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- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 8.8% over November 1985

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Major Release

Wholesale Trade

November 1986

Sales

● Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for November 1986 were up 8.8% above the November 1985 level. On a year-over-year basis, wholesale sales have registered an increase in every month in 1986; the November and October increases were somewhat lower than the 11.9% average registered in the first nine months of this year.

- In November 1986, all major trade groups except tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations (-5.1%) registered increased sales from a year earlier. The trade groups having the most significant impact on the overall sales increase were wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+13.2%) and lumber and building materials (+22.4%).
- Except for the Prairie provinces (-2.1%), wholesale trade increases between November 1985 and November 1986 were posted in all regions.

Inventories

- Inventory levels in November 1986 were 8.2% higher than those reported in November 1985. In each of the first 11 months of 1986, the inventory levels reported have been higher than those for the corresponding months of 1985.
- The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of November 1986 stood at 1.54:1, identical to the ratio recorded a year earlier. For the first 11 months of 1986, this ratio has averaged 1.57:1, down slightly from the 1.60:1 registered for the corresponding months in 1985; this decline in the ratio is due to the higher relative increases in sales as compared to those for inventories during this period.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 44.

Order the November 1986 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5/\$50), available the third week of February. Contact: Gilles Berniquez (613-991-3537), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for November 1986/1985

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	Oct. 1986/85 ^r	Nov. 1986/85 ^p	Jan.-Nov. 1986/85 ^p	Oct. 1986/85 ^r	Nov. 1986/85 ^p	Nov. 1985 ^r	Nov. 1986 ^p
Total all trades	8.9	8.8	11.3	9.5	8.2	1.54	1.54
Food	--	3.4	1.5	-0.3	0.2	0.75	0.73
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	3.1	-5.1	9.4	9.6	7.2	0.85	0.96
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	10.9	4.3	11.7	4.1	2.8	2.09	2.06
Motor vehicles and accessories	13.4	9.5	14.7	13.2	9.9	1.77	1.77
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	-4.9	2.2	18.7	-5.2	-2.1	3.58	3.43
Other machinery, equipment and supplies ¹	14.5	13.2	15.1	17.0	15.2	1.76	1.79
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	14.5	13.1	6.0	8.4	4.4	1.65	1.52
Lumber and building materials	19.3	22.4	23.9	5.4	8.2	1.53	1.35
Other wholesalers ²	4.1	5.8	9.0	11.1	8.7	1.51	1.56
Regions							
Atlantic provinces	8.3	6.3	4.3	8.3	6.3	1.40	1.40
Quebec	9.5	7.2	7.9	13.3	11.3	1.37	1.42
Ontario	13.5	14.5	16.5	12.6	10.8	1.53	1.48
Prairie provinces	-0.1	-2.1	5.4	3.2	4.3	1.96	2.09
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	5.5	9.3	12.2	3.6	1.3	1.46	1.35

¹ Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

² Includes: farm products (excluding grain); paper and paper products; scrap and waste materials; and wholesalers, n.e.s.

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

Data Availability Announcements

Microdata Tapes on Household Income (1984), Facilities and Equipment 1985

The eighth in a series of analytic microdata tapes containing information on the facilities and equipment present in Canadian households in 1985 and the income received by the household in the preceding year is now available at a cost of \$500.

Dwelling characteristics including type and age of dwelling, number of rooms and bedrooms, heating equipment and fuel are provided for each household as well as information on the presence of such items as washing machines, dryers, microwave ovens, radios, televisions, VCRs and recreational equipment. In addition the file contains information on mortgage status, rent paid, dwelling condition and repairs and household mobility. For the purposes of analysing these dwelling characteristics and household facilities, information is also included on household income sources and characteristics such as number of adults and children.

These data were collected as part of the 1985 survey of consumer finances and household facilities and equipment survey. This microdata file contains approximately 34,000 household records. The tape has been carefully reviewed to ensure that it does not contain information that would allow the identification of specific households.

Contact: the Income and Housing Surveys Section (613-990-9775), Household Surveys Division.

Shipments of Rolled Steel November 1986

Rolled steel shipments for November 1986 totalled 1 007 621 tonnes, a decrease of 1.3% from the preceding month's total of 1 020 512 but an increase of 4.8% from the year-earlier level of 961 817 tonnes.

Year-to-date shipments totalled 10 758 945 tonnes, a decrease of 1.1% compared to 10 883 742 tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).

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

Publications Released

The Dairy Review, November 1986.
Catalogue number 23-001
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries:
\$11/\$110).

Pulpwood and Wood Residue
Statistics, November 1986.
Catalogue number 25-001
(Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60).

The Crude Petroleum and Natural
Gas Industry, 1985.
Catalogue number 26-213
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in
Manufacturing Industries, October 1986.
Catalogue number 31-001
(Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries:
\$16/\$160).

Coal and Coke Statistics, September 1986.
Catalogue number 45-002
(Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

Gas Utilities, September 1986.
Catalogue number 55-002
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries:
\$11/\$110).

Gross Domestic Product by Industry,
October 1986.
Catalogue number 61-005
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries:
\$11/\$110).

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

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