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Weekly Bulletin



February 14, 1986

## Canadian International Trade

— Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

### 1985 Merchandise Trade Surplus

The merchandise trade surplus in 1985, at \$16.8 billion, was down \$3.9 billion from the record 1984 level.

The major commodity groupings contributing to the 1985 surplus were:

- Forest products with a \$15.1 billion balance, an increase of \$425 million over 1984;
- Energy-related products with a positive balance of \$10.3 billion, \$1.7 billion higher than the preceding year;
- Agricultural products with a surplus of \$4.3 billion, a decline of \$1.0 billion from 1984.

The major commodity groupings that registered deficits in 1985 were:

- Machinery and equipment, with a deficit of \$11.1 billion, an increase in the deficit of \$160 million;
- Consumer goods, which registered an \$8.4 billion deficit, an increase of \$97 million over 1984.

(continued on page 2, col. 3)

## New Motor Vehicle Sales

Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 104,176 units in December 1985, up 25.3% from December 1984. Sales of vehicles manufactured in North America increased to 77,138 units, 22.7% higher than in the same month a year earlier, while sales of imported vehicles totalled 27,038 units, up 33.3% over the December 1984 level.

Sales of passenger cars totalled 72,537 units, up 20.7% from the December 1984 level of 60,097 units. Passenger cars manufactured in North America increased by 16.7% to a level of 49,308 units, while imported passenger cars increased by 30.2% to a level of 23,229 units.

All provinces, with the exception of Prince Edward Island which declined by 3.2%, registered higher unit sales of motor vehicles in December 1985 compared to December 1984. The increases ranged from 2.2% in Alberta to 10.0% in New Brunswick.

The total dollar value of all motor vehicles sold in December 1985 increased by 35.5% from a year earlier to \$1,453.3 million.

(continued on page 2, col. 1)

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings(\$)	Nov.	425 15	425.04	3.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.*	21,253.9	21,384.3	6.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.*	11 20	11.34	4.8
Unemployed	Jan.*	1,347,000	1,238,000	-9.2

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	4,332.8	4,288.7	9.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	34,066.5	34,067.6	3.1

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	21,334.2	21,794.4	7.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	22,374.5	22,390.1	1.7

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	Dec.	129.5	128.9	4.4
New House Price Index (1981 = 100)	Dec.*	98.2	97.8	3.7
Raw Materials Price Index (1977 = 100)	Dec.	219.3	218.3	-1.1
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Dec.	158.2	156.6	1.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1971 = 100)	Dec.	323.1	321.8	2.8

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	1,466.6	18,022.8	26.2
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	12,342	139,408	25.7

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Nov.	5 123	55 871	6.6
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	Nov.	40 013	401 899	4.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Sept.	6 826	69 064	8.3
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Nov.	7 246	78 416	-2.0

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Nov.	10,367	110,160	6.8
Imports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Nov.	9,255	95,089	12.5

### PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Nov.	20.1	219.5	-1.5
Steel (ingots - thousand tonnes)	Nov.	1 228	13 353	-0.8

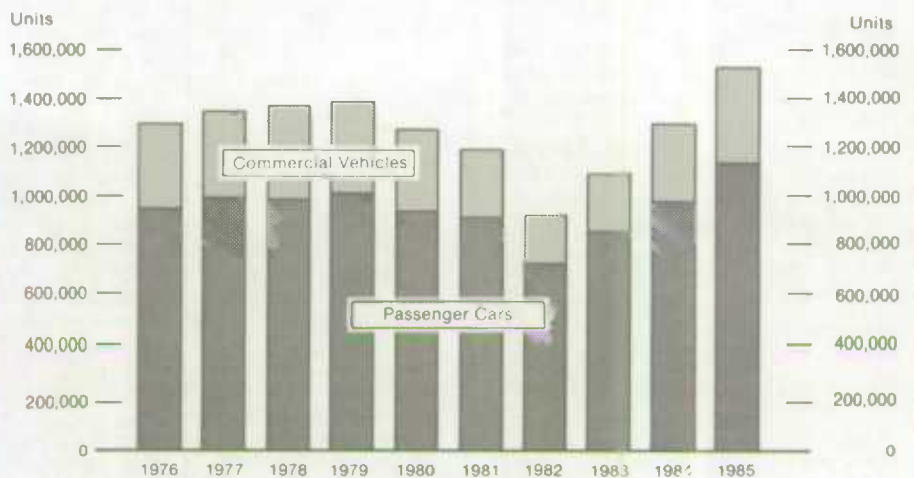
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.*	1,835.4	12,056.7	5.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	21,349.9	223,182.1	7.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	1,696.4	18,436.8	26.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	11,881.9	115,226.2	10.6

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

\* - new this week.

## Canadian Sales of New Motor Vehicles



Source: Statistics Canada, New Motor Vehicle Sales (63-007)

## ... New Motor Vehicle Sales

### Annual 1985

In 1985, total new motor vehicle sales reached a level of 1,530,410 units, surpassing the previous record of 1,396,402 units sold during 1979. Sales were also 19.2% higher than the 1984 level of 1,283,502 units. Of the 1985 total, passenger cars manufactured in North America accounted for 794,965 units, up 9.7% from the previous year, while commercial vehicles accounted for 344,871, a gain of 26.0% from a year earlier. A total of 342,251 overseas-built passenger cars were sold in Canada in 1985, 39.0% higher than a year earlier, while sales of commercial vehicles rose 24.9% to 48,323 units.

The retail value of all units sold during 1985 totalled \$19,890.1 million in current dollars, an increase of 26.9% over 1984.

During 1985, the market share for passenger cars (units) manufactured in North America was 69.9%, those made in Japan 17.5% and those of other countries 12.6%. In 1984, the ratios were: 74.7%, 17.6% and 7.7% respectively.

Order the December 1985 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$8/\$80), or contact Maurice Massaad (613-990-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Minority and Second Language Education

Nearly 1.7 million students outside the province of Quebec were enrolled in French second language programmes in 1984-85. French immersion enrolment, now growing by 20% per year, accounted for 140,000 of these students. More than 150,000 students outside Quebec were being educated in French schools; this represents 4% of the student population, compared with 12% of Quebec's students being educated in English.

Order *Minority and Second Language Education, Elementary and Secondary Levels* (81-257, \$20), or contact Josephine Stanic (613-991-1498), Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

## Labour Income

Labour income for the month of November 1985 was estimated at \$21,253.9 million, an increase of \$1,371.2 million or 6.9% from November 1984.

Adjusted for seasonal variation, wages and salaries increased by \$142.6 million between October 1985 and November 1985 to \$19,058.6 million.

Order the October-December 1985 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$15/\$60), or contact Georgette Gauthier (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

## Steel Ingots

Steel ingot production for December 1985 totalled 1 199 852 tonnes, an increase of 8.9% from the 1 102 212 tonnes produced the previous year.

Order the December 1985 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4/\$40), or contact G.W. Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

# Infomat

## Weekly Bulletin

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## International Travel

During December 1985, preliminary statistics indicate an estimated 1.8 million visits to Canada by United States residents, a decrease of 2.5% from the same month in 1984. Visits by residents of other countries declined by 2.8% to 93,500 in December. The number of Canadian re-entries following visits to the United States totalled 2.4 million, down 3.7% from December 1984 figures. Visits by Canadian residents returning from all other countries increased by 2.5% to 124,900.

Total international travel flows during 1985 were as follows: 34.1 million trips by United States residents to Canada, a rise of 3.5% compared with 1984; visits by residents from other countries decreased by 4.2% to 1.8 million; visits by Canadian residents returning from the United States increased by 1.8% to 37.4 million, while trips by residents returning from other countries numbered 2.3 million, an advance of 14.4% 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 increased by 3.3% to 466,800 in December 1985, the highest December level in more than a decade.

In 1985, tourist visits from the United States numbered 12.1 million, up 3.4% from 1984. Tourist trips from other countries decreased by 3.8% to 1.6 million during the year. Canadian tourist re-entries from the United States numbered 10.9 million, down 0.9% from a year earlier, while visits by residents returning from countries other than the United States increased by 14.4% to 2.3 million.

Order the December 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.

## ... Canadian International Trade

### Short-term Trend

In contrast to the steadily increasing movement noted throughout 1983 and most of 1984, the short-term trend for exports in 1985 showed pronounced cyclical movement and this was reflected in most major commodity groupings. In the third quarter, the automotive sector provided most of the strength.

The short-term trend for imports has steadily risen since mid-83 except for the September-October 1984 period. The short-term trend for imports of machinery also shows this consistent growth. The automotive sector registered strong gains in the summer months of 1985 but has slowed substantially since. Imports of industrial goods and materials posted gains of 2% through most of 1985 but are currently declining. The energy sector registered strong growth in the second quarter, displayed weakness in the third quarter and has recovered in the current period. The short-term trend for agriculture and fishing products has been virtually flat in 1985 along with the trend for consumer goods.

### Commodity Analysis - Total Exports

Renewed strength in the energy sector fueled the turnaround in exports in December. Following a 21% decline in November, energy products, led by coal, rose more than 16%. Aluminum, aircraft and precious metals also registered significant increases. Partially offsetting these gains were declines in nearly all wood and wood product categories.

### Imports

Almost all of the \$495 million December drop in imports was due to the automotive sector: motor vehicles declined 23.2% following a similar increase in November, trucks increased slightly by 0.2% and motor vehicle parts fell 6.6% after an increase of 18.9%. Crude petroleum imports registered a decline of 18.4% in contrast to an increase of 19.3% in the preceding month. Other commodities posted only marginal changes.

### Trading Partner Analysis

The cyclical movement in total exports in 1985 primarily reflected the pattern of trade with the United States (Canada's exports to the United States represented 78.8% of total exports in 1985). The drop in July was due in part to continued slow growth in the U.S. but also reflected a slowdown in shipments of automotive products associated with a U.S. car haulers' strike. Record U.S. motor vehicle sales in the fall (sales have since declined) led the recovery in exports.

### Imports

December imports from the United States fell 7.7% following an increase of 11.4% in November. The decline was concentrated in the automotive sector. Imports from the United Kingdom dropped 24.3% after a rise of 12.7% in November. Imports from "Other Countries" rose 16.9% or \$132 million.

Order the December 1985 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (65-001, \$15/\$150), or contact G. Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Judith Frederick (613-990-9784), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.



## Labour Force Survey

The seasonally adjusted level of employment for the week ending January 18, 1986 was estimated at 11,632,000 – an increase of 129,000 over the previous month. Employment rose by 100,000 to 9,190,000 for those aged 25 years and over. There were gains of 62,000 for women in this age group and of 38,000 for men. The employment level increased to 2,442,000 for persons aged 15 to 24, an increase of 29,000 – due entirely to gains among young men.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of full-time employment reached 9,822,000 – an increase of 91,000, of which 64,000 was attributed to males and 27,000 to females. Part-time employment rose to 1,807,000, with increases of 8,000 for men and 19,000 for women.

Employment increased in primary industries other than agriculture (+15,000), construction (+26,000), services (+49,000) and manufacturing (+18,000) industries. There was little or no change in the remaining sectors.

The estimated level of employment increased by 3,000 in both Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, by 24,000 in Quebec, by 43,000 in Ontario, by 5,000 in Saskatchewan, by 14,000 in Alberta and by 20,000 in British Columbia. There was little or no change in the other provinces.

### Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted level of unemployment was estimated at 1,262,000 in January 1986, a decrease of 17,000 from last month. There were an estimated 802,000 unemployed among persons aged 25 years and over. A decline of 22,000 for this age group was equally divided between men (-12,000) and women (-10,000). The unemployment level rose to 460,000 for those aged 15 to 24, as an increase of 14,000 among young women more than offset a 9,000 decline among young men.

The estimated level of unemployment declined mainly in Alberta (-11,000) and in British Columbia (-17,000). It rose by 4,000 in Manitoba while there was little change in the remaining provinces.

### Unemployment Rate

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January 1986 was 9.8, a decline of 0.2 from the previous month. The unemployment rate declined by 0.3 to 8.0 for those aged 25 and over, with similar decreases for both males and females in this age group. The rate remained at 15.9 for persons aged 15 to 24, with an increase of 0.9 for young women being offset by a similar decline for young men.

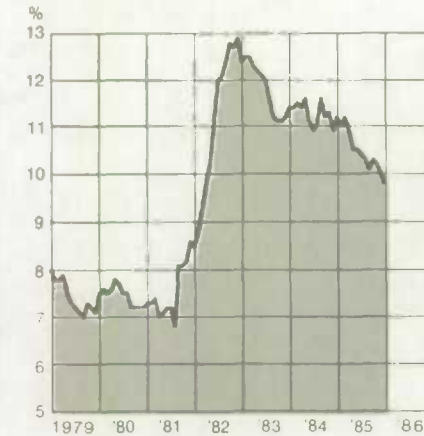
### Unadjusted Data

The unadjusted estimate of employment for January 1986 was 11,196,000 – an increase of 514,000 (4.8%) over that of the same month last year. The unemployment level was an estimated 1,347,000 – a decline of 136,000 (-9.2%) from a year ago. The unemployment rate was 10.7, 1.5 below that of last January. The participation rate was 64.2, an increase of 1.2 over January 1985. The employment/population ratio stood at 57.4, an increase of 2.0 over the ratio of last year.

Order the January 1986 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$20/\$200).

## Unemployment Rate, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada,  
The Labour Force (71-001)

## New Housing Price Index

The New Housing Price Index (1981=100) for Canada stood at 98.2 in December 1985, up 0.4% from its November level of 97.8, continuing an upward movement which has been evident for the last six months. This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 3.7% higher than the year-earlier level of 94.7. Between November 1985 and December 1985, the estimated house only index increased 0.4% to 101.1, while the estimated land only index increased 0.3% to 93.6.

Between November and December 1985 the largest increases in the price index were noted for St. Catharines-Niagara (1.1%), Hamilton (0.9%), Montreal (0.8%) and Toronto (0.7%). Monthly increases were also noted for Windsor (0.4%), Winnipeg (0.3%), Kitchener (0.2%), Regina (0.2%), Calgary (0.2%), Ottawa-Hull (0.1%) and Vancouver (0.1%). Victoria reported a monthly decrease of 1.0% due to a housing market affected by unusually poor weather conditions during the month of December. Halifax reported a small decrease of 0.2%.

Contractors' selling prices continue to exhibit large 12-month increases in some Southern Ontario cities, due largely to increased demand for new houses coupled with the shortages of some materials and skilled tradesmen in these cities: Kitchener (15.4%), St. Catharines-Niagara (11.9%), Windsor (9.7%), Hamilton (8.0%) and London (6.4%). Significant increases were also recorded in Winnipeg (6.8%), Calgary (6.8%), Saint John-Moncton (6.0%), Quebec City (5.8%), Toronto (5.4%) and Halifax (5.1%). The index recorded 12-month declines in Victoria (-4.2%) and Vancouver (-1.6%).

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

 **june 3**  
census day

## Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for the period January-December 1985 were at an estimated level of \$20,040.2 million, down 1.4% from the January-December 1984 level of \$20,315.7 million.

Receipts from the sale of field crops were at \$9,403.6 million, a decrease of 4.2% from last year's level of \$9,811.4 million. Western Grain Stabilization payments totalling \$522.0 million, made in April and November of 1985 and higher crop insurance and Canadian Wheat Board participation payments partially offset large declines in wheat (-32.7%) and barley (-19.6%) receipts.

Cash receipts from the sale of livestock and livestock products were virtually unchanged at \$9,768.6 million. Hog marketings were up 2.2% over the period, however prices for hogs during 1985 averaged 6.1% lower than in the corresponding period the previous year and as a result hog cash receipts decreased 4.0%.

Cattle receipts remained almost unchanged compared to the same period one year ago while poultry receipts registered an increase of 1.3% due to higher marketings. Other cash receipts rose to \$868.1 million from the year-earlier total of \$736.3 million.

Order the January-December 1985 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, \$7/\$70).

## Farm Input Price Index

The Farm Input Price Index (FIPI, 1981=100) for the fourth quarter of 1985 for Canada stood at a preliminary level of 107.5, up 0.6% from the revised third quarter level of 106.9. Compared to the fourth quarter of 1984, the index rose only 0.1%; in the third quarter of 1985 the index was 1.3% below its level of a year earlier. The FIPI annual average for 1985 was 108.0, a 0.7% increase over the 1984 level of 107.3.

Order the Fourth Quarter 1985 issue of *Farm Input Price Indexes* (62-004, \$10/\$40).

## Farm Prices of Agricultural Products

The December 1985 estimate of the index of farm prices of agricultural products for Canada at 287.8 (1971=100) was up 1.0% from the November 1985 index of 284.8 but 3.8% less than the December 1984 level of 299.3.

The 1.0% increase in the overall index from November 1985 to December 1985 was due to a 1.4% gain in the total crops sub-index and a 0.8% rise in the livestock and livestock products sub-index.

The advance in the total crops sub-index was due to increases of 2.6% for oilseeds and 1.8% for grains. Prices of corn, rye, soybeans, flaxseed and canola/rapeseed all strengthened in December from November levels while potato prices were lower.

Cattle, calves, hogs, lambs and poultry all showed price increases in December, contributing to the higher livestock and livestock products sub-index. Egg prices showed the only decrease (-0.4%) when compared to November.

Order the December 1985 issue of *Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products* (62-003, \$6/\$60).



# **PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FEBRUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 13**

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	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE/NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, January 1986	32-012	\$10/\$100	\$11/\$110
<b>DEMOGRAPHY</b>			
Postcensal Annual Estimates of Population by Marital Status, Age, Sex and Components of Growth for Canada, Provinces and Territories, June 1, 1985, Vol. 3, Third Issue,	91-210	\$22	\$23
<b>EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM</b>			
Culture Communiqué, Vol. 8, No. 8 Motion Picture Theatres, 1983	87-001	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Minority and Second Language Education, Elementary and Secondary Levels, 1984-85	81-257	\$20	\$21
<b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS</b>			
Fuel Consumption Survey: Passenger Cars, Light Trucks and Vans, January-March 1985	53-007	Free	Free
Labour Force Information, January 1986	71-001P	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
<b>INDUSTRY</b>			
Department Store Sales by Regions, December 1985	63-004	\$2/\$20	\$3/\$30
Cement, December 1985	44-001	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Electric Lamps (Light Bulbs and Tubes), December 1985	43-009	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, Vol. 14, No. 12: Pack of Processed Apricots, 1985	32-023	\$6/\$100	\$7/\$110
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, Vol. 14, No. 14: Pack of Processed Beets, 1985	32-023	\$6/\$100	\$7/\$110
Gypsum Products, December 1985	44-003	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Manufacturing Industries of Canada: Sub-provincial Areas, 1982	31-209	\$70	\$80
Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, November 1985	47-004	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, December 1985	43-003	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>			
Imports by Commodities, November 1985	65-007	\$50/\$500	\$60/\$600
Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, December 1985	65-001P	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
<b>SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL STOCK</b>			
Housing Starts and Completions, November 1985	64-002	\$15/\$150	\$16/\$160
Resources for Research and Development in Canada, 1983 (with 1985 estimates)	88-203	\$30	\$31
<b>SERVICES</b>			
Motion Picture Production, 1983	63-206	\$20	\$21
Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics, November 1985	63-011	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
Telephone Statistics, November 1985	56-002	\$7.50/\$75	\$8.50/\$85
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Air Carrier Operations in Canada, July-September 1984	51-002	\$29/\$116	\$30/\$120
Railway Carloadings, 7-day Period Ending January 21, 1986	52-005	\$75	\$100
Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin, Vol. 2, No. 1: Trucking Activity Survey, 1984	50-002	\$7.50/\$75	\$8.50/\$85
Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin, Vol. 2, No. 2: Motor Carriers - Freight and Household Goods Movers, 1984	50-002	\$7.50/\$75	\$8.50/\$85

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