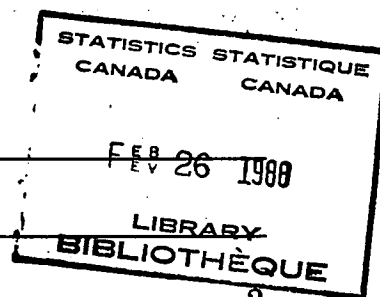


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 26, 1988



Major Releases

Wholesale Trade, December 1987

- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 12.5% over December 1986.

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Employment, Earnings and Hours, December 1987

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- Average weekly earnings for all employees were estimated at \$451.69, up 4.3% from a year earlier.

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Major Releases

Wholesale Trade

December 1987

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for December 1987 were 12.5% above those of December 1986. This year-over-year rise follows gains of 13.3% registered in October and 18.5% in November.
- In December 1987, all major trade groups within wholesale trade registered increased sales over a year earlier except for wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories which decreased by 5.7%. The three largest trade groups recorded increases over December 1986: wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+20.9%); other wholesalers (+18.4%); and wholesalers of food (+7.1%).
- Wholesale trade increases between December 1987 and December 1986 were posted in all regions, ranging from 19.7% in the Prairies to 9.7% in Ontario.
- Inventory levels in December 1987 were 6.1% higher than those reported in December 1986. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of December 1987 stood at 1.49:1, down from 1.58:1 recorded in the corresponding month of 1986.

Annual 1987 (Preliminary estimates)

- Preliminary estimates indicate that sales by wholesale merchants increased by 13.8% in 1987 compared to 11.5% recorded in 1986. In 1987, all major trade groups registered sales increases but the trade groups having the most significant impact

on the 1987 overall sales increases were wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies which rose by 23.3%, other wholesalers (+13.2%) and wholesalers of food (+11.7%).

- Wholesale trade increases in 1987 were posted in all regions, ranging from 16.5% in the Prairies to 10.4% in Quebec.
- In each of the 12 months of 1987, the inventory levels reported were higher than those for the corresponding months of 1986, ranging from increases of 6.1% in December to 2.3% in July. The ratio of inventories to sales for the year 1987 averaged 1.44:1, down from the 1.57:1 registered in 1986; this decline in the ratio was due to the higher relative increases in sales as compared to those for inventories during this period.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 44.

The December 1987 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5.50/\$55) will be available the third week of March. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3541), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for December 1987/1986

Major Trade Groups -Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	Nov. 1987/86 ^r	Dec. 1987/86 ^p	Jan.-Dec. 1987/86 ^p	Nov. 1987/86 ^r	Dec. 1987/86 ^p	Dec. 1986 ^r	Dec. 1987 ^p
Total all trades	18.5	12.5	13.8	5.0	6.1	1.58	1.49
Food	10.5	7.1	11.7	2.2	4.3	0.70	0.68
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	8.7	10.1	6.7	7.4	3.2	1.03	0.96
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	20.0	0.8	13.5	3.2	4.1	2.55	2.64
Motor vehicles and accessories	9.0	-5.7	5.7	4.3	8.2	1.88	2.16
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	19.5	18.3	0.2	-0.2	2.2	3.32	2.87
Other machinery, equipment and supplies ¹	26.8	20.9	23.3	3.2	3.5	1.68	1.44
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	23.0	18.7	14.3	4.0	6.0	1.98	1.77
Lumber and building materials	17.9	12.9	15.7	20.2	16.3	1.64	1.68
Other wholesalers ²	22.9	18.4	13.2	5.9	7.3	1.59	1.44
Regions							
Atlantic provinces	15.9	16.6	14.8	12.6	13.1	1.38	1.33
Quebec	14.5	10.5	10.4	11.4	11.7	1.54	1.55
Ontario	17.7	9.7	14.7	3.0	4.4	1.50	1.43
Prairie provinces	29.5	19.7	16.5	0.1	1.6	2.07	1.76
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	17.7	15.5	14.6	5.1	6.0	1.42	1.31

¹ Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

² Includes: farm products (excluding grain); paper and paper products; scrap and waste materials; and wholesalers, n.e.s.

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Employment, Earnings and Hours

December 1987 (data not seasonally adjusted)

Preliminary data for December 1987 showed an estimated 9,925,000 employees at the Canada industrial aggregate level¹, a decrease of 163,000 (-1.6%) from the previous month (not adjusted for seasonal variation). This change is similar to that observed between November and December in previous years. Compared to December 1986, industrial aggregate employment increased by 2.1%².

Average weekly earnings for all employees were estimated at \$451.69 for December, up 0.1% from November and up 4.3% from the December 1986 level (not adjusted for inflation).

Employment

Estimated employment in December in the goods-producing industries was 3.0% lower than in November. This decrease is similar to that observed between these months in previous years. The number of employees in the service-producing industries in December was 1.1% lower than in November. Transportation, communication and other utilities and community, business and personal services decreased less than usual for this time of year. Trade showed no change at a time of year when a decrease is usually observed.

The total number of employees at the Canada industrial aggregate level increased by an estimated 200,000 (+2.1%) from December 1986. The year-to-year growth rates rose 4.7% in the goods-producing industries and 1.1% in the service-producing industries.

¹ The industrial aggregate is the sum of all industries with the exception of agriculture, fishing and trapping, religious organizations, private households and military personnel.

² Changes to the survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours sampling frame were introduced in January 1987. Adjustment factors have been used to remove the estimated impact of these changes from all year-to-year comparisons referred to in the accompanying text. For more information on the changes please consult the May issue of Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002) or contact the Labour Division.

Estimated employment in all provinces except Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia showed smaller than usual decreases between November and December. Newfoundland, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded their highest year-to-year growth rates of 1987, while British Columbia recorded its lowest.

Average Weekly Earnings

Between November and December, average weekly earnings for employees in the goods-producing industries were down 1.2%. Earnings in manufacturing and construction decreased less than usual for this time of year. In the service-producing industries, average weekly earnings increased by 0.9% between November and December. The larger than usual increase in transportation, communication and other utilities resulted from the settlement of a labour dispute.

Compared to December 1986, average weekly earnings at the Canada industrial aggregate level increased by \$18.56 (+4.3%). The year-to-year growth was 4.4% in the goods-producing industries and 4.0% in the service-producing industries.

Provincially, average weekly earnings in Newfoundland and New Brunswick increased less than usual between November and December. Quebec showed an increase at a time of year when a decrease is usually observed. In Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, the December year-to-year percentage increases in average weekly earnings were the lowest of 1987.

Hours and Hourly Earnings

At the Canada industrial aggregate level, average weekly hours for employees paid by the hour (who account for approximately half of industrial aggregate employment) were estimated at 31.7 in December, a slight decrease from November. Average weekly hours were estimated at 38.0 in the goods-producing industries and 28.4 in the service-producing industries.

(continued on page 5)

Average hourly earnings of employees paid by the hour were an estimated \$11.28 in December. Average hourly earnings were estimated at \$13.20 in the goods-producing industries and \$9.89 in the service-producing industries.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 8003-9000 and 9584-9638.

The December 1987 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$38.50/\$385) will be available at the end of March. See "How to Order Publications".

(see tables on pages 6 and 7)

For more detailed information on this release, contact R. Arsenault (613-951-4090), Labour Division.

Employment, Earnings and Hours

December 1987

(data not seasonally adjusted)

Industry group - Canada (1970 SIC)	All employees					
	Number			Average weekly earnings		
	Dec. 1987 ^p	Nov. 1987 ^r	Oct. 1987	Dec. 1987 ^p	Nov. 1987 ^r	Oct. 1987
	thousands			dollars		
Forestry	55.2	60.0	65.7	572.11	603.08	595.26
Mines, quarries and oil wells	153.8	156.9	159.5	735.25	745.98	747.17
Manufacturing	1,906.6	1,930.9	1,944.6	525.93	530.62	530.73
Durables	931.1	943.1	941.6	556.92	564.43	567.80
Non-durables	975.4	987.8	1,003.0	496.35	498.34	495.93
Construction	446.5	493.6	530.0	542.65	551.70	555.71
Building	377.7	413.6	437.1	526.72	533.53	534.99
Industrial and heavy	68.8	80.0	92.9	630.16	645.67	653.20
Goods-producing industries	2,562.1	2,641.3	2,699.7	542.41	549.00	549.99
Transportation, communication and other utilities	811.9	819.3	834.2	583.45	580.54	579.20
Transportation	452.3	458.5	473.2	537.36	529.50	534.79
Storage	13.3	14.0	13.2	560.33	550.43	537.96
Communication	228.6	228.5	228.2	602.92	606.49	598.20
Electric power, gas and water utilities	117.8	118.3	119.7	725.19	731.78	723.14
Trade	1,832.1	1,832.1	1,811.4	330.66	326.59	328.37
Wholesale	531.0	530.5	529.8	465.41	459.92	461.29
Retail	1,301.2	1,301.6	1,281.6	275.68	272.25	273.42
Finance, insurance and real estate	609.3	611.1	613.6	491.51	498.29	503.53
Community, business and personal services	3,448.7	3,522.2	3,546.5	386.59	380.68	378.81
Public administration	660.4	661.7	666.8	576.79	575.25	570.81
Service-producing industries	7,362.4	7,446.5	7,472.5	420.12	416.30	416.33
Industrial aggregate	9,924.5	10,087.8	10,172.2	451.69	451.05	451.80
Industrial aggregate - Provinces						
Newfoundland	135.3	138.5	142.2	430.61	429.96	427.08
Prince Edward Island	33.6	34.5	35.5	370.41	362.52	365.42
Nova Scotia	271.8	277.8	283.9	407.28	404.00	400.28
New Brunswick	207.9	212.6	216.9	419.78	419.17	415.56
Quebec	2,467.7	2,507.3	2,546.3	440.38	439.25	440.13
Ontario	4,156.8	4,220.6	4,225.2	467.05	466.74	467.23
Manitoba	380.3	384.2	392.5	411.19	410.38	413.72
Saskatchewan	295.4	303.1	304.0	413.17	408.47	409.79
Alberta	912.5	919.9	930.1	453.06	455.19	457.20
British Columbia	1,035.4	1,061.2	1,066.7	461.89	460.80	463.73
Yukon	9.4	9.4	9.8	545.71	549.44	540.51
Northwest Territories	18.3	18.6	19.2	585.38	593.34	593.28
Canada	9,924.5	10,087.8	10,172.2	451.69	451.05	451.80

^p Preliminary estimates.

^r Revised estimates.

Employment, Earnings and Hours - Concluded

December 1987

(data not seasonally adjusted)

Industry Group - Canada (1970 SIC)	Employees paid by the hour					
	Average weekly hours			Average hourly earnings		
	Dec. 1987 ^p	Nov. 1987 ^r	Oct. 1987	Dec. 1987 ^p	Nov. 1987 ^r	Oct. 1987
	hours			dollars		
Forestry	37.0	39.1	39.7	15.82	16.23	15.96
Mines, quarries and oil wells	39.5	40.7	41.1	16.42	16.50	16.33
Manufacturing	38.3	39.0	39.2	12.52	12.48	12.42
Durables	39.5	40.2	40.6	13.03	13.05	13.09
Non-durables	36.9	37.6	37.8	11.92	11.82	11.66
Construction	36.9	38.1	39.3	14.99	14.87	14.73
Building	36.4	37.4	38.4	14.76	14.63	14.53
Industrial and heavy	39.6	41.6	43.7	16.23	16.03	15.53
Goods-producing industries	38.0	38.9	39.4	13.20	13.21	13.16
Transportation, communication and other utilities	38.4	38.7	38.5	14.06	13.93	13.94
Transportation	37.9	38.1	37.9	13.25	13.10	13.14
Storage	38.7	38.4	37.9	14.25	14.31	13.85
Communication	36.8	37.7	37.3	14.52	14.40	14.41
Electric power, gas and water utilities	41.0	41.7	41.3	16.69	16.59	16.52
Trade	28.6	28.2	28.6	8.52	8.56	8.54
Wholesale	35.3	35.4	36.1	10.04	10.09	10.10
Retail	27.2	26.8	27.0	8.13	8.15	8.11
Finance, insurance and real estate	...	...	...	...	...	...
Community, business and personal services	26.6	26.7	26.7	9.81	9.80	9.72
Public administration	...	...	...	...	...	...
Service-producing industries	28.4	28.3	28.4	9.89	9.90	9.86
Industrial aggregate	31.7	32.0	32.4	11.28	11.32	11.31
Industrial aggregate - Provinces						
Newfoundland	34.7	35.0	35.5	9.69	9.86	9.80
Prince Edward Island	31.4	31.3	32.1	7.75	7.71	7.69
Nova Scotia	32.7	33.1	33.0	9.78	9.78	9.71
New Brunswick	33.5	34.0	34.0	10.23	10.24	10.14
Quebec	32.6	32.9	33.1	11.10	11.08	11.02
Ontario	32.2	32.4	32.7	11.50	11.56	11.57
Manitoba	30.6	30.9	31.4	10.10	10.12	10.25
Saskatchewan	28.7	28.8	29.4	10.35	10.34	10.33
Alberta	30.4	30.9	31.3	10.76	10.90	10.99
British Columbia	29.5	29.8	30.4	12.71	12.80	12.73
Yukon	33.6	33.4	32.8	13.13	13.53	12.93
Northwest Territories	33.3	34.7	34.1	13.93	14.35	14.20
Canada	31.7	32.0	32.4	11.28	11.32	11.31

^p Preliminary estimates.

^r Revised estimates.

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

Data Availability Announcements

Industrial Research and Development – Microelectronics 1986

A recent survey (summer of 1987) of the larger R&D performers indicates that microelectronics technologies dominate industrial R&D. The second 1988 issue of Science Statistics gives some indications of the relative R&D interest in five microelectronic technologies, four biotechnologies and five advanced industrial materials technologies.

The Science Statistics Service Bulletin, Vol. 12, No. 2, *Industrial R&D and Key Technologies* (88-001, \$6.50/\$65) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact H. Stead (613-951-9920), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

Asphalt Roofing January 1988

Shipments of asphalt shingles totalled 2 269 408 bundles in January 1988, a decrease of 3.6% from the 2 355 269 bundles shipped a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 32 and 122 (series 27 and 28).

The January 1988 issue of *Asphalt Roofing* (45-001, \$4.50/\$45) will be released the week of March 14. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division.

Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers January 1988

Canadian domestic shipments totalled 213 855 thousand square metres of corrugated boxes and wrappers in January 1988, an increase of 30.8% from the 163 440 thousand square metres shipped a year earlier.

The January 1988 issue of *Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers* (36-004, \$4.50/\$45) will be released the week of March 7. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division.

Rigid Insulating Board January 1988

Shipments of rigid insulating board totalled 2 986 thousand square metres (12.7 mm basis) in January 1988, a decrease of 16.6% compared to 3 581 thousand square metres (12.7 mm basis) in January 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 1) and 122 (series 4-7).

The January 1988 issue of *Rigid Insulating Board* (36-002, \$4.50/\$45) will be available the week of March 14. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division.

Oils and Fats

December 1987

Production by Canadian manufacturers of all types of deodorized oils in December 1987 totalled 48 046 tonnes, a decrease of 16.1% from the 57 261 tonnes produced in November 1987. The 1987 year-to-date production totalled 606 133 tonnes, an increase of 6.4% from the corresponding 1986 figure of 569 624 tonnes.

Manufacturers' packaged sales of shortening totalled 8 716 tonnes in December 1987, up from the 8 571 tonnes sold the previous month. The cumulative sales to date in 1987 were 103 031 tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 95 396 tonnes in 1986.

Sales of packaged salad oil decreased to 6 815 tonnes in December 1987 from 11 060 tonnes in November 1987. The cumulative sales to date were 75 071 tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 66 318 tonnes in 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 184.

The December 1987 issue of *Oils and Fats* (32-006, \$4.50/\$45) will be available the week of March 7. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Notifiable Disease Summary

Four-week Period Ending January 16, 1988

Statistics and new cases of notifiable diseases for the four-week period ending January 16, 1988 are now available by sex and five-year age group for Canada and the provinces.

Available on CANSIM: cross-classified table 00050123.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Beth Sander (613-951-1746), Health Division.

Other Agricultural Chemical Industries

1986 Census of Manufactures

In 1986, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the other agricultural chemical industries (SIC 3729) totalled \$318.6 million, up 0.5% from \$317.1 million in 1985.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 6874.

This information (46-250B 3729, \$4/\$5) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact T. Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division.

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The Daily, February 26, 1988

Publications Released

Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products, Quarter Ended December 1987.

Catalogue number 25-002

(Canada: \$4.25/\$17; Other Countries: \$5.25/\$21).

Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, December 1987. Catalogue number 32-024

(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, November 1987. Catalogue number 41-006

(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances, December 1987.

Catalogue number 43-010

(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, November 1987.

Catalogue number 47-004

(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Selected Service Industries in Canada, 1983-85. Catalogue number 63-231

(Canada: \$22; Other Countries: \$21).

International Travel - Advance Information, 1986-87.

Catalogue number 66-001P

(Canada: \$5.50/\$55; Other Countries: \$6.50/\$65).

Science Statistics Service Bulletin, Vol. 12, No. 2, Industrial R&D and Key Technologies, 1986.

Catalogue number 88-001

(Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$75).

Profiles - Census Tracts, Kitchener: Part 1, 1986 Census. Catalogue number 95-121

(Canada: \$22; Other Countries: \$23).

Profiles - Census Tracts, St. John's: Part 1, 1986 Census. Catalogue number 95-149

(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

Profiles - Census Tracts, Trois-Rivières: Part 1, 1986 Census.

Catalogue number 95-165

(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

How to Order Publications

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7276.

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.