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Statistics Canada

Thursday, October 13, 1988

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- The Help-wanted Index decreased by 10 points from August to 153.

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- Total expenditure of local governments is expected to exceed total revenue in 1988 by \$1.6 billion.

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- Canadian production of primary energy rose 12.7% from the first quarter of 1987.

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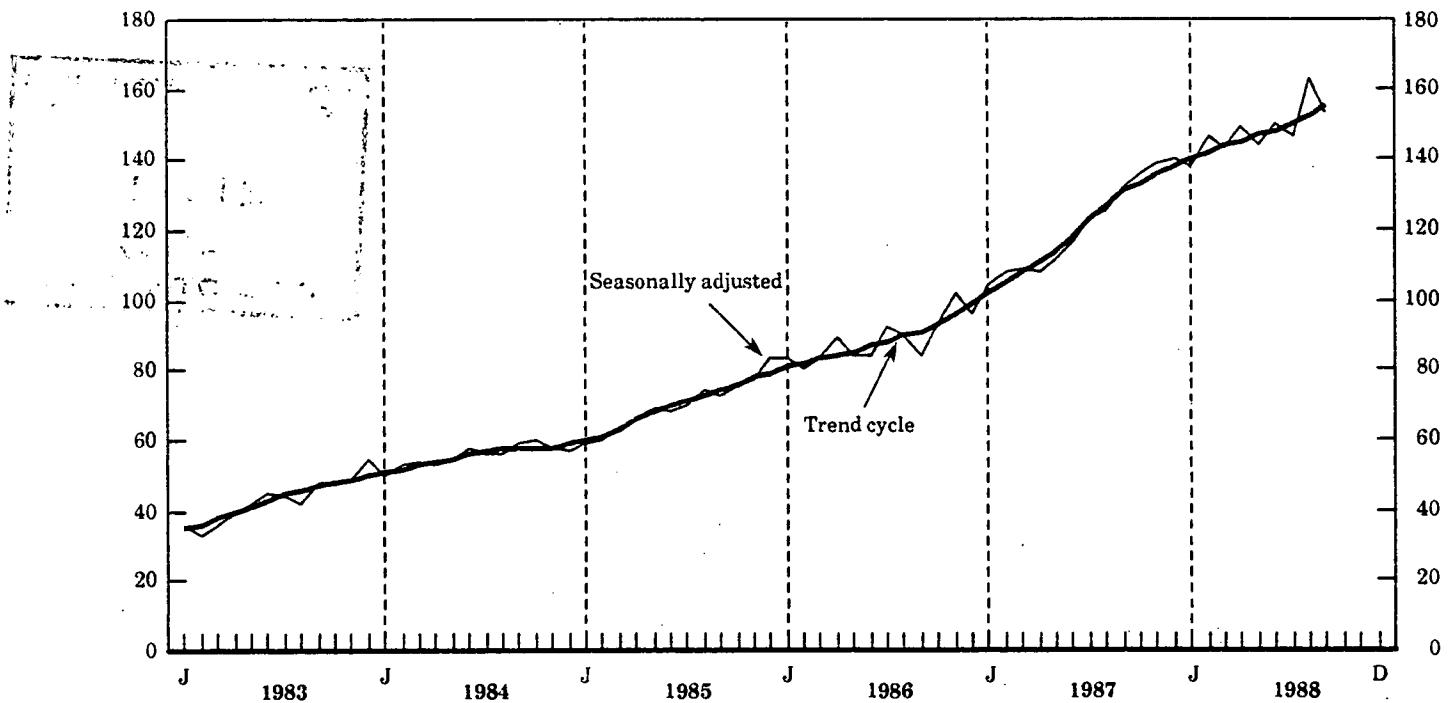
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Major Releases

Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)

January 1983 to September 1988



Help-wanted Index

September 1988

The Help-wanted Index serves as an indicator of the demand for labour by monitoring the space devoted to help-wanted ads published in 18 major metropolitan area newspapers.

Highlights

- After reaching a record level the previous month, the seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) decreased to 153 from 163 between August and September 1988. However, it remained above the previous peak of 150 observed in June 1988. The August to September change is mainly attributable to a 31-point decline in the Quebec index.

- The Canada trend-cycle¹ continued in September its advance which began in December 1982 (see chart). However, the increases in 1988 have been smaller compared to those observed in 1987.

Changes between August and September 1988 by Region:

- After reaching a peak in August, the Quebec Help-wanted Index dropped in September to 165 from 196. This level is similar to the one observed in February of this year (163).

¹ The trend cycle provides an indication of the direction in the demand for labour as estimated by the Help-wanted Index. It is calculated by the X-11 ARIMA seasonal adjustment program. Essentially, the calculation involves a 13-term Henderson moving average which smooths irregular fluctuations in the seasonally adjusted data.

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- The Prairie region index increased to 69 from 66. This is the second consecutive advance.
- In British Columbia, the Help-wanted Index advanced to 70 from 68. This is the highest level since February 1982 when the index registered 71.
- Little change was observed in the Atlantic region and in Ontario.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105.

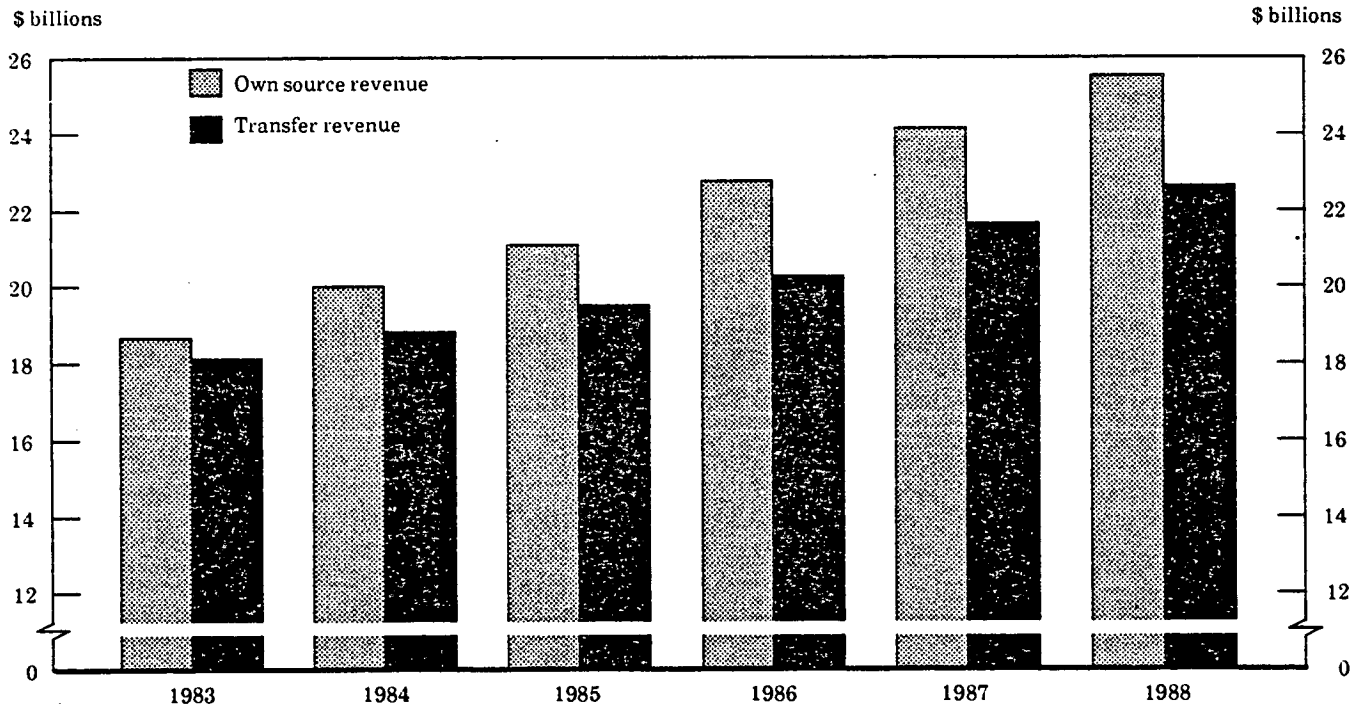
For historical data, covering the period from January 1962 to December 1987, order *Help-wanted Index* (71-204, \$15), available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-951-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-951-4044), Labour Division.

Help-wanted Index (1981 = 100), Canada and Regions - Seasonally Adjusted

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
1987						
September	132	171	146	177	60	50
October	136	170	148	185	55	55
November	139	173	154	184	59	57
December	140	164	150	189	58	55
1988						
January	138	181	144	190	62	58
February	146	154	163	197	58	58
March	143	172	160	194	60	56
April	149	209	155	201	70	60
May	144	189	153	198	66	56
June	150	183	172	196	64	60
July	146	191	173	190	61	59
August	163	195	196	209	66	68
September	153	194	165	207	69	70

Chart-1
Local Government Revenues, Own Source Versus Transfer, Canada Total Level



Local Government Finance

1988 Estimates

Highlights

- Local government total revenue is expected to amount to \$48.2 billion in 1988, up \$2.4 billion (5.2%) from 1987. This increase is consistent with the 5.3% average annual increase in total revenue from 1983 to 1987.
- Total expenditure by local governments are expected to reach \$49.8 billion in 1988, up \$2.8 billion (6.1%) from 1987. This growth in expenditure is somewhat greater than the average increase of 5.3% from 1983 to 1987.
- The overall \$1.6 billion deficit will be due mainly to the capital deficit of local governments in Quebec exceeding the current surplus by \$1.3 billion.
- Local government's own source revenue, that is, revenue derived from a government's own collection powers as opposed to revenue transferred from another government, is expected to increase by \$1.4 billion (5.8%) to \$25.6 billion in 1988. Own source revenue will amount to 53.0% of Canada total gross revenue, a slight increase from the 52.7% in 1987.
- Transfers to local governments from other levels of government will continue to provide a decreasing proportion of total revenue, falling to 47.0% in 1988 even though the \$22.7 billion total is \$1.0 billion (4.4%) higher than 1987. As illustrated in the chart, the proportion of local revenues contributed by the federal and provincial governments has been decreasing since the early 1980s, in spite of continued absolute increases.

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- Real property taxes (taxes on land and improvements) are the single most important item of local government own source revenue. Estimated to total \$14.7 billion in 1988, an increase of \$0.8 billion (6.0%) from 1987, their contribution to gross revenue has increased steadily from 28.1% in 1983 to 30.4% in 1988.
- Local governments in Prince Edward Island will continue to be the most dependent upon funding from other levels of government with 80.4% of their total gross revenue stemming from transfers. Provincial funding for elementary and secondary schools, at an anticipated total of \$91.8 million in 1988, will form the major component of these transfer revenues.
- Local governments in Ontario, on the other hand, will remain the least dependent upon transfers with only 42.0% of their total gross revenue coming from other levels of government. The bulk of these transfers (\$3.9 billion or 46.4%) also consists of provincial grants for elementary and secondary education.
- Significant expenditure increases are expected to occur in transportation and communications where Canada total levels are estimated to increase by \$519.3 million (10.6%) from 1987. Primarily responsible are local governments in Ontario, with increases totalling \$243.5 million (13.7%), and Quebec where the 1988 totals are anticipated to be \$151.2 million, 12.0% higher than the previous year.
- Environmental health expenditures on such programs as water purification and supply and sewage, garbage and waste collection and disposal, are also expected to display a significant year-to-year increase. The 1988 total

Note to Users

The System of Financial Management Statistics provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because they each reflect the policies and structures of the applicable government. The FMS adjusts data from government budgets, estimates, Public Accounts and other records to provide detailed, inter-governmentally comparable data as well as consistent national aggregates.

Hence, FMS data will not accord precisely with figures released from governments' Public Accounts.

is estimated to be \$4,119.1 million, up \$454.1 million (12.4%) from 1987. Ontario local governments are primarily responsible with an expected overall increase of \$245.1 million (18.5%), of which \$158.7 million will be due to increased capital spending.

Local government estimates are prepared by Public Institutions Division. Data sources include: a survey of local government budgetary intentions for 1988; other local government surveys; various administrative documents of provincial and local governments; and information obtained from provincial government ministries and other divisions within Statistics Canada.

(see table on page 6)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2764-2776.

For more detailed information on this release, contact R. Loggie (613-951-1824), Revenue and Expenditure Section, Public Institutions Division.

Local Government Revenues and Expenditures, 1988 Estimates

Geographic Area	Total Current Revenue	Total Current Expenditure	Current Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)	Total Capital Revenue	Total Capital Expenditure	Capital Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)	Gross Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)
Millions of dollars							
Newfoundland	266.1	253.0	13.1	29.5	57.7	-29.2	-16.1
Prince Edward Island	117.2	114.7	2.5	8.2	13.0	-4.8	-2.3
Nova Scotia	1,370.4	1,338.3	32.1	70.6	130.8	-60.2	-28.1
New Brunswick	342.0	313.2	28.8	19.7	58.4	-38.7	-9.9
Quebec	10,888.9	10,455.0	433.9	167.8	1,861.4	-1,693.6	-1,259.7
Ontario	19,115.5	17,463.2	1,652.3	926.2	2,548.7	-1,622.5	29.8
Manitoba	1,909.1	1,804.2	104.9	78.9	223.3	-144.4	-39.5
Saskatchewan	1,897.7	1,688.6	209.1	71.1	288.0	-216.9	-7.8
Alberta	6,023.5	5,753.0	270.5	463.2	877.4	-414.2	-143.7
British Columbia	4,208.9	3,778.8	430.1	147.9	652.6	-504.7	-74.6
Yukon Territory	19.2	17.9	1.3	8.0	13.4	-5.4	-4.1
Northwest Territories	84.7	80.5	4.2	17.7	18.1	-0.4	3.8
Canada	46,243.2	43,060.4	3,182.8	2,007.8	6,742.8	-4,735.0	-1,552.2

Quarterly Report On Energy Supply-Demand In Canada

First Quarter 1988

Highlights

- In the current quarter, Canadian production of primary energy reached 2 961 petajoules (PJ), up 12.7% from the corresponding quarter in the previous year. Of this current quarter's production, natural gas and its by-products contributed 40.4%, crude oil 32.3%, coal 13.8% and hydro and nuclear electricity 13.3%.
- Exports of energy commodities for the first quarter 1988 climbed 38.4% from the year-earlier period to 1 203 PJ. Of this total, natural gas and its by-products contributed 36.2%, crude oil 32.4%, coal 18.3% and electricity 2.8%. Other energy forms account for the remaining 10.3%. Imports for the same period were 354 PJ, with coal and oil accounting for 75.1% of these imports. The trade balance of energy products in the first quarter stood at +849 PJ.
- The amount of energy available to Canadians for consumption rose 8.7% from the corresponding quarter of 1987, to 2 407 PJ. Per capita consumption (based on population estimates at the beginning of the quarter) stood at 93 gigajoules, 6.5% above that of a year earlier.
- Energy and non-energy use in the industrial sector in the first quarter increased by 6.1% over a year earlier to 711 PJ. Of this increase, non-energy uses accounted for 22.7%.
- Residential and farm use (excluding motor gasoline and diesel) was up 36 PJ or 8.0% in the first quarter of 1988 when compared to the same period of 1987. Transportation uses (including all aviation fuel use) increased 35 PJ to 420 PJ (9.2%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 7976-8001.

The first quarter 1988 issue of *Quarterly Report on Energy Supply-Demand in Canada* (57-003, \$28.75/\$115) will be available the second week of November. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Don Wilson (613-951-3566), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Steel Ingots

Week Ending October 8, 1988

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending October 8, 1988 totalled 274 963 tonnes, a decrease of 0.1% from the preceding week's total of 275 356 tonnes and down 6.8% from the year-earlier level of 295 010 tonnes. The cumulative total in 1988 was 11 303 946 tonnes, an increase of 0.1% from 11 296 859 tonnes for the same period in 1987.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division.

Steel Exports

September 1988

Preliminary data on steel exports for September 1988 are now available.

The final data will be published in *Primary Iron and Steel*, September 1988 (41-001, \$4.50/\$45). See "How to Order Publications".

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

Steel Ingots

August 1988

Steel ingot production for August 1988 totalled 946 063 tonnes, a decrease of 16.1% from 1 127 126 (revised figure) tonnes the previous year.

Year-to-date production reached 9 816 938 tonnes, up 0.3% from 9 784 055 (revised figure) tonnes a year earlier.

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

The August 1988 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 detailed information on this release, contact Gerry Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division.

Shipments of Rolled Steel

August 1988

Rolled steel shipments for August 1988 totalled 1 081 241 tonnes, an increase of 16.2% from the preceding month's total of 930 144 tonnes and an increase of 10.9% from the year-earlier level of 975 244 tonnes.

Year-to-date shipments totalled 8 968 698 tonnes, an increase of 6.6% compared to 8 413 582 tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).

The August 1988 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 detailed information on this release, contact Gerry Barrett (613-951-3515), Industry Division.

Railway Carloadings

Nine-day period Ending September 30, 1988

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 6.6 million tonnes, a decrease of 3.3% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic increased 3.2% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 0.7% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 6.4% higher than that loaded in the previous year.

	Nine-day Period Ending September 30, 1988	Year to date ^r
Carload Traffic		
Tonnes	6 587 714	193 782 118
% change from previous year	-3.3	6.4
Cars	96,433	2,800,305
% change from previous year	-3.3	3.9
Piggyback Traffic		
Tonnes	369 658	10 227 564
% change from previous year	3.2	8.8
Cars	12,524	344,930
% change from previous year	0.7	2.4

^r Revised figures.

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

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

Railway Financial and Operating Statistics

July 1988

Canada's seven major railways reported a combined net income of \$26.3 million in July 1988. Operating revenues of \$619.2 million were down \$10.6 million from the July 1987 figure.

Revenue freight tonne-kilometres were up 1.4% from July 1987. Freight train-kilometres registered an increase of 1.1% while freight car-kilometres decreased by 1.3%.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 142.

The July 1988 issue of *Railway Financial and Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$9.50/\$95) is to be released the last week of October. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-9512484), Transportation Division.

Film Production and Post-production Services

1986-87

Information on film production and post-production services in 1986-87 is now available.

Culture Statistics, Film Industry (87-204, \$20) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact F. Ifedi (613-951-1566), Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

Oils and Fats

August 1988

Production by Canadian manufacturers of all types of deodorized oils in August 1988 totalled 53 231 tonnes, an increase of 12.3% from the 47 403 tonnes (revised figure) produced in July 1988. The 1988 year-to-date production totalled 404 598 tonnes, an increase of 5.4% from the corresponding 1987 figure of 383 939 tonnes.

Manufacturers' packaged sales of shortening totalled 10 560 tonnes in August 1988, up from the 9 708 tonnes (revised figure) sold the previous month. The cumulative sales to date were 77 488 tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 64 250 tonnes in 1987.

Sales of packaged salad oil decreased to 5 648 tonnes in August 1988 from 7 073 tonnes (revised figure) in July 1988. The cumulative sales to date in 1988 were 49 911 tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 42 518 tonnes in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 184.

The August 1988 issue of *Oils and Fats* (32-006, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

August 1988

Factory shipments of steel wire and specified wire products for August 1988 are now available, as are production and export market data for selected commodities.

Factory shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 62 562 tonnes in August 1988, an increase of 16.5% from the 53 689 tonnes shipped during the previous month.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).

The August 1988 issue of *Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products* (41-006, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Bruno Pepin (613-951-9837), Industry Division.

Electric Power Selling Price Indexes

May 1988 to August 1988

Electric Power Selling Price-Indexes (1981 = 100) are now available from May 1988 to August 1988.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1979.

The September 1988 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$15/\$150) will be available in November 1988. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-990-9607), Prices Division.

Publications Released

Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry,
July 1988. Catalogue number 23-003
(Canada: \$11/\$110; Other Countries: \$12/\$120).

Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, September
1988. Catalogue number 32-012
(Canada: \$11.50/\$115; Other Countries:
\$12.50/\$125).

Refined Petroleum Products, June 1988.
Catalogue number 45-004
(Canada: \$16.50/\$165; Other Countries:
\$17.50/\$175).

New Motor Vehicle Sales, April 1988.
Catalogue number 63-007
(Canada: \$9/\$90; Other Countries: \$10/\$100).

Wholesale Trade, July 1988.
Catalogue number 63-008
(Canada: \$5.50/\$55; Other Countries: \$6.50/\$65).

Consumer Price Index, September 1988.
Catalogue number 62-001
(Canada: \$8.50/\$85; Other Countries: \$9.50/\$95).
Available October 14 at 7:00 a.m.

Housing Starts and Completions, May 1988.
Catalogue number 64-002
(Canada: \$16.50/\$165; Other Countries:
\$17.50/\$175).

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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.

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