

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 19, 1988

Major Releases

Consumer Price Index, January 1988

- In January, the CPI year-to-year increase was 4.1%, down slightly from the 4.2% rate reported in December.

Retail Trade, December 1987

- Seasonally adjusted retail sales rose 0.7% in December, the fifth consecutive monthly increase. Annual retail sales increased 9.8% over 1986.

International Travel Account, Fourth Quarter 1987

- Canada's travel account registered a record deficit of \$2.5 billion in 1987.

Labour Market Revisited, 1987

- Full-time jobs accounted for almost all of the growth in employment in 1987.

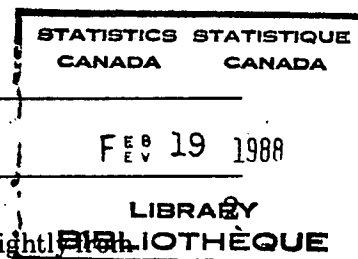
Data Availability Announcements

Particleboard, Waferboard and Hardboard, December 1987

Exports by Commodity, December 1987

Publications Released

Major Release Dates, February 22-26, 1988



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Major Releases

Consumer Price Index January 1988

National Highlights

The all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada increased by 0.2% between December and January to reach a level of 140.8 (1981=100). Four of the seven major component indexes increased in January, while the other three declined. Food and housing, which rose 1.1% and 0.5% respectively, provided the largest upward impacts to the latest increase. A 1.5% decline in the transportation index and a 0.4% decline in the recreation, reading and education index were the major offsetting factors.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the all-items index rose by 0.2%, representing a slight decrease in this measure, compared to the revised increase of 0.3% for December.

The year-over-year increase in the CPI, between January 1987 and January 1988, was 4.1%, down slightly from the 4.2% observed for both of the previous 12-month periods, ending in November and December. The compound annual rate of increase, based on the seasonally adjusted index levels over the latest three-month period (October to January) was 3.8%, down from the increase of 4.1% reported for the previous three-month period ending in December.

The food index rose by 1.1% in January, following a decline of 0.2% observed in December. The latest increase resulted from advances in both the index for food purchased from stores, which rose by 1.2% and the index for food purchased from restaurants, which increased by 0.6%.

The index for food purchased from stores rose as a result of increases for a wide variety of food items with the largest contribution coming from a 16.5% increase in soft drink prices, following holiday sales activity in December. Other notable increases, which were reversals from last month, were observed for meat and 2%-milk, while bread and fresh vegetable prices continued to increase. Within meat, the most notable increase was for the poultry

index, which rose 4.3% as a result of increases of 3.0% for chicken and 9.7% for turkey, the latter mostly due to returns to regular prices, following Christmas promotional sales. Fresh vegetable prices increased 1.9% as a result of higher prices for celery and cucumbers, partially offset by slightly lower lettuce prices from the very high levels reached in December.

Over the 12-month period, January 1987 to January 1988, the food index rose by 2.1%, down marginally from the increase of 2.2% reported in the previous 12-month period ending in December. The latest increase was composed of a rise of 1.7% in the index for food purchased from stores and an advance of 3.3% in the index for food purchased from restaurants.

All-items excluding Food

On a month-to-month basis, the all-items excluding food index edged up by 0.1% in January, the same rate of increase as observed in December. Most of the upward pressure was derived from increases of 0.5% in the housing index and 1.5% in the tobacco products and alcoholic beverages index. Largely offsetting these increases were declines of 1.5% in the transportation index and 0.4% in the recreation, reading and education index.

The housing index rose 0.5% in January, largely due to increases in public utility charges. The telephone services index increased 3.9%, as the new 10% federal tax on long-distance telephone calls came into effect. The effect of the tax was only partially offset by lower rates on overseas calls. Electricity rates rose noticeably in Ontario and Saskatchewan, and water rates increased in 35 separate municipalities across the country. In addition, the postal services index rose 7.0%, as a result of the January 1st price increase and the ending of the special Christmas card rates. Rental and mortgage interest charges also made significant contributions to the latest increase.

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The Consumer Price Index and Major Components (Not Seasonally Adjusted), Canada
(1981 = 100)

	Indexes			Percentage change Jan. 1988 from	
	Jan. 1988	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987	Dec. 1987	Jan. 1987
All-items	140.8	140.5	135.2	0.2	4.1
Food	134.1	132.7	131.3	1.1	2.1
All-items excluding food	142.7	142.6	136.4	0.1	4.6
Housing	141.6	140.9	135.4	0.5	4.6
Clothing	125.9	126.0	119.8	-0.1	5.1
Transportation	140.5	142.7	136.4	-1.5	3.0
Health and personal care	142.0	141.6	135.6	0.3	4.7
Recreation, reading and education	139.9	140.5	132.6	-0.4	5.5
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	189.6	186.8	177.3	1.5	6.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1981	71.0	71.2	74.0		
All-items Consumer Price Index converted to 1971 = 100	333.6				

The transportation index fell 1.5% in January. This decline was almost entirely due to a 27.3% decrease in air fares, which resulted from extensive "seat sale" activity throughout January, following deregulation of the air transportation industry and the end of the Air Canada labour dispute. In contrast, local public transit costs rose as 20 cities had higher local bus fares and 10 cities had higher taxi fares. Also offsetting the lower air fares were higher automobile insurance rates, which increased about 5% in Ontario, 14% in Saskatchewan and 23% in British Columbia. British Columbia also raised the cost of its drivers' licences by 150%.

The tobacco products and alcoholic beverages index rose 1.5% in January, largely as a result of the increase in the federal sales tax on these products. A price increase from breweries also contributed to this rise. The recreation, reading and education index declined 0.4%, largely due to an 11.0% drop in the charges for holiday travel tours. The clothing index decreased by 0.1%, while the health and personal care index rose 0.3%.

Over the 12 month-period, January 1987 to January 1988, the all-items excluding food index advanced by 4.6%, up from the increase of

4.5% registered in the previous 12-month period ending in December, but still below the 4.8% observed in November.

Goods and Services

The goods index rose by 0.6% in the latest month in contrast to a fall of 0.2% reported in December. The services index declined by 0.2%, compared to an increase of 0.5% observed the month before. Over the 12-month period, January 1987 to January 1988, the goods index increased by 3.9% (3.8% in December) while the services index advanced by 4.5% (the same rate as in November and December).

City Highlights

Between December and January, changes in the all-items index for cities for which CPIs are published varied from declines of 0.2% in St. John's and Edmonton to an increase of 0.8% in Victoria. In St. John's, the decline was due to lower than average increases for food, housing, and tobacco and alcohol and larger than

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average declines for clothing and transportation. A 5.0% drop in the transportation index for Edmonton was largely responsible for the decline in the all-items index for that city. The above average increase in Victoria resulted from larger than national increases for private transportation, health and personal care, and tobacco and alcohol.

Between January 1987 and January 1988, increases in the all-items index for cities varied from 2.9% in St. John's to 6.0% in Saskatoon.

Main Contributors to Monthly Changes in the All-items Index, by City

St. John's

The all-items index fell 0.2%, mainly reflecting decreases in the clothing and transportation components. The transportation decline was the result of lower air fares (only partly offset by a rise in new car prices and city bus fares). The decline in the clothing index mainly reflected lower prices for women's wear. Partly offsetting these declines were higher prices for cigarettes and for alcoholic beverages purchased from stores, increased charges for owned accommodation and for long-distance telephone services and increased costs for non-prescribed medicines and personal care supplies. Food prices were up marginally, as higher prices for turkey, prepared meats, dairy products, soft drinks and restaurant meals more than offset lower prices for beef, pork and fresh produce. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 2.9%.

Charlottetown/Summerside

Higher prices for food (most notably for cereal products, fresh vegetables, sugar, soft drinks and restaurant meals) and increased clothing prices (especially for men's wear) were among the main contributors in the 0.2% rise in the all-items index. Higher housing costs were also observed, particularly for rented and owned accommodation, electricity, long distance telephone calls and household furnishings and equipment. Advances in the costs of recreational equipment, cablevision services and

newspapers were also noted. The transportation index declined overall as a decrease in air fares more than offset higher prices for new cars and increased fares for taxis. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 3.6%.

Halifax

The all-items index fell 0.1%, reflecting declines in the transportation and food components. Within transportation, a decline in air fares more than offset higher prices for new cars and gasoline. The food index fell as a result of lower prices for beef, cured meats, fish, cereal and bakery products and fresh fruit. These advances were partially offset by higher prices for turkey, dairy products, fresh vegetables, sugar and restaurant meals. Increased charges for rented and owned accommodation, higher prices for household textiles and increased costs for long-distance telephone calls exerted a notable offsetting effect. Price increases were also observed for cigarettes, women's wear, non-prescribed medicines and personal care supplies. The costs of cablevision services and recreational equipment also advanced. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 3.0%.

Saint John

Higher prices for cigarettes and for alcoholic beverages purchased from stores, coupled with increased charges for rented and owned accommodation and higher costs for long-distance telephone services explained a large part of the 0.4% rise in the all-items index. Clothing prices advanced, as did overall food prices, the latter reflecting higher prices for dairy products, sugar, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Prices for new cars and gasoline also advanced, but were more than offset by a decline in air fares. Between January 1987 and January 1988, the All-items index has risen 4.0%.

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Quebec City

The 0.2% rise in the all-items index mainly reflected increased charges for owned accommodation, higher charges for long-distance telephone calls and higher overall food prices (most notably for beef, fresh produce and soft drinks). Advances were also noted in charges for cablevision services, in cigarette prices and in the cost of alcoholic beverages purchased from stores. New car prices and city bus fares were up, but were more than offset by lower prices for gasoline and a decline in air fares. Other notable declines were observed in the costs of women's wear and packaged holiday trips. From January 1987 to January 1988, the all-items index advanced 3.6%.

Montreal

No overall change was recorded in the all-items index due to a number of offsetting effects. Among those factors contributing an upward impact were higher prices for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages purchased from stores, higher costs for rented and owned accommodation and increased charges for water, fuel oil, natural gas and long-distance telephone services. Other notable advances were observed in new car prices, city bus fares, cablevision charges and in the costs of personal care supplies and non-prescribed medicines. Food prices were up overall, reflecting higher prices for beef, pork, cereal and bakery products, fresh produce, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Among those factors exerting a downward impact were lower prices for clothing and household furnishings and equipment, decreased air fares and lower costs for packaged holiday trips. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 4.1%.

Ottawa

The all-items index rose 0.1%. Among those factors contributing an upward impact were higher food prices (particularly for turkey, fresh vegetables and soft drinks), increased rented and owned accommodation costs and higher charges for water, electricity and long-distance telephone services. Household furnishings and equipment costs also advanced.

Higher prices for cigarettes and for beer purchased from stores were noted, as were price advances for non-prescribed medicines and personal care supplies. New car prices, vehicle insurance premiums and city bus fares advanced, but were more than offset by a decline in air fares. Clothing prices also declined overall, reflecting lower prices for women's wear. Price declines were also noted for packaged holiday trips. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 3.8%.

Toronto

Higher prices for poultry, soft drinks and restaurant meals, increased charges for rented and owned accommodation and higher costs for water, fuel oil, electricity and long-distance telephone calls explained most of the 0.3% rise in the all-items index. Other notable advances were observed in the costs of cigarettes and beer purchased from stores, vehicle insurance premiums, city bus fares and in the cost of newspapers. Household furnishings costs were also up. Clothing prices declined marginally, due to lower prices for women's wear. Declines were also observed in the costs of gasoline, packaged holiday trips and air travel. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 4.7%.

Thunder Bay

Higher prices for cigarettes and beer purchased from stores combined with higher overall food prices explained a large part of the 0.1% rise in the all-items index. The rise in the food index mainly reflected higher prices for poultry, prepared meats, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals, partly offset by lower prices for beef, pork, dairy products, eggs, cereals and bakery products and fresh fruit. Owned accommodation charges advanced, as did the costs of fuel oil, natural gas, electricity and long-distance telephone calls. Other notable advances were observed in new car prices, vehicle insurance premiums and in the cost of personal care supplies. Clothing prices remained unchanged overall, as lower prices for women's wear offset higher prices in the

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other components of this index. Declines in the costs of household furnishings and equipment, air fares and packaged holiday trips exerted a considerable dampening effect. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 3.3%.

Winnipeg

Among the main contributors to the 0.1% rise in the all-items index were higher food prices (particularly for beef, pork, eggs, cereal and bakery products, fresh produce, sugar and restaurant meals), and increased housing charges. The latter reflected increased charges for rented and owned accommodation, higher natural gas charges and higher costs for long-distance telephone services. Gasoline and new car prices were up, as were cigarette prices and the cost of prescribed medicines. Cablevision charges and recreational equipment costs also advanced. The clothing index remained unchanged overall, as lower prices for women's wear offset price increases in the other components of this index. Partly offsetting these advances were decreased air fares and lower prices for household furnishings and personal care supplies. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 3.6%.

Regina

Advances in vehicle insurance premiums and increased charges for water, natural gas, electricity and long-distance telephone calls explained a large part of the 0.7% rise in the all-items index. Food prices were up, mainly due to higher prices for poultry, cereal products, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Also exerting a notable upward impact were higher prices for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages purchased from stores, increased costs for packaged holiday trips, higher charges for cablevision services and increased prices for household furnishings and equipment. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 5.6%.

Saskatoon

The all-items index rose 0.4%. Among the main contributors were increased charges for natural gas and electricity, higher long-distance telephone charges and increased

premiums for vehicle insurance. Cigarette prices were up, as were the costs of alcoholic beverages purchased from stores. Food prices advanced, mainly reflecting higher prices for cereal and bakery products, fresh vegetables, and soft drinks. Advances were also noted in the costs of rented and owned accommodation, in prices for non-prescribed medicines and in the cost of packaged holiday trips. Declines in air fares and lower prices for household furnishings and equipment exerted a notable downward impact. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 6.0%.

Edmonton

The all-items index fell 0.2%, due mainly to declines in gasoline prices, air fares and charges for natural gas. Exerting a considerable upward influence were advances in charges for owned accommodation, water and long-distance telephone calls. Other notable advances were observed in the costs of clothing, household furnishings and equipment, packaged holiday trips and alcoholic beverages purchased from stores. Food prices were also up, reflecting higher prices for poultry, cured meats, fresh produce, soft drinks and restaurant meals. The costs of personal care supplies also advanced, as did local bus and taxi fares. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 4.2%.

Calgary

Higher food prices (particularly for pork, turkey, cured meats, dairy products, fresh produce, coffee, soft drinks and restaurant meals) were among the main contributors in the 0.1% rise in the all-items index. Other notable advances were observed in long-distance telephone charges, in household furnishings and equipment costs and in the prices of alcoholic beverages purchased from stores. Recreational costs were up, mainly reflecting increased charges for cablevision, higher fees for health and athletic facilities, and increased costs for packaged holiday trips. Clothing prices advanced, as did charges for

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water and for rented and owned accommodation. Lower air fares and a decline in gasoline prices exerted a considerable downward impact. Since January 1987, the all-items index has risen 4.1%.

Vancouver

Higher prices for food (most notably for beef, poultry, fresh vegetables, and soft drinks) and increased prices for alcoholic beverages purchased from stores were among the main contributors in the 0.6% rise in the all-items index. Advances in prices of new cars and gasoline and increased charges for vehicle licences and insurance premiums were also notable contributors. Long-distance telephone charges also advanced. A decline in air fares had a considerable offsetting effect. From January 1987 to January 1988, the all-items index has risen 3.8%.

Victoria

The all-items index rose 0.8%. Much of the upward impact originated from higher food prices (particularly chicken and fresh

vegetables) and increased rented and owned accommodation charges. The cost of long distance telephone calls was also up. Transportation costs advanced overall, as higher fees for drivers' licences and increased vehicle insurance premiums more than offset declines in gasoline prices and air fares. Alcoholic beverage prices were also up. Between January 1987 and January 1988, the all-items index rose 4.7%.

(see tables on pages 8 and 9)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1922-1944.

The January 1988 issue of *The Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$8.50/\$85) is available today. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information concerning this release contact Sandra Shadlock (613-951-9606), Prices Division.

Consumer Price Indexes for Urban Centres

The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.¹

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and personal care	Recreation, reading and education	Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages
St. John's								
Jan. 1988 index	136.8	122.1	138.1	130.9	135.9	140.2	139.9	184.3
% change from Dec. 1987	-0.2	0.1	0.1	-1.1	-1.9	0.9	0.1	0.9
% change from Jan. 1987	2.9	1.4	4.0	4.1	-0.4	4.2	6.2	3.9
Charlottetown/Summerside								
Jan. 1988 index	133.6	125.3	131.4	119.0	131.6	145.0	146.5	185.7
% change from Dec. 1987	0.2	0.6	0.5	1.3	-1.3	0.3	0.8	0.2
% change from Jan. 1987	3.6	3.6	3.8	2.9	1.1	6.1	5.9	4.4
Halifax								
Jan. 1988 index	138.5	124.6	139.5	122.3	137.8	146.7	147.9	194.3
% change from Dec. 1987	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.4	-1.9	0.4	0.3	0.7
% change from Jan. 1987	3.0	2.6	2.6	5.5	0.1	3.5	5.6	7.6
Saint John								
Jan. 1988 index	139.4	132.9	142.4	121.3	134.9	138.0	146.0	192.6
% change from Dec. 1987	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.8	0.1	0.2	3.5
% change from Jan. 1987	4.0	4.0	3.0	5.3	3.8	3.8	5.6	7.2
Quebec City								
Jan. 1988 index	142.1	136.5	145.4	126.5	140.4	143.7	129.5	190.8
% change from Dec. 1987	0.2	1.3	0.4	-0.6	-1.1	0.5	-1.5	1.2
% change from Jan. 1987	3.6	2.7	3.6	5.6	2.6	5.2	4.3	4.9
Montreal								
Jan. 1988 index	143.0	137.1	145.7	125.4	144.4	141.9	135.1	191.4
% change from Dec. 1987	0.0	0.4	0.3	-0.4	-1.0	0.3	-1.3	1.1
% change from Jan. 1987	4.1	2.6	5.2	5.2	1.4	5.1	5.5	4.7
Ottawa								
Jan. 1988 index	141.0	128.1	145.9	127.0	143.5	143.6	138.0	182.6
% change from Dec. 1987	0.1	0.5	0.7	-0.1	-1.2	0.7	-1.9	1.4
% change from Jan. 1987	3.8	-0.4	4.4	5.7	3.6	6.6	6.5	5.1
Toronto								
Jan. 1988 index	144.8	137.9	148.6	129.6	143.6	145.1	140.2	185.8
% change from Dec. 1987	0.3	1.6	0.7	-0.1	-2.3	0.2	-1.1	1.8
% change from Jan. 1987	4.7	2.3	6.4	5.5	2.4	4.1	5.4	5.4
Thunder Bay								
Jan. 1988 index	139.1	130.9	139.0	123.5	142.2	143.4	138.3	180.2
% change from Dec. 1987	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	-1.0	0.8	-0.9	1.6
% change from Jan. 1987	3.3	-0.4	3.0	4.5	5.3	4.4	5.9	5.8
Winnipeg								
Jan. 1988 index	138.6	126.9	140.9	124.7	133.9	137.0	145.6	204.9
% change from Dec. 1987	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.0	-1.7	0.1	0.1	0.4
% change from Jan. 1987	3.6	1.8	2.8	5.8	1.7	4.3	6.3	11.0

Consumer Price Indexes for Urban Centres (concluded)

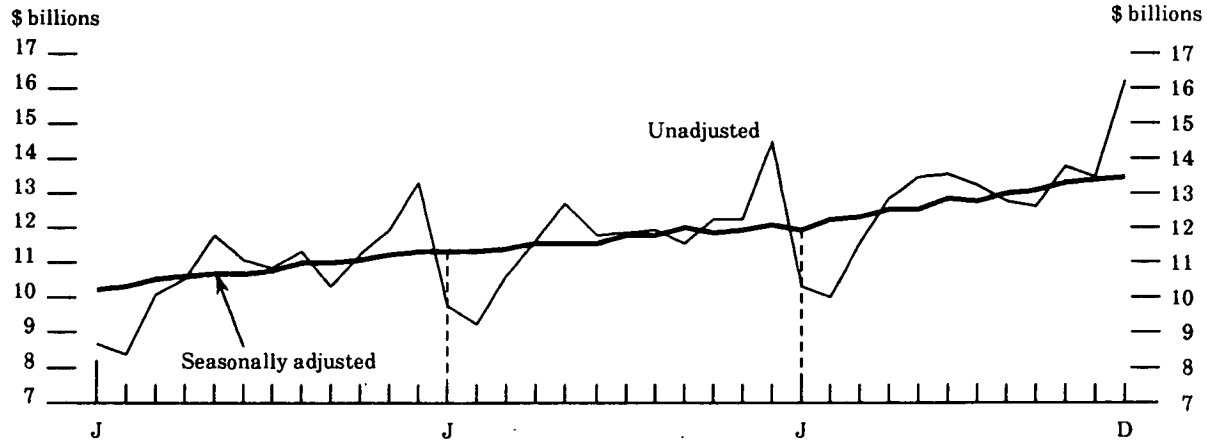
The indexes in this table measure within each city the percentage change in consumer prices from the base period to subsequent time periods. They cannot be used to compare levels of prices between cities.¹

	All-items	Food	Housing	Clothing	Transportation	Health and personal care	Recreation, reading and education	Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages
Regina								
Jan. 1988 index	138.4	124.5	141.6	122.6	132.1	166.5	144.5	185.6
% change from Dec. 1987	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.4	-0.8	0.2	0.7	1.2
% change from Jan. 1987	5.6	2.2	3.7	5.9	7.0	20.8	9.3	7.6
Saskatoon								
Jan. 1988 index	139.9	126.5	141.5	126.1	134.0	171.5	144.7	181.2
% change from Dec. 1987	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.3	-1.6	0.4	0.5	0.9
% change from Jan. 1987	6.0	3.1	4.6	5.4	5.0	28.1	7.4	7.2
Edmonton								
Jan. 1988 index	135.4	135.0	126.4	124.7	136.0	142.4	140.9	211.1
% change from Dec. 1987	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.6	-5.0	1.1	1.3	1.2
% change from Jan. 1987	4.2	3.3	2.4	5.3	1.5	3.9	7.1	18.5
Calgary								
Jan. 1988 index	135.0	133.6	126.0	120.5	139.0	146.9	140.2	205.3
% change from Dec. 1987	0.1	1.8	0.7	0.7	-5.0	-0.1	1.2	1.4
% change from Jan. 1987	4.1	2.3	2.1	5.2	2.4	4.6	6.8	17.6
Vancouver								
Jan. 1988 index	135.9	133.0	129.1	124.1	142.3	135.0	147.3	177.8
% change from Dec. 1987	0.6	1.1	0.2	-0.2	0.6	0.4	0.7	2.2
% change from Jan. 1987	3.8	2.4	3.3	2.8	6.4	2.9	4.2	6.0
Victoria²								
Jan. 1988 index	109.2	110.7	103.5	107.3	110.1	108.9	117.0	129.5
% change from Dec. 1987	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.0	2.1
% change from Jan. 1987	4.7	2.9	3.4	2.7	10.7	2.5	6.7	5.5

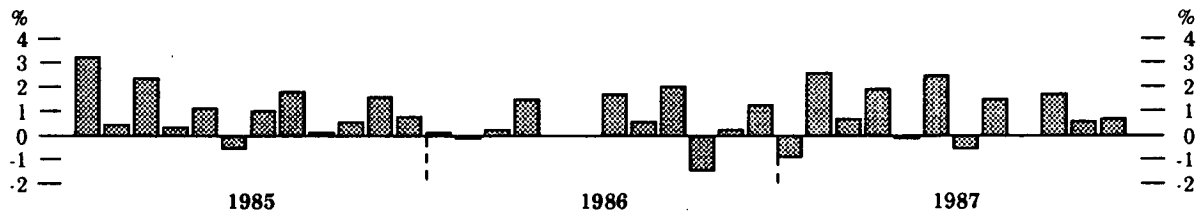
¹ For inter-city indexes of retail price differentials, refer to Table 22 of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (62-010, \$16.50/\$66.00).

² December 1984 = 100.

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



Month-to-month Changes (seasonally adjusted)



Retail Trade

December 1987 and Annual Review

Highlights

Seasonally Adjusted Sales

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales totalled \$13.5 billion in December 1987, an increase of 0.7% over the previous month's revised total of \$13.4 billion.
- The increase in December extended the trend of generally rising retail sales observed since the beginning of 1987. During the January to December 1987 period, retail trade advanced on average by 1.0% on a monthly basis.
- The overall rise in December was primarily attributable, in order of dollar impact, to increases reported by motor vehicle dealers

(+1.9%), combination stores (+1.0%) and general merchandise stores (+6.6%). Sales by motor vehicle dealers increased for the third consecutive month, while combination store sales advanced for the fifth consecutive month.

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonal Variations

- Total retail trade for December 1987 rose 12.0% over the same month last year, totalling \$16.2 billion.
- The two largest groups within retail trade recorded significant increases over December 1986: motor vehicle dealers (+19.2%) and combination stores (+12.7%). Department store sales were up 4.1% on a year-over-year basis, while service station sales rose 15.7%, the ninth consecutive monthly increase.

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- All provinces registered higher retail sales in December 1987 compared to the corresponding month in 1986. However, the Yukon and Northwest Territories recorded a decline of 2.9%.

Annual 1987 (Preliminary Estimates)

- Preliminary estimates indicate that retail sales advanced 9.8% in 1987 to reach a level of \$153.7 billion. This was up from the 8.2% growth recorded in 1986, but lower than the 11.5% increase registered in 1985.
- The growth in 1987 was broadly based as 27 of the 28 trade groups recorded higher sales. The most significant increases, in order of dollar impact, were reported by motor vehicle dealers (+12.8%), all food stores (+8.9%) and service stations (+9.6%).

- Independent retailers reported sales of \$92.6 billion in 1987, an increase of 13.0% over 1986, whereas chain store sales amounted to \$61.1 billion, up 5.1% over 1986.

- All provinces and territories registered sales increases over 1986. Sales were also higher in the four metropolitan areas covered by the survey.

(see table on page 12)

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

The December 1987 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, \$16/\$160) will be available the third week of March. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information concerning this release, contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3549), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

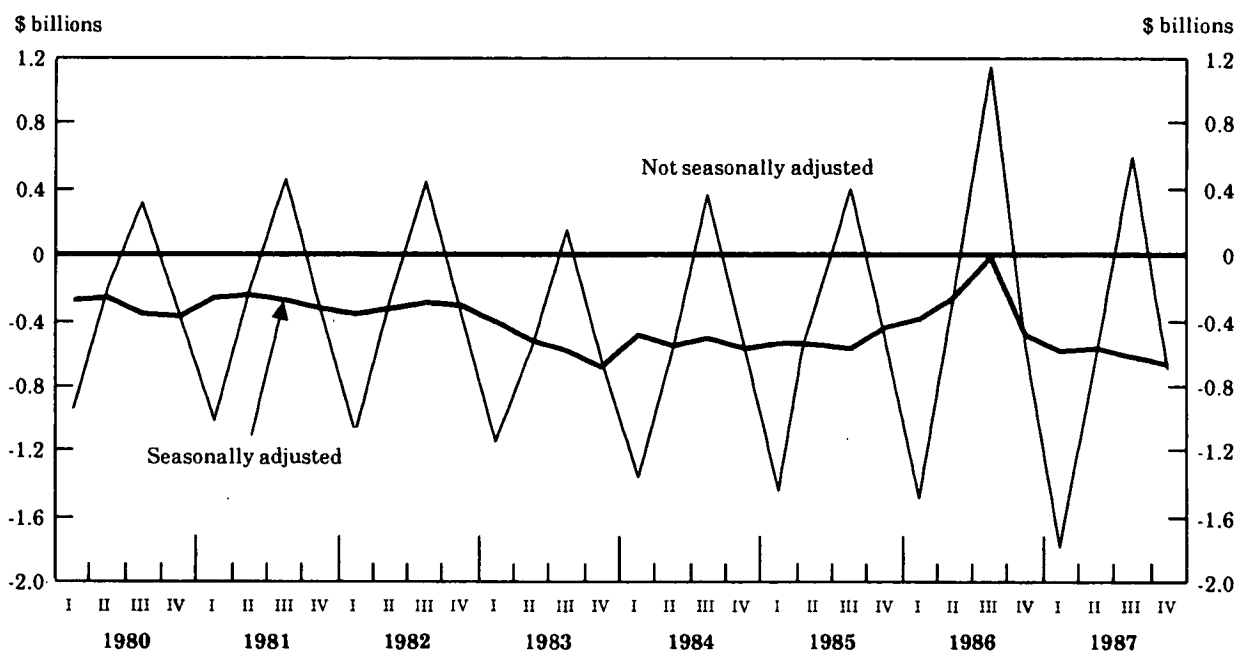
Retail Trade, Canada, by Kind of Business

Kind of Business	Unadjusted Sales All Stores				Seasonally Adjusted Sales All Stores				
	Dec. 1986	Nov. 1987 ^r	Dec. 1987 ^p	Dec. 1987/ Dec. 1986	Sept. 1987 ^r	Oct. 1987 ^r	Nov. 1987 ^r	Dec. 1987 ^p	Dec. 1987/ Nov. 1987
	(millions of \$)			%	(millions of \$)			%	
Combination stores (groceries and meat)	2,247.4	2,168.4	2,534.5	12.7	2,268.9	2,290.6	2,314.3	2,336.7	1.0
Grocery, confectionery and sundries stores	619.7	686.1	745.4	20.1	690.3	702.7	730.7	727.3	-0.5
All other food stores	265.9	231.5	294.3	10.1	238.1	239.9	243.3	245.5	0.9
Department stores	1,950.1	1,352.1	2,031.2	4.1	1,059.2	1,078.2	1,094.8	1,101.2	0.6
General merchandise stores	322.9	353.7	365.9	15.5	261.6	266.3	264.4	281.8	6.6
General stores	210.8	189.1	227.2	8.0	192.5	198.8	198.9	194.1	-2.4
Variety stores	194.1	103.0	158.7	-18.4	92.2	89.9	90.0	86.8	-3.6
Motor vehicle dealers	1,996.9	2,674.7	2,381.7	19.2	2,749.6	2,846.1	2,855.8	2,910.6	1.9
Used car dealers	56.1	87.2	75.6	34.4	87.3	95.5	95.7	100.0	4.5
Service stations	883.9	1,020.2	1,021.4	15.7	1,031.3	1,030.1	1,032.7	1,015.8	-1.6
Garages	119.0	158.6	147.2	23.8	145.8	153.2	153.3	155.4	1.4
Automotive parts and accessories stores	347.4	333.9	380.1	9.4	296.9	301.9	296.0	292.2	-1.3
Men's clothing stores	226.7	170.0	253.1	11.8	129.3	137.6	132.1	135.9	2.9
Women's clothing stores	386.5	297.0	418.9	8.5	268.4	276.1	281.6	280.6	-0.3
Family clothing stores	305.4	208.5	321.9	5.9	180.6	193.0	191.5	191.1	-0.2
Specialty shoe stores	24.2	24.4	27.4	13.2	23.1	23.5	23.3	24.4	4.7
Family shoe stores	128.7	125.6	137.6	6.9	103.4	105.3	100.5	101.4	0.8
Hardware stores	151.0	145.8	174.1	15.2	137.0	146.3	146.4	143.2	-2.2
Household furniture stores	160.8	180.5	198.2	23.6	175.4	169.7	171.1	170.4	-0.4
Household appliance stores	61.8	59.8	71.1	15.0	55.7	56.5	56.8	56.6	-0.3
Furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores	161.8	145.8	160.1	-1.2	139.1	136.3	139.3	136.5	-2.0
Pharmacies, patent medi- cine and cosmetics stores	684.7	575.9	751.9	9.9	579.7	583.7	582.8	585.3	0.4
Book and stationery stores	135.2	92.5	164.4	21.4	81.0	83.7	84.0	84.4	0.5
Florists	67.7	41.0	75.3	11.4	54.1	52.1	51.0	51.2	0.5
Jewellery stores	247.6	104.0	265.9	6.7	102.6	95.8	92.9	94.1	1.3
Sporting goods and accessories stores	228.5	176.5	277.8	21.8	201.8	202.8	217.4	218.6	0.5
Personal accessories stores	312.5	213.8	363.1	16.7	200.1	201.8	206.2	209.1	1.4
All other stores	1,982.2	1,567.6	2,188.4	10.3	1,529.9	1,540.5	1,529.3	1,536.4	0.5
All stores - Total	14,479.2	13,487.1	16,212.4	12.0	13,074.9	13,298.0	13,376.1	13,466.9	0.7

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

Travel Account Balance by Quarter, 1980-1987



International Travel Account

Fourth Quarter and Year 1987

Preliminary Estimates

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Unadjusted for seasonal variations, Canada's travel account recorded a deficit of \$698 million during the fourth quarter of the year. Combined with the results recorded during the first three quarters of the year, Canada's travel account registered an overall deficit of \$2,473 million for the year. While this imbalance is over double the one of last year – a year that included Expo 86, terrorism, environmental pollution and a devaluation of the dollar – it is only 17% higher than the ones recorded in 1984 and 1985. The larger deficit of 1987 was a product of a slight drop in total receipts coupled with a strong rise in Canadian payments.

Highlights

- At \$4,151 million in 1987, receipts from the United States were down 8% from 1986 but still 13% above the level posted in 1985.
- On a year-over-year basis, receipts from visitors from countries other than the U. S. rose throughout each of the quarters of 1987 to reach \$2,138 million, up 17% over 1986.
- Total payments by Canadian residents increased markedly during the year. Travel payments to the United States were up by 16% to \$5,122 million while payments to all other countries rose by 18% to \$3,640 million.

(continued on page 14)

Seasonally Adjusted

International travel flows, like most other human activities, are affected by seasonality. Changes in "natural seasonality" (temperatures, hours of sunshine, snowfall) and "institutionalized seasonality" (school vacations, differential pricing schemes) have a significant effect on the tourist movements between countries. The adjustment of data to minimize the seasonal impact gives clearer definition to the long-term historical trends of tourism activity.

Seasonally adjusted, Canada's travel deficit reached \$677 million in the fourth quarter of 1987. Deficits on the travel account have been increasing since the second quarter of the year. A slight decrease in the number of visitors entering Canada coupled with a strong growth in international travel by Canadians is primarily responsible for this trend.

Highlights

- Seasonally adjusted receipts from the United States reached \$1,056 million in the fourth quarter, reversing a decreasing trend in U. S. receipts that started in the fourth quarter of 1986.
- Receipts from all other countries totalled \$548 million during the fourth quarter, down 5% from the previous quarter.
- Payments to both the United States and all other countries have increased steadily during each quarter of the year.

(see table on page 15)

See the accompanying chart for the quarterly trend in the seasonally adjusted travel account balance between Canada and all countries in the world for the years 1980-87.

The October-December issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$35/\$140) will be available in the middle of March. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning this release, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

International Travel Receipts and Payments, Not Seasonally Adjusted

	1986					1987 ^p				
	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1986	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1987
(millions of \$)										
United States										
Receipts	457	1,109	2,277	663	4,506	474	1,049	1,944	684	4,151
Payments	1,303	1,196	1,095	835	4,429	1,511	1,386	1,281	944	5,122
Balance	-846	-87	1,182	-172	77	-1,037	-337	663	-260	-971
All other Countries										
Receipts	194	519	825	289	1,827	219	591	987	341	2,138
Payments	834	699	864	673	3,070	962	844	1,055	779	3,640
Balance	-640	-180	-39	-384	-1,243	-743	-253	-68	-438	-1,502
Total all countries										
Receipts	651	1,628	3,102	952	6,333	693	1,640	2,931	1,025	6,289
Payments	2,137	1,895	1,959	1,508	7,499	2,473	2,230	2,336	1,723	8,762
Balance	-1,486	-267	1,143	-556	-1,166	-1,780	-590	595	-698	-2,473

^p Preliminary figures.

International Travel Receipts and Payments, Seasonally Adjusted*

	1986					1987 ^p				
	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1986	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1987
(millions of \$)										
United States										
Receipts	1,038	1,133	1,266	1,069	4,506	1,053	1,048	994	1,056	4,151
Payments	1,076	1,103	1,098	1,152	4,429	1,245	1,272	1,294	1,312	5,122
Balance	-38	30	168	-83	77	-192	-224	-300	-256	-971
All other countries										
Receipts	407	455	529	436	1,827	482	531	577	548	2,138
Payments	767	740	718	845	3,070	878	886	906	969	3,640
Balance	-360	-285	-189	-409	-1,243	-396	-355	-329	-421	-1,502
Total all countries										
Receipts	1,445	1,588	1,795	1,505	6,333	1,535	1,579	1,571	1,604	6,289
Payments	1,843	1,843	1,816	1,997	7,499	2,123	2,158	2,200	2,281	8,762
Balance	-398	-255	-21	-492	-1,166	-588	-579	-629	-677	-2,473

* Seasonally adjusted data may not add to totals due to rounding.

^p Preliminary figures.

Labour Market Revisited 1987

In 1987, employment in Canada rose by 320,000 with full-time jobs accounting for almost all of this increase. In a major departure from recent trends, full-time employment growth at 3.1% greatly exceeded the rise in part-time employment (0.7%).

"The 1987 Labour Market Revisited", featured in the January issue of *The Labour Force*, examines the 1987 labour market scene, pinpointing the year's major trends.

Highlights

- Continuing a long-established trend, 1987 employment growth was higher among women (3.7%) than among men (2.0%).
- Men accounted for all of the 2.0% rise in employment in the goods-producing sector. The rise in service employment (3.1%) originated mainly among women.
- Slow growth in part-time employment can be traced to a fall of 30,000 in the number of people working part-time because they could not find full-time work. The number working part-time voluntarily rose 3.2%, approximating the growth in full-time employment.
- New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario all averaged employment growth over 3% in 1987. In contrast, all three Prairie provinces recorded increases of under 1%.
- The national unemployment rate continued to fall, declining from 9.6% in 1986 to 8.9% in 1987. Still, the rate remains well above the pre-recession level of 7.5% recorded in 1980 and 1981.
- The number of discouraged workers (persons not looking for work because they believe no work is available) dropped by almost 20% to 48,000 in 1987, the lowest level since 1977.
- Comparing the 12-month period ending in September 1987 with the preceding 12 months, average weekly earnings adjusted for inflation fell by 1.6% in 1987. Declines were recorded in most broad industry groups with mining (-3.5%) and community, business and personal services (-2.3%) experiencing the greatest drops.
- There has been considerable speculation about possible labour-market repercussions of the October collapse in stock market prices. As of December 1987, no deterioration in the labour market was evident. In fact, based on seasonally adjusted figures, employment in December was 90,000 higher than in October. Moreover, the employment increase from November to December (66,000) is the largest increase between these two months since 1978.

The January 1988 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$20/\$220), is available today. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information concerning this release contact David Gower (613-951-4616), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Particleboard, Waferboard and Hardboard

December 1987

Canadian firms produced 117 801 cubic metres of waferboard in December 1987, an increase of 22.3% from the 96 290 cubic metres produced a year earlier. Particleboard production reached 118 070 cubic metres in December 1987, up 20.7% from 97 843 cubic metres the previous year. Production of hardboard for December 1987 was 3 457 thousand square metres, basis 3.175 mm (37,214 thousand square feet, basis 1/8-inch). Production figures for December 1986 are confidential.

Production of waferboard during January to December 1987 totalled 1 602 268 cubic metres, up 18.9% from the 1 347 638 cubic metres produced during the same period a year earlier. Particleboard production was 1 355 134 cubic metres, up 18.9% from 1 139 253 cubic metres in January to December 1986. Production of hardboard reached 43 703 thousand square metres, basis 3.175 mm (470,417 thousand square feet, basis 1/8-inch). Production figures for January to December 1986 are confidential.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 31 (series 2, 3 and 4) and matrix 122 (series 8 and 34).

The December 1987 issue of *Particleboard, Waferboard and Hardboard* (36-003, \$4.50/\$45) will be released the week of February 22. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information concerning this release contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division.

Exports by Commodity

December 1987

Commodity-country export trade statistics for December 1987 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3686-3713 and 3719.

The December 1987 issue of *Exports by Commodity* (65-004,50/\$500) will be available the week of March 7. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information concerning this release contact G. L. Blaney (613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

Publications Released

Exports by Commodity, November 1987.

Catalogue number 65-004

(Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600).

Imports by Commodity, November 1987.

Catalogue number 65-007

(Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600).

The Labour Force, January 1988.

Catalogue number 71-001

(Canada: \$22/\$220; Other Countries: \$24/\$240).

Profiles - Census Tracts - Calgary: Part 1, 1986 Census. Catalogue number 95-103

(Canada: \$24; Other Countries: \$25).

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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, Calgary and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.

A national toll-free telephone order service is now in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.

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Major Release Dates: Week of February 22 - 26, 1988

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
February		
22	Department Store Sales and Stocks	December 1987
23	Wholesale Trade	December 1987
24	Unemployment Insurance Statistics	December 1987
25	Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics	Fourth Quarter 1987
25	Crude Oil and Natural Gas	November 1987
26	Employment, Earnings and Hours	December 1987

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