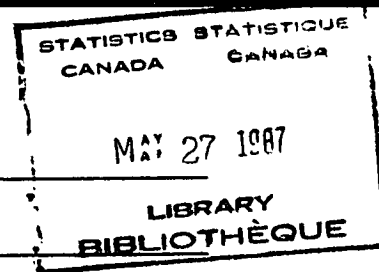


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, May 27, 1987



Major Releases

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

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- Real GDP increased 0.6% from February.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics, March 1987

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- Benefits paid during the first quarter of 1987 totalled \$3,169 million, up 4.1% from the same period in 1986.

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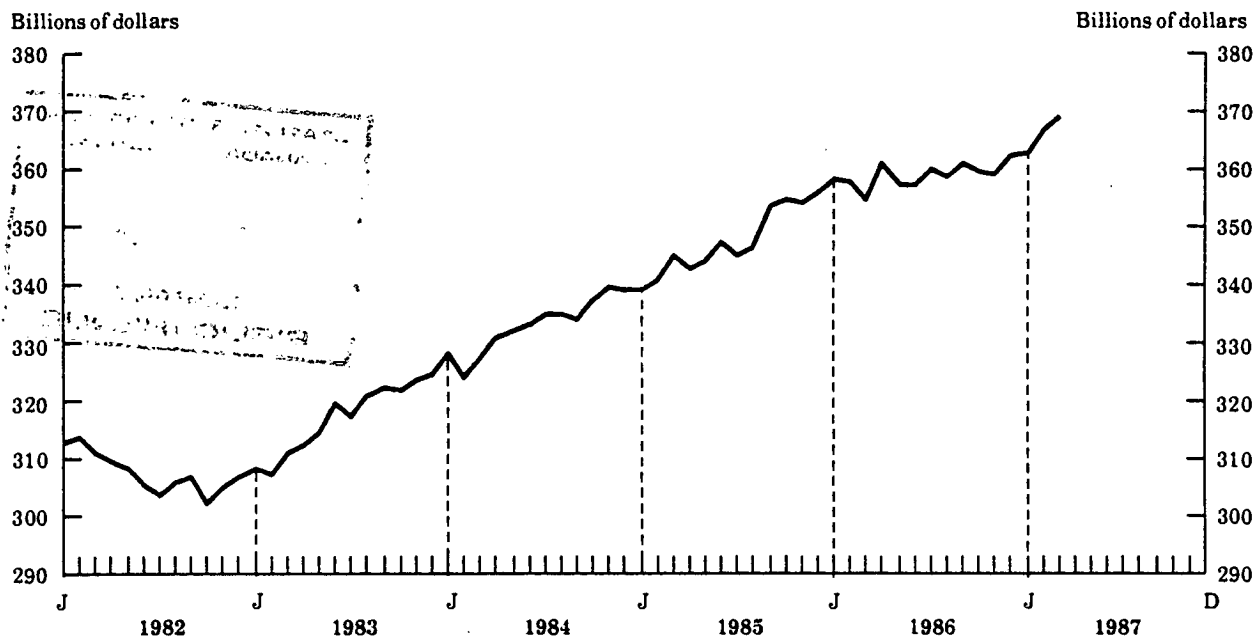


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Major Releases

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 March 1987 (seasonally adjusted data)

Monthly Overview

Gross Domestic Product at factor cost, in 1981 prices, increased 0.6% in March following a 1.1% gain in February. Output increases were widespread among both goods-producing industries (+0.8%) and services-producing industries (+0.5%). On a quarterly basis, GDP advanced 1.7% in the first quarter of 1987 - the largest quarterly growth rate recorded since the fourth quarter of 1985 - compared to an average growth rate of 0.4% in 1986.

Goods-producing Industries

The March growth in the goods-producing industries was mainly due to significant advances in manufacturing, construction, and fishing, as well as moderate output increases in forestry and agriculture. The major decline among goods-producing industries occurred in mining, where output fell for the second consecutive month, mostly due to a drop in production of crude petroleum and natural gas.

The March increase in manufacturing was the fourth consecutive monthly gain. Since last November, manufacturing output has advanced 5.4% compared to 1.6% for the year 1986. About three-quarters of the March growth in manufacturing originated in output gains by producers of non-durables such as pulp and paper, clothing, food products, chemicals and plastics.

(continued on page 3)

Output of the construction industry increased 1.2% in March following a 2.1% gain in February. The March growth, as was the case in February, was almost entirely accounted for by increased residential building activity.

Services-producing Industries

Most of the March output increase in the services-producing industries was due to a substantial 2.6% advance in the finance, insurance and real estate industry, the largest monthly gain since January 1986. Increased activity among real estate agencies, trust companies and stock brokers accounted for most of the growth. Output of real estate agencies increased substantially in both February and March. These gains occurred against a

backdrop of lower mortgage rates and a very active resale housing market. Retail trade increased 0.7% in March.

Output declines during the month were recorded in transportation and storage as well as wholesale trade industries. In the transportation industry, output decreases were recorded in pipeline, railway, water and air transport.

(see table on page 4)

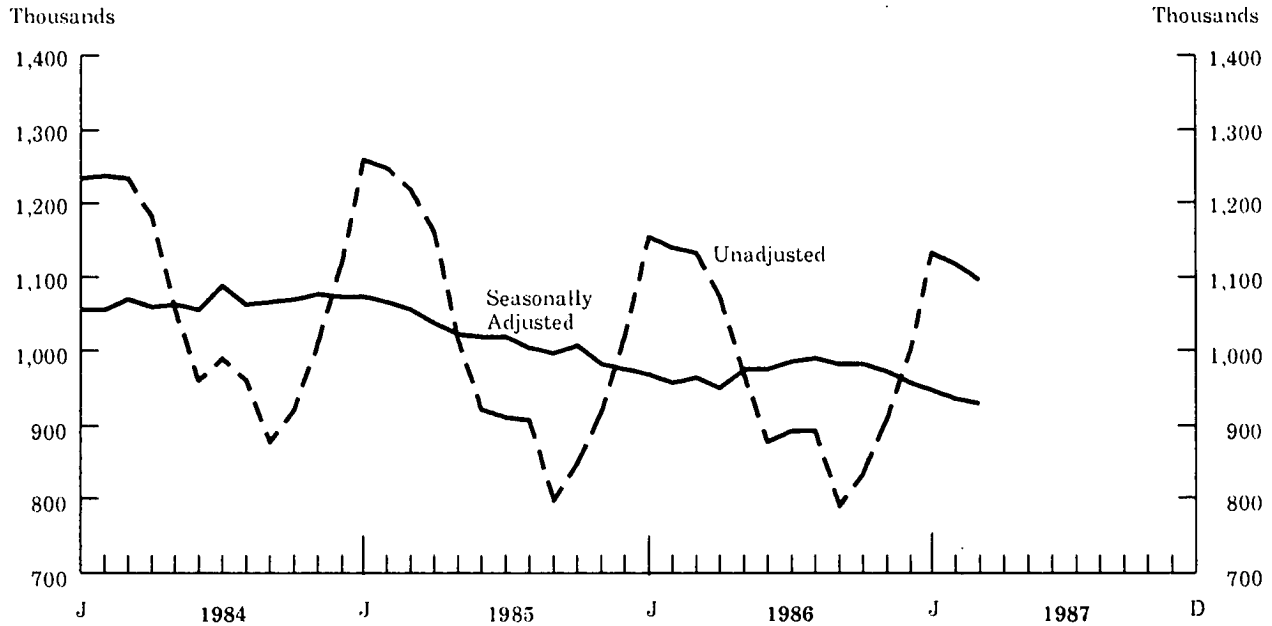
Available on CANSIM: matrices 4665-4668.

Order the March 1987 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (15-001, \$10/\$100), scheduled for release in late June. Contact Ron Kennedy (613-991-3673), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

Real Gross Domestic Product by Industry at Factor Cost, in 1981 Prices
(Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)

	1986		1987		
	March	December	January	February	March
	(\$ millions)				
Total economy	354,536.6	362,221.2	362,762.0	366,930.8	369,246.0
Business sector					
Agricultural and related services industries	11,586.0	11,445.6	11,469.6	11,295.6	11,324.4
Fishing and trapping industries	622.8	578.4	657.6	630.0	752.4
Logging and forestry industry	2,184.0	2,296.8	2,188.8	2,761.2	2,821.2
Mining, quarrying and oil well industries	18,686.4	18,751.2	19,032.0	18,639.6	18,271.2
Manufacturing industries	65,812.8	67,228.8	67,734.0	68,439.6	69,279.6
Construction industries	24,824.4	25,018.8	25,236.8	25,767.2	26,073.6
Transportation and storage industries	15,990.0	16,744.8	16,566.0	16,927.2	16,545.6
Communication industries	10,148.4	10,494.0	10,555.2	10,770.0	10,839.6
Other utility industries	10,809.6	11,143.2	11,152.8	11,356.8	11,491.2
Wholesale trade industries	17,073.6	18,428.4	18,182.4	19,084.8	18,880.8
Retail trade industries	22,896.0	23,491.2	23,342.4	23,907.6	24,067.2
Finance, insurance and real estate	52,401.6	52,976.4	53,296.8	53,414.4	54,798.0
Community, business and personal services	38,196.0	39,709.2	39,447.6	39,852.0	39,832.8
Non-business sector					
Mining industries	48.0	56.4	49.2	57.6	49.2
Manufacturing industries	63.6	63.6	63.6	64.8	66.0
Forestry services industry	258.0	268.8	268.8	268.8	265.2
Transportation industries	1,584.0	1,586.4	1,588.8	1,590.0	1,609.2
Communication industries	56.4	52.8	51.6	52.8	54.0
Water systems industry	553.2	548.4	550.8	556.8	561.6
Insurance and other finance industry	327.6	344.4	345.6	343.2	360.0
Government service industries	23,252.4	23,068.8	23,150.4	23,313.6	23,377.2
Community and personal services	37,161.8	37,924.8	37,831.2	37,837.2	37,926.0
Special aggregations					
Business sector:	291,231.6	298,306.8	298,862.0	302,846.0	304,977.6
- goods	134,526.0	136,462.8	137,471.6	138,890.0	140,013.6
- services	156,705.6	161,844.0	161,390.4	163,956.0	164,964.0
Non-business sector	63,305.0	63,914.4	63,900.0	64,084.8	64,268.4
- goods	664.8	668.4	663.6	679.2	676.8
- services	62,640.2	63,246.0	63,236.4	63,405.6	63,591.6
Goods-producing industries	135,190.8	137,131.2	138,135.2	139,569.2	140,690.4
Services-producing industries	219,345.8	225,090.0	224,626.8	227,361.6	228,555.6
Industrial production	95,973.6	97,791.6	98,582.4	99,115.2	99,718.8
Non-durable manufacturing industries	30,781.2	31,444.8	31,581.6	31,924.8	32,576.4
Durable manufacturing industries	35,031.6	35,784.0	36,152.4	36,514.8	36,703.2

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



Unemployment Insurance Statistics March 1987

Seasonally Adjusted Data (Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits)

- For the week ending March 21, 1987, preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates show that the number of beneficiaries¹ receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits totalled 928,000 – down 0.8% from the preceding month. The number of regular beneficiaries has generally been declining since February 1985, when it stood at 1,065,000.
- By province, the seasonally adjusted number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits decreased between February and March 1987 in Ontario (-2.9%), Alberta (-2.5%), Manitoba (-1.2%), and the Yukon (-1.2%). Increases occurred in Prince Edward

- Island (2.8%), New Brunswick (1.5%) and Saskatchewan (1.2%). The remaining provinces showed little or no change.

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variations

- In March 1987, the total number of beneficiaries¹ (including all persons qualifying for regular or special unemployment insurance benefits) stood at 1,234,000 – a decrease of 2.8% from March 1986. The number of male beneficiaries decreased to 742,000 or by 3.2% compared to March 1986. Over the same period, the number of female beneficiaries declined by 2.3% to 492,000.

(continued on page 6)

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

- Benefits paid during March 1987 totalled \$1,117 million², up 21.4% from March 1986. The increase was due mainly to the greater number of processing days in March 1987 than in March 1986, because the Easter holidays occurred in March last year. For the first quarter of 1987, benefit payments amounted to \$3,169 million, up 4.1% from the same period in 1986. The year-to-date change resulted from a 6.3% increase in the average weekly benefit (to \$192.19 from \$180.79) which was partially offset by a 2.0% decrease in the number of benefit weeks (to 16.5 million from 16.8 million).
- A total of 240,627 claims² (applications) for unemployment insurance benefits were received in March 1987, an increase of 12.2% compared to March 1986. This increase was also due to the greater number of processing days in March 1987. For the first quarter of 1987, the total number of claims received was 779,000 – a decrease of 3.8% compared to the same period in 1986.

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.*

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

(see table on page 7)

Data for the months of January, February and March 1987 will be published in the March 1987 issue of *Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001, \$12/\$120), available at the beginning of June. 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 H. Stiebert (613-991-4044) or J.-P. Maynard (613-991-4045), Labour Division.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

	March 1987	February 1987	January 1987	March 1986	% change from	
					February 1987	March 1986
Benefits						
Amount paid (\$000)	1,117,258	1,002,135	1,049,946	920,575	11.5	21.4
Weeks of benefit (000)	5,791	5,192	5,508	5,088	11.6	13.8
Average weekly benefit (\$)	192.92	193.03	190.62	180.94	-0.1	6.6
Claims received (000)	241	220	318	214	9.2	12.2
Beneficiaries¹ (000)						
Total	1,234 ^p	1,257 ^p	1,267 ^r	1,270 ^r	-1.8	-2.8
Regular benefits	1,095 ^p	1,116 ^p	1,133 ^r	1,133 ^r	-1.9	-3.4
Regular benefits - Seasonally adjusted	928 ^p	935 ^p	946 ^r	966 ^r	-0.8	
				January to March		% change
				1987	1986	1987/1986
Benefits						
Amount paid (\$000)	3,169,339		3,043,224			4.1
Weeks of benefit (000)	16,491		16,833			-2.0
Average weekly benefit (\$)	192.19		180.79			6.3
Claims received (000)	779		810			-3.8
Beneficiaries - Year-to-date average¹ (000)	1,253^p		1,279^r			-2.0

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.

Data Availability Announcements

Steel Ingots

Week Ending May 23, 1987

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending May 23, 1987 totalled 294 358 tonnes, an increase of 1.9% from the preceding week's total of 288 970 tonnes and up 5.8% from the year-earlier level of 278 347 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1987 was 5 966 581 tonnes, an increase of 4.0% from 5 738 585 tonnes for the same period in 1986.

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

Electric Lamps

April 1987

Canadian light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 17,313,906 light bulbs and tubes in April 1987, a decrease of 12.5% from the 19,788,421 units sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales for 1987 amounted to 76,883,832 light bulbs and tubes, down 9.2% from the 84,648,417 sold during the January-April period in 1986.

Order the April 1987 issue of *Electric Lamps* (43-009, \$4/\$40), available the week of June 1. Contact J.P. Beauparlant (613-991-3526), Industry Division.

Structural Steel Price Indexes

First Quarter 1987

Price indexes for the first quarter of 1987 for fabricated structural steel-in-place are now available. These indexes, at the Canada level, show a decrease of 0.2% from the fourth quarter of 1986 but an increase of 0.1% from one year ago.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 419.

Order the first quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in June. Contact Bernard Lebrun (613-991-3389), Prices Division.

Livestock and Animal Products Statistics

1986

This report covers livestock and animal products in Canada. Basic data pertaining to numbers, prices and value of livestock and the production of animal products are included in this report.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1152, 1156, 1159, 1162, 1167 and 1170.

Order the 1986 issue of *Livestock and Animal Products Statistics* (23-203, \$30), scheduled for release June 24. Contact B.E. Rosien (613-991-2509), Agriculture/Natural Resources Division.

Publications Released

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, February 1987. Catalogue number 35-002 (Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

1986 Census of Canada – Agriculture – User's Guide. Catalogue number 96-101 (Canada: \$3; Other Countries: \$4).

Security Transactions with Non-residents, February 1987. Catalogue number 67-002 (Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160).

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