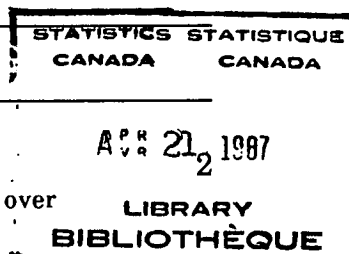


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, April 21, 1987

Major Releases



Retail Trade, February 1987

- Seasonally adjusted, retail sales totalled \$12.2 billion, up 1.9% over January.

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment, Fourth Quarter 1986

- Provincial and territorial general government employment rose 1.4% or by 6,661 employees from December 1985.

Value of Farm Capital, 1986

- The value of farm capital decreased by 5% from a year earlier to \$109.6 billion.

Value per Acre of Farm Land and Buildings, 1986

- The average value of farm land and buildings for 1986 fell by 7% from 1985 to \$488.

Sales of Natural Gas, February 1987

- Sales of natural gas in Canada were down 7.6% from the year-earlier level.

Data Availability Announcements

Geographical Distribution of Personal Income, 1961-1985

Construction Type Plywood, February 1987

Electric Lamps, March 1987

Publications Released

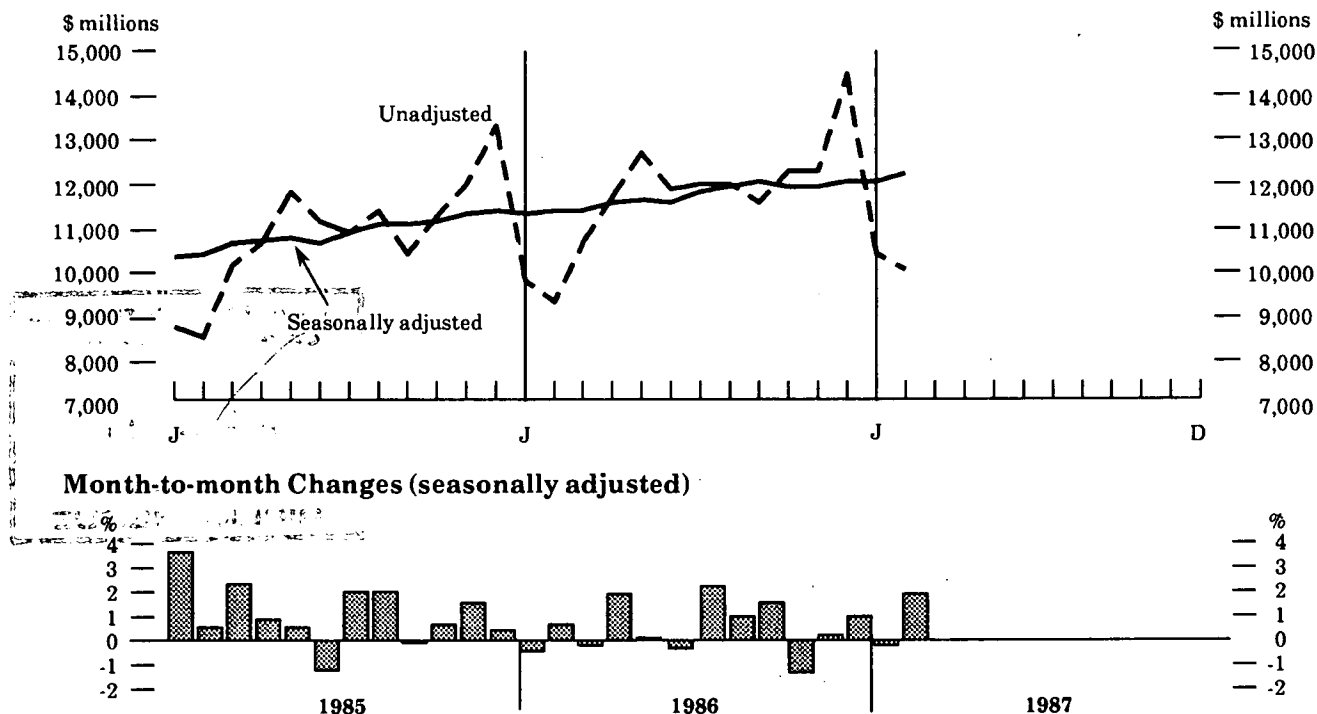


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Major Releases

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



Retail Trade

February 1987

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales totalled \$12,189 million in February 1987, a significant increase of 1.9% over the previous month's revised total of \$11,966 million. The increase was broadly based as 23 of the 28 trade groups recorded higher sales.
- The February increase more than offset the 0.3% decline recorded in January; retail sales have increased 0.7% on average over the last three months.
- The following trade groups had the most significant impact on the overall increase in retail trade in February: motor vehicle dealers (+3.4%), department stores (+3.2%) and service stations (+1.9%). The increases recorded by motor vehicle dealers and department stores in February 1987 followed decreases of 2.2% and 3.3% respectively in January. Sales by grocery, confectionery and sundries stores (-2.0%) and all other food stores (-2.7%) declined for the first time in several months.
- Excluding new and used motor vehicle dealers, retail trade increased by 1.5% in February 1987, following marginal gains of 0.1% in January and 0.2% in December.
- On a provincial basis, sales increases in Ontario (+2.1%), Quebec (+1.6%) and British Columbia (+3.2%) had the largest impact on the increase at the national level. Sales declined in Manitoba (-1.0%) and Prince Edward Island (-0.9%).

(continued on page 3)

Unadjusted Sales

- Total retail trade for February 1987 rose 7.8% over the same month last year, totalling \$9,936 million. Cumulative retail sales for the first two months of 1987 amounted to \$20,256 million, up 7.1% over the corresponding period in 1986.
- The two largest groups within retail trade recorded increases over February 1986: food stores (+8.1%) and motor vehicle dealers (+5.5%). Department store sales, which totalled \$718 million in February 1987, were up 3.1% over the same month a year earlier. Service station sales declined for the eleventh consecutive month, on a year-over-year basis, to total \$815 million, down 2.7% from the February 1986 level.
- On a provincial basis, most of the year-over-year growth registered in February 1987 was concentrated in Ontario (+10.9%), Quebec (+7.2%) and British Columbia (+9.6%). In the other provinces and territories, sales increases ranged from 7.4% in Newfoundland to 1.1% in Manitoba.
- At the metropolitan level, the following sales gains were recorded: Toronto (+14.3%), Vancouver (+11.2%), Montreal (+4.1%) and Winnipeg (+0.8%).

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

Order the February 1987 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$14/\$140), available the third week of May. Contact Roger Laplante (613-991-3549) or Maurice Massaad (613-990-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Retail Trade, Canada, by Kind of Business

Kind of business	Unadjusted Sales All Stores				Seasonally Adjusted Sales All Stores				
	Feb. 1986	Jan. 1987 ^r	Feb. 1987 ^p	Feb.1987/ Feb. 1986	Nov. 1986 ^r	Dec. 1986 ^r	Jan. 1987 ^r	Feb. 1987 ^p	Feb. 1987/ Jan. 1987
	(millions of \$)				(millions of \$)				
Combination stores (groceries and meat)	1,829.3	2,222.1	1,946.0	6.3	2,155.4	2,142.0	2,137.7	2,148.5	0.5
Grocery, confectionery and sundries stores	488.6	608.9	549.2	12.3	612.8	627.5	658.1	644.8	-2.0
All other food stores	178.1	217.7	203.1	14.0	229.3	230.3	244.3	237.6	-2.7
Department stores	696.1	768.2	718.3	3.1	1,074.3	1,074.0	1,038.1	1,071.2	3.2
General merchandise stores	161.8	204.4	184.9	14.3	269.4	254.2	246.4	254.0	3.1
General stores	139.4	156.5	146.9	5.3	179.2	181.1	181.1	182.2	0.6
Variety stores	71.3	61.7	59.1	-17.1	101.3	105.6	90.6	89.3	-1.4
Motor vehicle dealers	2,032.5	1,828.3	2,132.7	4.9	2,336.6	2,432.5	2,378.2	2,458.6	3.4
Used car dealers	49.5	59.3	63.7	28.6	67.5	73.7	78.3	75.0	-4.2
Service stations	837.6	832.3	814.8	-2.7	864.7	868.9	876.0	892.8	1.9
Garages	105.5	115.3	116.4	10.3	128.7	128.0	128.1	137.2	7.1
Automotive parts and accessories stores	149.5	188.4	166.1	11.1	279.4	272.7	264.0	272.0	3.1
Men's clothing stores	67.7	98.6	76.7	13.2	124.4	123.0	121.1	126.1	4.1
Women's clothing stores	161.4	223.3	184.5	14.2	265.8	266.9	266.3	272.1	2.2
Family clothing stores	108.0	136.4	115.1	6.5	176.8	181.7	176.4	177.0	0.3
Specialty shoe stores	12.3	21.3	16.2	31.8	21.9	23.3	22.0	23.5	6.8
Family shoe stores	55.7	76.7	69.6	24.9	102.4	97.0	99.7	113.3	13.7
Hardware stores	64.6	87.5	79.0	22.2	116.7	109.6	120.8	123.5	2.2
Household furniture stores	108.0	134.6	122.7	13.6	149.8	150.1	149.5	153.7	2.8
Household appliance stores	40.3	45.3	42.8	6.3	49.3	50.1	48.9	52.0	6.3
Furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores	74.6	108.6	95.8	28.3	115.2	119.8	121.7	124.1	2.0
Pharmacies, patent medicine and cosmetics stores	449.0	524.4	491.1	9.3	523.8	531.5	533.8	534.8	0.2
Book and stationery stores	51.9	64.4	60.7	16.8	68.9	69.6	71.8	72.0	0.3
Florists	43.7	34.8	48.5	11.0	44.7	44.5	46.3	45.9	-0.8
Jewellery stores	52.3	61.6	60.0	14.6	92.6	86.8	91.8	93.4	1.7
Sporting goods and accessories stores	106.7	142.9	134.0	25.5	189.3	190.9	188.8	198.0	4.9
Personal accessories stores	115.6	146.6	144.3	24.8	172.4	176.8	179.8	184.5	2.6
All other stores	965.6	1,149.8	1,094.1	13.3	1,378.9	1,396.0	1,406.7	1,431.6	1.8
All stores - Total	9,216.9	10,319.8	9,936.4	7.8	11,891.6	12,008.1	11,966.1	12,188.7	1.9

p Preliminary figures.
r Revised figures.

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment

Fourth Quarter 1986

Highlights

General Government

- Employment in provincial and territorial general government services totalled 480,001 as of December 1986, up 1.4% or 6,661 employees from December 1985. This rise marks a continuation of the gradual increase in general government employment observed since March 1985.
 - Employment for the departmental component of general government rose slightly by 0.9% or 2,771 employees from December 1985 to 299,518, marking the first year-over-year increase since March 1986.
 - General government institutions posted an increase of 4.1% or 5,701 employees from December 1985 to 144,312 employees. The increase was mainly due to higher employment at Ontario's colleges of applied arts and technology.
 - Employment for the "other special funds" component had a large year-over-year decrease of 4.8% or 1,811 to 36,171 employees. The lay off of temporary staff by the Expo 86 Corporation of British Columbia with the conclusion of the exposition in October 1986 was the primary reason for this decline.
 - Four provinces and territories recorded significant general government employment variations when compared to December 1985:
- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| • Northwest Territories, | 621 | (14.6%); |
| • Ontario, | 8,067 | (6.8%); |
| • Yukon Territory, | 147 | (6.3%); |
| • Quebec, | -5,937 | (-5.7%). |

- The Northwest Territories reported employment increases in several departments, while the increase for Ontario was largely the result of more staff at the colleges of applied arts and technology. The Yukon Territory reported higher employment in part due to an expansion of education services to the Faro mine area as well as the conversion of some contract employees to permanent staff.
- Quebec was the only province to report employment decreases for all three components of general government. This decrease in employment was spread relatively evenly among the three components.

Government Enterprises

- Employment for government business enterprise decreased slightly by 0.9% or 1,485 employees from December 1985 to 157,821 employees. The major factors in this decrease were summer lay offs and the privatization of Nordco in Newfoundland and Quebecair in Quebec.

Total Government Employment

- Compared to December 1985, total provincial and territorial government employment increased 0.8% or 5,176 employees to 637,822 employees. This continues the trend of year-over-year increases begun in March 1985.

Available on CANSIM: monthly data by province or territory are located in matrix 2722. General government data are in series .1 to .1.12 and their corresponding payroll in series .2 to .2.12. Government enterprise employment data are in series .3 to .3.12 and their corresponding payroll in series .4 to .4.12.

The October-December 1986 issue of *Provincial and Territorial Government Employment* (72-007, \$15/\$60), will be released mid-May. Contact Terry Moore (613-990-8306) or Peter Dudley (613-990-1845), Public Institutions Division.

Value of Farm Capital

1986

The value of farm capital in Canada was \$109.6 billion in 1986, 5% below the 1985 revised value of \$115.3 billion. Since the 1982 peak, the value of farm capital has declined 17%.

The drop in the value of farm capital in 1986 was wholly attributable to a 7% decrease in the value of farm land and buildings. Increases in the value of implements and machinery and the value of livestock and poultry only partly offset this decline.

Highlights

- The value of land and buildings continued to be the largest component of the value of farm capital, representing 75% of the total. For 1986, the value of land and buildings was estimated at \$82.0 billion, down 7% from 1985. The value of land and buildings has decreased each year since 1982 and is now in a range last seen in 1980.
- Increases in replacement prices for automobiles, trucks and other farm machinery led to a 2% rise in the value of farm implements and machinery for 1986, to a level of \$18.8 billion.

- The value of livestock and poultry increased by 4% to \$8.7 billion in 1986. This increase was mainly due to a 26% increase in the value of pig inventories. The 1986 value per head of pigs was at a near-record level, while pig numbers were almost unchanged from 1985. The value of cattle and calves rose by 1.5% as a 2% decrease in numbers was more than offset by an increase in value per head.

- Decreases in the 1986 value of farm capital were posted in all provinces except Quebec, where there was an increase of 1.5%.

Data users should note that the farm capital estimates were revised slightly (by less than 1%) for 1985 due to a minor revision in the estimates of the value of livestock and poultry.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 249-259.

Order Supplement I of *Agriculture Economic Statistics* (21-603, series 87-001), scheduled for release in July. Contact May Holmes (613-991-2442), Agriculture/Natural Resources Division.

Value of Farm Capital

1986

	Livestock and Poultry ¹	Land and Buildings	Implements and Machinery	Total
(thousands of dollars)				
Newfoundland	11,752	82,782	14,155	108,689
Prince Edward Island	75,486	378,291	162,859	616,636
Nova Scotia	127,160	553,383	157,640	838,183
New Brunswick	92,296	388,674	157,004	637,974
Quebec	1,559,424	6,037,763	1,957,118	9,554,305
Ontario	2,093,822	19,333,279	3,783,513	25,210,614
Manitoba	697,053	5,674,995	2,067,761	8,439,809
Saskatchewan	1,297,079	20,684,199	5,185,105	27,166,383
Alberta	2,276,861	22,877,390	4,508,513	29,662,764
British Columbia	495,314	6,024,770	821,072	7,341,156
Canada	8,726,247	82,035,526	18,814,740	109,576,513

¹ Includes value of animals on fur farms.

Value per Acre of Farm Land and Buildings

1986

The average value per acre of farm land and buildings in Canada fell by 7% in 1986 to a level of \$488. This was the fourth consecutive annual decrease. Since the 1982 peak, the average value per acre of farm land and buildings has fallen by 21%.

Highlights

- The average value per acre of farm land and buildings fell in 1986 in all provinces except Quebec, where it was unchanged.
- The largest decreases in average value per acre were in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Decreases in these provinces coincided with sharply lower crop prices.
- In provinces where production of livestock and livestock animal products is relatively more important, changes in values per acre were smaller than in other provinces.

User Notes

Factors which determine the value per acre of farm land and buildings include current and expected prices of agricultural products, farm income and debt, interest rates and the availability of land for farm use.

Estimates of value per acre of farm land and buildings have been compiled by using several data sources, including the 1981 Census of Agriculture, the National Farm Survey, the Farm Credit Corporation and summaries of data on transactions of farm land and buildings reported by provincial governments.

Order Supplement II of *Agriculture Economic Statistics* (21-603, series 87-002), scheduled for release in November. Contact May Holmes (613-991-2442), Agriculture/Natural Resources Division.

Value Per Acre of Farm Land and Buildings

1985 and 1986

	July 1985	July 1986	% change
	(dollars)		
Newfoundland	1,022	1,002	-2
Prince Edward Island	588	541	-8
Nova Scotia	491	481	-2
New Brunswick	382	359	-6
Quebec	646	646	0
Ontario	1,409	1,296	-8
Manitoba	319	297	-7
Saskatchewan	343	316	-8
Alberta	497	457	-8
British Columbia	1,051	988	-6
Canada	526	488	-7

Sales of Natural Gas

February 1987

Sales of natural gas in Canada during February 1987 totalled 5 445 082 thousand cubic metres, a 7.6% decrease from the level recorded in February 1986.

On the basis of rate structure information, sales in February 1987 were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from February 1986 in brackets: residential sales, 1 736 212 thousand cubic metres (-7.6); commercial sales, 1 433 198 thousand cubic metres (-7.8) and industrial sales (including direct sales) 2 275 672 thousand cubic metres (-6.7).

Year-to-date Sales

Sales of natural gas for the first two months of 1987 totalled 11 139 395 thousand cubic metres, a 7.8% decrease from the level recorded during the same period of 1986.

On the basis of rate structure information, these year-to-date sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from the corresponding 1986 period in brackets: residential sales, 3 571 104 thousand cubic metres (-6.9); commercial sales, 2 931 202 thousand cubic metres (-8.2) and industrial sales (including direct sales) 4 637 089 thousand cubic metres (-8.2).

Order the February 1987 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$10/\$100), available the third week of May. Contact Gary Smalldridge (613-991-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Natural Gas Sales

February 1987

	Rate structure				
	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Direct	Total
	(thousands of cubic metres)				
New Brunswick	19	70	-	-	89
Quebec	124 589	192 023	263 510	-	580 122
Ontario	899 716	649 759	860 736	82 333	2 492 544
Manitoba	95 631	93 308	41 851	-	230 790
Saskatchewan	126 619	100 524	78 490	-	305 633
Alberta	325 676	264 045	781 792	-	1 371 313
British Columbia	164 162	133 469	166 960	-	464 591
Canada, February 1987	1 736 212	1 433 198	2 193 339	82 333	5 445 082
Canada, February 1986	1 868 753	1 554 297	2 424 626	13 950	5 861 626
% change	-7.6	-7.8	-6.7		-7.6
Canada, Year to date 1987	3 571 104	2 931 202	4 465 436	171 653	11 139 395
Canada, Year to date 1986	3 834 869	3 191 986	5 034 781	18 908	12 080 544
% change	-6.9	-8.2	-8.2		-7.8

Note: Revised figures will be available in the *Gas Utilities* publication (55-002) as well as on CANSIM.

- Nil or zero.

Data Availability Announcements

Geographical Distribution of Personal Income 1961-1985

Revised estimates of the geographical distribution of personal income for the years 1961 to 1985 are now available on CANSIM: matrices 6634-6640 and 6643-6654.

Contact Barbara Clift (613-990-9158),
Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Construction Type Plywood February 1987

Canadian firms produced 184 588 cubic metres (208,598,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) of construction type plywood during February 1987, an increase of 7.6% from the 171 547 cubic metres (193,860,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) produced during February 1986.

January to February 1987 production totalled 361 261 cubic metres (408,251,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis), an increase of 4.3% over the 346 308 cubic metres (391,353,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) produced during the same period in 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Construction Type Plywood* (35-001, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of April 27. Contact Jock Dobie (604-666-2671), British Columbia and Yukon Regional Office, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9.

Electric Lamps March 1987

Canadian light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 18,438,431 light bulbs and tubes in March 1987, a decrease of 13.0% from the 21,187,968 units sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales for 1987 amounted to 59,569,926 light bulbs and tubes, down 8.2% from the 64,859,996 sold during the January-March period in 1986.

Order the March 1987 issue of *Electric Lamps* (43-009, \$4/\$40), available the week of April 27. Contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-991-3526), Industry Division.

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The Daily, April 21, 1987

Publications Released

**Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas
Production, December 1986.**

Catalogue number 26-006

(Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

Wholesale Trade, January 1987.

Catalogue number 63-008

(Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60).

**Unemployment Insurance Statistics,
January 1987.**

Catalogue number 73-001

(Canada: \$12/\$120; Other Countries:
\$13/\$130).

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