

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 24, 1988

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Major Release

Wholesale Trade, September 1988

- Wholesale merchants' sales increased 5.0% over September 1987.

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Major Release

Wholesale Trade

September 1988

Sales

- Preliminary estimates indicate that wholesale merchants' sales for September 1988 were 5.0% above those of September 1987. In the first nine months of 1988, cumulative sales were up 10.1% compared to the corresponding period in 1987.
- In September 1988, all major trade groups within wholesale trade registered increased sales over a year earlier, except wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-27.5%) and wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories (-2.2%). The three largest trade groups recorded increases over September 1987: wholesalers of electrical and non-electrical machinery, equipment and supplies (+10.2%), "other wholesalers" (+7.6%) and wholesalers of food (+7.8%).

- Wholesale trade increases between September 1987 and September 1988 were registered in four out of five regions. Quebec had the highest increase at 10.2% while a decrease of 2.5% was recorded in the Prairie provinces.

Inventories

- Inventory levels in September 1988 were 9.5% higher than those reported in September 1987. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of September 1988 stood at 1.36:1, up from 1.30:1 in the corresponding month of 1987.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 44 and 50.

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

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

Wholesale Trade

Percentage Change in Sales and Inventories for September 1988/1987

Major Trade Groups -Regions	Sales			Inventories		Stocks/Sales Ratios	
	August 1988/87 ^r	Sept. 1988/87 ^p	Jan./Sept. 1988/87 ^p	August 1988/87 ^r	Sept. 1988/87 ^p	Sept. 1987	Sept. 1988 ^p
Total all trades	12.9	5.0	10.1	11.1	9.5	1.30	1.36
Food	13.5	7.8	5.0	1.1	2.6	0.67	0.64
Tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations	4.9	1.8	2.9	-13.0	-12.4	0.89	0.77
Apparel, dry goods, furniture and general merchandise	13.3	3.9	5.4	11.1	12.8	1.56	1.69
Motor vehicles and accessories	3.6	-2.2	1.4	-1.9	-2.7	1.76	1.75
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	-18.1	-27.5	-6.6	-4.6	-4.9	2.43	3.19
Other machinery, equipment and supplies ¹	20.5	10.2	18.2	13.7	12.4	1.35	1.38
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment	18.2	9.2	16.5	28.3	25.3	1.40	1.61
Lumber and building materials	7.3	3.3	7.6	26.4	22.7	1.12	1.33
Other wholesalers ²	18.8	7.6	14.8	19.7	15.5	1.32	1.41
Regions							
Atlantic provinces	7.3	5.1	9.7	12.3	11.6	1.28	1.35
Quebec	14.6	10.2	12.6	19.8	14.1	1.25	1.30
Ontario	15.3	6.0	9.6	10.0	9.6	1.29	1.33
Prairie provinces	4.4	-2.5	8.6	6.2	6.9	1.59	1.75
B.C., Yukon and Northwest Territories	14.2	0.8	8.6	4.2	3.5	1.10	1.13

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

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.

Data Availability Announcements

Major Appliances

October 1988

Domestic sales of major appliances by Canadian manufacturers decreased to 237,100 units in October 1988, down 6.9% from 254,557 units in September 1988 and down 11.0% from the 266,384 units sold in the same month of 1987.

Year-to-date domestic sales to October 1988 amounted to 2,280,184* (revised figure) units compared to 1,997,248 units for the same period of 1987, or a 14.2% increase.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 65, 66 and 122 (series 30).

The October 1988 issue of *Production, Sales and Stocks of Major Appliances* (43-010, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder

October 1988

Production of process cheese in October 1988 totalled 6 415 983 kilograms, a decrease of 34.2% (revised figure) from September 1988 but an increase of 18.4% from October 1987. The 1988 year-to-date production totalled 64 080 827 kilograms (revised figure), compared to the corresponding 1987 amount of 62 909 173 kilograms (revised figure).

Total production of instant skim milk powder during the month was 435 095 kilograms, an increase of 13.6% (revised figure) from September 1988 and an increase of 6.8% from October 1987. Cumulative year-to-date production totalled 4 125 319 kilograms (revised figure), compared to the 4 305 923 kilograms reported for the corresponding period in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).

The October 1988 issue of *Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder* (32-024, \$4.50/\$45) will be released at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Tea, Coffee and Cocoa Third Quarter 1988

Data on tea, coffee and cocoa for the third quarter of 1988 are now available.

Production and Stocks of Tea, Coffee and Cocoa (32-025, \$6.25/\$25) will be released at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.7 and 1.8).

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

Steel Ingots Week Ending November 19, 1988

Preliminary estimates indicate that Canadian steel ingot production for the week ending November 19, 1988 totalled 330 410 tonnes, an increase of 0.9% from the preceding week's total of 327 557 tonnes and up 41.6% from the year-earlier level of 233 325 tonnes. The cumulative total in 1988 was 13 126 493 tonnes, an increase of 1.2% from 12 971 811 tonnes for the same period in 1987.

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

Railway Transport in Canada: Commodity Statistics 1987

Highlights

- Revenue freight carried by railways in Canada reached 290.8 million tonnes during 1987, a 4% increase over 1986; receipts from Canadian connections accounted for about 10% of the total.
- Freight received from U.S. rail connections totalled 12.9 million tonnes, down some 4% from 1986; about 27% of this freight tonnage was in transit to other U.S. points.
- British Columbia traffic accounted for one-fifth of all tonnage loaded, while Ontario represented 18% of the total; Quebec and Alberta each registered shares of about 15%.
- Freight unloaded in British Columbia represented almost a third of the total, at 31%; another 27% of the freight was discharged in Ontario while Quebec accounted for 24%.
- The three leading commodities transported were coal (39.1 million tonnes), iron ore and concentrates (36.1 million tonnes) and wheat (27.7 million tonnes). Together, they accounted for slightly more than 39% of the total tonnage carried, up one percentage point from the corresponding share registered in 1986.

Railway Transport in Canada (52-211, \$42.50) is scheduled for release in December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Surface and Marine Transport Section (613-951-2484), Transportation Division.



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Publications Released

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, October 1988.

Catalogue number 32-022

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

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, August 1988. Catalogue number 51-004

(Canada: \$8.50/\$85; Other Countries: \$9.50/\$95).

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics, September 1988. Catalogue number 53-003

(Canada: \$6.50/\$65; Other Countries: \$7.50/\$75).

New Motor Vehicle Sales, June 1988.

Catalogue number 63-007

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

How to Order Publications

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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.

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.

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