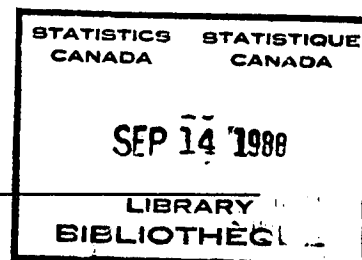


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 14, 1988



Major Release

Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade, July 1988

2

- The export and import data for July show unusually large and widespread declines. These declines are mirrored in counterpart trade data – exports and imports between the United States and Canada – compiled independently by and for the United States. Nonetheless, the July trade figures should not be interpreted as a significant change in trends until confirmed by subsequent data on international trade as well as related economic indicators to be released in the weeks to come.

Data Availability Announcements

Railway Carloadings, 10-day Period Ending August 31, 1988	8
Canadian Telecommunications Plant Price Index, 1987	8
Construction Type Plywood, July 1988	9
Shipments of Rolled Steel, July 1988	9
Export and Import Price Indexes, July 1988	9
Population Projections, 1986-2011	9

Publications Released

10



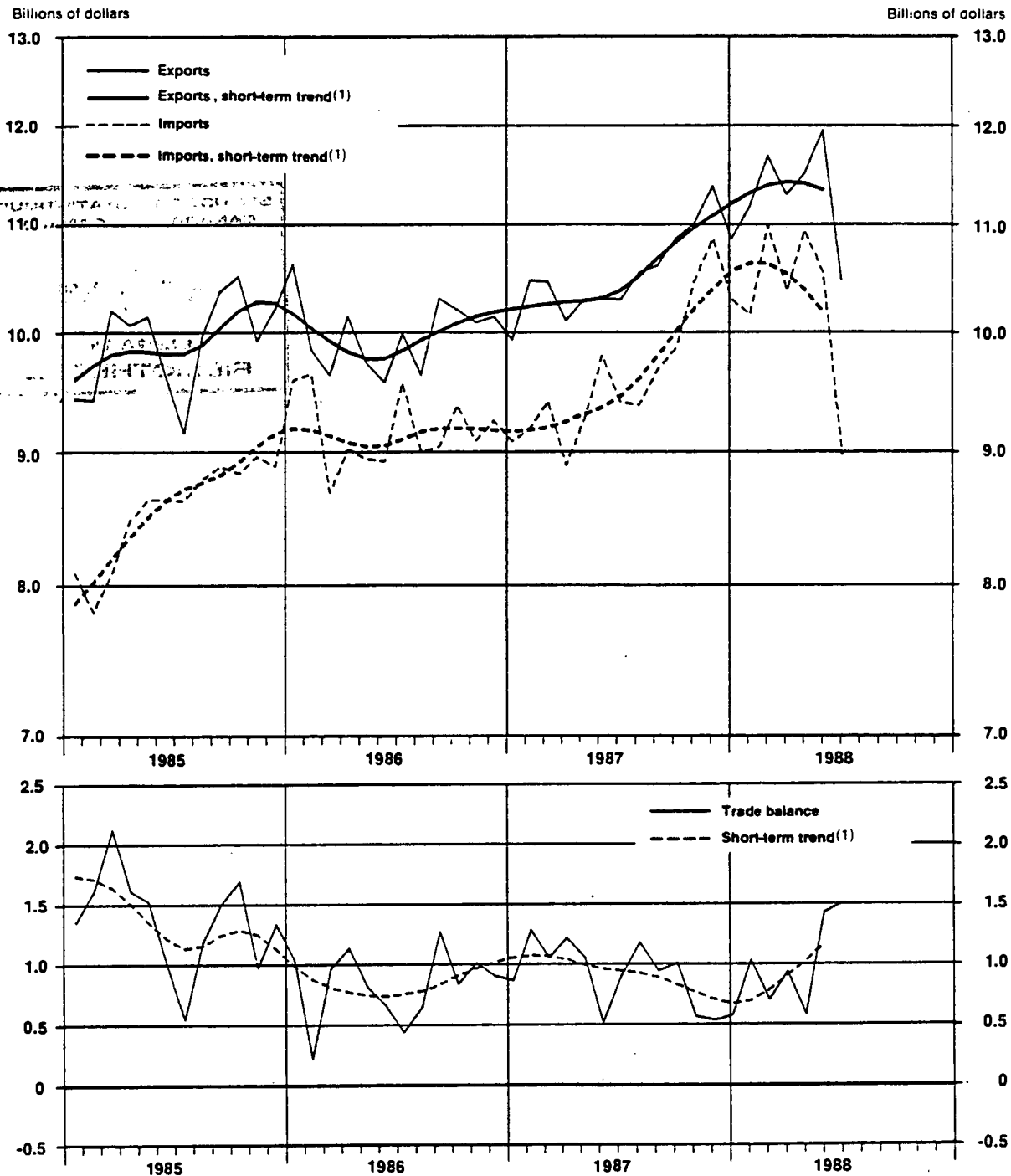
Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

Major Release

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
July 1988

The export and import data for July show unusually large and widespread declines. These declines are mirrored in counterpart trade data - exports and imports between the United States and Canada - compiled independently by and for the United States. Nonetheless, the July trade figures should not be interpreted as a significant change in trends until confirmed by subsequent data on international trade as well as related economic indicators to be released in the weeks to come.

Month-to-month Overview

On a balance of payments basis and adjusted for seasonal fluctuations, Canada posted another large international merchandise trade surplus in July (\$1.5 billion), while the revised surplus for June was \$1.4 billion. These results brought the cumulative surplus for the first seven months of 1988 to \$6.7 billion, \$125 million less than for the same period last year.

There was a marked decline in both imports and exports and the higher surplus reflects a marginally greater decrease in imports than exports.

Total exports were down \$939 million in July from the average for the first six months of the year, while exports of finished products alone decreased by \$533 million. Exports to the United States were \$730 million less than the average for the first six months of the year.

Imports also fell below the average for the first six months of the year, declining by \$1.6 billion to \$9.0 billion, the lowest monthly level since April 1987. The largest decreases were recorded for imports of machinery and equipment, and motor vehicle parts.

Sharp declines were posted for both exports and imports of automotive products, since a larger number of Canadian automotive manufacturing plants were closed in July in order to retool for the production of new models. The Canadian Automobile Manufacturers Association estimated that production of motor vehicles fell by over 40%, which undoubtedly had a major impact on international trade in these products.

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.

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

After revision of the preliminary data for June, the short-term trend indicates a slight decline of 0.1% for May and a marginally greater decrease of 0.5% for June.

- The largest contributors to this decline in the trend for June were exports of finished products, notably passenger automobiles, motor vehicle parts and energy products.

(continued on page 4)

- The trend for exports of electricity continued to be down for the fourteenth straight month.
- The largest export gains were for forestry, agricultural and fishing products.
- The trend for wheat exports continued to be up for the tenth consecutive month, although the rate of increase has been decelerating since November 1987, falling gradually from 9.9% to 1.7% in June.

Imports

The trend for imports continued to be down in June. This is the fourth straight decrease and the rate of decline accelerated between March and June from -0.1% to -1.9%.

- The main contributors to this decline in the overall trend for June were finished products, notably motor vehicles parts and passenger automobiles, and machinery and equipment, including aircraft.
- Imports of crude petroleum fell by 2.1% in June, compared to a 0.5% drop in May.
- The trend for imports of aircraft, up between August 1987 and January 1988, has been down since February 1988 and posted a decline of 6.1% in June.
- The largest increases were recorded for imports of metals, minerals and energy products other than those listed in the breakdown by summary category.

Analysis by Commodities and Trading Partners

Commodities

- Exports of finished products in July were down \$533 million from the average for the first six months of 1988, including a decrease of \$242 million for passenger automobiles.
- Large declines were also posted for exports of fabricated materials, down \$114 million, and raw materials, down \$159 million.

- The largest increases were recorded for exports of aluminum, natural gas and nickel. Exports of natural gas totalled \$270 million in July.
- Imports of machinery and equipment were down \$487 million from the average for the first six months of 1988 to \$2.8 billion.
- Imports of automotive products declined by \$759 million overall from the average, including a decrease of \$561 million for imports of motor vehicle parts.
- Imports of energy products were up from the previous month, but remained below the average of \$299 million recorded for the first six months of 1988.

Trading Partners

- Exports to the United States fell to \$7.8 billion in July, their lowest level since April 1987. The figure for June was \$8.6 billion.
- Like exports to the United States, exports to all of Canada's other major trading partners also declined in July.
- Imports from the United States were down \$1.3 billion from the average for the first six months of the year to only \$5.9 billion, the lowest level since March 1985.
- Imports from all of Canada's other major trading partners, excluding "other countries", also fell in July.
- Canada's international merchandise trade surplus with the United States increased to \$1.83 billion from \$1.45 billion. However, for the first seven months of 1988, the surplus declined to \$9.2 billion from \$10.5 billion for the same period in 1987.
- The surplus with Japan recorded in June decreased substantially in July to \$54 million.

(continued on page 5)

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

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

(see tables on page 6 and 7)

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 John Butterill (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
July 1988

	Customs Basis				Balance of Payment Basis					
	Exports ¹ raw	Imports raw	Exports ¹ raw	Imports raw	Exports ¹ S.A. ³	Imports S.A. ³	Balance S.A. ³	Period-to-period change ²		
								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	35,027	33,337	32,340	33,671	31,394	2,277	1.4	0.8	212
II quarter	36,099	33,410	36,207	32,722	34,706	31,794	2,912	3.1	1.3	635
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	12,332	10,153	9,989	10,840	10,277	564	-4.6	-5.3	47
February	11,204	10,467	10,937	10,262	11,158	10,137	1,021	2.9	-1.4	457
March	12,454	12,229	12,247	12,089	11,673	10,980	693	4.6	8.3	-328
April	11,382	10,612	11,421	10,450	11,277	10,355	923	-3.4	-5.7	230
May	11,995	11,579	12,035	11,174	11,495	10,926	568	1.9	5.5	-354
June	12,722	11,218	12,751	11,098	11,934	10,514	1,421	3.8	-3.8	852
July	9,495	8,846	9,549	8,868	10,457	8,958	1,499	-12.4	-14.8	79
Year-to-date										
1987	70,929	66,862	71,745	66,149	71,780	64,968	6,812	3.2	1.0	1,616
1988	79,519	77,283	79,093	73,930	78,834	72,146	6,688	9.8	11.0	-125

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
July 1988
Seasonally Adjusted, Balance of Payments Basis

	Period-to-period change						Year-to-date	Change over previous year	
	June	July	June	July	June	July			
	\$ millions		%	%	\$ millions	\$ millions		%	\$ millions
Exports to:¹									
United States	8,617.0	7,751.7	0.1	-10.0	5.9	-865.3	58,644.6	6.3	3,463.6
United Kingdom	335.2	272.9	20.2	-18.6	56.4	-62.2	1,980.1	11.3	201.3
Japan	876.8	602.2	46.9	-31.3	280.0	-274.6	4,647.2	30.4	1,083.0
EEC '86 excl. UK	557.6	548.7	6.3	-1.6	33.2	-8.9	3,898.9	8.6	308.2
Other OECD '86	289.9	216.9	16.0	-25.2	39.9	-73.0	1,711.8	16.1	237.5
Other Countries	1,257.6	1,064.9	2.0	-15.3	24.1	-192.8	7,951.2	28.4	1,760.0
Total	11,934.1	10,457.3	3.8	-12.4	439.6	-1,476.8	78,833.8	9.8	7,053.5
Imports from:¹									
United States	7,166.6	5,921.0	-5.6	-17.4	-422.2	-1,245.5	49,490.7	10.7	4,777.6
United Kingdom	476.9	377.3	19.9	-20.9	79.1	-99.6	2,897.8	12.2	316.1
Japan	679.5	547.8	0.7	-19.4	4.5	-131.8	4,669.9	9.3	398.5
EEC '86 excl. UK	799.1	745.5	-11.6	-6.7	-104.8	-53.6	5,842.2	12.4	644.4
Other OECD '86	334.9	272.7	7.4	-18.6	23.1	-62.2	2,071.1	12.7	233.3
Other Countries	1,056.6	1,093.6	0.7	3.5	7.8	37.0	7,174.3	12.7	808.3
Total	10,513.5	8,958.0	-3.8	-14.8	-412.5	-1,555.6	72,146.0	11.0	7,178.2
Balance with:									
United States	1,450.4	1,830.6			428.1	380.2	9,153.9		-1,314.0
United Kingdom	-141.7	-104.4			-22.7	37.3	-917.6		-114.9
Japan	197.3	54.4			275.5	-142.9	-22.7		684.5
EEC '86 excl. UK	-241.5	-196.8			138.0	44.7	-1,943.3		-336.2
Other OECD '86	-45.0	-55.8			16.9	-10.8	-359.3		4.2
Other Countries	201.1	-28.7			16.3	-229.8	776.9		951.6
Total	1,420.5	1,499.3			852.1	78.8	6,687.8		-124.7

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 July 1988 by country of origin from the United States (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) amounted to \$5,607.4 million. This represents the starting figure from which the Canada/United States reconciliation takes place.

Data Availability Announcements

Railway Carloadings

10-day period Ending August 31, 1988

Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during this period totalled 7.2 million tonnes, of which 382.9 thousand tonnes consisted of piggyback traffic.
- The total number of cars loaded was 103,834.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year was 172.0 million tonnes. The number of cars loaded was 2.5 million.

	10-day Period Ending August 31, 1988	Year to date
--	--	--------------

Carload Traffic

Tonnes	7 164 440	172 033 534
Cars	103,834	2,485,747

Piggyback Traffic

Tonnes	382 917	9 102 190
Cars	13,095	305,812

Note: Comparison with the previous year during the same period should not be undertaken due to a labour dispute. Piggyback traffic includes trailers and containers on flat cars.

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

Canadian Telecommunications Plant Price Index

1987

Highlights

- The Canadian Telecommunications Plant Price Index (1981 = 100) reached a preliminary level of 127.4 for 1987, up 0.3% from the 1986 level of 127.0. Increases for outside plant (1.8%) and station equipment (0.7%) were dampened by price decreases for central office equipment (-0.4%) and general equipment (-0.5%).
- The index measures price change through time for capital expenditures made by members of the Canadian telecommunications industry.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 98.

The third quarter 1988 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available towards the end of September. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gordon Flynn (613-951-2629), Prices Division.

Construction Type Plywood

July 1988

Canadian firms produced 154 433 cubic metres (174,520,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) of construction type plywood during July 1988, a decrease of 16.2% from the 184 244 cubic metres (208,209,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) produced during July 1987.

January to July 1988 production totalled 1 268 841 cubic metres (1,433,880,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis), a decrease of 2.4% from the 1 299 601 cubic metres (1,468,642,000 square feet, 3/8-inch basis) produced during the same period in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The July 1988 issue of *Construction Type Plywood* (35-001, \$4.50/\$45) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604-666-2671), Pacific Regional Office, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9.

Shipments of Rolled Steel

July 1988

Rolled steel shipments for July 1988 totalled 930 144 tonnes, a decrease of 23.4% from the preceding month's total of 1 214 837 tonnes and a decrease of 6.3% from the year-earlier level of 992 952 (revised figure) tonnes.

Year-to-date shipments totalled 7 887 457 tonnes, an increase of 6.0% compared to 7 438 338 (revised figure) tonnes the previous year.

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

The July 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.

Export and Import Price Indexes

July 1988

Current and fixed weighted export and import price indexes on a (1981=100) balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1981 to July 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 July 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 July 1988 issue of *Summary of Canadian International Trade (H.S. Based)* (65-001, \$16.50/\$165) will be available the first week of October. See "How to Order Publications".

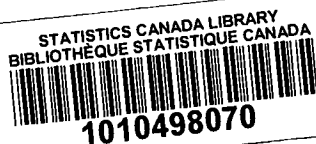
For more detailed information on this release, contact John Butterill (613-951-4808), Price Index Unit, International Trade Division.

Population Projections

1986-2011

Preliminary population projections for 1986-2011 can now be provided on a cost-recovery basis. Catalogue 91-520 (\$40) will be published at a later date.

For more detailed information, call Jeanine Perreault (613-951-2346), Demography Division.



The Daily, September 14, 1988

Publications Released

Private and Public Investment in Canada,
Revised Intentions 1988.
Catalogue number 61-206
(Canada: \$28; Other Countries: \$29).

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

**Preliminary Statement of Canadian
International Trade, July 1988.**
Catalogue number 65-001P
(Canada: \$5.50/\$55; Other Countries: \$6.50/\$65).
Available September 14 at 7:00 a.m.

**Local Government Employment, January-March
1988. Catalogue number 72-009**
(Canada: \$11.50/\$46; Other Countries: \$12.50/\$50).

**Culture Communiqué, Vol. 11, No. 3,
Government Expenditures on Culture in
Canada, 1986-87. Catalogue number 87-001**
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

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.*

*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.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1116)

Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-951-1103)

Published under the authority of the Minister of Supply and Services Canada. Statistics Canada should be credited when reproducing or quoting any part of this document. Extracts from this publication may be reproduced for individual use without permission provided the source is fully acknowledged. However, reproduction of this publication in whole or in part for purposes of resale or redistribution requires written permission from the Publishing Services Group, Permissions Officer, Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0S9.