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Weekly Bulletin

November 29, 1985

Employment, Earnings and Hours

Preliminary data for September 1985 showed an estimated 9,194.5 thousand employees for the Canada industrial aggregate, an increase of 99.8 thousand from August. Employment gains were noted in forestry, transportation, communication and other utilities and in community, business and personal services while the remaining industry groups showed decreases. All provinces and territories registered increases except New Brunswick and the Yukon which decreased and Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories which remained unchanged.

Average weekly earnings at the Canada industrial aggregate level increased from \$420.08 in August to \$423.02 in September. All industry groups registered increases with the exception of transportation, communication and other utilities and finance, insurance and real estate. All provinces and territories increased except Nova Scotia, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories which registered decreases.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$35/\$350), or contact Jack Beauregard or Renée Arseneault (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

Annual Unemployment Insurance Statistics

The number of persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits in 1984 declined to 3,221,890, down 5.1% from the 3,396,130 beneficiaries recorded for 1983.

Decreases in the number of persons receiving unemployment benefits were observed in Ontario (-10.9%), the Yukon (-6.4%), Manitoba (-5.1%), Quebec (-3.6%), British Columbia (-3.5%) and Alberta (-2.3%). However, increases in the number of beneficiaries were recorded in Saskatchewan (+1.4%), all Atlantic Provinces (+0.9%) and the Northwest Territories (+0.2%).

By sex, the number of male beneficiaries decreased in 1984 to 1,866,290 or by 9.2%, while the number of female beneficiaries advanced by 1.1% to 1,355,600.

Data for the years 1978 to 1984 will be published in *Benefit Periods Established and Terminated Under the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-201), or contact Horst Stiebert or Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-990-9900), Unemployment Insurance Statistics Section, Labour Division.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings(\$)	Sept.*	423.02	420.08	3.4
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)	Sept.	3,392.8	3,481.8	2.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Sept.	34,072.5	34,132.2	3.7

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Sept.	20,928.1	20,249.2	11.9
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Sept.	22,565.5	22,764.5	3.1

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	Oct.	128.4	128.0	4.2
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

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)	Aug.	4 573	40 510	9.9
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	Aug.	34 541	292 680	4.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Aug.*	6 430	62 238	8.5
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Sept.	6 790	59 184	-1.8

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)	Oct.*	1 280	12 109	-1.3

SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	964.8	7,828.9	5.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Sept.	21,138.1	179,799.7	6.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	1,454.7	11,856.2	25.8
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	10,305.9	92,223.7	10.2

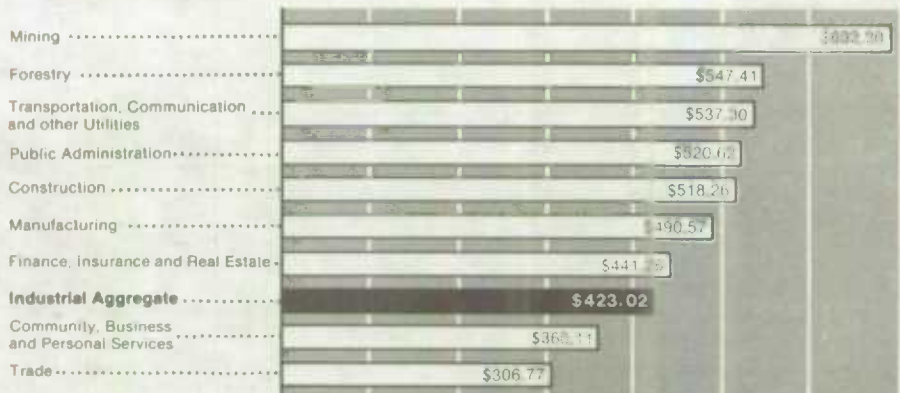
Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Average Weekly Earnings in Canadian Industry

September 1985*

Industry Division



Source: Statistics Canada, Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002)

* Preliminary Estimates

Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for the period January-September 1985 were at an estimated level of \$14,254.3 million, down 4.5% from the January-September 1984 figure of \$14,929.7 million.

Receipts from the sale of field crops fell 8.5% to \$6,645.4 million, from last year's total of \$7,262.0 million. Large declines in receipts for wheat (-43.8%) and barley (-26.3%) were only partially offset by interim Western Grain Stabilization payments totalling \$449.7 million and higher crop insurance and Canadian Wheat Board participation payments. Deliveries for the first nine months of 1985 were down 42.8% for wheat and 33.0% for barley (higher barley prices partially offset the lower marketings). September deliveries dropped 61.3% for barley and 44.7% for wheat, compared to September 1984. Canola/rapeseed receipts decreased 8.4% over last year's total due to lower prices.

Cash receipts from the sale of livestock and livestock products at \$7,185.2 million remained essentially unchanged when compared with the same period one year ago. Hog marketings were up 4.1% over the period. A 4.9% increase in cattle marketings caused a 2.4% increase in cattle receipts compared to the same period one year ago. Poultry receipts also registered an increase (2.6%), due to higher marketings.

Order the January-September 1985 issue of **Farm Cash Receipts** (21-001, \$7/\$70), or contact Lambert Gauthier or Steven Danford (613-990-8706), Agriculture and Natural Resources Division.

Union Wage Rate Indexes

The Canada total Union Wage Rate Index (1981=100) for construction trades (including supplements) registered no change between September and October 1985, remaining at a level of 132.1.

Comparing October 1985 with the same month in 1984, the Canada total level rose 3.4%. At a city level, the largest increase was reported in Halifax (11.5%). Cities in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia increased 4.4% on average. St. John's advanced 3.4%, Saint John rose 2.7% and Winnipeg moved up 2.0%. Calgary and Edmonton rose slightly (0.3%), while declines were registered in Regina (-0.5%) and Saskatoon (-0.4%).

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

Juvenile Court Statistics

The number of charges brought before the juvenile courts in Canada in 1983 dropped 5.2% from 1982. At the national level, property-related offences constituted over 80% of all federal statute charges brought before the courts in both years. A slight decrease in offences involving violence, down to 5.1% in 1983 from 5.3% in 1982, was seen in the federal statute count.

Order **Juvenile Court Statistics** (85-522, \$20), or contact Janina Korol (613-990-6646), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Infomat

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Long-term Unemployment

The long-term unemployed - persons unemployed for more than six months - dropped slightly to 26.6% of the total unemployed in 1984 from the 1983 peak recessionary level of 28.5%. In 1980, 15.5% of the unemployed had been out of work for more than half a year.

Since 1980, the substantial rise in the number of unemployed has been accompanied by an increase in both the number of persons unemployed for longer periods of time and the percentage of all unemployed persons experiencing "long-term" unemployment.

An article in the October issue of **The Labour Force**, entitled **A Note on Long-term Unemployment**, examines the growth of this component of the unemployed, by age, sex and region.

The proportion of long-term unemployed was greater among both males and females in the 25 years and over age group than for persons aged 15 to 24 in the period under study. The shift to longer-term unemployment, from 1980 to 1984, was also more pronounced in the older age group, rising from 20.1% to 33.6% for men and from 18.2% to 27.9% for women. Among 15 to 24-year olds, the long-term unemployed accounted for 18.9% of the total unemployed (up from 11.3% in 1980).

In 1980, long-term unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment varied widely between regions, from a high of 19.6% in the Atlantic region to a low of 6.2% in the Prairies. In 1984, the distribution of long-term unemployment across regions was far more uniform, ranging from a high of 30.7% in Quebec to a low of 23.0% in Ontario. While the largest absolute increase in long-term unemployment was in Quebec, the Prairie region and British Columbia experienced the greatest percentage increases.

Order the October 1985 issue of **The Labour Force** (71-001, \$20/\$200), or contact Richard Veevers (613-990-9452), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales registered a significant increase in September 1985, resulting in a 15.9% advance over September 1984, compared to the revised increase of 9.4% registered between August 1984 and August 1985.

In September 1985, all major trade groups registered increased sales from a year earlier. The most notable gains were reported by wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories (+22.2%) and other machinery, equipment and supplies (+20.4%). All regions posted sales increases from a year earlier, ranging from 11.8% in the Atlantic Provinces to 17.8% in the Prairie Provinces.

Cumulative sales by wholesale merchants for the first nine months of 1985 were up 11.6% over the January-September 1984 period. Significant gains were reported by wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories (+20.2%) and other machinery, equipment and supplies (+17.3%).

Inventories

Wholesale inventories in September 1985 increased by 6.5% over the corresponding period in 1984. Revised inventories for August 1985 were up 5.3% from the August 1984 level. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of September 1985 stood at 1.51:1, down from 1.65:1 a year earlier.

Order the September 1985 issue of **Wholesale Trade** (63-008, \$5/\$50), or contact Gilles Berniquez (613-991-3537), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

Highway Construction Prices

The Highway Construction Price Index for Canada (1971=100) for the year ending March 31, 1985 reached a level of 374.0, an increase of 8.0% from the previous fiscal year's level of 346.3. Prices for new highway construction increased in all provinces except British Columbia. The largest increase was observed for Quebec (16.4%), followed by Newfoundland (14.9%), Nova Scotia (11.2%), Manitoba (8.0%), New Brunswick (7.3%), Saskatchewan (6.9%), Ontario (5.4%) and Alberta (3.8%). A decrease of 16.9% was registered for B.C.

The heavily weighted contractors' bid prices rose 5.8% during the year, mainly because of increases of 9.7% for grading and 3% for paving.

A major contributor to these changes was a sharp increase of 21.6% in Quebec's grading prices, which was partially offset by a decline of 9.0% in British Columbia. For paving, mixed price change occurred with Manitoba, Newfoundland and Saskatchewan registering strong increases ranging from 21.6% to 31.6%. These were partially offset by decreases in Nova Scotia (-2.8%) and Quebec (-12.9%).

Prices for materials supplied by the Provincial Highways Department to the contractor rose 20.2% during the year mainly as a consequence of large increases in asphalt prices in all provinces. The strongest increases occurred in Quebec (30.2%) followed by Manitoba (16.3%).

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

International Travel Account

Preliminary estimates for the first nine months of 1985 show that Canada received \$4,074 million from international travel, up 3% from 1984. Payments by Canadians travelling abroad increased by 8.7% to \$5,750 million during that period. As a result, Canada's deficit on the travel account for the first nine months reached \$1,676 million, an increase of 7.3% compared with the 1984 level.

In the third quarter of 1985, preliminary estimates show that Canada had an international travel account surplus of \$313 million, down 13.1% from last year. Receipts from international travel amounted to \$2,300 million, up 8.3% from the third quarter of 1984, while payments by Canadians travelling abroad increased by 12.7% to \$1,987 million.

Order the July - September issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$35/\$140), or contact Paul Paradis (613-990-8932), International Travel Section.

Births and Birth Rates

A total of 377,031 births were recorded in Canada in 1984, up 0.9% from the 373,689 registered in 1983. The birth rate of 15.0 per 1,000 total population for Canada remained the same as in 1983.

A year-over-year comparison at the provincial level showed that increases in the number of births were recorded in Prince Edward Island (+47), Ontario (+4,470), Manitoba (+49), Saskatchewan (+167) and British Columbia (+992). Decreases were recorded in Newfoundland (-369), Nova Scotia (-23), New Brunswick (-158), Quebec (-315), Alberta (-1,450), Yukon (-21) and Northwest Territories (-47).

Order *Births and Deaths, 1984* (84-204, \$20), or contact Jean Shane (613-991-1772), Health Division.

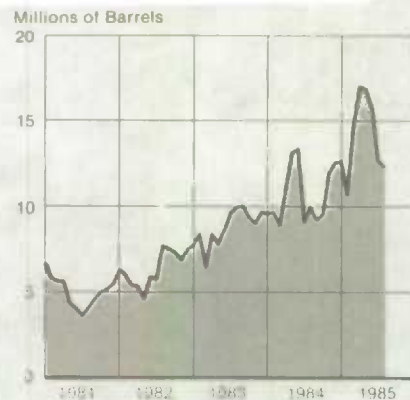
Census Families, Canada and Provinces

The number of census families on June 1, 1985 was estimated to be 6,727,500 in Canada (excluding the Yukon and Northwest Territories), an increase of 97,500 from June 1984 and 418,300 from June 1981.

The growth rate has decelerated since 1981, mainly due to a decrease in international migration: for example, families increased by 23,300 as a result of migration between 1981 and 1982 compared to only 9,200 between 1984 and 1985. However, the growth rate of census families continued to exceed that of the population. For the year ending May 31, 1985, the annual growth rate of census families was 1.5%, whereas the population growth rate was 0.9%. Over the previous three-year period from 1981 to 1984, families increased annually by 1.7% on average, while the population grew by only 1.1% on a year-over-year basis.

A detailed cross-classification of census families by characteristics will appear in *Estimates of Families for Canada and the Provinces* (91-204) at the beginning of 1986, or contact Y. Edward Shin (613-990-9583), Demography Division.

Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum



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

Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

In 1984, 12.9 million Canadian residents returned from an international tourist trip (one or more nights), a 4.9% decrease from 1983. Canadian tourist trips to the United States numbered 10.9 million, down 7.8% from the previous year. Canadian re-entries from all other countries increased 14.8% to 2.0 million.

By comparison, the total number of foreign tourists entering Canada in 1984 increased 3.9% to 13.0 million. Tourists from the United States numbered 11.3 million, a 3.5% increase from 1983, while travellers from all other countries grew by 6.5% to 1.7 million.

Order the 1984 edition of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-201, \$25), or contact Paul L. Paradis (613-990-8933), International Travel Section.

Air Charter Statistics

Passenger charter traffic for both the domestic and international sectors showed significant increases over the same quarter of last year, according to preliminary air charter statistics for the first quarter of 1985.

The number of passengers travelling on domestic charter services increased to 33,683 passengers, up 116% from the first quarter of 1984. The increase was largely due to the Kelowna-Vancouver charters that were introduced in the fourth quarter of 1984.

The number of international charter passengers reached 1,298,574 passengers in the latest quarter, up 10.1% from the 1,179,589 passengers recorded for the first quarter of 1984. The largest increase in passengers was observed in the southern region, up by 70,932 passengers, approximately 60% of the total increase for the international sector.

Order the November 1985 issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$8.50/\$85), or contact K. Davidson (819-997-1989), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude Petroleum

Preliminary figures show the production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons for August 1985 increased 1.0% from the previous year to 7511.5 thousand cubic metres.

Exports rose 33.9% to 1944.4 thousand cubic metres, while imports advanced 54.0% to 1438.8 thousand cubic metres.

Canadian refinery receipts of crude oil increased 1.2% to 7208.4 thousand cubic metres.

Natural Gas

Preliminary figures show net withdrawals of natural gas in August 1985 increased 1.5% from last year, totalling 7409.0 million cubic metres.

Marketable production of natural gas after treatment at processing plants amounted to 5043.8 million cubic metres, up 4.4% from 1984, while net withdrawals of natural gas liquids (propane, butanes and ethane) reached 1020.2 thousand cubic metres, down 9.6% from the previous year.

Exports of natural gas reached 1717.4 million cubic metres in August 1985, up 24.9% from a year earlier, while sales in Canada increased 6.2% to 2609.4 million cubic metres.

Order the August 1985 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, \$8/\$80), or contact G. O'Connor (613-991-3562), Industry Division.

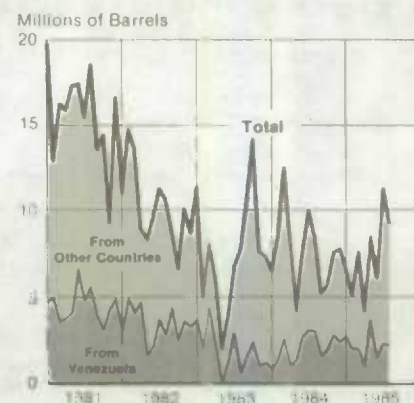
Gas Utilities

Preliminary data show sales of natural gas in Canada amounted to 2606 million cubic metres in August 1985, an increase of 6.1% from 2457 million cubic metres a year earlier.

Reported exports to the United States were 1717 million cubic metres during August 1985, an increase of 24.9% from 1375 million cubic metres a year earlier.

Order the August 1985 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$10/\$100), or contact Gary Smalldridge (613-991-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Canadian Imports of Crude Petroleum



Source: Statistics Canada, Imports by Commodities (65-007)



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