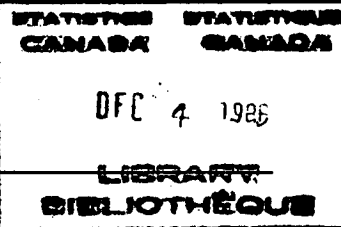


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, December 4, 1986



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Major Releases

Household Facilities and Equipment

May 1986

Labour-saving and leisure-time consumer durables continue to increase in popularity. This has been led, since the early 1980s, by the growth in video cassette recorders (VCRs) and microwave ovens.

The latest *Household Facilities and Equipment Survey*, conducted in May 1986, also found that after years of substantial shifts from oil to both gas and electricity as the main heating fuel, little change occurred between 1985 and 1986. In 1986, piped gas is the top primary heating fuel, followed by electricity and oil.

Selected dwelling improvements were made by one-third of homeowners during the two years prior to the survey. Improvements were more likely made to older homes or by younger homeowners.

Highlights from the report *Household Facilities and Equipment*, May 1986, released today, include:

- In 1986, piped gas is used as the principal heating fuel in 45.0% of homes, electricity in 28.3% and oil in 20.1%. (Oil, predominant during the 1970s, was surpassed by gas in 1980 and subsequently by electricity in 1985.) The rate of decline in recent years in the usage of oil has slowed (1.7 percentage points in 1986 and 3.4 percentage points in 1985).
- The proportion of homes with video cassette recorders (VCRs) increased to 35.1% in 1986 from 23.4% in 1985. As recently as 1983 only 6.4% of households had this item. VCRs are most popular in Alberta (39.5% of households).
- Microwave ovens are found in 33.6% of dwellings in 1986, up from 22.9% in 1985. They are found most frequently in the western provinces, led by Alberta at 48.6% and Saskatchewan at 48.3%.
- Owners of older dwellings were more likely to have made improvements during the previous two years. For homeowners with a dwelling built before 1941, 40.5% made improvements, compared to only 15.3% for those with a dwelling built after 1980.
- Dwelling improvements were most commonly made by homeowners under 35 years of age (36.6%). As the age of the household head increased, the proportion making improvements decreased – to 28.6% for those aged 65 and over.

The accompanying table (see pages 3 and 4) provides selected provincial data.

Available on CANSIM: table 00900101.

For both national and provincial estimates, order the May 1986 issue of *Household Facilities and Equipment* (64-202, \$20), now available. For more information concerning this data or on the availability of special request tabulations, contact the Income and Housing Surveys Section (613-990-9775), Household Surveys Division.

A microdata tape containing information on household income from the Survey of Consumer Finances linked with household facilities and equipment data is being prepared for later release.

Household Facilities and Equipment
May 1986

	Canada	New- found- land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunsw- wick	Quebec
Average number of:						
Persons per household	2.73	3.48	3.09	2.90	2.93	2.71
Rooms per dwelling	5.70	6.00	6.01	5.95	5.74	5.29
				%		
Tenure:						
Owned	62.6	83.0	79.1	73.5	73.8	53.6
With mortgage	49.7	27.7	44.1	40.4	42.9	54.5
Without mortgage	50.3	71.5	55.9	60.0	57.1	45.5
Rented	37.4	17.0	18.6	26.5	26.3	46.4
Dwelling type:						
Single detached	56.1	78.8	74.4	69.6	70.0	41.5
Apartment or flat	32.8	9.7	14.0	20.6	20.0	51.6
Heating fuel:						
Oil or other liquid fuel	20.1	33.9	69.8	64.4	36.3	24.8
Piped gas	45.0	--	--	--	1.7	11.3
Electricity	28.3	37.0	--	15.0	40.4	57.7
Wood	5.7	29.1	25.6	17.0	21.7	6.0
Households with:						
Video recorders	35.1	36.4	27.9	38.9	31.7	34.1
Microwave ovens	33.6	18.2	23.3	27.1	25.0	26.7
Colour televisions	93.2	87.3	88.4	90.8	91.3	92.8
One	74.5	82.6	84.2	79.1	77.6	74.5
Two or more	25.5	17.4	18.4	20.9	22.4	25.5
Black and white only	5.4	11.2	8.6	7.9	7.2	6.2
Cable television	64.9	47.3	44.2	58.8	54.6	56.2
Pay television	9.6	4.2	--	7.2	6.3	7.3
Home computers	10.3	10.3	--	12.1	9.6	8.7
Automobiles:						
One	77.4	63.0	83.7	75.5	77.5	72.6
Two or more	68.8	79.8	66.7	74.9	75.8	73.6
	31.2	20.1	33.4	25.1	24.2	26.3
Vans and trucks	22.7	31.5	30.2	25.2	28.3	12.6
Smoke detectors:						
Homeowners	73.9	78.2	83.7	72.9	78.3	75.1
Renters	81.0	77.4	88.2	77.3	80.8	85.0
	61.9	82.1	75.0	60.5	71.4	63.7
Portable fire extinguishers:						
Homeowners	36.9	41.2	37.2	38.9	34.6	37.5
Renters	48.7	42.3	41.2	44.9	41.2	55.7
	17.1	35.7	--	22.2	15.9	16.7
Owner-occupied dwellings with selected improve- ments ¹	33.2	27.0	26.5	34.7	31.6	32.9

Household Facilities and Equipment - Concluded
May 1986

	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskat- chewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Average number of:					
Persons per household	2.73	2.62	2.70	2.71	2.60
Rooms per dwelling	5.84	5.41	5.77	5.99	5.88
			%		
Tenure:					
Owned	64.1	66.5	71.8	61.3	65.7
With mortgage	49.8	45.1	42.2	55.8	49.6
Without mortgage	50.2	55.3	57.8	44.0	50.4
Rented	35.9	33.5	28.2	38.7	34.3
Dwelling type:					
Single detached	57.0	66.5	74.8	60.8	61.2
Apartment or flat	29.5	24.4	17.4	24.8	25.7
Heating fuel:					
Oil or other liquid fuel	18.4	8.3	10.5	2.1	16.3
Piped gas	58.9	59.9	78.6	93.1	53.6
Electricity	18.7	27.5	5.4	2.2	21.2
Wood	3.0	3.0	2.4	0.7	8.2
Households with:					
Video recorders	35.2	37.8	30.6	39.5	33.7
Microwave ovens	33.1	41.1	48.3	48.6	37.3
Colour televisions	94.0	92.7	92.8	93.6	94.0
One	74.3	72.3	72.3	71.4	75.4
Two or more	25.7	28.0	27.5	28.6	24.7
Black and white only	4.7	5.2	5.5	4.7	4.4
Cable television	69.7	64.2	48.5	65.9	81.4
Pay television	13.1	3.3	6.2	10.8	9.0
Home computers	11.5	9.1	8.8	12.2	9.6
Automobiles:					
One	78.8	79.6	79.6	82.0	80.7
Two or more	65.3	69.3	71.7	65.5	66.9
	34.8	30.7	28.3	34.5	33.0
Vans and trucks	18.9	28.2	42.4	38.1	32.7
Smoke detectors:					
Homeowners	72.0	78.8	72.1	81.3	68.3
Renters	81.3	79.9	79.5	80.8	75.4
	55.3	76.7	53.3	82.0	54.6
Portable fire extinguishers:					
Homeowners	34.9	38.5	39.7	39.0	37.5
Renters	45.4	50.4	47.8	51.0	48.2
	16.1	15.0	19.0	19.8	17.0
Owner-occupied dwellings with selected improve- ments ¹	34.4	33.0	31.0	33.2	32.1

¹ Within the last two years.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

Lone Parenthood 1984

Just over three-quarters of lone parents in 1984 were female according to the Family History Survey. Overall, these women are currently more disadvantaged than wives in terms of education and workforce experience, lending support to the theory that along with widowhood, lone parenthood is leading to a feminization of poverty in Canada.

Female lone parents are also more likely to have begun work at a later age than wives. These women have a greater tendency to enter marriage or other unions at younger ages than wives. They are more likely to have had their first birth before the age of 20, and are more likely to have had it before or during the year of entering their first union.

The publication *Lone Parenthood: Characteristics and Determinants*, now available, also discusses the relationships between lone parenthood and education, occupation, and labour force participation. It also seeks to identify any important differences in the demographic characteristics of lone parents and couple parents.

Other highlights from the publication include:

- One-quarter of female lone parents have achieved some postsecondary education.
- Of four million families with children under the age of 25, some 16% are lone-parent families.
- About 70% of female lone parents are separated or divorced from a common-law or marital partner.
- There is not a strong link between participation in common-law unions and propensity to become a lone parent.

Order *Lone Parenthood: Characteristics and Determinants* (99-961, \$20), now available. This publication was undertaken by Dr. Ian Pool of the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand and completed by Maureen Moore of Statistics Canada. For more information, contact Maureen Moore (613-991-2573), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Direct Selling in Canada 1985

Highlights

- Direct sales to Canadian household consumers totalled \$2,506.0 million in 1985, an increase of 2.8% from 1984 sales of \$2,437.7 million. (Direct sales refer to the retail marketing of consumer goods by channels other than retail stores.)
- Personal selling was the most popular method of direct salesmanship at \$813.8 million or 32.5% of all 1985 direct sales. (This method includes individual canvassing as well as group demonstrations such as house-parties.) Sales by mail order were \$624.0 million (24.9%); by home delivery, \$588.6 million (23.5%); and from manufacturing premises, \$344.0 million (13.7%). All other marketing methods accounted for \$135.6 million or 5.4% of total direct sales.
- The main commodities sold by direct methods were books, newspapers and magazines (\$760.5 million); food products (\$543.9 million); cosmetics and jewellery (\$243.4 million); and electrical appliances and household cleaners (\$242.7 million). Other commodities accounted for \$715.5 million.

Order the 1985 issue of *Direct Selling in Canada* (63-218, \$15), available in mid-January 1987. Contact: the Retail Trade Section, Industry Division (613-990-9656).

Truck Use Survey - Private Trucking 1985

Preliminary data from the 1985 Truck Use Survey reveal that there were 4,698 firms with a fleet size of 15 or more vehicles involved in private trucking. These firms had operating expenses of \$5,029 million. In 1984 there were 4,273 firms with the same fleet size and annual operating expenses totalled \$4,768 million.

Some 50% of the total number of carriers were located in Ontario and Quebec. They accounted for 58.4% of total industry operating expenses.

Contact: Ray Forcier (613-991-2528), Transportation Division.

Electric Power Statistics August 1986

Highlights

Net generation of electric energy in Canada in August 1986 increased to 34 552 gigawatt hours (gwh), up 0.04% from the corresponding month in 1985. Exports decreased 16.2% to 3 870 gwh, while imports climbed to 246.0 gwh from 94.0 gwh.

Year-to-date figures show net generation at 298 495 gwh, up 2.0% over the 1985 period. Exports at 25 754 gwh were down 10.8% and imports at 3 523 gwh were up 87.1%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

Order the August 1986 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$8/\$80), available the second week in December. Contact: Dave Madsen (613-991-3565), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Major Appliances

October 1986

Canadian firms produced 252,667 major appliances in October 1986, an increase of 15.1% from the 214,563 units produced in the previous month and an increase of 26.2% from the 186,512 units produced in October 1985.

Year-to-date production to October 1986 amounted to 2,010,431 units, an increase of 13.6% from 1,736,067 units for the same period in 1985.

Domestic sales of major appliances by these Canadian firms decreased to 219,729 units in October 1986, down 0.1% from 220,014 units in September 1986 but up 5.0% from the 208,765 units sold in the same month of 1985.

Year-to-date domestic sales to October 1986 amounted to 1,813,158 units, an 8.5% rise from 1,659,648 units for the same period in 1985.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 65, 66 and 122 (series 30).

Order the October 1986 issue of *Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances* (43-010, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of December 15. Contact: J.P. Beauparlant (613-991-3526), Industry Division.

Railway Carloadings

Seven Days Ending November 21, 1986

Freight tonnages loaded by railways in Canada for the week ending November 21, 1986 totalled 4.8 million tonnes, a decrease of 4.0% from the 1985 figure. Loadings decreased in the East by 5.5% and decreased in the West by 2.8%.

Container-trailer or piggyback tonnages (included above) declined in the East by 2.6% and advanced in the West by 6.0%; there was an over-all national decrease of 0.1%.

The year-to-date rail freight loadings for 1986 totalled 211.5 million tonnes, a decrease of 1.0% from the previous year. During the same period, piggyback cars loaded increased 2.9%.

Order the Vol. 2, No. 43 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-005, \$75 a year), scheduled for release the week of December 8. Contact: Mamady Kaba (613-990-6154), Surface Transport Section, Transportation Division.

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**Miscellaneous Wood
Industries, 1984**
Catalogue number 35-208
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

**Passenger Bus and Urban
Transit Statistics,**
September 1986
Catalogue number 53-003
(Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries:
\$7.50/\$75)

**Wholesale Trade Statistics –
Wholesale Merchants: Agents
and Brokers, 1984**
Catalogue number 63-226
(Canada: \$25; Other Countries: \$26)

Building Permits,
August 1986
Catalogue number 64-001
(Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries: \$21/\$210)

**Household Facilities and
Equipment, May 1986**
Catalogue number 64-202
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

Labour Force Information,
November 1986
Catalogue number 71-001P
(Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60)
Available December 5, 1986 at 7:00 a.m.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics,
September 1986
Catalogue number 73-001
(Canada: \$12/\$120; Other Countries: \$13/\$130)

**Lone Parenthood – Characteristics
and Determinants, Results from the
1984 Family History Survey,**
Catalogue number 99-961
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21)

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