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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, November 16, 1988

Major Releases

(continued on next page)

The Canadian Economic Observer

November 1988

The November issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer*, Statistics Canada's new flagship publication for economic statistics, is now available.

The November issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic and statistical events in October and two feature articles. The first study analyzes the components of personal savings, notably the growth of RRSP and pension savings in recent years, while the second focuses on the sharp drop in wages of young people since 1981. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, $20/$200) can now be ordered from Publication Sales (613-951-7276). See "How to Order Publications".

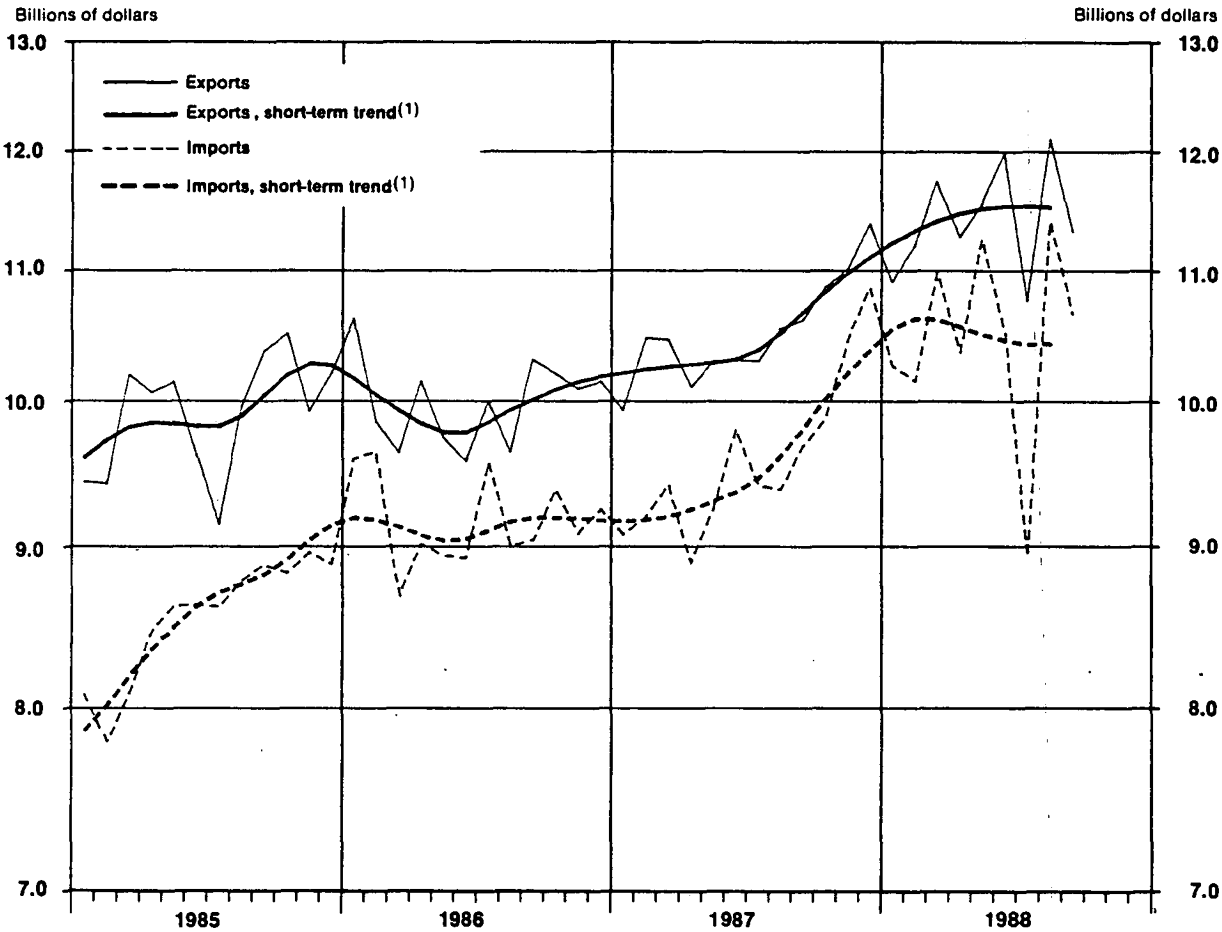
For more information, call Philip Cross (613-951-9162), International and Financial Economics Division.

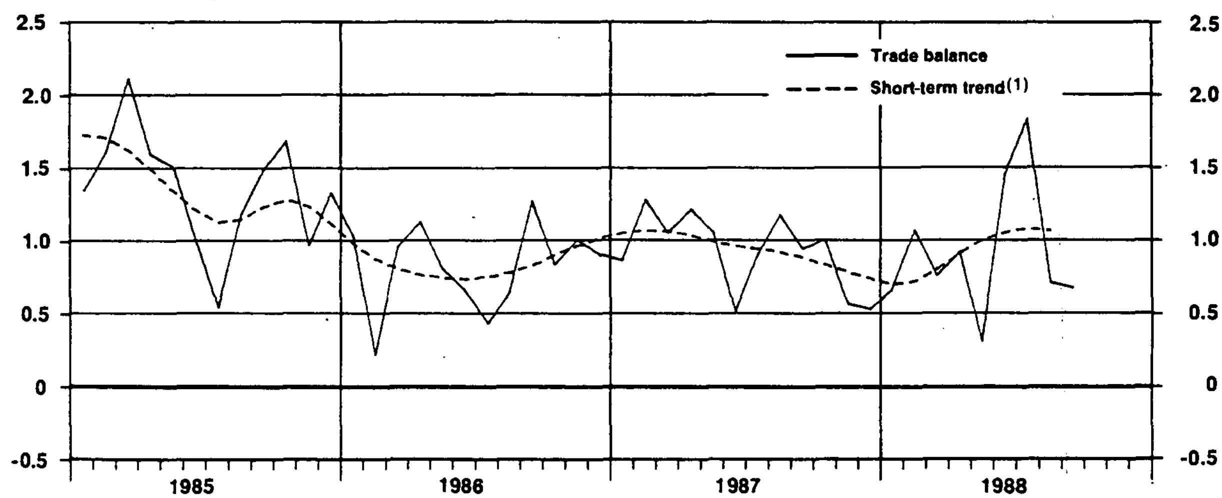
Data Availability Announcements

Publications Released

Major Releases

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.

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade

Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis
September 1988

Month-to-month Overview

(Caution should be exercised in interpreting the monthly preliminary trade data in view of anticipated major revisions for imports.)

Seasonally adjusted preliminary data indicate that Canada's total international merchandise trade in September returned to the levels prevailing prior to July and August 1988. Canada's international trade had fallen sharply in July in response to a pronounced slowdown in the automotive sector, then rebounded in August as the sector recovered. The export and import levels recorded for September are therefore more in line with those observed before July, and the decreases noted in September should be attributed to a cyclical adjustment rather than a generalized slowdown.

Canada's surplus with all its trading partners in September was $660 million, virtually unchanged from the August level. The cumulative trade surplus for the first nine months of 1988 was $8.3 billion, down $634 million from the same period a year earlier. For the second straight month, Canada's trade surplus with the United States, which totalled $954 million, remained below the average level of over $1.0 billion.

Exports fell $783 million in September to $11.3 billion. Exports to the United States were down $636 million. End products accounted for $377 million of this decline, and motor vehicles for $292 million.

Imports also decreased in September, falling $745 million to $10.6 billion. (Imports had rebounded in August by more than $2.5 billion to total $11.4 billion, setting a new record.) Imports from the United States alone were down $660 million in September. Although this figure represents a sharp decline from the previous month, imports were nonetheless up marginally (1.6%) over the average for the first eight months of 1988. The automotive products sector was the major contributor to this downward movement, following a slowdown in total retail sales of imported automobiles in September.

Short-term Trend (excludes latest month)

The monthly movements shown for the short-term trend may differ from those shown for seasonally adjusted values published in other sections of this report. The short-term trend is the result of a weighted moving average of 13 terms, and it is therefore possible that the trend of the seasonally adjusted values may not point in the same direction as the short-term trend.

Exports

Following 15 consecutive months of increases, the short-term trend for exports reversed in July and August to show slight declines.

- The trend for exports of food, feed, beverages and tobacco posted the largest decrease, while the trends for exports of inedible fabricated materials and inedible crude materials also recorded substantial declines.
- The trend for exports of wheat remained down for the third straight month, falling 3.9% from the previous month.
- The downward trend for exports of wood products observed since November 1987 deteriorated in August, falling 4.7%.
- The largest increases in August were for exports of aluminum (the sixth consecutive increase), aircraft and woodpulp.
- Although the rate of increase was lower in August (+2.7%), the trend for exports of metals and alloys has remained up since February 1987.

Imports

The downward trend for imports reversed in August, advancing (+0.1%) for the first time in six months.

- The trend for imports of end products, notably passenger automobiles and machinery and equipment, posted the largest increases.

(continued on next page)

- The trend for imports of agricultural and fishing products continued to rise for the fifth straight month as a result of higher imports of fruits and vegetables.
- Although less important in terms of value relative to total imports, the trend for imports of corn also posted sharp increases of 29.5%, 31.5% and 26.4% between June and August 1988.
- Imports of crude materials, particularly crude petroleum, posted the largest trend decrease in August.

Analysis by Commodities and Trading Partners

Commodities

Merchandise trade volume was substantially lower in September, with 42 of a total of 61 categories of imported commodities and 45 of a total of 62 exported commodities posting declines from the previous month.

- The $316 million or 9.9% decrease in exports of automotive products, of which automobiles represented only 13.9%, coincided with lower retail sales of automobiles in the United States, which were down 1.8% in August and 1.6% in September.
- Total exports of forestry products were down $228 million in September to $1.6 billion. The September figures bring the cumulative total for 1988 to $15.9 billion, an increase of $1.1 billion over the same period a year earlier.
- Virtually all of the almost $200 million decline in exports of industrial materials and equipment was due to lower exports of metals and alloys, particularly of precious metals, which fell from $302 million in August to $179 million in September.
- Exports of energy products continued to fall for the fourth straight month, declining to $821 million, their lowest level since November 1986. While the quantity of crude petroleum exported continued to decrease, lower crude petroleum prices on international markets undoubtedly contributed to the decline of this commodity.
- Aircraft exports in September rose $37 million to $334 million, setting a new record. Canada exported $2.2 billion worth of aircraft during the first nine months of 1988.
- Imports of automotive products fell $449 million in September. This decrease was accounted for largely by lower imports of parts, down $238 million, and passenger automobiles, down $185 million. In spite of this sharp decline in September, imports of automotive products remained only slightly ($35 million) below the average for the first eight months of 1988.
- Total imports of machinery and equipment were down $198 million to $3.4 billion. Although this is a substantial month-to-month decline, the cumulative total for the first nine months of 1988 was $29.6 billion, an increase of $5.4 billion over the same period of 1987.

Trading Partners

- Canadian exports to the United States in September 1988 were down $636 million to $8.4 billion.
- Exports to Japan continued to rise in September, increasing $21 million to $749 million. This increase brings total exports to Japan for the first nine months to $6.1 billion, an increase of $1.4 billion over the same period of last year.
- Imports from the United States were down $660 million to $7.4 billion.
- Imports from the European Economic Community, including the United Kingdom, totalled $11.3 billion for the first nine months of 1988, or 12% of total Canadian imports.
- Canada posted a trade surplus with Japan of $297 million for the first nine months of 1988, in contrast to the $663 million deficit recorded for the same period last year.

(continued on next page)

Quarterly Data

- Canada posted a surplus of $3.2 billion in the third quarter, an increase over the second quarter surplus of $2.6 billion.
- Exports in the third quarter totalled $34.1 billion, a decrease of $622 million from the second quarter. This decline was largely due to decreases in the end products sector, notably motor vehicle parts, food and crude materials.
- Imports in the third quarter were down $1.2 billion to $30.9 billion. This decline was attributable primarily to the end products sector, notably motor vehicle parts, telecommunications equipment other than that shown in the breakdown by summary category, crude petroleum and ores.

Canada/United States Reconciliation
Customs Basis Statistics, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Following reconciliation of the statistics for international merchandise trade between Canada and the United States, the cumulative value of Canadian exports to the United States on a customs basis, corrected for undercoverage of exports, differences in the definition of trade, transportation charges and so on, totalled $76.1 billion for the first nine months of 1988 – up 8.2% from the same period in 1987. Imports, for their part, totalled $65.8 billion, 15.1% more than in the first three quarters of 1987. As a result of these movements, the reconciled balance of trade between the two trading partners, as officially recognized by Statistics Canada and the U.S. Bureau of the Census, was $10.3 billion in Canada's favour, $2.9 billion less than during the first nine months of 1987.

(see tables on next page)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3686-3713, 3718, 3719 and 3887-3913.

For more detailed information on this release, order the September 1988 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001, $16.50/$165), available the first week of December. See "How to Order Publications".

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 and at least for the balance of 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 should also note as a further caution to interpretation of 1988 data as related to 1987 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.

For more detailed 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.

For summary information, available the day of release, order the *Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001P, $5.50/$55).

Table 1
Merchandise Trade of Canada
September 1988

	Customs Basis		Balance of Payments Basis							
								Period-to-period change[2]		
	Exports[1] raw	Imports raw	Exports[1] raw	Imports raw	Exports[1] S.A.[3]	Imports S.A.[3]	Balance S.A.[3]	Exports[1] S.A.[3]	Imports S.A.[3]	Balance S.A.[3]
			$ millions					%	%	$ millions
1982	84,530	67,856	84,393	66,739	84,393	66,738	17,654	0.0	-13.5	10,362
1983	90,613	75,520	90,556	73,098	90,556	73,098	17,457	7.3	9.5	-197
1984	112,384	95,460	111,330	91,493	111,330	91,492	19,838	22.9	25.2	2,381
1985	119,474	104,355	119,070	102,669	119,070	102,669	16,400	7.0	12.2	-3,437
1986	120,670	112,511	119,889	110,079	119,889	110,079	9,810	0.7	7.2	-6,590
1987	125,087	116,239	126,125	115,149	126,125	115,149	10,976	5.2	4.6	1,166
1986										
I quarter	29,171	27,666	29,372	26,924	30,106	27,913	2,193	-1.8	4.6	-1,786
II quarter	31,283	29,637	31,020	28,949	29,451	26,872	2,578	-2.2	-3.7	385
III quarter	28,431	27,284	28,341	26,697	29,923	27,598	2,326	1.6	2.7	-253
IV quarter	31,785	27,924	31,156	27,509	30,409	27,696	2,713	1.6	0.4	388
1987										
I quarter	29,714	27,776	30,278	27,346	30,833	27,662	3,171	1.4	-0.1	457
II quarter	31,687	29,578	31,832	29,326	30,668	27,915	2,752	-0.5	0.9	-418
III quarter	29,628	27,814	30,071	27,472	31,407	28,419	2,988	2.4	1.8	236
IV quarter	34,057	31,071	33,944	31,005	33,217	31,153	2,065	5.8	9.6	-924
1988										
I quarter	33,926	35,017	33,454	32,290	33,782	31,336	2,446	1.7	0.6	382
II quarter	36,179	33,479	36,248	33,008	34,737	32,090	2,647	2.8	2.4	201
III quarter	31,920	30,028	32,303	29,755	34,115	30,931	3,184	-1.8	-3.6	537
1987										
January	9,154	8,767	9,353	8,487	9,924	9,074	850	-2.1	-1.8	-41
February	9,889	8,974	10,074	9,001	10,460	9,185	1,274	5.4	1.2	424
March	10,671	10,034	10,851	9,858	10,449	9,403	1,046	-0.1	2.4	-229
April	10,223	9,407	10,334	9,310	10,090	8,882	1,208	-3.4	-5.5	162
May	10,658	9,493	10,589	9,432	10,285	9,242	1,043	1.9	4.0	-164
June	10,807	10,678	10,909	10,585	10,293	9,791	502	0.1	5.9	-542
July	9,528	9,508	9,635	9,476	10,280	9,391	889	-0.1	-4.1	388
August	9,362	8,560	9,564	8,496	10,532	9,364	1,168	2.4	-0.3	278
September	10,738	9,747	10,872	9,500	10,595	9,664	931	0.6	3.2	-237
October	11,336	10,138	11,343	10,073	10,850	9,853	997	2.4	1.9	66
November	11,513	10,622	11,382	10,670	11,003	10,452	551	1.4	6.1	-446
December	11,207	10,311	11,220	10,262	11,365	10,848	517	3.3	3.8	-34
1988										
January	10,269	12,327	10,198	9,961	10,887	10,243	644	-4.2	-5.6	127
February	11,204	10,464	10,963	10,253	11,183	10,125	1,057	2.7	-1.1	414
March	12,454	12,226	12,293	12,077	11,712	10,967	745	4.7	8.3	-312
April	11,382	10,607	11,397	10,441	11,253	10,345	908	-3.9	-5.7	163
May	12,028	11,630	12,068	11,479	11,525	11,234	291	2.4	8.6	-617
June	12,768	11,242	12,783	11,088	11,959	10,511	1,448	3.8	-6.4	1,157
July	9,589	8,818	9,824	8,841	10,741	8,916	1,825	-10.2	-15.2	377
August	10,725	10,762	10,911	10,502	12,078	11,380	699	12.4	27.6	-1,126
September	11,605	10,448	11,568	10,413	11,295	10,635	660	-6.5	-6.5	-39
Year to date										
1987	91,030	85,168	92,181	84,144	92,908	83,996	8,911	3.8	2.0	1,814
1988	102,025	98,524	102,004	95,053	102,634	94,356	8,278	10.5	12.3	-634

1 *Exports = Domestic Exports + Re-exports.*
2 *Year-to-year, quarter-to-quarter, month-to-month.*
3 *Seasonally Adjusted.*

Note: – Due to truncation, monthly data may not add up to quarterly data and quarterly data may not add up to annual data.
– The 1986 and 1987 figures include the final revisions.

Table 2
Merchandise Trade by Principal Trading Areas
September 1988
Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

	Aug.	Sept.	Period-to-period change Aug.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Year to date	Change over previous year	
	$ millions		%	%	$ millions		$ millions	%	$ millions
Exports to:[1]									
United States	9,003.0	8,366.6	13.0	-7.1	1,035.7	-636.4	76,326.9	6.8	4,875.2
United Kingdom	361.3	264.8	26.2	-26.7	75.0	-96.5	2,623.4	16.0	361.2
Japan	728.6	749.3	20.4	2.8	123.5	20.7	6,142.5	28.6	1,365.9
EEC '86 excl. UK	625.8	546.9	9.7	-12.6	55.5	-78.8	5,118.5	10.9	504.0
Other OECD '86	229.4	263.8	2.6	15.0	5.7	34.4	2,213.4	20.2	372.1
Other Countries	1,130.4	1,103.6	3.8	-2.4	41.8	-26.8	10,209.1	28.2	2,247.9
Total	**12,078.4**	**11,295.0**	**12.4**	**-6.5**	**1,337.1**	**-783.4**	**102,633.9**	**10.5**	**9,726.3**
Imports from:[1]									
United States	8,072.8	7,412.4	37.8	-8.2	2,214.6	-660.4	65,051.9	12.8	7,356.4
United Kingdom	386.0	429.6	4.3	11.3	15.8	43.7	3,685.6	10.7	357.2
Japan	613.2	568.8	15.8	-7.2	83.9	-44.4	5,845.1	7.5	405.4
EEC '86 excl. UK	845.2	880.7	13.9	4.2	103.4	35.4	7,646.8	14.5	965.9
Other OECD '86	272.9	289.3	-2.5	6.0	-6.9	16.5	2,640.3	13.7	319.0
Other Countries	1,189.6	1,054.0	4.6	-11.4	52.8	-135.6	9,486.4	11.2	956.1
Total	**11,379.7**	**10,634.9**	**27.6**	**-6.5**	**2,463.5**	**-744.9**	**94,356.2**	**12.3**	**10,359.9**
Balance with:									
United States	930.3	954.2			-1,178.9	24.0	11,275.0		-2,481.2
United Kingdom	-24.7	-164.9			59.2	-140.1	-1,062.2		4.0
Japan	115.4	180.4			39.6	65.1	297.4		960.5
EEC '86 excl. UK	-219.5	-333.7			-47.9	-114.3	-2,528.3		-462.0
Other OECD '86	-43.5	-25.6			12.6	18.0	-426.9		53.2
Other Countries	-59.2	49.6			-11.1	108.8	722.7		1,291.9
Total	**698.7**	**660.1**			**-1,126.4**	**-38.6**	**8,277.7**		**-633.6**

[1] *Exports to "Other OECD Countries" and imports from the United Kingdom, "Other OECD Countries" and "Other Countries" do not have seasonality. Consequently, these series are not seasonally adjusted.*

Note:
- *Portugal and Spain are included in the EEC.*
- *Imports for September 1988 by country of origin from the United States (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) amounted to $6,980.2 million. This represents the starting figure from which the Canada/United States reconciliation takes place.*

Table 2A
Reconciled merchandise trade between Canada and the United States

Raw Data		January to September 1987	January to September 1988
		$ millions	
Exports			
Customs Basis	United States	69,217.5	74,875.4
	Puerto Rico	165.6	186.9
	U.S. Virgin Islands	4.8	5.6
	Published total	69,387.9	75,067.9
Reconciliation Adjustments		976.3	1,035.0
Reconciled Basis		70,364.2	76,102.9
Other B.O.P. Adjustments		580.2	-133.8
B.O.P. Basis		71,044.4	75,969.1
Imports			
Customs Basis	United States	57,156.6	66,428.1
	Puerto Rico	164.7	198.3
	U.S. Virgin Islands	41.5	10.0
	Published total	57,362.8	66,636.4
Reconciliation Adjustments		-170.6	-809.5
Reconciled basis		57,192.2	65,826.9
Other B.O.P. Adjustments		570.3	-151.0
B.O.P. Basis		57,762.5	65,675.9
Balance			
Reconciled Basis		13,171.9	10,276.0
B.O.P. Basis		13,281.9	10,293.2

Note: *Non-receipt of export documents accounts for most of the reconciliation adjustment.*
Data on a customs basis for 1987 shown in this table do not include revisions made after December 1987.

The Changing Wage Distribution of Jobs
1981-86

The trend towards an increasingly service-based economy in recent years has been well documented in Canada. The specific effects of this shift in the industrial and occupational mix of jobs on rates of pay has been more a matter of speculation. Were the new employment patterns generally increasing individual earnings? Introducing a plethora of low-paying jobs? Creating a combination of low- and high-paying jobs with little middle ground?

Based on two special surveys for the years 1981 and 1986, there is now evidence of some polarization – rising proportions of low-paying and relatively high-paying jobs – along with substantial change taking place in the wage distribution among age groups. The years from 1981 to 1986 witnessed declines in the relative (and real) wage rates paid to young workers and increases (on average) for those over age 35.

Highlights

- Most of the net job growth between 1981 and 1986 occurred in two of 10 wage levels – at the very bottom (under \$5.25 per hour in 1986) and the upper middle (between \$11.88 and \$13.52).
- The lowest wage category accounted for 12% of all jobs in 1986 compared to 9.4% of jobs in 1981.
- Among young workers (ages 16-24) nearly a third of the 1986 jobs fell into the lowest wage level, compared to just 16% in 1981.
- This increase in the share of youth jobs in the lower wage levels was pervasive, crossing sex, regional, educational, industrial and occupational boundaries.
- There was a less dramatic downward wage shift for workers aged 25 to 34 years. In contrast, jobs held by persons over 35 were somewhat more concentrated in the upper wage levels in 1986 than in 1981.
- Between 1981 and 1986, the shift in the mix of jobs towards the service sector was substantial by historical standards. This shift was even more pronounced among jobs held by young people. However, the change in the wage distribution was not primarily due to the shift towards the services. Rather most of the change originated in a changing wage structure within industries and within occupational groups.

For more detailed information on this current release, order the November issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$20/\$200), or the October issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$22/\$220), both available today. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning the data in this release, contact Garnett Picot (613-951-8214) or Ted Wannell (613-951-3758), Social and Economic Studies Division or John Myles, Carleton University (613-564-6650).

Components of Personal Savings
1971-1986

Personal savings and the savings rate are key statistics in the National Accounts. In recent years, the savings rate has fluctuated markedly, rising steadily through the 1970s to a peak of over 17% in the 1981-82 recession; since then, it declined steadily to near 9%.

Analysts have often tried, although without much success, to explain the pattern of savings, and why savings rates in Canada have been much higher than in the United States. Today, a feature article in the November issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer* analyzes the components of personal savings to better understand its behaviour.

Highlights

- The savings rate doubled from 1971 to reach 12% in 1975, levelled off from 1975 to 1980, and rose to 17.8% in 1982, the highest level since World War II. Since then it has fallen to under 10% of disposable income.

- Savings in the form of life insurance and trusteed pension plans grew slowly, to 5% of disposable income in 1987. Savings through RRSPs have grown more rapidly, to just over 2% of disposable income.

- Savings available for other uses is the most volatile component, accounting for most of the growth from 1971 to 1975 and most of the drop after 1982.

- The high level of savings through pension plans and RRSPs suggests that savings will not fall back to the rates posted in the 1960s.

- Most of the increase in savings since the early 1970s reflected higher net financial investment, notably in cash and deposits. Bond purchases rose early in the 1980s, while cash and deposits and consumer borrowing fell sharply. There was little change in life insurance and trusteed pension plans and non-financial assets as a share of disposable income. Since 1982, mortgage borrowing has recovered each year, while investment in financial assets slowed in 1986 and 1987.

- In 1987, 54.6% of personal savings were in the form of RRSPs and trusteed pension plans, 23.6% through life insurance, and 17.5% were available for other uses.

This article is one of two featured in the October issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, $20/$200), now available. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact J.S. Wells (613-951-9760); for information on the *Canadian Economic Observer*, call P. Cross (613-951-9162).

Data Availability Announcements

Steel Ingots
September 1988

Steel ingot production for September 1988 totalled 1 104 648 tonnes, a decrease of 8.4% from 1 205 814 tonnes the previous year. Year-to-date production, at 10 718 820 (revised figure) tonnes, was down 2.5% from 10 989 869 (revised figure) tonnes a year earlier.

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

The September 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
September 1988

Rolled steel shipments for September 1988 totalled 1 087 909 tonnes, an increase of 0.6% from the preceding month's total of 1 081 241 tonnes but a decrease of 2.8% from the year-earlier level of 1 118 872 tonnes.

Year to date shipments totalled 10 056 607 tonnes, an increase of 5.5% compared to 9 532 454 tonnes the previous year.

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

The September 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.

Oilseed Crushings
September 1988

Canola crushings for September 1988 amounted to 130 579 tonnes, up marginally from the 129 074 tonnes crushed in September 1987. The resulting oil and meal production was 51 671 tonnes and 74 844 tonnes respectively.

Soybean crushings for the same month decreased 13% to 63 038 tonnes in 1988 from 73 155 tonnes a year earlier. As a result, oil production decreased 9% to 11 507 tonnes in September 1988 from 12 572 tonnes in September 1987. Meal production also decreased, down 11% to 49 755 tonnes from 56 386 tonnes in September 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5687.

The September 1988 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007, $11.50/$115) is scheduled for release in November. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact A. Dupuis (613-951-3871), Agriculture Division.

Stocks of Frozen Poultry Products
November 1, 1988

Preliminary cold storage of frozen poultry products at November 1, 1988 and revised figures for October 1, 1988 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.

The September issue of *Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry* (23-003, $11/$110) will be available the week of November 28. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Robert Koroluk (613-951-2549), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

Export and Import Price Indexes
September 1988

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

Customs based current and fixed weighted U.S. price indexes are also available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to September 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.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3633-3642, 3651 and 3685.

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

For more detailed information on this release, contact Denis Pilon (613-951-6871), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division.

Publications Released

Canadian Economic Observer, November 1988.
Catalogue number 11-010
(Canada: $20/$200; Other Countries: $22.50/$225).

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, August 1988.
Catalogue number 35-002
(Canada: $9/$90; Other Countries: $10/$100).

Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, September 1988. **Catalogue number 43-003**
(Canada: $4.50/$45; Other Countries: $5.50/$55).

Railway Carloadings, September 1988.
Catalogue number 52-001
(Canada: $7.50/$75; Other Countries: $8.50/$85).

Merchandising Inventories, June 1988.
Catalogue number 63-014
(Canada: $13/$130; Other Countries: $14/$140).

The Labour Force, October 1988.
Catalogue number 71-001
(Canada: $22/$220; Other Countries: $24/$240).

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