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STATISTICS CANADA STATISTIQUE CANADA

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OVERVIEW

■ Capacity Utilization in Canadian Manufacturing Edges Up

In the second quarter of 1987, the capacity utilization rate was 80%, only marginally lower than the most recent peak of 80.3% recorded in the fourth quarter of 1985.

■ Survey of Manufacturing Technology

Half of the manufacturing establishments surveyed used advanced technology in their operations.

■ Homicides Drop Sharply in 1986

Final data show that the number of homicides in 1986 was the lowest reported since 1973 and was 14% below the average number (663) for the 10-year period from 1976 to 1985.

■ Unemployment Rate Registers Five-year Low

In September, the unemployment rate fell to 8.6%, as employment continued to climb and unemployment maintained its downward trend.

■ Composite Leading Indicator Continues to Show Strong Growth

The indicator rose 1.0% in July, following a similar increase in June and a series of strong advances which began in January 1987.

■ This issue also includes an article on Labour Income.

Capacity Utilization in Canadian Manufacturing Edges Up

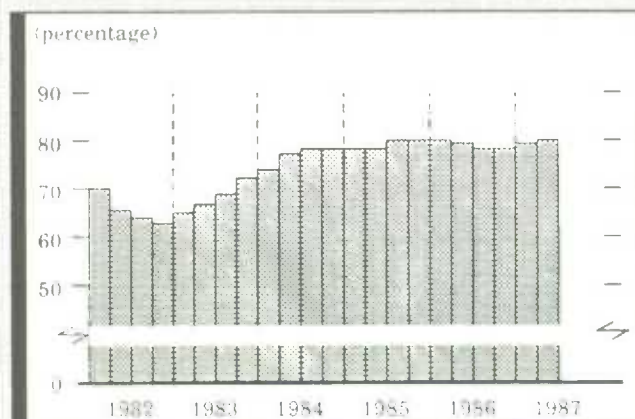
Capacity utilization in the manufacturing industries edged up to 80.0% in the second quarter of 1987 from 79.8% in the preceding quarter. Compared with utilization rates posted since the first quarter of 1982, the rate recorded in this quarter was well above the average of 74.5% and was only marginally less than the period's peak of 80.3%, recorded in the fourth quarter of 1985.

Industries producing building materials showed mixed results in the changes to their levels of capacity utilization: wood industries decreased by 2.0%, non-metallic mineral products industries decreased 0.7% from their five-year peak of 80.1% (first quarter of 1987), and fabricated metal products industries increased 2.3%.

Manufacturers of goods for use inside residential and non-residential structures also posted differing results: electrical and electronic products industries increased 9.4% to a new historical peak of 100.0%, textile products industries increased 1.3% and furniture and fixture industries decreased 1.5%, due mainly to a drop in production of household furniture.

(continued on page 2)

Capacity Utilization Rate



Statistics Canada
Statistique Canada

Canada

... Capacity Utilization in Canadian Manufacturing

Industries that produce fabricated materials for further processing and/or inclusion in end products showed strong movements in both directions: primary textiles industries increased 4.8% to a new historical peak of 100.0%, chemicals and chemical products industries increased 4.3% (the second quarter in a row that higher rates have been recorded), plastics products industries increased 1.5%, primary metals industries decreased 0.3% and rubber products industries decreased 5.9%.

Capacity utilization rates were down in two manufacturing industries that produce export goods of major importance to Canada. In the paper and allied industries the rate decreased 1.7%, but recorded the second highest rate for the last five years. The transportation equipment industries decreased 5.2%, continuing the downward trend which has been in evidence since the third quarter of 1985.

For further information, contact Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division at (613) 951-2579.

Survey of Manufacturing Technology

A new Statistics Canada initiative, a survey of the current and planned use of advanced technologies in Canadian manufacturing, indicates that half of the manufacturing plants surveyed currently use at least one advanced technology in their factory operations. These manufacturers were responsible for about one-half of the value of 1986 manufacturing shipments.

Four industries (ranked by value of shipments from the industry) led the field in use of technology. These were transportation equipment, primary metals, electrical and electronic products, and machinery. These four industries were also the principal users of robots.

The Survey of Manufacturing Technology was conducted in June as part of the monthly Survey of Shipments, Inventories and Orders. Eighteen technologies were surveyed. They fell into five general categories: design and engineering; fabrication and assembly; automated material handling; computer-

based inspection, sensor and testing equipment; and communications and control. Of the 18 individual technologies, four led the field when ranked by the value of 1986 shipments from establishments using them. These were: programmable controllers; industrial computers used for control on the factory floor; computer-based inspection, sensor, and testing equipment applied to the production process; and computer-based inspection, sensor, and testing equipment applied to the final product.

Other highlights from this report are:

- Ontario led the provinces in technology use, when ranked by value of shipments, followed by Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and British Columbia.
- Half of the plants surveyed did not use any advanced manufacturing technology. However, these manufacturers were responsible for only 19% of the value of 1986 shipments.

For further information, contact Classification Systems Branch at (613) 951-3423.

Homicides Drop Sharply in 1986

A total of 569 homicide offences (victims) were reported in Canada in 1986, down 19% from 1985. Final data show that the number of homicides in 1986 was the lowest reported since 1973 and was 14% below the average number of homicides (663) for the 10-year period from 1976-1985.

The 1986 homicide rate of 2.22 per 100,000 population was substantially lower than both the 1985 rate of 2.78 and the average rate for 1976-1985 of 2.75. In fact, the 1986 rate was the lowest recorded since 1971. The homicide rate in Canada is typically three to four times lower than the comparable rate for the United States.

According to initial police reporting, the homicides in 1986 were classified as follows: 261 first degree murders, 261 second degree murders, 44 manslaughters and 3 infanticides.

Total homicides declined in all provinces and territories except Manitoba, Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Except for Quebec, all provinces east of Manitoba posted homicide rates lower than the national rate. All of the western provinces and the territories had rates higher than the national rate.

For further information, contact the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics at (613) 951-6643 or order Homicide in Canada: A Statistical Perspective (catalogue number 85-209).

Unemployment Rate Registers Five-year Low

In September, estimates from the labour force survey indicate a continuation of the employment growth noted since July 1986. Employment rose by an estimated 52,000 this month and unemployment declined by 21,000. The unemployment rate was reduced to 8.6%, its lowest level since January 1982.

The increase in employment was concentrated among persons aged 25 years and over (45,000) and centred in the province of Ontario where a gain of 40,000 was registered.

Since October 1986, most of the growth in employment has been in full-time jobs. Full-time employment continued to rise in September, advancing by 30,000. However, part-time also increased, gaining an estimated 42,000. The rise in full-time employment was entirely attributable to a gain of 34,000 among females, while the increase in part-time employment was concentrated among males (34,000).

Labour Force

	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
	Change, previous month				
Labour force ('000)	39	37	-10	3	31
Employment ('000)	62	50	-25	42	52
15-24 years ('000)	-3	12	-26	2	7
25 years & over ('000)	65	38	1	40	45
Unemployment ('000)	-23	-13	15	-39	-21
Unemployment rate	9.1	8.9	9.1	8.8	8.6

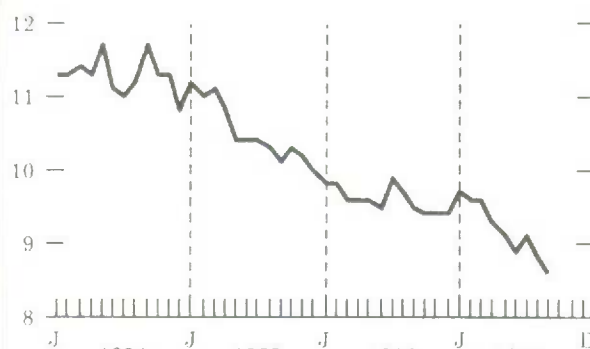
Composite Leading Indicator Continues to Show Strong Growth

- The composite leading indicator (1971=100) rose 1.0% in July to reach a level of 186.8. This increase follows a similar rise in June and a series of strong advances which began in January 1987.
- Leading the July advance was a 2.2% gain in the Toronto Stock Exchange stock price index.
- The index for residential construction rose 2.1%, the seventh solid advance in as many months. However, the pace of growth in this index has slowed in recent months.
- Furniture and appliance sales continued to advance in tandem with increased demand for housing, gaining 2.0% during the month.
- New motor vehicle sales continued to rise, but at a slower rate than in previous months.

For further information, contact International and Financial Economics Division at (613) 951-9162 or order *Current Economic Indicators* (catalogue number 13-005).

Unemployment Rate

(percent, seasonally adjusted)

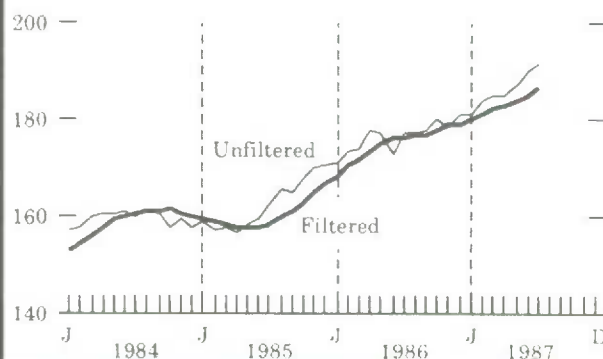


In the service-producing industries, employment rose in community, business and personal services, and in trade. Employment in public administration dropped. Employment gains in the goods-producing industries were concentrated in construction and agriculture. There was little or no change in the remaining industries.

For further information, contact Household Surveys Division at (613) 951-4720 or order *Labour Force Information* (Catalogue number 71-001P) for summary data.

Composite Leading Indicator

(1971 = 100)



PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM OCTOBER 9 - 15

AGRICULTURE

Report on Fur Farms, 1986. Catalogue number 23-208 (Canada: \$30; Other Countries: \$31).

CENSUS

The Nation: Population and Dwelling Characteristics - Age, Sex and Marital Status, 1986. Catalogue number 93-101 (Canada: \$28; Other Countries: \$29.50).

Population and Dwelling Counts - Prince Edward Island, 1986. Catalogue number 92-110 (Canada: \$21; Other Countries: \$22).

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM

Education Statistics Bulletin, Vol. 9, No. 8, Financial Statistics of School Boards, 1980 to 1984. Catalogue number 81-002 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, April-June 1987. Catalogue number 66-001 (Canada: \$35/\$140; Other Countries: \$36.50/\$146).

University Finance Trend Analysis, 1976-77 to 1985-86. Catalogue number 81-260 (Canada: \$35; Other Countries: \$36).

HEALTH

Quarterly Hospital Information System - Hospital Indicators, April 1986 - March 1987. Catalogue number 83-002 (Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16/\$64).

INDUSTRY

Asphalt Roofing, August 1987. Catalogue number 45-001 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

Fabricated Metal Products Industries - Other Stamped and Pressed Metal Products Industries, 1985 Census of Manufactures. Catalogue number 41-251B 3049 (Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, June 1987. Catalogue number 31-001 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, June 1987. Catalogue number 35-003 (Canada: \$6/\$60; Other Countries: \$7/\$70).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, June 1987. Catalogue number 35-002 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

Retail Trade, May 1987. Catalogue number 63-005 (Canada: \$14/\$140; Other Countries: \$15/\$150).

Retail Trade, June 1987. Catalogue number 63-005 (Canada: \$14/\$140; Other Countries: \$15/\$150).

INDUSTRY - Concluded

Rigid Insulating Board, August 1987. Catalogue number 36-002 (Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

Shipments of Animal and Poultry Feeds, Semi-annual Period Ended June 1987. Catalogue number 32-004 (Canada: \$6/\$12; Other Countries: \$7/\$14).

Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, September 1987. Catalogue number 32-012 (Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries: \$11/\$110).

Wholesale Trade, July 1987. Catalogue number 63-008 (Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60).

Wood Industries - Veneer and Plywood Industries, 1985 Census of Manufactures. Catalogue number 35-250B 2520 (Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, June 1987. Catalogue number 15-001 (Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries: \$11/\$110).

INTERNATIONAL AND FINANCIAL ECONOMICS

Security Transactions with Non-residents, June 1987. Catalogue number 67-002 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Imports by Commodity, July 1987. Catalogue number 65-007 (Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600).

PRICES

Consumer Price Index, September 1987. Catalogue number 62-001 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

Industry Price Indexes, July 1987. Catalogue number 62-011 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160).

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL STOCK

Building Permits, June 1987. Catalogue number 64-001 (Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries: \$21/\$210).

SERVICES

Communications Service Bulletin, Vol. 17, No. 6, Telecommunication Statistics, Second Quarter 1987. Catalogue number 56-001 (Canada: \$6.50/\$39; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$45).

Telephone Statistics, July 1987. Catalogue number 56-002 (Canada: \$7.50/\$75; Other Countries: \$8.50/\$85).

Labour Income Unchanged in July

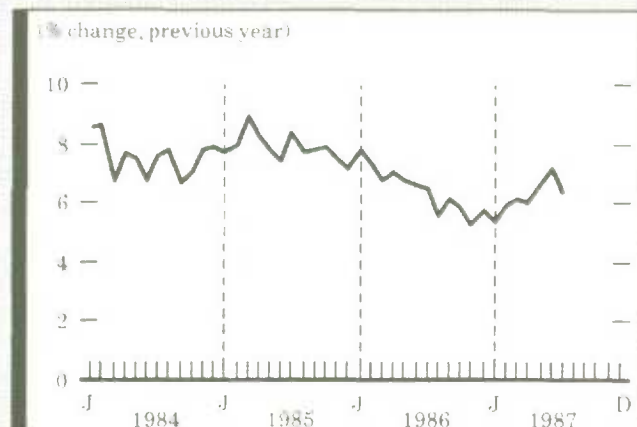
The preliminary estimate of total labour income in July 1987 was \$24.7 billion, up 6.3% from the same month a year earlier. This increase is similar to the average year-over-year increase of 6.2% registered in the first half of 1987.

In July, the seasonally adjusted estimate of wages and salaries remained virtually unchanged from the previous month. The month-over-month change was 0.1%, compared to an average monthly increase of 0.6% in the first six months of the year.

Seasonally adjusted wages and salaries in the goods-producing industries showed little change (0.1%) from the previous month. All industries within this group showed declines except manufacturing, where wages and salaries increased 0.8%. Manufacturing industries have registered fairly strong advances throughout 1987.

In the service-producing industries, wages and salaries were also little changed from June (-0.1%). Education and provincial administration showed decreases due to retroactive payments made in June. All other industries except federal administration showed small increases or no change in wages and salaries.

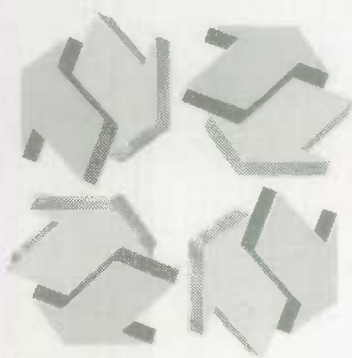
Labour Income



For further information, contact Labour Division at (613) 951-4051 or order *Estimates of Labour Income* (catalogue number 72-005).

NEW FROM STATISTICS CANADA

Canadian Export Classification



The Canadian Export Classification, 1988

(based on the Harmonized System)

Commencing January 1, 1988, Canadian exporters or their agents will be required to assign an export harmonized system (H.S.) number to all export transactions.

The Canadian Export Classification, which lists all possible export H.S. codes and their accompanying descriptions will therefore be an essential tool in the preparation of customs export documentation. To assist in coding, the publication's introduction includes, among other things, an outline of the classification structure, an overview of the classification of goods, and the general rules for the interpretation of the harmonized system.

Order the *Canadian Export Classification* (12-578E, \$35/\$48) from Publication Sales (613)951-7276 or contact Robert Gordon (613)951-9792 or Gordon Blaney (613)951-9647, International Trade Division.



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LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	443.29	441.81	3.2
Labour Income (\$ million)	July*	24,714	24,911	6.3
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.*	12.03	11.98	3.3
Unemployed (million)	Sept.*	1.1	1.2	-7.5
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	July	4,292	4,179	9.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	33,647	33,507	1.1
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	20,792	23,243	6.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	24,565	24,315	0.6
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	July	139.2	138.2	4.7
New House Price Index (1981=100)	Aug.	120.8	120.1	15.0
Raw Materials Price Index (1981=100)	Aug.	106.7	105.1	17.4
Excl. minerals fuels	Aug.	111.4	110.0	6.2
Industrial Product Price Index (1981=100)	Aug.	123.8	122.8	3.9
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	July	2,398	17,985	32.3
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Aug.*	21,052	148,952	37.8
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	June	4,963	28,569	-1.8
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	June	36,174	246,122	6.9
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	June	7,363	54,709	2.6
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	9,114	80,587	2.5
Imports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	8,425	74,636	1.1
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	937	6,391	1.2
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	20,542	148,917	1.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,931	16,307	8.7
Refined Petroleum Products (thousand cubic metres)	July	7,032	45,510	3.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	13,208	84,818	9.1

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

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