

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, March 21, 1988

## Major Release

### Department Store Sales and Stocks, January 1988

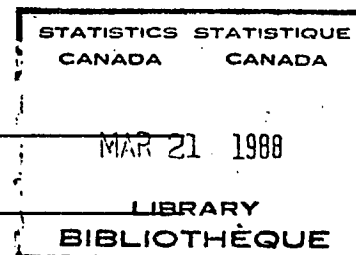
- Seasonally adjusted, department store sales decreased 5.4%, following three consecutive monthly increases.

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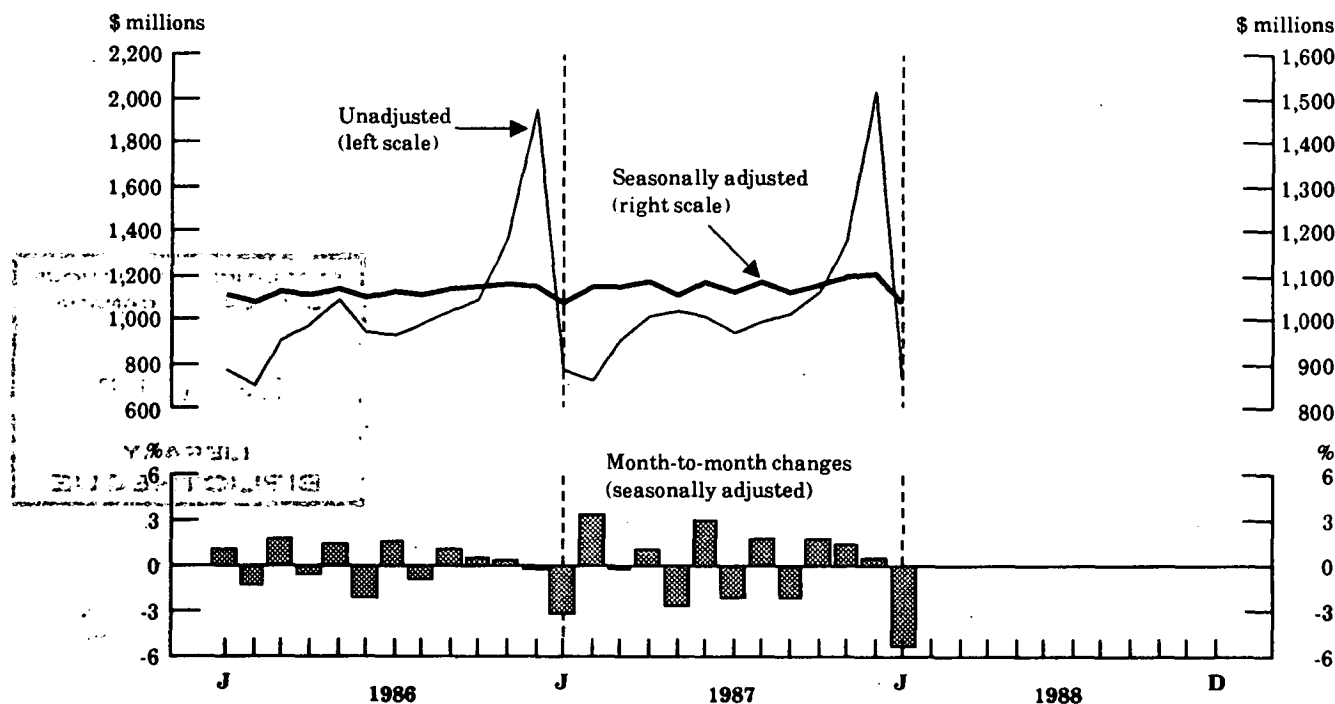


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## Major Release

### Department Store Sales, by Month, Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted, Canada, 1986-1988



### Department Store Sales and Stocks January 1988

#### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Data

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, department store sales in January 1988 totalled \$1,038 million, a substantial decrease of 5.4% from the previous month's revised total of \$1,097 million.
- The decrease in January sales contrasts with the generally upward trend observed in the last three months of 1987, when sales showed an average monthly growth of 1.2%.

- Seasonally adjusted, department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$4,240 million at the end of January 1988, down 1.8% from the December 1987 revised value of \$4,316 million. This constitutes the fourth consecutive monthly decrease.

- The ratio of inventories to sales stood at 4.08:1 in January, down from the average ratio of 4.15:1 observed during 1987.

#### Unadjusted Data

- Removing the affect of the sale of Woodward stores Ltd.'s food division, department store sales declined 0.5% from January 1987, to a level of \$730 million.

(continued on page 3)

- On a provincial basis, corrected for structural changes, five provinces posted decreases in January 1988 from the corresponding month in 1987. Increases were recorded in Prince Edward Island (+5.2%), Nova Scotia (+3.6%), New Brunswick (+3.2%), British Columbia (+2.8%) and Ontario (+1.0%). Sales were down in five of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed.
- Not adjusted for seasonal variations, department store stocks at month-end totalled \$3,749 million, a modest decrease of 0.2% from the level in January 1987.

**Note to Users:**

Users should note that the year-over-year movements for some provinces and census metropolitan areas have been affected by major structural changes during 1987, including the sale of Woodward Stores Ltd.'s food department to Canada Safeway Ltd.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 112.

The January 1988 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$13/\$130) will be available the first week of May. See "How to Order Publications".

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

## Data Availability Announcements

### Microdata Tape on Family Food Expenditure 1986

A microdata tape that contains detailed information on food expenditures of families and unattached individuals in Canada for the calendar year 1986 is now available. The tape includes socio-economic and income information of the spending unit, as well as weekly expenditures and quantities on individual food items. The type of outlet in which each purchase was made is also indicated. The data included on the tape were collected from the Food Expenditure Survey in 1986. Results from this survey will be published in *Family Food Expenditure in Canada, 1986* (62-554) later this year.

This is the second tape on food expenditures to be released from the Food Expenditure Survey. It contains information from 10,919 spending units. All records have been thoroughly screened, and in a few cases modified to assure the anonymity of respondents. The tape costs \$700.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Tom Greenberg (613-951-4644), Household Surveys Division.

### Notifiable Disease Summary

Four-week Period Ending February 13, 1988

Statistics and new cases of notifiable diseases for the four-week period ending February 13, 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, contact Beth Sander (613-951-1746), Health Division.

### Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period ending March 7, 1988

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 5.0 million tonnes, an increase of 4.3% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic increased 23.5% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 8.8%.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 2.4% more than that loaded in the previous year.

### Railway Carloadings

	Seven-day Period ending March 7, 1988	Year to date
<b>Carload Traffic</b>		
Tonnes	4 999 473	44 415 653
% change from previous year	4.3	2.4
Cars	72,914	648,062
% change from previous year	1.0	-0.2
<b>Piggyback Traffic</b>		
Tonnes	286 658	2 444 358
% change from previous year	23.5	8.9
Cars	9,643	82,024
% change from previous year	8.8	0.9

**Note:** Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. The 1987 figures and the 1988 year-to-date figures have been revised. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus McLean (613-951-2484), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division.

## **Sugar Sales**

February 1988

Canadian sugar refiners reported total sales of 71 968 259 kilograms for all types of sugar in February 1988, comprising 68 400 266 kilograms in domestic sales and 3 567 993 kilograms in export sales. The 1988 year-to-date sales reported for all types of sugar totalled 134 524 637<sup>r</sup> (revised figure) kilograms, 127 908 935<sup>r</sup> kilograms in domestic sales and 6 615 702 kilograms in export sales.

This compares to total sales of 75 985 000 kilograms in February 1987, of which 71 098 000 kilograms were domestic sales and 4 887 000 kilograms were export sales. The 1987 year-to-date sales reported for all types of sugar totalled 149 932 000 kilograms, 139 012 000 kilograms in domestic sales and 10 920 000 export sales.

The February 1988 issue of *The Sugar Situation* (32-013, \$4.50/\$45) is scheduled to be released the first week of April. See "How to Order Publications".

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

## **Construction Type Plywood**

January 1988

Canadian firms produced 171 058 cubic metres (193,308,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) of construction type plywood during January 1988, a decrease of 3.2% from the 176 673 cubic metres (199,653,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) produced during January 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The January 1988 issue of *Construction Type Plywood* (35-001, \$4.50/\$45) is scheduled to be released the week of March 28. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604-666-2671), British Columbia and Yukon Regional Office, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9.

## **Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins**

January 1988

Canadian chemical firms produced 135 832 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in January 1988, an increase of 23.1% from the 110 326<sup>r</sup> (revised figure) tonnes produced in January 1987.

Data are also available on Canadian production of three other types of synthetic resins and 28 industrial chemicals for January 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The January 1988 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins* (46-002, \$5/\$50) is scheduled to be released the week of March 28. See "How to Order Publications".

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

## **Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes**

January 1988

Canadian manufacturers produced 2,997,947 phonograph records in January 1988, down 15.7% from the 3,555,800 produced a year earlier. Production of tapes decreased to 3,246,163 in January 1988, down 0.2% from 3,253,688 tapes in January 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2904.

The January 1988 issue of *Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada* (47-004, \$4.50/\$45) is scheduled to be released this week. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Marie-Pierre Longtin (613-951-3521), Industry Division.



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## Publications Released

### **Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas**

**Production, November 1987.**

**Catalogue number 26-006**

(Canada: \$9/\$90; Other Countries: \$10/\$100).

### **Gas Utilities, October 1987.**

**Catalogue number 55-002**

(Canada: \$11.50/\$115; Other Countries: \$12.50/\$125).

## 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.*

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### **Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information**

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