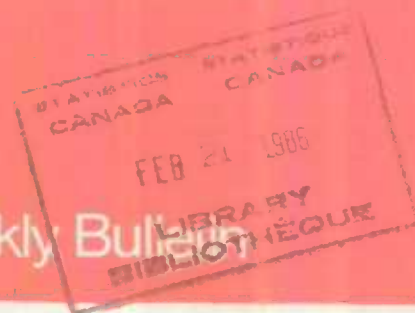


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Weekly Bulletin



February 21, 1986

## Inventories, Shipments and Orders

Preliminary estimates indicate that the seasonally adjusted value of shipments in all Canadian manufacturing industries increased 0.7% to \$21,335.1 million in December from the revised estimate of \$21,182.7 million in November. This increase followed a gain of 2.3% in November.

The seasonally adjusted value of new orders received in December increased 2.2% to \$21,627.2 million from the revised November estimate of \$21,158.3 million.

The seasonally adjusted unfilled orders backlog at the end of December was \$22,924.8 million, up 1.3% from the revised November estimate of \$22,632.7 million.

Seasonally adjusted inventories owned by manufacturers at the end of December totalled \$34,386.6 million, up 0.1% from the previous month's revised value of \$34,355.3 million.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in December 1985 were estimated at \$19,798.4 million, 6.8% lower than the revised November value of \$21,232.1 million. Cumulative shipments for the year 1985, at an estimated \$242,862.7 million, were up 7.5% from the previous year's total of \$225,970.5 million.

Order the December 1985 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, \$15/\$150).

## Building Construction Activity

The leading indicator of building construction activity in Canada (1981=100) slipped slightly (-1.3%) in October to 92.1 from 93.3 in September. This is the second consecutive drop of the total index and is attributable to both the residential and non-residential sectors.

The filtered index of residential construction declined 1.7% to 102.5 in October, showing the first decrease for 1985 in this sector. The slackening of construction intentions in the multi-family dwelling sector is responsible for this drop. The trend-cycle of residential permits issued declined in Quebec, showed little change in British Columbia and the Atlantic provinces and increased in Ontario and the Prairies.

The filtered index of non-residential construction (excluding engineering projects) decreased 0.7% to 81.2 in October from 81.8 in September. The governmental component of the non-residential index has continued to decline since July 1985. In

(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)	Dec.*	3,536.6	4,332.8	12.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.*	33,786.6	33,983.2	2.1

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.*	19,667.3	21,180.9	12.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.*	22,207.9	22,339.0	1.9

### 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

			Year-to-date	
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)	Oct.*	7 862	76 927	7.8
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Dec.*	7 331	86 216	-1.7

### 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

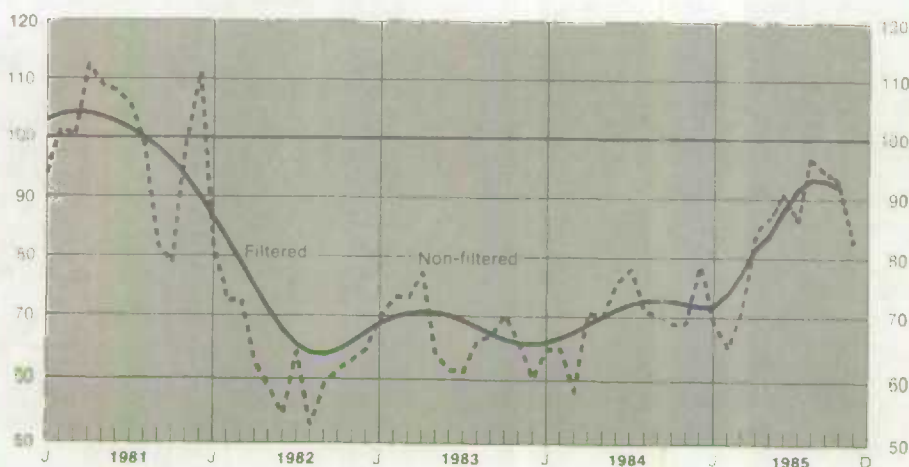
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	1,835.4	12,056.7	5.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.*	19,798.4	242,862.7	7.5
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	1,696.1	18,436.8	26.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.*	13,210.3	128,424.5	10.6

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

\* - new this week.

## Indexes of Construction Activity in Canada

1981=100



Source: Statistics Canada, Building Permits (64-001)

Canada

## ... Building Construction Activity

October, this index dropped significantly (-6.9%) from September, to 91.2. The industrial (+1.1%) and commercial (+0.5%) indexes recorded slight increases during the month. The trend-cycle of non-residential permits issued was down in British Columbia, up in Quebec and remained stable in the rest of the country.

Order the November 1985 issue of **Building Permits** (64-001, \$20/\$200), or contact **Lizette Gervais-Simard** (613-990-9689), **Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division**.

## Persons Working Few Hours Per Week

According to Labour Force Survey definitions, a person is counted as employed regardless of the number of hours worked per week. In 1985, there were 189,000 persons who were employed five hours or less a week out of a total of 11 million workers.

The 189,000 persons working few hours were divided almost equally between those aged 15-24 years (93,000) and those aged 25 years and over (96,000). By sex, however, there were twice as many women working five hours or less a week (128,000) as men (62,000).

Not surprisingly, over 41% of persons working few hours said they were also going to school (78,000). Among all persons working less than five hours per week, nearly 14% were looking for alternative or additional employment.

Order the January 1986 issue of **The Labour Force** (71-001, \$20/\$200), or contact **Richard Veevers** (613-990-9452), **Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division**.

## Livestock Report

Total cattle and calves in Canada at January 1, 1986 are estimated at 10,590,700 head, a decrease of 4% from the 10,979,900 at January 1, 1985. Beef cows, at their lowest level in 16 years, are estimated at 2,948,200, 4% less than the 3,064,800 at January 1, 1985. Beef cows increased by 1% in the East and decreased by 5% in the West. Dairy cows have declined and are estimated at 1,674,300 at January 1, 1986, 3% less than January 1, 1985 at 1,722,900.

The total number of pigs in Canada at January 1, 1986 is estimated at 10,679,000, down 3% from the year-earlier figure of 11,031,900. Sows for breeding and bred gilts were estimated at 1,087,800 - a decrease of 2% from the January 1, 1985 total of 1,113,700. Farrowings during the fourth quarter of 1985 decreased by 3%. During the first quarter of 1986 farrowings are expected to decrease by 1%, while in the second quarter of 1986 they are expected to increase by 1%.

Sheep and lamb numbers in Canada, at January 1, 1986 are estimated at 511,000 - down 2% from the 523,100 at January 1, 1985. Sheep one year and over decreased by 2% and lambs under one year dropped by 2%.

Order the January 1, 1986 issue of **Livestock Report** (23-008, \$15/\$60).

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## Weekly Bulletin

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## Canadian Homicide Statistics

A total of 667 homicide offences (victims) were recorded in Canada in 1984, down 2.2% from the 682 reported for 1983. Final data, released today by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, show that of the 667 offences reported, 93.1% (621) were murders, 6.1% (41) manslaughters and 0.8% (5) infanticides.

### Highlights

- Quebec ranked the highest in the total number of homicide offences while the Northwest Territories showed the greatest rate per 100,000 population.
- Together, the three provinces of Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, which accounted for 73.1% of Canada's total population, also represented 74.7% of the country's total homicides in 1984.
- Shooting (with firearms) was the principal method used to commit homicide (34.3% or 229). The next two most prevalent methods used were stabbing and beating which accounted for close to one half of all homicides (45.1% or 301).

Order the Vol. 5, No. 4 issue of the **Juristat** bulletin: **Homicide in Canada, 1984 - Statistical Highlights** (85-002, \$2/\$10).

## Legal Aid Resource and Caseload Statistics

Canada spent \$182.1 million to provide legal aid services in 1984-85. This represents, on an inflation-adjusted basis, a decrease of 2% from the previous year's expenditure.

In 1984-85, Canada's legal aid plans received \$190.9 million from revenue sources. As in earlier years, government contributions comprised the largest proportion of total revenue (90.0%), followed by interest from lawyers' trust accounts (5.5%), clients (3.3%) and miscellaneous sources (1.1%). A total of 460,412 applications for legal aid were approved in 1984-85.

Order **Legal Aid in Canada** (85-216, \$35).

## Retail Trade

Preliminary estimates of total retail trade for December 1985 indicate an increase of 11.0% over the same month in 1984 totalling \$13,210.3 million in current dollars (not adjusted for inflation). Increased sales in December 1985 were reported by all kinds of businesses surveyed. The most notable gains were registered by motor vehicle dealers (+34.1%), household appliance stores (+29.0%) and used car dealers (+23.0%).

All provinces and territories reported higher sales in December 1985 over the corresponding month in 1984 with gains ranging from 12.6% in Alberta to 5.9% in Prince Edward Island. At the metropolitan area level, sales advanced in all cities for which data are published: Toronto (+14.4%), Winnipeg (+11.4%), Vancouver (+10.0%) and Montreal (+7.9%).

Total sales for the final quarter of 1985 reached \$36,225.1 million, up 11.6% from the \$32,460.2 million recorded for the fourth quarter of 1984.

The revised retail sales estimates for November 1985 amounted to \$11,870.0 million, an increase of 11.9% over November 1984.

Order the December 1985 issue of **Retail Trade** (63-005, \$14/\$140), or contact **Lina Di Pietro** (613-991-3551).

## Department Store Sales


Department stores in Canada reported unadjusted sales totalling \$1,835.4 million in December 1985, up 7.0% from the December 1984 level. Sales were higher in 30 of the 40 departments for which information is compiled, with the largest increases reported in hardware, paints and wallpaper (+43.1%), furs (+39.3%) and floor coverings (+19.9%). The most notable decreases were recorded for piece goods (-20.3%), lamps, pictures, mirrors and all other home furnishings (-8.1%) and photographic equipment and supplies (-5.0%). All provinces posted gains in December 1985 over the corresponding month in 1984 with increases ranging from 9.3% in Ontario to 0.9% in New Brunswick. Sales also rose in all of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed, with increases ranging from 11.9% in Hamilton to 2.6% in Quebec City.

Sales by major department stores in December 1985 reached \$1,125.2 million, up 7.2% from the corresponding month a year earlier, while junior department stores had sales of \$710.2 million, up 6.5% over the same period in 1984.

Cumulative unadjusted sales of all department stores for the fourth quarter of 1985 reached \$4,227.8 million, 7.7% higher than the \$3,927.1 million reported in 1984.

The unadjusted selling value of inventories held by department stores in December 1985 was \$3,536.6 million, up 12.7% from December 1984.

Order the December 1985 issue of **Department Store Sales and Stocks** (63-002, \$13/\$130), or contact **Lina Di Pietro** (613-991-3551).

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census day

## Canadian Leading Indicator

The indicator posted its sixth increase in a row in November (+1.4%), rising to a level substantially higher than the most recent peak in September 1984 (161.2). The non-filtered index has been climbing sharply since May, due to the first sizeable and sustained gains in household demand during the expansion. This growth was bolstered in October and November by a marked upswing in the manufacturing indicators, especially the proxy of profit margins. The increase in the filtered index is close to the historical average for expansions. Altogether, this suggests that appreciable growth rates will continue in the near term.

Order Current Economic Indicators (13-005, \$10/\$100), or contact G. Proulx (613-990-9163).

## Sales of Natural Gas

During December 1985, sales of natural gas by main distributors amounted to 6 147 085 thousand cubic metres, an 11.7% increase from the level recorded the previous year. On the basis of rate structure information, sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from December 1984 in brackets: residential sales, 1 858 000 thousand cubic metres (+12.6%); commercial sales, 1 657 006 thousand cubic metres (+17.6%) and industrial sales, 2 632 079 thousand cubic metres (+7.6%).

For 1985, sales of natural gas amounted to 50 164 943 thousand cubic metres, a 5.5% increase from the level recorded during the same period of 1984. On the basis of rate structure information, sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from January to December 1984 in brackets: residential sales, 12 779 172 thousand cubic metres (+5.3%); commercial sales, 10 773 987 thousand cubic metres (+7.1%) and industrial sales, 26 611 784 thousand cubic metres (+4.9%).

Order the December 1985 issue of Gas Utilities (55-002, \$10/\$100), or contact Gary Smalldridge (613-991-3567).

## Security Transactions

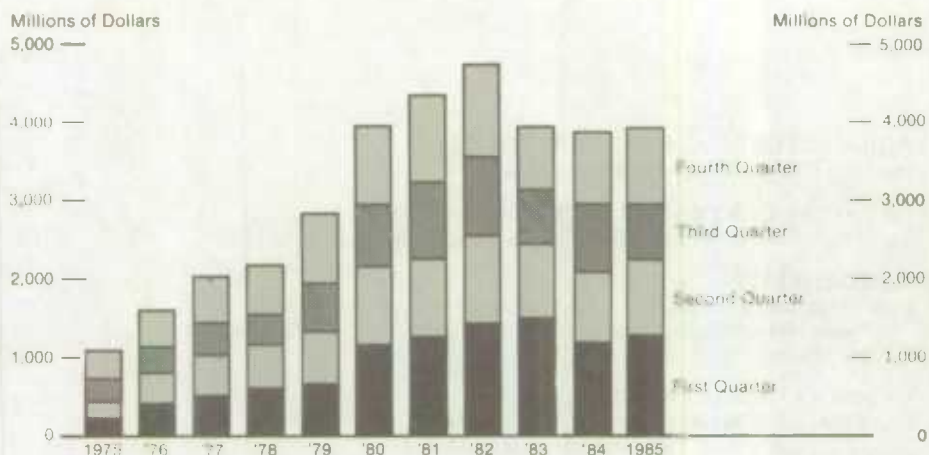
Foreign investment in outstanding Canadian equities, principally from the United States, resulted in a net capital inflow of \$218 million in December, some \$100 million greater than in November. The net inflow for the whole of 1985 exceeded \$1 billion, in contrast to net outflows recorded in each of the previous four years.

In trade in outstanding bonds, non-residents purchased on a net basis \$45 million of Canadian bonds in the current month, following a net disinvestment of \$64 million in November. During 1985 the net inflow from bond trading amounted to some \$3 billion, half of which represented investments from Japan.

Canadian residents purchased on a net basis \$215 million of foreign securities in December, compared to \$82 million a month earlier. This increase reflected a sharp rise in equity investments in the United States.

Order the December 1985 issue of Security Transactions with Non-residents (67-002, \$15/\$150).

## Canadian Exports of Natural Gas



Source: Statistics Canada, Summary of External Trade (65-001)

## Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Preliminary figures show the production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons for October 1985 increased 2.3% from the previous year to 7 808.2 thousand cubic metres.

Exports rose 31.4% to 2 488.1 thousand cubic metres while imports advanced 60.9% to 1 482.4 thousand cubic metres. Canadian refinery receipts of crude oil increased 2.2% to 6 612.2 thousand cubic metres.

Preliminary figures show net withdrawals of natural gas in October 1985 increased 3.7% from a year earlier, totalling 7 862.2 million cubic metres. Marketable production of natural gas after treatment at processing plants amounted to 6 242.7 million cubic metres, up 5.0%, while net withdrawals of natural gas liquids (propane, butanes and ethane) reached 1 086.5 thousand cubic metres, down 15.5%.

Exports of natural gas in October reached 2 078.6 million cubic metres, up 27.5% from a year earlier, while sales in Canada increased 7.1% to 3 739.8 million cubic metres.

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

## Help-wanted Index

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100) for Canada increased to 87 from 85 or by 2.4% between December 1985 and January 1986. By region, the index advanced 12.6% in Ontario (to 107 from 95) and 5.7% in Quebec (to 93 from 88). It declined 32.4% in the Atlantic provinces (to 146 from 216), 4.4% in the Prairie provinces (to 43 from 45) and 2.6% in British Columbia (to 38 from 39).

Compared with January 1985, the January 1986 Canada index increased by 35.9%. Advances were observed in all regions, excepting the Atlantic provinces where the index declined 11.5%.

Contact Horst Stiebert (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

## Refined Petroleum Products

Preliminary figures show that in December 1985, sales of refined petroleum products in Canada amounted to 7 299 700 cubic metres, up 12.9% from a year earlier. Cumulative figures for the year 1985 show sales of petroleum products were up 0.02% from the 1984 level.

Sales of the main products in December 1985, with the percentage change from 1984 in brackets, were as follows: motor gasoline, 2 787 200 cubic metres (+5.7%); kerosene stove oil, 1 272 000 cubic metres (+16.6%); diesel fuel, 1 257 200 cubic metres (+15.2%); light fuel oil, 1 133 100 cubic metres (+16.9%) and heavy fuel oil, 769 700 cubic metres (+28.5%). Production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners amounted to 7 330 750 cubic metres, down 0.5% from December 1984.

For the 12 months of 1985, sales of refined petroleum products amounted to 78 344 455 cubic metres. Year-to-date sales of the main products with the percentage change from 1984 in brackets, were as follows: motor gasoline, 30 808 738 cubic metres (-6.4%); kerosene stove oil, 915 537 cubic metres (+5.1%); diesel fuel, 1 515 638 cubic metres (+2.5%); light fuel oil, 7 518 313 cubic metres (-5.1%) and heavy fuel oil, 5 983 152 cubic metres (-17.3%). Production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners in 1985 amounted to 86 215 588 cubic metres, down 1.7% from 1984.

Order the December 1985 issue of Refined Petroleum Products (45-004, \$15/\$150), or contact Gérard O'Connor (613-991-3562), Industry Division.

## Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled \$972.1 million for December 1985, an increase of 7.8% over the \$901.6 million reported for December 1984.

Order the December 1985 issue of Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns (63-011, \$5/\$50), or contact G. Blouin (613-991-3489), Services Division.



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	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
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Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, January 1, 1986	32-010	\$8/\$80	\$9/\$90
<b>CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS</b>			
Juristat, Vol. 5, No. 4 Homicide in Canada: Statistical Highlights, 1984	85-002	\$2/\$10	\$3/\$15
<b>DEMOGRAPHY</b>			
Postcensal Annual Estimates of Population for Census Divisions and Census Metropolitan Areas, June 1, 1985 (Regression Method), Volume 3, Third Issue	91-211	\$10	\$11
<b>GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT</b>			
Provincial Economic Accounts - Experimental Data, 1969-1984	13-213	\$30	\$31.50
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Hospital Indicators, April 1985 - September 1985	83-002	\$15/\$60	\$16/\$64
<b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS</b>			
The Labour Force, January 1986	71-001	\$20/\$200	\$21.50/\$215
<b>HOUSING, FAMILY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS</b>			
A User's Guide to 1981 Census Data on Ethnic Origin, by Walton O. Boxhill	99-949	\$15	\$16
1981 Census Information on Place of Birth, Citizenship and Immigration: Some Facts and Figures, by Walton O. Boxhill, Robert McCrea and Michael Crew	99-952	\$20	\$21
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The Citizenship Characteristics of the Canadian Population: 1981 Census, by Walton O. Boxhill	99-950	\$15	\$16
<b>INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE</b>			
Financial Institutions: Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1985	61-006	\$40/\$160	\$41.50/\$166
Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1985	61-003	\$50/\$200	\$60/\$240
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Department Store Sales and Stocks, November 1985	63-002	\$13/\$130	\$14/\$140
Electric Power Statistics, November 1985	57-001	\$8/\$80	\$9/\$90
Factory Shipments of High Pressure Decorative Laminate Sheet, Quarter Ended December 1985	47-005	\$3/\$12	\$4/\$16
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, November 1985	31-001	\$15/\$150	\$16/\$160
New Motor Vehicle Sales, November 1985	63-007	\$8/\$80	\$9/\$90
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, Vol. 14, No. 7: Pack of Canned Tomatoes and Tomato Products, 1985	32-023	\$6/\$100	\$7/\$110
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, Vol. 14, No. 11: Pack of Processed Peaches, 1985	32-023	\$6/\$100	\$7/\$110
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