

The Daily

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Major Release

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Composite Leading Indicator, April 1988

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- The Canadian leading indicator grew at the same rate (0.7%) in April as in March and was up from 0.4% growth in February.

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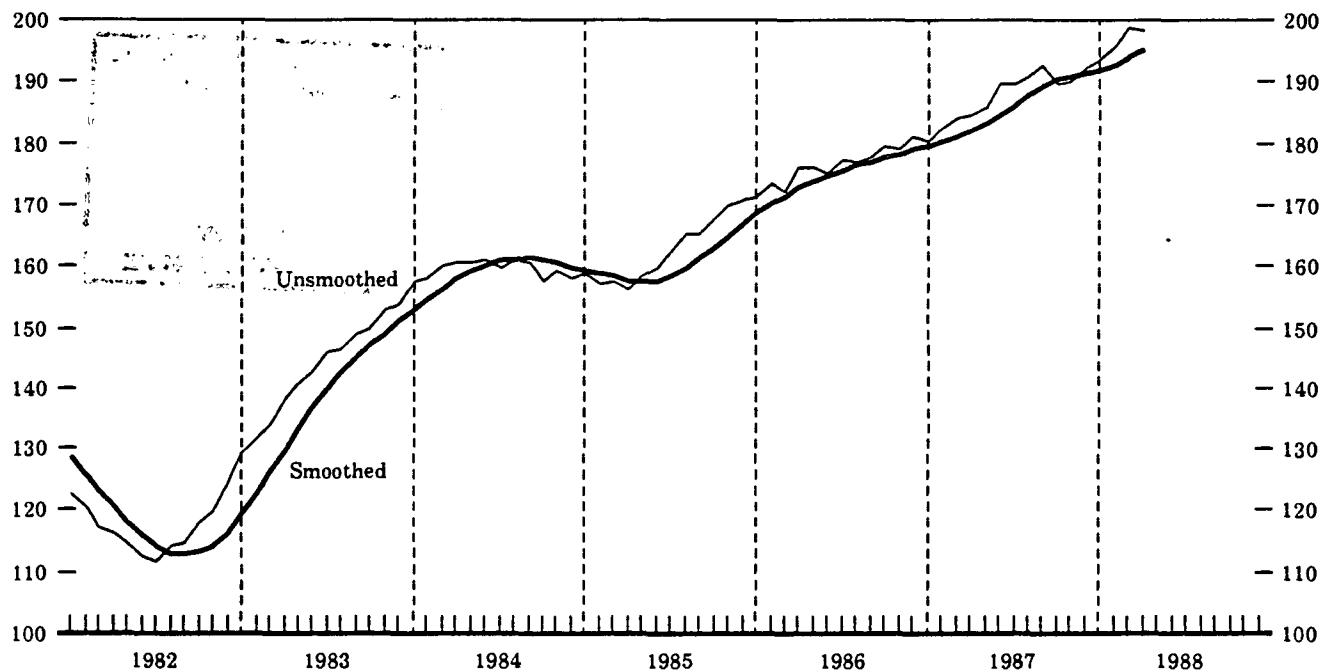
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Major Release

The Canadian Composite Leading Indicator (1971 = 100)

January 1982 to April 1988



Composite Leading Indicator April 1988

The Canadian leading indicator (1971 = 100) grew at the same rate (0.7%) in April as in March, and was up from 0.4% growth in February. The continued growth of the manufacturing indicators was accompanied by a levelling-off of the stock market index in April after several months of decline. The United States leading indicator also turned upwards in the month. The unsmoothed version of the Canadian leading indicator declined marginally (-0.2%), after a revised 1.6% increase in March.

New orders for durable goods continued to grow in April, mainly in the investment goods industries (most of this increase went into unfilled orders, however, as production lags are longer for investment goods). The slowing of total shipments, combined with a marginal increase in inventories, left the ratio of shipments to finished good inventories unchanged for the second consecutive

month. The average workweek was little changed after two consecutive declines.

The United States leading indicator turned up in April after four consecutive monthly declines. The manufacturing-related indicators contributed the most to this reversal, while the stock index continued to register a smaller decline.

(see table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 161.

For more detailed information on this release, or about the next release dates, contact F. Roy-Mayrand (613-951-3627), International and Financial Economics Division.

For more information on the economy, order the July issue of *Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$20/\$200), available the week of July 18. See "How to Order Publications". This issue also includes a feature article on the Bilateral Comparison of Purchasing Parity Between Canada and the United States.

Canadian Leading Indicators

	Percentage Change			Level
	February	March	April	April
Composite Leading Indicator (1971 = 100)				
Smoothed	0.4	0.7	0.7	195.4
Unsmoothed	1.1	1.6	-0.2	198.4
Retail Trade				
Furniture and appliance sales	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	144,089 ⁴
New motor vehicle sales	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	812,041 ⁴
Residential construction index¹	-3.1	-2.1	-1.2	111.2
Manufacturing				
New orders - durable	0.4	3.2	1.6	3,914 ⁵
Shipment to inventory ratio - (finished goods) ²	0.01	0.00	0.00	1.82
Average workweek (hours)	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	38.7
Percentage change in price per unit labour cost ²	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.24
United States				
composite leading index (1967 = 100)	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	191.2
TSE 300 stock price index (excluding oil and gas)	-3.2	-1.8	-0.7	3,079
Money supply (M1) (\$1971)³	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	11,016 ⁵

¹ Composite index of housing starts (units), building permits (constant dollars) and mortgage loan approvals (numbers).

² Difference from previous month.

³ Deflated by the consumer price index for all items.

⁴ Thousands of 1971 dollars.

⁵ Millions of 1971 dollars.

Data Availability Announcements

Road Motor Vehicles: Fuel Sales 1987

Highlights

- In 1987, net fuel sales reported were 33 194 million litres, of which 86.7% consisted of gasoline sales. Diesel fuel accounted for 13.2% of sales and liquified petroleum gas for 0.1%.
- Gross sales of gasoline reported in 1987 were 33 215 million litres, a 1.2% increase over 1986.
- The province of Ontario accounted for 41.1% of net sales and 36.9% of gross sales of gasoline in 1987.

The 1987 issue of *Road Motor Vehicles: Fuel Sales* (53-218, \$15) will be available the third week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Yasmin Sheikl (613-951-2518), Transportation Division.

Oils and Fats May 1988

Production by Canadian manufacturers of all types of deodorized oils in May 1988 totalled 52 462 tonnes, an increase of 15.5% from the 45 403 tonnes produced in April 1988. The 1988 year-to-date production totalled 248 849 tonnes, an increase of 3.1% from the corresponding 1987 figure of 241 478^r (revised figure) tonnes.

Manufacturers' packaged sales of shortening totalled 9 846 tonnes in May 1988, up from the 8 911 tonnes sold the previous month. The cumulative sales to date in 1988 were 46 855^r tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 37 632^r tonnes in 1987.

Sales of packaged salad oil increased to 6 661 tonnes in May 1988 from 4 519 tonnes in April 1988. The cumulative sales to date in 1988 were 30 566^r tonnes, compared to the cumulative sales of 29 327^r tonnes in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 184.

The May 1988 issue of *Oils and Fats* (32-006, \$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.

Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics May 1988

In May 1988, a total of 69 Canadian urban transit systems with gross annual total operating revenues of \$500,000 or more (subsidies included) carried 106,894,663 fare passengers, a decrease of 13.5% from the previous month. Operating revenues totalled \$79,188,140 - down 8.9% from April 1988.

During the same period, 20 passenger bus carriers earning \$500,000 or more annually from intercity and rural bus operations carried 1,382,911 fare passengers, down 9.2% from the previous month. Earnings for these carriers totalled \$13,495,575 - a 16.1% decrease from April 1988 operating revenues.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 351 and 352.

The May 1988 issue of *Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Statistics* (53-003, \$6.50/\$65) will be available the third week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

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

Oil Pipeline Transport

April 1988

Highlights

- In April, net receipts of crude oil and refined petroleum products into Canadian pipelines increased 10.2% from the same period last year to 13 441 187 cubic metres (m³). Year-to-date receipts, at 56 066 860 m³, were up 10.7% from 1987.
- Pipeline exports of crude oil increased 10.9% compared to April 1987 while pipeline imports rose 11.5% for the same period. On a cumulative basis, exports in 1988 rose 19.5% from 1987 levels, while imports decreased by 14.1%.
- Deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries in April rose 5.1% from April 1987 while deliveries of liquid petroleum gases and refined petroleum products increased 15.8%.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 181.

The April 1988 issue of *Oil Pipeline Transport* (55-001, \$9/\$90) will be available the last week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gerard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)

April 1988

Commodity-country export trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S.) for April 1988 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3686-3713 and 3719.

The April 1988 issue of *Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-004, \$50/\$500) will be available the fourth week of July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

Consolidated Government Finance Data

1985-87

Revised data for the consolidated revenue and expenditures of provincial and local governments and for provincial/local and federal governments for 1985, 1986 and 1987 are now available.

Please note that data from 1975 to 1987 have been revised to reflect changes in the treatment of government employee pension plans.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3146-3160.

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



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Publications Released

Fruit and Vegetable Production, May 1988.
Catalogue number 22-003
(Canada: \$16.50/\$66; Other Countries: \$17.50/\$70).

Food Industries, Cereal Grain Flour Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 32-250B 1051
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Beverage and Tobacco Products Industries, Tobacco Products Industry, 1986 Census of Manufactures. Catalogue number 32-251B 1221
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, February 1988. Catalogue number 41-006
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, March 1988. Catalogue number 41-006
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

Air Carrier Operations in Canada, April-June 1987. Catalogue number 51-002
(Canada: \$22/\$88; Other Countries: \$23/\$92)

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

Imports by Commodity, March 1988. Catalogue number 65-007
(Canada: \$50/\$500; Other Countries: \$60/\$600).

How to Order Publications

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7276.

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.

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