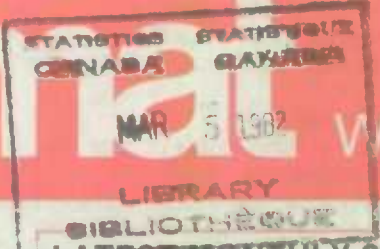


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Weekly Bulletin

March 5, 1982

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

New Housing Price Index

The Canada composite new housing price index (1976=100) increased 0.6% to 135.6 in January 1982 from 134.8 in December and stood 6.9% above the year-earlier level of 126.8.

New housing prices showed strong increases of 1.7% in Ottawa, 1.4% in Montreal and 1.3% in Quebec City in January. Prices also rose fractionally in Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton.

In the other cities surveyed, new housing prices in January were either down or remained unchanged from December levels. Prices declined in St. John's, Vancouver and Saskatoon where the 2.1% drop marked a sharp reversal of recent increases. Vancouver prices declined for the seventh consecutive month (down 3%), but that city's index is now showing price changes roughly similar to that of the national average.

For further information, contact the Prices Division (613-996-3744), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

Private/Public Investment

Advance estimates show that capital spending during 1982 by all sectors of the Canadian economy is expected to reach \$87,419 million, an increase of 11.4% over the 1981 level of \$78,453 million. (These estimates are in current dollars without any adjustment for price increases developing between the two years.)

Capital expenditures for new construction during 1982 are estimated at \$53,385 million, up 12.1% over the 1981 total of \$47,619 million. In the construction program, residential construction is estimated at \$12,995 million (down 0.2% from \$13,024 million in 1981) on the basis of 152,700 housing starts projected for this year. The remainder of the construction program, consisting of non-residential buildings and engineering structures, is expected to total \$40,390 million compared with \$34,595 million in 1981, an increase of 16.7%.

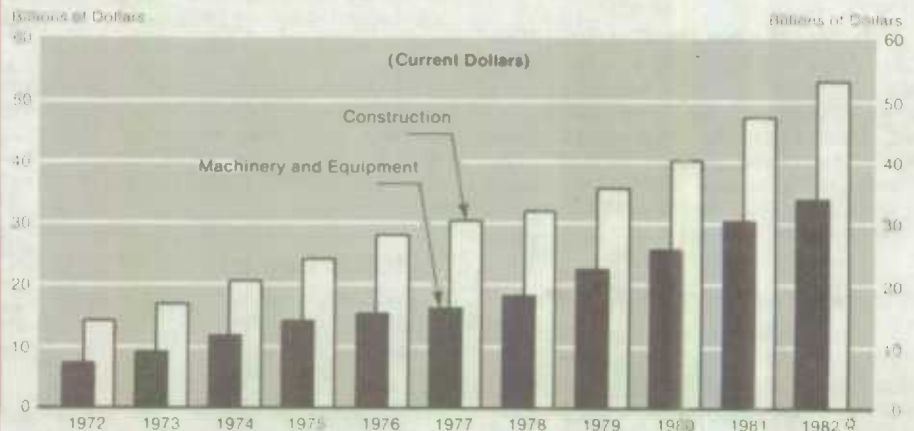
Capital outlays for the acquisition of machinery and equipment are expected to rise 10.4% in 1982, to \$34,034 million from \$30,834 million in 1981.

Capital spending intentions of the business sector in 1982 are expected to be up 14.1% from 1981 to a level of \$63,213 (continued on next page)

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	369.26p	369.56p 12.1
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.	15,986.5p	16,090.4p 13.6
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.	10.41	10.66 -0.5
Unemployed	Jan.	1,096,000	987,000 16.0
INVENTORIES			
Department Store (\$ million)	Dec.	2,842.3	3,437.4 13.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	33,350.3p	32,860.0r 16.2
ORDERS			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	14,834.7p	15,056.3r 3.4
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	18,264.2p	18,498.0r -0.2
PRICES			
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.	249.7	248.0 11.4
Non-food Component (CPI)	Jan.	233.8	232.3 13.1
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Jan.*	135.6	134.8 6.9
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Jan.*	191.6p	186.3p 8.9
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.*	281.0p	279.5p 6.7
CONSTRUCTION			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	1,513.8p	16,573.7p 18.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	14,099	142,441 13.9
ENERGY			
Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Nov.	3,545.1	36,032.9 8.5
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.	33.1	341.7 3.4
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Nov.	8,636.4	87,956.5 -0.8
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Dec.	9.1p	104.0p -7.3
FOREIGN TRADE			
Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	6,890p	84,029p 10.3
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	5,803p	77,522p 13.4
PRODUCTION			
Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Jan.*	14.9	14.9 -16.2
Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	Dec.	1,066.1	14,625.8 -6.7
SALES			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	1,542.5	10,218.5 9.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	15,068.5p	188,295.4p 12.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	694.3	11,905.9 4.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	10,038.1p	94,537.5p 12.5

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary, r - revised. * - new this week.

Capital Expenditures, Canada, 1972-1981 and Intentions, 1982



Source: Statistics Canada, Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1982 (61-205)

* Intentions

million. Outlays for the social capital of institutions and governments will rise 11.9% to \$11,211 million.

In the business sector, the largest increase in value of \$2,947 million (+18.1%) to a total of \$19,252.4 million is for the transportation-communication-utilities group. The programs for electric power (+\$1,178 million, +15.8%) and for pipelines (+\$655 million, +37.4%) dominate the increase followed by the telephone and telegraph group and by the water transport and related services group. In the group of mining, quarrying, petroleum and gas wells, the increase of 21.2% reflects in large part the increase in the petroleum and gas group (+\$1,772 million, +26.6%). Metal mining is expected to decline by \$101 million or 5.7% from 1981, while the non-metal mining group is shown as increasing by \$343 million or 32.4%.

Manufacturing in 1982 has a total capital spending program of \$13,894 million which is only 12.1% above that of the \$12,393 million in 1981. Most of the strength during 1982 is shown in the chemicals group (+\$667 million, +34.4%), paper products (+\$408 million, +19.2%), products of petroleum and coal (+\$379 million, +61.3%) and primary metals (+\$236 million, +15.8%).

Social capital — represented by institutions and governments — at \$11,211 million is 11.9% above the \$10,014 million in 1981. Most of this increase is for provincial government departments where the total of \$3,485 million is up by 16.6% from \$2,988 million in 1981. Federal and municipal government totals increase by 12.7% and 8.5%, respectively. The program for hospitals (+23.8%) shows the largest change in the institutions group which overall advances by 10.8%.

The publication Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1982 (61-205, \$6) will be released early in April. In the meantime, further information may be obtained by contacting Duncan Lusick or Richard Landry (613-995-9013), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Washing Machines/Dryers

Canadian production of electric automatic washing machines in January 1982 amounted to 22,466 units.

Production of electric automatic clothes dryers for the same month was 15,682 units.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers (43-002, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Sharon Boyer (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Refrigerators/Home Freezers

Domestic production of refrigerators in January 1982 totalled 16,395 units. Production of home freezers was 12,456 units.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers (43-001, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Sharon Boyer (613-996-3226).

Publications

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Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada in January 1982 totalled 16.5 million short tons (14.9 million t), a drop of 16.2% from a year earlier. The carriers received an additional 1.2 million short tons (1.1 million t) from the United States, down 23.5% from January 1981.

Commodities registering notable changes in volumes loaded during the latest month were: wheat (down 19.7%); iron ore and concentrates (down 2.9%); coal (down 18.7%); and lumber (down 32.0%).

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of Railway Carloadings (52-001, \$1.50/\$15). For seasonally adjusted revenue freight loadings, contact W.R. Burr (613-995-1976), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Railway Operating Statistics

The seven major Canadian railways reported a combined net income from operations of \$35.3 million in September 1981, down 0.7% from a year earlier. Operating revenues of \$506.9 million were up 17.8% from the 1980 level.

Revenue freight ton-miles were down by 4.3% in September 1981; freight train-miles showed a drop of 6.6% and freight car-miles decreased 6.6%. Average revenue per ton-mile of freight was 3.006 cents compared to 2.640 cents in September 1980. Revenue passenger-miles increased by 1.1% to 149.2 million.

For further information, order the September 1981 issue of Railway Operating Statistics (52-003, \$2.50/\$25), or contact W.R. Burr (613-995-1976), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Electric Lamps

Total Canadian sales of electric lamps (light sources) of all types including imports during January 1982 were valued at \$16,472,486.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of Electric Lamps (Light Sources) (43-009, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Sharon Boyer (613-996-3226).

Industry Selling Price Index

The Industry Selling Price Index for manufacturing (1971=100) reached a preliminary level of 281.0 in January, up 0.5% from the revised December index of 279.5. The year-to-year increase of 6.7% was the lowest such rise since February 1977.

The latest monthly advance was mainly attributable to rises of 5.5% in the non-metallic mineral products industries component, 1.2% in chemical and chemical products industries, 0.4% in food and beverage industries and 0.9% in metal fabricating industries. These increases were partly offset by decreases in wood industries (-0.6%), primary metal industries (-0.3%) and miscellaneous manufacturing industries (-0.9%).

Prices of non-metallic mineral products were up 5.5% in January, principally reflecting increases of 17.0% for cement manufacturers, 7.5% for ready-mix concrete manufacturers and 7.2% for glass and glass products manufacturers.

Chemical and chemical products industries rose 1.2% in January, mainly on the strength of a 4.9% increase in the pharmaceuticals and medicine manufacturers index and a 2.7% rise in the index for manufacturers of inorganic industrial chemicals.

The food and beverage industries index increased 0.4% in January and stood only 2.7% above its year-earlier level. Mainly responsible for this rise was a 1.6% increase in the dairy products industry, chiefly caused by the higher target price (effective January 1) for industrial milk as determined by the Canadian Dairy Commission's returns adjustment formula.

The 0.9% price increase in the metal fabricating industries major group mainly reflected rises of 1.0% in the metal stamping and pressing industry and 1.5% for wire and wire products manufacturers.

The primary metal industries major group decreased 0.3% in January and was up only 0.6% over the latest 12 months. The monthly decrease was primarily due to a 2.1% drop in the smelting and refining industry; lower prices for copper, zinc, lead, precious metals, antimony and cadmium all contributed to the decline. Increases of 0.8% in iron and steel mills and 3.1% in steel pipe and tube mills partly offset the decline in the smelting and refining index.

The 0.9% drop in the miscellaneous industries major group was the result of lower gold and silver prices, which caused a 3.5% decrease in the jewellery and silverware industry index.

The wood industries index declined 0.6% in January, and stood 3.8% lower than a year earlier. Lower prices for lumber and plywood were the main causes for both the monthly and yearly decreases in the index.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of Industry Price Indexes (62-001, \$3.50/\$35), or contact the Information Unit (613-995-5738), Industrial Prices Section, Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product in constant 1971 prices declined 0.4% to 142.3 in December 1981 from 142.8 in November. Industrial production was down 0.5% in the month, marking the sixth consecutive decrease as well as the lowest output level since August 1978.

The December decline in Gross Domestic Product was primarily concentrated among the goods-producing industries which were off 0.7% in the month. Main contributors to the output decline included the manufacturing, forestry, utilities, and construction industries. Within manufacturing, significant production cutbacks were reported by manufacturers of pulp and paper, auto parts, food and beverage products, and major appliances.

GDP, Fourth Quarter 1981

The current downturn in the Canadian economy, which began in the third quarter of 1981, continued into the fourth quarter. Preliminary estimates indicate that Gross Domestic Product in constant 1971 prices fell a further 0.6% in the October-December 1981 period, following a substantial 1.1% decline in the previous three months. The fourth quarter output level stood 1.7% below the previous peak recorded in the second quarter of 1981. The recent declines in industrial production — 3.0% in the third and 3.7% in the fourth quarter — placed output 6.6% below the level recorded in the second quarter of 1981. (In the United States, industrial production peaked in the third quarter of 1981 and fell 4.4% in the fourth quarter.)

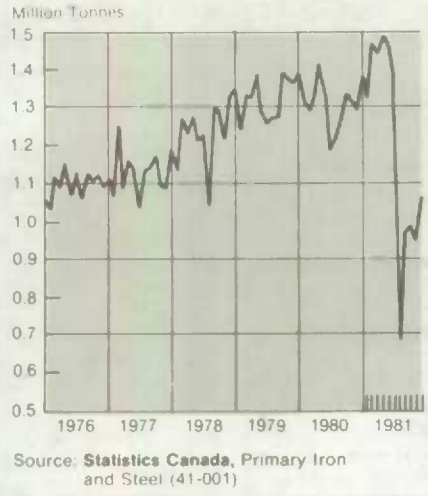
GDP, Year 1981

Following a very strong finish in the fourth quarter of 1980, the Canadian economy began 1981 with the strongest quarterly gain in over three years and continued upward at a substantial rate in the second quarter. By mid-1981, real GDP had risen 5.1% from the low point of the 1979-80 recession. However, this short expansionary period, comprising only three quarters of growth, was suddenly reversed as another cyclical downturn began in the third and continued throughout the fourth quarter of 1981. By the end of the year output stood 2.2% below the peak reached in June 1981. This decline already exceeds the total 1.6% drop in output from peak to trough recorded in the 1979-80 recession. For 1981 as a whole, year-over-year growth in the economy was 2.5%, sluggish compared to the average annual growth of 4.2% in the 1971-1979 period. Over the past two years, the level of economic activity in Canada has advanced only 2.9%.

After recording a 2.0% decline in 1980, industrial production rose 1.2% in 1981, with the entire increase occurring in the first half of the year. Thus, industrial output in 1981 remained below its 1979 level.

For further information, order the December 1981 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$3/\$30).

Steel Ingot Production, Canada



Raw Materials Price Index

Preliminary data show the Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100) rose 2.8% to 191.6 in January 1982 from 186.3 in December 1981. But the increase of 8.9% since January 1981 marked the index's smallest year-to-year rise since January 1978. During the month, four components advanced, three declined and one remained unchanged from the preceding month. The raw materials price index excluding coal, crude oil and natural gas was up (0.2%) for only the first time in seven months, and showed a drop of 8.8% over the past year.

The dominant factor in the overall movement of the Raw Materials Price Index in January was the 5.2% rise in the coal, crude oil and natural gas component to a level 30.3% higher than a year earlier. The rise mainly reflected a \$2.25 per barrel price increase for domestic crude oil on January 1, 1982 in accordance with the Ottawa-Alberta agreements.

Higher prices for fresh fruits (up 3%), cereals (up 5%), oilseeds (up 3%) and fresh vegetables (up 9%) in particular contributed to a 3.3% rise in the vegetable products index during the latest month. However, the index still stood 21.1% below its January 1981 level.

The non-metallic minerals index climbed by 7.4% in January, largely because of higher prices for sand and gravel (up 13%) and crude stone (up 8%). (This group posted a comparable increase for the same month in 1981.)

The non-ferrous metals index, which registered a 3.7% decline during January, has fallen by 21.9% over the past year. Lower prices for silver and gold accelerated the movement of this group, although virtually all the components have been seriously affected by sagging international economic activity.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$3.50/\$35).

Industrial Corporations

After-tax profits of Canadian industrial corporations, seasonally adjusted at quarterly rates, were \$2,818 million for the fourth quarter of 1981, a drop of \$1,397 million (33.1%) from the third quarter level. Unadjusted profits at \$3,166 million plunged \$2,495 million (44.1%) from the year-earlier period. Included in these profits are extraordinary losses of \$371 million in the current quarter, and gains of \$178 million in the third quarter of 1981 and \$306 million in the fourth quarter of 1980. Excluding the effect of extraordinary gains and losses, quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted profits decreased by 20.8% and year-to-year unadjusted profits fell by 33.9%.

Pre-tax profits of industrial corporations were \$5,945 million on a seasonally adjusted basis in the fourth quarter, down \$969 million (14.0%) from the preceding quarter. Pre-tax profits, not seasonally adjusted, totalled \$6,311 million, a fall of \$2,546 million (28.7%) from the fourth quarter of 1980.

Seasonally adjusted, fourth quarter 1981 sales decreased by \$0.7 billion to \$124.5 billion from \$125.2 billion in the preceding quarter. Sales, not seasonally adjusted, were \$127.3 billion, up \$5.8 billion (4.8%) from the same quarter of 1980.

These data, which cover all privately-owned corporations operating in Canada excepting those in agriculture, fishing, construction and the finance, insurance and real estate industries, will be revised approximately 45 days after the date of this release. More detailed statistics for the 47 industry groups are available on CANSIM and will soon be available in catalogue 61-003-p. For further information, contact Gail Campbell or Roy St. Germain (613-995-9751), Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Urban Transit

Canadian urban transit systems (59) collected 108,626,753 initial passenger fares in January 1982. The total distance run was 55 920 375 kilometres and operating revenues amounted to \$50,881,197.

*For further information, order the January 1982 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, \$1.50/\$15), or contact the head (613-995-1976), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.*

The Dairy Review

Milk sold from Canadian farms for all purposes in December 1981 totalled an estimated 556 878 kilolitres, 5.2% more than in December 1980. This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the year 1981 to 7 361 984 kilolitres, an increase of 2.6% over 1980.

*For further information, order the January 1982 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact E. Leckie (613-995-4853), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*



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	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
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Railway Carloadings, December 1981	52-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18

Canada