

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 20, 1986

NOV 20 1986  
LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

## Major Releases

### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, September 1986 2

- Seasonally adjusted, total manufacturing shipments increased 0.4% to \$20,334 million – following a 2.6% decline in August

### Leading Indicator of Building Construction Activity, July 1986 4

- The leading indicator continued to advance in July (+1.9%)

### Sales of Natural Gas, September 1986 5

- Sales of natural gas decreased 0.7% from September 1985

### Provincial and Territorial Government Employment, Second Quarter 1986 6

- Provincial and territorial general government employment rose slightly from the year-earlier level

## Data Availability Announcement

Steel Ingots, Week Ending November 15, 1986 7

## Publication Released 8



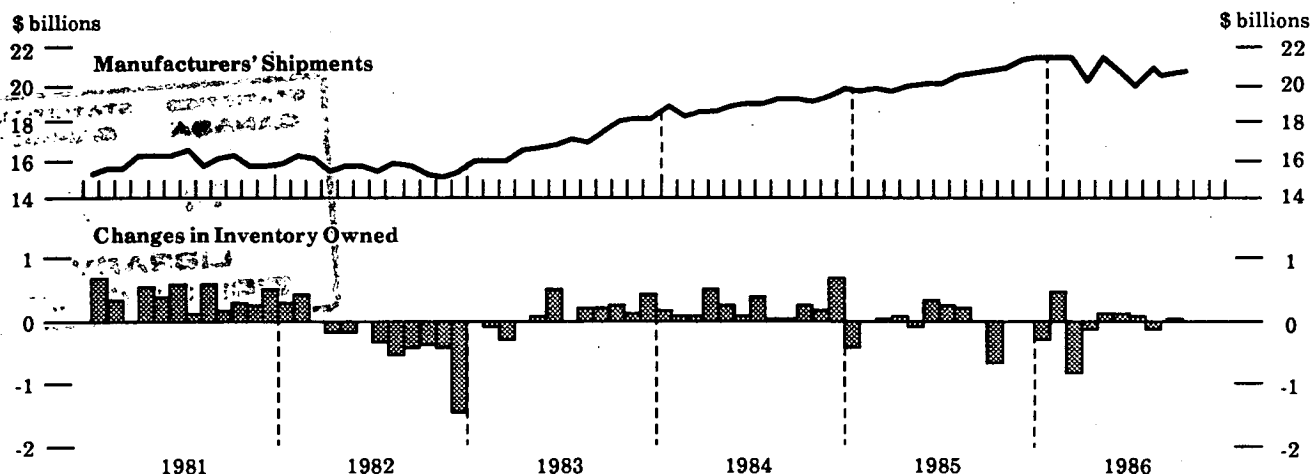
Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

Canada

## Major Releases

### Manufacturers' Shipments and Changes in Inventory Owned, 1981-1986 (Seasonally adjusted)



### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries September 1986

#### Highlights

- In September, total manufacturing shipments continued to fluctuate about the generally downward trend which has been observed since the beginning of 1986. Preliminary estimates indicate that seasonally adjusted shipments increased 0.4% to \$20,334 million, following a 2.6% decline in August. Notwithstanding the September increase, shipments still remain 5.5% below the January peak. The increase in September was predominantly concentrated in the transportation equipment industries, where shipments were up 9.8%.
- The seasonally adjusted value of new orders received in September increased 2.4% to \$20,244 million following a 4.8% decrease in August. New orders still remain low, compared to levels attained at the beginning of 1986.
- The seasonally adjusted unfilled orders backlog decreased 0.4% in September to \$24,012 million. Following four consecutive monthly decreases, unfilled orders are now at their lowest level since November 1985.
- Seasonally adjusted, inventories owned by manufacturers at the end of September totalled \$34,120 million, marking the sixth consecutive month in which inventories have remained at about the same level.
- The ratio of seasonally adjusted total inventory owned to seasonally adjusted shipments remained at 1.68:1 in September. This ratio has remained in the 1.60:1 to 1.70:1 range since February 1986.
- Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in September 1986 were estimated at \$21,286 million, 0.2% lower than the September 1985 level. Cumulative shipments for the first nine months of 1986 have been estimated at (continued on page 3)

\$186,764 million, 3.2% above the value for the same period in 1985.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

Order the September 1986 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, \$15/\$150),

available in three to four weeks time. Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. Contact: the Shipments, Inventories and Orders Section (613-990-9832), Industry Division.

**Estimated Value of Shipments, Inventories and Orders in all Manufacturing Industries**  
(Based on 1982 Census of Manufactures Benchmarks)  
(millions of dollars)

	September 1986 <sup>p</sup>	August 1986 <sup>r</sup>	July 1986	September 1985
Not adjusted for seasonal variation				
Shipments - Total	21,285.9	19,425.9	19,638.2	21,335.8
New orders - Total	21,202.2	19,159.5	19,554.7	21,052.7
Unfilled orders - Total	24,095.2	24,179.0	24,445.4	24,248.5
Inventory owned - Total	33,863.3	33,886.2	33,827.8	34,392.2
Adjusted for seasonal variation				
Shipments - Total	20,334.0	20,258.8	20,805.9	20,709.4
New orders - Total	20,243.7	19,762.0	20,766.0	20,366.5
Unfilled orders - Total	24,012.3	24,102.5	24,599.4	24,139.7
Inventory owned - Total	34,120.1	34,107.1	34,190.8	34,637.9
Ratio of total inventories owned to shipments	1.68	1.68	1.64	1.67

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

## Leading Indicator of Building Construction Activity in Canada July 1986

The leading indicator of building construction activity in Canada (1981=100) gained 1.9% in July to 106.7 from a revised index of 104.7 in June. This gain was attributable to both the non-residential and to a lesser extent, the residential sectors.

The filtered index of residential construction rose 1.6% in July to 117.5. Both the single dwelling sector, and more particularly, the multi-family dwelling sector were responsible for this increase. The trend-cycle of residential permits issued continued to advance in all regions except in the Prairies where the situation remained unchanged.

The filtered index of non-residential construction (excluding engineering projects) moved up 2.2% to 95.4 in July from a revised index of 93.3 in June. Gains were recorded in both commercial (+3.5%) and public (+1.2%) components while the industrial remained relatively stable (-0.1%). The trend-cycle of non-residential permits issued increased in Quebec, Ontario and in the Prairies while it levelled off in the Atlantic provinces and in British Columbia.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 80 (level 9-15).

Order the August 1986 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$20/200), scheduled for release the first week of December. Contact: Francine Monette (613-991-2583), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

## Leading Indicator of Building Construction Activity in Canada (1981 = 100)

	July 1986	June 1986	May 1986	Apr. 1986	July 1985	June 1985	May 1985	Apr. 1985	% Variation	
									July '86/ June '86	July '86/ July '85
<b>Total index</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>104.7</b>	<b>102.6</b>	<b>100.4</b>	<b>89.9</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>18.7</b>
<b>Residential</b>	<b>117.5</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>113.6</b>	<b>111.7</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>19.9</b>
<b>Non-residential</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>93.3</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>17.3</b>
Industrial	77.9	78.0	77.9	77.7	79.8	80.1	80.2	79.8	-0.1	-2.4
Commercial	97.0	93.7	90.4	87.2	75.1	74.2	72.9	71.4	3.5	29.2
Public	105.2	104.0	102.3	100.2	94.4	95.3	95.6	95.2	1.2	11.4

## Sales of Natural Gas September 1986

During September 1986, sales of natural gas by main distributors totalled 2 877 703 thousand cubic metres, a 0.7% decrease from the level recorded the previous year. On the basis of rate structure information, sales for September 1986 were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from September 1985 in brackets: residential sales, 460 611 thousand cubic metres (-0.7); commercial sales, 419 375 thousand cubic metres (-1.8) and industrial sales, 1 997 717 thousand cubic metres (-0.5).

For the first nine months of 1986, sales of natural gas in Canada amounted to 35 179 180 thousand cubic metres, a 1.2% decrease from the level recorded during the same period of

1985. On the basis of rate structure information, sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from January to September 1985 in brackets: residential sales, 8 907 324 thousand cubic metres (+0.4); commercial sales, 7 271 854 thousand cubic metres (-1.1) and industrial sales, 19 000 002 thousand cubic metres (-2.0).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-641 and 644-647.

Order the September 1986 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$10/\$100), available the third week of December. Contact: Gary Smalldridge (613-991-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

## Natural Gas Sales September 1986

	Rate structure				
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Direct	Total
	(thousands of cubic metres)				
New Brunswick	10	48	-	-	58
Quebec	16 577	39 337	276 825	-	332 739
Ontario	157 683	144 771	597 501	64 005	963 960
Manitoba	17 683	15 937	32 054	-	65 674
Saskatchewan	45 187	28 197	72 079	-	145 463
Alberta	170 994	131 384	757 550	-	1 059 928
British Columbia	52 477	59 701	197 703	-	309 881
<b>Canada - September 1986</b>	<b>460 611</b>	<b>419 375</b>	<b>1 933 712</b>	<b>64 005</b>	<b>2 877 703</b>
Canada - September 1985	463 799	426 872	2 006 833		2 897 504
% change	-0.7	-1.8	-0.5		-0.7
<b>Year-to-date</b>					
<b>Canada 1986</b>	<b>8 907 324</b>	<b>7 271 854</b>	<b>18 582 032</b>	<b>417 970</b>	<b>35 179 180</b>
Year-to-date					
Canada 1985	8 874 631	7 350 848	19 379 089		35 604 568
% change	0.4	-1.1	-2.0		-1.2

**Note:** Revised figures will be available later in the *Gas Utilities* publication (55-002) as well as on CANSIM.  
- Nil or zero.

## **Provincial and Territorial Government Employment**

Second Quarter 1986

### **Highlights**

#### **General Government**

- Provincial and territorial general government employment rose slightly in June 1986 as compared to the same month last year.
- There were 509,907 employees in general government in June 1986 compared to 500,900 employees in June 1985, a rise of 1.8% or 9,007 employees. This is similar to the rate of growth in employment for June 1985 when compared to June 1984.
- The main reasons for the increase in general government employment were hiring of temporary staff by the Expo 86 Corporation in British Columbia and an increase in temporary employment at the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology in Ontario under the Student Employment Program. Had it not been for the above increases, general government employment would have increased by only 0.1%.
- Employment in the department and ministry component of general government services declined slightly from June 1985 as a result of lower summer seasonal hiring.

#### **Government Enterprises**

- There were 162,533 employees of government enterprises in June 1986 as compared to 158,751 in June 1985, an increase of 2.4% or 3,782.
- The increase in government enterprise employment resulted mainly from renewed activity at the Darlington project by Ontario Hydro.
- The above-mentioned increase and other smaller increases were partially offset by the sale of Rafinerie du Sucre de Quebec by the Quebec provincial government.

#### **Total Government**

- General government and government enterprise employment totalled 672,440 employees in June 1986 compared to 659,651 in June 1985, an increase of 1.9% or 12,789 employees.

Available on CANSIM: monthly data by province or territory are located in matrix 2722.

The April-June 1986 issue of *Provincial and Territorial Government Employment* (72-007, \$15/\$60) will be released at a later date. Questions pertaining to the data should be directed to Terry Moore (613-990-8306) or Peter Dudley (613-991-1845), Public Institutions Division.

---

## Data Availability Announcement

---

### Steel Ingots

Week Ending November 15, 1986

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending November 15, 1986 totalled 271 042 tonnes, an increase of 1.8% from the preceding week's total of 266 225 tonnes but down 6.6% from the year-earlier level of 290 207 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1986 was 12 120 137 tonnes, a decrease of 4.6% from 12 698 480 tonnes for the same period in 1985.

Contact: Gerry W. Barrett (613-991-3515),  
Industry Division.

**The  
Daily**

### Statistics Canada's Official Release Vehicle for Statistical Information

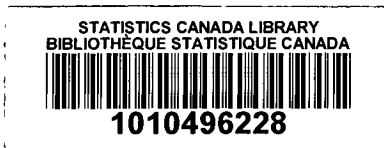
Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada \$100/year; other countries \$125/year

Published by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada,  
3-O, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-991-1103)

Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-991-1198)

Published under the authority of the Minister of Supply and Services  
Canada. Statistics Canada should be credited when reproducing or  
quoting any part of this document.



The Daily, November 20, 1986

---

## Publication Released

---

**International Travel -  
Advance Information,  
September 1986  
Catalogue number 66-001P  
(Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60)**

*Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

*Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada and provide full information on publications required (catalogue number, title, issue).*

*Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Sturgeon Falls, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.*