

I·N·F·O·M·A·T

A W E E K L Y R E V I E W

Friday, October 31, 1986

OVERVIEW

■ Heart Disease Still Leading Cause of Death

However, in 1985 cancer mortality was only slightly behind, though, and this disease was the leading cause of female death.

■ Declining Number of Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries

While the numbers continue to fall, the rate of decline has slowed in recent months.

■ Growth in Industrial Employment Slows

Strikes and lay-offs in the forestry, mining and manufacturing industries contributed to a reduction in employment in the goods-producing industries.

■ Gross Domestic Product Essentially Unchanged

Major labour disputes in British Columbia stalled output growth in August.

■ Wholesale Trade Remains Well Up over 1985

The 8.0% increase in August was slightly below recent figures and the trend to date in 1986.

■ Bond Sales to Non-residents Nearly Double

Year-to-date net investment from Japan has surpassed the total of \$2.1 billion recorded in all of 1985.

■ Federal Government Employment is Stable

Data for the second quarter 1986 reflect the continuing downward trend in employment growth rates which began in June 1983.

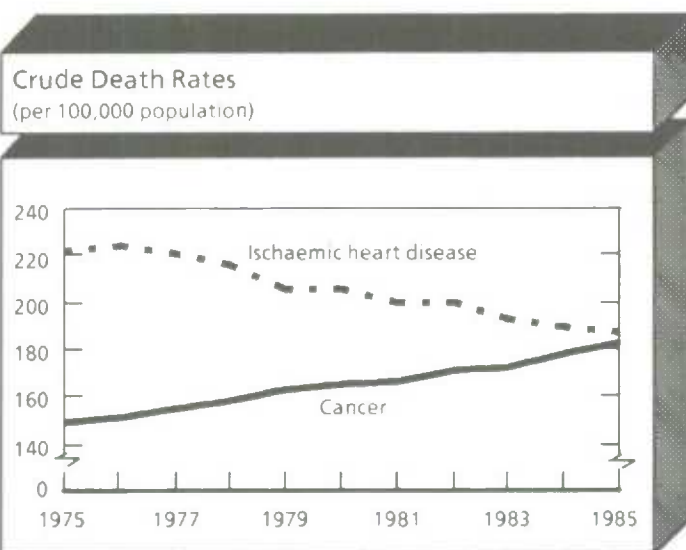
Heart Disease Still Leading Cause of Death

Heart disease (Ischaemic) remained the leading cause of death in Canada, accounting for approximately 26% of the 181,323 deaths occurring in 1985. Cancer mortality was just slightly behind at the national level – causing 25.6% or 46,333 deaths. The gap between these two major causes of death has been narrowing over the last several years as deaths from heart disease decrease and cancer mortality increases.

Cancer appears to be replacing heart disease as the leading cause of death much more rapidly for women than for men. Cancer was the leading cause of female death for the third consecutive year in 1985, while the highest death rate for males continued to be heart disease.

The age-standardized death rate (which removes the effect of an aging population) for lung cancer in males decreased, but it remains to be seen

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Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

... Heart Disease

whether this represents a reversal of the upward trend which has been observed for many years. For women, the death rate from lung cancer showed a greater increase than the increase in the death rate for breast cancer. However, mortality from breast cancer was still considerably higher.

According to preliminary abridged life tables, average life expectancy at birth increased by approximately one year for both males and females.

However, the rate of increase from 1980-82 to 1983-85 was somewhat slower than in previous periods. The life expectancy for males and females has been converging for a number of years, but female life expectancy was nearly seven years greater than that of males.

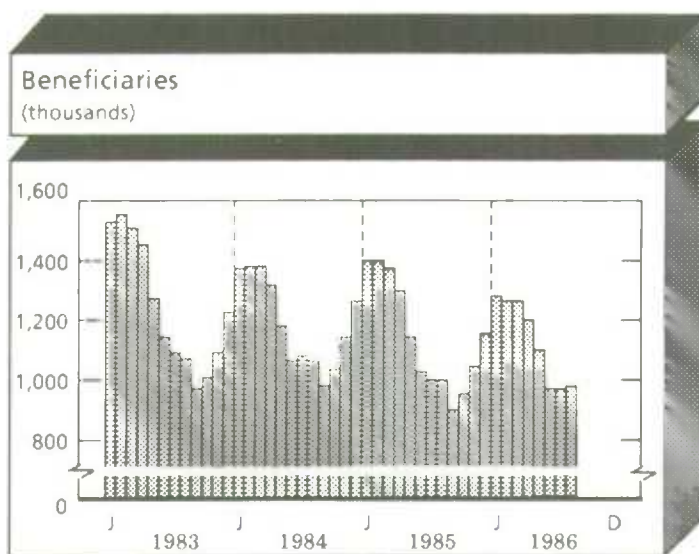
For further information, contact Health Division at (613) 991-1740.

Declining Number of Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries

In August, the number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries was down on a year-over-year basis for the seventeenth consecutive month. However, the rate of decline has slowed in recent months. The rate of decrease in the number of beneficiaries has dropped from -8.5% in January, to -3.1% in August.

Saskatchewan, Alberta and Newfoundland have reported more beneficiaries for the last several months, while the remaining provinces continue to record fewer beneficiaries.

In August, total unemployment insurance payments were \$725 million, down 9.4% from July, but up slightly (0.5%) from August 1985. Payments for the first eight months of 1986 amounted to \$7.3 billion, virtually unchanged from the same period of last year. The number of claims received was also essentially unchanged. Disqualifications and disentitlements, on the other hand, have dropped on a year-over-year basis for seven months.



For further information, contact Labour Division at (613) 990-9900.

Growth in Industrial Employment Slows

In August, the total number of Canadian industrial employees was estimated to have risen by 94,000 or 1.0% from August 1985. The yearly rate of change in the service-producing industries, which averaged 2.1% in the preceding three months, was down slightly to 1.8% in August. Employment in transportation, communication and other utilities has been declining steadily since March, while the yearly rate of change in trade has been increasing during the same period.

In the goods-producing industries, employment was down 1.1% from August 1985. The annual rate of change in these industries has been declining steadily since January when it was 5.2%. From July to August, declines were noted in forestry, mining and manufacturing. Employment in these three industries

usually increases at this time of year but strikes and lay-offs contributed to the month-to-month decrease in August.

Compared to August 1985, total average weekly earnings increased by 2.4%. This was slightly lower than the yearly rate of change observed since the beginning of the year. Average earnings in the goods-producing industries rose by 2.0%. The year-to-year growth rate in manufacturing, which accounts for over 70% of employment in the goods-producing sector, has decreased steadily since the start of the year. It has dropped from 4.6% in January, to 2.5% in August. In August, the rate of change in the service-producing industries was 2.8%, slightly lower than the 3.2% growth rate observed in the previous two months.

For further information, contact Labour Division at (613) 990-9900.

Gross Domestic Product Essentially Unchanged

In August, real Gross Domestic Product at factor cost was essentially unchanged from July. Following gains of 0.2% and 0.6% in June and July, real GDP was 4.0% higher than it was a year earlier. For the last eight months year-over-year increases in real GDP have averaged 4.3%.

Output from the goods-producing industries slipped 0.1% in August. Manufacturing production fell by 2.9%, much of this decrease occurred in industries that were affected by major labour disputes in British Columbia. Three industries (forestry, wood products, and paper and allied products) recorded a combined drop of 12% in August.

However, production increases recorded in the mining and construction industries almost offset the declines noted above. These were the first month-over-month advances registered by these industries

Real Gross Domestic Product

	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	% change, previous month				
Real Gross Domestic Product	2.0	-0.9	0.2	0.6	0.0
Goods industries	2.4	-2.1	-1.2	0.8	-0.1
Service industries	1.8	-0.1	1.0	0.5	0.0
Industrial production	2.7	-1.8	-0.9	0.8	-0.9

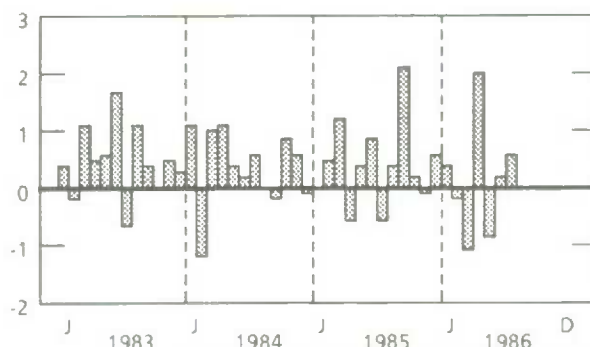
For further information, contact Industry Measures and Analysis Division at (613) 991-3673.

Wholesale Trade Remains Well Up over 1985

Following an advance of 13.1% in July, preliminary estimates of wholesale merchants' sales for August were only 8.0% higher than a year earlier. This increase was also lower than the increase in cumulative sales for the first seven months of the year (12%).

All major trade groups, except food wholesalers, registered increased sales from a year earlier. The drop in sales by food wholesalers was the third year-over-year decrease in the last six months. The trade groups which had the most significant impact on the overall sales increase were machinery, equipment and supplies (15.0%), and lumber and building materials (24.3%).

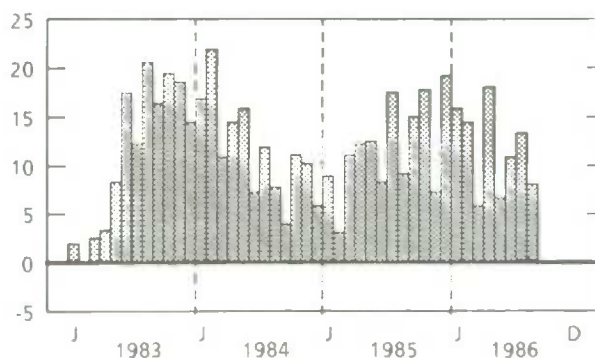
Gross Domestic Product
(% change, previous month)



since April 1986. Most of the growth in mining was due to a pick-up of oil and gas exploration activity, especially in the offshore and northern regions. The gain in the construction industry was mainly due to increased residential construction.

Output from the service-producing industries was unchanged in August. The finance, insurance and real estate industry was the only one reporting significant growth. This particular industry has generally followed an upward trend since February 1986. Declining output was registered by the transportation, wholesale trade and communications industries in August.

Sales
(% change, previous year)



(continued on page 4)

... Wholesale Trade

Dealers in lumber and building materials have reported year-over-year increases in sales for 15 consecutive months. The average advance in 1985 was a moderate 4.5%, as sales declined on a year-over-year basis for the first five months of the year. Cumulative sales for January to August 1986 were up 24.4% from the same period of 1985. This increase reflects the current high level of activity in the construction industry. The value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities, which indicates the level of building intentions, was up by approximately 25% in July 1986.

All regions posted year-over-year sales increases in August. They ranged from 11.4% in Ontario, to 3.7% in the Atlantic provinces. To date in 1986, the average of year-over-year advances in Ontario and British Columbia, the Yukon and Northwest Territories exceed those recorded in 1985. In the remaining regions of Canada wholesale trade has grown but at a slower rate than in 1985.

For further information, contact Industry Division at (613) 991-3537.

Bond Sales to Non-residents Nearly Double

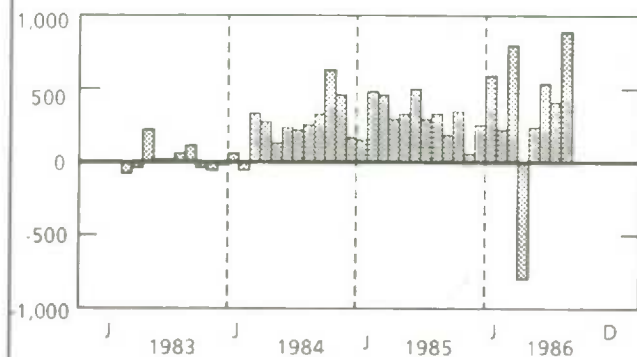
In August, sales of outstanding Canadian securities to non-residents totalled \$3.7 billion and purchases from non-residents of \$2.9 billion resulted in a net inflow of \$863 million. Excluding April 1986, non-residents have been net purchasers of Canadian securities since February 1984.

Net sales to non-residents of outstanding Canadian bonds doubled to a record \$785 million in August. This record was largely attributable to a surge in investment from Japan. Year-to-date net investment from Japan amounted to \$2.1 billion, surpassing the amount recorded in all of 1985. A sharp rise in investment from Japan has been noted in recent years.

Security Transactions

Net sales	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	millions of dollars				
Canadian Securities					
Bonds	78	355	245	388	785
Common and preferred stocks	-851	-102	301	-19	77
Total	-773	253	546	368	863
Foreign Securities					
Bonds	-89	-222	-8	-60	122
Common and preferred stocks	53	-184	82	-102	45
Total	-36	-406	76	-162	167

Net Sales of Canadian Securities
(millions of dollars)



Net sales of outstanding Canadian stocks were \$77 million in August.

Trading in outstanding foreign securities resulted in a net sale by residents (reduction in holdings) of \$167 million in August which follows a net purchase of a similar amount in the previous month. In spite of this volatile investment pattern, residents have added, on a net basis, some \$300 million to their holdings in the first eight months of the year. Investments in overseas stocks have shown the most notable advance in 1986.

For further information, contact International and Financial Economics Division (613) 990-9052.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug. *	430.14	431.69	2.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	22,653	22,801	4.7
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.	11.74	12.08	2.4
Unemployed	Sept.	1,127,000	1,201,000	-4.7
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.	3,996	3,937	14.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug.	33,863	33,828	-1.6
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	19,116	19,555	-6.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	24,245	24,445	-1.2
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	Sept.	133.3	133.3	4.1
New House Price Index (1981 = 100)	Aug.	105.0	103.9	8.9
Raw Materials Price Index (1981 = 100)	Aug.	90.8	90.8	-20.7
Excl. coal, crude oil, natural gas	Aug.	105.2	104.5	6.8
Industrial Product Price Index (1981 = 100)	Aug.	119.1	118.9	0.6
CONSTRUCTION				
			Year-to-date	
Building Permits (\$ million)	July	1,866	13,060	24.2
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Aug.	14,498	108,122	26.0
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	July	3,631	233,180	-8.1
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	July	33,618	263,942	2.3
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	July*	7,129	60,158	-4.1
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Aug.	7,781	56,451	-0.2
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	8,577	78,657	0.7
Imports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	8,565	74,774	10.5
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	976	7,261	6.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug.	19,317	165,369	3.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,732	14,973	11.7
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	11,925	89,339	8.0

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.
* new this week.

Federal Government Employment is Stable

Compared to the second quarter of 1985, general government employment remained stable in June 1986. There were 392,698 employees in departments and special funds, up slightly (0.2%) from June 1985. The rate of growth in general government employment has declined since June 1983.

The relatively small increase was due primarily to growth at Statistics Canada and National Defence. The increase at Statistics Canada was the result of hiring temporary staff for the 1986 Census of Population. Without this increase, general government

employment would have decreased by 1.3%. The gain at National Defence was due to higher recruitment of military personnel under the Youth Training Program.

Employment by government enterprises dropped 1.9%, to 207,603 in June. This decrease resulted from the sale of de Havilland Aircraft and Northern Transportation Company to the private sector. In addition, lay-offs by CNR, CMHC and CBC further reduced employment. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in Petro-Canada employees which resulted from the acquisition of Gulf Canada in September 1985.

For further information, contact Public Institutions Division at (613) 990-8306.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM OCTOBER 24 - 30

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Cereals and Oilseeds Review, August 1986 Catalogue number 22-007 (Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries: \$11/\$110)

Farm Cash Receipts, January-August 1986 Catalogue number 21-001 (Canada: \$7/\$70; Other Countries: \$8/\$80)

Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, August 1986 Catalogue number 62-003 (Canada: \$6/\$60; Other Countries: \$7/\$70)

HEALTH

Causes of Death - Vital Statistics, Vol. IV, 1985 Catalogue number 84-203 (Canada: \$35; Other Countries: \$36.50)

INDUSTRY

Alcoholic Beverage Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 32-231 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Asphalt Roofing, August 1986 Catalogue number 45-001 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50)

Electric Power Statistics, July 1986 Catalogue number 57-001 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90)

Furniture and Fixture Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 35-216 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

General Review of the Mineral Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 26-201 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Jewellery and Precious Metals Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 47-211 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, September 1986 Catalogue number 44-004 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50)

Miscellaneous Chemical Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 46-216 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 47-205 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Miscellaneous Non-metallic Mineral Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 44-220 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

New Motor Vehicle Sales, July 1986 Catalogue number 63-007 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90)

Oil and Fats, August 1986 Catalogue number 32-006 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50)

Plastics Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 46-222 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, September 1986 Catalogue number 32-022 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50)

INDUSTRY - Concluded

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, July 1986 Catalogue number 35-002 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90)

Refined Petroleum Products, July 1986 Catalogue number 45-004 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160)

Retail Trade, July 1986 Catalogue number 63-005 (Canada: \$14/\$140; Other Countries: \$15/\$150)

Rigid Insulating Board, August 1986 Catalogue number 36-002 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50)

Sawmill, Planing Mill and Shingle Mill Products Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 35-204 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Stamped, Pressed and Coated Metal Products Industries, 1984 Catalogue number 41-227 (Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

INTERNATIONAL AND FINANCIAL ECONOMICS

Security Transactions with Non-residents, July 1986 Catalogue number 67-002 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160)

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Exports by Commodities, August 1986 Catalogue number 65-004 (Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600)

Imports by Commodities, August 1986 Catalogue number 65-007 (Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600)

Summary of Canadian International Trade, August 1986 Catalogue number 65-001 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160)

LABOUR

Employment, Earnings and Hours, July 1986 Catalogue number 72-002 (Canada: \$35/\$350; Other Countries: \$36.50/\$365)

The Labour Force, September 1986 Catalogue number 71-001 (Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries: \$21.50/\$215)

PRICES

Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, April-June 1986 Catalogue number 62-010 (Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16.50/\$66)

TRANSPORTATION

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics, August 1986 Catalogue number 53-003 (Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$75)

Railway Carloadings, 7-day Period Ending October 7, 1986 Catalogue number 52-005 (Canada: \$75; Other Countries: \$100)

Railway Operating Statistics, June 1986 Catalogue number 52-003 (Canada: \$9.50/\$95; Other Countries: \$10.50/\$105)

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KEY RELEASE CALENDAR: November 1986*

MON.	TUE.	WED.	THUR.	FRI.
3 <i>Business Conditions Survey, 3rd quarter</i>	4 <i>New Housing Price Index, August</i>	5 <i>Housing Starts, September</i>	6	7 <i>Labour Force Survey, October</i> <i>Merchandise Trade, September</i> <i>Labour Income, August</i>
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1	2 <i>Gross Domestic Product, 3rd quarter</i> <i>Gross Domestic Product, September</i> <i>Balance of Payments, 3rd quarter</i>			

* Anticipated dates of release only

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