those 25 years and over, while the level increased by 8,000 for females 15-24 and by 10,000 for those 25 years of age and over. Employment gains were registered in May in manufacturing (+32,000) and service (+17,000) industries while it decreased by 18,000 in trade. On a provincial basis, employment rose in Quebec (+27,000), Ontario (+21,000), New Brunswick (+6,000) and Saskatchewan (+6,000), while it decreased by 12,000 in British Columbia.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment was estimated at 1,500,000 in May 1983, down slightly by 7,000 from April. Unemployment decreased by 13,000 for females 25 years of age and over and by 8,000 for males aged 15 to 24. Provincially, unemployment decreased by 3,000 in New Brunswick, increased by 4,000 in Manitoba and showed little change elsewhere.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in May 1983 were as follows, with April rates in brackets: Newfoundland, 19.4% (20.3%); Prince Edward Island, 11.7% (11.0%); Nova Scotia, 13.5% (13.4%); New Brunswick, 14.7% (15.8%); Quebec, 14.3% (14.4%); Ontario, 11.5% (11.7%); Manitoba, 10.3% (9.6%); Saskatchewan, 7.5% (7.6%); Alberta, 10.5% (10.5%); and British Columbia, 13.9% (13.4%).

The unadjusted employment level for Canada was estimated at 10,692,000 in May 1983, down 12,000 (-0.1%) from a year earlier. Unemployment rose 20.3% to 1,493,000 from 1,241,000 over the 12-month period. The unemployment rate at 12.3% was up from 10.4% in May 1982 and the participation rate increased to 64.9% from 64.4%, while the employment/population ratio declined to 56.9% from 57.7% last year.

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

Vehicle Fuel Sales

Total gross sales of gasoline in Canada during 1982 were reported at 32 584 million litres, down 11.7% from the 36 896 million litres reported in 1981. Net sales of gasoline decreased 12.3% to 26 989 million litres in 1982 from 30 783 million litres in 1981.

Net sales of diesel fuel fell 26.0% to 3 855 million litres in 1982 from 5 212 million litres in 1981.

Balance of Payments

On a seasonally adjusted basis, Canada's current account surplus fell substantially from the high \$1,054 million level of the previous quarter to \$226 million in the first quarter of 1983 due largely to a substantial increase in merchandise imports. The merchandise trade surplus, however, remained high by historical standards as imports were still relatively weak. The upsurge in imports and an increase in exports were in line with the strengthening of the economy and contrasted with the previous quarter when both imports and exports declined.

In the capital account, the net inflow from long-term capital continued to stem from new bond borrowings from abroad. The substantial reduction in the net outflow from short-term capital resulted largely from the foreign currency transactions of Canadian banks. In contrast to the previous three quarters, the banks reduced substantially the repayment of their debt to non-residents.

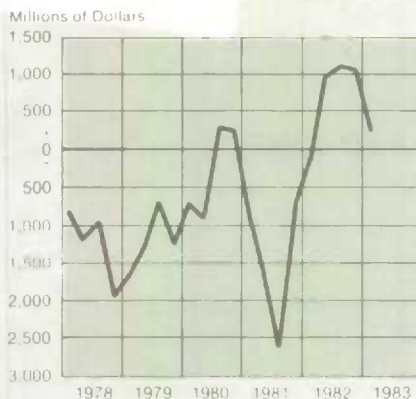
The main quarterly features were:

- On a **seasonally adjusted** basis, a decline of \$828 million in the **current account** surplus to \$226 million. The surplus resulted from a merchandise trade surplus of \$4.0 billion and a deficit of \$3.8 billion on non-merchandise transactions;
- A surge in **imports** of 10% to \$16.8 billion, while **exports** increased by only 2.5% to \$20.8 billion. These transactions left the merchandise trade surplus \$1 billion lower than in the previous quarter.
- among imports, significant increases were recorded in automotive products, chemicals and non-ferrous metals. Declines were recorded in crude petroleum, coal, and agricultural and industrial machinery;
- among exports, increases were posted in automotive products, wheat and lumber. There were declines in steel, industrial machinery and natural gas;
- A reduction of \$280 million in the deficit on **service transactions** to \$4.0 billion. This was due mainly to lower net payments in both investment income and business service transactions. The decline in investment income net payments was caused by both lower interest rates and a reduction in dividends;
- **Unadjusted** for seasonal variations, a reduction of \$546 million from the first quarter of 1982 in the **current account** balance to a deficit of \$688 million. This drop was attributable to a higher merchandise trade surplus;
- A relatively stable **Canadian dollar** which fluctuated within a narrow range to close the quarter at 80.83 U.S. cents, half-a-cent lower than the closing of December 1982.

For further information, contact L. Laliberté (613-996-2545), Balance of Payments Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6. The main tables can be obtained in machine readable form from the CANSIM base.

Canadian Balance of International Payments

Current Account — Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Statistics Canada, Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments (67-001)

Employment in Industry

First estimates show that the Canada industrial composite index of employment (1961=100) decreased 0.4% in March 1983 from the February level. Lower employment was registered in all industry divisions except forestry which showed an increase. Decreases were posted in all regions except the Atlantic region where employment increased and Ontario which remained unchanged.

Average weekly earnings at the Canada industrial level increased by 0.7% to \$408.90 in March from \$405.95 in February. With the exception of forestry, construction and finance, insurance and real estate, all industry divisions showed higher average weekly earnings. All regions contributed to the increase.

Average weekly hours in March increased in mining (including milling) and manufacturing but decreased in construction. Average hourly earnings increased in manufacturing and construction but remained unchanged in mining (including milling).

Detailed information for January and February will be published in the March 1983 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$5.30/\$53) and is also available from R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Provincial Governments

The general government services in Canada's provincial and territorial governments (excluding British Columbia) reported gross payrolls for the first quarter of 1983 of \$2,115 million. The number of employees reported for the last pay period of March 1983 was 370,195.

Data are available from the January-March 1983 issue of *Provincial Government Employment* (72-007, \$5.30/\$21.20), or contact A.G. Kerr, Provincial Government Section (613-995-8201), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross domestic product in constant 1971 prices, seasonally adjusted at annual rates, increased 0.8% in March 1983 to \$114.9 billion from \$113.9 billion in February to continue an upward trend which began in November 1982. The increase of 2.4% over this five-month period strongly suggests that the long period of downturn in the economy following its peak in June 1981 has finally ended. During this period, output decreased 8.6%.

After the 0.8% advance in March, the level of economic activity in Canada stood 1.6% below the corresponding month of 1982. The growth in March was entirely due to gains posted in service-producing industries, especially transportation, trade and community, business and personal service industries. Goods-producing industries showed no change from the previous month, with some gains recorded in forestry and construction offsetting declines in manufacturing.

Specific industries which performed strongly in March included motor vehicle dealers, department stores, insurance and real estate services, iron and steel mills, education services (due to a strike recovery), and residential construction. On the negative side, some weakness occurred among manufacturers of motor vehicles and metal fabricated products.

Gross Domestic Product, First Quarter 1983

In the first quarter of 1983, Gross Domestic Product increased 1.8% to a level of \$114.3 billion from \$112.3 billion in the fourth quarter of 1982, marking the first quarterly increase in Canada's economy since the second quarter of 1981.

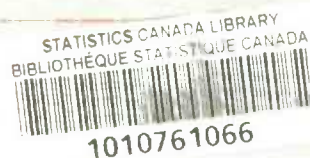
Most of the 1.8% increase in the quarter originated with the goods-producing industries which advanced 4.9%, while output of service-producing industries showed no change from the level recorded in the final quarter of 1982.

The main contributors to the first quarter increase among goods-producing industries included manufacturing (up 7.4%), construction (up 2.1%), forestry (up 20.8%), and mining (up 2.9%). For the service-producing industries, increases recorded in transportation services, and wholesale and retail trade were offset by declines in finance industries, and community, business and personal service industries.

For further information, order the March 1983 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$3.70/\$37), or contact R. Kennedy (613-995-0568), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Telephone Statistics

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported revenues of \$664.0 million in April 1983, up 6.3% from a year earlier. Operating expenses increased 3.5% over the period to \$463.6 million. Net operating revenue at \$200.5 million showed an increase of 13.3% over April 1982.



THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JUNE 10 — 16

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE STATISTICS			
Fruit and Vegetable Production, June 1983	22-003	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
Stocks of Food Commodities in Cold Storage and Other Warehouses, 1982	32-217	\$4.75	\$5.70
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, May 1, 1983	32-010	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS SERVICE BULLETIN			
Juristat Service Bulletin , Vol. 3, No. 1, Adult Correctional Services in Canada, 1978-79 to 1981-82	85-002	(N/C)	(N/C)
CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS			
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LABOUR			
Estimates of Employees by Province and Industry, February 1983	72-008	\$3.15/\$31.50	\$3.80/\$37.80
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Footwear Statistics, April 1983	33-002	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
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Gypsum Products, April 1983	44-003	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
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Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, March 1983	31-001	\$3.70/\$37	\$4.45/\$44.40
Miscellaneous Machinery and Equipment Manufacturers, 1981	42-214	\$4.75	\$5.70
Oil Pipe Line Transport, March 1983	55-001	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
Oils and Fats, April 1983	32-006	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, April 1983	47-004	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Pulp and Paper Mills, 1981	36-204	\$4.75	\$5.70
Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, April 1983	25-001	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Rigid Insulating Board, April 1983	36-002	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
Soft Drink Manufacturers, 1981	32-208	\$4.75	\$5.70
Sporting Goods and Toy Industries, 1981	47-204	\$4.75	\$5.70
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, April 1983	41-006	\$1.55/\$15.50	\$1.85/\$18.60
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES			
Merchandising Inventories, March 1983	63-014	\$2.65/\$26.50	\$3.20/\$31.80
PRICES			
Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, January-March 1983	62-010	\$6.35/\$25.40	\$7.60/\$30.50
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Air Carrier Financial Statements, 1981	51-206	\$6.35	\$7.60
Telephone Statistics, Preliminary Report on Large Telephone Systems, 1982	56-202	\$3.15	\$3.80