

Statistics
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Weekly Bulletin



May 18, 1984

Income Distributions, 1982

Final 1982 estimates from the Survey of Consumer Finances indicate that average family income in Canada (total money income, before taxes and deductions) was \$32,981, 2% lower than in 1981 after adjusting for inflation as measured by changes in the Consumer Price Index. This is the first time that real average family income has declined for two consecutive years since the early 1970s when the survey became annual.

Highlights of the report *Income Distributions by Size in Canada*, 1982, include:

- In 1982, families received on average 79.6% of total money income from earnings, 7.4% from investment income, 10% from government transfer payments and 3% from other sources;
- Average incomes of elderly families (heads 65 years of age and over) did keep pace with inflation, with a real increase from 1981 of 5.5% to \$24,077. Factors contributing to this result were indexing of government transfer payments, higher returns on investment income and the growth of private pension plans;
- Average income of \$17,143 for female single parent families was down 7% from 1981 in real terms. Their income was less than one-half of the \$37,157 average received by families consisting of married couples with children.

The 1982 data on earnings confirm that the economic recession during 1982 led to a drop in the level of real earnings (wages and salaries and/or net income from self employment): at \$15,461 the average 1982 earnings were down 4% from 1981 after adjusting for price increases.

Statistics on Low Income

Statistics on low income indicate that there was a significant increase in the incidence
(continued on page 2)

Trusted Pension Funds

The book value of assets held in trusted pension plans reached an estimated \$82.6 billion at the end of 1983. Total income of these funds for the fourth quarter amounted to \$4.1 billion, expenditures were \$971 million and cash flow for the period totalled nearly \$3.2 billion.

For further information, order the fourth quarter 1983 issue of *Trusted Pension Plans* (74-001, \$2.75/\$11).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Feb.	399.29	400.20	
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.*	18,447.3	18,446.6	7.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Apr.*	10.67	10.60	2.5
Unemployed	Apr.*	1,468,000	1,541,000	-7.2

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Feb.	3,146.5	3,058.2	17.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Feb.	31,550.4	31,227.3	2.0

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Feb.	17,846.3	17,659.3	19.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Feb.	21,009.6	20,788.8	28.4

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Mar.	121.2	120.9	4.7
New House Price Index (1981=100)	Mar.	95.3	95.1	0.7
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Mar.	218.2	215.8	4.8
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Mar.	164.2	160.3	10.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Mar.	308.1	306.6	4.4

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Feb.	828.4	1,506.1	-0.6
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Mar.	6,195	21,540	-8.6

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Feb.	4,624	9,169	27.0
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Feb.	36.2	77.7	10.3
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Jan.	10,482	10,482	5.8
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Mar.*	7.3	22.6	7.7

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Mar.	9,320	26,111	26.5
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Mar.	8,239	22,151	33.8

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Apr.	19.3	74.0	19.9
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	Apr.*	1,288	5,055	33.8

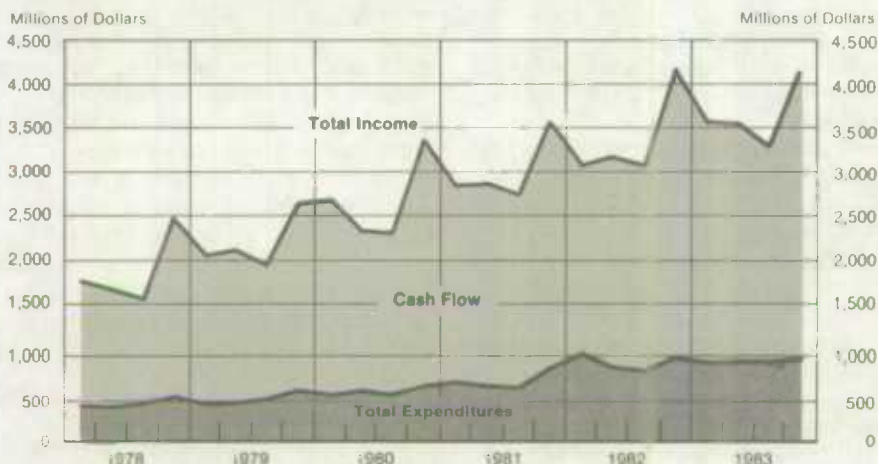
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	806.7	2,115.4	5.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Feb.	17,625.4	34,638.9	21.5
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	1,528.3	3,572.5	48.9
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	7,767.2	15,393.4	12.6

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Quarterly Estimates of Income and Expenditures of Trusted Pension Funds



Source: Statistics Canada, Quarterly Estimates of Trusted Pension Funds (74-001)

Income Distributions, 1982

of low income between 1981 and 1982:

- In 1982, 3.9 million persons were low income unattached individuals or members of low income families, up 0.4 million from 3.5 million persons in 1981. In other words, about one in six persons or 16.1% of the population was living below the low income cut-offs in 1982, compared to 14.7% in 1981;
- Of all children under 16 years of age, about one in every five was in a low income family;
- Of all elderly individuals (65 years of age and over), about one in every four was in a low income situation. About three-quarters of these low income elderly persons were unattached individuals;
- The percentage of families whose incomes were below the low income cut-offs was 13.2% in 1982, up from 12.0% in 1981;
- All regions in Canada experienced an increase in the incidence of low income;
- By head's age, elderly families (head 65 years of age and over) experienced a reduction in the incidence of low income to 11.0% from 14.5%. For families with heads less than 25 years of age, the incidence of low income increased to 28.4% from 22.7%;
- Almost one in every two, or 47.0% of single parent female-headed families were in a low income situation;
- Among unattached individuals, the incidence of low income at 37.4% remained virtually unchanged from 1981. The rate for the elderly unattached was much higher than that for the non-elderly under 65 years of age (56.2% versus 30.4%), a reverse situation from that observed for families.

For further information, order *Income Distributions by Size in Canada, 1982* (13-207, Canada: \$11.10; other countries: \$13.30), or contact the Data Dissemination Unit (613-996-5294), Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Energy Supply-demand

Final demand for energy in Canada during the first nine months of 1983 amounted to 3 956 petajoules, down 8.0% from 4 272 petajoules in January-September 1982.

The decrease reflected declines in all main sectors of consumption: residential and agricultural (-7.0%); commercial, other institutions and public administration (-9.4%); industrial (-5.6%); and transportation (-8.2%).

Primary production of energy during the first nine months of 1983 decreased fractionally to 5 898 petajoules from 5 900 petajoules during January-September 1982.

Energy Exports and Imports

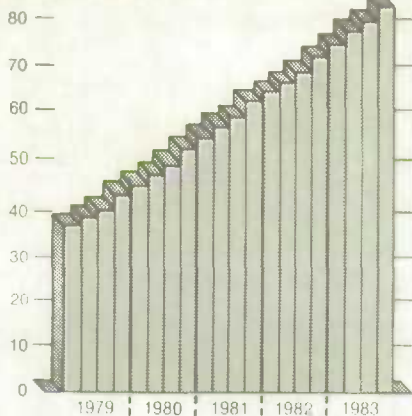
During the first nine months of 1983, energy exports reached 1 797 petajoules, up 6.1% from the year-earlier level while imports dropped 30.9% to 796 petajoules.

For further information, order the third quarter 1983 issue of *Quarterly Report on Energy Supply-demand in Canada* (57-003, \$6.65/\$26.60), or contact Don Wilson (613-996-3139), Energy Section.

Trusted Pension Funds

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held

Billions of Dollars



Source: Statistics Canada, Quarterly Estimates of Trusted Pension Funds (74-001)

Urban Growth in Canada

In the past decade, the distribution of Canada's population has been marked by a new trend: a decline in the proportion of the population classified as urban (to 75.7% in 1981). This reversed the urbanization process of the previous 100 years, during which the urban population rose from 19.6% in 1871 to 76.1% in 1971. *Urban Growth in Canada* (99-942, Canada: \$5.50; other countries: \$6.60) brings together under one cover highlights of information about these patterns of urban and rural growth.

An examination of provincial urbanization rates shows they are falling in both the highly urbanized and the comparatively less urbanized provinces. The Atlantic and Central provinces are losing urban population to the Prairies, which in the late 1970s exerted a strong pull on labour from other provinces. British Columbia is also experiencing urban population decline, which may be due in part to the high cost of housing in some of its larger cities such as Vancouver and Victoria.

Another aspect of urbanization is the proportions of the population which are found in large urban areas as compared with medium-sized or smaller ones and how these proportions have changed between 1976 and 1981. Generally speaking, medium-sized areas (concentrations of 30,000 to 99,999 inhabitants) have grown faster than very large or small ones.

Urban Growth in Canada is a report which will help Canadians better understand the shifting patterns of population growth in urban and rural areas. In particular, teachers of urban geography and urban studies will find this a useful supplementary text.

Copies of *Urban Growth in Canada* can be purchased by sending a cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada to: Publication Sales and Services, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Refined Petroleum Products and Natural Gas

Sales of petroleum products by Canadian refiners and major distributors during March 1984 amounted to 6 633 200 cubic metres, up 5.0% from 6 315 000 cubic metres in March 1983. Sales of the main products were as follows with percentage changes from the year-earlier period in brackets: motor gasoline, 2 645 800 cubic metres (+2.9%); diesel fuel, 1 116 300 cubic metres (+15.4%); light fuel oil, 1 203 100 cubic metres (+18.3%) and heavy fuel oil, 635 300 cubic metres (-5.5%). Production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners in the latest month amounted to 7 280 685 cubic metres, up 6.2% from March 1983.

For the first three months of 1984, sales of refined petroleum products amounted to 19 686 439 cubic metres, up 2.5% from the level recorded during the same period of 1983. Year-to-date production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners amounted to 22 644 780 cubic metres, up 7.7% from January-March 1983.

Natural Gas

Sales of natural gas by main distributors during March 1984 amounted to 5 083 408 thousand cubic metres, up 11.8% from March 1983. On the basis of rate structure information, sales were broken down as follows with percentage change from the year-earlier period in brackets: residential sales, 1 521 249 thousand cubic metres (+12.2%); commercial sales, 1 255 791 thousand cubic metres (+8.3%) and industrial sales, 2 306 368 thousand cubic metres (+13.4%).

For the first three months of 1984, sales of natural gas amounted to 16 577 391 thousand cubic metres, up 14.0% from January-March 1983.

For further information, order the March 1984 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$3.70/\$37), and *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$2.75/\$27.50).

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Labour Income

Labour income for the month of February 1984 was estimated at \$18,447.3 million, an increase of \$1,332.6 million or 7.8% from February 1983.

Adjusted for seasonal variation, wages and salaries decreased by \$0.9 million between January 1984 and February 1984 to \$17,099.7 million.

The estimates will be published in the January-March 1984 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$5.55/\$22.20).

Security Transactions

Foreign investors increased sharply their holdings of outstanding Canadian securities in March 1984, giving rise to a net capital inflow of \$340 million. This contrasted with a net outflow of \$58 million in February. Heavy foreign buying of long-term federal and provincial bonds produced a net inflow of \$312 million in the current month, bringing to over \$500 million the net inflow from bond trading in the first quarter of the year. The investment in bonds was widespread geographically, and included substantial purchases by residents of the United States, who had been reducing their holdings over much of the previous two years. This renewed interest corresponded with a rise of some 40 basis points (in favour of Canada) in the long-term interest differential between Canadian and the United States government bond yields. A net inflow of \$28 million was recorded from trading in outstanding Canadian equities with non-residents, compared to a net outflow (disinvestment) of \$135 million in February.

Purchases by residents of outstanding foreign securities produced a net outflow of \$169 million in March. Canadians increased their holdings of foreign equities by \$264 million during the month, but reduced their investment in foreign bonds — largely United States government issues — by nearly \$100 million. The bulk of the investment in outstanding equities continued to be directed to the United States.

For further information, order the March 1984 issue of *Security Transactions with Non-residents* (67-002, \$2.75/\$27.50), or contact John Motala (613-996-2545).

CPI Kit

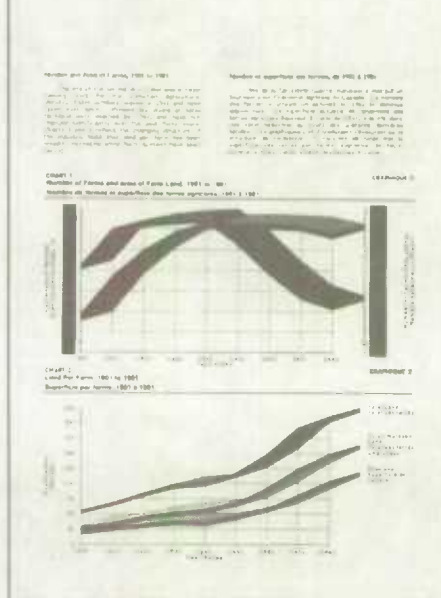
For high schools, Statistics Canada has developed a Consumer Price Index Teaching Kit priced at \$29.95 that is designed to provide students with a solid understanding of why the CPI is so important.

Developed in response to interest from teachers who were looking for resource materials on the CPI, posters and colour transparencies of graphs and tables are included with topics for discussion and student worksheets plus a long term class project in which students calculate a Student Price Index based on the changing prices of items they are likely to buy for themselves.

A Profile of Canadian Agriculture

Now available is a publication that graphically highlights 1981 Census of Agriculture results — comparing and contrasting them to data from past agricultural censuses and surveys — to provide an overview of Canadian agriculture from 1901 to 1981.

Copies of *A Profile of Canadian Agriculture* (96-920; Canada: \$12; other countries: \$14.40) containing 58 charts and 19 maps in full colour are available from Publication Sales and Services or any of the Bureau's regional reference centres. Further information is available from Rick Burroughs or Paul Walker (613-995-4936).



Farms, by Province

The number of farms in Canada is estimated to have declined slightly by 0.5% to 315,130 in 1983 from 316,770 in 1982.

In most provinces, farm numbers in 1983 were unchanged, or down from the 1982 levels. New Brunswick — where farm numbers increased to 4,100 from 4,000 — was the exception.

The number of farms has been decreasing since 1941, when the Census of Agriculture showed there were 732,832 farms in Canada.

For further information, contact Elizabeth Leckie (613-995-4895), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Farm Prices

The Canada index number of farm prices of agricultural products (1971=100) for March 1984 was 295.3, up 0.3% from the February level of 294.3 and 2.8% higher than the March 1983 number of 287.3.

Further information is available from Peter Lys (613-995-4895).

Labour Force Activity

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 11.4% in April 1984, unchanged from the March level. The participation rate increased to 64.4% from 64.3% in the preceding month and the employment/population ratio moved up to 57.1% from 57.0%.

Employment for the week ending April 21 was an estimated 10,903,000 persons, an increase of 25,000 over the level recorded in March. The increase was limited to males aged 25 years and over, with virtually no change in levels for females or for males aged 15 to 24. Employment rose by 25,000 in the construction industry, while there was a 13,000 decline in finance, insurance and real estate. On a provincial basis, employment increased in Ontario (+27,000), New Brunswick (+3,000) and Manitoba (+5,000), but decreased in Alberta (-17,000) and Quebec (-12,000).

Unemployment at 1,397,000 in April was virtually unchanged from March. Unemployment increased by 13,000 among the 15 to 24 year-olds and declined by 15,000 for those aged 25 and over. Provincially, declines in the number of unemployed were registered in Ontario (-13,000) and Saskatchewan (-4,000), while unemployment levels increased in British Columbia (+13,000) and Nova Scotia (+3,000).

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in April were as follows, with March rates in brackets: Newfoundland, 19.6% (20.3%); Prince Edward Island, 13.9% (12.5%); Nova Scotia, 13.4% (12.7%); New Brunswick, 14.2% (14.7%); Quebec, 13.2% (13.0%); Ontario, 9.1% (9.4%); Manitoba, 8.0% (8.2%); Saskatchewan, 7.6% (8.4%); Alberta, 11.0% (10.7%) and British Columbia, 15.1% (14.4%).

Unadjusted, the level of employment for Canada in April 1984 was 10,670,000, an increase of 260,000 (+2.5%) from a year earlier. Unemployment decreased by 114,000 (-7.2%) over the 12-month period to 1,468,000 from 1,582,000. The unemployment rate was 12.1% in the latest month, down from 13.2% in April 1983, while the participation rate dipped to 63.5% from 63.6% and the employment/population ratio moved up to 55.9% from 55.2% in the preceding year.

For further information, order the April 1984 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$3.85/\$38.50).

Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada in March 1984 totalled 18.9 million tonnes, an increase of 9.8% from a year earlier.

Commodities registering notable changes in volumes loaded in the latest month were: wheat (-39.4%); iron ore and concentrates (+13.3%); coal (+55.6%) and copper-nickel ores and concentrates (+348.6%).

Total loadings in Canada during January-March 1984 showed an increase of 19.9% from the 1983 period.



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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED MAY 11 — 17

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
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Wool Production and Supply, 1983	23-205	\$3.30	\$3.30
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS			
Security Transactions with Non-residents, December 1983	67-002	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
BUSINESS FINANCE			
Corporation Financial Statistics, 1982 Preliminary Data on Matched Corporations	61-207p	(N/C)	(N/C)
CENSUS			
Canada's Lone-Parent Families, 1984	99-933	\$5.50	\$6.60
Urban Growth in Canada, 1984	99-942	\$5.50	\$6.60
Agriculture: A Profile of Canadian Agriculture, 1981 Census of Canada	96-920	\$12	\$14.40
Population: Economic Characteristics, Saskatchewan, 1981 Census of Canada	93-968	\$12	\$14.40
Population: Economic Characteristics, Yukon, 1981 Census of Canada	93-971	\$7.50	\$9
CONSTRUCTION			
Building Permits, January 1984	64-001	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
CONSUMER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE			
Income Distributions by Size in Canada, 1982	13-207	\$11.10	\$13.30
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Quarterly Estimates of Population for Canada and the Provinces, January 1984	91-001	\$2.75/\$11	\$3.30/\$13.20
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM			
Service Bulletin			
Travel-log, Vol. 3, No. 1, National Tourism Indicators, 1983	87-003	\$1.55/\$6.65	\$1.90/\$8
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Footwear Statistics, March 1984	33-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
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Oils and Fats, March 1984	32-006	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Production of Selected Biscuits, Quarter Ending March 1984	32-026	\$2.75/\$11	\$3.30/\$13.20
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