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Major Releases

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Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, April 1987

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- The generally upward trend in manufacturing shipments observed during the last half of 1986 is not being maintained thus far in 1987.

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products, April 1987

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- Seasonally adjusted, total sales of refined petroleum products decreased 0.1% from March.

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- Department store sales increased 2.1% from March, on a seasonally adjusted basis.

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Note to Users

The release of the first quarter 1987 estimates of the *Income and Expenditure Accounts* along with revised data for the period from 1982 to 1986 has been delayed due to difficulties of data reconciliation within the integrated annual estimation process of the *System of National Accounts*. The estimates are now expected to be released in the first half of July.



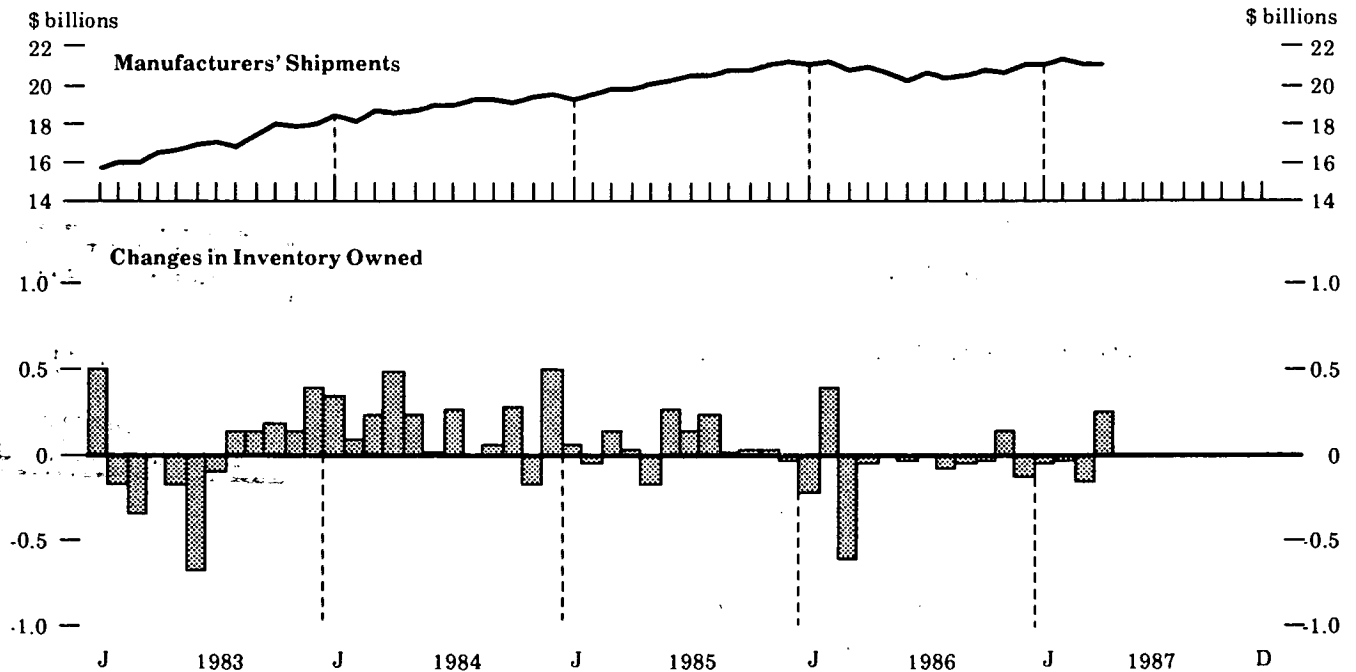
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Major Releases

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

(Seasonally adjusted)



Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

April 1987

The generally upward trend observed in manufacturing shipments during the last half of 1986 is not being maintained thus far in 1987.

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that the seasonally adjusted value of **shipments** for all Canadian manufacturing industries declined 0.1% in April to \$21,092 million. Declines in the levels of shipments have now been recorded in three of the first four months of 1987.
- In contrast to the slight decline for shipments, **new orders** were up 1.9% to \$21,428 million in April. Previously the behaviour of new orders followed a similar pattern to shipments.
- **Inventory owned** increased 0.8% in April, the first increase observed since November 1986. Inventory owned has been on a gently declining trend since November 1985.
- The **ratio of seasonally adjusted total inventory owned to seasonally adjusted shipments** rose from 1.57:1 in March to 1.58:1 in April. This was the third consecutive month that the ratio remained below the 1.60:1 to 1.65:1 range recorded through most of 1986.
- The seasonally adjusted **unfilled orders backlog** increased 1.4% in April to \$24,021 million. Unfilled orders are 2.4% below their April 1986 peak.
- Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in April 1987 were estimated at \$21,440 million, 1.1% lower

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than the April 1986 level. Cumulative shipments for the first four months of 1987 have been estimated at \$83,319 million, 0.4% higher than the value for the corresponding period in 1986.

Data Users Note:

Beginning with the April 1987 release, the estimated values of shipments, inventories and orders are benchmarked to the 1983 Census of Manufactures. Historical data back to January 1983 have been revised to reflect this change.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.

Order the April 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, please contact Suzette Desrosiers (613-990-9497) or the Shipments, Inventories and Orders Section (613-990-9832), Industry Division.

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

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

	April 1987 ^p	March 1987 ^r	Feb. 1987 ^r	April 1986 ^r
Not adjusted for Seasonal Variation				
Shipments - Total	21,440.4	22,032.1	20,263.0	21,682.9
New orders - Total	21,612.8	22,101.7	20,553.9	21,656.6
Unfilled orders - Total	24,123.1	23,950.7	23,881.0	24,716.4
Inventory owned - Total	33,704.9	33,524.5	33,628.8	33,933.0
Adjusted for Seasonal Variation				
Shipments - Total	21,091.6	21,112.5	21,461.1	20,992.5
New orders - Total	21,428.4	21,024.0	21,598.3	21,107.7
Unfilled orders - Total	24,020.8	23,684.0	23,789.4	24,611.3
Inventory Owned - Total	33,378.7	33,124.9	33,218.0	33,573.3
Ratio of total inventories owned to shipments	1.58	1.57	1.55	1.60

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

April 1987

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted

- Seasonally adjusted, sales of 6 849 113 cubic metres of refined petroleum products in April represented a decrease of 0.1% from the three-year high set in March. Despite the decline, cumulative sales for 1987 are still 3.5% above those for the same period last year.
- Results for the four main products were mixed in April. Following two consecutive gains, sales of motor gasoline declined by 0.9% while light fuel sales, down 6.6%, posted their third decrease of the year. Diesel fuel and heavy fuel sales both recorded their third consecutive monthly increases, rising 3.4% and 14.0% respectively.

Unadjusted Sales

- Total sales of refined petroleum products in April rose 5.3% over April 1986, recording a volume of 6 220 000 cubic metres. This represents the seventh year-over-year increase registered in the last eight months. As a result of this increase, cumulative sales for 1987 are now 3.2% above those for the same period a year earlier.

- Three of the four main products contributed to this month's increase of 5.3% over April 1986. Motor gasoline sales posted a third consecutive increase, rising 3.0%. Diesel fuel sales posted a gain of 8.6%. Heavy fuel sales continued their strong performance which began two months ago, rising 42.1% over last April while light fuel sales, which registered the only decline of the main products, were down 6.0%.
- On a provincial and territorial basis, gains outnumbered declines by a margin of nine to three. The largest percentage increase (27.9%) was recorded in both Newfoundland and New Brunswick. The provinces and territories registering decreases were Ontario (-2.2%), the Northwest Territories (-12.7%) and Nova Scotia (-0.5%).

(see table on page 5)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-641 and 644-647.

Order the April 1987 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, \$15/\$150), available the last week of July. Contact Gérard O'Connor (613-991-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division.

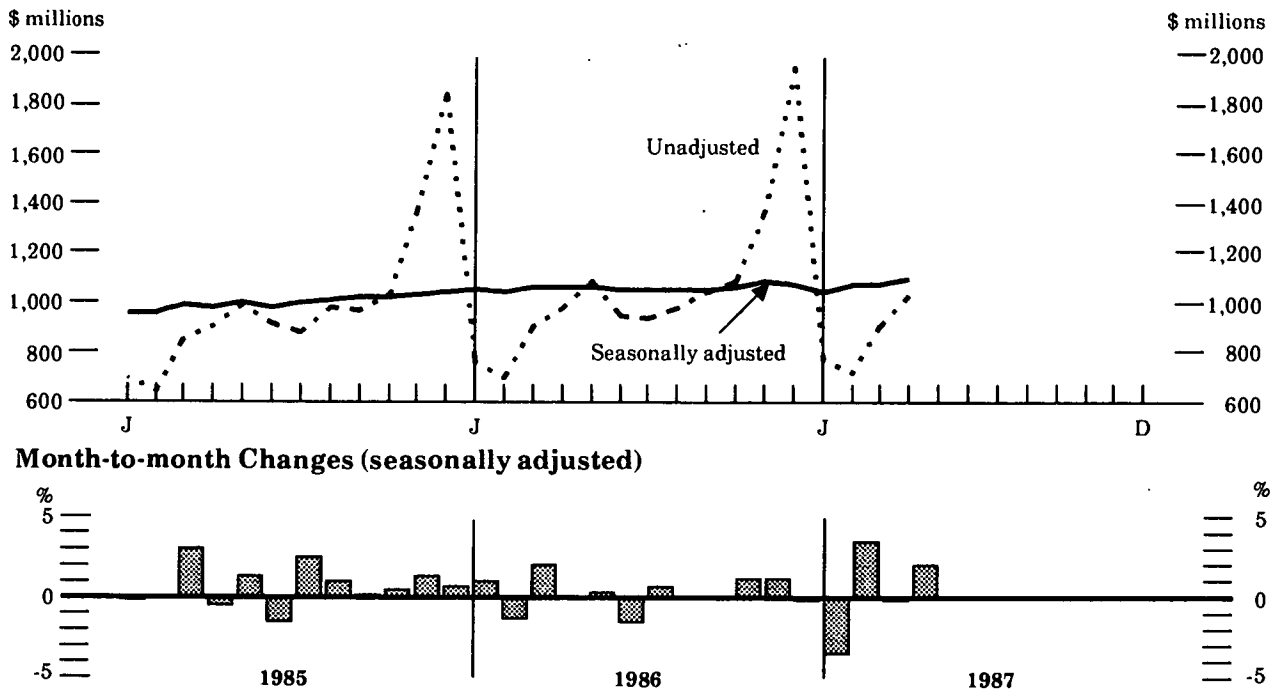
Sales of Refined Petroleum Products

	Jan. 1987	Feb. 1987	Mar. 1987 ^r	April 1987 ^p	Apr. '87/ Mar. '87
	(thousand cubic metres)				%
	Adjusted for seasonal variation				
Total, all products	5 965.8	6 789.4	6 854.3	6 849.1	-0.1
Main products:					
Motor gasoline	2 693.8	2 830.5	2 857.2	2 831.2	-0.9
Diesel fuel oil	1 194.6	1 243.1	1 306.5	1 350.6	3.4
Light fuel oil	447.5	577.7	555.0	518.6	-6.6
Heavy fuel oil	455.1	576.9	606.3	691.3	14.0
	April 1987 ^p	April 1986	Mar. 1987 ^r	Total Jan.- Apr. 1987	Total Jan.- Apr. 1986
	(thousand cubic metres)				
	Not adjusted for seasonal variation				
Total, all products	6 220.0	5 908.5	6 465.1	25 199.5	24 402.1
Main products:					
Motor gasoline	2 663.9	2 585.8	2 588.2	10 052.7	9 681.1
Diesel fuel oil	1 232.0	1 134.2	1 127.6	4 372.9	4 362.9
Light fuel oil	473.0	503.3	780.6	3 200.0	3 519.6
Heavy fuel oil	605.1	425.9	617.5	2 385.3	1 897.1

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised.

Department Store Sales, by Month, Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted, Canada, 1985-1987



Department Store Sales and Stocks April 1987

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Data

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, department store sales in April 1987 totalled \$1,097 million, a substantial increase of 2.1% from the previous month's revised total of \$1,075 million. Higher sales were recorded in 24 of the 40 departments.
- Department store sales have fluctuated significantly in the first four months of 1987 but with a generally rising trend, as increases in February and April more than offset declines in the other two months.

- Seasonally adjusted, department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$4,385 million at the end of April 1987, down 5.2% from the March 1987 revised value of \$4,625 million. This decline followed increases of 5.4% in February and 5.3% in March.

- The inventories to sales ratio stood at 4.00:1 in April, down from the average ratio of 4.13:1 observed in the three previous months.

Unadjusted Data

- Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$1,026 million in April 1987, up 4.7% over the April 1986 level of

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\$981 million. Cumulative sales for the first four months of 1987 totalled \$3,417 million, up 2.1% over the corresponding period in 1986.

- With the exception of British Columbia, which recorded a decrease of 1.9% from the corresponding month in 1986, all provinces registered higher sales in April 1987. The increases ranged from 18.2% in Prince Edward Island to 1.3% in Alberta. Sales rose in six of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed.
- Sales by major department stores in April 1987 totalled \$609 million, up 2.2% over the corresponding month a year earlier, while junior department stores had sales of \$418 million, up 8.5% over the same period last year.

- Unadjusted, department store stocks at month-end totalled \$4,678 million, an increase of 3.9% over the level reached in April 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 112.

Order the April 1987 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$13/\$130), available the third week of August. Contact Roger Laplante (613-991-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Planned Research and Development Spending by Canadian Firms 1987

The results of the latest survey of industrial research and development (R&D) show Canadian firms plan to increase R&D spending by 5% in 1987, up slightly from the 4% growth the year before.

Order *Industrial Research and Development Statistics, 1985* (88-202, \$40/\$41.50). Contact Michel Boucher (613-993-7683), Private Sector, Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

Stocks of Frozen Meats June 1, 1987

Total frozen meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of June totalled 31 157 tonnes, compared to 32 097 tonnes last month and 28 659 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9517-9525.

Order the June issue of *Stocks of Frozen Meat Products* (32-012, \$10/\$100), scheduled for release on July 21. Contact P.L. Beerstecher (613-990-8714), Agriculture Division.

Shipments of Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers May 1987

Canadian manufacturers shipped 181 344 thousand square metres of corrugated boxes and wrappers in May 1987, an increase of 2.4% from the 177 123 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

January to May 1987 shipments totalled 890 505 thousand square metres, up 1.6% from 876 167 thousand square metres for the same period in 1986.

Order the May 1987 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of July 6. Contact Jacques Lepage (613-991-3510), Industry Division.

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Publications Released

Gross Domestic Product by Industry,
March 1987. Catalogue number 15-001
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries:
\$11/\$110).

**Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas
Production,** January 1987.
Catalogue number 26-006
(Canada: \$8/\$80; Other Countries: \$9/\$90).

**Production, Shipments and Stocks on
Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia,**
March 1987. Catalogue number 35-003
(Canada: \$6/\$60; Other Countries: \$7/\$70).

Railway Carloadings, April 1987.
Catalogue number 52-001
(Canada: \$7.50/\$75; Other Countries:
\$8.50/\$85).

Gas Utilities, January 1987.
Catalogue number 55-002
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries:
\$11/\$110).

**Industrial Corporations Financial
Statistics,** First Quarter 1987.
Catalogue number 61-003P
(Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16/\$64).

Unemployment Insurance Statistics,
March 1987. Catalogue number 73-001
(Canada: \$12/\$120; Other Countries:
\$13/\$130).

**Trusteed Pension Funds:
Financial Statistics,** 1985.
Catalogue number 74-201
(Canada: \$35; Other Countries: \$36).

**Industrial Research and
Development Statistics,** 1985
Catalogue number 88-202
(Canada: \$40; Other Countries: \$41.50).

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