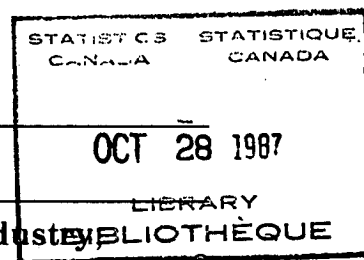


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, October 28, 1987



Major Releases

Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, August 1987

- Real GDP advanced 0.8% from July.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics, August 1987

- On a seasonally adjusted basis, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits increased 1.0% from July.

Department Store Sales and Stocks, August 1987

- Seasonally adjusted, department store sales increased 2.0% from July.

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Publications Released

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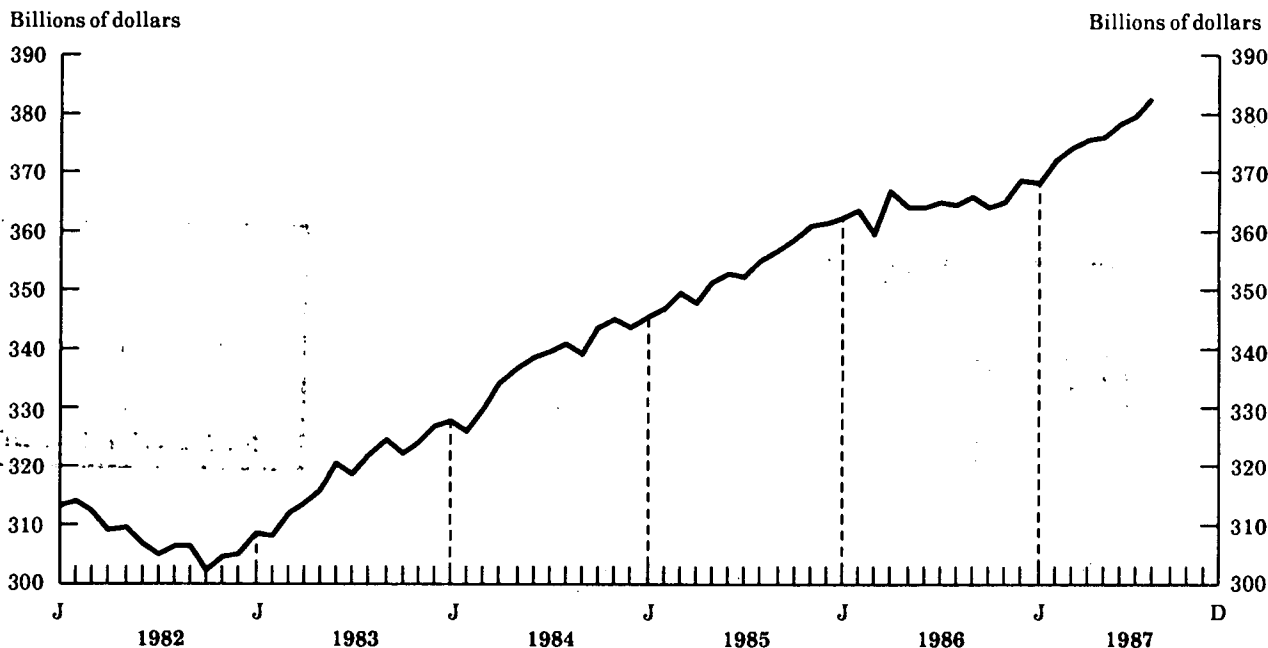
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Major Releases

Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, in 1981 Prices (Seasonally adjusted at annual rates)



Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry

(seasonally adjusted data)
August 1987

Monthly Overview

Data for August reveal that Gross Domestic Product at factor cost, in 1981 prices, increased 0.8% following a 0.4% gain in July. The August GDP gain was the largest month-to-month increase since last February's growth rate of 1.0%. Goods-producing industries increased 1.1%, while services-producing industries advanced 0.6%.

The July-August average level now stands 1.2% above the second quarter of 1987. Year-over-year, GDP in August stood almost 5% above the August 1986 level.

Goods-producing Industries

Output gains in August were widespread among goods-producing industries with increases recorded in manufacturing, mining, construction, agriculture and fishing:

- The August increase in manufacturing was entirely accounted for by a 2.7% output gain by durable manufacturing industries, the largest monthly advance recorded since June 1983. Major contributors to the strong growth included manufacturers of office, store and business machines, motor vehicle parts and accessories, and smelting and refining operations. Moderate production gains were reported by manufacturers of fabricated metal products, machinery, and wood products. (Exports of motor

(continued on page 3)

vehicle parts and accessories, and primary metals rose substantially during the month.)

- About 75% of the gain in mining was due to production increases for crude petroleum and natural gas.
- The construction industry continued to advance in August - the eleventh consecutive month of growth - with residential building activity accounting for almost all of this month's gain.

Services-producing Industries

Services-producing industries rose 0.6% in August, with much of the growth due to advances among finance, insurance and real estate industries, retail trade, and communication industries:

- Within the finance, insurance and real estate industry, increased activity by real estate agencies and security brokers and dealers accounted for most of the August gain.

- Most of the growth in retail trade originated from advances by new motor vehicle dealers, food stores and department stores. For new motor vehicle dealers most of the gain was due to increased sales of North American-built passenger cars.

- Communication industries posted a substantial 2.0% advance in August, due to gains by telephone systems and postal services.

- The only major decline in services during the month occurred in transportation, where railway transport declined 8%, due to a one week Canada-wide railway strike.

(see table on page 4)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4665-4668.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (15-001, \$10/\$100), scheduled for release in mid-November. Contact Ron Kennedy (613-951-3673), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

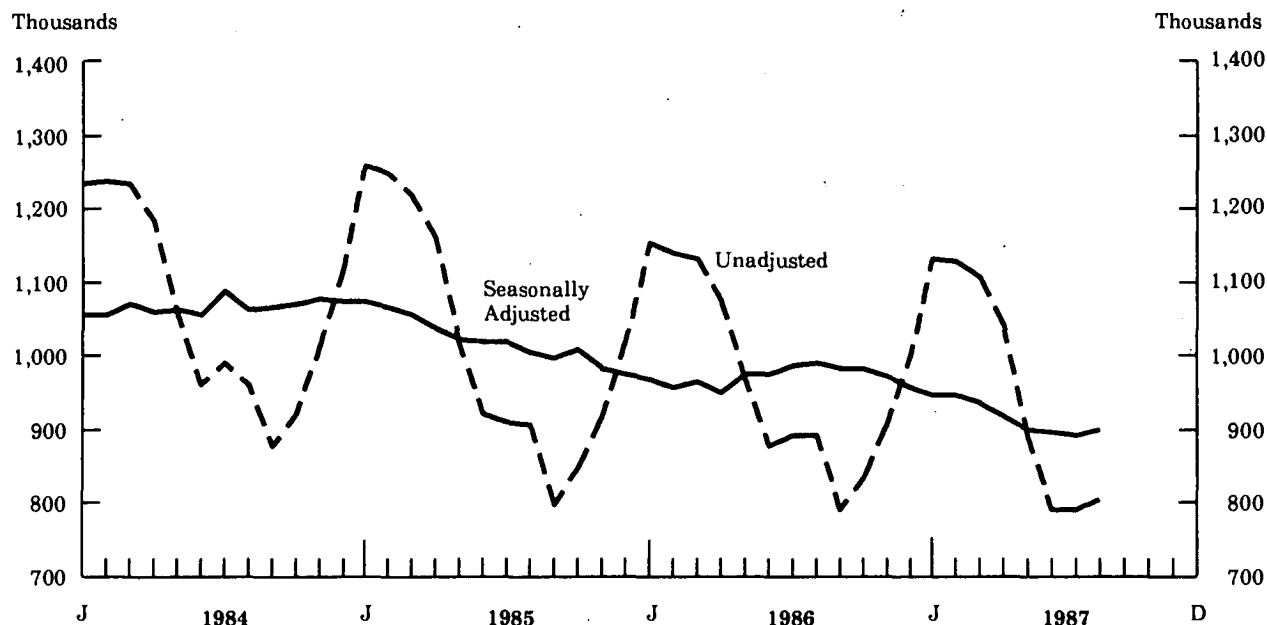
Real Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry, in 1981 Prices

Monthly

(Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)

	1986		1987		
	Aug.	May	June	July	Aug.
	(\$ millions)				
Total economy	364,543.2	375,776.3	378,237.2	379,610.9	382,567.7
Business sector					
Agricultural and related services industries	12,294.0	11,296.8	11,301.6	11,324.4	11,450.4
Fishing and trapping industries	614.8	452.4	735.6	664.8	691.2
Logging and forestry industry	2,513.5	2,631.6	2,762.4	2,805.6	2,782.8
Mining, quarrying and oil well industries	21,047.0	21,038.4	21,405.6	21,824.4	22,334.4
Manufacturing industries	70,225.4	73,675.2	74,325.6	73,836.0	74,702.4
Construction industries	25,172.6	27,319.2	27,576.0	27,794.4	28,010.4
Transportation and storage industries	16,198.7	16,654.8	16,528.8	16,489.2	16,304.4
Communication industries	10,243.6	10,879.2	10,965.6	11,031.6	11,250.0
Other utility industries	10,747.9	11,260.8	11,529.6	11,667.6	11,581.2
Wholesale trade industries	18,885.1	20,068.8	20,356.8	20,486.4	20,577.6
Retail trade industries	24,117.2	24,932.4	25,486.8	25,213.2	25,660.8
Finance, insurance and real estate	51,812.2	54,384.0	54,036.0	54,873.6	55,515.6
Community, business and personal services	38,257.6	38,123.9	38,151.2	38,396.9	38,496.5
Non-business sector					
Mining industries	23.1	31.2	39.6	48.0	50.4
Manufacturing industries	57.6	58.8	58.8	58.8	58.8
Forestry services industry	229.3	240.0	241.2	241.2	242.4
Transportation industries	1,409.7	1,458.0	1,468.8	1,473.6	1,471.2
Communication industries	51.6	44.4	46.8	46.8	48.0
Water systems industry	525.1	544.8	547.2	546.0	550.8
Insurance and other finance industry	357.4	372.0	374.4	372.0	374.4
Government service ind.	23,387.1	23,618.4	23,636.4	23,712.0	23,714.4
Community and personal services	36,372.7	36,691.2	36,662.4	36,704.4	36,699.6
Special aggregations					
Business sector:	302,129.6	312,717.5	315,161.6	316,408.1	319,357.7
- goods	142,615.2	147,674.4	149,636.4	149,917.2	151,552.8
- services	159,514.4	165,043.1	165,525.2	166,490.9	167,804.9
Non-business sector	62,413.6	63,058.8	63,075.6	63,202.8	63,210.0
- goods	605.8	634.8	645.6	652.8	660.0
- services	61,807.8	62,424.0	62,430.0	62,550.0	62,550.0
Goods-producing industries	143,221.0	148,309.2	150,282.0	150,570.0	152,212.8
Services-producing industries	221,322.2	227,467.1	227,955.2	229,040.9	230,354.9
Industrial production	102,626.1	106,609.2	107,906.4	107,980.8	109,278.0
Non-durable manufacturing industries	32,089.2	32,780.4	32,842.8	32,944.8	32,695.2
Durable manufacturing industries	38,136.2	40,894.8	41,482.8	40,891.2	42,007.2

Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits, Canada, 1984-1987



Unemployment Insurance Statistics August 1987

Seasonally Adjusted Data - Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits

- For the week ending August 15, 1987, preliminary estimates show that the number of beneficiaries¹ receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled 899,000 - up 1.0% from the preceding month. The number of beneficiaries has generally been decreasing since August 1986 when it stood at 990,000.
- By province, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits increased between July and August 1987 in Ontario (2.9%), Prince

Edward Island (2.2%), Nova Scotia (2.1%), Alberta (1.9%) and Manitoba (1.0%). The number of beneficiaries decreased in the Northwest Territories (-3.7%) and in Newfoundland (-1.4%). There was little or no change in the remaining provinces.

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variations

- In August 1987, the total number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular and special unemployment insurance benefits) stood at 903,000 - a decrease of 9.1% from August 1986. The number of male beneficiaries decreased to 421,000 or by 14.8% compared to August 1986. For the same period, the number of female beneficiaries declined by 3.3% to 482,000.

¹ The number of beneficiaries represents a count of persons who qualified for unemployment insurance benefits during a specific week of the reference month.

(continued on page 6)

- Benefits paid during August 1987 totalled \$760 million², up 4.8% from August 1986. The change resulted from a 4.9% increase in the average weekly payment to \$187.15 from \$178.42; the number of benefit weeks remained virtually unchanged between the two months.
- For the first eight months of 1987, benefit payments amounted to \$7,373 million, up 1.2% from the same period last year. The increase resulted from payments (retroactive to January 5, 1986) of \$120 million in July and \$9 million in August 1987 to persons affected by the introduction of Bill C-50³. Without the special payments, benefit payments between January and August 1987 would have amounted to \$7,244 million, a decrease of 0.5% compared to the same period a year ago.
- A total of 214,000 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in August 1987, down slightly (-0.4%) from the same month a year ago. Since the start of 1987, the number of claims received was 1.956 million, a decrease of 4.4% compared to the same period a year earlier.

(see table on page 7)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6) and 5700-5717.

Data for the months of June, July and August 1987 will be published in the August 1987 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$12/\$120), available at the beginning of November. Unpublished beneficiaries data are also available on request, including statistics for small areas as defined by data users. For special tabulations and further information contact J.-P. Maynard (613-951-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-951-4044), Labour Division.

² Benefits paid, number of benefit weeks, and number of claims received relate to a complete calendar month. It should be noted that these data are affected by the number of working days available during the reference month to process claims and to pay benefits. In making short-term comparisons it is not uncommon to observe different trends between these data and the number of beneficiaries.

³ The payments were made to persons who were affected by Bill C-50 which permits individuals who receive a pension to re-establish unemployment insurance benefit rights.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	August 1987	July 1987	June 1987	August 1986	% change from	
					July 1987	August 1986
Benefits						
Amount paid (\$000)	760,128	862,590	760,922	725,323	-11.9	4.8
Weeks of benefit (000)	4,062	4,777	4,099	4,065	-15.0	-0.1
Average weekly benefit (\$)	187.15	180.55	185.62	178.42	3.7	4.9
Claims received (000)	214	287	247	215	-25.2	-0.4
Beneficiaries¹ (000)						
Total	903 ^P	885 ^P	898 ^r	993 ^r	2.0	-9.1
Regular benefits	806 ^P	791 ^P	790 ^r	892 ^r	1.9	-9.6
Regular benefits - Seasonally adjusted	899 ^P	891 ^P	896 ^r	990 ^r	1.0	
January to August					% change	
	1987		1986		1987/1986	

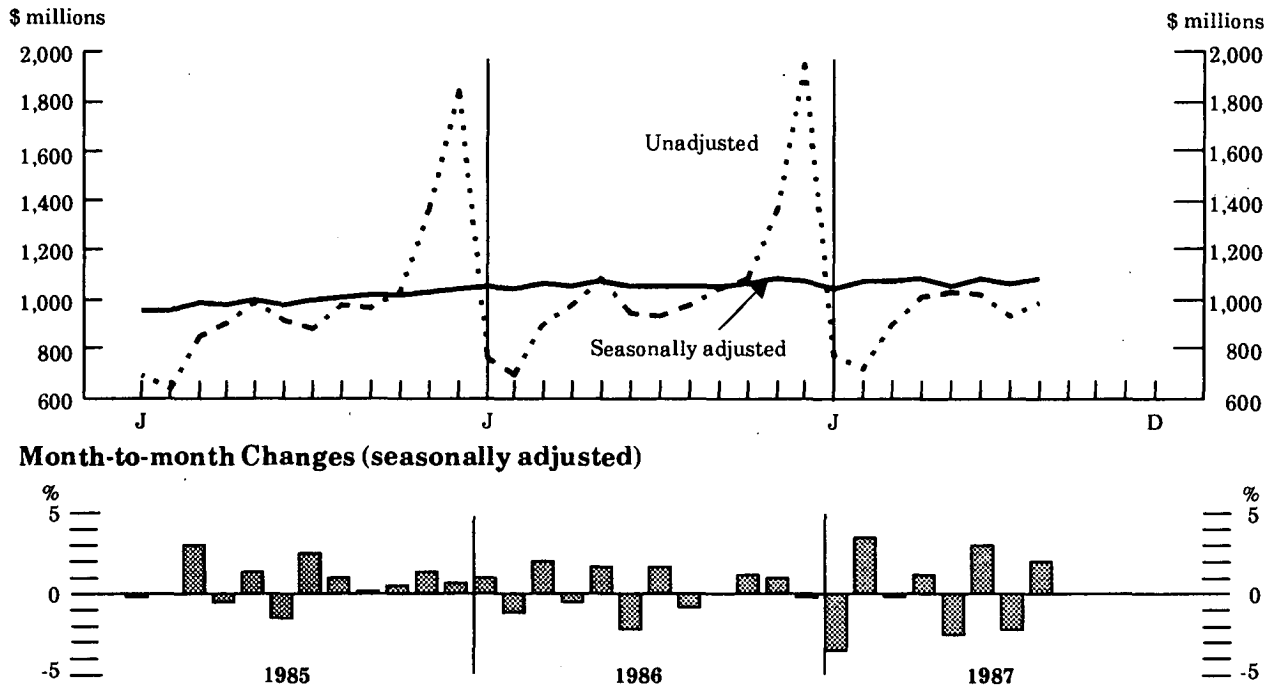
Benefits						
Amount paid (\$000)	7,372,656		7,282,012		1.2	
Weeks of benefit (000)	38,963		40,490		-3.8	
Average weekly benefit (\$)	189.22		179.85		5.2	
Claims received (000)	1,956		2,046		-4.4	
Beneficiaries - Year-to-date average ¹ (000)	1,085 ^P		1,139 ^r		-4.7	

¹ The beneficiaries include all claimants who receive benefits through the computer pay system. Excluded are year-round fishermen, a few seasonal fishermen and a small number of work sharing and job creation claimants who are paid through the manual pay system.

^P Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Department Store Sales, by Month, Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted, Canada, 1985-1987



Department Store Sales and Stocks August 1987

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Data

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, department store sales in August 1987 totalled \$1,084 million, an increase of 2.0% over the previous month's revised total of \$1,063 million. Higher sales were recorded in 28 of the 40 departments.
- For the first eight months of 1987, department store sales have fluctuated significantly while showing little overall growth. During this period, sales have advanced on average by 0.2% on a monthly basis.

- Seasonally adjusted, department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$4,499 million at the end of August 1987, up 0.9% from the July 1987 revised value of \$4,461 million. This constitutes the fourth consecutive monthly increase.

- The ratio of inventories to sales stood at 4.15:1 in August, up from the average ratio of 4.13:1 observed in the seven previous months.

Unadjusted Data

- Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$992 million in August 1987, up 1.1% from the August 1986 level of \$981 million. Cumulative sales for the period January to August 1987 totalled \$7,383 million, up 1.2% from the corresponding period in 1986.

(continued on page 9)

- Excluding food and kindred products, department store sales increased by 4.1% in August 1987, compared to the corresponding month a year earlier.
- Seven provinces posted gains in August 1987 over the corresponding month in 1986, with increases ranging from 24.5% in Newfoundland to 2.2% in Nova Scotia. Decreases were recorded in British Columbia (-10.2%), Alberta (-3.6%) and Manitoba (-1.7%). Sales were up in seven of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed.
- Sales by major department stores in August 1987 totalled \$578 million, down 1.4% from the corresponding month a year earlier, while junior department stores had sales of \$413 million, up 4.8% from the same period last year.
- Unadjusted, department store stocks at month-end totalled \$4,445 million, an increase of 5.2% over the level reached in August 1986.

Note to Users:

Data users should note that unadjusted monthly department sales and stocks estimates for 1986 have been revised to incorporate late responses. Seasonally adjusted data have also been revised for the period January 1986 to July 1987.

Users should also note that the year-over-year movements for Alberta and British Columbia have been affected by the sale of the food department of an important department store organization effective May 25, 1987. These comparisons should therefore be used with caution.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 112.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$13/\$130), available the third week of December. Contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Coal and Coke Statistics

Highlights

Canadian production of coal totalled 4 646 kilotonnes in August 1987 – unchanged from the corresponding month last year. Year-to-date production totalled 38 193 kilotonnes, down 0.3% from January to August 1986.

Exports in August rose 13.3% from August 1986 to 2 464 kilotonnes. Cumulative figures for the year show exports of 17 284 kilotonnes, 4.6% below last year's level.

Coke production increased 5.2% to stand at 379 kilotonnes in August 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, \$8/\$80), available the second week in November. Contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Livestock Report

October 1, 1987

The total number of pigs in Canada at October 1, 1987 reached an estimated 10,675,000 head, up 6% from the year-earlier total of 10,056,000. Sows for breeding and bred gilts were estimated at 1,089,400 head, a 7% increase from 1,020,600 at October 1, 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9500-9510.

Order the October 1, 1987 issue of *Livestock Report* (23-008, \$15/\$60), available the week of November 9. Contact Bernard E. Rosien (613-951-2509), Agriculture Division.

Steel Ingots

Week Ending October 24, 1987

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending October 24, 1987 totalled 264 159 tonnes, a decrease of 5.2% from the preceding week's total of 278 503 tonnes and down 3.1% from the year-earlier level of 272 698 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1987 was 11 887 600 tonnes, an increase of 4.8% from 11 341 611 tonnes for the same period in 1986.

Contact Gerry Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division.

Telephone Statistics

August 1987

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$911.9 million in August 1987, up 5.5% from August 1986.

Operating expenses were \$612.3 million, an increase of 6.2% over August 1986. Net operating revenue was \$299.6 million, an increase of 4.0% over August 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$7.50/\$75), scheduled for release the week of November 2. Contact J.R. Slattery (613-951-2205), Services Division.

Chain Store Stocks

August 1987

Highlights

- Retail chain store stocks totalled \$4,329 million at the end of August 1987, a modest 0.5% decrease from the level reached in August 1986.
- The ratio of inventories to sales stood at 1.08:1 in August 1987, down from the average ratio of 1.11:1 observed in the seven previous months.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 194.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Merchandising Inventories* (63-014, \$12/\$120), available the fourth week of December. Contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Non-residential General Contractors and Developers

1985

Highlights

- With a total operating revenue of \$7.8 billion, industry volume for non-residential general contractors and developers in 1985 was up 16.6% from 1984. This increase continued the upward trend which began in 1984. Profit margins increased slightly to 1.3% of revenue from 1.2% in 1984 and capital expenditures increased 13.2%.
- The largest portion of industry output was in commercial construction, at 54.7% of construction revenue for 1985. From 1984 to 1985, there was very little change in the portion of commercial construction, whereas the increase in the portion of industrial construction to 18.4% was partially offset by a decline in the institutional construction component to 20.3%.

- Regionally, the industry incurred a net loss of 0.1% in the Prairie provinces. Profits were realized in the other regions with those in the province of Quebec (2.9%) being well above the national average.

Complete census data will be available in the 1985 issue of *Non-residential General Contractors and Developers* (64-207, \$15), to be released in December. Contact T. Newton (613-951-9693), Construction Section, Industry Division.

Residential General Contractors and Developers

1985

Highlights

- Total operating revenues for 1985 increased by 15.3% over 1984 to a level of \$6.8 billion. The construction of single-family dwellings dominated the industry's output at 73.1%, while multiple housing units accounted for 17.7%. Non-residential construction represented the balance at 9.2%.
- Net operating profit as a percentage of operating revenue increased to 3.8% in 1985 from 3.6% in 1984. Regionally, profit margins were as follows: Quebec 5.2%, Ontario 4.9%, Atlantic provinces 3.6%, British Columbia 1.6% and the Prairies 0.7%.

Complete census data will be available in the 1985 issue of *Residential General Contractors and Developers* (64-208, \$15), to be released in December. Contact M. Kaba (613-951-9694), Construction Census Section, Industry Division.

Highway, Road, Street and Bridge Contractors

1985

Highlights

- With an increase of 16% in total operating revenue to a 1985 level of \$4.3 billion, the industry continued its growth pattern, which resumed in 1984 after a decline of 8% in 1983.
- Although aggregate profits for 1985 remained low at 2.9% of total operating revenue, there was nonetheless a strong increase in capital expenditures (28%), mainly due to a 43% increase in spending on used machinery and equipment.
- At the Canada level, construction output for 1985 increased by 15% from the previous year to \$3,958 million. Significant increases in construction revenue were noted in the provinces of British Columbia (51%), Newfoundland (34%) and New Brunswick (30%). On the other hand, construction activity declined in the province of Manitoba (-17%).

Complete census data will be available in the 1985 issue of *Highway, Road, Street and Bridge Contractors* (64-206, \$15), to be released in December. Contact S. St-Amour (613-951-3499), Construction Census Section, Industry Division.

Heavy Engineering Contractors

1985

Highlights

- With an increase of 7% in total operating revenue, to a 1985 level of 4.5 billion, the industry resumed its growth pattern following a two-year decline. Growth took place mainly in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces with the western provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia registering continued declines.
- Industry profits were higher in 1985, at 3.3% of total operating revenue (from 2.5% in 1984); capital expenditures by the industry indicated a growth of 37% in 1985.
- Construction output for heavy engineering contractors increased by 6% to \$4,429 million in 1985. Provinces showing declines were Newfoundland (-54.3%), Saskatchewan (-18.4%), Alberta (-5.5%) and British Columbia (-13.1%).

Complete census data will be available in the 1985 issue of *Heavy Engineering Contractors* (64-209, \$15), to be released in December. Contact S. St-Amour (613-951-3499), Construction Section, Industry Division.

Motion Picture Theatres in Canada

1985

Preliminary information on motion picture theatres (regular and drive-ins) in 1985 is now available.

Contact N. Verma (613-951-6863), Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

Publications Released

Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Service Bulletin, Vol. 15, No. 25, Pack of Processed Mixed Vegetables, 1986. Catalogue number 32-023

(Canada: \$6/\$100; Other Countries: \$7/\$110).

Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Service Bulletin, Vol. 16, No. 3, Pack of Processed Strawberries, 1987. Catalogue number 32-023

(Canada: \$6/\$100; Other Countries: \$7/\$110).

Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Service Bulletin, Vol. 16, No. 5, Pack of Processed Cherries, 1987. Catalogue number 32-023

(Canada: \$6/\$100; Other Countries: \$7/\$110).

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Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1103)

Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-951-1198)

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