

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 5, 1987

Major Releases

Household Facilities and Equipment, May 1987

- Microwave ovens and VCRs are now found in almost half of Canadian households.

Machinery and Equipment Price Index, Third Quarter 1987

- Prices of machinery and equipment purchased by Canadian industry declined 0.1% from the previous quarter and recorded the first ever year-over-year decline (-0.3%).

Construction Building Material Price Index: Residential, September 1987

- The index was unchanged from August but rose 3.6% from September 1986.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Non-residential, September 1987

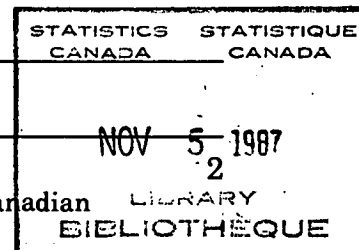
- Prices showed no increase from the previous month, but on a year-over-year basis, an increase of 3.5% was recorded.

Data Availability Announcements

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Major Releases

Household Facilities and Equipment

May 1987

Microwave ovens and VCRs are now found in almost half of Canadian households. Popularity of these two items is highest in the Prairie provinces.

The May 1987 Household Facilities and Equipment Survey shows that electricity is the only heating fuel to show increased usage. Although piped gas remains the top primary heating fuel, its usage has remained unchanged for the past two years.

Just over one quarter of all households indicated that repairs are needed to their dwellings, with British Columbia having the lowest rate and Nova Scotia the highest. Major repairs are needed less than minor repairs.

Highlights from the report *Household Facilities and Equipment*, May 1987, released today, include:

- Microwave ovens are in 43.2% of households in 1987, up from 33.6% in 1986. Five years ago (1982), only 10.2% had this item. Microwaves are found most frequently in the Prairie provinces. More than 50% of households in each Prairie province owned microwaves, with Saskatchewan leading at 57.4%.
- The popularity of VCRs continues to increase in 1987 with 45.0% of households having them, compared to 35.1% in 1986. As recently as 1983, only 6.4% of households had this item. VCRs are most popular in Alberta (48.2%).
- The percentage of households with telephones has changed very little in the past decade – 98.5% in 1987 and 96.4% in 1977. However, during this period two-telephone homes have risen to 35.0% from 25.3%. Households with three or more telephones have increased even more, to 21.9% from 4.7%.
- Piped gas is still the top primary heating fuel – used in 44.3% of homes – although its share has remained unchanged for the past two years. Electricity, meanwhile, is the

only fuel to show increased usage, to 31.0% in 1987 from 28.3% last year. Oil heating is now used in only 19.3% of dwellings.

- While the proportion of owner-occupied dwellings (62.3%) is unchanged from 1986, ownership rates have declined gradually during the past decade. In 1977, 64.3% of dwellings were owner-occupied.
- The proportion of owner-occupied dwellings which are mortgage-free is 50.0%, basically the same as last year. Five years ago (1982), the number of mortgage-free dwellings was 45.1%.
- Repairs are needed in 26.7% of homes in 1987, little changed from 26.3% in 1985 (the last time these data were collected). However, a smaller percentage of dwellings need major repairs in 1987 compared to 1985 (10.6% versus 12.5%) and a larger percentage only require minor repairs (16.0% versus 13.8%). British Columbia households have the lowest need for dwelling repairs, at 21.9% while Nova Scotia households have the highest, at 34.8%.

The accompanying table provides selected provincial data.

Available on CANSIM: table 00900101.

For both national and provincial estimates, order the 1987 issue of *Household Facilities and Equipment* (64-202, \$20). For more information concerning these data or on the availability of special request tabulations, contact the Income and Housing Surveys Section (613-951-9778), Household Surveys Division.

A microdata tape containing 1986 household income and 1987 facilities and equipment data, along with dwelling characteristics and socio-demographic characteristics of the household will be available later. This tape can be ordered by contacting the Household Surveys Division (613-951-9778). Microdata tapes are carefully reviewed to ensure that they do not contain information that could allow identification of specific households.

Household Facilities and Equipment

May 1987

	Canada	New-found-land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec
Average number of:						
Persons per household	2.69	3.42	2.92	2.82	2.87	2.68
Rooms per dwelling	5.75	6.05	6.02	5.89	5.84	5.38
Tenure:						
Owned	62.3	80.4	74.4	72.5	74.4	54.3
With mortgage	31.2	23.8	34.9	31.0	32.1	28.7
Without mortgage	31.1	57.1	41.9	41.9	42.3	25.5
Rented	37.7	19.6	25.6	27.5	25.6	45.7
Dwelling type:						
Single detached	56.2	76.8	72.1	68.1	71.1	43.4
Apartment or flat	33.6	10.7	18.6	22.7	20.3	50.3
Dwelling repairs:						
Repairs needed	26.7	32.1	25.6	34.8	33.3	23.8
Major	10.6	16.1	--	16.6	17.1	10.4
Minor	16.0	16.1	18.6	18.2	16.3	13.4
Principal heating fuel:						
Oil or other liquid fuel	19.3	32.1	81.4	64.2	37.4	22.7
Piped gas	44.3	--	--	--	--	9.6
Electricity	31.0	41.7	--	17.6	42.3	63.6
Wood	4.3	26.8	18.6	15.0	19.5	3.6
Households with:						
Telephones	98.5	96.4	97.7	96.8	97.2	98.5
One	41.6	47.6	48.8	43.8	46.3	45.7
Two	35.0	33.9	32.6	34.8	37.0	34.0
Three or more	21.9	15.5	14.0	18.2	13.8	18.7
Video recorders	45.0	45.2	34.9	45.4	42.7	43.6
Microwave ovens	43.2	22.0	32.6	35.5	32.9	36.6
Colour televisions	94.4	89.9	95.3	92.3	93.9	94.5
One	66.7	72.0	81.4	71.6	69.9	66.2
Two or more	27.7	17.9	14.0	20.8	24.0	28.3
Black and white televisions only	4.1	9.5	4.7	6.7	4.9	4.4
Cable television	67.2	61.3	46.5	60.4	58.5	57.5
Boats	15.3	20.2	9.3	15.7	13.8	11.5
Overnight camping equipment	27.0	23.8	18.6	24.3	25.2	20.9
Automobiles	78.3	64.9	83.7	76.0	78.5	75.5
One	53.7	51.2	60.5	57.2	59.8	55.7
Two or more	24.6	12.5	20.9	18.8	18.7	19.7
Vans and trucks	23.3	29.8	30.2	25.9	30.5	13.6
Smoke detectors	76.9	81.0	86.0	74.8	81.3	80.2
Owner-occupied dwellings	52.2	64.3	65.1	56.9	61.4	48.2
Tenant-occupied dwellings	24.7	17.3	20.9	17.9	19.9	32.0
Portable fire extinguishers	40.2	41.7	41.9	41.9	37.4	40.0
Owner-occupied dwellings	32.7	33.9	34.9	35.5	33.3	31.1
Tenant-occupied dwellings	7.5	7.1	--	6.4	3.7	9.0

(continued on page 4)

Household Facilities and Equipment - Concluded
May 1987

	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskat- chewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Average number of:					
Persons per household	2.70	2.61	2.69	2.69	2.52
Rooms per dwelling	5.89	5.48	5.94	6.00	5.91
			%		
Tenure:					
Owned	62.8	65.9	71.7	61.7	66.0
With mortgage	32.0	30.6	28.3	32.9	34.6
Without mortgage	30.8	35.3	43.4	28.8	31.3
Rented	37.2	34.1	28.3	38.3	33.9
Dwelling type:					
Single detached	56.9	64.9	73.8	59.2	61.5
Apartment or flat	31.5	25.9	17.5	25.2	27.4
Dwelling repairs:					
Repairs needed	27.5	30.1	34.1	27.3	21.9
Major	10.3	11.1	13.0	9.5	8.4
Minor	17.3	19.0	21.2	17.8	13.5
Principal heating fuel:					
Oil or other liquid fuel	18.6	6.2	10.6	--	14.4
Piped gas	58.8	55.8	77.8	93.7	54.3
Electricity	19.7	33.8	5.6	1.9	24.0
Wood	2.2	3.0	2.6	--	6.4
Households with:					
Telephones	99.0	98.0	97.4	98.2	98.6
One	37.6	40.5	49.2	35.3	44.3
Two	36.0	33.6	35.2	36.4	33.8
Three or more	25.4	24.0	13.0	26.5	20.6
Video recorders	46.0	46.9	39.9	48.2	44.1
Microwave ovens	44.2	52.8	57.4	55.6	45.2
Colour televisions	94.8	93.6	93.9	94.7	94.6
One	66.1	65.2	66.7	62.8	69.7
Two or more	28.7	28.4	27.2	31.9	24.9
Black and white televisions only	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.2
Cable television	72.8	66.7	48.4	67.2	83.6
Boats	15.4	16.3	16.9	14.7	22.2
Overnight camping equipment	24.1	30.4	34.4	41.3	36.4
Automobiles	79.7	77.8	79.1	81.9	80.1
One	51.3	52.6	55.0	53.0	55.3
Two or more	28.5	25.2	24.3	28.9	24.8
Vans and trucks	18.4	30.9	43.4	38.8	34.8
Smoke detectors	74.1	82.7	73.5	83.1	71.3
Owner-occupied dwellings	53.1	54.1	58.5	50.7	51.8
Tenant-occupied dwellings	21.0	28.4	15.1	32.5	19.6
Portable fire extinguishers	37.8	40.7	45.2	41.9	44.1
Owner-occupied dwellings	31.1	34.8	39.9	33.4	36.0
Tenant-occupied dwellings	6.7	5.9	5.3	8.5	8.1

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

Machinery and Equipment Price Index

Third Quarter 1987

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI, 1971=100) stood at a preliminary level of 308.7 in the third quarter of 1987, down 0.1% from its second quarter level. This marks the third consecutive quarter that the index has shown a small decrease. The domestic prices component rose 0.3% in the latest quarter, while the more heavily weighted imported goods component of the total index dropped 0.4%. In the latter case, an increase during the quarter in the value of the Canadian dollar versus its U.S. counterpart helped push down the otherwise stable prices for imported goods.

At the industry division level, price changes in the latest quarter ranged from a drop of 0.4% for new machinery and equipment purchased by the mining, quarrying and oil wells sector to an increase of 0.6% for purchases by the agriculture and the finance, insurance and real estate industries.

Year-over-year

For the first time since the introduction of MEPI indexes, the total index showed a year-over-year decline (-0.3%) between the third quarters of 1986 and 1987. Prices for domestically produced machinery and equipment rose 2.1%, but imported goods declined 2.5% under the influence of a generally stronger Canadian dollar.

On a four-quarter basis, price movements varied from an increase of 0.9% for the agriculture industry to a drop of 1.4% for the mining, quarrying and oil wells sector.

(see table on page 6)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4000, 4002 and 4027.

Order the third quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in December. Contact L. Graham (613-951-9615), Capital Expenditures Section, Prices Division.

Machinery and Equipment Price Indexes
(1971 = 100)

	Relative Importance ¹	3 rd Q. 1987*	2 nd Q. 1987*	% Change	
				3 rd Q.87/ 2 nd Q.87	3 rd Q.87/ 3 rd Q.86
Machinery and Equipment Price Index:	100.0	308.7	308.9	-0.1	-0.3
SIC Divisions:					
1. Agriculture	10.3	292.0	290.4	0.6	0.9
2. Forestry	0.7	326.7	326.5	0.1	-0.2
3. Fishing	0.6	331.1	330.7	0.1	--
4. Mines, quarries and oil wells	6.5	357.1	358.6	-0.4	-1.4
5. Manufacturing	30.4	342.3	343.3	-0.3	-0.6
6. Construction	4.1	295.1	295.8	-0.2	-1.0
7. Transportation, communication, storage and utilities	25.5	299.5	299.2	0.1	--
8. Trade	4.8	283.1	283.5	-0.1	-0.5
9. Finance, insurance and real estate	1.5	247.7	246.1	0.6	0.3
10. Community, business and personal services	9.4	242.3	242.5	-0.1	0.1
11. Public administration	6.2	298.5	299.4	-0.3	-0.7

* These indexes are preliminary.

¹ Division weights are based on 1971 value of capitalized expenditures on new machinery and equipment by industry (Survey of Private and Public Investment in Canada, 1971).

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Residential

September 1987

The price index for residential construction building materials showed no change in September from the previous month's revised index of 136.0. On a year-over-year basis, the index was up 3.6% from the September 1986 level of 131.3.

Between August and September 1987, there were offsetting price fluctuations. Price increases which had the most significant impact upon the total index were for wooden doors and plywood which were offset by decreases in prices for polyethylene sheets, particleboard and lumber.

Between September 1986 and September 1987, prices for mechanical materials increased 4.1%, structural materials 3.8%, architectural materials 3.6% and electrical materials 2.0%. Price increases which had the greatest effect on the total index were for concrete bricks and blocks, gypsum wallboard and wooden doors.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 423.

Order the third quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in December. Contact the Information Service (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

Construction Building Material Price Indexes: Residential

September 1987

(1981 = 100)

	Sept. '87	Aug. '87	Sept. '86	% Change	
				Sept. '87/ Aug. '87	Sept. '87/ Sept. '86
Total materials	136.0	136.0	131.3	-	3.6
Architectural materials	135.4	135.1	130.7	0.2	3.6
Structural materials	142.1	142.7	136.9	-0.4	3.8
Mechanical materials	134.5	134.5	129.2	-	4.1
Electrical materials	120.6	120.4	118.2	0.2	2.0

- Nil or zero.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Non-residential September 1987

The non-residential construction building material price index showed no change in September from the revised previous month's index of 131.4 and was 3.5% higher than the year-earlier level of 127.0.

Between August and September 1987, there were relatively few price fluctuations. The most significant decreases were for polyethylene sheets and particleboard. These offset increases in prices for wooden doors and plywood.

Between September 1986 and September 1987, prices for mechanical materials increased 3.8%, mainly due to increases in elevator and escalator equipment and sanitaryware. Architectural materials were up 3.7%, attributable to higher prices for metal roofing and siding. Structural materials rose 3.5% due to concrete bricks and blocks, and electrical materials increased 2.1%, due mainly to increases in prices for building wires and cables.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 423.

Order the third quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in December. Contact the Information Service (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

Construction Building Material Price Indexes: Non-residential September 1987 (1981 = 100)

	Sept. '87	Aug. '87	Sept. '86	% Change	
				Sept. '87/ Aug. '87	Sept. '87/ Sept. '86
Total materials	131.4	131.4	127.0	-	3.5
Architectural materials	133.2	133.2	128.5	-	3.7
Structural materials	130.6	130.8	126.2	-0.2	3.5
Mechanical materials	134.9	134.9	129.9	-	3.8
Electrical materials	122.3	122.0	119.8	0.2	2.1

- Nil or zero.

Data Availability Announcements

Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending October 14, 1987

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.9 million tonnes, an increase of 13.5% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic increased 3.3% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 7.0%.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 3.3% more than that loaded in the previous year.

Railway Carloadings

	Seven-day period ending October 14, 1987	Year- to-date
Carload traffic		
Tonnes	4 854 265	191 366 132
% change from previous year	13.5	3.3
Cars	69,563	2,827,033
% change from previous year	10.8	1.6
Piggyback Traffic		
Tonnes	227 553	9 864 663
% change from previous year	3.3	4.4
Cars	8,170	354,691
% change from previous year	7.0	3.9

Note: Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. The 1986 figures and the 1987 year-to-date figures have been revised. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic.

Contact Angus McLean (613-951-2484), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division.

Steel Ingots

Week Ending October 31, 1987

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending October 31, 1987 totalled 303 390 tonnes, an increase of 14.9% from the preceding week's total of 264 159 tonnes and up 13.6% from the year-earlier level of 266 976 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1987 was 12 190 990 tonnes, an increase of 5.1% from 11 598 186 tonnes for the same period in 1986.

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

Major Appliances

September 1987

Domestic sales of major appliances by Canadian manufacturers increased to 219,524 units in September 1987, up 32.1% from 166,197 units in August 1987. However, sales were down 0.2% from the 220,014 units sold in the same month of 1986.

Year-to-date domestic sales to September 1987 amounted to 1,730,864 units compared to 1,593,429 units for the same period of 1986, or a 8.6% increase.

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

Order the September 1987 issue of *Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances* (43-010, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of November 9. Contact J. P. Beauparlant (613-951-3526), Industry Division.

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics

August 1987

In August 1987, a total of 68 Canadian urban transit systems with gross annual total operating revenues of \$500,000 or more (subsidies included) carried 104,257,817 fare passengers, a decrease of 0.9% from the previous month. Operating revenues totalled \$73,761,001 – up 0.2% from July 1987.

During the same period, 19 passenger bus carriers earning \$500,000 or more annually from intercity and rural bus operations carried 2,135,189 fare passengers, up 5.3% from the previous month. Earnings for these carriers totalled \$24,553,104 – a 9.5% increase from July 1987 operating revenues.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 351 and 352.

Order the August 1987 issue of *Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics* (53-003, \$6.50/\$65), available the third week of November. Contact Angus McLean (613-951-2484), Rail Unit, Transportation Division.

Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products

Third Quarter 1987

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products totalled \$21.6 million for the third quarter of 1987, an increase of 52.1% from the \$14.2 million (revised figure) shipped during the previous quarter.

Year-to-date shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products totalled \$45.5 million.

Manufacturer's shipments of Canadian-made solid fuel burning heating products are now available, as are data on the number of units shipped.

Order the third quarter 1987 issue of *Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products* (25-002, \$3/\$12), scheduled for release the week of November 16. Contact Michel J. Cormier (613-951-3522), Industry Division.

The Dairy Review

September 1987

Creamery butter production in Canada totalled 6 386 tonnes in September 1987, a decrease of 22.5% from the previous year. Production of cheddar cheese totalled 8 454 tonnes, a decrease of 8.1% from September 1986.

An estimated 647 983 kilolitres of milk were sold off Canadian farms for all purposes in August 1987, a decrease of 0.1% from August 1986. This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the first eight months of 1987 to 5 035 553 kilolitres, an increase of 0.3% over the January-August period a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5632-5638, 5650-5667 and 5673.

Order the September 1987 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001, \$10/\$100), scheduled for release on November 24. Contact Dave Burroughs (613-951-2550), Agriculture Division.

Publications Released

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

The Sugar Situation, September 1987.
Catalogue number 32-013
(Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

**Production and Inventories of Process
Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder,**
September 1987.
Catalogue number 32-024
(Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: (\$5/\$50)).

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

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

Household Facilities and Equipment,
May 1987. Catalogue number 64-202
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

Exports by Commodity, August 1987.
Catalogue number 65-004
(Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries:
\$60/\$600).

Culture Statistics – Heritage Institutions,
Preliminary Statistics, 1984-85.
Catalogue number 87-207
(Canada: \$24; Other Countries: \$25).

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