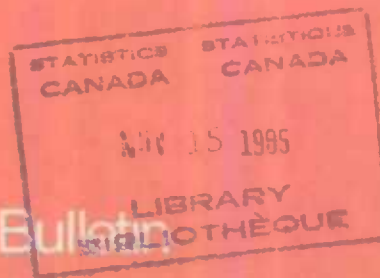


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Weekly Bulletin



November 15, 1985

## Retail Trade

### Unadjusted Sales:

Preliminary estimates of total retail trade for September 1985 indicate an increase of 10.3% over the same month last year, totalling \$10,305.9 million in current dollars (not adjusted for inflation). The most notable gains were registered by motor vehicle dealers (+35.8%), used car dealers (+33.7%) and household appliance stores (+21.5%). The largest decreases in sales were recorded by garages (-9.5%), men's clothing stores (-8.9%) and furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores (-4.5%).

All provinces and territories reported higher sales in September 1985 over the corresponding month in 1984. Gains ranged from 4.6% in Saskatchewan to 14.8% in Alberta.

### Seasonally Adjusted Sales:

Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations, holidays and the number of trading days, retail sales totalled \$10,955.1 million in current dollars in September 1985, an increase of 0.6% over the previous month's revised total of \$10,890.7 million. The largest sales increases were recorded by general merchandise stores (+7.9%), sporting goods and accessories stores (+5.9%) and hardware stores (+4.1%). The largest decreases were reported by women's clothing stores (-5.7%), men's clothing stores (-4.9%) and book and stationery stores (-4.7%).

Order the September 1985 issue of **Retail Trade** (63-005, \$14/\$140), or contact Lina Di Pietro (613-990-9824), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Help-wanted Index

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100) for Canada increased 1.3% from 80 to 81 between September and October 1985. By region, the index advanced 10.0% in Quebec (from 80 to 88), 1.1% in Ontario (from 95 to 96) and 2.9% in British Columbia (from 34 to 35). It remained unchanged at 44 in the Prairie Provinces and declined 28.1% in the Atlantic Provinces (from 224 to 161).

Comparing October 1985 with the same month last year, the indexes increased in all regions. The advances ranged from 3.2% in the Atlantic Provinces to 33.3% in Quebec.

Order the October 1985 issue of **Help-wanted Index** (71-003, \$2.50/\$25), or contact Horst Stiebert or Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings(\$)	Aug.*	419.58	419.84	3.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	Aug.	21,034.9	21,068.9	6.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Oct.*	11.48	11.47	2.9
Unemployed	Oct.*	1,200,000	1,183,000	-8.0

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.	3,481.8	3,393.3	1.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug.	34,132.2	33,856.2	3.8

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	20,249.2	19,339.3	5.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	22,764.5	22,668.6	2.1

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	Sept.	128.0	127.8	4.1
New House Price Index (1981 = 100)	Sept.*	96.9	96.4	2.2
Raw Materials Price Index (1977 = 100)	Sept.	216.3	216.1	1.4
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Sept.	152.5	152.8	-2.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1971 = 100)	Sept.	319.5	318.8	2.3

### CONSTRUCTION

			Year-to-date	
Building Permits (\$ million)	Aug.	1,915.1	12,432.9	21.8
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Sept.	13,265	99,043	17.1

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	July	4 712	35 937	12.0
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	Aug.	34 541	292 680	4.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	July	6 326	55 885	9.4
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Aug.	7 851	56 560	-4.8

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	10,488	88,310	6.7
Imports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	8,411	75,861	10.5

### PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Sept.*	19.5	176.6	-1.1
Steel (ingots - thousand tonnes)	Sept.	1 250	10 812	-1.9

### SALES

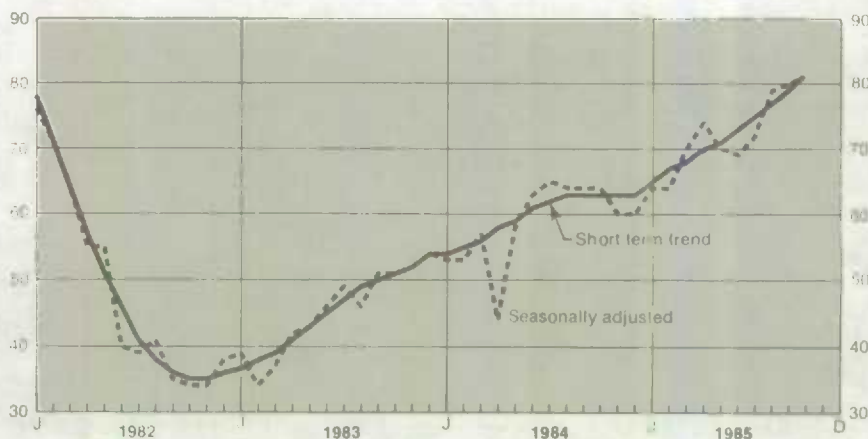
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	964.8	7,828.9	5.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug.	20,089.6	158,685.8	6.5
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Sept.*	1,454.7	14,856.2	25.8
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	11,133.4	81,872.8	10.2

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

\* - new this week.

## Help-wanted Index, Canada

1981=100



Source: Statistics Canada, Help-wanted Index (71-003)



## Labour Force

Estimates from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey for October 1985 indicate a continuation of the trend of moderate increases in employment noted during the past several months. Employment rose by an estimated 37,000 over the level of September. The number of persons unemployed rose by 23,000 and the unemployment rate increased slightly to 10.3, up 0.2 from September. This brings the unemployment rate back to the level of August.

### Employment

For the week ending October 19, 1985, the seasonally adjusted level of employment was estimated to be 11,386,000, an increase of 37,000 over the previous month. Employment rose by 18,000 for persons aged 15 to 24, to 2,392,000. This increase was concentrated among females in this age category (+13,000). The estimated level of employment among persons aged 25 and over rose to 8,994,000, the result of a 20,000 increase in the level for females.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of full-time employment rose to 9,620,000, an increase of 58,000 from last month, 54,000 of which was attributed to increases among females. Meanwhile, the number of persons employed part-time decreased to 1,768,000, a decline of 17,000, principally as the result of a decrease among females (-14,000).

Employment increased in trade (+22,000), construction (+12,000) and the primary industries other than agriculture (+11,000). There was a decline of 11,000 in the finance, insurance and real estate sector.

The estimated number of employed increased mainly in Ontario (+29,000). There were also moderate increases in Manitoba (+4,000) and in Nova Scotia (+3,000). There was little change in the levels for the other provinces.

### Unemployment

The estimated level of unemployment in October 1985 was 1,305,000, an increase of 23,000 over the previous month. There was an increase of 8,000 for persons aged 15 to 24, to 465,000. The level of unemployment rose among young men by 13,000 while it declined slightly for young women. Among those aged 25 and over, unemployment increased by 15,000 to 840,000, the result of an increase of 21,000 among males in this age category.

Unemployment rose by an estimated 20,000 in British Columbia, by 10,000 in Quebec, by 5,000 in New Brunswick and by 5,000 in Alberta. The level decreased by 7,000 in Ontario while there was little change in the other provinces.

### Unemployment Rate

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 1985 was an estimated 10.3, an increase of 0.2 from September. There was an increase of 0.6 to 18.5 for males aged 15 to 24 and a decrease of 0.5 to 13.8 for females in this age group. Among those aged 25 and over, there was an increase of 0.3 to 8.1 for men and a decrease of 0.1 to 9.2 for women.

The unemployment rate increased by 1.8 to 13.3 in Prince Edward Island, by 1.5 to 15.0 in New Brunswick, by 0.2 to 11.8 in Quebec, by 0.3 to 7.9 in Saskatchewan, by 0.3 to 9.5 in Alberta and by 1.2 to 14.2 in British Columbia. There were declines of

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## Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled \$1,034.2 million for September 1985, an increase of 7.3% over the \$964.2 million reported for the same period last year.

*Order the September 1985 issue of Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns (63-011, \$5/\$50), or contact E. Yablonski (613-990-9662), Services Division.*

0.5 to 13.1 in Nova Scotia, 0.2 to 7.9 in Ontario, and of 0.4 to 7.2 in Manitoba. The rate remained unchanged at 19.6 in Newfoundland.

### Participation Rate

The seasonally adjusted participation rate for October 1985 increased by 0.2 to 65.3. An increase of 0.9 to 69.7 was noted for males aged 15 to 24 while there was an increase of 0.5 to 65.7 for young women.

The seasonally adjusted employment/population ratio rose by 0.2 to 58.6 in October 1985. It increased by 0.8 to 56.7 for females aged 15 to 24 and by 0.3 to 56.8 for males in this age group.

### Unadjusted Data

The unadjusted level of employment for October 1985 was estimated at 11,475,000, an increase of 322,000 (+2.9%) over that of a year ago. Unemployment was 1,200,000, a decrease of 105,000 (-8.0%) from last year. The unadjusted unemployment rate was 9.5 in October 1985, 1.0 below the year earlier rate. The participation rate was 65.2, an increase of 0.4 from a year ago. The employment/population ratio was estimated to be 59.0, 1.0 greater than in October 1984.

*Order the October 1985 issue of The Labour Force (71-001, \$20/\$200), or contact Ken Bennett (613-990-9448), Household Surveys Division.*

*For summary information, available on the day of release, order Labour Force Information (71-001P, \$5/\$50).*

## New Housing Price Index

The New Housing Price Index (1981=100) for Canada stood at 96.9 in September 1985, up 0.5% from its August level of 96.4. This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 2.2% higher than the year-earlier level of 94.8, the largest 12-month increase observed since March 1982.

Between August 1985 and September 1985 the largest increases in the price index were noted for Winnipeg (1.8%), Kitchener (1.5%), Calgary (1.3%) and Saskatoon (1.1%). Monthly increases were also noted for Ottawa-Hull (0.6%), Edmonton (0.6%), London (0.5%), Toronto (0.4%), Hamilton (0.4%), Windsor (0.4%), Halifax (0.3%), Quebec City (0.3%), Victoria (0.3%), St. Catharines-Niagara (0.2%), St. John's (0.1%), Regina (0.1%) and Vancouver (0.1%).

With higher levels of housing starts, builders are generally reporting increased costs for land, building materials and labour, and in selected areas are experiencing shortages of serviced lots, some materials and skilled tradesmen. As a consequence, contractors' selling prices are showing large 12-month increases, particularly in Southern Ontario: St. Catharines-Niagara (12.6%) and Kitchener (12.2%), followed by Hamilton (7.6%) and Windsor (6.7%). Notable increases have also been observed in the Maritimes: Saint John-Moncton (9.5%) and Halifax (7.2%).

In Western Canada, both Calgary and Winnipeg now show 12-month increases in excess of 5%. And even though the 12-month change in Vancouver (-3.6%) is still negative, recent declining inventory levels there are contributing to some monthly price increases. Also the Edmonton index, although still down 3.7% over the 12 months, has now reported monthly price increases for five months.

While there is some evidence of monthly increases becoming larger in both Montreal and Toronto, the 12-month change remains at 3.7% for both cities.

The cost of land has risen in almost every city during 1985. Compared with September 1984 the largest gain has been in St. Catharines-Niagara (26.7%). Five cities (Halifax, Saint John-Moncton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Hamilton) recorded increases of 10% or more. In the West, land prices for Edmonton, Vancouver and Victoria are still less than they were a year ago but are higher than in January 1985.

*Order the third quarter 1985 issue of Construction Price Statistics (62-007, \$15/\$60), or contact the Prices Division (613-990-9601).*

## Telephone Statistics

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$829.0 million in September 1985, up 8.0% from September 1984.

Operating expenses were \$559.7 million, an increase of 12.1% over September 1984. Net operating revenue was \$269.3 million, an increase of 0.3% from September 1984.

*Order the September 1985 issue of Telephone Statistics (56-002, \$7.50/\$75), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-990-8693), Services Division.*



## New Motor Vehicle Sales

Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 110,420 units in September 1985, up 32.5% or 27,053 units over September 1984. The principal factors accounting for this high level were the sales of North American manufactured passenger cars which reached 54,880 units, an increase of 24.6% from September 1984, and the sales of North American manufactured commercial vehicles, which totalled 25,001 units, up 44.6% over this same period. Likewise, sales of passenger cars built overseas increased 37.8% between September 1984 and 1985 to a level of 26,086 units, while sales of overseas manufactured commercial vehicles rose by 43.0% to 4,473 units.

The Canadian sales of North American manufactured vehicles were, to some extent, influenced by sales incentive programs such as consumer financing discounts and specified option packages.

The 37.8% year-over-year rise in sales for overseas-built passenger cars comprised increases of 10.8% for Japanese automobiles (to 13,235 units) and 84.0% for passenger cars imported from other countries (to 12,851 units).

The share of the Canadian passenger car market held by North American manufacturers in September 1985 (based on unit sales) was 67.8%, down slightly from the 69.9% recorded in September 1984. Japanese manufacturers held a market share of 16.3% compared to 19.0% a year earlier. Manufacturers from other countries held 15.9% of the passenger car market, a substantial increase from the 11.1% held in September 1984.

The total dollar value of all new motor vehicles sold in September 1985 increased by 43.6% from a year earlier to \$1,454.7 million. Sales of North American passenger cars reached \$664.8 million, up 35.0% over the corresponding month in 1984. Total sales of commercial vehicles built in North America amounted to \$425.9 million, up 61.7%. Sales of overseas passenger cars rose 39.5% to \$314.4 million, while commercial vehicles increased 54.2% to reach \$49.7 million.

All provinces registered higher unit sales of motor vehicles in September 1985 compared to September 1984, with gains ranging from 22.1% in Quebec to 48.2% in Alberta.

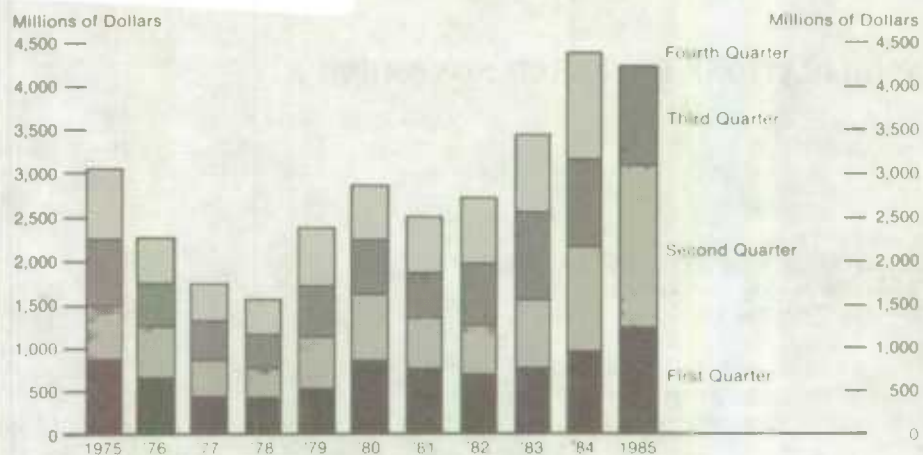
Total sales in units reported for the first nine months of 1985 increased 18.6% over the same period last year to reach 1,158,131 units, valued at \$14,856.2 million, a gain of 25.8%.

### Seasonally Adjusted Sales

Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates of unit sales of passenger cars built in North America totalled 68,063 units, down 0.1% from the previous month's revised total of 68,118 units. Sales of imported passenger cars were 29,470 units, down 4.3% from the August total of 30,801 units. Total sales of commercial vehicles, both domestic and overseas, increased by 1.2% to 35,365 units from the revised August 1985 level of 34,938 units.

Order the September 1985 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$8/\$80), or contact Lina Di Pietro (613-990-9824), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum



Source: Statistics Canada, Exports by Commodities (65-004)

## Security Transactions

Foreign investment in outstanding Canadian bonds resulted in a net capital inflow of \$206 million in September, some \$150 million less than in August. Geographically, net investment during September came principally from the United Kingdom and Japan, while residents of the United States reduced their holdings of Canadian bonds. Foreign investment in outstanding provincial bonds remained strong, accounting for nearly half of the net inflow in September.

Trading with non-residents in outstanding Canadian equities produced a small net outflow for the second consecutive month.

Canadian residents reduced their holdings of foreign securities by \$287 million in September, which included a decline of \$171 million in holdings of foreign equities and \$117 million in foreign bonds.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Security Transactions with Non-residents* (67-002, \$15/\$150), or contact J. Motala (613-990-9052), Balance of Payments, International and Financial Economics Division.

## Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 19.5 million tonnes in September 1985, a decrease of 4.2% from the previous year. Railway carriers received an additional 1.1 million tonnes from the United States, a decrease of 15.7% from September 1984.

Commodities registering notable changes in volumes loaded for the latest month were: wheat (-32.7%); coal (-6.4%); grain other than wheat (-41.8%); iron ore and concentrates (+4.7%).

Total loadings in Canada for the year to date showed a decrease of 1.1% from the 1984 period, while receipts from United States connections decreased by 5.6%.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (62-001, \$7.50/\$75), or contact the Rail Unit (613-990-8700), Transportation Division.

## International Travel

Preliminary statistics show that an estimated 3.1 million United States residents entered Canada, down 0.4% from the previous year. Visitors from other countries declined by 6.8% to 191,100 in September. Canadian residents re-entering the country following visits to the United States totalled 3.2 million, up 3.9% from September 1984. Canadians returning from visits to all other countries increased by 6.8% to 204,800.

For the first three quarters of 1985, total international travel flows were as follows: 28.0 million United States residents entered Canada, up 3.9% from 1984; visitors from other countries decreased by 4.5% to 1.5 million; Canadians returning from the United States increased by 2.2% to 29.5 million, while residents returning from other countries numbered 1.9 million, up 15.5% from 1984.

### Estimation of Tourists

Preliminary data show that long-term tourist entries (by auto and bus for one night or longer and all entries by boat, plane and train) from the United States decreased by 4.5% to 1.1 million in September 1985. Residents of other countries - excluding those arriving by land via the United States and intending to stay less than 24 hours - numbered 173,000, down 6.3% from last year. Canadian tourist re-entries from the United States numbered 949,500 in September, down 0.7%, while residents returning from countries other than the United States increased by 6.8% to 204,800.

For the first three quarters of 1985, tourists from the United States numbered 10.3 million, up 2.9% from 1984. Canadian tourist re-entries from the United States numbered 8.9 million, down 0.7% from a year earlier, while residents returning from countries other than the United States increased by 15.5% to 1.9 million.

Order the September 1985 issue of *International Travel - Advance Information* (66-001p, \$5/\$50), or contact Paul L. Paradis (613-990-8933), International Travel Section, International and Financial Economics Division.



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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED NOVEMBER 8-14

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE/NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
Livestock Report - Pigs, October 1, 1985	23-008	\$15/\$60	\$16/\$64
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, October 1, 1985	32-010	\$8/\$80	\$9/\$90
<b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS</b>			
The Labour Force Information, October 1985	71-001P	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
<b>INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE</b>			
Financial Institutions, Second Quarter 1985	61-006	\$40/\$160	\$41.50/\$166
<b>INDUSTRY</b>			
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Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, August 1985	32-011	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Cement, September 1985	44-001	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Coal and Coke Statistics, July 1985	45-002	\$8/\$80	\$9/\$90
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, September 1985	36-004	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
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Department Store Sales by Regions, August 1985	63-004	\$2/\$20	\$3/\$30
Department Store Sales by Regions, September 1985	63-004	\$2/\$20	\$3/\$30
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Production of Selected Biscuits, Quarter Ended September 1985	32-026	\$5/\$20	\$6/\$24
Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances, September 1985	43-010	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
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Rigid Insulating Board, September 1985	36-002	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
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The Electrical Contracting Industry, 1983	64-205	\$15	\$16
The Heavy Engineering Contracting Industry, 1983	64-209	\$15	\$16
The Highway, Road, Street and Bridge Contracting Industry, 1983	64-206	\$15	\$16
The Mechanical Contracting Industry, 1983	64-204	\$15	\$16
The Non-residential General Building Contracting Industry, 1983	64-207	\$15	\$16
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Wholesale Trade, August 1985	63-008	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
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The Control and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Canada, 1983	63-202	\$12	\$13
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, Vol. 17, no. 9, October 1985	51-004	\$8.50/\$85	\$9.50/\$95

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