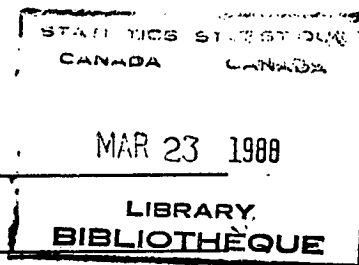


# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, March 23, 1988



## Major Release

### Wholesale Trade, January 1988

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- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 11.7% over January 1987.

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Fur Production, 1986-87

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## Major Release

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### Wholesale Trade

January 1988

#### Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for January 1988 were 11.7% above those of January 1987. This year-over-year rise follows gains of 13.1% in December 1987 and 18.5% in November.
- In January 1988, all major trade groups within wholesale trade registered increased sales over a year earlier except for wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-1.5%). The three largest trade groups recorded increases over January 1987: wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+14.7%); wholesalers of food (+1.0%); and, other wholesalers (+16.5%).
- Wholesale trade increases between January 1987 and January 1988 were posted in all regions, ranging from 12.3% in Ontario to 9.8% in British Columbia, the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

#### Inventories

- Inventory levels in January 1988 were 10.5% higher than those reported in January 1987. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of January 1988 stood at 1.68:1, down slightly from 1.70:1 recorded in the corresponding month of 1987.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 44.

The January 1988 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5.50/\$55) will be available the third week of April. 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 January 1988/1987

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales		Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	Dec. 1987/86 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1988/87 <sup>p</sup>	Dec. 1987/86 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1988/87 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1987 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1988 <sup>p</sup>
<b>Total all trades</b>	13.1	11.7	8.5	10.5	1.70	1.68
Food	5.7	1.0	4.5	8.2	0.74	0.79
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	11.2	6.8	3.7	5.8	1.06	1.05
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	9.7	8.1	6.5	9.8	2.19	2.23
Motor vehicles and accessories	-8.4	14.6	9.3	5.7	2.34	2.16
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	29.4	-1.5	3.9	8.1	3.62	3.97
Other machinery, equipment and supplies <sup>1</sup>	22.3	14.7	5.9	8.4	1.77	1.67
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	19.5	18.2	6.7	8.7	1.77	1.62
Lumber and building materials	8.6	16.3	21.3	21.7	1.74	1.82
Other wholesalers <sup>2</sup>	21.1	16.5	11.9	16.5	1.83	1.83
<b>Regions</b>						
Atlantic provinces	17.1	12.0	13.7	12.3	1.56	1.57
Quebec	9.1	12.1	12.8	13.7	1.62	1.65
Ontario	12.1	12.3	7.8	11.1	1.66	1.64
Prairie provinces	19.8	10.9	4.9	8.4	2.21	2.16
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	14.9	9.8	6.3	4.4	1.46	1.39

<sup>1</sup> Includes: electrical machinery, equipment and supplies; and machinery and equipment, n.e.s.

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

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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## Data Availability Announcements

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### Provincial Government Enterprise Finance 1985

In 1985, provincial government business enterprises earned an after-tax profit of \$2,711 million, up \$371 million (16%) over the previous year.

Total income reached \$35,536 million, an increase of \$1,563 million (or 5%) over 1984. Sales of goods and services, and investment income remained the largest sources of income. Sales of goods and services were \$30,290 million, up 3% over 1984 and investment income grew by 14% in 1985 to reach a level of \$4,669 million.

The debt of provincial government enterprises stood at \$122,189 million at the end of 1985, up \$7,127 million over the previous year. This annual increase in debt is the smallest one recorded over the last five years and resulted primarily from a slowdown in the construction of new facilities by the provincial hydros.

The 1985 issue of *Provincial Government Enterprise Finance* (61-204, \$25) is scheduled to be released in April. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Richard Sauriol (613-951-1832) or Jeannine d'Angelo (613-951-1834), Assets, Liabilities and Enterprises Section, Public Institutions Division.

### Fur Production 1986-87

The value of pelts during the 1986-87 season was \$150,129,659 - up 50.1% from the previous season. Wildlife pelts brought in \$75,265,391 or 50.1% of the total. Fur farm production accounted for \$74,864,268 - up from \$49,465,211 (revised figure) the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5692-5699 and 9511-9515.

The 1986-87 issue of *Fur Production* (23-207, \$30) is scheduled to be released mid-April. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact R. Koroluk (613-951-2549), Agriculture Division.

### Steel Ingots Week Ending March 19, 1988

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending March 19, 1988 totalled 299 985 tonnes, an increase of 7.3% from the preceding week's total of 279 507 tonnes and up 0.7% from the year-earlier level of 298 010 tonnes.

The cumulative total in 1988 was 3 226 970 tonnes, an increase of 1.3% from 3 184 219 tonnes for the same period in 1987.

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

## **Sawmills East of the Rockies**

January 1988

Production of lumber in sawmills east of the Rockies decreased 2.4% to 1 789 255 cubic metres (758,244,000 feet board measure) in January 1988 from 1 833 102 cubic metres (776,825,000 feet board measure) after revisions in January 1987.

Stocks on hand at the end of January 1988 totalled 2 528 707 cubic metres (1,071,606,000 feet board measure), an increase of 15.2% compared to 2 195 048 cubic metres (930,209,000 feet board measure) in January 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2 and 2.2) and 122 (series 2).

The January 1988 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies* (35-002, \$9/\$90) is scheduled to be released the week of April 4. See "How to Order Publications".

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

**The  
Daily**

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

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada \$100/year; other countries \$125/year

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Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-951-1198)

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The Daily, March 23, 1988

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## Publications Released

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**Canadian Economic Observer, March 1987.**  
**Catalogue number 11-010**

(Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries:  
\$22.50/\$225).

**Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 2, March**  
**Intentions of Principal Field Crops Area,**  
**Canada. Catalogue number 22-002**

(Canada: \$7.50/\$52; Other Countries:  
\$8.50/\$58). Available today at 3:00 p.m.

**Inventories, Shipments and Orders in**  
**Manufacturing Industries, November 1987.**  
**Catalogue number 31-001**

(Canada: \$16.50/\$165; Other Countries:  
\$17.50/\$175).

**Oils and Fats, November 1987.**

**Catalogue number 32-006**

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

**Retail Trade, December 1987.**

**Catalogue number 63-005**

(Canada: \$16/\$160; Other Countries:  
\$17/\$170).

**New Motor Vehicle Sales, November 1987.**

**Catalogue number 63-007**

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

**Wholesale Trade, December 1987.**

**Catalogue number 63-008**

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

**Building Permits, November 1987.**

**Catalogue number 64-001**

(Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries:  
\$21/\$210).

**Quarterly Demographic Statistics,**  
**April-June 1987.**

**Catalogue number 91-002**

(Canada: \$7/\$28; Other Countries: \$8/\$32).

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### How to Order Publications

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chased by mail order from Publication Sales,  
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