

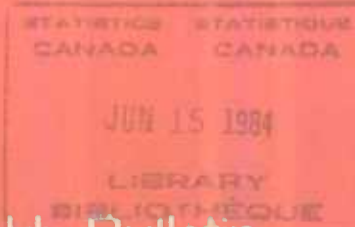


Statistics
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Weekly Bulletin



June 15, 1984

Department Stores

Department stores had sales totalling \$842.7 million in April 1984, an increase of 8.7% from a year earlier. Cumulative sales for January-April 1984 amounted to \$2,958.1 million, up 6.0% from the first four months of 1983.

Department store sales by regions for the latest month were as follows, with percentage changes from April 1983 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$303.1 million (+9.6%)
- Quebec, \$162.2 million (+14.2%)
- British Columbia, \$129.8 million (+1.1%)
- Alberta, \$113.3 million (+2.2%)
- Atlantic provinces, \$61.5 million (+21.8%)
- Manitoba, \$45.4 million (+8.2%)
- Saskatchewan, \$27.4 million (+10.2%).

Data users should note that the British Columbia figures include as well those for the Yukon and Northwest Territories. See the April 1984 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.60/\$16).

Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for January-April 1984 reached an estimated \$6,671.1 million, up 5.6% from the revised January-April 1983 estimate of \$6,315.6 million.

Receipts from the sale of field crops at \$3,416.3 million in the latest period showed a gain of 7.6% over last year's estimate of \$3,174.6 million. Oats, flaxseed, rye, rapeseed, potatoes, corn and soybeans were up, while receipts for wheat and barley and Canadian Wheat Board payments were down.

For further information, order the January-April 1984 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, \$1.60/\$16).

Farm Prices

The Canada index number of farm prices of agricultural products (1971=100) at 297.5 in April 1984 was 1.4% higher than the March number of 293.2 and up 2.8% from the April 1983 level of 289.2.

For further information, order *Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products* (62-003, \$1.60/\$16).

Natural Gas Sales

Sales of natural gas in Canada climbed 14.2% to 5 193.0 million cubic metres in March 1984 from 4 548.5 million cubic metres a year earlier.

For further information, order the March 1984 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$2.75/\$27.50).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.	400.17	398.71	4.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.	18,447.3	18,446.6	7.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	May*	11.01	10.67	2.2
Unemployed	May*	1,460,000	1,468,000	-2.8

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	3,398.4	3,146.5	13.2
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Mar.	31,985.4	31,692.5	3.5

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	19,788.2	17,785.2	17.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	21,364.2	21,017.6	32.4

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Apr.	121.5	121.2	4.9
New House Price Index (1981=100)		95.5	95.3	1.1
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Apr.	218.1	217.9	3.3
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Apr.	164.4	164.3	7.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	310.3	308.7	4.4

CONSTRUCTION

			Year-to-date	
Building Permits (\$ million)	Mar.	960.5	2,479.1	-15.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Apr.	9,051	30,591	-15.0

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Mar.	4,674	13,893	29.7
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Mar.	37.8	117.7	9.9
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Mar.	7.9	25.3	6.2
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Mar.	7.3	22.6	7.7

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.*	9,152	35,256	26.4
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.*	7,815	29,896	32.4

PRODUCTION

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

SALES

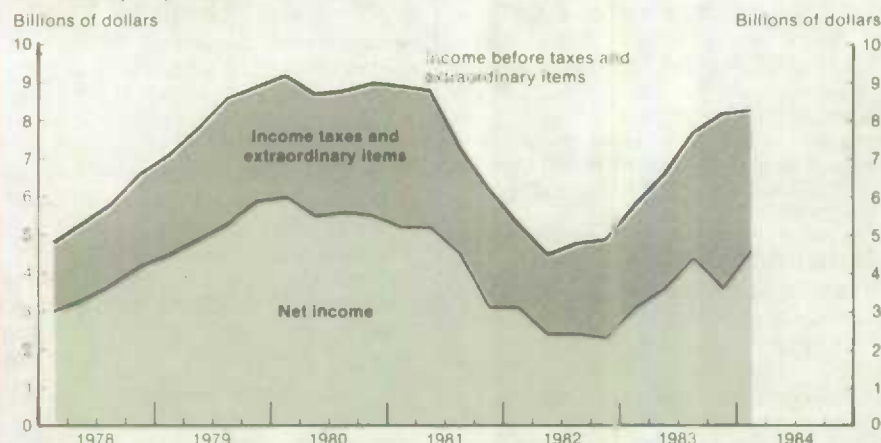
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.*	842.7	2,958.1	6.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Mar.	19,441.6	53,978.6	19.0
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.*	1 471.4	5,043.9	38.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	9,026.4	24,517.2	11.3

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Corporation Profits Industrial Corporations Sector

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada, Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics (61-003)

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Security Transactions: Non-residents

Foreign demand for outstanding Canadian bonds remained strong in April 1984, producing a net capital inflow of \$285 million. This followed a net inflow of \$340 million in March. For the second consecutive month, foreign investment in Canadian bonds included, in addition to outstanding federal and provincial issues, substantial purchases of corporate bonds. Compared to March there was, however, a sharp drop in the value of trading, with gross purchases from non-residents in the current month falling to their lowest level in two years. The net investment in Canadian bonds continued to be widespread geographically, with strong demand from European and Japanese investors. During April, the long-term interest differential between Canadian and the United States government bond yields remained unchanged at some 85 basis points in Canada's favour.

Residents of Canada reduced their holdings of outstanding foreign securities in April, producing a large net capital inflow of \$343 million. The bulk of the net disinvestment reflected a reduction in holdings of United States equities, which was partly related to the tendering of common shares under a takeover bid involving a major United States petroleum company.

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

Restaurant/Catering/Tavern

For April, restaurant, caterer and tavern establishments in Canada had receipts totalling \$843.2 million, up 6.0% from April 1983.

For further information on provincial totals by kind of business and on chains versus independents, order the April 1984 issue of *Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Receipts* (63-011, \$1.60/\$16).

Plant Use "Flat"

Capacity utilization in Canadian manufacturing industries remained relatively flat in the first quarter of 1984, edging down 0.3% to a level of 71.7% from 71.9% in the fourth quarter of 1983. Lower capacity utilization rates were posted in 11 of the 20 industry groups but four of these groups recorded a decrease of less than 1%. The two most important declines were in wood industries (-10.8%) and paper and allied industries (-9.2%), and were attributable to labour problems in these industries in British Columbia. The most important gains registered in capacity utilization rates in the first quarter were 8.4% in non-metallic minerals products and 8.0% in the machinery industry.

Utilization rates in durable manufacturing industries increased 1.7% to 67.4% of capacity in the first quarter of 1984 from 66.3% in the fourth quarter of 1983, continuing the upward progression that began in the first quarter of 1983. In the non-durable sector, capacity utilization decreased 1.9% to 76.1% from 77.6%.

Data are available on CANSIM from the first quarter of 1961 to the current quarter by major manufacturing group according to the 1970 Standard Industrial Classification, with aggregates for durables, non-durables and total manufacturing.

For further information, contact D. Wallace or S. Wood (613-995-8152).

Help-wanted Index

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981=100) for Canada stood at 57 in May 1984, up from 43 in April but down slightly from the level of 58 recorded in March. The April index, however, was abnormally low due to a reduced level of advertising at Easter (the reference Saturday coincided with the Easter holidays).

The short term trend — which provides a guide to the overall direction indicated for the index — remained flat in May.

Inquiries about the index should be directed to Horst Stiebert (613-995-7165, extension 238), Labour Division, Statistics Canada.

Residential Building

The Residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada (1971=100) edged up 0.2% to 294.7 in April 1984 from the March level of 294.1. The building materials component index rose 0.4% during the month reflecting price increases for wooden windows, galvanized steel and lock sets that more than offset decreases for a number of other materials, notably lumber from Quebec and ready-mix concrete. The labour component at 327.3 remained unchanged from the level of the previous month.

On a year-over-year basis, comparing April 1984 with April 1983, the Canada total Residential Building Construction Input Price Index rose 6.5%; the overall rise comprised increases of 4.6% for building materials and 9.7% for labour costs.

For more information, order *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$3.30/\$33), or contact Prices Division (613-996-3744), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Non-residential Building

The Non-residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada (1971=100) stood at 305.8 in April 1984, up 0.2% from 305.3 in March. Building materials prices rose 0.3% during the month as increases for plywood, softwood and reinforcing concrete bars more than offset decreases for a number of other materials, notably air conditioning and ready-mix concrete. The labour component remained unchanged in April from March's level of 327.8.

On a year-over-year basis — comparing April 1984 with April 1983 — the Canada total index rose 5.6%. Prices of building materials were up 1.9% over the 12-month period while labour costs increased 9.4%.

For further information, order *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$3.30/\$33), or contact Prices Division (613-996-3744), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Steel Ingots

Steel ingot production rose 21.1% in May to 1 294 356 tonnes from 1 068 726 tonnes a year earlier.

Federal Electoral District Profiles

A new series of statistical compendia for each of Canada's 282 Federal Electoral Districts describes the economic and social characteristics of the constituency through the use of text, charts, graphs and tabular material and contains data available to the end of 1983. A sizeable body of the data has been extracted from the 1981 Census.

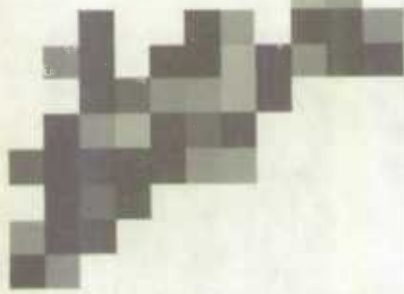
Development of the profiles was carried out through Statistics Canada's recently inaugurated Small Area Data Program and represents the first official output of the Program. The overall objective of the Small Area Data Program is to make a wide range of required statistical data for sub-provincial areas easily available to Parliamentarians, federal departments, provincial governments, and other users.

The Program is Statistics Canada's response to growing demand for small area data from federal departments and other users who must tailor policies and programs to the needs of particular areas or regions of the country.

Copies of *Statistics Canada's Federal Electoral District Profiles* are available at a cost of \$25 per profile. To order, please call (613-995-4227). For further information, please contact Mary Metcalfe (613-993-7644), Federal and Media Relations Division, or Adèle Furrie (613-995-4227), Small Area Data Program, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Mortality
Atlas
of Canada

Répartition
géographique
de la mortalité
au Canada



volume 3 urban mortality
mortalité en milieu urbain

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Mortality Atlas

The *Mortality Atlas of Canada, Volume 3: Urban Mortality*, released by Statistics Canada and Health and Welfare Canada, uses colourful, computer-generated maps to illustrate the considerable differences in causes of death in Canada's urban centres.

Copies of the publication (no. H49-6/3-1984; Canada: \$18.95; other countries: \$22.75) are available from authorized bookstore agents and other bookstores as well as the Canadian Government Publishing Centre (613-997-2560), 45 Boul. Sacré-Coeur, Hull, K1A 0S9.

For further information, contact Joan Lindsay (613-995-9593), Health Division, Statistics Canada.

Construction 1984

Construction expenditures in 1984 are expected to total \$56,971.1 million, a rise of \$873.3 million (1.6%) from the year-earlier level of \$56,097.8 million. This follows a slight 0.1% increase in 1983 from the 1982 total of \$56,065.4 million. In constant dollars, construction work in 1983 showed a decrease of \$468 million or 2.3% from the 1982 level.

Construction expenditures are expected to increase in 1984 in most of the provinces with notable advances of 17.8% in New Brunswick and 12.0% in Nova Scotia. However, lower expenditures are forecast for Alberta (-5.1%) and British Columbia, including the Yukon and Northwest Territories (-3.8%).

New construction is estimated to be up 0.5% in 1984, while the repair portion shows an increase of 6.6%. The proportion of the complete program to be performed under contract during 1984 will be 66.3%. The value of engineering type construction at 45.4% of the total expected for 1984 is up 1.4% over 1983.

For additional information concerning construction expenditures by sectors, provinces and by contract/own account breakdown, contact Margaret Hartley (613-995-8423).

New Motor Vehicles

Following several consecutive months of exceptionally strong gains, total retail sales in units of new motor vehicles started to weaken in April 1984, registering a 7.4% increase over the same month last year. Previous year-to-year percentage increases were 45.2% for January, 49.8% for February and 23.8% for March 1984.

In April 1984, sales of all new motor vehicles, not adjusted for seasonal variations, totalled 121,377 units, up from 113,007 units in April 1983. Sales of North American manufactured passenger cars increased by 9.9% to 75,751 units and commercial vehicles were up by 24.1% over the same month last year to 25,177 units. Sales of passenger cars manufactured overseas decreased 10.8% from the same month last year to 17,334 units, and sales of imported commercial vehicles dropped by 28.6% to 3,115 units. The decline wholly reflected a drop in sales of Japanese manufactured vehicles; sales of new passenger cars made in other countries registered their highest increase ever recorded (+85.1%).

The share of the Canadian passenger car market held by North American manufacturers in April 1984 increased to 81.4% from 78.0% in April 1983. Japanese manufacturers took 12.0% of the market in April 1984 and manufacturers from other countries captured 6.6% as compared to 18.2% and 3.8% shares in April 1983.

Total value of all new motor vehicles sold in April 1984 increased 18.2% from a year earlier to \$1,471.4 million. North American passenger cars sold for \$854.0 million (up 18.5%) and commercial vehicles for \$369.5 million (up 30.0%). Sales of passenger cars from overseas increased 7.7% to \$215.4 million, while those of commercial vehicles dropped by 18.8% to \$32.5 million.

For further information, order the April 1984 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$2.65/\$26.50), or contact Jean-Pierre Simard (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Labour Force Information

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 11.7% in May 1984 from the April level of 11.4%. The participation rate increased to 64.7% from 64.4% in the preceding month and the employment/population ratio moved up to 57.2% from 57.1%.

Unadjusted, the level of employment for Canada in May 1984 was 11,014,000, an increase of 238,000 (+2.2%) from a year earlier. Unemployment decreased by 42,000 (-2.8%) over the 12-month period, moving down to 1,460,000 from 1,502,000. The unemployment rate was 11.7% in the latest month, down from 12.2% in May 1983, while the participation rate rose to 65.2% from 65.0% and the employment/population ratio increased to 57.6% from 57.0% in the preceding year.

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

CHANGES IN INCOME IN CANADA: 1970-1980



Changes in Income

Income is the single most important criterion for analyzing the economic well-being of families. *Changes in Income in Canada: 1970-1980* outlines the changes that took place in family incomes over the last decade.

Between 1970 and 1980, the average income of a census family nearly tripled from \$9,600 to \$26,700 in current dollars. However, a dollar in 1970 was worth over twice as much in terms of goods and services as in 1980. Thus, the real increase in average family income or purchasing power was 28% over the decade. In addition, average family size decreased so that a higher family income was shared on average by a smaller family in 1980.

Copies of *Changes in Income in Canada: 1970-1980* (catalogue 99-941; Canada: \$5.50; other countries: \$6.60) can be obtained by sending a cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada to Publication Sales and Services, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Canadian Trade

On a seasonally adjusted balance-of-payments basis, preliminary results indicate that Canada's total exports continued to fluctuate in April 1984, decreasing 3.9% or \$365 million to \$8.9 billion, following a \$790 million increase in March, a \$450 million decrease in February and a \$390 million increase in January. Imports fell 8.9% or \$705 million to \$7.2 billion in April, after increases of \$530 million in March, \$255 million in February and \$40 million in January. As a result, the merchandise trade surplus increased \$340 million to \$1.8 billion in April, following a \$260 million increase in March, a \$700 million drop in February and a \$350 million increase in January.

For further information, order the April 1984 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, \$3.30/\$33), or contact G. Blaney (613-995-6305), Trade Information Unit.



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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JUNE 8 — 14

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE STATISTICS			
Apparent per Capita Food Consumption in Canada, Part I, 1983	32-229	\$5	\$6
Stocks of Food Commodities in Cold Storage and Other Warehouses, 1983	32-217	\$5	\$6
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, May 1984	32-012	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
CENSUS			
Changes in Income in Canada, 1970-1980	99-941	\$5.50	\$6.60
Population: Economic Characteristics, Quebec, 1981 Census of Canada	93-965	\$24	\$28.80
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS			
Security Transactions with Non-residents, February 1984	67-002	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM			
Education in Canada: A Statistics Review for 1982-83, 1983	81-229	\$8.85	\$10.60
EXTERNAL TRADE			
Imports by Commodities, March 1984	65-007	\$5.55/\$55.50	\$6.65/\$66.50
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			
Asphalt Roofing, April 1984	45-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Coal and Coke Statistics, February 1984	45-002	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Coal Mines, 1982	26-206	\$5	\$6
Consumption of Containers and Other Packaging Supplies by the Manufacturing Industries, 1982	31-212	\$5	\$6
Cement, April 1984	44-001	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Electric Power Statistics, February 1984	57-001	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April 1984	43-005	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Fibre, Yarn and Cloth Mills, 1982	34-223	\$6.65	\$7.95
Footwear Statistics, April 1984	33-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Gypsum Products, April 1984	44-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Metal Stamping, Pressing and Coating Industry, 1982	41-227	\$5	\$6
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries, 1982	47-205	\$7.75	\$9.30
Oil Pipe Line Transport, March 1984	55-001	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Plastics Industries, 1982	46-222	\$6.65	\$7.95
Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, April 1984	47-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Production and Stocks of Tea, Coffee and Cocoa, Quarter Ended March 1984	32-025	\$2.75/\$11	\$3.30/\$13.20
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, March 1984	35-002	\$2.75/\$27.50	\$3.30/\$33
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, March 1984	35-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Quarterly Report on Energy Supply-demand in Canada, 1983-III	57-003	\$6.65/\$26.60	\$7.95/\$31.90
Quarterly Shipments of Office Furniture Products, Quarter Ended March 31, 1984	35-006	\$2.75/\$11	\$3.30/\$13.20
Rigid Insulating Board, April 1984	36-002	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, April 1984	43-003	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, May 1, 1984	32-010	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19
Women's and Children's Clothing Industries, 1982	34-217	\$6.65	\$7.95
PUBLIC FINANCE			
Federal Government Employment in Metropolitan Areas, September 1983	72-205	\$6.65	\$7.95
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY			
Industrial Research and Development Statistics, 1982 (with 1984 forecasts)	88-202	\$8.85	\$10.60
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS			
Service Bulletin			
Railway Transport — Vol. 14, No. 3, Railway Carloadings, February and March 1984	52-004	\$1.60/\$16	\$1.90/\$19

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