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Statistics Canada

Friday, February 17, 1989

Major Releases

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Consumer Price Index, January 1989

- In January, the CPI year-to-year increase was 4.3%, up from the 4.0% rise reported in December.

(continued on page 2)



Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade December 1988

The free trade agreement with the United States, in the years to come, represents an opportunity to strengthen Canada's position in the world as one of the more open and vigorous economies. The external trade sector will continue to play an important role in the life of millions of Canadians.

The *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade* (65-001P) is the most timely source of information on Canada's international merchandise trade. This short bulletin provides the latest key statistics on values, price indexes, trend analysis and charts which enable the reader to clearly grasp the latest developments in Canadian international trade.

Composite Leading Indicator November 1988

The release of the composite leading indicator for November 1988 is delayed until February 22 due to extensive restructuring of the components, together with revisions to source data and standardization factors. The system of the leading indicators was reviewed to increase its timeliness and accuracy.

These changes will be described in a feature article in the February issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$200/\$225), to be released on February 22.



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Major Releases - Continued

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, December 1988 10

- Canada's trade surplus narrowed in 1988 to \$8.8 billion, a \$2.2 billion decline from the 1987 level.

Homicide in Canada, 1988 12

- In 1988, a total of 565 homicides occurred in Canada, the lowest level in 15 years.

Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, December and Annual 1988 14

- For the fourth consecutive month, overnight trips to Canada by non-residents reached the highest monthly level since 1972.

International Travel Account, Fourth Quarter and Annual 1988 18

- Unadjusted for seasonal variation, Canada's travel account showed a large deficit in the fourth quarter of 1988. For the year 1988, the deficit reached a record level of \$2.8 billion.

Data Availability Announcements

Youth Court Survey, 1987-88 21

Export and Import Price Indexes, December 1988 21

Processed Pumpkin and Squash, 1988 21

The Printing, Publishing and Allied Products Industries, 1986 Census of Manufacturers 21

Publications Released 22

Regional Reference Centres 23

Major Release Dates: February 20 to 24, 1989 24

Major Releases

Consumer Price Index

January 1989

National Highlights

The All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada advanced by 0.5% between December 1988 and January 1989 to reach a level of 146.8 (1981=100). Six of the seven major component indexes registered increases ranging from 0.2% to 1.2% while the Recreation, Reading and Education index fell by 1.3%. The major impact on the latest change in the CPI resulted, in rank order, from increases of 1.2% in the Food index, 1.0% in the Transportation index and 0.4% in the Housing index.

Seasonally adjusted, the All-items index rose by 0.4% in January, slightly higher than the 0.3% reported in December.

The year-to-year increase in the CPI, between January 1988 and January 1989, was 4.3%, up from the 4.0% rise reported for December 1988. The compound annual rate of increase between October and January was 4.5%, noticeably faster than the 3.9% reported for the previous three-month period ending in December.

Food

The Food index advanced by 1.2% in January following a 0.3% fall in December. The latest change resulted from increases of 1.5% in the index for Food Purchased from Stores and 0.5% in that for Food Purchased from Restaurants. A substantial proportion of the increase in the former index was due to seasonally higher prices for some goods.

Much of the upward pressure on the index for Food Purchased from Stores came from higher prices for selected fresh vegetables, chicken, soft drinks, dairy products and eggs. Higher prices were also observed for turkey as well as prepared and ready cooked meat. Some part of the upward movement was offset by lower prices for fresh fruit (mainly for citrus fruits) and for selected beef and pork products. The Fresh Vegetable index advanced by 7.3%, mostly due to sharp price increases noted for cucumbers and lettuce. Chicken, turkey and soft drink prices rose as Christmas holiday specials ended. Fluid milk and egg prices rose in response to moderate advances in producer prices which came into effect in late 1988 and in early January.

Note to Users

January is the first month for which the CPI is calculated using weights based on 1986 expenditure patterns rather than the 1982 patterns which have been used for the past four years. The *Consumer Price Index Reference Paper: Updating Based on 1986 Expenditures* (62-553, \$44/\$46) is now available.

For further sources of information contact your local Statistics Canada Regional Office or the Information and Current Analysis Unit, Prices Division (613) 951-9606 or 951-3353.

Over the 12-month period, January 1988 to January 1989, the Food index rose by 3.0%, slightly faster than the 2.9% reported in the previous 12-month period ending in December. The latest change comprised increases of 2.2% in the Food Purchased from Stores index and 5.5% in the Food Purchased from Restaurants index.

All-items excluding Food

Between December 1988 and January 1989, the All-items excluding Food index increased by 0.3%, up from the 0.1% rise observed the month before. Advances in the Transportation index (1.0%) and the Housing index (0.4%) were responsible for the bulk of the latest change. At the same time, a major proportion of the upward impact was eroded by a fall of 1.3% in the Recreation, Reading and Education index.

The 1.0% increase in the Transportation index was led by an 8.9% advance in the Public Transportation component, which, in turn, was heavily influenced by a 16.8% rise in air fares. Local transportation charges also rose, as widespread increases in local bus and taxi fares were reported. The Private Transportation index climbed by a moderate 0.3% as increases in automobile insurance premiums and gasoline were offset partially by a decline in automobile prices. Prices of light trucks and vans, included in the index for the first time, rose slightly.

Advances in the indexes for Owned Accommodation (0.5%), for Water, Fuel and Electricity (1.6%) and for Rented Accommodation (0.3%) were

(continued on page 4)

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

	Indexes			Percentage change Jan. 1989 from	
	Jan. 1989	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988
All-items	146.8	146.1	140.8	0.5	4.3
Food	138.1	136.5	134.1	1.2	3.0
All-items excluding food	149.3	148.8	142.7	0.3	4.6
Housing	148.1	147.5	141.6	0.4	4.6
Clothing	131.9	131.6	125.9	0.2	4.8
Transportation	145.4	143.9	140.5	1.0	3.5
Health and personal care	148.4	147.8	142.0	0.4	4.5
Recreation, reading and education	146.7	148.7	139.9	-1.3	4.9
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	202.9	201.9	189.6	0.5	7.0
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1981	68.1	68.4	71.0		
All-items Consumer Price Index converted to 1971 = 100	347.8				

the principal factors contributing to the 0.4% rise in the Housing index. The increase in the first index resulted mainly from higher mortgage interest costs, but also from a moderate rise in the price of new houses. In the case of the second index, widespread rate increases were noted for the supply of water (3.4%), electricity (2.1%) and domestic gas (0.3%). Fuel oil prices edged up by 0.5% as well. The rise in the Rented Accommodation index was concentrated in Ontario and British Columbia.

Increases in the Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages index (0.5%), in the Health and Personal Care index (0.4%) and in the Clothing index (0.2%), each contributed marginally to the latest rise in the All-items excluding Food index.

A noticeable proportion of the rise in the All-items excluding Food index was dampened by a decline of 1.3% in the Recreation, Reading and Education index. Most of this was due to a marked seasonal drop in the prices for packaged holiday trips which caused the Recreation index to fall by 1.8%. At the same time, the Reading index rose by 0.7% as several daily newspapers announced higher prices.

Over the 12-month period, January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items excluding Food index rose by 4.6% compared to an increase of 4.3% reported in the previous 12-month period ending in December.

Goods and Services

The Goods index climbed by 0.5% in January following a fall of 0.1% reported in December. The Services index advanced by 0.4% in the latest month after a moderate 0.1% rise in the previous month. Between January 1988 and January 1989, the Goods index slowed slightly, rising by 3.3% compared to a 3.4% increase reported in December. By contrast, the Services index posted a gain of 5.4% in the latest 12-month period compared to a rise of 4.8% noted in December.

City Highlights

Between December 1988 and January 1989, movements in the All-items indexes for cities for which CPIs are published ranged from an unchanged status in St. John's to a rise of 0.8% in Saint John, Regina and Vancouver. In St. John's, increases in the Food, Housing and Transportation indexes were offset by declines in the Clothing and Health and Personal Care indexes. In Regina, above average increases were posted for the Food, Housing, and Health and Personal Care indexes. In Saint John, higher than average price increases were

(continued on page 5)

reported in the indexes for Food, Clothing, and Transportation. In Vancouver, greater than average increases were observed in the Food and Transportation indexes.

Between January 1988 and January 1989, increases in All-items indexes ranged from a low of 1.1% in Calgary to 6.2% in Toronto.

Main Contributors to Monthly Changes in the All-Items Index

St. John's

The All-items index remained unchanged overall, due to a number of offsetting effects. Among those factors contributing an upward pressure were higher food prices and increased transportation costs. Within Food, advances were noted in the prices of poultry, prepared meats, dairy products, cereal and bakery products, fresh vegetables, sugar, tea and restaurant meals. The rise in the Transportation index was largely due to higher air fares and increased costs for local bus travel. The Housing index rose marginally, as increased charges for owned accommodation were almost totally offset by declines in long-distance telephone charges and lower prices for household textiles. The Clothing index declined sharply, almost completely offsetting the impact of the above increases. Charges for personal care supplies fell as well. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 2.2%.

Charlottetown/Summerside

The All-items index rose by a marginal 0.1%. Among the main contributors to the upward movement were higher food prices, most notably for pork, chicken, milk, fresh vegetables, coffee, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Higher charges for rented and owned accommodation and a rise in air fares also exerted a notable upward impact. Prices for medicinal and pharmaceutical products also advanced. Partially dampening these advances were declines in electricity charges and in prices for clothing, new cars and gasoline. From January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items index has risen 3.2%.

Halifax

Higher food prices (especially for chicken, fresh vegetables and restaurant meals) and advances in

owned accommodation charges, water rates and child care expenses were among the main contributing factors in the 0.6% rise in the All-items index. Transportation costs were up, most notably for air fares and taxi fares (new car prices declined). Newspaper prices also rose, as did the costs of personal care supplies. Clothing prices were up marginally. Long-distance telephone charges declined. Between January 1988 and January 1989, the All-items index advanced 4.1%.

Saint John

The 0.8% rise in the All-items index largely reflected higher food prices and increased transportation costs. The Food index rose as a result of higher prices for pork, eggs, cereal and bakery products, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables and restaurant meals. The rise in the Transportation index was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline, increased vehicle registration fees and higher air fares. Advances were also noted in owned accommodation charges, water rates and in personal care supply costs. Men's wear prices were also up. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 3.5%.

Quebec City

Higher food prices (especially for poultry, dairy products, eggs, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals) and increased transportation costs (notably air fares, local bus fares, vehicle maintenance and repair costs and new car prices) explained most of the 0.1% rise in the All-items index. Owned accommodation charges advanced, as did the costs of personal care supplies and medicinal and pharmaceutical products. The Clothing index remained unchanged overall, as higher prices for men's wear were completely offset by lower prices for women's and boys' wear. Partially dampening the overall upward movement were lower prices for household textiles and decreased costs for packaged holiday trips. From January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items index has advanced 3.1%.

(continued on page 6)

Montreal

The All-items index rose 0.3% with the major upward impact originating from advances in the Food and Transportation indexes. The rise in the Food index was due to higher prices for chicken, bakery products, dairy products, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. The rise in the Transportation index mainly reflected higher charges for air travel and increased fares for local transit. Higher owned accommodation charges were also posted, along with increased fuel oil prices. The Clothing index remained unchanged overall, while charges for packaged holiday trips declined. Since January 1988, the All-items index has increased 3.8%.

Ottawa

The All-items index rose 0.5%, largely reflecting higher owned accommodation charges, increased electricity rates and higher prices for fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Other notable advances were observed in local transit fares, air fares and in the costs of beer purchased from stores. Charges for personal care supplies were also up. Declines were observed in the costs of packaged holiday trips and in the prices of household textiles. Between January 1988 and January 1989, the All-items index advanced 4.9%.

Toronto

Among the main contributors to the 0.6% rise in the All-items index were higher charges for electricity and for owned accommodation, increased fares for local transit and air travel and higher overall food prices, most notably for poultry, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Prices for women's wear, gasoline and personal care supplies were also up. The cost of beer purchased from stores advanced as well. Prices for new cars, household textiles and packaged holiday trips declined. From January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items index rose 6.2%.

Thunder Bay

Advances in the Food, Housing and Transportation components accounted for most of the 0.6% rise in the All-items index. Within Food, higher prices were noted for fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. Higher air fares were responsible

for the rise in the Transportation index. The Housing component advanced as a result of higher charges for owned accommodation, natural gas and electricity. Price increases for beer purchased from stores were also noted. Charges for packaged holiday trips declined. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 4.8%.

Winnipeg

Higher food prices (most notably for dairy products, fresh vegetables and soft drinks) combined with increased transportation costs (mainly air fares) explained a large part of the 0.3% rise in the All-items index. Charges for water and owned accommodation advanced, but were largely offset by a decline in long-distance telephone charges and lower prices for household textiles. Prices for personal care supplies were also up. Clothing prices declined, as did charges for packaged holiday trips. Between January 1988 and January 1989, the All-items index has advanced 5.0%.

Regina

Increases in food prices (especially dairy products, fresh produce and soft drinks), higher rates for water, natural gas and electricity, and a rise in owned accommodation costs were largely responsible for the 0.8% rise in the All-items index. Air fares and charges for personal care supplies also advanced, while declines were noted in the prices of household textiles, gasoline and long-distance telephone calls. From January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items index advanced 3.3%.

Saskatoon

The All-items index rose 0.5% with higher food prices explaining a large part of the overall advance. Higher prices for beef, dairy products, fresh vegetables and soft drinks were the main contributing factors in the rise in the Food index. Natural gas and electricity charges advanced, as did the cost of air travel. Charges for long-distance telephone calls, household textiles and gasoline declined. Owned accommodation charges fell slightly. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 2.9%.

(continued on page 7)

Edmonton

Among the main contributors to the 0.7% rise in the All-items index were higher food prices (notably beef, cured and prepared meats, fresh produce, coffee, soft drinks and restaurant meals) and increased transportation costs. The rise in the Transportation index mainly reflected higher vehicle insurance premiums, increased local transit fares as well as air fares. Advances were also noted in water rates and in charges for rented and owned accommodation. Moderating these advances were declines in the prices of women's wear, gasoline and packaged holiday trips. Charges for natural gas were also down. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 3.0%.

Calgary

Higher food prices, especially for bakery products, fresh produce, and soft drinks, combined with increased housing charges explained a large part of the 0.5% rise in the All-items index. Within Housing, higher rented and owned accommodation charges were observed. Charges for water and electricity advanced as well. Higher transportation charges (most notably for vehicle insurance premiums and air fares) also exerted a considerable upward impact. Gasoline prices declined. From January 1988 to January 1989, the All-items index has risen 1.1%.

Vancouver

The 0.8% rise in the All-items index was largely due to higher vehicle insurance premiums and increased air fares. Higher food prices also exerted a notable upward impact, particularly for beef, poultry, dairy products, fresh vegetables and restaurant meals. Increased charges for rented and owned accommodation were also observed. Prices for personal care supplies, wine and newspapers rose as well. Clothing prices and long-distance telephone charges declined. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 3.6%.

Victoria

The All-items index rose 0.5% with the major upward impact originating in the Food and Transportation components. Within Food, higher prices were noted for chicken, dairy products, cereal and bakery products, fresh vegetables, soft drinks and restaurant meals. The rise in the Transportation index reflected advances in vehicle insurance premiums and higher air fares. Higher owned accommodation charges also exerted a considerable upward influence. Prices for clothing and wine advanced as well. Fuel oil prices and long-distance telephone charges declined. Since January 1988, the All-items index has risen 3.1%.

(see table on pages 8 and 9)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1922-1940.

The January 1989 issue of *The Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$8.50/\$85) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on 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								
January 1989 index	139.8	125.8	139.3	133.2	139.4	144.0	145.4	190.3
% change from December 1988	0.0	0.5	0.1	-2.5	0.7	-0.4	0.0	0.0
% change from January 1988	2.2	3.0	0.9	1.8	2.6	2.7	3.9	3.3
Charlottetown/Summerside								
January 1989 index	137.9	130.4	133.2	120.9	134.2	153.1	153.6	203.8
% change from December 1988	0.1	0.6	-0.1	-1.8	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
% change from January 1988	3.2	4.1	1.4	1.6	2.0	5.6	4.8	9.7
Halifax								
January 1989 index	144.2	134.4	143.1	125.5	141.9	154.9	155.6	203.5
% change from December 1988	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.0
% change from January 1988	4.1	7.9	2.6	2.6	3.0	5.6	5.2	4.7
Saint John								
January 1989 index	144.3	137.3	145.4	125.9	139.7	143.9	153.2	209.2
% change from December 1988	0.8	1.5	0.3	0.5	1.6	0.6	0.1	0.2
% change from January 1988	3.5	3.3	2.1	3.8	3.6	4.3	4.9	8.6
Quebec City								
January 1989 index	146.5	140.7	149.7	131.1	142.2	150.8	134.6	199.0
% change from December 1988	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.3	-1.8	0.0
% change from January 1988	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.6	1.3	4.9	3.9	4.3
Montreal								
January 1989 index	148.5	141.5	152.4	129.9	148.5	148.0	140.5	199.2
% change from December 1988	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.5	-1.9	0.1
% change from January 1988	3.8	3.2	4.6	3.6	2.8	4.3	4.0	4.1
Ottawa								
January 1989 index	147.9	134.1	151.8	133.5	151.1	153.8	144.4	199.7
% change from December 1988	0.5	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.3	-1.6	0.7
% change from January 1988	4.9	4.7	4.0	5.1	5.3	7.1	4.6	9.4
Toronto								
January 1989 index	153.8	143.1	159.8	137.8	151.0	152.8	148.4	203.6
% change from December 1988	0.6	1.2	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.3	-2.4	0.9
% change from January 1988	6.2	3.8	7.5	6.3	5.2	5.3	5.8	9.6
Thunder Bay								
January 1989 index	145.8	135.6	144.9	130.7	149.9	149.0	145.8	196.6
% change from December 1988	0.6	1.5	0.8	-0.3	0.7	-0.1	-1.6	1.0
% change from January 1988	4.8	3.6	4.2	5.8	5.4	3.9	5.4	9.1
Winnipeg								
January 1989 index	145.5	131.6	146.7	131.4	143.1	146.5	153.4	218.1
% change from December 1988	0.3	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.6	-0.6	0.0
% change from January 1988	5.0	3.7	4.1	5.4	6.9	6.9	5.4	6.4

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								
January 1989 index	143.0	131.2	145.6	127.4	133.5	171.0	149.4	195.7
% change from December 1988	0.8	2.3	0.6	-0.2	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.3
% change from January 1988	3.3	5.4	2.8	3.9	1.1	2.7	3.4	5.4
Saskatoon								
January 1989 index	143.9	131.8	145.9	131.4	133.5	175.7	149.6	189.6
% change from December 1988	0.5	2.0	0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.1
% change from January 1988	2.9	4.2	3.1	4.2	-0.4	2.4	3.4	4.6
Edmonton								
January 1989 index	139.5	138.6	129.8	129.2	139.7	146.6	147.0	217.6
% change from December 1988	0.7	2.1	0.2	0.1	1.5	0.2	-0.5	0.0
% change from January 1988	3.0	2.7	2.7	3.6	2.7	2.9	4.3	3.1
Calgary								
January 1989 index	136.5	127.4	129.1	125.9	137.1	151.3	146.1	211.6
% change from December 1988	0.5	1.8	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.1
% change from January 1988	1.1	-4.6	2.5	4.5	-1.4	3.0	4.2	3.1
Vancouver								
January 1989 index	140.8	136.8	132.3	129.6	147.6	140.1	154.5	192.3
% change from December 1988	0.8	1.5	-0.2	0.1	2.9	0.9	0.1	0.5
% change from January 1988	3.6	2.9	2.5	4.4	3.7	3.8	4.9	8.2
Victoria²								
January 1989 index	112.6	114.1	105.5	111.6	112.7	114.7	121.2	140.0
% change from December 1988	0.5	1.3	-0.3	0.1	2.5	0.2	-0.2	0.5
% change from January 1988	3.1	3.1	1.9	4.0	2.4	5.3	3.6	8.1

¹ For inter-city indexes of retail price differentials, refer to Table 23 of the July-September 1988 issue of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (62-010, \$16.50/\$66.00).

² December 1984 = 100.

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

December 1988

Highlights

- Exports in December were down 2.7% from the previous month, to total \$11.0 billion.
- Imports declined 3.2% to \$10.7 billion.
- Canada's overall trade surplus in December was \$361 million, below the \$500-million mark for the third consecutive month.
- The short-term trend for exports continued to fall, while the trend for imports continued to be up.
- The largest declines in exports in December were for automobiles and machinery and equipment, while on the import side substantial decreases were recorded for motor vehicle parts and machinery and equipment.
- The merchandise trade surplus for 1988 as a whole was \$8.8 billion, down \$2.2 billion from the 1987 level.

(see charts on page 11)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642, 3651, 3685-3713, 3718, 3719, 3887 to 3913.

For more information on this release, contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), Trade Information Unit, or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-1711) (for analysis information) or Denis Pilon (613-951-4808) (for price index information), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Note to Users

With the introduction of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System which represents a major departure from the previous commodity classification and starting with January 1988:

- users should interpret levels and month-to-month movements in commodity data with caution;
- revisions to imports and exports have been greater than usual but should settle down to more normal levels in the months to come.

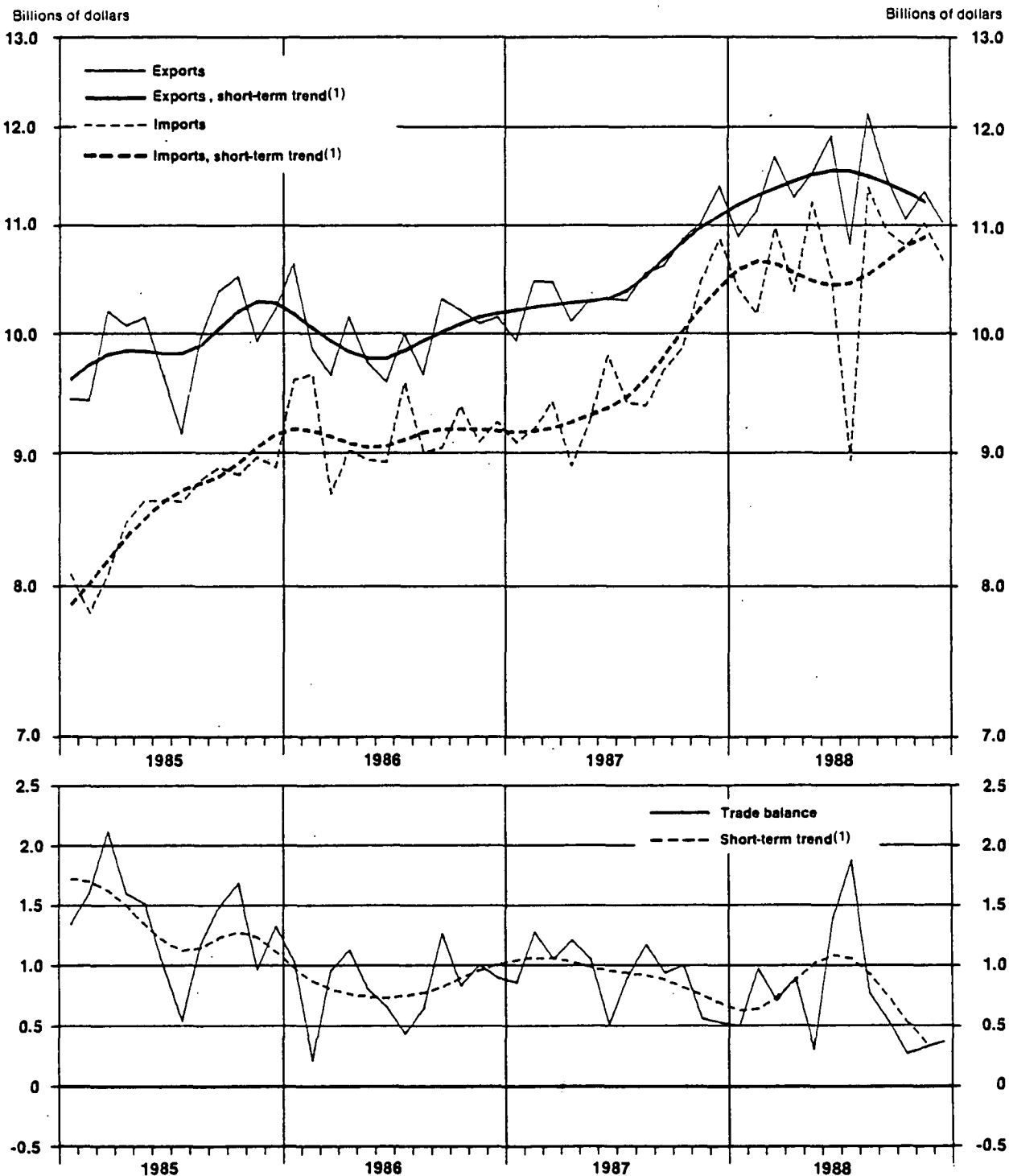
Users are further cautioned in their comparisons of 1988 and 1987 data that:

- recording of imports is now based on the date the merchandise is released by customs and not on the customs stamp date as before January 1988.

In order to maintain continuity in concepts and definitions:

- the balance of payments data continue to be presented on a consignment basis;
- both raw and seasonally adjusted data for the previous periods reflect the above changes where applicable.

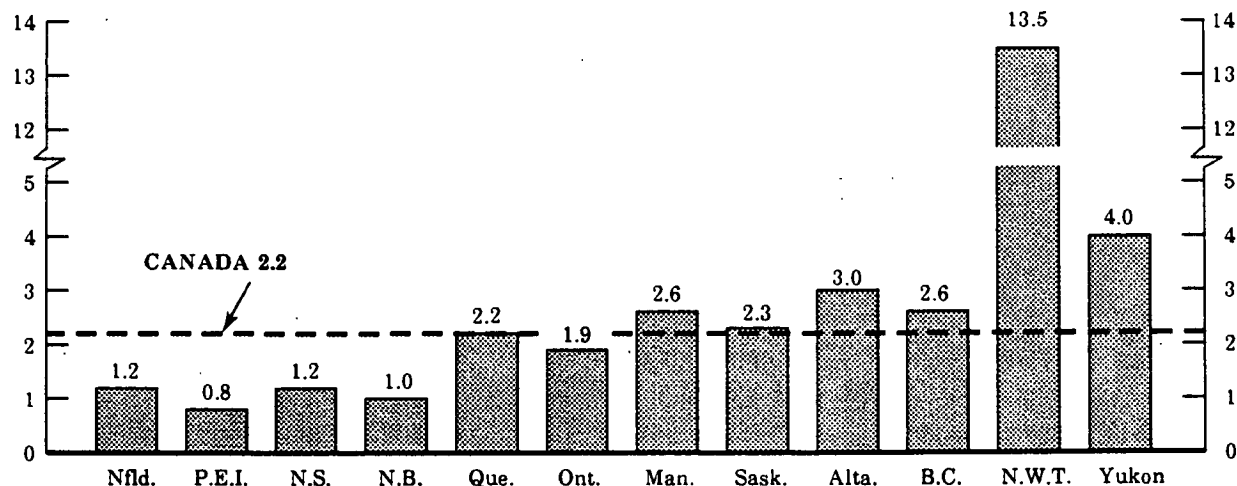
**Imports, Exports, and Trade Balance, All Countries, Seasonally Adjusted
Balance of Payments Basis**



(1) The short-term trend gives a clearer picture of the direction and rate of change of trade by averaging the substantial monthly fluctuations which frequently occur in trade. The trend for the last month is not shown in the charts above since it frequently changes significantly with the addition of succeeding months of data.

Rates¹ for Homicide Offences², Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1988^p

(Rate per 100,000 population)



¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using 1988 Preliminary Postcensal Annual Estimates supplied by the Demography Division at Statistics Canada.

² Includes the Criminal Code offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. One "offence" is counted for each victim.

^p 1988 data are preliminary and are therefore subject to revision.

Homicide in Canada - 1988

- In 1988, a total of 565 homicides (murder, manslaughter and infanticide) occurred in Canada, representing the lowest number of homicides since 1973. This translates into a rate of 2.2 homicides per 100,000 population, the lowest rate since 1969.
- The 1988 total is 12% lower than the previous year's total of 642, and 13% below the average number of homicides (647) over the past 10 years.
- All provinces experienced decreases in their homicide total from the previous year except Newfoundland (+2), Prince Edward Island (+1) and British Columbia (+3). Only Newfoundland and Alberta showed homicide figures above their average for the previous 10 years.
- Three provinces reported an unusually low number of homicides in 1988: the 23 homicides in Saskatchewan were the fewest since 1973; the 149 homicide level in Quebec was the lowest

since 1971; and the seven homicides in New Brunswick represented its lowest total since 1969.

- The Northwest Territories had the highest rate per 100,000 population at 13.5.
- For the first time in 10 years, Alberta displayed the highest homicide rate among the provinces (3.0), even though the number of homicides decreased slightly from 1987. Alberta was followed by both British Columbia and Manitoba at 2.6 homicides per 100,000 population.
- As usual, the lowest homicide rates occurred in the Atlantic Provinces, with Prince Edward Island having the lowest rate (0.8) for the seventh year in a row.
- For the first time in 25 years, no police officers were murdered while on duty in Canada. In 1987, three police officers were killed.

For more information on this release contact Sharon Longchamps (613-951-0152) or Joanne Lacroix (613-951-6643).

(continued on page 13)

Number and Rate¹ of Homicide Offences², Canada, The Provinces/Territories
1978-87, 1987 and 1988^p

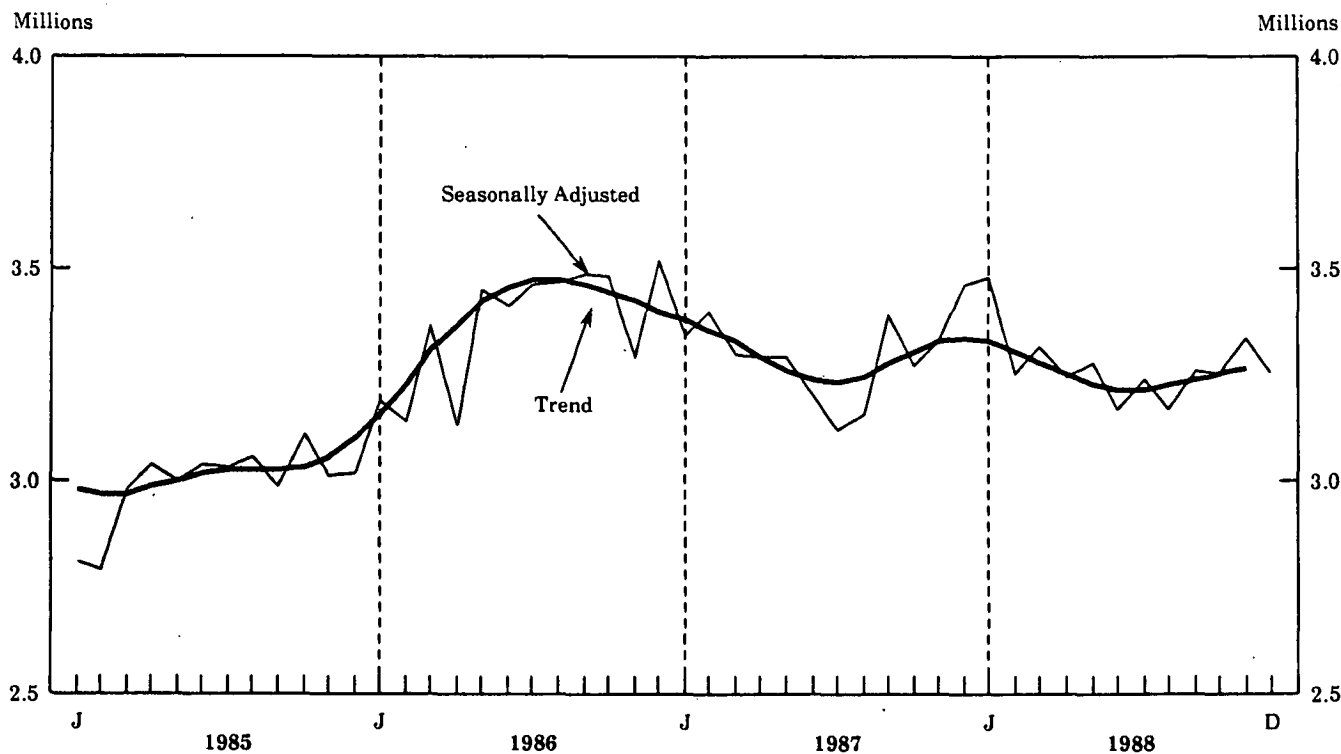
Province/ Territory	Population 1988	1978-1987 (average)		1987		1988 ^p	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Newfoundland	568,700	5	0.9	5	0.9	7	1.2
Prince Edward Island	129,100	1	0.6	0	0.0	1	0.8
Nova Scotia	885,000	15	1.7	14	1.6	11	1.2
New Brunswick	715,100	15	2.8	20	2.8	7	1.0
Quebec	6,653,900	186	2.6	174	2.6	149	2.2
Ontario	9,484,200	180	2.2	204	2.2	180	1.9
Manitoba	1,084,500	39	3.7	44	4.1	28	2.6
Saskatchewan	1,007,300	31	3.2	30	3.0	23	2.3
Alberta	2,413,500	67	3.0	73	3.1	72	3.0
British Columbia	3,009,400	100	3.6	76	2.6	79	2.6
Yukon	25,300	2	10.0	0	0.0	1	4.0
Northwest Territories	51,900	6	12.6	2	3.9	7	13.5
Canada	26,028,000	647	2.6	642	2.5	565	2.2

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using population data taken from Preliminary Postcensal Estimates of Population for Canada, Provinces/Territories, Catalogue number 91-002, July-Sept. 1988 Issue, Vol.2, No.3.

² Includes the Criminal Code offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. One "offence" is counted for each victim.

^p 1988 data are preliminary and are therefore subject to revision.

Total Trips to Canada by Non-residents (Seasonally Adjusted)



Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

December and Annual 1988

Highlights (Unadjusted)

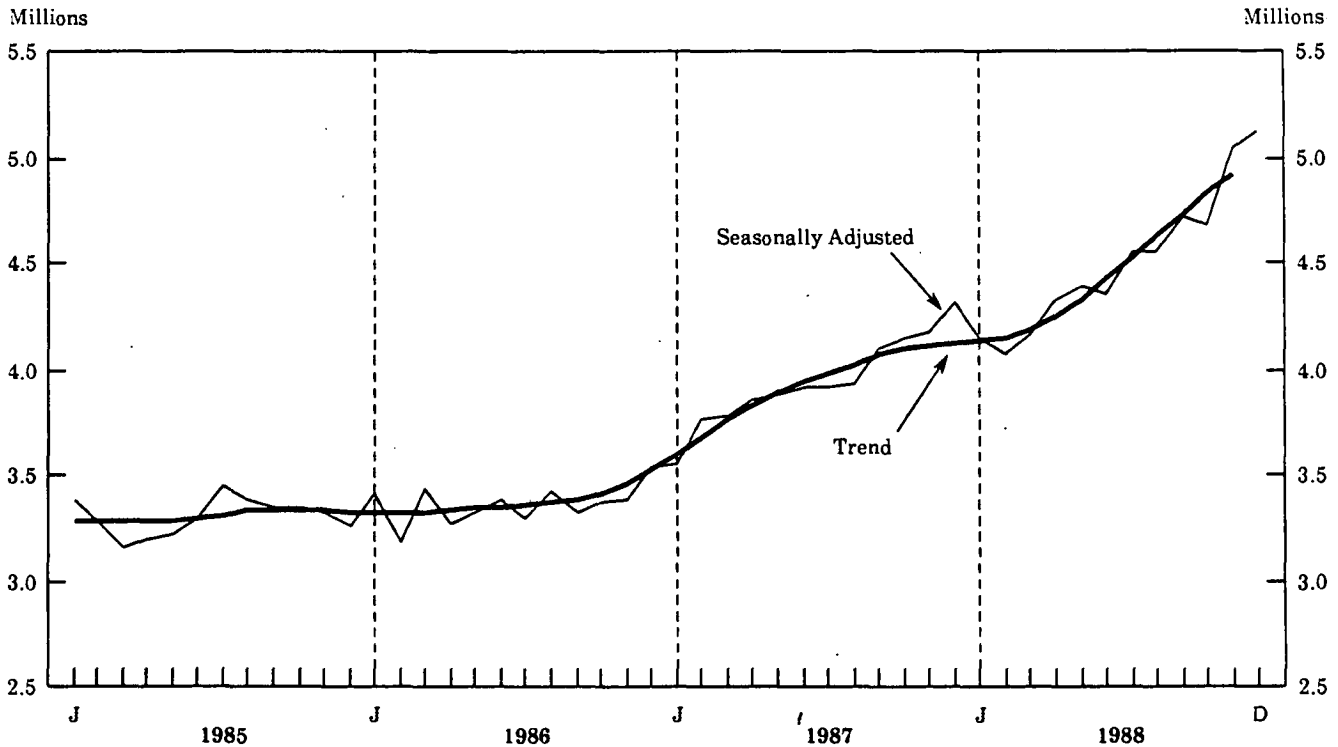
Overnight Travel

- Preliminary estimates show that visits of one or more nights to Canada by non-residents registered the highest December level on record. This represents the fourth consecutive monthly year-over-year increase. During 1988, these volumes amounted to 15.5 million, up 3.4% over 1987, and just below the peak number attained in 1986.

- Trips by U.S. residents remained relatively unchanged from 1987 at 12.8 million (+0.4%). This was 6.2% below the record volume of 1986. At the same time, visits by overseas residents rose to an unsurpassed 2.8 million, 20.3% above the figure in 1987.
- The number of overnight trips abroad by Canadian residents also reached a record level for December, 23.7% above a year earlier. In 1988, these volumes were up 10.5% over 1987. This marks the first time since 1972 that overnight trips by Canadian residents to all international destinations surpassed the 16-million mark. In 1988, trips to the U.S. increased at a faster rate than visits to other countries.

(continued on page 15)

Total Trips Abroad by Canadian Residents (Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Travel (Unadjusted)

- Total trips to Canada by United States residents decreased in 1988 for the second consecutive year to a total of 36.1 million. This figure, however, remains higher than the annual totals for the period 1982 to 1985.
- Total trips to Canada by residents of countries other than the United States increased by 17.5% over 1987, reaching a new record level in 1988, at 3.1 million.
- All international trips to foreign destinations by Canadian residents rose by 14.3% from the previous year, to 54.1 million, a high since 1972 (the year present statistical methods were introduced).

Note to Users:

The short-term trend provides a clearer picture of the direction and rate of change in international travel to and from Canada. Essentially, the seasonally adjusted series are smoothed by means of a 13-month Henderson moving average. This is useful for spotting turning points. However, the trend for the last month is not shown in the charts since it can change significantly with the addition of succeeding months of data.

Total Travel (Seasonally Adjusted)

- The seasonally adjusted December volume of foreign travel to Canada pointed to a slowdown in the slightly upward trend noticed since the summer of 1988. It is too early to tell whether this weakening will lead to a reversal of the recent upward trend.

(continued on page 16)

-
- Total international trips by Canadian residents, measured on their return, were higher in December than in the previous month, reflecting increases to both the U.S. and other countries. After a period of relative stability during 1985 and most of 1986, travel outside Canada has been generally growing throughout 1987 and 1988.

The December 1988 issue of *International Travel - Advance Information* (66-001P, \$5.50/\$55) will be available in the latter part of February. See "How to Order Publications".

For special tabulations and more detailed information on this release, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661-2695.

(see table on page 17)

International Travel Between Canada and Other Countries¹

December 1988

	1988			
	December ^p	November ^r	October ^r	September ^r
Adjusted for seasonal variation ²				
Total Number of Trips				
Non-resident Travellers				
All Countries	3,251,100	3,335,100	3,255,100	3,261,400
United States	2,974,700	3,048,300	2,993,300	3,001,600
Other Countries	276,400	286,800	261,800	259,900
Residents of Canada				
All Countries	5,122,300	5,041,600	4,682,600	4,714,100
United States	4,857,900	4,792,200	4,436,600	4,482,200
Other Countries	264,400	249,400	246,000	231,800
	December 1988 ^p	% Change 1988/87	Jan.-Dec. 1988 ^p	% Change 1988/87
Unadjusted				
Total Number of Trips				
Non-resident Travellers				
All Countries	2,208,622	-1.4	39,252,915	-0.9
United States	2,043,432	-3.3	36,147,055	-2.2
Other Countries	165,190	30.4	3,105,860	17.5
Residents of Canada				
All countries	4,167,252	26.5	54,109,104	14.3
United States	3,982,724	26.6	51,308,434	14.8
Other Countries	184,528	24.3	2,800,670	5.8
Estimated Overnight Trips³				
Non-resident Travellers				
All Countries	728,365	9.3	15,534,088	3.4
United States	575,447	4.9	12,771,378	0.4
Other Countries	152,918	29.7	2,762,710	20.3
Residents of Canada				
All Countries	990,087	23.7	16,460,369	10.5
United States	805,559	23.5	13,659,699	11.5
Other Countries	184,528	24.3	2,800,670	5.8

¹ Totals may not add up due to rounding.

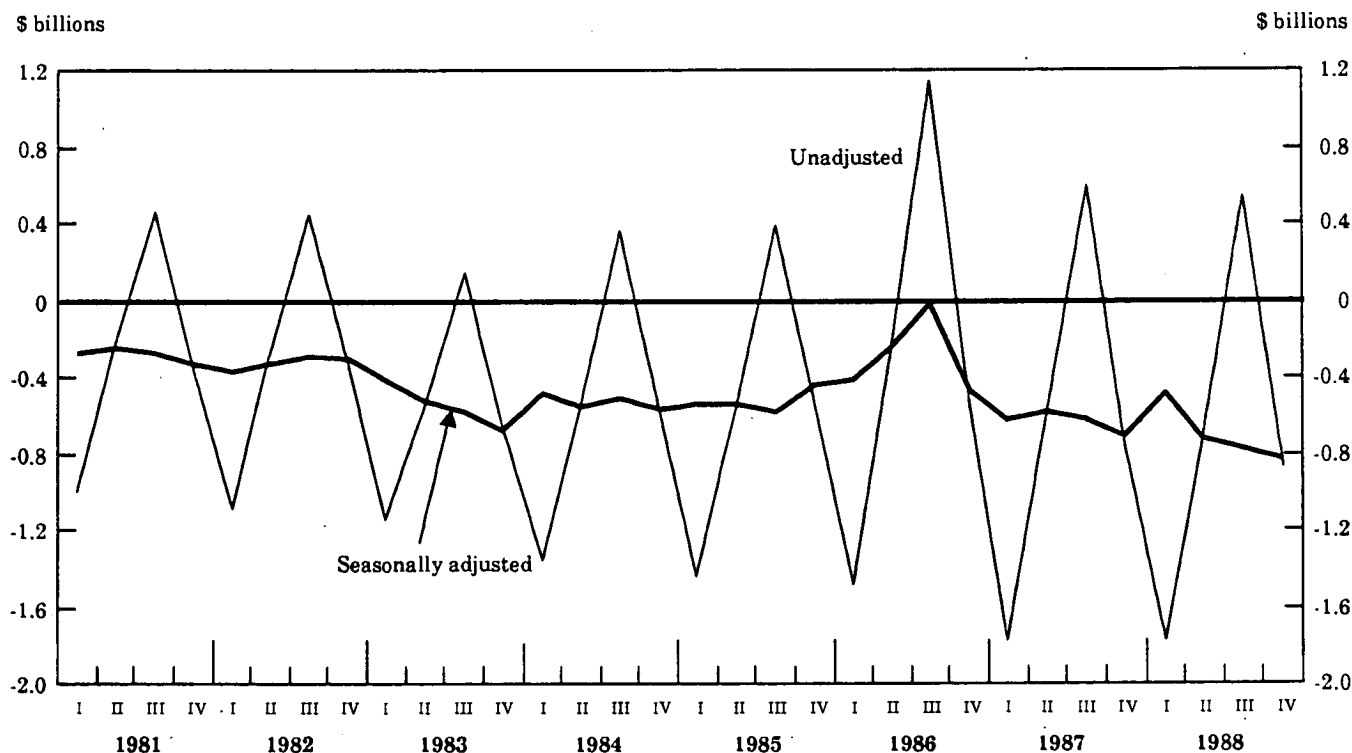
² Seasonally adjusted overnight trips available at a later date.

³ Overnight estimates for the United States include auto and bus for one or more nights, and estimated long-term numbers for plane, train, boat and other methods. Figures for "Other Countries" exclude entries by land same day via the U.S. only.

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Travel Account Balance by Quarter, 1981-1988



International Travel Account Fourth Quarter and Annual 1988

Highlights (Unadjusted)

Receipts and Payments Up. Deficit also Up.

- Preliminary estimates for the fourth quarter of 1988 show increases in both receipts (+14%) and payments (+15%) over the same period of 1987. The resulting deficit was the highest ever for the fourth quarter of a year.
- During the year 1988, total receipts for travel were up 9% over 1987, to an all-time high of \$6.9 billion. Receipts from the U.S. increased by 3% to \$4.3 billion while spending by residents of other countries grew by 22% to \$2.6 billion.
- Total payments by Canadian residents for travel also expanded during 1988 (+10%). Travel payments to the U.S. went up by 10% to \$5.7 billion, while payments to all other countries rose by 9% to \$4.0 billion.
- Over the full year, the travel balance deteriorated with the U.S. and improved with other countries. The total annual deficit for 1988 stood at \$2.8 billion, a result of the stronger rise in payments compared to receipts.

(continued on page 19)

(Seasonally Adjusted)

Deficit Trend Continues

- Seasonally adjusted data showed fourth quarter receipts from the U.S. increasing, after two consecutive quarterly decreases. However, the figures remained below the first quarter high of 1988 when the Winter Olympics were held.
- Receipts from all other countries also increased, reaching a level higher than any previous quarter. Receipts from non-U.S. countries have not declined since the first quarter of 1988.
- Payments to the U.S. and all other countries increased in the fourth quarter of 1988. This represented the third increase in a row for payments to the U.S. and a second consecutive quarterly gain for overseas countries.

- After showing a marked improvement during Expo 86, the travel account deficit has maintained a generally downward trend to date, with the only exception being the slight improvement brought by the Winter Olympics in the first quarter of 1988.

(see table on page 20)

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

For more information on this release, contact Paul L. Paradis (613-951-8933), International Travel Section.

International Travel Receipts and Payments

	1987					1988 ^P				
	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1987	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1988
Not Seasonally Adjusted										
(millions of \$)										
United States										
Receipts	474	1,049	1,944	693	4,160	527	1,044	1,971	725	4,267
Payments	1,511	1,386	1,281	996	5,174	1,515	1,568	1,466	1,167	5,716
Balance	-1,037	-337	663	-303	-1,014	-988	-524	505	-442	-1,449
All other countries										
Receipts	219	591	987	342	2,139	296	706	1,150	453	2,605
Payments	962	844	1,055	793	3,654	1,086	903	1,109	886	3,984
Balance	-743	-253	-68	-451	-1,515	-790	-197	41	-433	-1,379
Total all countries										
Receipts	693	1,640	2,931	1,035	6,299	823	1,750	3,121	1,178	6,872
Payments	2,473	2,230	2,336	1,789	8,828	2,601	2,471	2,575	2,053	9,700
Balance	-1,780	-590	595	-754	-2,529	-1,778	-721	546	-875	-2,828

	1987 ^P					1988 ^P				
	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1987	QI	QII	QIII	QIV	1988
Seasonally Adjusted*										
(millions of \$)										
United States										
Receipts	1,042	1,049	995	1,075	4,160	1,128	1,032	1,021	1,086	4,267
Payments	1,252	1,272	1,291	1,360	5,174	1,260	1,422	1,472	1,562	5,716
Balance	-210	-223	-296	-285	-1,014	-132	-390	-451	-476	-1,449
All other countries										
Receipts	470	528	575	566	2,139	627	627	653	698	2,605
Payments	881	884	901	988	3,654	976	963	982	1,063	3,984
Balance	-411	-356	-326	-422	-1,515	-349	-336	-329	-365	-1,379
Total all countries										
Receipts	1,512	1,577	1,569	1,641	6,299	1,755	1,659	1,673	1,784	6,872
Payments	2,133	2,156	2,192	2,348	8,828	2,236	2,385	2,454	2,625	9,700
Balance	-621	-579	-623	-707	-2,529	-481	-726	-781	-841	-2,828

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

^P Preliminary figures.

Data Availability Announcements

Youth Court Survey

1987-88

The Youth Court Survey collects information on "primary court processes" in Canada's youth courts. It became operational in April 1984, coinciding with the implementation of the Young Offenders Act. The survey generates statistical information on charges, persons and cases involving accused who are aged 12 through 17 years. It is drawn from a census of Criminal Code and other federal statute charges heard in youth court.

Preliminary statistics based on 1987-88 Youth Court Survey data are now available from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Ontario does not participate in the survey. However, aggregate data on the number of federal statute charges heard and the number of young persons charged are available. As well, it should be noted that detailed data for Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories are not included in this release.

Highlights

- A total of 167,221¹ federal statute charges were brought against a total of 76,987 young persons.
- A majority (84%)² of accused appearing before courts were males.
- A relatively small proportion (17%)² of accused were charged with violent offences.
- A majority (67%)² of charges resulted in a guilty verdict.
- Just under one-half (48%)² of the sentences for a case involved an order of probation as the most serious disposition.
- 14% involved a fine and 12% involved secure custody.

Further information on the Youth Court Survey data can be obtained by contacting Dianne Hendrick (613-951-6648) or Bert Soubliere (613-951-6649), Youth Justice Program, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

¹ Excluding the Northwest Territories.

² Excluding Ontario, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories.

Export and Import Price Indexes

December 1988

Current and fixed weighted export and import price indexes, on a balance of payments basis, are now available on a 1981=100 basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to December 1988 for the five commodity sections and 62/61 major commodity groups.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642.

Customs based current and fixed weighted U.S. price indexes are also available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to December 1988 on a 1981=100 basis. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 "All Countries" and "U.S. only" SITC section indexes.

The December 1988 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001, \$16.50/\$165) will be available the first week of March. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Denis Pilon (613-951-4808), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division.

Processed Pumpkin and Squash

1988

Data on processed pumpkin and squash for 1988 are now available.

The publication *Pack of Processed Pumpkin and Squash* (32-023, Vol.17, No.13, \$7/\$115) will be released at a later date.

For further information, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Printing, Publishing and Allied Products Industries

1986 Census of Manufactures

Commodity data for the Printing, Publishing and Allied Products Industries (Major Group 28) are now available on request. The information will also be released at a later date in catalogue 36-251. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact R. Wright (613-951-3514), Industry Division.

Publications Released

**Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas
Production, October 1988.**

Catalogue number 26-006

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

**Passenger Bus and Urban Transit
Statistics, December 1988.**

Catalogue number 53-003

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

Gas Utilities, October 1988.

Catalogue number 55-002

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

Electric Power Statistics, November 1988.

Catalogue number 57-001

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

**The Consumer Price Index Reference Paper -
Updating Based on 1986 Expenditures**

Catalogue number 62-553

(Canada: \$44; Other Countries: \$46)

Department Store Sales and Stocks, April 1988.

Catalogue number 63-002

(Canada: \$13/\$130; Other Countries: \$14/\$140).

Travel-log, Touriscope, January 1989.

Catalogue number 87-003

(Canada: \$10/\$40; Other Countries: \$11/\$44).

Profiles - Census Tracts - Oshawa:

Part 2, 1986 Census.

Catalogue number 95-134

(Canada: \$25; Other Countries: \$26).

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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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Statistics Canada, 3-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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The Daily, February 17, 1989

Major Release Dates

Week of February 20 - 24

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
February		
21	Retail Trade	December 1988
22	Composite Leading Indicator	November 1988
22	Unemployment Insurance Statistics	December 1988
22	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Industries	December 1988
22-24	Department Store Sales and Stocks	December 1988
23	Building Permits	December 1988
24	Wholesale Trade	December 1988