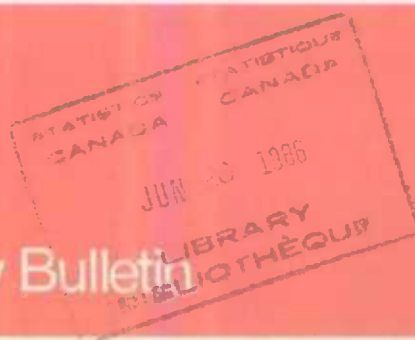


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Weekly Bulletin



June 20, 1986

## Composite Leading Indicator

The Canadian composite leading indicator rose to 172.3 in March, with the monthly advance easing to 0.9% from 1.0%. After accelerating continuously between May and December 1985, driven by household-demand indicators, the increase in the indicator has slowed gradually over the latest three months.

The recent deceleration, initially concentrated in indicators of household spending, was extended to the manufacturing indicators in March. However, a firming of long-term indicators kept the advance in the composite index consistent with the historical average for expansions. These long-term indicators – the United States leading indicator and the stock-exchange index – contributed the most to increases in the non-filtered index of 0.3% in March and 1.1% in February.

Additional data and further analysis of the Composite Leading Indicator are available in the *Monthly Current Economic Indicators* (13-005, \$10/\$100). This publication also contains the *Monthly Economic Review* that formerly appeared in the *Daily*. For general information contact D. Rhoades (613-990-9161), Econometric Analysis Division.

## Family Characteristics and Labour Force Activity

### (Overview)

Between 1977 and 1985, the number of married women in the labour force grew by 38%, a period when the total number of married women in Canada increased by only 11%. In contrast, the number of married men participating in the labour force has increased by only 7% since 1977.

Among all women with young children, growth has been even more substantial. In 1977, an estimated 315,000 women with young children (i.e. under the age of three) were in the labour force. By 1985 that number had climbed 65% to 520,000.

### Husband-wife Families

Out of 5,833,000 husband-wife families in 1985, there were almost as many working wives (2,879,000) as there were wives who were either unemployed or not in the labour force (2,954,000).

An estimated 27% of married women who were employed were working part-time compared to only 3% of husbands.

(continued on page 3, col. 3)

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.	428.36	428.50	3.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.	20,853.9	20,938.5	6.6
Persons with Jobs (million)	May	11.70	11.43	2.5
Unemployed	May	1,227,000	1,303,000	-7.7

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	4,184.6	3,722.7	27.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Mar.	34,747.1	35,110.4	0.9

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	21,333.5	20,522.5	1.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Mar.	24,898.3	24,671.7	3.4

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	May*	131.7	131.1	4.1
New House Price Index (1981 = 100)	Apr.	101.9	101.3	6.9
Raw Materials Price Index (1981 = 100)	Apr.	89.9	95.5	-23.9
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Apr.	102.1	103.2	0.4
Industrial Product Price Index (1981 = 100)	Apr.	119.7	120.1	1.2

### CONSTRUCTION

			Year-to-date	% Change
Building Permits (\$ million)	Mar.	1,779.0	4,037.1	40.3
Housing Starts – Urban Centres (units)	Mar.	8,517	25,988	23.7

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Mar.	5 052	15 308	-3.8
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	Mar.	40 522	127 323	3.2
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Jan.	9 971	9 971	-0.6
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Mar.	6 855	21 278	4.3

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports – Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	10,673	39,801	1.1
Imports – Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	10,185	37,298	14.1

### PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Mar.	19.7	57.2	2.8
Steel (ingots – thousand tonnes)	Mar.	1 270	3 559	-0.8

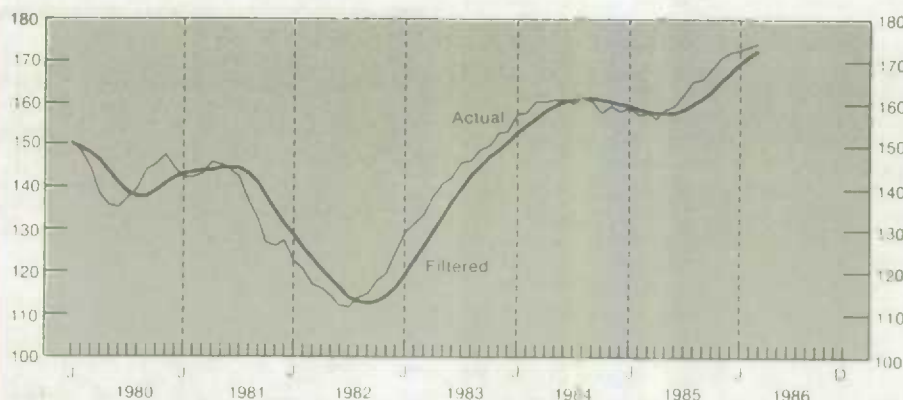
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	976.9	3,335.5	7.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Mar.	21,106.8	61,251.7	6.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	2,306.7	7,010.8	14.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	10,540.7	29,448.1	8.3

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

\* – new this week.

## The Canadian Composite Leading Index (1971=100)



Source: Statistics Canada, Current Economic Indicators (13-005)



## Consumer Price Index

### National Highlights

The all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada increased by 0.5% between April and May, resulting in a level of 131.7 (1981=100) for May. The latest increase came after the CPI posted increases of 0.2% in each of the two preceding months. The May 1986 increase resulted from the combined impact of advances in six of the major component indexes, offset to some extent by a small decline in the transportation index. The largest contributions to the rise in the all-items index were the result of a 0.5% increase in the housing index and a 0.8% rise in the food index.

Seasonally adjusted, the all-items index rose by 0.5% in May, compared to no change reported in the previous month.

The year-to-year increase in the CPI between May 1985 and May 1986 was 4.1%, up slightly from the 3.9% increase reported in the previous 12-month period ending in April. The increase in the latest period was, however, identical to those reported for the 12-month periods ending in February and March. The compounded annual rate based on the seasonally adjusted index over the latest three-month period (February to May) was 3.1%, up significantly from the 1.9% rise registered in the previous three-month period ending in April.

### Food

Between April and May the food index rose by 0.8%, compared to the increase of 1.1% observed between March and April. The latest increase resulted from advances of 1.1% in the index for food purchased from stores and 0.3% in the index for food purchased from restaurants. A large part of the increase in the former index was due to higher prices for fresh vegetables and, to a lesser extent, to price increases for fresh fruit, beef, dairy products and coffee.

Over the 12-month period May 1985 to May 1986, the food index rose by 4.2%, up sharply from the rise of 2.6% reported in the previous 12-month period ending in April. The latest rise resulted from increases of 4.1% in the index for food purchased from stores and 4.6% in the index for food purchased from restaurants.

### All-items excluding Food

On a month-to-month basis, the all-items excluding food index advanced by 0.4% in May, compared to a decline of 0.1% reported in April. A large part of the increase in the latest month was due to a 0.5% increase in the housing index. This was followed by advances of 0.8% in the recreation, reading and education index and 0.9% in the tobacco products and alcoholic beverages index. The transportation index fell by a marginal 0.1%.

The housing index rose 0.5% in May in spite of a fall of 7.4% in fuel oil prices. This decline was more than offset by increases registered in hotel/motel accommodation rates. The major part of this increase was associated with a sharp rise in such rates in Vancouver.

Over the 12-month period May 1985 to May 1986, the all-items excluding food index rose by 4.1%, slightly lower than the increase of 4.2% reported in the previous 12-month period ending in April.

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## Weekly Bulletin

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## Help-wanted Index

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index (1981=100) for Canada decreased 4.4% to 87 in May from 91 in April 1986. Regional indexes declined 10.1% in Ontario (to 107 from 119), 9.8% in British Columbia (to 37 from 41) and 6.5% in the Prairie provinces (to 43 from 46). Indexes advanced 6.9% in the Atlantic provinces (to 155 from 145) and 2.1% in Quebec (to 96 from 94).

Compared with May 1985, the Help-wanted Index for Canada advanced 27.9% to 87 from 68. Year-over-year increases were observed in all regions, ranging from 64.9% in the Atlantic provinces to 4.9% in the Prairie provinces.

Contact: Horst Stiebert or Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

## Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled \$1,023.9 million for April 1986, an increase of 11.2% over the \$921.1 million reported for the same period a year earlier.

Order the April 1986 issue of *Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns* (63-011, \$5/\$50). Contact: R. Lasnier (613-991-3489), Services Division.

## Goods and Services

The goods index rose by 0.3% in May while the services index increased by 0.7% (largely due to higher hotel/motel charges). Between May 1985 and May 1986, the goods index increased by 3.3% and the services index by 5.2%.

## City Highlights

Between April and May the variation in the all-items index for cities for which CPI's are published ranged from no change in Charlottetown/Summerside to increases of 0.7% registered in Halifax, Saskatoon and Vancouver.

Order the May 1986 issue of *The Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$8/\$80). Contact: Sandra Shadlock (613-990-9606), Prices Division.

## General Social Survey

Nearly half the adult Canadian population either smokes or lives with a smoker. Preliminary data from the General Social Survey (GSS) show that only one Canadian in three smokes daily but that an additional three million non-smoking adults live with someone who smokes.

Other health-related findings from this survey include:

- Four out of five Canadians report that their health is "excellent" or "good", with fewer than one in 25 describing their health as "poor". Nearly one in 10 Canadians aged 65 and over reported being in poor health.
- About 2.7 million Canadians have not had their blood pressure checked recently, a figure which includes over 500,000 adults who report that their blood pressure has never been checked.
- Sixty-three per cent of the adult population drink alcoholic beverages at least once a month, a figure which is little changed from the 65% reported in 1978-79. At all ages men are much more likely than women to drink alcohol (74% versus 53%).
- Men are more likely than women to smoke at all ages except for ages 15 to 24 where 27% of males are daily smokers as compared with 30% of females.

Findings related to the elderly show that:

- Two out of three persons 65 and over provide support to organizations or persons outside their own household, with one in three providing more than one kind of support. Over half the persons in this age group provide financial support to organizations such as churches and hospitals and to persons outside the household, while about one in six babysit or provide transportation.
- Most people 55 years and over living outside institutions feel they are able to carry out daily activities such as light housework, grocery shopping, meal preparation, managing money, and personal care. However, three in 10 say that they require help or are unable to do yard work, while one in five report having trouble with or are unable to do heavy housework.

The General Social Survey is a new annual survey designed by Statistics Canada with two objectives: first, to monitor changes in Canadian society over time, and second, to provide information on specific social policy issues. The first GSS, conducted in September and October 1985, collected data on health for the adult population and social support for the elderly. A sample of 11,200 persons aged 15 and over was interviewed in the 10 provinces.

A set of preliminary tables is now available. A public use microdata file will be available this fall and the first data report will be released in February 1987. Contact: Janet Hagey (613-991-3572), Gareth Jones (613-990-9293), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



## Research and Development Spending

Expenditures on scientific research and experimental development (R&D) in 1986 are expected to total about \$6.3 billion, an increase of 4% over 1985. Estimated 1986 spending levels are off from expenditure growth for 1985 (11%) and 1984 (12%).

Order the Vol. 10, No. 5 issue of *Science Statistics* (88-001, \$6/\$60), contact: Humphrey Stead (613-990-9919), *Science and Technology Statistics*.

## Adult Correctional Services

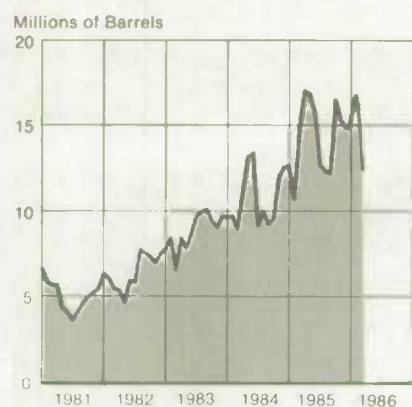
On average, 27,000 adults were held in government correctional institutions on any one day during the fiscal year 1984-85 while some 78,000 offenders were being supervised in the community, according to *Adult Correctional Services in Canada, 1984-85*, released by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Some highlights from the report show that:

- Expenditures on corrections totalled \$1.358 billion, including \$754 million federally and \$604 million provincially - an increase of 19% in spending over the five-year period from 1979-1980.
- The per capita cost to Canadians for total correctional expenditures was \$54.05.
- The average provincial inmate population decreased by 5% to 16,242 from the 1983-84 figure but showed an increase of 17% over the five-year period.
- The average daily federal inmate population increased by 4% over the 1983-1984 figure, reaching 10,857 and showed an increase of 26% over the five-year period.
- Inmates admitted to provincial custody were typically 26 years old, which is considerably lower than the median age of the Canadian adult population (38 years). The average age for federal inmates was 28 years.
- Close to one-half of all warrant of committal admissions were for either robbery or break and enter. Over one-quarter of all provincial admissions were for fine default.
- Female offenders represented 6% of provincially sentenced admissions to custody, 2% of federal warrant of committal admissions to custody and 17% of admissions to provincial probation.
- There were 93 inmate deaths reported during the year - 28 within the provincial inmate population and 65 within the federal inmate population. Suicides accounted for 42% of all deaths, murders 9%, natural causes 23% and other deaths 26%.

Order *Adult Correctional Services in Canada, 1984-85* (85-211, \$32). Contact: Micheline Reed (613-990-6656), *Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics*.

## Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum



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

## Refined Petroleum Products

Preliminary figures show that in April 1986, sales of refined petroleum products in Canada amounted to 5 909 800 cubic metres, down 1.2% from a year earlier. Cumulative figures for the first four months of 1986 show sales of petroleum products were down 2% from January-April 1985.

Sales of the main products, with the percentage change from April 1985 in brackets, were as follows: motor gasoline, 2 585 000 cubic metres (-1.0%); kerosene stove oil, 41 000 cubic metres (-7.2%); diesel fuel, 1 102 700 cubic metres (+0.9%); light fuel oil, 519 200 cubic metres (-16.5%) and heavy fuel oil, 445 500 cubic metres (-12.7%).

Production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners amounted to 5 605 517 cubic metres, down 7.0% from April 1985.

For the first four months of 1986, sales of refined petroleum products amounted to 24 462 296 cubic metres. Year-to-date sales of the main products, with the percentage change from January-April 1985 in brackets, were as follows: motor gasoline, 9 664 374 cubic metres (-2.4%); kerosene stove oil, 317 831 cubic metres (-14.3%); diesel fuel, 4 324 564 cubic metres (+1.6%); light fuel oil, 3 550 026 cubic metres (-11.7%) and heavy fuel oil, 1 898 057 cubic metres (-18.2%).

Year-to-date production of petroleum products by Canadian refiners amounted to 26 848 998 cubic metres, up 1.6% from the same period in 1985.

Order the April 1986 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$15/\$150). Contact: Gérard O'Connor (613-991-3562), *Energy Section, Industry Division*.

## Steel Ingots

Steel ingot production for April 1986 totalled 1 274 036 tonnes, an increase of 7.1% from the 1 189 735 tonnes produced the previous year.

Order the April 1986 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4/\$40). Contact: Gerry W. Barrett (613-991-3515), *Industry Division*.

## ... Family Characteristics

### Lone-parent Families

The number of single-parent families increased substantially between 1977 and 1985. More specifically, the number of women who were heads of families with no husband present increased to 779,000 (+39%) from 561,000 while the number of men who were heads of families with no wife present increased to 209,000 (+32%) from 158,000.

Because more women are participating in the labour force, there has been an increasing need for family-related labour market statistics. The May issue of *The Labour Force* contains an article entitled "Family Characteristics and Labour Force Activity: An Update". This article presents a set of tables which relates the labour force activity of individuals to selected characteristics of the families to which they belong. The estimates are 1985 annual averages produced by the Labour Force Survey. A similar set of tables covering 1977-1984 was released earlier this year and is available in the publication *Family Characteristics and Labour Market Activity: Annual Averages, 1977-1984* (71-533, \$33).

Order the May 1986 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$20/\$200). Contact: Jean-Marc Lévesque (613-990-9452), *Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division*.

## Building Construction Activity

The leading indicator of building construction activity in Canada (1981 = 100) increased slightly (+0.7%) in February to 94.6 from 93.9 in January. A continued strengthening in residential construction intentions was responsible for the increase.

The filtered index of residential construction continued to rise (+1.1%) in February to 108.5. Both the single, and to a lesser extent, multi-family dwelling sectors were responsible for this increase. On a regional basis, the trend-cycle of building permits issued gained in Quebec and Ontario, decreased in the Atlantic provinces and remained relatively unchanged in Western Canada.

The filtered index of non-residential construction (excluding engineering projects) edged up 0.2% to 79.9 in February from 79.7 in January. Moderate increases were recorded for both the commercial (+0.5%) and public (+0.1%) indexes while the industrial component continued to drop (-1.1%) for the ninth consecutive month. The trend-cycle of non-residential permits issued was up slightly in the Atlantic provinces, Ontario and British Columbia while there was a levelling-off of permits issued in Quebec and the Prairies.

Order the March 1986 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$20/\$200), contact: Lizette Gervais-Simard (613-990-9689), *Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division*.

## Telephone Statistics

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$848.0 million in March 1986, up 5.5% from the previous year.

Order the March 1986 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$7.50/\$75). Contact: J.R. Slattery (613-990-8693), *Services Division*.



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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM JUNE 13 TO JUNE 19

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
Apparent Per Capita Food Consumption in Canada - Part 1, 1985	32-229	\$25	\$26
Production of Poultry and Eggs, 1985	23-202	\$30	\$31
<b>ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS</b>			
Current Economic Indicators, Vol. 2, No. 5, June 1986	13-005	\$10/\$100	\$11/\$110
<b>EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM</b>			
International Travel -- Advance Information, April 1986	66-001P	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Vital Statistics Quarterly, January-March 1986	84-001	\$5/\$20	\$6/\$24
<b>INDUSTRY</b>			
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, April 1986	36-004	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Department Store Monthly Sales, by Province and Selected Metropolitan Area, April 1986	63-004	\$2/\$20	\$3/\$30
Electric Lamps, Light Bulbs and Tubes, April 1986	43-009	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, March 1986	43-005	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Mineral Wool Including Fibrous Glass Insulation, April 1986	44-004	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, April 1986	32-001	\$2/\$20	\$3/\$30
Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, March 1986	32-024	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
The Sugar Situation, April 1986	32-013	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>			
Exports by Countries, January-March 1986	65-003	\$75/\$300	\$85/\$340
<b>LABOUR</b>			
The Labour Force, May 1986	71-001	\$2/\$20	\$21.50/\$215
<b>SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL STOCK</b>			
Construction Statistics, Vol. 9, No. 5: Housing Stock in Canada, the Provinces and Territories	64-003	\$5/\$30	\$6/\$36
Science Statistics, Vol. 10, No. 5: Research and Development Spending Levels, 1986	88-001	\$6/\$60	\$7/\$70
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Service Bulletin, Vol. 18, No. 5: Aviation Statistics Centre, June 1986	51-004	\$8.50/\$85	\$9.50/\$95

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