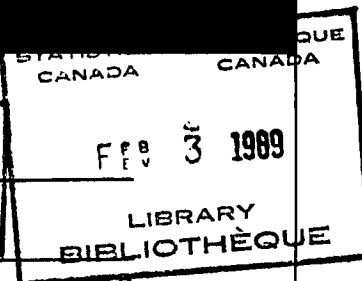


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 3, 1989

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS



Major Release

Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products, January-September 1988

- Canada posted a surplus of \$2.4 billion on international trade in automotive products during the first nine months of 1988.

Data Availability Announcement

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, December 1988 8

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Major Release Dates: February 6 to 10 10

Historical Labour Force Statistics 1988

This annual publication, released today, contains revised seasonally adjusted series and projected seasonal coefficients for 1989.

This edition will be of particular interest since it contains data that have been revised to conform with population estimates based on the 1986 Census. Estimates for the June 1981 to December 1988 period are affected by this revision. Also, a new estimation methodology has been used for the period from January 1984 that will significantly improve the usefulness of the economic family data provided by the survey.

The 1988 issue of *Historical Labour Force Statistics* (71-201, \$55) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".



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Major Release

Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products

January-September 1988

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted (H.S. Based)

Trade With All Countries, Reconciled Basis (Table 1)

Preliminary statistics on international trade in automotive products (including passenger automobiles, trucks and other motor vehicles, parts, tires and tubes) for the first nine months of 1988 show Canada posted a record surplus for the period.

Total exports of automotive products were \$27.3 billion, up \$3.2 billion or 13% over the first nine months of 1987. On a component basis, Canadian automobile exports were up 32% over the same period last year, to \$12.5 billion. However, a decrease of approximately 30% was observed in third quarter exports compared to the average for the first two quarters of 1988. This decrease in exports was directly related to the drop in production by major Canadian manufacturers noted in July. Exports of trucks were up \$348 million to \$5.5 billion, while exports of auto parts, tires and tubes were down \$239 million from the first nine months of 1987 to \$9.2 billion.

Imports were down 2% (\$509 million) from the same period last year to \$24.9 billion. Imports of parts dropped by a substantial \$254 million, to \$13.4 billion. This decrease is surprising, given the substantial increase in Canadian vehicle production recorded in 1988. However, according to the results of the monthly survey of manufacturing industries, this decrease coincided with a substantial increase in deliveries by the Canadian automotive parts and accessories industry. Deliveries for the first nine months of 1988 were up 7% over the same period of 1987. It therefore appears that the increase in Canadian parts production may in part explain this stagnation of parts imports, in spite of the large increases in Canadian vehicle production.

International trade in automotive products posted a \$2.4 billion trade surplus in Canada's favour, the largest ever reported for the first three quarters of a year. A reversal from the \$1.2 billion deficit recorded for the same period last year, this surplus is primarily attributable to an increase in the trade surplus for passenger automobiles, which totalled \$3.5 billion, up \$3.1 billion from the same

Note on the Reconciled Trade Statistics

Canada-United States trade in automotive products, shown in this special release, is measured by comparing the import statistics of each country. U.S. statistics on imports from Canada (converted to Canadian dollars) are used to represent Canadian exports since it allows a more exact comparison of the two trade flows. This greater exactness results from several factors. Customs revenue is collected on the basis of import documentation and consequently, the filing and scrutiny of import documents is more rigorous. The use of H.S. classification number along with the annex code allows assignment of the trade of certain commodities to the automotive sector. Examples of such commodities are tires, hardware, fabric, glass, metal materials, lighting fixtures, ignition equipment, etc., which may or may not be related to production of automobiles.

As a result, the data in this release, for automotive trade with the U.S. differ significantly from data released in all other Statistics Canada trade reports such as the *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based (65-001P))* and the monthly *Monthly Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based) (65-001)*. Data in these trade reports give statistics by commodity which can serve as an approximation of automotive trade; however, they should not be expected to agree precisely with this release.

The data published in Table 2 of this release also appear in the Annual Report of the President to the (U.S.) Congress on the operation of the Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965, and are accepted in both countries as the official measure of trade in automotive products.

Exports to all countries except the United States are measured using Canadian export statistics, and not the counterpart country import statistics.

period of 1987. However, during the third quarter of 1988, the trade surplus in automobiles fell by half to \$752 million. Trade in trucks showed a surplus of \$3.0 billion for the first nine months of 1988, setting a new record. On the other hand, trade in parts, tires and tubes showed a deficit comparable to that recorded during the same period last year. However, this deficit has fallen since the beginning of the year and stood at \$731 million in the third quarter of 1988, the lowest quarterly deficit in nine years.

Trade With the United States, Reconciled Basis (Table 2)

After reconciliation, total exports of automotive products to the United States reached \$26.7 billion, up \$3.1 billion or 13% over the first nine months of 1987. Imports from the United States were down \$234 million or 1% to \$20.6 billion.

(Continued on next page.)

During the first nine months of 1988, exports of passenger automobiles to the United States continued to dominate the figures. These exports totalled \$12.4 billion, setting a new record and exceeding the previous record set during the first nine months of 1986 by almost \$700 million. Imports of automobiles have declined over the past two years, although the decrease recorded since the beginning of 1988 is only \$23 million lower than the figures for the same period last year, out of a total of \$6.3 billion.

In 1988, the trade surplus in trucks rose to \$3.1 billion, a new record. This increase was the result of a 7% (\$346 million) increase in exports combined with a 7% (\$162 million) decrease in imports. For the first nine months of 1988, the cumulative deficit for trade in parts, tires and tubes was \$3.1 billion, \$141 million higher than the figure recorded for the same period last year.

Canada's trade in automotive products with the United States showed a surplus of \$6.1 billion, continuing the trend recorded in the first two quarters of 1988. This surplus sets a new record, exceeding by \$2 billion the previous peak recorded during the first nine months of 1984. This \$2 billion advance was divided equally between an increase in the trade surplus for automobiles and a decrease in the trade deficit for parts.

Trade With Overseas Countries, Customs Basis (Table 3)

Total exports to overseas countries reached \$676 million, up \$66 million from the first nine months of 1987. This increase was the result of an \$84 million rise in automobile exports, to \$117 million, combined with a \$49 million decrease in exports of parts, tires and tubes, to \$277 million. Exports of trucks and other vehicles remained stable at \$101 million.

Imports of automobiles from overseas countries have stabilized during the past two years, following a period of spectacular growth. During the four years 1983-86, imports of automobiles more than doubled, rising from \$1.3 billion in 1983 to \$3.4 billion in 1986. Imports of automobiles for the first nine months of 1988 totalled \$2.7 billion, down \$22 million from the same period last year. Imports of parts were down \$204 million from the first nine months of 1987 to \$1.4 billion. In total, imports fell \$274 million from the 1987 level, to \$4.3 billion.

Canada's deficit with overseas countries fell \$340 million during the first nine months of 1988 to \$3.6 billion. The balances broken down by component indicate that the lower overall deficit was the result of identical reductions in the trade deficits for automotive parts, automobiles and trucks.

Automobile Imports in Number of Units, Customs Basis (Table 4)

Canada imported 775,600 automobiles during the first nine months of 1988, an increase of 4% or 30,800 units over the same period of 1987. Automobile imports from the United States rose by almost 8%, accounting for a 65.5% share of the Canadian import market, an increase of 2.1 percentage points over the same period last year. The decline in imports from overseas countries has been to the detriment of countries other than Japan. Japan's share of total imports rose from 25.7% to 26.3%. However, Japanese imports in the third quarter represented their lowest quarterly volume since the first quarter of 1986, when the Japanese were voluntarily restricting their automobile exports to Canada. However this follows the record imports posted in the second quarter of 1988. Imports from all countries other than the United States and Japan have decreased 22% (17,700 units) since the beginning of 1988. This decrease in imports has primarily affected countries other than those included in the detailed list. Imports from other countries, including South Korea, fell by 10,400 units and their share of imports fell from 6.8% to 5.2% between 1987 and 1988.

The average price of automobiles imported from the United States was \$12,454, a decrease of 7.9% from the average price in 1987. At the same time the U.S. dollar depreciated by 7.0% against the Canadian dollar during the first nine months of 1988. The average price of automobiles imported from Japan remained stable (compared to the first nine months of 1987) while the Japanese yen appreciated by more than 6%. The average price of Japanese automobiles was \$8,992, while the average price of all imported automobiles was \$11,578.

For more information on this release, contact G. Blaney (613-951-9647) or René Piché (613-951-9790), International Trade Division.

Total Canadian Trade in Automotive Products (Reconciled Basis)¹ - Table 1
First nine months 1987 and 1988

	Annual		First nine months		Change between the first nine months of	
	1986	1987	1987	1988	1987	1988
(Millions of dollars - Canadian)						(%)
Canadian Exports						
Cars	16,466	13,565	9,468	12,488	3,020	31.9
Trucks and other motor vehicles	5,988	6,965	5,119	5,467	348	6.8
Parts	11,995	11,962	8,925	8,797	-128	-1.4
Tires and tubes	717	692	517	406	-111	-21.5
Re-exports	197	195	152	181	29	19.1
Total	35,363	33,379	24,181	27,339	3,158	13.1
Canadian Imports						
Cars	12,062	12,346	9,038	8,993	-45	-0.5
Trucks and other motor vehicles	3,344	3,706	2,701	2,491	-210	-7.8
Parts	19,397	18,228	13,238	12,948	-290	-2.2
Tires and tubes	447	570	422	458	36	8.5
Total	35,250	34,850	25,399	24,890	-509	-2.0
Balance						
Cars	4,404	1,219	430	3,495	3,065	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	2,644	3,259	2,418	2,976	558	
Parts	-7,402	-6,266	-4,313	-4,151	162	
Tires and tubes	270	122	95	-52	-147	
Re-exports	197	195	152	181	29	
Total	113	-1,471	-1,218	2,449	3,667	

¹ Refer to "Note on the Reconciled Statistics".

Canada-United States Trade in Automotive Products (Reconciled Basis)¹ - Table 2
First nine months 1987 and 1988

	Annual		First nine months		Change between the first nine months of	
	1986	1987	1987	1988	1987	1988
	(Millions of dollars - Canadian)					(%)
Exports - (United States Imports from Canada)						
Cars	16,428	13,505	9,436	12,371	2,935	31.1
Trucks and other motor vehicles	5,804	6,838	5,020	5,366	346	6.9
Parts	11,577	11,579	8,623	8,545	-78	-0.9
Tires and tubes	675	661	493	381	-112	-22.7
Total	34,484	32,583	23,572	26,663	3,091	13.1
Imports - (Canadian Imports from the United States)						
Cars	8,628	8,691	6,357	6,334	-23	-0.4
Trucks and other motor vehicles	2,824	3,282	2,386	2,224	-162	-6.8
Parts	17,635	16,397	11,862	11,764	-98	-0.8
Tires and tubes	227	310	219	268	49	22.4
Total	29,314	28,680	20,824	20,590	-234	-1.1
Balance						
Cars	7,800	4,814	3,079	6,037	2,958	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	2,980	3,556	2,634	3,142	508	
Parts	-6,058	-4,818	-3,239	-3,219	20	
Tires and tubes	448	351	274	113	-161	
Total	5,170	3,903	2,748	6,073	3,325	
Excluded: adjustments to values of imported parts for special tooling charges.	435	468	322	461		

¹ Refer to "Note on the Reconciled Statistics".

Canada-Overseas Countries Trade in Automotive Products (Customs Basis) - Table 3
First nine months 1987 and 1988

	Annual		First nine months		Change between the first nine months of	
	1986	1987	1987	1988	1987	1988
(Millions of dollars - Canadian)						(%)
Canadian Exports						
Cars	38	60	33	117	84	254.5
Trucks and other motor vehicles	184	127	99	101	2	2.0
Parts	418	382	302	252	-50	-16.6
Tires and tubes	42	32	24	25	1	4.2
Re-exports	197	195	152	181	29	19.1
Total	879	795	610	676	66	10.8
Canadian Imports						
Cars	3,434	3,656	2,681	2,659	-22	-0.8
Trucks and other motor vehicles	520	424	315	267	-48	-15.2
Parts	1,761	1,831	1,376	1,185	-191	-13.9
Tires and tubes	220	261	203	190	-13	-6.4
Total	5,935	6,171	4,575	4,301	-274	-6.0
Balance						
Cars	-3,396	-3,596	-2,648	-2,542	106	
Trucks and other motor vehicles	-336	-297	-216	-166	50	
Parts	-1,343	-1,449	-1,074	-933	141	
Tires and tubes	-178	-229	-179	-165	14	
Re-exports	197	195	152	181	29	
Total	-5,056	-5,376	-3,965	-3,625	340	

Canadian Passenger Car Imports (Customs Basis) - Table 4
First nine months 1987 and 1988

	Number of Units								Change 1988/87	Exchange Rate 1988/87
	Change				Import Share		Average Price			
	1987	1988	1988/87	1988/87	1987	1988	1987	1988		
First nine months										
	('000)	('000)	('000)	%	%	%	\$	\$	%	%
United States	472.3	508.2	36.0	7.6	63.4	65.5	13,528	12,454	-7.9	-7.0
Overseas Countries	272.5	267.3	-5.2	-1.9	36.6	34.5	9,841	9,908	0.7	--
Japan	191.6	204.1	12.5	6.5	25.7	26.3	8,951	8,992	0.5	6.3
West Germany	20.1	16.5	-3.7	-18.1	2.7	2.1	22,214	24,415	9.9	-2.6
United Kingdom	2.0	2.2	0.2	8.2	0.3	0.3	33,435	37,459	12.0	3.4
France	2.7	0.9	-1.8	-65.6	0.4	0.1	11,791	11,021	-6.5	-4.0
Sweden	5.3	3.3	-2.0	-38.1	0.7	0.4	17,259	18,340	6.3	-2.6
Italy	0.3	0.3	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	39,165	36,594	-6.6	-5.6
Other Countries	50.5	40.1	-10.4	-20.6	6.8	5.2	6,567	6,217	-5.3	--
All Countries	744.8	775.6	30.8	4.1	100.0	100.0	12,112	11,578	-4.4	-2.0

¹ Minus sign (-) indicates depreciation of the value of the currency of the country against the Canadian dollar. Rate for all countries is the rate against the Canadian dollar of the SDR (Special Drawing Rights), a weighted average of 16 world currencies, by the International Monetary Fund.

-- Nil or zero

Data Availability Announcement

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins

December 1988

Canadian chemical firms produced 123 350 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in December 1988, an increase of 1.4% from the 121 679 tonnes^r (revised figure) produced in December 1987.

January-December 1988 production totalled 1 416 794 tonnes^r, up 9.5% from 1 293 444 tonnes^r produced during the same period in 1987.

Data are also available on Canadian production of three other types of synthetic resins and 28 industrial chemicals for December 1988, December 1987 and corresponding cumulative figures.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The December 1988 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins* (46-002, \$5.00/\$50) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Publications Released

Primary Textile Industries, Wool Yarn and Woven Cloth Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures.

Catalogue number 34-250B 1821
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Clothing Industries, Children's Clothing Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures.

Catalogue number 34-252B 2451
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Clothing Industries, Occupational Clothing Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures.

Catalogue number 34-252B 2492
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Clothing Industries, Glove Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures.

Catalogue number 34-252B 2493
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Construction Type Plywood, November 1988.

Catalogue number 35-001
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November 1988.

Catalogue number 35-003
(Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$75).

Asphalt Roofing, December 1988.

Catalogue number 45-001
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Telephone Statistics, November 1988.

Catalogue number 56-002
(Canada: \$7.50/\$75; Other Countries: \$8.50/\$85).

Railway Operating Statistics, October 1988.

Catalogue number 52-003
(Canada: \$9.50/\$95; Other Countries: \$10.50/\$105).

Campus Bookstores, Academic year 1987-88.

Catalogue number 63-219
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

Housing Starts and Completions, October 1988.

Catalogue number 64-002
(Canada: \$16.50/\$165; Other Countries: \$17.50/\$175).

Security Transactions With Non-residents, November 1988.

Catalogue number 67-002
(Canada: \$15/\$150; Other Countries: \$16/\$160).

Historical Labour Force Statistics - Actual Data, Seasonal Factors, Seasonally Adjusted Data, 1988.

Catalogue number 71-201
(Canada: \$55; Other Countries: \$65).

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The Daily, February 3, 1989

Major Release Dates

Week of February 6 to 10

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated date(s) of release	Title	Reference period
February		
6	Farm Input Price Index	Fourth Quarter 1988
8	Help-wanted Index	January 1989
8	Estimates of Labour Income	November 1988
8-13	Business Conditions Survey, Canadian Manufacturing Industries	January 1989
9	New Housing Price Index	December 1988
9-10	Canadian Composite Leading Indicator	November 1988
10	Labour Force Survey	January 1989
10	Farm Product Price Index	December 1988
10	Travel Between Canada and Other Countries	December 1988
10-13	New Motor Vehicle Sales	December 1988
10-13	Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	December 1988