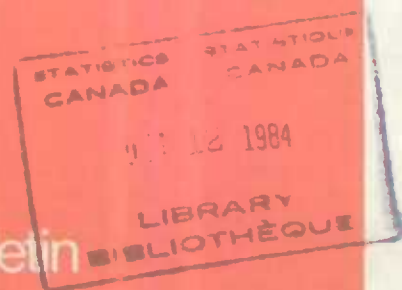


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Weekly Bulletin



October 12, 1984

External Trade

On a seasonally adjusted balance-of-payments basis, preliminary results show Canada's total exports climbed 3.9% or \$385 million to a record \$10.2 billion in August 1984, following a \$380 million increase in July and a \$185 million decline in June. Imports also registered a record increase, jumping 14.0% or \$1,085 million to \$8.8 billion, following a rise of \$255 million in July and a decline of \$475 million in June. As a result, the merchandise trade surplus plunged \$700 million to \$1.4 billion in August 1984.

During the first eight months of 1984, the merchandise trade surplus totalled \$13.4 billion, up \$1.1 billion from the corresponding period last year.

Commodity Analysis

The \$385 million overall increase in total exports in August 1984 was due primarily to a \$625 million rise in exports of automotive products which helped push the short-term trend upward. This increase was accompanied by declines in aircraft, ore and fish exports.

The main impetus for the surge in total imports in August 1984 was a record \$710 million jump in end products, largely comprising automotive products which registered an upturn in the short-term trend. Other rises were registered in aircraft, machinery and equipment, precious metals, and ores and concentrates imports. The only comparatively large decrease was in crude petroleum; the short-term trend for this product has been declining since it peaked in November 1983.

Trading Partner Analysis

After fluctuating widely between February and June, Canada's exports to the United States rose \$45 million in July and soared 8.6% or \$625 million in August to \$7.8 billion; automotive products were chiefly responsible for this record increase. Despite a \$155 million drop in August 1984, exports to Japan continued to show signs of recovery, as did exports to "other EEC" and other countries. The short-term trend for exports to the United Kingdom fell less rapidly, and the trend for exports to "other OECD" countries declined after reaching a peak in May.

Following sharp increases in July and August, the short-term trend for imports from the United States regained its momen-

(continued on page 2)

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	405.12	406.84	4.1
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	19,968.3	19,373.1	5.0
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.*	11.16	10.95	1.9
Unemployed	Sept.*	1,363,000	1,269,000	7.4

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	July	3,304.7	3,146.7	5.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	32,426.3	32,368.5	10.0

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	17,246.0	20,443.1	12.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	22,178.9	22,284.0	36.8

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Aug	122.9	122.9	3.7
New House Price Index (1981=100)	July	95.2	95.3	0.6
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Aug	215.0	217.1	1.3
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Aug	159.1	162.5	2.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Aug	312.2	312.5	3.6

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	July	1,320.7	8,556.4	2.6
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug.	11,029	75,027	-20.7

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	June	4 666	27 702	28.4
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	June	31.1	214.1	9.5
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	June	6 187	45 062	7.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	July	8.0	49.1	8.5

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.*	9,011	74,132	28.2
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.*	8,059	62,054	33.5

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Aug.	20.9	158.3	20.4
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	July	1 117	8 696	24.6

SALES

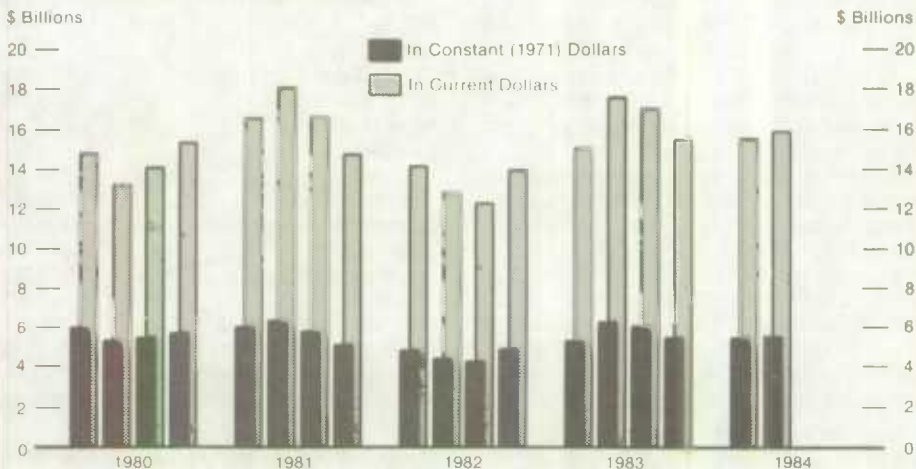
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	806.3	5,633.5	5.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	17,351.1	129,780.7	16.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,186.5	10,749.9	34.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	9,473.9	63,711.9	9.6

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Residential Construction Expenditures

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

...External Trade

tum; imports from Japan, "other OECD" countries and the United Kingdom were also strong. However, growth in imports from "other EEC" and other countries began to show signs of faltering.

For further information, order the August 1984 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, \$3.30/\$33), or contact G. Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or François Bordé (613-990-9784), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Earnings of Men and Women

This publication updates the historical data on earnings of men and women previously published for selected years from 1967 to 1979 under the same title and catalogue number. Data contained in these two reports facilitate analyses of earnings of men and women over the period 1967 to 1982 in terms of such relevant characteristics as age, education, and work experience.

The report shows that:

- The number of earners rose from 8.3 million in 1967 to 12.9 million in 1982. Women accounted for 62% of the additional 4.6 million earners during this period.
- There has been a slow but steady improvement in the ratio of women's earnings to men's over the last 15 years; among full-year/full-time workers, women earned, on average, 64 cents for every dollar earned by men in 1982 compared to 58 cents in 1967.
- Almost two of every three husband-wife families had wives in the labour force in 1982 compared to one of three in 1967. On average, earnings of wives accounted for approximately one-fifth of total family income in 1982 compared to one-tenth in 1967.

For further information, order *Earnings of Men and Women, 1981 and 1982* (13-577, Canada: \$7.75; Other Countries: \$9.30), or contact R. Chawla (613-990-9730), Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Help-wanted Index

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981=100) for Canada increased to 64 in September 1984 from 62 in August. By region, the Index increased in the Atlantic Provinces (to 127 from 112), Quebec (to 76 from 74), Ontario (to 69 from 68) and British Columbia (to 30 from 26). In contrast, the labour demand indicator declined slightly in the Prairie Provinces to 34 from 35 between the two months.

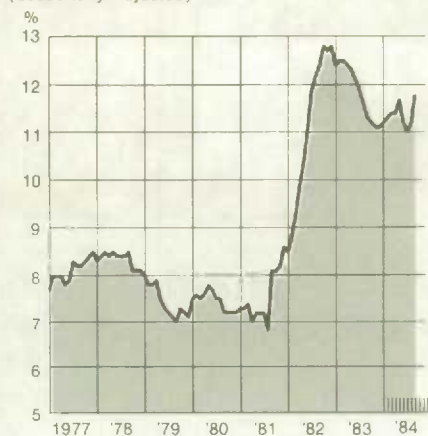
The short-term trend — an indicator which smooths irregular monthly fluctuations — continued its upward movement begun late in 1982.

Averaged over the third quarter, the Help-wanted Index advanced to 64 from 55 or by 16%, compared to the second quarter of 1984. Advances between the two quarters were observed in all regions with the exception of British Columbia.

Inquiries about the index should be directed to Horst Stiebert, (613-990-9900, Extension 238), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Unemployment Rate, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada, The Labour Force (71-001)

Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for the period January-August 1984 reached an estimated \$12,477.1 million, up 4.6% from the revised 1983 January-August estimate of \$11,929.5 million.

Receipts from the sale of field crops are estimated at \$5,865.7 million, 3.6% higher than last year's estimate of \$5,661.7 million. Oats, rye, rapeseed, potato and corn sales were up while receipts for wheat, barley and Canadian Wheat Board payments were down.

Cash receipts from the sale of livestock and livestock products were estimated at \$6,244.5 million, a 4.3% increase from the revised 1983 level of \$5,985.2 million. Other receipts were up 29.8%, totalling \$366.9 million from the previous year's revised total of \$282.6 million.

For further information, order the January-August 1984 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, \$1.60/\$16) or contact John Lanthier, (613-990-8706), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Population Estimates

Canada's population at June 1, 1984 reached an estimated 25,127,900. Population figures for the provinces and the territories are as follows:

Newfoundland	579,500
Prince Edward Island	125,300
Nova Scotia	869,900
New Brunswick	713,300
Quebec	6,549,000
Ontario	8,937,400
Manitoba	1,056,500
Saskatchewan	1,006,200
Alberta	2,348,800
British Columbia	2,870,800
Yukon	21,800
Northwest Territories	49,400

Canada's population growth rate was less than 1% for the period June 1983-May 1984, one of the lowest rates the country has experienced.

For further information, contact Lise Ofori-Atiah (613-990-9581), Demography Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Labour Force

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 11.8% in September 1984 from the previous month's level of 11.2%. This increase was largely due to an increase in the number of persons looking for work at a time of year when the number of job seekers normally decreases. The increase raised the seasonally adjusted participation rate to a record high of 65.2% compared to 64.8% in August. The employment/population ratio declined 0.1% to 57.5% in September 1984.

Employment for the week ending September 15 reached an estimated 11,045,000, virtually unchanged from the August estimate. Employment was down 14,000 among those aged 15 to 24 years to an estimated 2,367,000. Conversely, there was an increase of an estimated 18,000 in employment among those aged 25 and older.

Increases in employment were recorded in primary industries other than agriculture (+7,000), transportation, communications and other utilities (+10,000) and trade (+24,000); employment levels declined in public administration (-36,000).

Part-time employment declined 26,000 in September to an estimated 1,713,000, while full-time employment rose an estimated 26,000 to 9,344,000.

On a regional basis, employment increased an estimated 21,000 in Quebec and 9,000 in British Columbia. There was a decline of 4,000 in Nova Scotia; the employment levels of the remaining provinces showed little change from the previous month.

Unemployment reached an estimated 1,472,000 in September 1984, an increase of 81,000 from the previous month. Unemployment levels rose by 38,000 to 533,000 for those aged 15 to 24; there were increases for both males (+12,000) and females (+26,000) within this age group. Unemployment also increased in the 25 and older age group, reaching a level of 939,000.

By province, unemployment rose an estimated 6,000 in Newfoundland, 17,000 in Quebec, 21,000 in Ontario, 6,000 in Alberta and 11,000 in British Columbia. The remaining provinces experienced smaller increases in estimated unemployment levels.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in September were as follows (percentage increase from July follows in brackets): Newfoundland, 22.9% (1.9%); Prince Edward Island, 13.2% (1.8%); Nova Scotia, 13.6% (0.3%); New Brunswick, 15.9% (1.0%); Quebec, 12.9% (0.4%); Ontario, 9.5% (0.4%); Manitoba, 8.0% (0.3%); Saskatchewan, 8.5% (0.6%); Alberta, 12.0% (0.4%); and British Columbia, 14.9% (0.5%). These increases resulted in record high seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

For further information, order the September issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$3.85/\$38.50).

Technology and Commodity Trade

The publication reviews the use of commodity trade statistics as an indicator of the international transfer of technology. In addition to an historical perspective of the concepts, the report examines the theoretical, statistical and definitional foundations of the indicator, and outlines existing statistics and their uses.

For further information, order *Technology and Commodity Trade* (catalogue 88-503), or contact Karen Walker (613-990-9919), Science and Technology Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Telephone Systems

Fourteen major Canadian telephone systems reported revenues of \$8.4 billion in 1983, up 8.6% from 1982. Operating expenses were \$5.7 billion, 5.4% higher than recorded a year earlier. Net operating revenue rose 15.9% to \$2.7 billion.

Telephone toll messages increased 4.5% for the previous year, totalling 1.5 billion.

For further information, order *Telephone Statistics: Preliminary Report on Large Telephone Systems, 1983* (56-202, \$3.30), or contact J.R. Slatery (613-990-8693), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Local Government Employment

Employees involved in general government services of local government across Canada numbered 313,663 at the end of the second quarter of 1984. This represented a rise of 7.3% over the 292,446 reported at the end of the previous quarter, and a 0.7% increase over June 1983.

The gross payrolls of local government for the second quarter of 1984 amounted to \$1,669,122,000, 1.6% higher than the total of \$1,642,388,000 for the previous quarter and an increase of 4.2% compared to April-June 1983.

For further information, order the *April-June 1984 issue of Local Government Employment* (72-009, \$4.40/\$17.60) or contact the Employment and International Section (613-990-8305).

Department Store Sales

Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$873 million in August 1984, a 2.6% increase from a year earlier. Cumulative sales for January-August 1984 reached \$6,506.5 million, up 4.7% from the same period in 1983.

On a regional basis, department store sales in August were as follows (percentage change from August 1983 in brackets):

- Ontario, \$312.5 million (+1.6%)
- Quebec, \$163.8 million (+7.6%)
- British Columbia, \$140.4 million (+1.4%)
- Alberta, \$117.1 million (-0.1%)
- Atlantic provinces, \$66.3 million (+2.9%)
- Manitoba, \$45.5 million (+6.5%)
- Saskatchewan, \$27.2 million (-3.2%).

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

For further information, order the *August 1984 issue of Department Store Sales by Region* (63-004, \$1.60/\$16).

International Payments and Receipts for Technology

This publication examines the use of international payments and receipts for technology data as an indicator of the volume of technological information transferred between countries. It includes a review of the theoretical foundations, limitations and uses of international payments and receipts data, as well as an overview of existing statistics.

For further information, order *International Payments and Receipts for Technology* (catalogue 88-502), or contact Karen Walker (613-990-9919), Science and Technology Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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Major Field Crops Forecast

The 1984 Canadian production of the seven major grains and oilseeds including grain corn, is forecast at 45.5 million tonnes, down 8% from 1983. This year, reduced Prairie production due to drought more than offset substantially increased production in Eastern Canada. Prairie production of the six major grains is projected at 35.2 million tonnes, a decrease of 13% from last year and a 3% increase from the August 15, 1984 production forecast.

As of September 15 harvesting operations for the major spring-planted Prairie crops were 83% complete compared to 68% at the same time last year and 37% in 1982.

For further information, order the *September Forecast of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada 1984* (22-002, \$1.60/\$11.10), or contact the Crops Section, Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Oil Pipeline Transport

Net receipts of crude oil, condensates, pentanes plus, liquefied petroleum gases and petroleum products through Canadian oil pipelines during July 1984 increased 3.7% to 12 376 360 cubic metres from 11 936 077 cubic metres a year earlier.

For further information, order the *July 1984 issue of Oil Pipeline Transport* (55-001, \$2.75/\$27.50).

Industrial Productivity and Research and Development

The measurement of productivity change is examined in this publication in terms of conceptual and statistical issues. In particular, the relationship between productivity growth and technological change is analyzed, various aspects of the total factor productivity growth index including measurement problems are examined, and the use of research and development capital as a factor of production is presented.

For further information, order *Industrial Productivity and Research and Development Indicators* (88-505; Canada: \$6.65; Other Countries: \$7.95), or contact Karen Walker (613-990-9919), Science and Technology Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Non-residential Building

The Non-residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada (1971=100) declined to a level of 307.8 in August, down 0.2% from July's level of 308.5. The materials index fell 0.1% during the month due to price decreases for gypsum wallboard, acoustic tiles and panels and plywood, which more than offset increases for thermoplastic building wires and Spruce softwood.

The labour component decreased to 327.9 in August, down 0.3% from 329.0 in July. The decline was attributable to large wage roll-backs for carpenters and labourers in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Comparing August 1984 with August 1983, the Canada total index rose 1.7%; building materials increased 2.8% over the 12 months while the labour component rose 0.6%.

For further information, order *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$3.30/\$33), or contact Prices Division (613-990-9601), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Residential Building

The Residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada (1971=100) rose to 292.4 in August, up 0.2% from its July level of 291.9. The materials index rose 0.6% during the month due primarily to price increases for wooden windows, lumber from the Quebec region, roofing shingles and wooden doors. These increases more than offset price decreases for plywood, gypsum wallboard and lumber from the British Columbia region.

The union wage rate index declined to 327.2 in August 1984, down 0.4% from 328.4 the previous month. This decrease was attributable to large wage roll-backs for carpenters and labourers in St. John's, Newfoundland.

On a year-over-year basis, the Canada total index rose 0.5%, comprising a negligible increase for materials and an increase of 1.1% for labour.

For further information, order *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$3.30/\$33), or contact Prices Division (613-990-9601), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED OCTOBER 5 — 11

	Cata- logue 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 field crops, Canada	22-002	\$1.60/\$11.10	\$1.90/\$13.30
CANSIM			
Canadian statistical review, September 1984	11-003E	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
CONSTRUCTION			
Housing starts and completions, July 1984	64-002	\$3.30/\$33	\$3.95/\$39.50
CONSUMER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE			
Earnings of men and women, 1981 and 1982	13-577	\$7.75	\$9.30
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM			
Service Bulletin			
Travel-log, Vol. 3, No. 2, Travel to work, November 1983	87-003	\$1.55/\$6.65	\$1.90/\$8
HEALTH			
Tuberculosis statistics — morbidity and mortality, 1983	82-212	\$5	\$6
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			
Corrugated boxes and wrappers, August 1984	36-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Inventories, shipments and orders in manufacturing industries, July 1984	31-001	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation, August 1984	44-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Specified domestic electrical appliances, August 1984	43-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
The sugar situation, August 1984	32-013	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Service Bulletin			
Fruit and vegetable preservation, Vol. 13, No. 1, Pack of processed asparagus, 1984	32-023	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES			
Department store sales by regions, August 1984	63-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Wholesale trade, July 1984	63-008	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
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Railway transport in Canada, general statistics, 1982	52-215	\$6.65	\$7.95
Service Bulletins			
Aviation Statistics Centre, Vol. 16, No. 9, Canadian air transport industry, 1983 and 1984	51-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Road transport, Vol. 13, No. 10, Truck inventory and use survey, 1983	53-006	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19

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