Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product, in constant 1971 prices, increased 0.6% in August 1982 to a seasonally adjusted level of $112,367 million from $111,751 million in July. The index of gross domestic product moved up to 135.0 from 134.2 in the preceding month.

Output of goods-producing industries advanced 1.1%, while service-producing industries showed a gain of 0.3%. Industrial production increased 2.5% during August following a 3.0% decline in July.

The major contributors to the August increase were the manufacturing and finance, insurance and real estate industries. Within manufacturing, significant production increases were recorded by motor vehicle manufacturers, steel mills, and pulp and paper mills. Finance, insurance and real estate services increased almost entirely due to increased activity among security brokers and dealers.

Building Permits

Building permits issued by Canadian municipalities, estimated at a seasonally adjusted $863.3 million in August 1982, dropped back to the June level ($882.5 million) after rising to $1,088.4 million in July (the latter figure included a $160 million permit for an office building in Montreal which had been under construction for some time). The latest month's total was down 39.2% from the August 1981 figure of $1,420.4 million.

Residential building permits were issued for a seasonally adjusted 8,864 new dwellings in August 1982, an encouraging but moderate increase of 8.8% from the 8,147 units authorized in July, but value increased only 2.3% to $442.2 million from $432.2 million, reflecting lower construction costs per dwelling unit. During August, the number of new dwellings authorized increased in both single and multiple dwelling categories: single-detached units rose to 3,880 from 3,541 in July while multiples were up to 4,984 from 4,606. Residential permits issued in August indicate that housing starts, which were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 86,000 units in September, may exceed the 100,000 unit level in October.
October starts are expected to be higher in Toronto, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Vancouver.

Non-residential building permits registered a 35.6% drop in August 1982 to a seasonally adjusted $421.1 million from $658.2 million in July. New industrial projects decreased 33.2% to $70.3 million from $105.2 million in July and commercial projects dropped 51.0% to $193.2 million from $394.4 million, while publicly-initiated projects increased marginally to $157.6 million from $156.5 million. Non-residential permits value decreased in all provinces except Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

For further information, order the August 1982 issue of Building Permits (64-001, $3.50/$35), or contact J.P. Delisle (613-995-9013), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z9.

Real Estate Investment Trusts
Quarterly Statement of Estimated Assets, Liabilities and Shareholder's Equity

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
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Source: Statistics Canada, Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)

Electric Lamps
Total sales of electric lamps (light sources) of all types including imports during the month of September 1982 were valued at $19.7 million.

1982 Capital Expenditures
Statistics Canada produces a number of series which indicate the degree of foreign control of various sectors of the Canadian economy. The present report which focuses on capital expenditures is based on establishment and may differ from other measures based on companies or enterprises.

As a result of technical problems, this year's report has been delayed in publication. This publication date has made it possible to compare year-to-year percentage changes of 1981 preliminary expenditure estimates with both the 1982 forecast survey estimates and, for the first time, with the 1982 mid-year survey revisions.

For the first time, the publication also presents capital expenditures for total manufacturing for 15 selected metropolitan areas distributed by country of control and concentration. Overall, foreign controlled enterprises dominated the selected metropolitan areas with 62% of $2.898 million of the initially forecast 1982 capital expenditures.

For further information, order Capital Expenditures of Domestic and Foreign Controlled Establishments in Manufacturing, Mining and Forestry, 1982 (61-215, Canada: $6; other countries: $7.20).

Industrial Production
Preliminary data show that seasonally adjusted industrial production rose 2.5% in August 1982 following a decrease of 3.0% in July. Almost all of the production increase originated in the manufacturing sector (up 1.3%). While there were wide-spread increases posted, more than half of the overall increase occurred in motor vehicle manufacturing. (However, based on available data, this industry will show a substantial decline in September.)

Census User Summary Tapes
The first Census User Summary Tapes from the 1981 Census of Population and Housing are now available. These computer tapes provide more data in greater detail, than publications can offer. Some tapes include detailed census information, such as population counts by exact age instead of age groupings. Other tapes include cross-tabulations or data for small areas like enumeration areas (which contain about 200 households each).

The Census User Summary Tapes available:
- File EAF81A10 for Enumeration Areas with tables for census families in private households by number of persons, census families in private households by family structure, showing number of children at home; census families in private households by family structure, showing age groups of children at home; and census families in private households by family structure and family type.
- File SDF81A10 for Census Subdivisions (municipalities) with the same four tables as above.

Each complete tape file will be available at a cost of $150. A charge of $75 will apply to any file on one region or province.

For further information or to order, please write or call: User Summary Tapes, CANSIM Division (613-995-0097 or 995-0575), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

Capital Spending Intentions
The mid-year survey shows that 1982 capital expenditure plans in manufacturing, mining and forestry have all been sharply scaled down from preliminary forecasts earlier this year. Capital expenditures in manufacturing were originally forecast to rise 11% in 1982 but are now expected to decline 4% from 1981 to a level of $11.9 billion. Similarly, capital spending in mining, expected to climb 21% this year, is now projected to rise 9% to $10.3 billion and capital expenditures in forestry, expected to increase 5% are now forecast to drop 41% to $173.7 million.

From a country of control perspective, the mid-year survey results in the manufacturing sector indicate a relatively much sharper downward revision of spending plans by Canadian firms than for foreign-controlled firms. Canadian spending plans were initially forecast to increase 15% from 1981 levels, but are revised by the mid-year survey results to actually decline 7% — a swing of more than 22 percentage points. United States' controlled manufacturing firms, on the other hand, revised their initial forecast of a 0.7% increase to a decline of 4% or a swing of only 7 percentage points — only one-third the size of the Canadian-controlled firms' downward revisions. As a result, in manufacturing Canadian-controlled firms account for 75% of the almost $2 billion decline in initially projected capital spending for 1982.

For further information, contact Duncan Lusick (613-995-9013), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Real Estate Investment Trusts
Quarterly Statement of Mortgages Outstanding

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<tr>
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<td>600</td>
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</table>

Source: Statistics Canada, Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)
Manufacturing Activity

Preliminary estimates show the value of new orders received in Canadian manufacturing industries rose 4.5% in August 1982 to $15,633.7 million, seasonally adjusted, from $14,960.3 million (revised) in July, although the total was still 0.4% below the August 1981 level of $15,696.5 million. In durable goods industries, new orders advanced 8.8% to $6,509.7 million from $5,981.5 million, reflecting large increases in the primary metals, machinery and transportation equipment industries. New orders in non-durable goods industries at $9,124.0 million were 16% higher than the revised July estimate of $8,978.8 million.

The seasonally adjusted preliminary estimate of the value of manufacturers' shipments in August was $16,104.4 million, up 6.4% from $15,126.1 million (revised) in July. Among the 20 major groups of industries, shipments were higher in 15 and lower in five, a $615.2 million (30.2%) increase in transportation equipment industries was a reflection of sharply higher shipments of automobile products industries. Shipments of durable goods industries increased 13.3% to $5,946.0 million from $5,133.0 million in July while those of non-durable goods industries were up 1.8% to $9,154.4 million from $8,993.1 million.

The backlog of unfilled orders for August 1982 was $16,838.2 million, seasonally adjusted, 2.7% lower than the revised value of $17,304.9 million a month earlier.

The seasonally adjusted total value of inventory owned declined in 14 of the 20 major groups of industries in August. The total inventory owned at $32,944.1 million was the lowest level reached since September 1981 when it was valued at $32,809.9 million. Total inventory held was down to $34,485.9 million from $34,919.0 million (revised) in July. All categories of inventory fell in August with raw materials down 1.9%, goods in process 1.4% and finished products 0.4%.

Reflecting the lower value of inventories owned and the sharp increase in the value of shipments, the seasonally adjusted ratio of inventory owned to shipments dropped sharply in August to 2.051 from the revised level of 2.201 in July and was the lowest ratio since 2.041 of August 1981. The ratio of finished products inventories to shipments was 0.721 in August compared with a revised 0.761 in July; it was the first time this ratio had dropped below 0.741 since November 1981 when it stood at 0.711.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in August 1982 were estimated at $14,828.7 million. Cumulative shipments for the first eight months of 1982 at $120,953.4 million were down 2.8% from the January-August 1981 level of $124,466.7 million.

For further information, order the August 1982 issue of Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001, $3.50/$35).

Business Conditions Survey

Although Canadian manufacturers reporting to the October Business Conditions Survey are severely pessimistic about production levels in the fourth quarter of 1982, a comparison with July 1982 expectations for the third quarter reveals on balance a slight improvement in short term outlook. For all manufacturing industries, 51% of the weighted response expect lower production in the October-December quarter, while 14% anticipate higher production; in the July survey, 53% expected lower production in the July-September period and only 11%, higher production.

The level of new orders was reported to be declining by 59% of the weighted response and rising by 9%. This, again, is a slight improvement from the July survey when 65% reported new orders were declining and only 6% that they were rising.

The backlog of unfilled orders was felt to be lower than normal by 68% of the weighted response and higher than normal by 4% in July, 71% reported a lower than normal backlog of unfinished orders and 2% indicated the backlog was higher than normal.

Manufacturers indicated that while on balance finished product inventories were still too high, they were down from previous levels. The proportion indicating that finished products inventories were too high has declined sharply to 40% in October from 51% in July, but the proportion reporting finished products inventory too low remained at 3%. For the first time since January, more than half (56%) felt the level of finished products inventory could be described as "about right".

Shortages of working capital continued to be a major source of production difficulties with 13% citing this problem in the October survey. For the fourth consecutive quarter, at the Canada level, the shortage of unskilled labour was less than 1%. Manufacturers reporting a shortage of skilled labour have declined steadily from 11% of the weighted response a year ago to 2% in the current survey.

For further information, contact T. Newton (613-996-7008).

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Energy Statistics

Preliminary data show that refinery demand for domestic crude oil was substantially higher in August 1982, with production levels rising 10% from July to 7.443 megalitres. Crude oil imports dropped 7% (-138 megalitres) to 1,846 megalitres, reflecting the continuing substitution of Canadian for foreign crude in Eastern Canada refineries. Crude oil imports in January-August 1982 showed a dramatic 30% drop (-642 megalitres) from the year-earlier period.

Sales in Canada of refined petroleum products rose by 8% (+590 megalitres) in August from the preceding month with production slightly higher (+123 megalitres) and inventories slightly lower (-174 megalitres). However, drops from August 1981 levels were recorded for both production (-11.5%) and sales (-7.4%).

Natural gas production declined in August by 243 megalitres from July's level, due to weak economic activity and seasonal patterns. Coal production increased by 104 kilotonnes (+3%) over July after the sharp drop between June and July (-18%). Imports of coal exceeded exports by 684 kilotonnes in August reflecting a continuing build-up of producers' and consumers' inventories.

For further information, contact Don Wilson or Mike Valiquette (613-996-3139).

Motor Vehicle Registrations

Canada's provincial and territorial governments reported 10,199,388 passenger automobile registrations during the 1981 licence year. Registrations of trucks and buses totalled 3,137,987 and motorcycles numbered 406,871.

The total number of driver's licences registered for the 1981 licence year was 13,851,482.

For further information, contact J. Bustros (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

The Dairy Review

Creamery butter production in Canada in September 1982 totalled 10,718 tonnes, an increase of 9.3% from a year earlier. Milk sold from Canadian farms for all purposes in August 1982 totalled an estimated 694,892 kilolitres, representing an increase of 9.3% from a year earlier. This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the first eight months of 1982 to 5,194,577 kilolitres, up 2.9% over the January-August 1981 period.

For further information, order the September 1982 issue of The Dairy Review (23-001, $2.50/$25).

Report on Livestock Surveys

Total pig numbers in Canada at October 1, 1982 were estimated at 10,005,500 head, down 2% from the year earlier figure of 10,231,000 head. Sows for breeding and bred gilts were estimated at 1,041,900 head, also a decrease of 2% from the October 1, 1981 level of 1,065,900 head.

For further information, order the August 1982 issue of Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001, $3.50/$35).
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