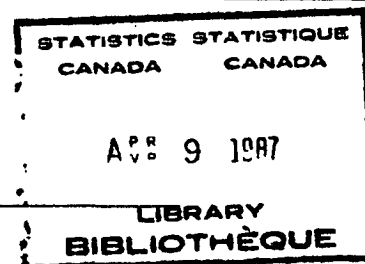


# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, April 9, 1987



## Major Releases

### Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, February 1987

2

- The recovery in automotive product exports doubled the merchandise trade surplus in February 1987 to \$1.2 billion.

### New Motor Vehicle Sales, February 1987

7

- Sales of all new motor vehicles fell 8.6% from the February 1986 level.

### Help-wanted Index, March 1987

10

- The index remained virtually unchanged at 109 in March.

## Data Availability Announcements

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## Publications Released

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Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

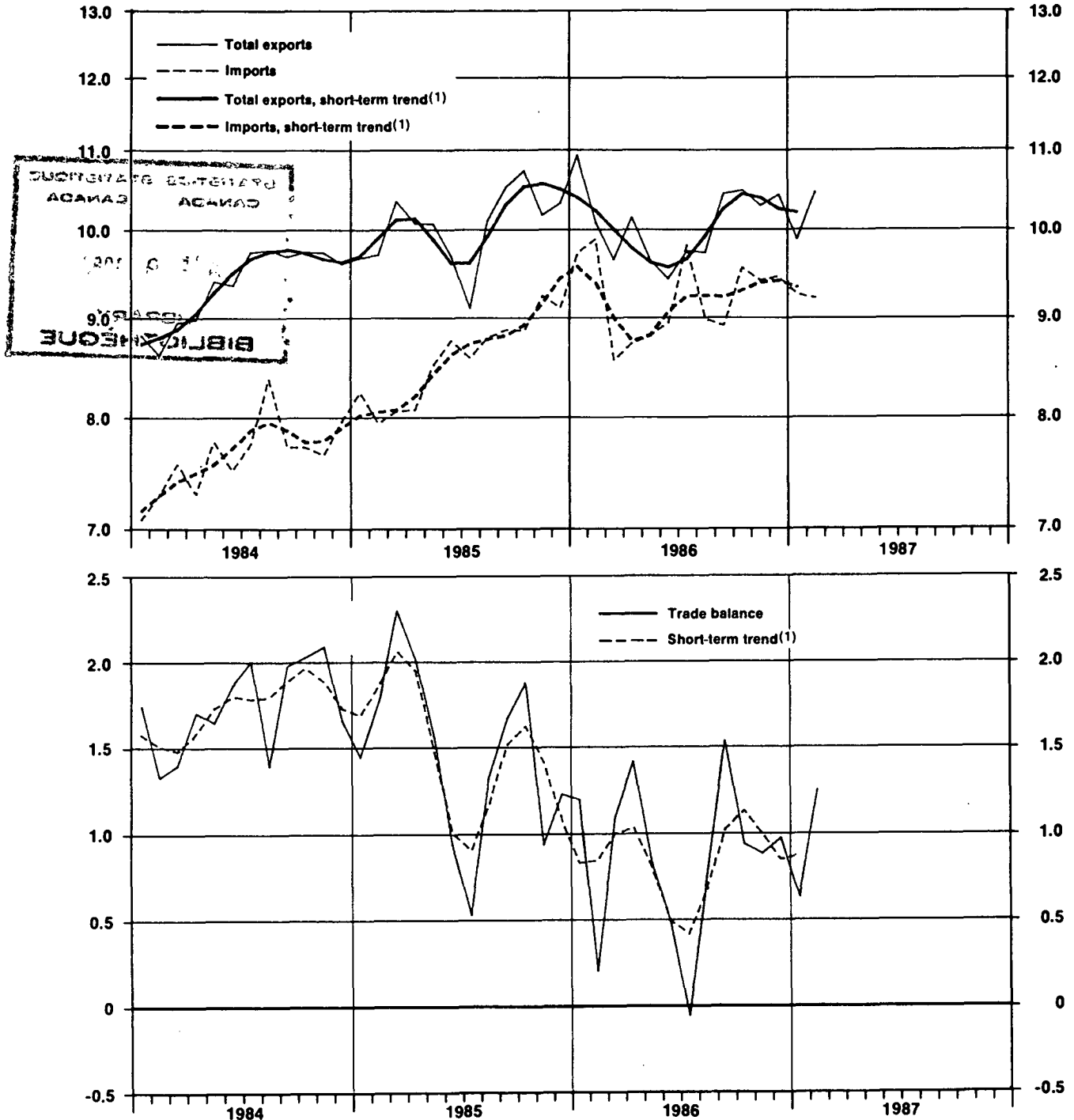
Canada

## Major Releases

### Imports, Total Exports, and Trade Balance, All Countries, Seasonally Adjusted Balance of Payments Basis

Billions of dollars

Billions of dollars



(1) The short-term trend gives a clearer picture of the direction and rate of change of trade by averaging the substantial monthly fluctuations which frequently occur in trade. The trend for the last month is not shown in the charts above since it frequently changes significantly with the addition of succeeding months of data.

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## **Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade**

Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis  
February 1987

### **Month-to-month Overview**

According to preliminary estimates for February 1987, adjusted for seasonal fluctuations, the total value of exports was \$10.4 billion, an increase of \$584 million. This gain offset the decrease of \$541 million recorded in January and took the value of exports back up to more than \$10 billion, regaining the level reached in the last four months of 1986. Imports decreased for the second consecutive month, falling to \$9.2 billion, a drop of \$38 million from the January level. The effect of increasing exports and decreasing imports doubled the merchandise trade surplus relative to January, taking it to \$1.2 billion. This is the largest surplus recorded in five months.

### **Short-term Trend (excludes the latest month)**

#### **Total Exports**

The short-term trend for total exports was down for the third straight month, although the rate of decrease fell, moving from -1.3% in December 1986 to -0.4% in January 1987. This downward movement was reflected in exports of passenger autos and chassis, precious metals and industrial machinery. The upward trend continued for exports of lumber and woodpulp (in the latter case, for the seventh straight month) and accelerated for exports of trucks and other motor vehicles and for motor vehicle parts.

#### **Imports**

There was an upward trend for total imports in the last quarter of 1986, but the trend changed direction in January as a result of the decreases in imports of passenger autos and chassis (-3.1%), motor vehicle parts (-1.8%) and aircraft (-5.9%). However, the upward trend continued for imports in the crude petroleum, other industrial machinery and apparel categories.

## **Commodity Highlights**

### **Total Exports**

Recovery in the automotive sector helped push the value of exports up by 5.9% in February, following a decrease of 5.2% in January. The increases of \$297 million in exports of passenger autos and chassis, \$192 million in exports of trucks and other motor vehicles and \$94 million in exports of motor vehicle parts were responsible for much of the February increase. The total value of automotive product exports was \$3.2 billion in February, the highest level ever reached. Exports of lumber and woodpulp rose by more than \$70 million, reaching \$944 million. Among the largest decreases were those of \$167 million in exports of inedible crude materials, \$48 million in wheat exports and \$39 million in exports of miscellaneous inedible end products.

### **Imports**

The value of imports dropped by 0.4% in February, a smaller decrease than that noted in January (-2.1%). This decline was attributable mainly to a decrease of \$247 million in crude petroleum imports, which had increased by more than \$200 million in January. The decrease of \$207 million in imports of inedible fabricated materials was attributable in large part to a drop of \$79 million in precious metals imports. The decrease of \$41 million in food imports also contributed to the decline in total imports. The largest increases were in imports of passenger autos (+\$318 million), which rose to \$1.1 billion, and imports of motor vehicle parts (+\$196 million), which rose to \$1.4 billion. Truck imports, which increased slightly in February (+\$7 million), remained at the relatively high level of \$345 million.

## **Trading Partner Highlights**

### **Total Exports**

The recovery in automotive product exports primarily affected trade with the United States, contributing to the increase of \$611 million in exports to that country, which totalled \$8.1 billion. With this increase, the

(continued on page 4)

proportion of total exports represented by exports to the United States rose from 76% to 77%. Exports to "other countries" were up by \$75 million and to the United Kingdom by \$25 million, while exports to Japan fell by \$75 million. Exports to "other OECD countries" decreased by \$27 million and were down by \$25 million for "other EEC countries". The decrease in exports to "other EEC countries" contrasts strongly with the increase of more than \$100 million noted in January.

#### Imports

Imports from the United States rose by \$387 million to \$6.5 billion. However, imports from all other countries fell, with decreases ranging from \$193 million in the case of "other countries" to \$8 million for "other OECD countries". In February, imports from "other countries" fell from their January level of \$1.0 billion to \$0.8 billion, the lowest level since March 1986.

(see tables on pages 5 and 6)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3651-3678, 3685-3713, 3718 and 3719.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (65-001, \$15/\$150), available the fourth week of April. Contact G. Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-990-9787), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

For summary information, available on the day of release, order the *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade* (65-001P, \$5/\$50).

**Merchandise Trade of Canada**  
February 1987  
Balance of Payments Basis

	Total exports <sup>1</sup> raw	Imports raw	Total exports <sup>1</sup> S.A. <sup>3</sup>	Imports S.A. <sup>3</sup>	Balance S.A. <sup>3</sup>	Period-to-period change <sup>2</sup>		
						Total exports <sup>1</sup> S.A. <sup>3</sup>	Imports S.A. <sup>3</sup>	Balance S.A. <sup>3</sup>
						\$ millions	%	%
1981	84,432	77,140	84,432	77,140	7,292	10.1	13.6	-1,486
1982	84,560	66,739	84,560	66,739	17,822	0.2	-13.5	10,529
1983	90,702	73,054	90,702	73,054	17,648	7.3	9.5	-174
1984	112,218	91,492	112,218	91,492	20,726	23.7	25.2	3,078
1985	120,258	102,783	120,258	102,783	17,475	7.2	12.3	-3,251
1986	120,631	110,498	120,631	110,498	10,133	0.3	7.5	-7,342
1984								
First quarter	25,764	21,813	26,344	21,900	4,444	5.9	5.0	408
Second quarter	29,442	24,162	27,714	22,527	5,187	5.2	2.9	743
Third quarter	27,657	22,723	29,139	23,791	5,348	5.1	5.6	161
Fourth quarter	29,356	22,794	29,021	23,274	5,747	-0.4	-2.2	399
1985								
First quarter	28,926	23,668	29,662	24,175	5,487	2.2	3.9	-260
Second quarter	31,652	27,169	29,759	25,280	4,479	0.3	4.6	-1,008
Third quarter	28,133	25,392	29,678	26,184	3,494	-0.3	3.6	-985
Fourth quarter	31,547	26,554	31,158	27,143	4,014	5.0	3.7	520
1986								
First quarter	29,515	27,109	30,566	28,103	2,463	-1.9	3.5	-1,552
Second quarter	31,351	29,036	29,127	26,424	2,703	-4.7	-6.0	241
Third quarter	28,386	26,782	29,829	27,628	2,201	2.4	4.6	-502
Fourth quarter	31,379	27,572	31,109	28,343	2,765	4.3	2.6	565
1986								
January	10,177	9,093	10,894	9,708	1,186	5.7	6.9	-34
February	9,488	9,418	10,049	9,860	189	-7.8	1.6	-997
March	9,850	8,598	9,623	8,536	1,087	-4.2	-13.4	898
April	10,742	10,132	10,116	8,711	1,405	5.1	2.1	318
May	10,307	9,404	9,608	8,787	821	-5.0	0.9	-584
June	10,301	9,500	9,403	8,926	477	-2.1	1.6	-344
July	9,228	9,685	9,716	9,785	-69	3.3	9.6	-546
August	8,581	8,220	9,700	8,957	743	-0.2	-8.5	812
September	10,577	8,876	10,413	8,887	1,526	7.4	-0.8	783
October	10,855	9,764	10,455	9,528	927	0.4	7.2	-599
November	10,494	9,135	10,260	9,387	873	-1.9	-1.5	-55
December	10,030	8,672	10,393	9,428	965	1.3	0.4	92
1987								
January	9,273	8,658	9,852	9,229	623	-5.2	-2.1	-342
February	9,907	9,041	10,436	9,191	1,245	5.9	-0.4	621
Year-to-date								
1986	19,665	18,511	20,943	19,567	1,375	8.3	21.2	-1,825
1987	19,180	17,699	20,288	18,420	1,868	-3.1	-5.9	492

<sup>1</sup> Total Exports = Domestic Exports + Re-exports.

<sup>2</sup> Year-to-year, quarter-to-quarter, month-to-month.

<sup>3</sup> Seasonally Adjusted.

Note: Due to rounding monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.

# Merchandise Trade by Principal Trading Areas

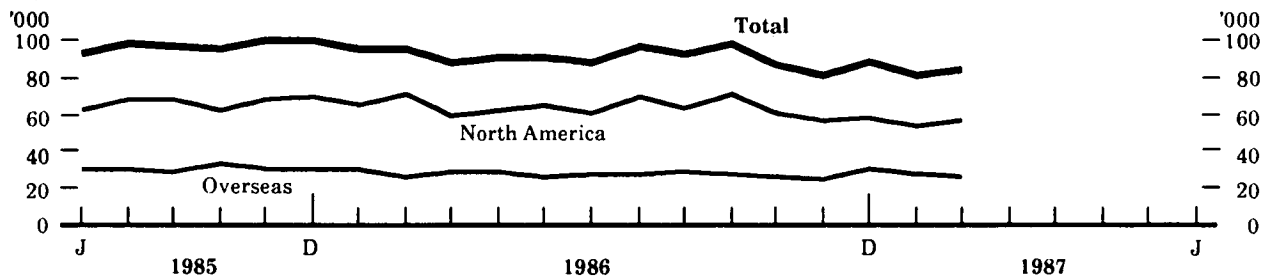
February 1987

Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

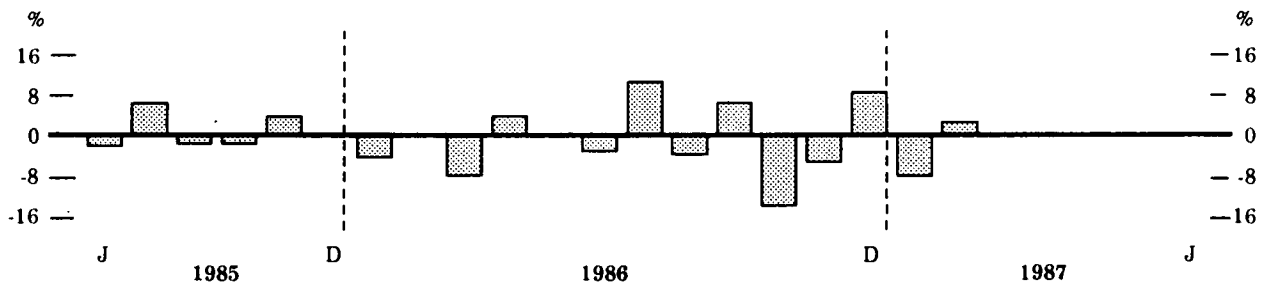
	Jan.	Feb.	Period-to-period change				Year-to-date	Change over previous year	
			Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.		%	\$ millions
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions		\$ millions		
<b>Total exports to:</b>									
United States	7,449.4	8,060.6	-7.1	8.2	-572.3	611.2	15,510.0	-4.3	-704.2
Japan	555.1	480.3	16.1	-13.5	77.0	-74.9	1,035.4	7.6	72.9
United Kingdom	229.7	254.2	-3.8	10.7	-9.0	24.5	483.9	8.7	38.8
Other EEC Countries	529.6	504.8	24.5	-4.7	104.3	-24.8	1,034.4	13.3	121.7
Other OECD Countries	218.6	191.6	8.6	-12.3	17.3	-27.0	410.1	2.3	9.3
Other Countries	869.7	944.2	-15.4	8.6	-158.6	74.5	1,813.9	-9.6	-193.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,852.1</b>	<b>10,435.6</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-541.3</b>	<b>583.5</b>	<b>20,287.7</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>-655.1</b>
<b>Imports from:</b>									
United States	6,157.5	6,544.5	-5.7	6.3	-375.4	387.0	12,702.0	-7.3	-999.4
Japan	641.2	585.6	4.2	-8.7	25.8	-55.6	1,226.8	7.8	89.2
United Kingdom	415.7	258.9	0.6	-37.7	2.5	-156.7	674.6	-17.1	-139.1
Other EEC Countries	766.3	754.4	-1.0	-1.6	-7.4	-11.9	1,520.6	-2.1	-32.0
Other OECD Countries	231.5	223.6	26.9	-3.4	49.0	-7.9	455.1	-1.0	-4.7
Other Countries	1,016.8	824.1	11.6	-18.9	105.9	-192.6	1,840.9	-3.2	-61.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,228.9</b>	<b>9,191.1</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-199.6</b>	<b>-37.8</b>	<b>18,420.0</b>	<b>-5.9</b>	<b>-1,147.4</b>
<b>Balance with:</b>									
United States	1,291.9	1,516.1			-197.0	224.2	2,808.0		295.2
Japan	-86.1	-105.3			51.3	-19.2	-191.4		-16.2
United Kingdom	-186.0	-4.7			-11.5	181.3	-190.7		177.9
Other EEC Countries	-236.7	-249.6			111.7	-12.9	-486.3		153.6
Other OECD Countries	-12.9	-32.0			-31.8	-19.1	-44.9		14.0
Other Countries	-147.0	120.1			-264.5	267.1	-27.0		-132.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>623.2</b>	<b>1,244.5</b>			<b>-341.8</b>	<b>621.3</b>	<b>1,867.7</b>		<b>492.3</b>

Note: Prior to 1986 Portugal and Spain were not included in the EEC.

### Monthly Sales of New Passenger Cars by Origin, Canada Seasonally Adjusted, in Units, 1985 - 1987



### Month-to-month Changes in Total New Passenger Car Sales Seasonally Adjusted



### New Motor Vehicle Sales

February 1987

#### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates indicate that sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 120,073 units in February 1987, an increase of 3.9% over the revised January 1987 level of 115,577 units. In February, higher sales were posted for both passenger cars (+3.1%) and commercial vehicles (+5.7%).
- The 3.9% increase in sales in February 1987 followed a decrease of 7.6% in January 1987, further extending the trend of fluctuating sales observed since the beginning of 1986.
- On an origin basis, sales of North American built passenger cars increased by 5.2% in February 1987 to reach a level of 56,924 units, while sales of imported passenger cars recorded a modest decline of 1.2% to a level of 26,621 units. The 5.2% increase in February for North American built passenger cars followed a decrease of 5.7% in January 1987. Imported passenger cars declined for the second consecutive month.

(continued on page 8)

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### Unadjusted Sales

- Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 101,523 units in February 1987, down 8.6% from the February 1986 level of 111,090 units. Passenger car sales fell by 12.6% to a level of 70,205 units, while commercial vehicle sales recorded a moderate gain of 1.9% to 31,318 units.
- The fifth consecutive year-over-year decrease in passenger car sales was due to a 17.9% decline for North American built passenger cars while sales of imported passenger cars rose by 1.7%. The increase in imported passenger cars was attributable to a 26.3% increase in Japanese car sales which was offset in large measure by sales decreases of 37.8% for South Korean passenger cars and 12.7% for European cars.
- In terms of market share, North American manufacturers held 68.7% of the Canadian passenger car market in February 1987 (based on unit sales), down from a share of 73.1% in February 1986. The market share of the Japanese rose to 20.9% from 14.5% a year earlier. Manufacturers from other countries (including South Korea) held 10.4% of the market in February 1987, compared with 12.4% in February 1986. South Korea held 5.0% of the total passenger car market in February 1987, compared with 7.0% in the same month a year earlier.

- All provinces except British Columbia registered lower unit sales of passenger cars in February 1987 when compared to February 1986, with decreases ranging from 30.9% in Newfoundland to 9.3% in Ontario. Sales of commercial vehicles increased in all provinces except Saskatchewan, where unit sales were down 17.6% from February 1986 and Alberta, which recorded a decrease of 16.0%.

(see table on page 9)

#### Note to Users:

North American vehicles: motor vehicles manufactured or assembled in North America. These vehicles may be built by domestic or foreign-owned companies.

Imported vehicles: motor vehicles manufactured or assembled overseas and marketed in Canada by domestic or foreign-owned companies.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

Order the February 1987 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$8/ \$80), available the second week of May. Contact Maurice Massaad (613-990-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

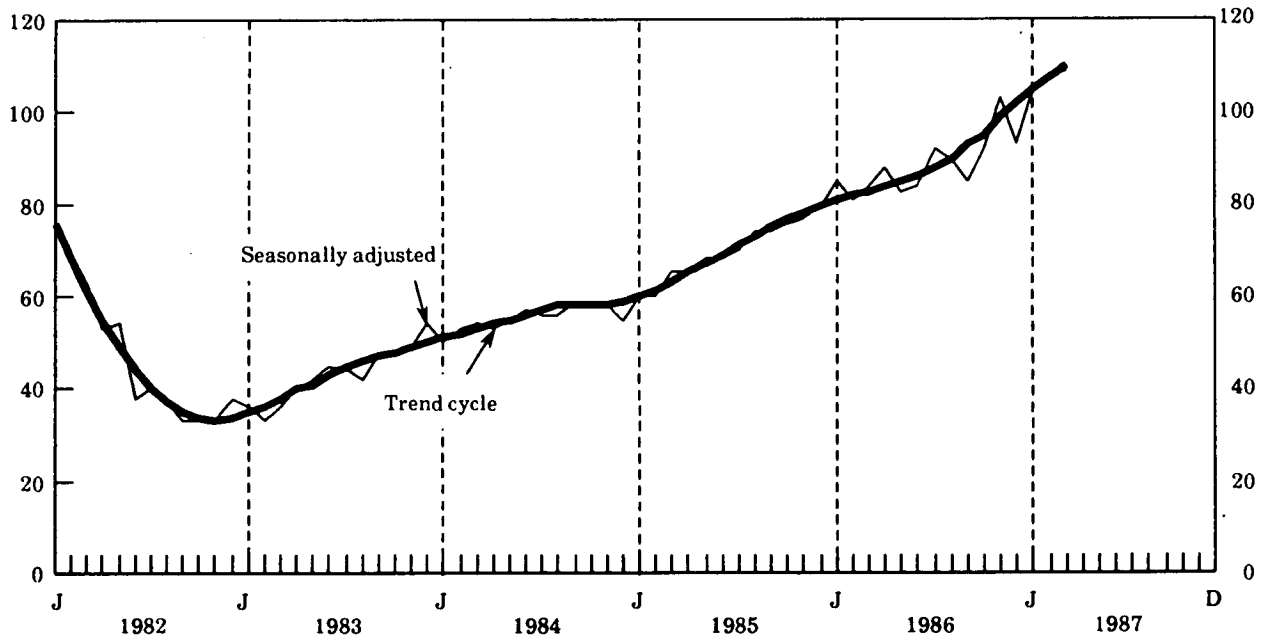


**New Motor Vehicle Sales Unadjusted - Canada**  
February 1987

	Feb. 1987	Change 1987/86	Jan.-Feb. 1987	Change 1987/86
	Units	%	Units	%
<b>Total New Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>101,523</b>	<b>-8.6</b>	<b>184,561</b>	<b>-11.2</b>
<b>Passenger Cars by Origin:</b>				
North America	48,227	-17.9	85,775	-19.7
Japan	14,680	26.3	25,623	8.0
Other Countries (Including South Korea)	7,298	-26.9	15,323	-17.9
(South Korea)	(3,511)	(-37.8)	(7,809)	(-25.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,205</b>	<b>-12.6</b>	<b>126,721</b>	<b>-15.1</b>
<b>Commercial Vehicles by Origin:</b>				
North America	27,787	1.3	51,739	-0.7
Overseas	3,531	6.3	6,101	-6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,318</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>57,840</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
	<b>Value</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>\$000</b>		<b>\$000</b>	
<b>Total New Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>1,553,199</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2,830,612</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
<b>Passenger Cars by Origin:</b>				
North America	684,274	-7.4	1,190,047	-11.2
Japan	209,141	45.8	364,615	25.0
Other Countries (Including South Korea)	125,803	-10.0	255,180	-4.4
(South Korea)	(29,884)	(-42.3)	(66,421)	(-30.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,019,218</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1,809,842</b>	<b>-4.7</b>
<b>Commercial Vehicles by Origin:</b>				
North America	481,580	1.2	930,411	3.3
Overseas	52,401	32.9	90,359	15.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>533,981</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>1,020,770</b>	<b>4.3</b>

## Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)

January 1982 to March 1987



## Help-wanted Index

March 1987

The Help-wanted Index monitors the space devoted to help-wanted ads published in 18 major metropolitan area newspapers and serves as an indicator of the demand for labour.

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) remained virtually unchanged at 109 in March 1987, increasing by only one point from a month earlier. The index is at its highest level since September 1974 when it stood at 114. The Canada index has generally been increasing since February 1983 when it was 33.

Between February and March 1987, the Help-wanted Index increased in Quebec (to 128 from 118) while it decreased in the Atlantic region (to 129 from 142) and in Ontario (to 140 from 144). The remaining regions showed little or no change. Over the past 12 months the indexes generally increased in Quebec and in Ontario while they remained relatively stable in the Prairie provinces and in British Columbia.

The Canada trend-cycle<sup>1</sup>, which has generally been increasing since December 1982, continued its advance in March 1987 (see chart).

(see table on page 11)

<sup>1</sup> The trend cycle provides an indication of the direction in the demand for labour as estimated by the Help-wanted Index. It is calculated by the X-11 ARIMA seasonal adjustment program. Essentially, the calculation involves a 13-term Henderson moving average which smooths irregular fluctuations in seasonally adjusted data.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105.

Contact Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-991-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-991-4044), Labour Division.

# **Help-wanted Index, Canada and Regions**

(1981 = 100)

Seasonally Adjusted

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
<b>1986</b>						
March	84	109	90	105	46	43
April	88	98	93	120	45	40
May	83	101	95	107	44	37
June	84	109	87	113	44	41
July	92	117	93	132	43	40
August	90	129	97	118	44	39
September	85	95	98	107	43	41
October	92	144	102	118	42	43
November	103	119	121	128	46	40
December	93	108	97	130	44	37
<b>1987</b>						
January	104	138	105	145	48	39
February	108	142	118	144	47	40
March	109	129	128	140	47	39

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## Data Availability Announcements

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### Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area

February 1987

- Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$718 million in February 1987, up 3.2% over the February 1986 level of \$696 million.
- Cumulative sales for the period January to February 1987 totalled \$1,486 million, up 1.9% over the corresponding period in 1986.

Department store sales during February 1987 for the provinces and the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed were as follows (with the percentage change from February 1986 in parentheses):

#### Province

- Newfoundland, \$7.2 million (-6.5%);
- Prince Edward Island, \$4.3 million (18.7%);
- Nova Scotia, \$21.3 million (8.2%);
- New Brunswick, \$13.6 million (1.3%);
- Quebec, \$131.9 million (2.3%);
- Ontario, \$275.9 million (9.3%);
- Manitoba, \$33.2 million (-2.8%);
- Saskatchewan, \$21.7 million (0.6%);
- Alberta, \$94.8 million (-6.2%);
- British Columbia, \$114.3 million (0.7%).

#### Metropolitan Area

- Calgary, \$36.1 million (-8.7%);
- Edmonton, \$41.8 million (-7.9%);
- Halifax-Dartmouth, \$12.2 million (7.5%);
- Hamilton, \$19.0 million (7.2%);
- Montreal, \$79.1 million (2.6%);
- Ottawa-Hull, \$30.5 million (5.0%);
- Quebec City, \$17.2 million (3.6%);
- Toronto, \$115.5 million (9.2%);
- Vancouver, \$69.0 million (-1.0%);
- Winnipeg, \$30.0 million (-3.5%).

Information on department store sales and stocks by department will be released in the *Daily* the week of April 20.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Department Store Monthly Sales, by Province and Selected Metropolitan Area* (63-004, \$2/\$20),

available the third week of April. Contact Roger Laplante (613-991-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

### Steel Ingots

Week Ending April 4, 1987

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending April 4, 1987 totalled 315 009 tonnes, an increase of 3.1% from the preceding week's total of 305 652 tonnes and up 8.4% from the year-earlier level of 290 596 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1987 was 3 873 448 tonnes, an increase of 4.2% from 3 716 988 tonnes for the same period in 1986.

Contact Gerry Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

### Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes

February 1987

Canadian manufacturers produced 4,199,430 phonograph records in February 1987, up 8.7% from the 3,864,685<sup>r</sup> produced a year earlier. Production of tapes increased to 3,816,061 in February 1987, up 23.6% from 3,086,375 tapes in February 1986.

Year-to-date production of phonograph records amounted to 7,755,230 - up 11.7% from the 6,943,294<sup>r</sup> records produced during the January to February 1986 period. Cumulative production of tapes increased 11.1% to 7,069,749 from 6,365,709 tapes during the same period in 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2904.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada* (47-004, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of April 13. Contact Don Grant (613-991-3521), Industry Division.

## Electric Storage Batteries

February 1987

Canadian manufacturers sold 196,008 automotive replacement batteries in February 1987, an increase of 14.1% from the 171,725 batteries sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales amounted to 319,223 automotive replacement batteries in February 1987, down 12.2% from 363,605 for the same period in 1986.

Information on sales of other types of storage batteries are also available. Order the February 1987 issue of *Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries* (43-005, \$4/\$40), available the week of April 20. Contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-991-3526), Industry Division.

## Production of Eggs

February 1987

Canadian egg production decreased slightly to 38.2 million dozen in February 1987 from 38.3 million a year earlier. The average number of layers increased by 0.3% from February 1986, while the number of eggs per 100 layers decreased to 1,939 from 1,947.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry* (23-003, \$10/\$100), scheduled for release May 15. Contact Peter Beerstecher (613-991-2505), Agriculture/Natural Resources Division.

## Export and Import Price Indexes

February 1987

Current and fixed weighted export and import price indexes, on a balance of payments basis (1981=100) are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to February 1987 for the seven commodity sections and 62/61 major commodity groups.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633, 3635, 3636, 3638.

Customs based current and fixed weighted U.S. price indexes are also available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to February 1987 on a 1981=100 basis. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 "All Countries" and "U.S. Only" SITC section indexes.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3639-3642.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade* (65-001 \$15/\$150), available the last week of April. Contact J. Butterill (613-990-9784), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division.

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**Catalogue number 71-001P**

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**Education Statistics Bulletin**, Vol. 9, No. 2, Trends in University Graduations,

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