TheDaily

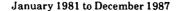
Statistics Canada

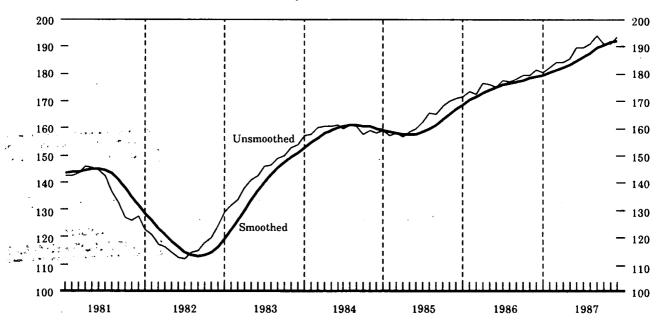
Thursday, March 10, 1988

Major Releases STATISTICS STATISTIQUE CANADA M/2 10 1988 Composite Leading Indicator, December 1987 The leading indicator rose at the same rate in December (0.4%) as in ', November, climbing to 192.2 (1971 = 100). LIBRARY BIBLIOTHÈQUE New Motor Vehicle Sales, January 1988 Sales of all new motor vehicles were up 7.2% over the January 1987 level. 7 Help-wanted Index, February 1988 The Help-wanted Index increased to a record level. 9 New Housing Price Index, January 1988 New housing prices continued to move upward, rising 0.3% from December 1987 and 11.1% from a year earlier. Provincial and Territorial Government Employment, Third Quarter 1987 11 Provincial and territorial (general government) employment decreased slightly from a year earlier. Farm Product Price Index, January 1988 13 The FPPI showed little change from the previous month's level. Data Availability Announcements Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, December 1987 15 Steel Ingots, Week Ending March 5, 1988 15 Production of Eggs, January 1988 15 Publications Released 16

Major Releases

The Canadian Composite Leading Indicator (1971 = 100)





Composite Leading Indicator December 1987

The Canadian leading indicator (1971 = 100) rose at the same rate in December (0.4%) as in November, climbing to 192.2. This growth, weaker than that recorded in late summer and early fall, is a continuing reflection of the October stock market drop. However, all the manufacturing indicators once again posted strong growth. The non-smoothed version of the overall index increased 1.3% in December, after showing little change in November and posting a 1.5% decrease in October.

All the major industry groups shared in the continuing strong increase in new orders for durable goods in December. Investment and export demand led the gains in new and unfilled orders, while shipments continued to increase. Together with steady growth in employment, the length of the average work week grew strongly in December, rising to 38.9

hours. (The U.S. manufacturing sector was also a source of strength for the United States leading indicator in December.)

The indicators of household demand were mixed in December. Sales of new cars and household appliances continued to rise, but the residential construction index posted its fourth straight decrease, reflecting a decline in multiple-unit starts. Starts of single-family dwellings remained above the 100,000 unit level in urban centres.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 161.

The Canadian Economic Observer (11-010, \$20/\$200) will be available the week of March 21. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact F. Roy-Mayrand (613-951-3627).

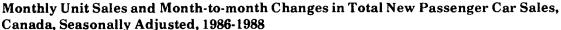
The Daily, March 10, 1988

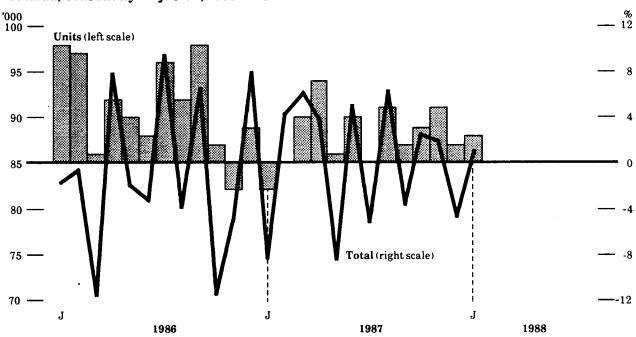
Canadian Leading Indicators

	Percentage Change			Level	
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	
Composite Leading Index (1971=100)					
Filtered	0.6	0.4	0.4	192.2	
Unfiltered	-1.5	0.1	1.3	193.7	
Retail Trade					
Furniture and appliance sales	1.0	0.6	0.3	146,3024	
New motor vehicle sales	0.9	1.1	0.2	800,3484	
$Residential\ construction\ index^1$	-1.9	-2.5	-3.2	122.7	
Manufacturing					
New orders - durable	0.9	1.5	1.2	3,7075	
Shipment to inventory ratio -					
(finished goods) ²	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.82	
Average workweek (hours)	0.0	-0.0	0.2	38.9	
Percentage change in price per unit			0.4.0	0.0	
labour cost ²	0.05	0.08	0.10	-0.3	
United States composite leading					
index $(1967 = 100)$	0.4	0.2	0.0	192.6	
TSE 300 stock price index (excluding					
oil and gas)	-2.2	-4.0	-4.0	3,400	
Money supply (M1) (\$1971) ³	0.2	0.0	-0.3	11,2015	
MOUS Supply (MII) (412/17	V.4	0.0	-0.0	11,201	

Composite index of housing starts (units), building permits (constant dollars) and mortgage loan approvals (numbers).

Difference from previous month.
 Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.
 Thousands of 1971 dollars.
 Millions of 1971 dollars.





New Motor Vehicle Sales January 1988

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 128,000 units in January 1988, an increase of 1.0% from the revised December 1987 level of 127,000 units. Passenger cars and commercial vehicles both rose by 1.0% in January.
- The modest increase in sales in January 1988 followed a decrease of 5.3% in December 1987 and further extended the trend of fluctuating but gently rising sales observed in 1987.

• On an origin basis, sales of imported passenger cars recorded an increase of 5.4% in January 1988 to a level of 30,000 units, while North American passenger cars declined by 1.1% to a level of 58,000 units. The gain in January for imported passenger car sales followed a drop of 7.7% in December, whereas North American built passenger car sales decreased for the second consecutive month.

Unadjusted Sales

Sales of all new motor vehicles totalled 89,000 units in January 1988, up 7.2% over the January 1987 level. Commercial vehicle sales advanced by 11.8%, the sixth consecutive monthly year-over-year increase, while passenger car sales recorded a gain of 5.1%.

(continued on page 5)

- Unit sales of imported passenger cars rose 6.5% from their level in January 1987 as increases in Japanese car sales (+27.2%) and in imported cars from other countries (+9.3%) more than offset a sales decrease by South Korean cars (-48.9%). Sales of North American built passenger cars rose 4.3%.
- The Japanese share of the Canadian passenger car market rose to 23.4% in January 1988 from 19.4% a year earlier. This gain was mainly at the expense of overseas manufacturers from other countries, as their market share declined to 10.6% from 14.2% in January 1987.
- Seven provinces registered higher unit sales of motor vehicles in January 1988 compared to January 1987. Decreases were recorded in Saskatchewan (-11.0%), Manitoba (-6.1%) and Prince Edward Island (-2.1%).

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.

(see table on page 6)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

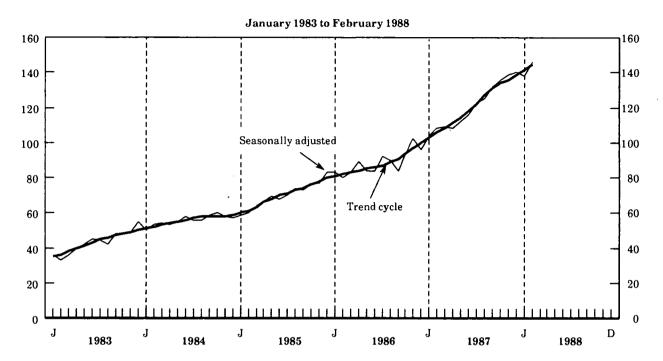
The January 1988 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$9/\$90) will be available the third week of April. See "How to Order Publications".

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

New Motor Vehicle Sales (Unadjusted) – Canada January 1988

	October 1987 ^r	November 1987	December 1987 ^r	January 1988 ^p
	Units % Change	Units % Change	Units % Change	Units % Change
Seasonally Adjusted Data				·
Total New Motor Vehicles	131,653 4.7	133,996 1.8	126,840 -5.3	128,149 1.0
Passenger Cars by Origin:				
North America	59,474 · 6.4	60,390 1.5	58,401 -3.3	57,7 42 -1.1
Overseas	30,331 -4.8	31,127 2.6	28,732 -7.7	30,297 5.4
Total	89,806 2.3	91,517 1.9	87,133 -4.8	88,039 1.0
Commercial Vehicles by Origin:	41,848 10.4	4 2, 479 1.5	39,707 -6.5	40,110 1.0
	January 1988	Change 1988/87 ^r	January 1988	Change 1988/87 ^r
	Units	%	\$000	%
Unadjusted Sales				
Total New Motor Vehicles	89,023	7.2	1,493,555	16.9
Passenger Cars by Origin:				
North America Japan Other Countries	39,179 13,922	4.3 27.2	586,137 215,344	15.9 38.5
(Including South Korea) (South Korea)	6,27 0 (2,195)	-21.9 (- 4 8.9)	125,21 4 (21,555)	-3.2 (- 4 1. 0)
Total	59,371	5.1	926,695	17.2
Commercial Vehicles by Origin:				
North America Overseas	26,916 2,736	12.4 6.5	523,407 43,453	16.6 14.5
Total	29,652	11.8	566,860	16.4

Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)



Help-wanted Index

February 1988

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.

Highlights

- The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) increased to 146 from 138 between January and February 1988, continuing its advance which commenced in April 1987 and which was interrupted last month. The Canada index reached its highest level since 1962, the first year for which data are available.
- The increase in the Canada index between January and February 1988 results from advances in the Quebec (to 163 from 144) and Ontario indexes (to 197 from 190). The increase in the Quebec index follows two

consecutive decreases. The index declined in the Atlantic (to 154 from 181) and the Prairie regions (to 58 from 62), while it remained unchanged at 58 in British Columbia.

 In February 1988, the Canada trend cycle¹ continued its advance which commenced in December 1982 (see chart).

(see table on page 8)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-951-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-951-4044), Labour Division.

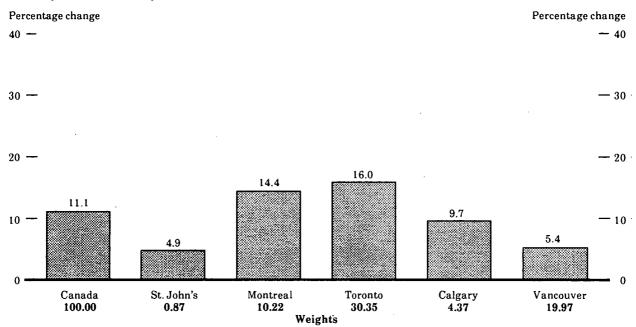
The trend cycle provides an indication of the direction in the demand for labour as estimated by the Help-wanted Index. It is calculated by the X-11 ARIMA seasonal adjustment program. Essentially, the calculation involves a 13-term Henderson moving average which smooths irregular fluctuations in the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

The Daily, March 10, 1988

Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100), Canada and Regions Seasonally Adjusted

British Columbia	Prairie Region	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic Region	Canada	Year and month
						1987
40	47	142	119	141	108	February
41	48	140	128	130	109	March
45	47	146	121	132	108	April
48	52	153	122	142	112	May
49	54	151	135	137	116	June
49	51	169	142	151	123	July
53	54	171	131	164	125	August
50	60	177	146	171	132	September
55	55	185	148	170	136	October
57	59	184	154	173	139	November
55	58,	189	150	164	140	December
						1988
58	62	190	144	181	` 138	January
58	58	197	163	154	146	February

Percentage Change in New Housing Price Index, Canada and Selected Cities January 1987 to January 1988



New Housing Price Index January 1988

The New Housing Price Index (1981 = 100) for Canada stood at 123.6 in January, up 0.3% from December. This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 11.1% higher than the year-earlier level. Between December and January, the estimated house only index increased 0.2%, while the estimated land only index increased 0.7%.

Among the cities surveyed, Calgary showed the largest monthly increase (2.7%) in new housing prices, followed by Victoria, with an increase of 2.4%. In the Toronto area, as in the Maritimes and Saskatchewan, there was no monthly price movement at the total level. Elsewhere, price increases were attributed to higher construction costs, which were passed on to buyers.

Generally, Southwestern Ontario cities, together with Montreal maintained yearly gains that were significantly higher than those experienced by other Canadian cities, with the exception of Calgary and Victoria. In Alberta and British Columbia, despite recent price rises, index levels remained below their 1981 price reference level of 100.

(see table on page 10)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 198.

The first quarter 1988 issue of Construction Price Statistics (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Prices Division (613-951-9607).

New Housing Price Indexes (1981 = 100)

					% Change	
	Weights ¹ 1987	Jan. '88	Dec. '87	Jan. '87	Jan. '88/ Dec. '87	Jan. '88/ Jan. '87
Canada Total	100.0	123.6	123.2	111.3	0.3	11.1
Canada (House only) Canada (Land only)		129.9 113.0	129.6 112.2	117.4 100.1	0.2 0.7	10.6 12.9
St. John's	0.87	114.2	114.2	108.9	_	4.9
Halifax	2.44	130.8	130.8	125.6	_	4.1
Saint John-Moncton	0.98	133.3	133.3	127.7	_	4.4
Quebec City	2.26	151.6	150.2	140.2	0.9	8.1
Montreal	10.22	162.0	160.3	141.6	1.1	14.4
Ottawa:Hull	5.74	141.7	141.5	133.1	0.1	6.5
Toronto	30.35	153.3	153.3	132.2	-	16.0
Hamilton	2.98	169.8	169.8	147.1	-	15.4
St. Catharines-Niagara	1.30	163.2	163.2	148.7	-	9.8
Kitchener-Waterloo	2.08	168.1	167.8	151.1	0.2	11.3
London	1.58	152.3	151.3	139.7	0.7	9.0
Windsor	0.90	123.0	122.7	116.3	0.2	5.8
Winnipeg	3.11	135.5	135.6	130.7	.0.1	3.7
Regina	0.90	118.2	118.2	115.0	-	2.8
Saskatoon	1.30	111.6	111.6	108.6	_	2.8
Calgary	4.37	99.8	97.2	91.0	2.7	9.7
Edmonton	4.86	91.7	91.1	87.0	0.7	5.4
Vancouver	19.97	78.4	78.3	74.4	0.1	5.4
Victoria	2.79	72.3	70.6	66.9	2.4	8.1

Nil or zero.

Surveys in Sudbury and Thunder Bay account for the remaining weight and are secured due to insufficient sample size.

The survey has been discontinued in Prince George.

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment

Third Quarter 1987

Highlights

- Provincial and territorial (general government) employment decreased slightly in September 1987 compared to September 1986. The general government category includes departments, boards, commissions, agencies and government-owned institutions but excludes government enterprises.
- There were 508,390 employees in September 1987 compared to 512,048 in September 1986, a decrease of 0.7% or 3,658 employees. This decline is in contrast to the gradual year-over-year increases that have occurred for the past two years.
- Employment in provincial and territorial government departments fell slightly by 0.7% or 2,275 employees from September 1986.
- Employment in government-owned institutions engaged in education and health and welfare services increased by 1.8% or 2,504 employees over September 1986. Higher employment at community colleges in British Columbia and Newfoundland and at hospitals in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories was mainly responsible for the increase.
- Employment for the other boards, commissions and agencies of government decreased significantly by 8.8% or 3,887 employees from the previous year. This decrease was due entirely to the reduction of temporary employees at the conclusion of Expo 86 in Vancouver.

Significant variations in general government employment were noted in five provinces and territories when compared to September 1986:

Decreases		
 British Columbia 	4,059	-6.7%
 Saskatchewan 	786	-3.3%
Increases		
 Northwest Territories 	376	8.3%
 Nova Scotia 	1,310	6.0%
 New Brunswick 	1,089	2.9%

- The increase in employment for the Northwest Territories was primarily the result of many departments showing small increases. In Nova Scotia, job creation programs in the Department of Social Services and new programs in the Department of Development were the major source of increased employment. For New Brunswick, the increase was concentrated in local school boards and in the departments of transportation, tourism, recreation and heritage and justice.
- The decrease in British Columbia reflected the layoffs by Expo 86 Corporation as noted above. For Saskatchewan, the adolescent component of the Saskatchewan Dental Plan was terminated as of September 1, 1987, resulting in the layoff of most employees associated with the plan. Other decreases occurred with the amalgamation of the departments of education, advanced education and the Saskatchewan library program.

(continued on page 12)

Provincial and Territorial Government Enterprises

 Employment in provincial and territorial government enterprises decreased to 156,237 - down 1.9% or 2,983 employees from September 1986.

Five provinces and territories showed significant employment variations during this period:

Decreases

Northwest TerritoriesQuebecSaskatchewan	20 3,256 398	-12.2% -8.2% -3.0%
Increases • Yukon • Newfoundland	10 296	11.9% 9.7%

 The above decreases for enterprises resulted from the privatization of some enterprises, layoffs or early retirement programs. Increased employment at Marystown Shipyard resulting from new contracts was the major factor in the employment rise for Newfoundland.

Total Government Employment

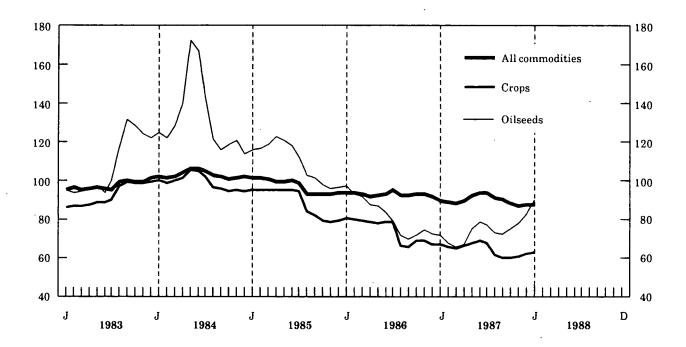
Compared to September 1986, total provincial and territorial government employment decreased slightly by 1.0% or 6,641 employees to 664,627. This is a continuation of the gradual year-over-year decreases of the last few months.

Available on CANSIM: monthly data by province or territory are located in matrix 2722. General government data are in series 1-1.12 and their corresponding payroll in series 2-2.12. Government enterprise employment data are in series 3-3.12 and their corresponding payroll in series 4-4.12.

The third quarter 1987 issue of Provincial and Territorial Government Employment (72-007, \$16.50/\$66) is scheduled to be released towards the end of April. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Terry Moore (613-951-8306) or Peter Dudley (613-951-1845), Public Institutions Division.

Farm Product Price Index (1981 = 100)



Farm Product Price Index January 1988

The Farm Product Price Index (1981 = 100) for Canada stood at 87.6 in January 1988, down 0.1% from the revised December 1987 level of 87.7. The index had risen in December after decreasing during the five previous months. Crop prices rose in January, offsetting declines in livestock prices. The January 1988 index stood 2.0% below the year-earlier level of 89.4.

The percentage changes in the index between December 1987 and January 1988 by province were as follows:

•	Newfoundland	-3.1%
•	Prince Edward Island	2.4%
•	Nova Scotia	-1.7%
•	New Brunswick	-1.4%
•	Quebec	-0.7%
•	Ontario	-2.1%
•	Manitoba	-1.1%
•	Saskatchewan	1.4%
•	Alberta	3.4%
•	British Columbia	-0.3%
•	Canada	-0.1%

Crops

The crops index increased in January for the third consecutive month and stood at 63.0 after falling during the previous four months. Despite the increase, the crops index has been relatively steady since August 1987 at around the level set in February 1978. Oilseed, cereal and potato prices rose in January.

• The oilseeds index increased 9.1% in January to a level of 90.3. The index has risen 25% since September 1987 and with the increase in January 1988 was at its highest point since March 1986. Increases for oilseed products, causing a tightening in supplies, were associated with the price increase.

(continued on page 14)

- The potato index increased for the second consecutive month, mainly due to higher processing potato prices. After falling 43% between July and November, the index has risen 4.4% during the past two months. Potato prices had been falling as the potato crops harvested in both Canada and the United States in 1987 were larger than in the previous year.
- The cereals index stood at 48.0 in January, up 1.9% from the previous month. A larger proportion of high quality wheat was delivered to the Canadian Wheat Board in January, resulting in higher wheat prices. Feed grain prices also increased in January. The cereals index was 12.1% below its year-earlier level, largely due to lower Canadian Wheat Board initial prices for wheat and barley which took effect in August 1987. Since August 1987, the index has been at its lowest point since July 1973 and was 55% below the January 1981 peak of 107.0.

Livestock and Animal Products

The total livestock and animal products index decreased 0.8% in January 1988. Lower prices for hogs and poultry offset higher cattle and egg prices, while those for milk showed little change. The index has now fallen 6.7% from the record level reached in August 1987.

Hog prices fell 6.6% in January. After increasing 32% between March and June 1987, the hog index subsequently fell 33% due to increased pork production in Canada and the United States. In January, the index stood at 90.5, 14.8% below its year-earlier level, and at its lowest point since May 1985.

- The egg index rose 1.1% in January to 104.2, largely due to an increase in prices set by the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency on December 27, 1987. Higher feed costs, the major component of the cost of production formula for eggs, were the cause of the egg price increase. The egg index, at 1.6% above its year-earlier level, has not fallen for five months.
- The cattle index increased 1.0% in January as prices rose for feeder cattle and calves due to strong demand. The cattle index, at 116.0, had been trending upward from July 1986 and reached a record level in September 1987. The index has fallen 2.1% since September.

User Note

The index is designed to measure changes in prices received by producers when ownership of a commodity first changes hands. Prices used in the index for Western wheat, oats and barley sold to the Canadian Wheat Board prior to August 1986 are final prices. Beginning in August 1986, initial prices are used and therefore exclude any forthcoming adjustment or final payments. Sub-indexes for livestock, crops and their components are also available on a provincial basis.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The January issue of Farm Product Price Index (62-003, \$6.50/\$65) is scheduled for release March 23. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Paul Murray (613-951-2437), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division.

Data Availability Announcements.

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin

December 1987

Highlights from the December issue of the Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin are as follows:

- An operating income of \$367.1 million was reported by the Canadian Level I air carriers in 1987, a 27.3% increase over the 1986 level of \$288.4 million and the highest operating income reported since the survey was initiated in 1981. Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.
- Total aircraft movements at Transport Canada tower controlled airports for the first 11 months of 1987 increased by 6.0% over this period of 1986.
- Scheduled passengers enplaning and deplaning at Victoria International airport during the third quarter of 1987 increased 55.3% from the same quarter a year earlier. This increase can be explained by the fact that Air Canada and Canadian Airlines reentered this market.

The Vol. 20, No. 3 issue of the Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin (51-004, \$8.50/\$85) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Aviation Statistics Centre (819-997-1986), Transportation Division.

Steel Ingots

Week Ending March 5, 1988

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending March 5, 1988 totalled 273 121 tonnes, a decrease of 5.3% from the preceding week's total of 288 514 tonnes and down 7.6% from the year-earlier level of 295 532 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1988 was 2 663 463 tonnes, a decrease of 0.1% from 2 666 578 tonnes for the same period in 1987.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gerry Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division.

Production of Eggs

January 1988

Canadian egg production increased by 0.5% to 42.5 million dozen in January 1988 from 42.3 million a year earlier. The average number of layers increased by 0.1% from January 1987, while the number of eggs per 100 layers increased to 2,161 from 2,151.

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

The January 1988 issue of *Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry* (23-003, \$11/\$110) is scheduled for release on March 31. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Peter Beerstecher (613-951-2505), Agriculture Division.



Publications Released

Livestock Report - Pigs, January 1, 1988. Catalogue number 23-008

(Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16/\$64).

Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, February 1988. Catalogue number 32-012 (Canada: \$11.50/\$115; Other Countries: \$12.50/\$125).

Footwear Statistics, December 1987. Catalogue number 33-002 (Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1987. Catalogue number 61-003

(Canada: \$50/\$200; Other Countries: \$60/\$240).

Farm Input Price Index, Fourth Quarter 1987. Catalogue number 62-004 (Canada: \$11.25/\$45; Other Countries: \$12.25/\$49).

Retail Trade, November 1987. Catalogue number 63-005 (Canada: \$16/\$160; Other Countries: \$17/\$170).

Labour Force Information, February 1988. Catalogue number 71-001P (Canada: \$5.50/\$55; Other Countries: \$6.50/\$65). Available March 11th at 7:00 a.m.

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.

The Daily

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