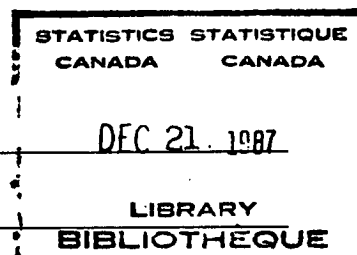


# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

Monday, December 21, 1987



### Major Releases

#### Retail Trade, October 1987

2

- Seasonally adjusted retail sales increased by 1.7% over September.

#### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, October 1987

5

- Manufacturing shipments rose to a new high, but both new orders and the backlog of unfilled orders declined.

#### Building Permits, October 1987

7

- The construction leading indicator continued its downward movement (-0.3%) in August.

#### Wholesale Trade, October 1987

9

- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 13.6% over October 1986.

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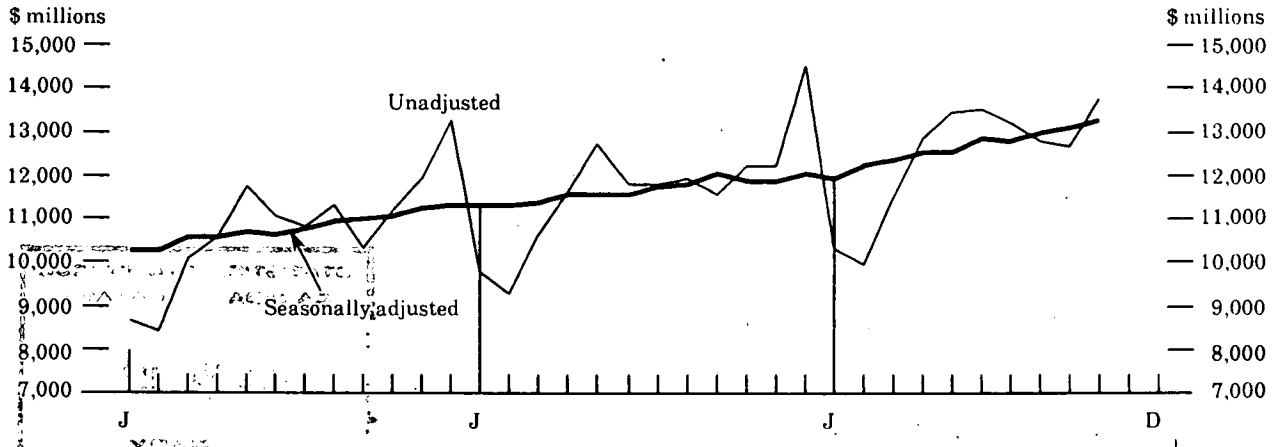
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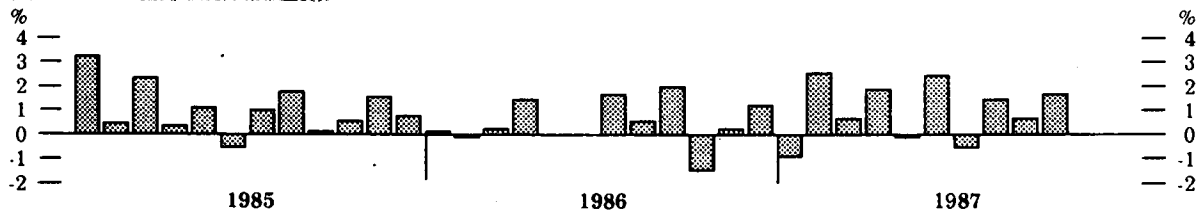
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## Major Releases

### Monthly Retail Trade, Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted, Canada, 1985-1987



### Month-to-month Changes (seasonally adjusted)



### Retail Trade

October 1987

#### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales totalled \$13,293 million in October 1987, an increase of 1.7% over the previous month's revised total of \$13,075 million.
- The advance in retail trade in October 1987, the third consecutive monthly increase, extended the trend of generally rising retail sales observed since the beginning of 1987. During the January to October 1987 period, sales have advanced on average by 1.0% on a monthly basis.
- The overall rise in October was primarily attributable, in order of dollar impact, to increases reported by motor vehicle dealers (+4.8%), department stores (+1.7%), and family clothing stores (+7.4%). Partly offsetting these increases were declines by jewellery stores (-5.3%), household furniture stores (-2.0%) and furniture, T.V., radio and appliance stores (-2.3%).
- Excluding new and used motor vehicle dealers, retail trade increased by 0.7% in October 1987, following an increase of 1.1% in September.
- With the exception of Newfoundland, which recorded a decrease of 0.6% from the previous month, all provinces and territories reported higher sales. Increases ranged from 8.2% in the Yukon and Northwest Territories to 0.2% in Prince Edward Island.

(continued on page 3)

### Unadjusted Sales

- Total retail trade for October 1987 rose 12.6% over the same month last year, totalling \$13,759 million. Cumulative retail sales for the first 10 months of 1987 amounted to \$124,015 million, up 9.4% from the corresponding period in 1986.
- The two largest groups within retail trade recorded increases over October 1986: motor vehicle dealers (+13.0%) and food stores (+11.9%). Department store sales, which totalled \$1,118 million in October 1987, were up 2.9% on a year-over-year basis after having registered a 0.7% decrease in September. Service station sales increased, on a year-over-year basis, for the seventh consecutive month.
- All provinces and territories registered higher sales in October 1987 compared to the corresponding month in 1986, with gains ranging from 14.3% in Quebec to 7.3% in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.
- At the metropolitan level, the following sales increases were recorded: Toronto (+13.4%), Montreal (+12.6%), Vancouver (+12.2%), and Winnipeg (+7.2%).

(see table on page 4)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2300-2304, 2306-2313, 2315-2317, 2320, 2321.

Order the October 1987 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$16/\$160), available the third week of January. Contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

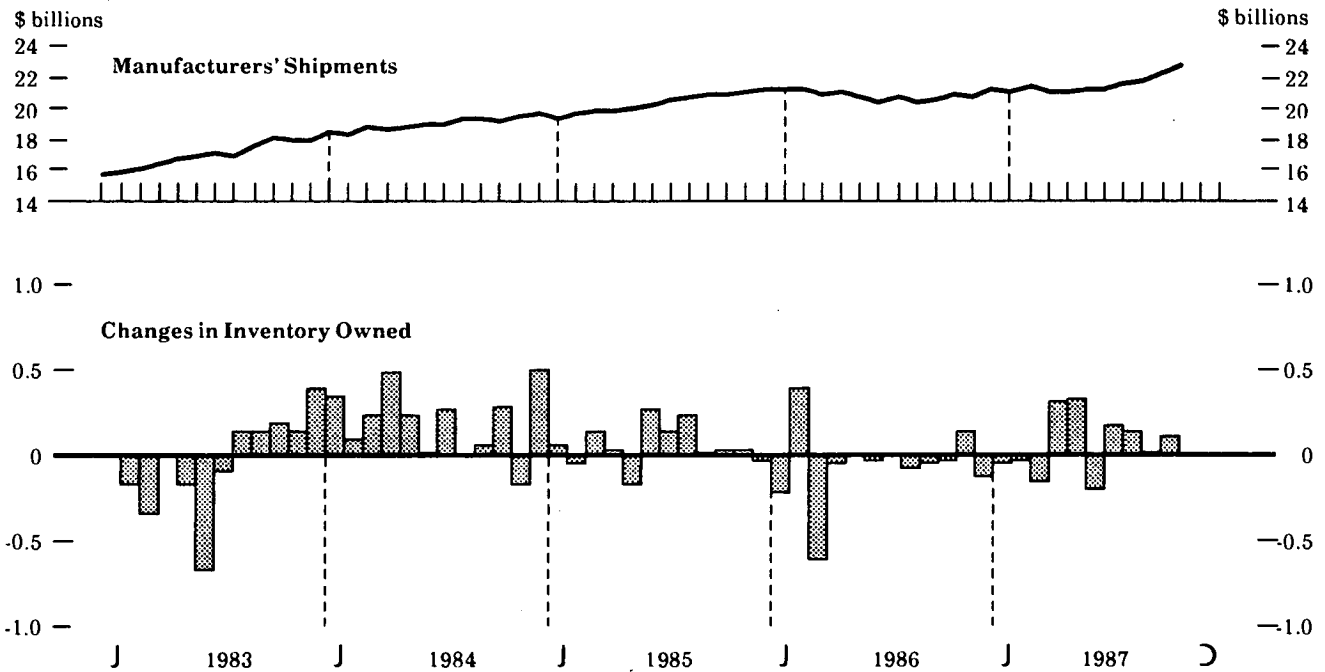
## Retail Trade, Canada, by Kind of Business

Kind of Business	Unadjusted Sales All Stores				Seasonally Adjusted Sales All Stores				
	Oct. 1986	Sept. 1987 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1987 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. 1987/ Oct. 1986	July 1987 <sup>r</sup>	Aug. 1987 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1987 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1987 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. 1987/ Sept. 1987
	(millions of \$)			%	(millions of \$)				%
Combination stores (groceries and meat)	2,191.8	2,156.2	2,429.6	10.8	2,184.4	2,242.1	2,265.2	2,273.8	0.4
Grocery, confectionery and sundries stores	603.2	687.3	707.2	17.2	666.4	676.4	687.8	690.8	0.4
All other food stores	226.4	229.0	243.0	7.3	246.1	236.1	237.2	237.7	0.2
Department stores	1,085.4	1,028.8	1,117.8	2.9	1,060.5	1,080.6	1,056.4	1,074.1	1.7
General merchandise stores	269.0	274.0	307.5	14.3	255.5	248.9	261.6	266.6	1.9
General stores	179.2	192.8	208.9	16.5	187.1	193.7	192.7	199.4	3.5
Variety stores	97.8	87.1	91.8	-6.1	92.3	88.0	92.5	90.2	-2.5
Motor vehicle dealers	2,629.6	2,539.4	2,958.2	12.4	2,694.3	2,781.1	2,758.7	2,892.3	4.8
Used car dealers	72.2	87.3	96.0	32.9	82.3	84.8	86.3	94.7	9.8
Service stations	892.7	1,038.2	1,058.5	18.5	997.8	1,024.4	1,035.2	1,038.9	0.4
Garages	134.8	145.7	156.9	16.4	136.5	141.7	144.7	147.6	2.0
Automotive parts and accessories stores	255.2	286.7	308.0	20.6	289.5	288.5	297.2	301.6	1.5
Men's clothing stores	128.5	122.2	147.3	14.6	129.7	129.4	129.7	135.2	4.2
Women's clothing stores	276.5	289.9	298.0	7.7	271.0	272.1	267.6	273.8	2.3
Family clothing stores	178.8	190.8	204.4	14.3	186.9	186.6	180.8	194.1	7.4
Specialty shoe stores	22.9	26.1	26.9	17.7	22.9	24.3	23.2	23.7	2.2
Family shoe stores	108.0	111.1	123.1	13.9	103.8	102.4	103.9	105.8	1.9
Hardware stores	127.4	137.3	151.1	18.6	133.2	135.0	136.7	144.7	5.8
Household furniture stores	145.5	183.6	184.1	26.5	165.5	154.8	173.5	170.1	-2.0
Household appliance stores	48.7	58.0	63.2	29.7	57.2	56.6	56.1	58.6	4.6
Furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores	141.9	140.8	146.0	2.8	137.8	134.4	139.3	136.1	-2.3
Pharmacies, patent medicine and cosmetics stores	531.2	559.9	594.8	11.9	568.9	562.6	580.8	582.8	0.4
Book and stationery stores	62.6	78.6	79.0	26.2	78.4	77.8	80.7	82.6	2.4
Florists	39.1	45.8	45.6	16.5	48.8	49.1	54.1	51.9	-4.0
Jewellery stores	79.6	82.8	83.5	4.9	97.7	97.3	103.7	98.2	-5.3
Sporting goods and accessories stores	128.3	182.9	162.7	26.8	182.6	188.8	198.6	197.2	-0.7
Personal accessories store	171.1	192.8	192.7	12.6	190.1	197.3	197.3	199.0	0.9
All other stores	1,381.5	1,487.6	1,573.1	13.8	1,531.3	1,533.5	1,533.4	1,531.4	-0.1
<b>All stores - Total</b>	<b>12,208.8</b>	<b>12,642.6</b>	<b>13,759.0</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>12,798.5</b>	<b>12,988.2</b>	<b>13,075.0</b>	<b>13,293.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

## Manufacturers' Shipments and Changes in Inventory Owned, 1983-1987

(Seasonally adjusted)



### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

October 1987

While shipments for all Canadian manufacturing industries increased for the seventh consecutive month, both new orders and the backlog of unfilled orders declined in October. The ratio of inventory owned to shipments fell to a new low.

Gains in transportation equipment industries, refined petroleum and coal products industries and primary metal industries accounted for much of the increase in shipments. These increases for manufacturing shipments are in accord with recently published October increases for exports and for new motor vehicle sales.

### Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that the seasonally adjusted value of **shipments** increased 1.9% in October to a level of \$22,738 million. Continuous gains since April 1987 have pushed shipments to a new record level.
- **New orders** declined 0.5% in October following a sharp increase in September. Apart from a small decline in August, new orders had increased an average of almost 1% a month since March 1987.
- Seasonally adjusted, **inventories owned** by manufacturers increased 0.3% to \$34,034 million in October. This was the sixth increase in the last seven months.

(continued on page 6)

- The **ratio of seasonally adjusted total inventory owned to seasonally adjusted shipments** fell to a new low of 1.50:1 in October. This ratio has declined despite an increasing trend for inventories owned, because of an even stronger upward trend in shipments.
- The seasonally adjusted **unfilled orders backlog** at \$24,582 million, decreased 0.9% in October. This decrease followed an upward trend experienced since April 1987.
- Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in October were estimated at \$23,597 million, 7.0% higher than the October 1986 level. Cumulative

shipments for the first 10 months of 1987 have been estimated at \$216,547 million, 3.6% higher than the value for the corresponding period in 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

Order the October 1987 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001,\$15/\$150), available in about three weeks time. Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For further information, contact Peter Hewer (613-951-9497) or the Shipments, Inventories and Orders Section (613-951-9832), Industry Division.

### Estimated Value of Shipments, Inventories and Orders in all Manufacturing Industries

Based on 1983 Census of Manufactures Benchmarks  
(millions of dollars)

	October 1987 <sup>p</sup>	September 1987 <sup>r</sup>	August 1987	October 1986
Not adjusted for Seasonal Variation				
Shipments - Total	23,596.5	23,248.2	20,870.6	22,058.4
New Orders - Total	23,355.6	23,438.7	21,090.1	21,983.0
Unfilled Orders - Total	24,595.1	24,835.9	24,645.5	23,993.1
Inventory Owned - Total	33,879.0	33,776.5	33,803.6	33,205.3
Adjusted for Seasonal Variation				
Shipments - Total	22,738.3	22,318.3	21,726.8	20,879.5
New Orders - Total	22,511.4	22,614.0	21,717.1	20,826.6
Unfilled Orders - Total	24,582.3	24,809.1	24,513.4	23,966.8
Inventory Owned - Total	34,033.5	33,918.7	33,898.1	33,354.4
Ratio of Total Inventories to Shipments - Total	1.50	1.52	1.56	1.60

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

Chart 1

**Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada**

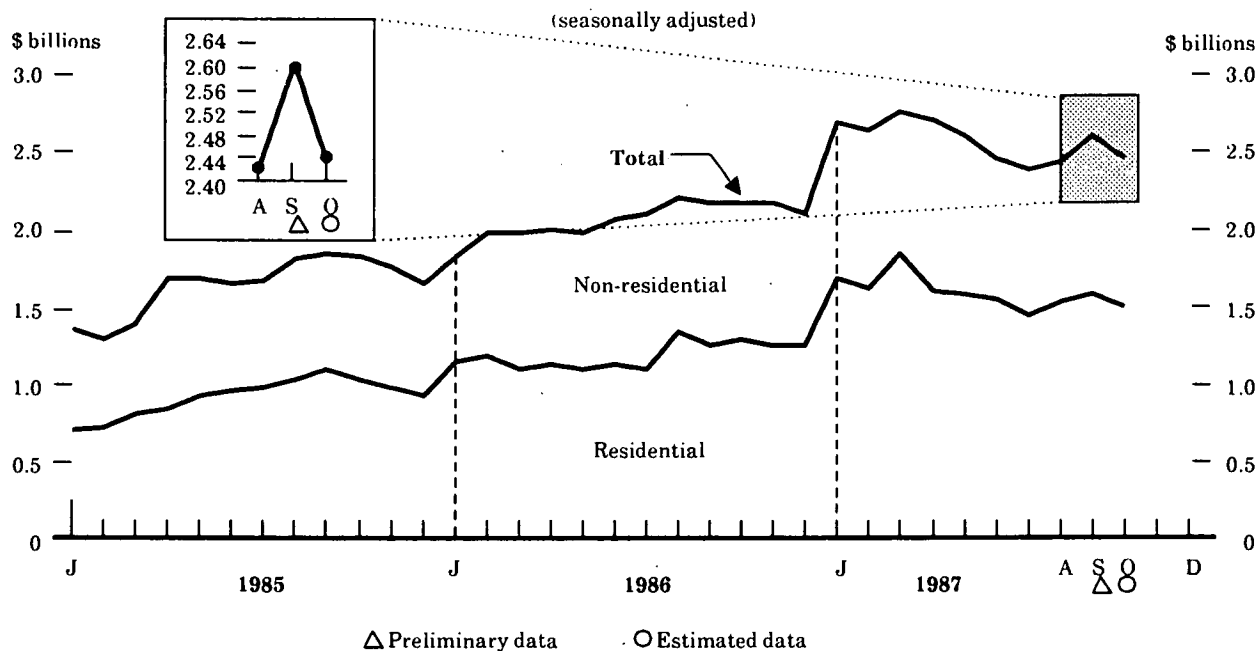
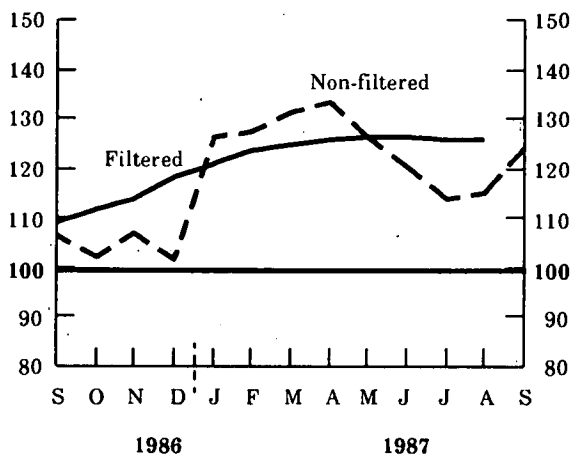


Chart 2

**Filtered and Non-filtered Indexes of Building Permits Issued, Canada**

Seasonally adjusted data  
in constant dollars (1981 = 100)

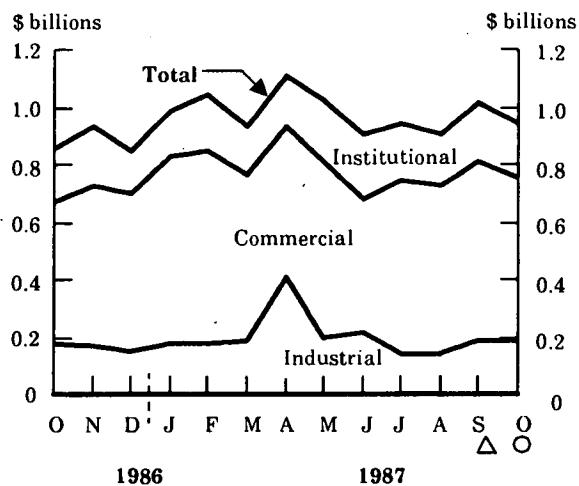


△ Preliminary data

Chart 3

**Value of Non-residential Permits Issued in Canada**

(seasonally adjusted)



○ Estimated data

## Building Permits

October 1987

### Summary

The estimated value of building permits issued in October declined 6.4% from September to \$2,435.9 million. This drop was attributable to both the non-residential and residential sectors.

As a result of decreases in the value of building permits, the construction leading indicator slipped in August (-0.3%) to 125.6.

### Residential Sector

- The estimated value of residential building permits decreased in October (-5.8%) to \$1,495.3 million from \$1,587.4 million in September.
- This slackening of residential construction activity was attributable to drops observed in both the single-family sector (-5.5% to \$1,003.1 million) and the multi-family sector (-6.4% to \$492.2 million).
- The number of dwelling units authorized totalled 229,900 at an annual rate (121,700 single detached and 108,200 multiple dwellings), a 7.5% drop.
- Western Canada was the only region to register an increase in the number of dwelling units authorized while all the other regions recorded decreases.
- The filtered index of residential building permits slipped in August (-0.4%) to 148.0, confirming the downward movement observed.

### Non-residential Sector

- Down 7.3% in October, non-residential building permits fell to \$940.6 million compared to \$1,014.7 million in September.
- All components of the non-residential sector recorded decreases in October. The industrial component slipped 2.9% to \$188.7 million, the commercial component declined 9.1% to \$558.9 million and the governmental component fell 6.0% to \$193.0 million.
- The Ontario region is the only one to have registered gains in non-residential building permits in October.
- The filtered index of the non-residential sector dropped for the first time in 10 months (-0.2%) to 102.1 in August compared to 102.3 in July.

### Note to Users:

The leading indicator is a short-term investment anticipator for the construction sector. It is based on the value of the building permits issued and comprises the following stages: deflating (1981 = 100), seasonal adjustment and filtering to get a trend-cycle.

In order to reduce the number of false signals in the construction activity series, the leading indicator is lagged two months in relation to the month of reference.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 80 (level 3, 5, 7, 9 to 15) and 129, 137, 443, 989-991, 994, 995 and 4073.

Order the September 1987 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$20/\$200), scheduled for release the second week of January 1988. Contact Francine Monette (613-951-2583), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.



## Wholesale Trade

October 1987

### Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for October 1987 were 13.6% above those of October 1986. In the first 10 months of 1987, cumulative sales were up 13.5% compared to the corresponding period in 1986.
- In October, all major groups registered increased sales over a year earlier, except wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-5.6%). The trade groups having the most significant impact on the overall sales increase were wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+20.9%), "other wholesalers" (+18.5%) and wholesalers of food (+12.4%).

- Wholesale trade increases between October 1986 and October 1987 were posted in all regions, ranging from 25.0% in the Prairies to 7.7% in Quebec.

### Inventories

- Inventory levels in October 1987 were 4.9% higher than those reported in October 1986. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of October 1987 stood at 1.31:1, down from 1.42:1 recorded in the corresponding month of 1986.

(see table on page 10)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 44.

Order the October 1987 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5/\$50), available the third week of January 1988, or contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3541), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

# Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for October 1987/1986

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	Sept. 1987/86 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1987/86 <sup>p</sup>	Jan.-Oct. 1987/86 <sup>p</sup>	Sept. 1987/86 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1987/86 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. 1986 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1987 <sup>p</sup>
<b>Total all trades</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>1.31</b>
Food	9.8	12.4	12.6	4.4	5.8	0.71	0.67
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	8.4	3.3	6.1	9.2	6.3	0.84	0.87
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	10.0	18.5	14.1	0.6	0.6	1.90	1.61
Motor vehicles and accessories	14.6	4.7	6.8	4.8	6.7	1.60	1.63
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	7.5	-5.6	-3.7	-4.5	1.2	2.47	2.65
Other machinery, equipment and supplies <sup>1</sup>	34.8	20.9	23.1	0.3	0.6	1.69	1.41
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	11.2	13.0	12.9	2.1	2.6	1.54	1.40
Lumber and building materials	11.1	14.8	15.5	16.5	18.8	1.11	1.15
Other wholesalers <sup>2</sup>	16.2	18.5	11.9	7.0	7.3	1.46	1.32
<b>Regions</b>							
Atlantic provinces	16.1	13.1	14.7	7.8	7.7	1.33	1.27
Quebec	14.6	7.7	10.0	9.0	8.4	1.27	1.28
Ontario	15.1	11.5	14.9	3.1	4.9	1.38	1.30
Prairie provinces	25.9	25.0	14.8	-2.9	-0.4	1.93	1.54
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	20.4	19.4	14.3	5.8	5.7	1.27	1.12

<sup>1</sup> Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

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

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

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## Data Availability Announcements

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### Work Injuries Statistics 1984-86

#### Highlights

- In 1986 there were 586,718 work-related accidents in Canada which resulted in permanent disabilities or in injuries which required workers to take time off work to recover.
- Most injuries involved sprains and strains (48%); contusions, crushing, or bruising (17%); and cuts, lacerations, and punctures (11%). The greatest number of injuries involved the back (27%); followed by the wrist, hand, or fingers (22%); and the ankle, foot, or toes (10%).
- The data in this publication have been supplied by 11 Workers' Compensation Boards. They are available by province; sex, age, and occupation of the injured worker; industry of the employer; and nature of injury, part of body injured, source of injury, and type of accident.

Order the second issue of the annual publication, *Work Injuries*, 1984-1986 (72-208, \$22), to be released the week of January 11, 1988. For further information or to order special tabulations contact: Francis Pring-Mill (613-951-4040) or Horst Stiebert (613-951-4044), Labour Division.

### Vending Machine Operators, 1986

#### Highlights

Vending machine operators in Canada reported sales of \$387.2 million in 1986, a 5.4% increase from the 1985 total of \$367.3 million. The number of operators totalled 698, up 5.4% from 662 a year earlier. The number of machines rose 6.2% to 158,177 in 1986, from the 1985 total of 148,982. Sales were up in all provinces and regions. Industrial plants and business offices continued to be the most popular locations for vending machines.

The three largest commodity categories showed contradictory results in 1986. Cigarette machine sales declined by 6.7% while coffee machine sales rose by 19.1% and soft drink machine sales rose by 7.2%.

The following is a breakdown of sales by type of machine in 1986, with the percentage change from 1985 in brackets:

- Cigarette machines, 20,791 units, \$101.6 million (-6.7%);
- Coffee machines, 52,873 units, \$97.4 million (+19.1%);
- Soft drink machines, 28,847 units, \$81.3 million (+7.2%);
- Milk, juice and other beverage machines, 3,244 units, \$13.5 million (-9.7%);
- Packaged confections, pastry, snack food and confectionery combination machines, 14,343 units, \$61.4 million (+17.9%);
- Fresh food combination machines, 4,369 units, \$22.5 million (-12.2%);
- All other vending machines, 33,710 units, \$9.6 million (+16.7%).

Order the 1986 edition of *Vending Machine Operators* (63-213), available in February 1988. Contact: David Roeske (613-951-3553), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period ending December 7, 1987

### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 5.4 million tonnes, an increase of 8.5% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic increased 10.6% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 6.3%.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 4.7% more than that loaded in the previous year.

	7-day Period ending December 7, 1987	Year-to-date
--	--	--------------

### Carload Traffic

Tonnes	5 390 817	233 542 504
% change from previous year	8.5	4.7
Cars	77,342	3,408,414
% change from previous year	5.3	2.0

### Piggyback Traffic

Tonnes	276 039	12 020 044
% change from previous year	10.6	6.0
Cars	9,381	424,073
% change from previous year	6.3	3.8

**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.

## Shipments of Office Furniture Products

Quarter ending September 30, 1987

For the quarter ending September 30, 1987, shipments of office furniture products totalled \$172.3 million, an increase of 17.8% compared to \$146.2<sup>r</sup> million shipped during the same quarter of the previous year.

Cumulative shipments for 1987 amounted to \$503.9 million, an increase of 12.0% from the \$450.0<sup>r</sup> million for the January to September period of 1986.

Manufacturers' shipments of office furniture products for the September quarter of 1987 are now available. Data for province of destination as well as exports are also available.

Order the September issue of *Quarterly Shipments of Office Furniture Products* (35-006, \$5/\$20), or contact Keith Martin (613-951-3518), Industry Division.

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## Publications Released

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**Agriculture Economic Statistics – Supplement II, 1987.**

**Catalogue number 21-603E**

(Canada: \$10; Other Countries: \$11).

**Footwear Statistics, October 1987.**

**Catalogue number 33-002**

(Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

**Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances, October 1987.**

**Catalogue number 43-010**

(Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

*Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7276.*

*Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications 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.*

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**The  
Daily**

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

Published by the Communications Division (Director – Tim Davis)  
Statistics Canada, 3-O, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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

Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-951-1198)

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