

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, March 13, 1989

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Major Releases

Farm Product Price Index, January 1989

- Farm prices rose 0.3% over December.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Non-residential, January 1989

4

- Prices posted an increase of 0.5% in January, while the 12-month change was 3.8%.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Residential, January 1989

5

- The index was unchanged from the previous month, and up 0.2% from January 1988.

Data Availability Announcements

Canadian Civil Aviation Statistics, 1988	6
Air Charter Statistics, Second Quarter 1988	6
Steel Ingots, January 1989	6
Steel Exports, February 1989	6
Railway Carloadings, Seven-day Period Ending February 28, 1989	7
Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics, January 1989	7
Blow-molded Plastic Bottles, Fourth Quarter 1988	7
Provincial Government Finance, 1986-87	7

Publications Released

8

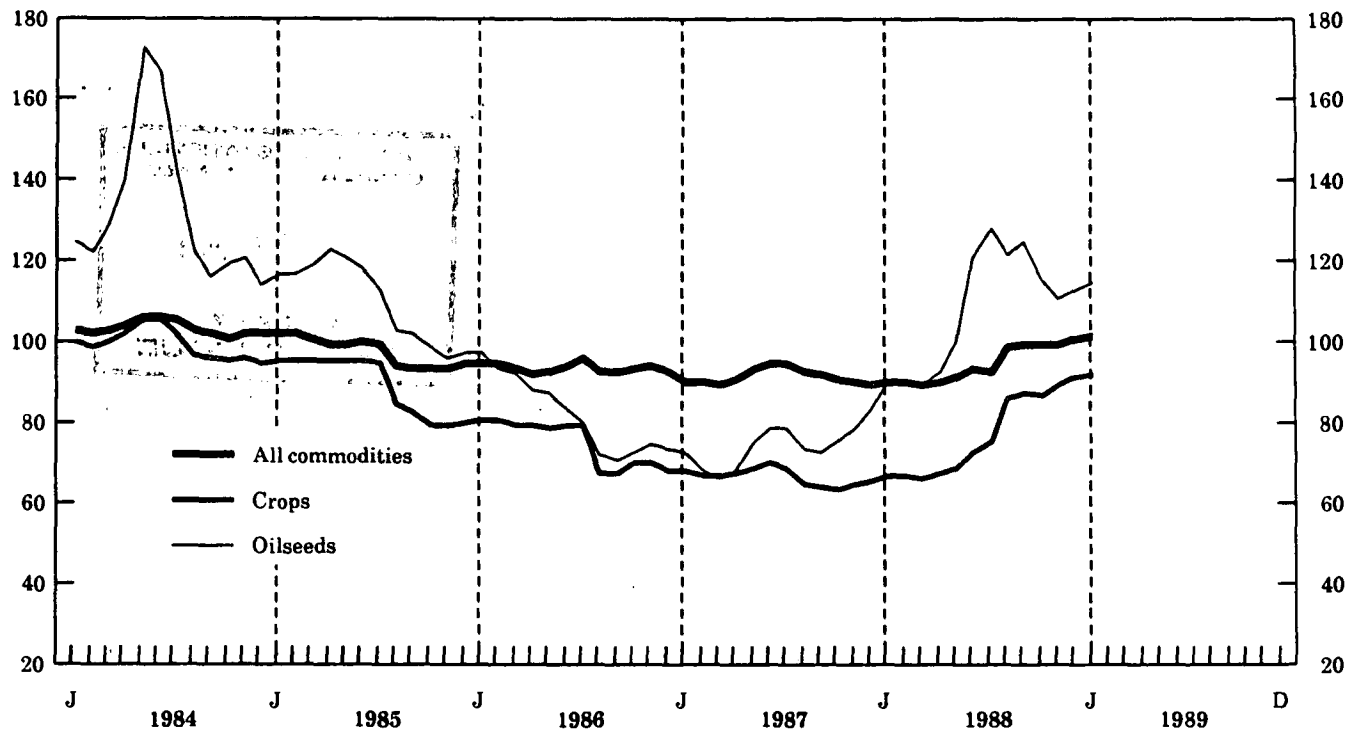


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Canada

Major Releases

Farm Product Price Index (1981 = 100)



Farm Product Price Index

January 1989

The Farm Product Price Index (1981 = 100) for Canada stood at 100.8 in January, up 0.3% from the revised December level of 100.5, and 12.6% above the year-earlier level. The index has increased in January for the sixth time in the last eight years. Both the crops and livestock indexes registered small increases.

The percentage changes in the index between December 1988 and January 1989 by province were as follows:

• Newfoundland	+2.1%	• Manitoba	+0.7%
• Prince Edward Island	-0.1%	• Saskatchewan	no change
• Nova Scotia	-0.5%	• Alberta	+1.3%
• New Brunswick	+0.6%	• British Columbia	-0.1%
• Quebec	-0.7%	• Canada	+0.3%
• Ontario	+0.1%		

Note to Users:

The index is designed to measure changes in prices received by producers when ownership of a commodity first changes hands. Prices used in the index for Western wheat, oats and barley sold to the Canadian Wheat Board prior to August 1987 are final prices. Beginning in August 1987, initial prices are used and, therefore, they exclude any forthcoming adjustment or final payments. Sub-indexes for crops, livestock and their components are also available on a provincial basis.

(continued on page 4.)

Crops

The crops index rose 0.4% in January, to a level of 91.4. The index has increased in nine of the last 12 months and is 37.9% above the level of 66.3 recorded in January 1988. Cereal and oilseed prices rose substantially during the summer of 1988, as drought in North America reduced supplies.

- The oilseeds index increased 1.6% in January, to a level of 114.2. Flaxseed and soybean prices increased, as global supplies for these commodities remained tight. Unlike flaxseed and soybeans, canola prices fell in January. Contributing to the decline in canola prices was the temporary closure of several crushing plants in Western Canada.
- An increase in the average price producers received for barley was responsible for a 0.4% rise in the cereals index. A larger proportion of higher quality malting barley was delivered to the Canadian Wheat Board in January.

Livestock and Animal Products

The livestock and animal products index increased only slightly in January to a level of 109.4. The index has shown little change over the last 12 months

and in January stood just 1.3% above the year-earlier level. The index remained near last year's levels despite fluctuations in component parts: falling hog and cattle prices were largely offset by rising prices for poultry, eggs and dairy products.

- The egg index stood at 118.1 in January, 1.7% above the level recorded in December 1988. Egg prices have increased in January for seven consecutive years. Since April 1988 the index has increased 13.8%, reflecting the inclusion of higher feed prices in the cost of production formulas.
- The poultry index rose 0.5% to 109.7, 18.3% higher than the year-earlier level of 92.7. The index has increased in 10 of the last 12 months, reflecting, as with eggs, higher feed costs in the cost of production formulas.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 176.

The January issue of *Farm Product Price Index* (62-003, \$6.50/\$65) is scheduled for release March 31. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Ed Hamilton (613-951-2441), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture Division.

Construction Building Material Price Index: Non-residential

January 1989

- The non-residential construction building materials price index (1981 = 100) stood at 141.5 in January, up 0.5% from the revised figure for the previous month and 3.8% higher than a year ago.
- Between December 1988 and January 1989, there were increases in prices for ready-mix concrete, metal roofing and siding, metal doors and windows, air conditioning equipment and plumbing fittings. This more than offset a few minor decreases, mainly for gypsum wallboard, concrete bricks and blocks and coated building paper.
- Between January 1988 and January 1989, mechanical materials increased 7.5%, mainly due to increases in prices for elevator and escalator equipment, sheet metal pipes and ducts, sanitaryware, air conditioning equipment and plumbing fittings.

- Electrical materials rose 5.5%, primarily attributable to building wires and cables.
- An increase of 2.8% for architectural materials was due mainly to increases for polyethylene sheets, laminated and reinforced sheets and metal roofing and siding.
- Structural materials increased 2.5%, because of higher prices for ready-mix concrete and concrete reinforcing bars.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 423.

The first quarter 1989 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

Construction Building Material Price Indexes: Non-residential

January 1989
(1981 = 100)

	Jan. 1989	Dec. 1988	Jan. 1988	% Change	
				Jan. 1989/ Dec. 1988	Jan. 1989/ Jan. 1988
Total materials	141.5	140.8	136.3	0.5	3.8
Architectural materials	141.1	140.7	137.3	0.3	2.8
Structural materials	138.3	137.8	134.9	0.4	2.5
Mechanical materials	151.4	150.2	140.8	0.8	7.5
Electrical materials	137.2	136.0	130.1	0.9	5.5

Construction Building Material Price Index: Residential

January 1989

- The Residential Construction Building Material Price Index (1981=100) showed no change in January from the previous month's revised index of 140.4 but was 0.2% higher than the year-earlier level of 140.1.
- Between December 1988 and January 1989, there were offsetting price fluctuations. Price increases which had the most significant impact upon the total index were for metal roofing and siding, lumber and metal doors and windows, which were balanced by decreases in prices for gypsum wallboard, concrete bricks and blocks and coated building paper.
- Between January 1988 and January 1989, prices for electrical materials increased 6.9%, principally due to building wires and cables.

- Prices for mechanical materials rose 6.7%, mainly as a result of increases in elevator and escalator equipment, copper pipe and fittings and sheet metal pipes and ducts.
- A 0.5% decrease for architectural materials arose from decreases in prices for gypsum wallboard, Douglas Fir plywood, paints and wooden doors.
- Structural materials decreased 2.1%, attributable to lumber and particle board.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 423.

The first quarter 1989 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

Construction Building Material Price Indexes: Residential

January 1989
(1981=100)

	Jan. 1989	Dec.1988	Jan.1988	% Change	
				Jan. 1989/ Dec. 1988	Jan. 1989/ Jan. 1988
Total materials	140.4	140.4	140.1	-	0.2
Architectural materials	138.4	138.9	139.1	-0.4	-0.5
Structural materials	140.8	140.2	143.8	0.4	-2.1
Mechanical materials	152.7	151.9	143.1	0.5	6.7
Electrical materials	138.1	136.3	129.2	1.3	6.9

- Nil or zero.

Data Availability Announcements

Canadian Civil Aviation Statistics 1988

Preliminary operational and financial data for 1988 are now available. Data reported show that the Canadian Level I air carriers (Air Canada, Canadian Airlines International Ltd. and Wardair) had an operating income of \$168.9 million in 1988.

This represents a 34.8% decrease from the \$259.0 million reported by these carriers in 1987. Although the 1988 operating income decreased from the record level of 1987, it remains the third highest operating income ever reported by these carriers.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

The December 1988 issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$8.50/\$85) which contains preliminary civil aviation data will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more information on this release, contact Robert Lund (819-997-6190), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

Air Charter Statistics Second Quarter 1988

- Preliminary second quarter 1988 data indicate that the number of passengers travelling on international commercial charter services increased to 867,086, up 8.8% from the 1987 figure.
- The destination showing the largest gain was the United States which registered an increase of 66,925 passengers (19.9%). Also, during the second quarter of 1988, the United States was by far the largest market for charter services: 403,795 passengers travelled to and from the United States, representing 46.6% of all international charter passengers.
- Preliminary second quarter 1988 data indicate that the two most popular states for air charter passengers were Florida with 222,708 passengers

and Nevada with 99,797 passengers. Florida's share of the market is increasing constantly. For instance, in 1985, 51.7% of all the passengers who chose to travel on charter flights went to Florida; in 1988, this percentage increased to 55.2%.

The Vol. 21, No. 3 issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$8.50/\$85) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact J. Plourde (819-997-6173), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

Steel Ingots January 1989

Steel ingot production for January 1989 totalled 1 344 784 tonnes, an increase of 6.9% from 1 257 922 (revised figure) tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

The January 1989 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Steel Exports February 1989

Data on preliminary steel exports for February 1989 are now available.

The February 1989 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact G.W. Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division.

Railway Carloadings

Seven-day Period Ending February 28, 1989

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.8 million tonnes, a decrease of 17.6% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 18.4% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 16.1% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 7.9% lower than that loaded in the previous year.

Railway Carloadings

	Seven-day Period Ending February 28, 1989	Year-to-date
Carload Traffic		
Tonnes	4 775 646	36 464 322
% change from previous year	-17.6	-7.9
Cars	69,378	537,242
% change from previous year	-17.0	-6.8
Piggyback Traffic		
Tonnes	260 837	2 101 498
% change from previous year	-18.4	-1.7
Cars	8,864	71,697
% change from previous year	-16.1	-0.4

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

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

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics

January 1989

In January 1989, a total of 69 Canadian urban transit systems with gross annual total operating revenues of \$500,000 or more (subsidies included) carried 125,313,420 fare passengers. Operating revenues totalled \$91,243,101.

During the same period, 20 passenger bus carriers earning \$500,000 or more annually from intercity and rural bus operations carried 1,342,467 fare passengers. Earnings for these carriers totalled \$16,698,311.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 351 and 352.

The January 1989 issue of *Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics* (53-003, \$6.50/\$65) will be available the third week of March. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Blow-Moulded Plastic Bottles

Fourth Quarter 1988

Figures for the fourth quarter 1988 for blow-moulded plastic bottles are now available.

The fourth quarter issue of *Blow-Molded Plastic Bottles* (47-006, \$6.25/\$25) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Provincial Government Finance

1986-87

Revised data for provincial and territorial government revenues and expenditures for 1986-87 are now available. These actual data replace the estimates previously available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2751 - 2763.

For more information on this release, contact G. Huneault (613-951-1812), Public Institutions Division.



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The Daily, March 13, 1989

Publications Released

National Income and Expenditure Accounts,
Quarterly Estimates 1947-1986.
Catalogue number 13-533
(Canada: \$50; Other Countries: \$60).

Livestock Report, January 1, 1989.
Catalogue number 23-008
(Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16/\$64).

How to Order Publications

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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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