

Statistics
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Weekly Bulletin



March 23, 1984

Foreign Trade/Automotive

Canada's balance of trade in automotive products with the United States widened by \$440 million in 1983 to a record surplus of \$3.29 billion from the \$2.85 billion surplus posted in 1982.

During the past three years, Canadian exports of automotive products have become increasingly focused on the United States market. The share of this country's exports taken by the United States jumped to 96.5% in 1983 from 88.3% in 1981, while the imports share rose to 88.2% from 87.2% over the same period.

Canadian exports of automotive products to the United States, which stood at a level of \$20.9 billion in 1983, showed a gain of \$4.5 billion over 1982. This increase was mainly attributable to another large annual gain (\$1.8 billion) in car exports to \$9.0 billion combined with a \$2.2 billion jump in parts exports to \$7.1 billion. (Parts exports had increased \$750 million in both 1982 and 1981.)

Trade With Overseas Countries

Canada's deficit on trade in automotive products with overseas countries jumped to \$1.6 billion in 1983, after deficits of \$645 million in 1982 and \$445 million in 1981.

The \$970 million rise in the deficit in 1983 was primarily due to widespread declines in Canada's exports which showed an overall loss of \$510 million from 1982, and to imports increases of \$235 million for parts and \$155 million for cars.

Trade with the United States by Car Size

On a unit basis, exports to the United States of passenger cars (excluding station wagons and two-seaters) were up 109,000 units to 703,000 units in 1983. The exports increase originated from small cars (up 64% or 75,000 units to 194,000 units) and intermediate cars (up 22% or 56,000 units to 311,000 units); exports of large automobiles declined 10% or 23,000 units to 198,000 units, following a 68,500 unit increase in 1982.

Station wagon exports increased 70% or 60,000 units to 145,000 units in 1983.

Imports of all car size groups increased in 1983 with the biggest gains in small cars (up 47% or 78,000 units to 243,000 units, following a 85,000 unit decline in 1982), and intermediate cars (up 65% or 66,000 units to 167,000 units)

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Dec.	395.10	394.71	
Labour Income (\$ million)	Dec.	18,631.4	18,829.3	7.1
Persons with Jobs (million)	Feb.	10.56	10.44	3.4
Unemployed	Feb.	1,476,000	1,473,000	-8.0

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Jan.*	3,058.2	3,222.5	12.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Jan.*	31,217.6	30,767.0	1.2

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Jan.*	17,745.5	16,526.5	23.9
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Jan.*	20,845.1	20,143.0	30.1

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Feb.*	120.9	120.2	5.5
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Dec.	131.7	131.8	1.6
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Jan.	214.0	212.3	3.5
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Jan.	157.1	154.4	7.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.	304.5	302.6	4.0

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Dec.	1,038.9	14,571.8	13.9
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Jan.	8,635	8,635	1.4

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Nov.	4 358	40 511	3.9
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.	35.4	354.1	3.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Nov.	8 791.7	84 827.3	-4.5
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Dec.	7.5	86.3	-4.4

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Jan.	8,326	8,326	28.9
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Jan.	6,586	6,586	28.8

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Jan.	16.8	16.8	18.8
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	Jan.	1 228.6	1 228.6	66.5

SALES

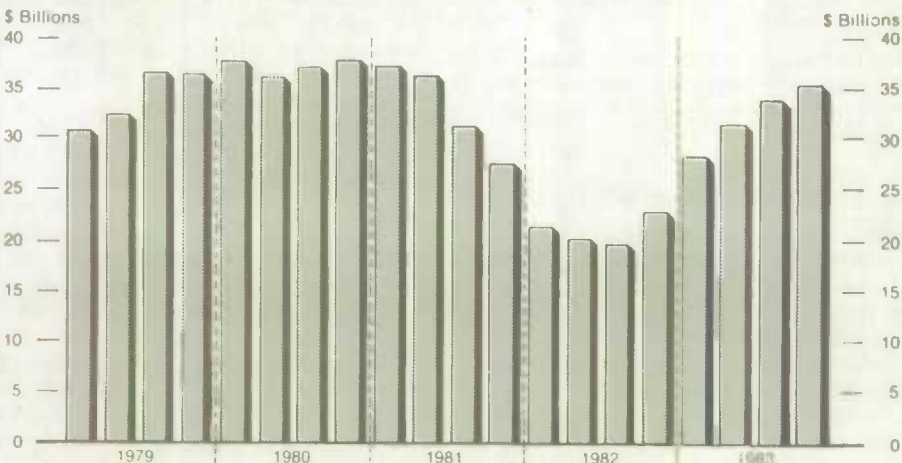
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	649.4	649.4	4.2
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Jan.*	17,043.4	17,043.4	22.7
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Jan.*	923.6	923.6	59.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	7,617.0	7,617.0	10.6

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Corporation Profits (Before Taxes)

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



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

Canada

Inventories/Shipments/Orders

Preliminary estimates show the seasonally adjusted value of new orders received in all Canadian manufacturing industries in January 1984 climbed 8.5% to \$19,120.9 million from the revised December level of \$17,615.1 million. In durable goods industries, new orders with an estimated value of \$8,880.0 million were 16.9% higher than the December value of \$7,598.0 million; most of the increase came from gains of \$993.0 million in transportation equipment industries (which reflected a large increase in the shipments of motor vehicle manufacturers) and \$258.1 million in metal fabricating industries. In non-durable goods industries, the value of new orders received was \$10,240.9 million, up 2.2% from the revised December estimate of \$10,017.1 million.

The unfilled orders backlog of manufacturers at the end of January was \$20,784.1 million, seasonally adjusted, up 0.8% from \$20,624.6 million (revised) in December.

Manufacturers' shipments in January jumped 6.7% to \$18,961.4 million, seasonally adjusted, from December's value of \$17,771.1 million. Shipments of durable goods industries were up 12.9% to \$8,748.6 million from \$7,747.6 million with increases of \$842.2 million in transportation equipment industries and \$151.9 million in metal fabricating industries accounting for most of the gain. In non-durable goods industries, a \$204.8 million increase in petroleum and coal products industries was the major contributor to a 1.9% increase, as shipments rose to \$10,212.8 million from \$10,023.5 million.

Inventory owned by manufacturers at the end of January was \$31,044.5 million, seasonally adjusted, down 0.4% from the previous month's revised value of \$31,164.8 million.

The seasonally adjusted ratio of total inventory owned to shipments at the end of January was 1.64:1, down from 1.75:1 in December. The ratio of finished products inventory to shipments declined to 0.59:1 in January from 0.65:1 in December.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in January 1984 were estimated at \$17,043.4 million, 22.5% higher than the January 1983 level of \$13,911.1 million.

For further information, order the January 1984 issue of Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001, \$3.85/\$38.50).

Railway Operating Statistics

The seven major railways in Canada reported a combined net income from operations of \$27.4 million in November 1983. Operating revenues of \$557.6 million were up 7.9% from the 1982 figure.

Revenue freight tonne-kilometres were up by 22.2% from a year earlier in November 1983, freight train-kilometres rose 17.8% and freight car-kilometres 18.5%. Revenue passenger-kilometres decreased by 5.8% to 122.3 million.

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Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales increased sharply in January 1984, rising 18.7% over the same period last year. (Revised sales for December 1983 were up 13.6% from the December 1982 level.)

In January 1984, sales increases were recorded by all trade groups, with the most notable gains reported by wholesalers of metal and metal products (+50.3%), motor vehicles and accessories (+41.2%), drug and toilet preparations (+30.2%), and paper and paper products (+25.2%). All provinces posted sales increases from a year earlier, ranging from +35.3% in Prince Edward Island to +6.4% in Alberta.

Wholesale inventories in January 1984 were at the same level as in the corresponding period in 1983. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of January 1984 was 1.86:1, down from 2.20:1 a year earlier.

For further information, order the January 1984 issue of Wholesale Trade (63-008, \$1.60/\$16), or contact B. Marois (613-996-9307), Wholesale Trade Section.

Refined Petroleum Products

During January 1984, sales of petroleum products by Canadian refiners and major distributors amounted to 6 376 800 cubic metres, down 0.3% from the level recorded in January 1983. Sales of the main products were as follows: motor gasoline, 2 358 100 cubic metres (-2.0% from January 1983); diesel fuel, 954 200 cubic metres (+12.2%); light fuel oil, 1 350 000 cubic metres (+3.7%) and heavy fuel oil, 710 900 cubic metres (-9.8%). Production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners amounted to 7 756 000 cubic metres, up 4.7% from 7 409 000 cubic metres in January 1983.

Sales of natural gas by main distributors in January 1984 amounted to 5 921 295 thousand cubic metres, up 13.8% from the level recorded during January 1983. On the basis of rate structure information, sales were broken down as follows: residential

Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada stood at 120.9 (1981=100) in February 1984, up 0.6% from the January level of 120.2. The increase was largely attributable to higher food prices, resulting mainly from increased prices for fresh produce, and to a rise in clothing prices, reflecting the ending of post-Christmas specials. The food index advanced by 1.1% between January and February, the second consecutive month in which food prices have increased in excess of 1%. The all-items-excluding-food index rose 0.5% in February, up from the 0.1% increase registered between December 1983 and January 1984.

The year-over-year increase in the CPI, as measured by comparing the index level of February 1984 to that of February 1983, was 5.5%, compared to the advance of 5.3% registered between January 1983 and January 1984. The slight acceleration in the year-over-year change resulted primarily from the sharp increase in food prices between January 1984 and February 1984 and from the downward impact that gasoline price wars had on the February 1983 index.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the all-items index increased 0.5%; this comprised an increase of 0.3% in the food index and an increase of 0.7% in the all-items-excluding-food index. During the three-month period, November 1983 to February 1984, the all-items index rose at a seasonally adjusted compounded annual rate of 7.4%, up from the increase of 5.7% registered in the three months ending January 1984. Part of the acceleration in the rate of increase in the latest period reflected the impact of gasoline price wars in the latter part of 1983.

Between January and February, consumer price changes in cities for which CPIs are published ranged from a decline of 0.7% in Winnipeg to an increase of 0.9% in Montreal. The major factors accounting for the variations in city price movements were differing rates of price change for food and clothing. Food prices declined by over 1% in Ottawa and Winnipeg but increased by over 1% in Charlottetown/Summerside, Quebec City, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

Between February 1983 and February 1984, consumer price increases ranged from 3.4% in Calgary to 7.6% in Saint John.

For further information, order the February 1984 issue of The Consumer Price Index (62-001, \$2.75/\$27.50), or contact Sandra Shadlock or Suzanne Gratton (613-995-4078), Prices Division, Statistics Canada.

sales, 1 941 386 thousand cubic metres (+13.3% from a year earlier); commercial sales, 1 538 125 thousand cubic metres (+9.3%) and industrial sales, 2 441 784 thousand cubic metres (+17.4%).

For further information, order the January 1984 issue of Refined Petroleum Products (45-004, \$3.70/\$37) and Gas Utilities (55-002, \$2.75/\$27.50), or contact Richard Godin (613-996-3139), Energy Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Family Expenditure, 1982

Total expenditure in 1982 averaged \$27,062 per family for all families and unattached individuals in Canada. Families and unattached individuals in the lowest family income group spent only \$8,998 compared to \$50,750 for those in the highest family income group. However, since family size also increased in each of the successive income classes, per-person expenditure ranged only from \$5,420 to \$14,668.

A comparison of expenditures between 1982 and 1978, shows that average total expenditure per family increased by 45% during the period. Since average family size dropped to 2.72 persons from 2.93, average total expenditure increased by 56% on a per-person basis. Corresponding increases for total current consumption — which excludes personal taxes, securities, gifts and contributions — were somewhat lower at 39% per family and 50% per person.

Some notable changes were recorded in percentage shares for total current consumption categories. The percentage share for food decreased to 20.4% in 1982 (down from 21.9% in 1978), clothing 8.1% (9.3%), transportation 16.1% (16.7%), and household furnishings and equipment 4.8% (5.7%), while the share of shelter increased to 23.4% (up from 21.2% in 1978), household operation 5.8% (5.0%), and miscellaneous 3.9% (3.2%). It should be noted that these changes in expenditure shares reflect price as well as quality and quantity differences, and the data for both years are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

Data are from the 1982 Survey of Family Expenditures. For further information, contact the Family Expenditure Section (613-996-5397), Consumer Income and Expenditure Division.

Department Store Sales

Department store sales were \$649.4 million in January 1984, up 4.2% over the January 1983 level. Sales were higher in 30 of the 40 departments, with the largest increases in toys and games (+26.4%), women's and misses' coats and suits (+19.0%) and gasoline, oil, auto accessories, repairs and supplies (+15.2%).

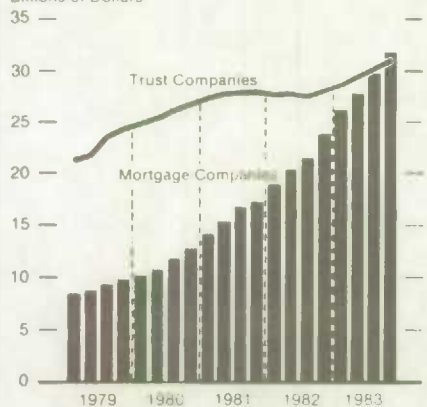
In January 1984, department store sales increases from the year-earlier period were registered in all provinces except Prince Edward Island (-8.7%) and the Yukon and Northwest Territories (-6.6%), with advances ranging from 11.9% in Saskatchewan to 1.1% in British Columbia. Eight of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed reported sales increases, with gains ranging from 21.0% in Quebec City to 0.4% in Ottawa-Hull; sales showed little change in Toronto and decreased 0.6% in Vancouver.

Sales by major department store organizations in January 1984 totalled \$433.2 million, up 4.1% from January 1983 while junior department store organizations had sales of \$216.2 million, up 4.3%.

Trust and Mortgage Companies

Quarterly Statements of Mortgages Outstanding

Billions of Dollars



Source: Statistics Canada, Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)

Construction Activity

The filtered index of construction (1971=100) — a leading indicator of building activity in Canada — fell again in November 1983, dropping 2.2% from the October level. A marginal increase was recorded in the non-residential sector but a considerably larger decline occurred in the residential building sector.

The leading indicator of residential construction fell 4.8% from October to a level of 85.5 in November. Weakness in the rental housing sector more than offset a recovery in building intentions for single-detached homes.

The leading indicator of non-residential construction continued to rise in November, moving up 1.2% from October to 79.0. The component index for industrial building projects climbed 13.7% from the preceding month to a level of 77.1 and the index for the commercial sector continued its gradual progression in November, increasing 3.0% from October to 100.6. However, building construction intentions in the government sector worsened again in November — dropping to a record low level of 58.3.

The current indexes also appear in the December 1983 issue of Building Permits (64-001, \$3.85/\$38.50). For further information, contact Lizette Gervais-Simard (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Restaurants/Caterers/Taverns

Preliminary estimates for January 1984 show restaurant, caterer and tavern establishments in Canada had receipts totalling \$725.3 million, up 3.8% from January 1983.

Revised total receipts for December 1983 were \$834.9 million, an increase of 6.2% over December 1982.

For further information on provincial totals by kind of business and on chains versus independents, order the January 1984 issue of Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics (63-011, \$1.60/\$16), or contact R. Bennett (613-996-9301).

Retail Trade

Stimulated by strong sales of automobiles and automotive parts in January 1984, Canadian retail trade recorded a 10.6% gain over the January 1983 level to a total of \$7,617.0 million. Excluding the automotive group, January retail sales posted a more conservative 5.4% increase. Sales increases were reported in all the kinds of businesses surveyed except variety stores (-2.5%), with the largest gains reported by motor vehicle dealers (+32.1%), automotive parts and accessories stores (+20.4%) and garages (+19.2%).

In January 1984, all provinces and territories reported increased sales from a year earlier, with gains ranging from 2.7% in Alberta to 19.1% in Nova Scotia. At the metropolitan area level, sales were higher in all cities for which data are published: Toronto (+11.2%); Winnipeg (+11.1%); Montreal (+9.0%) and Vancouver (+5.0%).

Revised total retail sales for December 1983 were \$11,600.6 million, an increase of 9.0% over December 1982.

Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, retail sales — estimated at \$9,332.3 million in January 1984 — increased 3.1% from the preceding month's revised total of \$9,051.7 million. The largest increases were reported by garages (+15.9%), general merchandise stores (+13.2%) and personal accessories stores (+9.9%).

Compared to the previous month, seasonally adjusted sales were down in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, while for the provinces, monthly percentage variations ranged from no change in British Columbia to +7.4% in New Brunswick. In metropolitan areas, retail sales increased in Winnipeg (+4.1%), Montreal (+3.0%) and Toronto (+0.8%) but decreased in Vancouver (-0.6%).

For further information, order the January 1984 issue of Retail Trade (63-005, \$3.85/\$38.50), or contact Jean-Pierre Simard (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Local Governments

Local governments across Canada at the end of December 1983 had 288,045 employees, a decrease of 4.0% from the 300,089 reported at the end of the previous quarter, but an increase of 0.3% compared to December 1982.

Gross payrolls of local governments for the fourth quarter of 1983 amounted to \$1,637,155,000, down 4.6% from the \$1,715,210,000 reported for the previous quarter but up 4.6% from the October-December 1982 period.

Data are presently available from matrices 2725 and 2726 of the CANSIM data bank and from the October-December 1983 issue of Local Government Employment (72-009, \$4.40/\$17.60), or contact the Employment and International Section (613-995-8201), Public Finance Division.



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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED MARCH 16 — 22

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE			
Farm Cash Receipts, January 1984	21-011	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, January 1984	62-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
The Dairy Review, January 1984	23-001	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
CONSTRUCTION			
Service Bulletin			
Construction Statistics, Vol. 7, No. 1, Annual Expenditures in Housing	64-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM			
Canadian Travel Survey, 1982	87-504	\$7.75	\$9.30
Elementary-secondary School Enrolment, 1982-83	81-210	\$5	\$6
EXTERNAL TRADE			
Imports by Countries, January-December 1983	65-006	\$8.35/\$33.40	\$10/\$40
Summary of External Trade, January 1984	65-001	\$3.30/\$33	\$3.95/\$39.50
FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES			
International Travel — Advance Information, January 1984	66-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
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Employment, Earnings and Hours, December 1983	72-002	\$5.55/\$55.50	\$6.65/\$66.50
The Labour Force, February 1984	71-001	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
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Asphalt Roofing, January 1984	45-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1983	26-202	\$5	\$6
Cement, January 1984	44-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Construction Type Plywood, January 1984	35-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, January 1984	43-005	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Footwear Statistics, January 1984	33-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Gypsum Products, January 1984	44-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, January 1984	46-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Machine Shops, 1982	42-207	\$5	\$6
Miscellaneous Electrical Industries, 1982	43-213	\$6.65	\$7.95
Miscellaneous Machinery and Equipment Manufacturers, 1982	42-214	\$6.65	\$7.95
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, February 1984	32-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Oils and Fats, January 1984	32-006	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Particleboard, Waferboard and Hardboard, January 1984	36-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, January 1984	47-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe, Tubing and Fittings, January 1984	41-011	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, December 1983	35-002	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, January 1984	25-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Refined Petroleum and Coal Products, 1982	45-209	\$5	\$6
Rigid Insulating Board, January 1984	36-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, January 1984	43-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, January 1984	41-006	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES			
Department Store Sales and Stocks, December 1983	63-002	\$3.30/\$33	\$3.95/\$39.50
PRICES			
Consumer Price Index, February 1984	62-001	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Industry Price Indexes, January 1984	62-011	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS			
Urban Transit, January 1984	53-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19

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