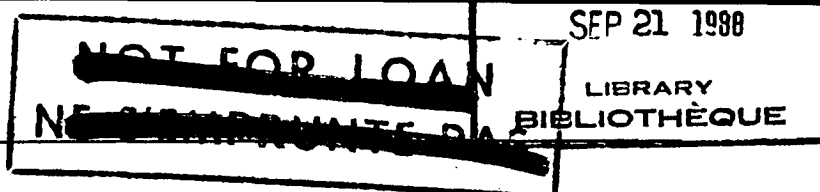


# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 21, 1988



### Major Release

#### Department Store Sales and Stocks, July 1988 2

- Seasonally adjusted, department store sales decreased by 3.6% in July, following two consecutive monthly increases.

### Data Availability Announcement

Railway Carloadings, Seven-day Period Ending September 7, 1988 4

### Publications Released 5

#### The Canadian Economic Observer, September 1988

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

The September issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic and statistical events in August, an overview of the second quarter National Accounts, a technical note on the new chain price indexes for GDP, and a feature article on Canada's international transactions in services. The article explores recent trends in trade in services, including new data on business services by province. 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). For more information, call Philip Cross (613-951-9162), International and Financial Economics Division.

#### Canada's International Transactions in Services, 1986 and 1987

The above report provides data and analysis on Canada's international transactions in services, particularly business services.

For business services, detailed data cover the period 1969 to 1986. Statistics are presented for selected foreign geographical areas and for over 20 categories of service transactions (e.g. computer services, consulting services, advertising and financial services). Figures also show the country of control of the firms carrying on the service transactions as well as whether or not the transactions were carried out with affiliates abroad (e.g. Canadian subsidiaries with their foreign head offices).

Order *Canada's International Transactions in Services, 1986 and 1987* (67-203, \$28). Contact: Hugh Henderson (613-951-9049), Balance of Payments, International and Financial Economics Division.



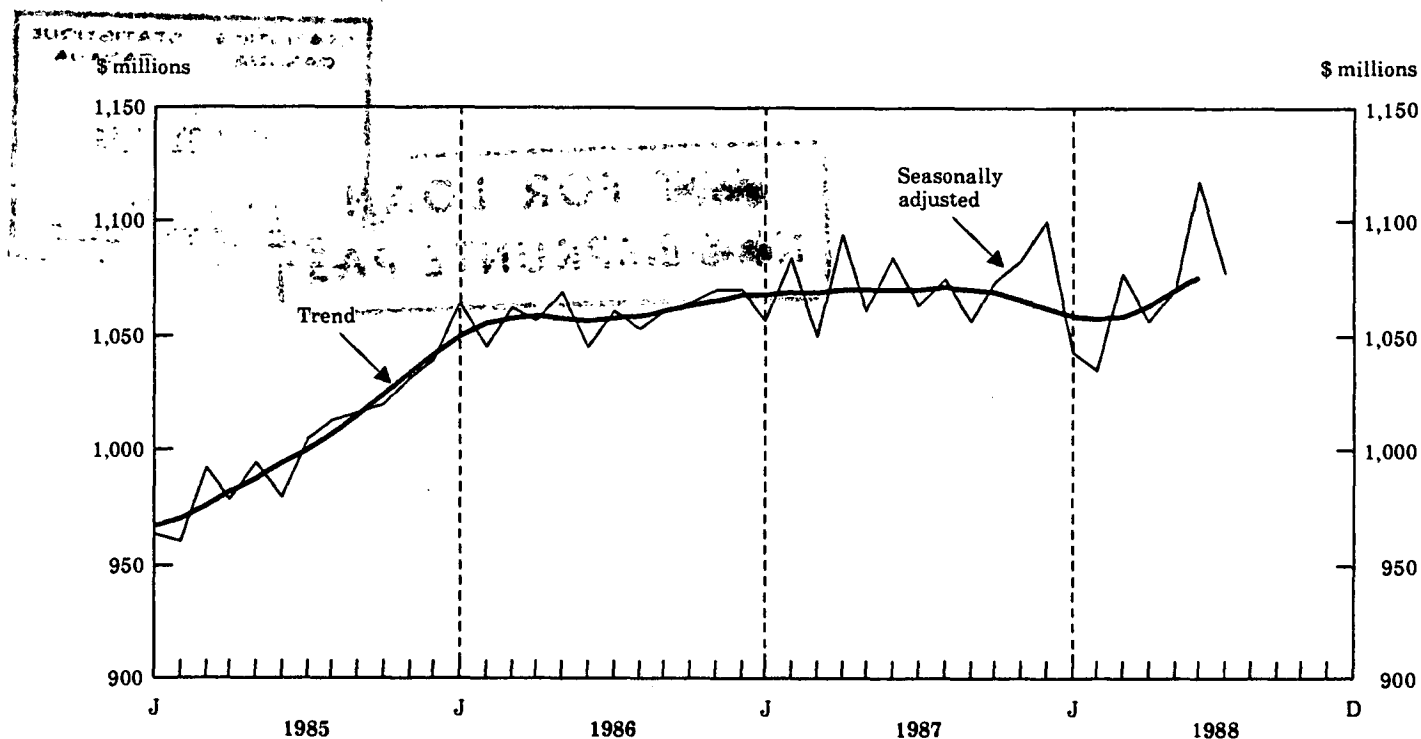
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## Major Release

### Department Store Sales, by Month, Seasonally Adjusted, Canada, 1985-1988



### Department Store Sales and Stocks July 1988

#### Highlights

#### Seasonally Adjusted Data

- Adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and the number of trading days, department store sales in July 1988 totalled \$1,078 million, a decrease of 3.6% from the previous month's revised total of \$1,118 million.
- The 3.6% decrease in department store sales in July 1988 followed two consecutive monthly increases. Department store sales have shown a generally rising trend since March 1988.

- Department store stocks (at selling value) totalled \$4,524 million at the end of July 1988, a modest decrease of 0.3% from the June 1988 revised value of \$4,536 million. This decline followed two consecutive monthly increases.

- The ratio of inventories to sales stood at 4.20:1 in July, an increase over the average ratio of 4.14:1 observed in the three previous months.

#### Unadjusted Data

- Department stores in Canada reported sales totalling \$934 million in July 1988, down 0.7% from the revised July 1987 level of \$940 million.

(continued on page 3)

- Cumulative sales for the first seven months of 1988 totalled \$6,395 million, an increase of 2.7% (after adjustment for the sale of Woodward Stores Ltd.'s food division) over the corresponding period in 1987.
- Six provinces posted decreases in July 1988 from the corresponding month in 1987, with declines ranging from 10.4% in Manitoba to 0.8% in Quebec. Increases were recorded in Newfoundland (+9.4%), Prince Edward Island (+6.5%), New Brunswick (+1.2%) and Ontario (+0.8%). Sales were down in six of the 10 metropolitan areas surveyed.
- Department store stocks at month-end totalled \$4,317 million, a moderate increase of 0.6% over the level reached in July 1987.

**Note to users:**

The short-term trend provides a clearer picture of the direction and rate of change in department store sales. 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. The trend for the last month is however not shown in the chart since it frequently changes significantly with the addition of succeeding months of data.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 112.

Order the July 1988 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, \$13/\$130), available the third week of December.

For further detailed information, contact Roger Laplante (613-951-3552) or David Roeske (613-951-9236), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

## Data Availability Announcements

### Railway Carloadings

Seven-day period Ending September 7, 1988

#### Highlights

- Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada during the week totalled 4.6 million tonnes, a decrease of 1.2% from the previous year.
- Piggyback traffic decreased 20.9% from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 19.2% during the same period.
- The tonnage of revenue freight loaded to date this year is 7.1% higher than that loaded in the previous year.

### Railway Carloadings

|                                | Seven-day Period<br>ending September<br>7, 1988 | Year-to-date <sup>r</sup> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Carload Traffic</b>         |                                                 |                           |
| Tonnes                         | 4 550 730                                       | 176 584 264               |
| % change from<br>previous year | -1.2                                            | 7.1                       |
| Cars                           | 64,590                                          | 2,550,337                 |
| % change from<br>previous year | -5.4                                            | 4.4                       |
| <b>Piggyback Traffic</b>       |                                                 |                           |
| Tonnes                         | 219 125                                         | 9 321 315                 |
| % change from<br>previous year | -20.9                                           | 9.4                       |
| Cars                           | 7,519                                           | 313,331                   |
| % change from<br>previous year | -19.2                                           | 2.5                       |

**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.

## Publications Released

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

**Electric Power Statistics, June 1988. Catalogue number 57-001**  
(Canada: \$9/\$90; Other Countries: \$10/\$100).

**Industrial Corporations: Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1988, Preliminary Data. Catalogue number 61-003p**  
(Canada: \$15/\$60; Other Countries: \$16/\$64).

**Retail Chain and Department Stores, 1986.**  
Catalogue number 63-210  
(Canada: \$30; Other Countries: \$31).

**Canada's International Transactions in Services, 1986 and 1987.**  
Catalogue number 67-203  
(Canada: \$28; Other Countries: \$29).

**Intercensal Annual Estimates of Population by Marital Status, Age and Sex for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1981-1986. Catalogue number 91-519**  
(Canada: \$41; Other Countries: \$42).

## 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.*

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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.*

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### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada \$100/year; other countries \$125/year

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