

cy

Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

# infomat

Weekly Bulletin



## GNP

Gross National Product, seasonally adjusted, increased 3.3% in the second quarter to a level of \$230.1 billion; measured in real terms. GNP rose 1.1%. The implicit price index for Gross National Expenditure rose 2.2%. The advance in real GNP was the result of a strong resurgence in gross fixed capital formation, a continuation of moderate growth in personal expenditure and government current expenditure on goods and services and a resumption of inventory accumulation; the major source of weakness in the second quarter was a substantial decline in the merchandise trade surplus.

A notable feature of the second quarter was the 1.8% rise in real final domestic demand which has been generally sluggish since early 1977. The strength of final domestic demand, in particular the increase in gross fixed capital formation and a return to a more normal pattern of export demand by the United States in the second quarter, explains in large part the decline in the trade surplus. The increase in investment demand was particularly marked for business machinery and equipment, a component with a high import content. Gross fixed capital formation, after recording considerable weakness over the last four quarters, grew 5.1% in the second quarter; however, the level of fixed investment remained only 1.8% above the level of a year ago. Most of the second quarter increase originated in the business sector, which was up 5.3%; government gross fixed capital formation provided some additional stimulus.

For further information, order *National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Second Quarter 1978* (13-001, \$1.05/\$4.20).

## Trade (Customs Basis)

Seasonally-adjusted exports to the United States rose 1% to \$2,938 million in July following a similar increase in June. The July figure was slightly below the average monthly level for 1978 so far. A sharp rise in exports of motor vehicles and parts was in part offset by declines in a large number of other commodities. Notwithstanding modest gains in recent months the value of exports of \$8,715 million for the three months to July stood about 4.5% below the total for the preceding three months due to the strength in particular of April. Commodities saw widespread declines led by

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June*	264.21r	6.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	June*	10,873.0r	9.0
Persons with Jobs (million)	July	10.40	4.1
Unemployed	July	903,000	5.6

### INVENTORIES

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Department Store (\$ million)	May	2,020.1	3.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	June	19,510.4r	9.8
Wholesale (\$ million)	June	7,299.8	11.4

### ORDERS

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	June	11,422.7r	15.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	June	11,739.6r	12.4

### PRICES

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	July	175.1	9.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	June	186.2	7.5
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	June	600.5r	8.0

### CONSTRUCTION

		Previous Month	Year-to-date	% Change From Year Ago
Building Permits (\$ million)	May	1,340.3	4,636.9	-0.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	June	16,214	85,772	1.4

### ENERGY

		Previous Month	Year-to-date	% Change From Year Ago
Coal Production (thousand tons)	May	2,730.4	14,016.5	-2.4
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	May	25.1	146.1	8.9
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	May	270.4	1,524.6	-2.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	58.0	316.8	-3.8

### FOREIGN TRADE

		Previous Month	Year-to-date	% Change From Year Ago
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July	3,782.8	29,197.2	14.3
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July	3,836.2	27,919.7	13.1

### PRODUCTION

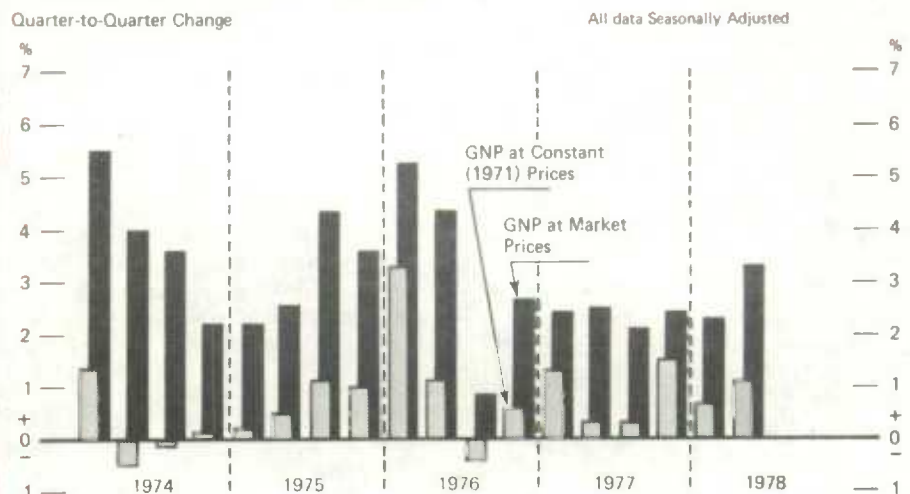
		Previous Month	Year-to-date	% Change From Year Ago
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	June	182.6	989.6	-1.0
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	July	1,345.5	9,453.9	11.3

### SALES

		Previous Month	Year-to-date	% Change From Year Ago
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	June	600.1p	3,149.0p	8.6
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	June	11,648.3p	62,176.3p	14.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	June	1,026.7	5,106.5	12.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	June	6,271.5p	31,978.4p	12.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	June	5,708.5	30,090.9	9.0

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised. \* - new this week.

## Canada's Gross National Product (GNP)



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-001)

substantial reduction in metallic ore shipments due to prolonged strikes at iron mines in the Québec-Labrador region. Shipments of automobiles and fertilizers increased.

Seasonally-adjusted July exports of \$1,048 million to overseas countries rose 7.5% from June — partial recovery from the 18% fall in that month. A drop in July shipments to the European Economic Community was outweighed by advances to Japan and to the remaining countries. Increases in exports of wheat, coal and forestry products were offset in part by lower shipments of some industrial materials and motor vehicles. Exports declined 23% from \$4,183 million in February-April to \$3,213 million in May-July, with the principal markets contributing to the fall. Except for increases in exports of pulp and chemicals there were extensive decreases in commodity shipments such as grain, metallic ores, coal, newsprint, fertilizers, metals, motor vehicles, machinery and equipment.

At 71.3% the share of exports to the U.S. in the first seven months exceeded the 69.5% and 67.4% for the comparable periods of 1977 and 1976. The proportion to other destinations narrowed.

Seasonally-adjusted July imports from the U.S. rose 1.3% to \$2,927 million following a larger increase of 7.5% in June. July approximated the average level for the second quarter. A near 10% advance in transportation equipment (particularly in passenger cars and automotive parts) was partly offset by decreased imports of machinery, trucks and other equipment. At \$8,499 million the three months to July stood 1% above the total for February-April. Cars and motor vehicle parts contributed to the three-month increase. Coal rose but other industrial materials, trucks and some non-automotive equipment fell in May-July.

Imports from overseas countries jumped 22.5% to \$1,218 million after a 13.5% drop in June. July's increase was mainly in imports from other than Japan and the E.E.C. Led by unusually large crude oil landings increases were recorded in machinery and non-transportation equipment. Automobiles declined. Largely due to weakness in June, seasonally-adjusted imports of \$3,366 million in May-July fell about 9% below February-April. The E.E.C. bore more than half the decline. Transportation equipment alone accounted for over a third of the fall. Bar increased crude oil imports and consumer goods, most other commodities of overseas origin decreased.

The share of imports from the U.S. declined from 70.7% in the first seven months of 1977 to 70.3% in 1978. The proportions for the E.E.C. and Japan increased; the share for other countries taken together contracted.

For further information on area and commodity trade, order the July 1978 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Key Economic Series

During September, release of key economic series data is to be as outlined below. Where a range of dates applies, this represents the period within which publication can be reasonably expected given the circumstances peculiar to each series. (A range may be exceeded on occasion.)

**Sept. 5 — 11:** Industry Selling Price Index, July

**Sept. 7:** Quarterly Estimates, Balance of International Payments, April-June

**Sept. 8 — 15:** Unemployment Insurance, June

**Sept. 11 — 15:** General Wholesale Price Index, July

**Sept. 12:** Labour Force Survey, August

**Sept. 13:** Consumer Price Index, August

**Sept. 13 — 21:** Retail Trade, July

**Sept. 14 — 18:** Index of Industrial Production, July

**Sept. 15 — 20:** Wholesale Trade, July

**Sept. 15 — 21:** Consumer Credit, July

**Sept. 18 — 21:** Inventory, Shipments and Orders, July

**Sept. 18 — 28:** Building Permits, July

**Sept. 21:** Consumer Price Indexes, Regional, August

**Sept. 22 — 25:** Real Domestic Production, July

**Sept. 22 — 27:** Employment, Earnings and Hours, July

**Sept. 25 — 29:** Labour Income, July

**Sept. 27 — Oct. 6:** Unemployment Insurance, July

**Sept. 29:** Preliminary Statement on Trade, August

Advance information availability: *Financial Flows*, 2nd Quarter 1978 advance information I between Sept. 11 — 15; *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 16, August forecast of production of principal field crops, September 8, 1978 at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.; *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 17, Telegraphic Crop Report — Prairie provinces, September 14, 1978 at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.; *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 18, Telegraphic Crop Report — Canada, September 21, 1978 at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.

For further information, contact Jack Kerr (613-992-1548), Production Planning and Scheduling Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Import/Export, Price/Volume Indexes

Import/Export Price Indexes rose in the second quarter but at a slower pace than in the first quarter. Import volume, seasonally adjusted, increased 9.8% following three successive quarters of decline. Export volume: unchanged compared with significant increases in the first quarter and preceding fourth quarter of 1977.

For further information, order the July 1978 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Labour Income

Labour income, June, rose 9.0% (\$932 million) to \$11,273.5 million from June 1977's \$10,341.0 million.

For further information, order the June 1978 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20).

### Real Domestic Product

Most of the 0.5% growth in the June seasonally-adjusted Index of Real Domestic Product and the Index of Industrial Production originated with service-producing industries (0.8%). The goods-producing industries rose only slightly.

Within goods-producing, mining fared best. Utilities increased slightly; all other components declined. All mining components except gold mines increased. Most significant: crude petroleum and natural gas (however, output fell short of the December 1977 level). Return to work of some striking employees contributed to a 50% increase in iron mining output. Continuation of the strike for other producers left June at still only about 25% of the February level.

In manufacturing both durables and non-durables declined. In food and beverages, strikes/lockouts significantly affected meat product manufacturers and breweries. In durable manufacturing, four of the eight major groups increased — furniture and fixtures, non-metallic mineral products, wood products and primary metals. Machinery industries decreased — strikes and lockouts starting in May reduced output of manufacturers of major appliances, household radios, TVs and miscellaneous electrical products.

Construction output decreased in June due to a decline in residential construction output.

Increases were widespread among service-producing industries. Notable advances: trade and transportation, storage and communication. In trade, wholesale and retail trade increased — motor vehicle dealers and food stores improved following three consecutive monthly declines but department stores output was lower than the 1977 level.

About half the transportation increase in June originated with air transport with rail, water and pipeline transport also up.

Grain elevators output increased about 13% following three consecutive monthly increases exceeding 20%.

The Index increased 0.8% in the second quarter, approximately the same rate of growth as three previous quarters. Goods-producing industries increased 1.3% following a small decline in the first quarter and service-producing industries by 0.6% after a 1% increase in the first quarter. For the Index of Industrial Production the quarterly increase was 1.1%.

In goods-producing, manufacturing, construction and forestry contributed — the manufacturing increase (3.3%) was the largest since fourth quarter 1973. Durable manufacturing was responsible for most of the increase.

Non-durables output was slowed by food and beverages, petroleum and coal products and leather industries.

For further information, order the June 1978 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



### Travel Deficit \$429 million

Preliminary second quarter estimates for international travel receipts and payments put earnings at \$596 million and expenditures by the travelling public abroad at \$1 025 million with a resultant deficit of \$429 million. Earnings from 8.2 million United States visitors totalled \$400 million. Payments of \$658 million were attributed to 9.4 million Canadian residents visiting the U.S. The deficit: \$258 million. Receipts reached \$196 million from 455,000 visitors from elsewhere and 411,700 Canadian residents travelling in those countries contributed to payments of \$367 million. The deficit: \$171 million.

Half-yearly earnings totalled \$814 million and payments on travel abroad amounted to \$2,166 million (deficit: \$1,352 million). Fewer (1.5%) Canadian residents travelled abroad but spending rose sharply due to higher average expenditures. In interpreting these figures it should be noted the changes in the exchange rate for the Canadian dollar have significantly increased the cost of residents' visits to the U.S. and overseas. Again, though a decline in visitors from the U.S. became almost halted between January and June, spending in Canada showed little evidence of pick-up.

(Data users should note that the above figures include international fare payments.)

For further information, order the April-June 1978 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$1.75/\$7), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Financial Flows and Multinational Enterprises Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Capacity Utilization / Manufacturing

Capacity utilization in manufacturing industries in the second quarter of 1978 rose to 86.4% vs 84.3% in the first quarter.

Durable manufacturing increased to a level of 83.6% of capacity from 80.1%; non-durable increased to 89.2% from 88.5%.

A description of the methodology used to derive the rates is provided in the publication *Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing* (31-003, \$1.40/\$5.60).

For further information, contact Ms R. Hoyt (613-995-8152), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Job Vacancies

Average number of jobs vacant, daily basis, three months to July 31: up 20% from February-April, with vacancies for fulltime, part-time and casual jobs totalling 46,600. Compared with a year ago vacancies decreased by 5,800 (11%). Vacancies for fulltime jobs: up 19% to 41,000 from 34,500. Jobs unfilled for over four weeks rose 18%. For every 1,000 existing jobs five were vacant, unchanged from February-April. Comparable 1977 rate: six. Highest vacancy rate: Alberta (10 per 1,000). The lowest: Newfoundland (three).

For further information, contact J.A. Boucek (613-992-2006), Job Vacancy Section, Labour Division, Statistics Canada.

### Railway Carloadings

Railways loaded 19.8 million short tons (18.0 million t) of revenue freight in July, down 8.9% from 1977. Carriers received an additional 1.7 million short tons (1.6 million t) from the United States, up 7.9% from July 1977.

Notable percentage changes in volume: copper-nickel ores and concentrates (down 61.7%), iron ore (down 36.1%), primary and manufactured iron and steel (up 43.0%), pulpwood chips (up 26.2%) and coal (up 21.5%).

Seven months' freight loadings: 9.5% below the January-July 1977 total. Receipts from the U.S. were down 2.3%. (The slump in loadings followed the Québec-Labrador iron mines strike ended mid-July.) Iron ore movements, first seven months, fell 50.1% from 1977.

For further information, order the July 1978 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3) or — for seasonally-adjusted revenue freight loadings — contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Employment, Earnings and Hours

The June Industrial Composite Index of Employment showed a 0.3% increase from May. Forestry, manufacturing, construction and trade contributed to this rise. Mining and service remained unchanged and transportation, communication, other utilities, finance, insurance and real estate declined. All regions shared the increase except the Atlantic — no change. Average weekly earnings rose 1.0% at the national industrial composite level, gains being recorded in most industry divisions (construction declined) and in all regions. Average weekly hours rose in mining and fell in manufacturing and construction. Average hourly earnings rose in mining, manufacturing and construction.

Information for April and May will be published in the June 1978 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 70¢/\$7), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa.

### ATLANTIC AREA DATA CALLS

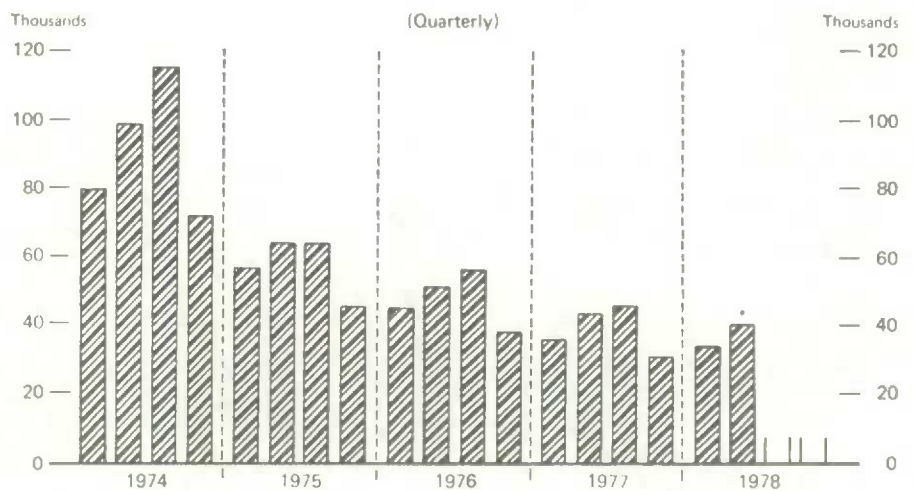
Data users in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island now have toll free access to Statistics Canada's User Advisory Services office in Halifax. By telephoning 1-800-565-7192 from anywhere in the three provinces, users are able to contact the Halifax office for assistance in locating and effectively using Statistics Canada data. With the introduction of this service, the former ZENITH service from Charlottetown, Fredericton, Moncton, St. John and Sydney has been discontinued.

### Telecommunication Statistics

Teleglobe Canada, Canadian National Telecommunications and Canadian Pacific (Telecommunications Branch) first quarter revenues totalled \$73.6 million, up 9.7% from 1977. Operating expenses: \$62.7 million, up 5.4%. Net operating revenue: \$11.0 million, up 42.6%.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin, Telecommunications Statistics, First Quarter, 1978* (56-001, \$1.40), or contact Patrick Crosby (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Full Time Job Vacancies, Canada



Source: Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies (71-002)

\* Preliminary Estimates

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
 BIBLIOTHEQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA


1010761793

**These publications released August 25 — 31**

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Dairy Factory Production, July 1978	32-002	15¢/\$1.50	Glass and Glass Products Manufacturers, 1976	44-207	70¢
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 14, Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Acreages, Canada, 1978	22-002	\$5.60/ series of 21	Gold Production, June 1978	26-004	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, August 1, 1978	32-010	30¢/\$3	Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, July 1978	32-001	15¢/\$1.50
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Dwellings and Household — Private Households by Marital Status, Sex and Age of Head, 1976 Census of Canada	93-809	\$4.25	Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, June 1978	24-002	40¢/\$4
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>					
Advance Statistics of Education, 1978-79	81-220	\$1.05	Nickel-copper Mines, 1976	26-211	70¢
Continuing Education: Community Colleges, 1976-77	81-248	\$1.05	Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, July 1978	32-022	15¢/\$1.50
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>					
Exports — Merchandise Trade, 1975-1977	65-202	\$16.50	Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, July 1978	32-024	15¢/\$1.50
Imports — Merchandise Trade, 1975-1977	65-203	\$16	Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, July 1978	47-001	15¢/\$1.50
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Vital Statistics, April-June 1978	84-001	35¢/\$1.40	Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, June 1978	26-007	15¢/\$1.50
<b>INDUSTRY PRODUCT</b>					
Real Domestic Product by Industry, 1971-1977	61-213	\$2.10	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, May 1978	35-003	30¢/\$3
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Employment, Earnings and Hours, May 1978	72-002	70¢/\$7	Pulp and Paper Mills, 1976	36-204	70¢
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, January-March 1978	73-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statis- tics, June 1978	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>					
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, June 1978	32-011	30¢/\$3	Refined Petroleum Products, May 1978	45-004	40¢/\$4
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, June 1978	33-003	30¢/\$3	Sand and Gravel Pits, 1976	26-215	70¢
Copper and Nickel Production, June 1978	26-003	15¢/\$1.50	Sawmills and Planing Mills and Shingle Mills, 1976	35-204	\$1.05
Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries, 1976	32-218	70¢	Selected Meat and Meat Prepara- tions, June 1978	32-020	15¢/\$1.50
Gas Utilities, May 1978	55-002	30¢/\$3	Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, June 1978	26-008	15¢/\$1.50
<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>					
			Chemicals — Vol. 5, No. 1, Factory Shipments of Book Matches, 1973-1977	46-004	/\$2.80
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>					
			Wholesale Trade, June 1978	63-008	15¢/\$1.50
<b>PRICES</b>					
			Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, April-June 1978	62-010	\$1.40/\$5.60
			Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, July 1978	62-009	30¢/\$3
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE BULLETINS</b>					
			Communications — Vol. 8, 1977: No. 5, Cable Television Statistics; No. 6, Broadcasting Statistics — Radio and Television	56-001	/\$1.40