

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 24, 1989

Major Releases

Wholesale Trade, December 1988

- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 7.0% over December 1987.

Special Survey of Employers, November 1986

- In November 1986, three out of seven Canadian workers were either self-employed or worked for firms operated by self-employed owners.

Data Availability Announcements

Railway Carloadings, Seven-day Period Ending February 14, 1989

Railway Carloadings, January 1989

Local Government Long Term Debt, January 1989

Shipments of Office Furniture Products, Fourth Quarter 1988

Electric Lamps, January 1989

Sawmills East of the Rockies, December 1988

Processed Mushrooms, 1988

Publications Released

Major Release Dates: February 27 to March 3

STATISTICS STATISTIQUE
CANADA CANADA

FEB 24 1989

LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

Major Releases

Wholesale Trade

December 1988

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for December 1988 were 7.0% above those of December 1987. This year-over-year rise follows gains of 10.0% in November and 1.3% in October.
- The three largest trade groups recorded increases over December 1987: wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+14.7%), other wholesalers (+11.5%) and wholesalers of food (+8.3%). In December 1988, three of the nine trade groups within wholesale trade registered decreased sales from a year earlier: wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-31.7%), wholesalers of tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations (-8.4%) and wholesalers of lumber and building materials (-2.7%).
- Wholesale trade increases between December 1987 and December 1988 were posted in all regions, ranging from 11.2% in the Atlantic provinces to 0.5% in the Prairie provinces.

Inventories

- Inventory levels in December 1988 were 6.1% higher than those reported a year earlier. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of December 1988 stood at 1.50:1, down slightly from 1.52:1 recorded in the corresponding month of 1987.

Annual 1988

(Preliminary Estimates)

- Preliminary estimates indicate that sales by wholesale merchants increased by 9.2% in 1988 following the advance of 13.9% recorded in 1987. In 1988, all major trade groups within wholesale trade registered increased sales over 1987, except wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-12.6%). The trade groups having the most significant impact on the 1988 overall sales increase were wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies whose sales rose by 17.2%, other wholesalers (+14.6%) and wholesalers of food (+5.5%).
- Wholesale trade increases in 1988 were posted in all regions, ranging from 11.3% in Quebec to 6.0% in the Prairie provinces.
- In each of the 12 months of 1988, the inventory levels reported were higher than those for the corresponding month of 1987, ranging from increases of 12.7% in April to 6.1% in December. The ratio of inventories to sales for the year 1988 averaged 1.47:1, up slightly from 1.45:1 registered in 1987.

(see table on next page)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 44 and 50.

The December 1988 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5.50/\$55) will be available the third week of March. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for December 1988/1987

Major Trade Groups - Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	Nov. 1988/87 ^r	Dec. 1988/87 ^p	Jan./Dec. 1988/87 ^p	Nov. 1988/87 ^r	Dec. 1988/87 ^p	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1988 ^p
Total all trades	10.0	7.0	9.2	8.7	6.1	1.52	1.50
Food	9.5	8.3	5.5	3.9	1.8	0.69	0.65
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	1.9	-8.4	0.7	-9.5	-13.0	0.96	0.91
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	11.9	12.2	6.9	10.5	10.0	2.48	2.43
Motor vehicles and accessories	-	4.0	1.1	-0.1	1.5	2.24	2.19
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	-30.0	-31.7	-12.6	-2.7	-8.9	2.67	3.56
Other machinery, equipment and supplies ¹	20.8	14.7	17.2	8.8	7.0	1.46	1.36
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	11.5	8.8	14.4	24.1	22.9	1.77	2.00
Lumber and building materials	-4.0	-2.7	4.4	12.7	6.1	1.83	1.99
Other wholesalers ²	18.7	11.5	14.6	18.4	12.1	1.47	1.48
Regions							
Atlantic provinces	11.6	11.2	9.3	10.6	13.3	1.34	1.36
Quebec	10.0	9.9	11.3	13.1	10.4	1.59	1.60
Ontario	10.5	6.4	9.0	8.0	5.9	1.44	1.44
Prairie provinces	3.1	0.5	6.0	5.4	-0.6	1.81	1.79
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	16.6	10.6	9.2	6.7	6.3	1.32	1.27

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

- Nil or zero.

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.

Results from a Special Survey of Employers

November 1986

Three out of seven Canadian workers in November 1986 were either self-employed or worked for firms operated by self-employed owners.

The Survey of the Self-employed was conducted in November 1986 as a supplement to the Labour Force Survey on behalf of Employment and Immigration Canada. The analytical paper, *Results from a Special Survey of Employers* looks at the nature of businesses, the year established, the frequency of business partnerships, the number and sex of paid employees on staff, the work schedule and kind of work performed by the employees.

Highlights

- In November 1986, there were 848,000 employers who owned and operated 628,000 firms in Canada. Almost 3.5 million paid workers were employed by these firms.
- The proportion of employers was highest in Prince Edward Island (12% of all workers) and Saskatchewan (11%), reflecting the strong agricultural base in these provinces. In agriculture, one in every four workers was an employer.
- After agriculture, the percentage of employment accounted for by employers was greatest in the construction industry (16%) and in business services (15%).
- Two-thirds of the 628,000 firms were operated by sole owners. Sole ownership is more common among small firms. Over half of the firms with 20 or more employees were owned by business partners.
- Most businesses were young: two-fifths were established between 1981 and 1986. A further one-third were launched between 1971 and 1980.
- The median size for all firms at the time of the survey was two paid workers while the average (mean) was 5.5. Almost one-half of the firms maintained a stable number of employees month by month.
- More than two-thirds of their employees were employed as general or unskilled labourers or as clerical or sales workers.

The report *Results from a Special Survey of Employers* (71-532, \$24) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning the data in this release, contact Gary L. Cohen (613-951-4623), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending February 14, 1989

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.5 million tonnes, a decrease of 4.0% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 3.4% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 0.2% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 6.4% lower than that loaded in the previous year.

Railway Carloadings

	Seven-day Period Ending February 14, 1989	Year-to-date ^r
Carload Traffic		
Tonnes	4 526 412	27 294 457
% change from previous year	-4.0	-6.4
Cars	66,739	403,076
% change from previous year	-4.7	-4.9
Piggyback Traffic		
Tonnes	264 079	1 570 021
% change from previous year	-3.4	0.6
Cars	9,002	53,631
% change from previous year	-0.2	1.8

Note: *Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars. Piggyback traffic numbers are included in total carload traffic.*

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

Railway Carloadings

January 1989

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 18.7 million tonnes in January 1989, a decrease of 5.1% from the January 1988 figure. The carriers received an additional 1.0 million tonnes from United States connections.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

The January 1989 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, \$7.50/\$75) will be released the first week of March.

For seasonally adjusted revenue freight loadings, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2484), Transportation Division.

Local Government Long Term Debt

January 1989

Data on the accumulated long term debt of local governments in Canada, except Ontario, as at January 1989 are now available.

For more information on these data, contact M. Vollmer (613-951-1830), Public Institutions Division, Statistics Canada.

Shipments of Office Furniture Products

Fourth Quarter 1988

For the quarter ending December 31, 1988, shipments of office furniture products totalled \$189.8 million, an increase of 0.1% over the \$189.6 million shipped during the same quarter of the previous year. Cumulative shipments for 1988 amounted to \$730.4 million, an increase of 7.4% from the \$680.1 million for 1987.

Manufacturers' shipments of office furniture products for the fourth quarter of 1988 are now available. Data for province of destination as well as exports are also available.

The December 1988 issue of *Shipments of Office Furniture Products* (35-006, \$6.25/\$25) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Keith Martin (613-951-3518), Industry Division.

Electric Lamps

January 1989

Canadian light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 22,056,055 light bulbs and tubes in January 1989, an increase of 4.3% from the 21,149,462 units sold a year earlier.

The January 1989 issue of *Electric Lamps* (43-009, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact J.-P. Beauparlant (613-951-3526), Industry Division.

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies

December 1988

Production of lumber in sawmills east of the Rockies decreased 3.4% to 1 852 474 cubic metres (785,034,000 feet board measure) in December 1988 from 1 917 561^r cubic metres (812,617,000 feet board measure) in December 1987.

Stocks on hand at the end of December 1988 totalled 2 682 455 cubic metres (1,136,760,000 feet board measure), an increase of 12.2% compared to 2 389 991^r cubic metres (1,012,821,000 feet board measure) in December 1987.

Year-to-date production in 1988 amounted to 23 858 940^r cubic metres (10,110,847,000 feet board measure), a decrease of 2.6 % compared to 24 507 821^r cubic metres (10,385,830,000 feet board measure) for the same period in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2, 2.2, 3.2) and 122 (series 2).

The December 1988 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies* (35-002, \$9/\$90) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Processed Mushrooms

1988

Data on processed mushrooms for 1988 are now available.

The publication *Pack of Processed Mushrooms* (32-023, Vol.17, No.22,\$7/\$115) will be released at a later date.

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

Publications Released

Gross Domestic Product by Industry,
November 1988.

Catalogue number 15-001

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

**Production and Disposition of Tobacco
Products, January 1989.**

Catalogue number 32-022

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

**Fruit and Vegetable Preservation - Vol. 17,
No. 20, Pack of Processed Cauliflower, 1988.**

Catalogue number 32-023

(Canada: \$7/\$115; Other Countries: \$8/\$125).

Railway Operating Statistics, November 1988.

Catalogue number 52-003

(Canada: \$9.50/\$95; Other Countries: \$10.50/\$105).

Oil Pipe Line Transport, November 1988.

Catalogue number 55-001

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

Department Store Sales and Stocks, June 1988.

Catalogue number 63-002

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

New Motor Vehicle Sales, October 1988.

Catalogue number 63-007

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

**Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics,
November 1988.**

Catalogue number 63-011

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

**Results from a Special Survey of Employers,
November 1986.**

Catalogue number 71-532

(Canada: \$24; Other Countries: \$29).

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 613-951-7277.*

*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**

Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

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

Published by the Communications Division (Director - Douglas Newson)
Statistics Canada, 3-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)

Editor: Bonnie Williams (613-951-1103)

Published under the authority of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and the
Minister of State for Science and Technology. Statistics Canada should be credited when
reproducing or quoting any part of this document. Extracts from this publication may be
reproduced for individual use without permission provided the source is fully acknowledged.
However, reproduction of this publication in whole or in part for purposes of resale or
redistribution requires written permission from the Publishing Services Group, Permissions
Officer, Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0S9.



1010498301

The Daily, February 24, 1989

Major Release Dates

Week of February 27 - March 3

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
February		
27	Sales of Refined Petroleum Products	January 1989
28	Security Transactions with Non-residents	December 1988
28	Employment, Earnings and Hours	December 1988
28	Industrial Product Price Index	January 1989
28	Raw Materials Price Index	January 1989
28	Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas	November 1988
March		
1	National Income and Expenditure Accounts	Fourth Quarter 1988
1	Canadian Balance of International Payments	Fourth Quarter 1988
1	Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost by Industry	December 1988
1	Industrial Corporations : Financial Statistics	Fourth Quarter 1988
3-6	Canadian Composite Leading Indicator	December 1988