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# INFORMAT

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## Chain Store Sales

Chain store organizations reported August sales of \$1.23 billion, an increase of 19.0% from August 1972.

Gains were registered by all trade groups with service stations and garages (up 37.6%) and motor vehicle dealers (up 30.3%) showing the largest percentage increases from the corresponding month last year.

Stock inventories (at cost) stood at \$1.48 billion on August 1, 1973, up 17.0% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Chain Store Sales and Stocks* (63-001, 10¢/\$1), or contact R. Potvin (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

## Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production declined to 208.1 in August, down 2.8% from the downward-revised level of 214.1 in July, but 8.2% higher than in August 1972.

In the latest month, manufacturing output dropped 3.4%, utilities output fell 1.0% and mining output decreased 0.8%.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 30¢/\$3).

## Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in August totalled \$772.3 million, an increase of 20.2% from \$642.8 million in August 1972.

In the latest month, higher totals were recorded for residential permits at \$423.3 million (\$367.1 million a year earlier), industrial permits at \$63.5 million (\$48.9 million), commercial permits at \$201.5 million (\$156.7 million) and institutional and governmental permits at \$84.1 million (\$70.1 million).

Building permits taken out in the first eight months of 1973 totalled \$5.32 billion, up 25.9% from \$4.23 billion in the corresponding period in 1972.

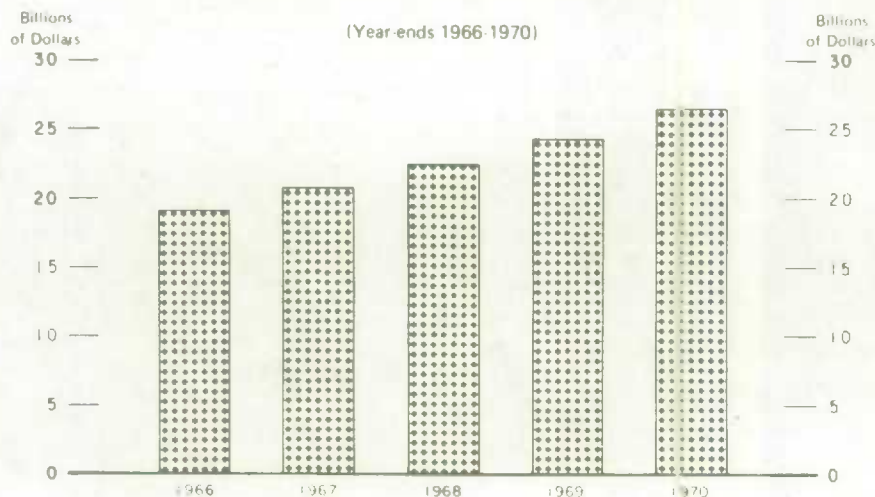
For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 30¢/\$3).

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	161.36P	161.38P	7.8
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	5,313P	5,466P	12.4
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.	8.80	9.24	5.0
Unemployed	Sept.	421,000	433,000	-8.3
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Electricity Generation (billion k.w.h.)	Aug.	20.5	20.7	12.0
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	July	74.4	80.7	17.9
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug.	9,715P	9,513P	10.8
Wholesale (\$ million)	July	4,483	4,400	17.6
Department Store (\$ million)	July	1,020	993	16.2
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	5,342P	5,277P	21.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	6,691P	6,446P	32.8
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price (Index 1961=100)	Sept.	153.9	153.0	8.5
Industry Selling Price (Index 1961=100)	Aug.	147.1	142.8P	15.1
Residential Building Construction (Index 1971=100)	Aug.	123.9	122.6	11.1
Wholesale Price (Index 1935-39=100)	Aug.	400.5P	374.7P	28.9
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Aug.	772.3P	5,321	25.9
Housing Starts-urban centres (units)	Aug.	19,622	134,261	2.9
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Sept.	1,734P	17,586	23.4
Imports (\$ million)	Aug.	1,729P	14,928	23.3
<b>SALES</b>				
Chain Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,234	9,137	14.7
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	311	2,095	15.6
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug.	5,097P	41,821	17.3
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	382	3,674	29.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	3,072	24,150	12.9
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July	2,844	19,008	21.4

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. P preliminary. P revised.

## Foreign Direct Investment in Canada



Source: Canada's International Investment Position (67-202)

### Retail Trade

Retail sales in August reached \$3.07 billion, an increase of 15.1% from August 1972.

Year-to-year gains were registered in all trade groups, ranging from a high of 22.8% for motor vehicle dealers to low of 4.5% for men's clothing stores.

Increased sales were recorded in all provinces with the largest percentage advances in British Columbia (19.5%) and Newfoundland (17.4%).

Seasonally adjusted, retail sales in August totalled \$3.23 billion, fractionally lower than in the previous month.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 30¢/\$3), or contact R. Potvin (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Manufacturers' Shipments, Orders

Manufacturers' new orders in August, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$5.43 billion, down 4.5% from \$5.69 billion (revised) in July. New orders for durable goods dropped 6.8%; those for non-durable goods showed a decrease of 2.2%.

Unfilled orders, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$6.66 billion in August, up 3.6% from the revised July estimate of \$6.43 billion.

Total inventory owned was 0.7% higher at an estimated \$9.74 billion in August.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned to shipments was 1.87 in the latest month, up from 1.76 (revised) the month before. The finished products-to shipments ratio was 0.63 in August compared to 0.59 in July.

Manufacturers' shipments (seasonally adjusted) in August were estimated at \$5.20 billion, a drop of 5.2% from \$5.49 billion (revised) in July. Durable goods shipments were 7.1% below the previous month's level; shipments of non-durables fell 3.5%.

Manufacturers' shipments in August, not adjusted for seasonal variation, were estimated at \$5.10 billion, up 14.4% from a year earlier. Shipments for the first eight months of 1973 at \$41.82 billion were 17.3% higher than in the corresponding period in 1972.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 40¢/\$4), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, September

General Wholesale Price Indexes, September

Housing Starts and Completions, September

Wholesale Trade, August

### Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products

(1961=100)

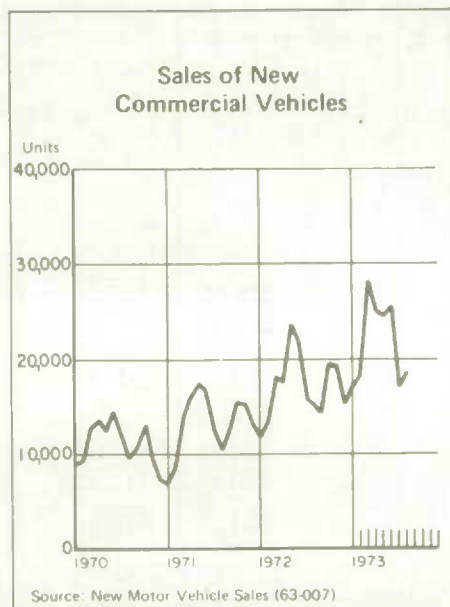
The August index number of farm prices of agricultural products for Canada at 190.9 was up 19.2% from the month before.

The August index is markedly above previous months, partially as a result of the increase in Canadian Wheat Board initial prices for wheat, oats and barley. The other major contributors to the overall increase included the prices of livestock, poultry and dairy products.

Over the twelve months from August 1972, the index has shown an advance of 43.9%.

(The index includes all provinces except Newfoundland. Prices used in computing the index are, as closely as can be determined, the prices which are actually received by the farmers at the farm level).

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products* (62-003, 10¢/\$1 a year).



### Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly totalled \$13.01 billion at the end of August, up 19.7% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks rose to \$8.38 billion in the latest month, an increase of 26.0% from August 1972.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.11 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper in August (an increase of 12.8% from a year earlier) and had \$1.39 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 17.3%).

Total outstanding balances on the books of credit holders reporting quarterly as well as those reporting monthly had reached \$16.19 billion at the end of June 1973, a level 19.3% higher than that of a year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Consumer Credit* (61-004, 20¢/\$2), or contact Consumer Credit Section (613-996-9278), or Telex 053-3585, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Summary of Exports

Canada's exports in September at \$1.73 billion were up 14.3% from a year earlier.

Shipments to the United States accounted for slightly less than half of the overall gain with crude petroleum, natural gas, lumber, pulp and nickel metal responsible for some 60% of the export gain there. Lumber, copper ores, oilseeds, nickel metal and iron ore contributed approximately the same percentage of the overseas export increase.

Seasonally-adjusted September exports at \$1.89 billion were virtually unchanged from the previous month. A partial recovery of shipments to the United States following strikes in rail transportation and pulp and paper was offset by a decline in deliveries to overseas countries.

For the January-September period of 1973, unadjusted exports of \$17.6 billion were up 23.4% from the corresponding period in 1972. Automotive products, crude petroleum, lumber and newsprint accounted for about 54% of the \$2.1 billion increase to the United States. Deliveries of wheat, oilseeds, copper ore, lumber and pulp made up some 55% of the \$1.2 billion increase in exports to overseas destinations.

In the latest period, exports to Japan increased 75.3% to \$1.17 billion.

For further information, order the September 1973 issue of *Summary of Exports* (65-002, 20¢/\$2).



### The Labour Force

Employment declined to an estimated 8.80 million persons in September from 9.24 million in August but was up from 8.38 million a year earlier.

Unemployment decreased to 421,000 last month from 433,000 in August and 459,000 in September 1972.

The total work force numbered 9.22 million in the latest month compared to 8.84 million a year ago.

Seasonally adjusted, Canada's unemployment rate increased to 6.0 from 5.5 in August, but was less than the 6.9 rate of September 1972. Regionally, the rate of unemployment increased to 8.7 in the Atlantic Region from 8.2 in August, to 7.9 in Quebec from 7.3, to 6.3 in British Columbia from 5.6 and to 4.7 in Ontario from 4.1; the rate decreased in the Prairie Region to 4.0 from 4.6 a month earlier.

The seasonally-adjusted participation rate (percentage of the population 14 years of age and over counted in the labour force) declined to 57.3 in September from 57.6 in the previous month with the decrease taking place mostly among women 25 and over.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the level of employment decreased (-61,000) to 8.74 million in September following an increase of about the same magnitude last month.

For further information, order the September 1973 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, 30¢/\$3).

### Domestic Mobile Homes

Factory shipments of 7,342 domestic mobile homes in the quarter ending June 30, 1973 were up 28.9% from a year earlier.

For the first six months of 1973, shipments of single mobile homes increased 25.7% to 10,868 units; shipments of 960 double-wide mobile homes were 47.9% ahead of the corresponding period in 1972.

For further information, order *Fabricated Metal Products Service Bulletin* (41-009, \$2 a year), Vol. 1, No. 2, *Shipments of Domestic Mobile Homes, 1973*.

### Farm Equipment Sales

Sales of farm implements and equipment for the first eight months of 1973 totalled \$306.7 million, up 19% from the corresponding period in 1972.

Sales of repair parts increased 24% to \$75.3 million in the January-August period of this year.

For further information, order the January 1-August 31, 1973 issue of *Farm Implement and Equipment Sales* (63-009, \$1 per year), or contact Y. Lebel (613-996-9307), *Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4*.

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### Farm Cash Receipts

Farm cash receipts for the January-August period of 1973 totalled an estimated \$4.02 billion, up 27.8% from \$3.15 billion a year earlier.

This estimate (preliminary) is for farmers' total cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland. Included are: cash receipts from the sale of farm products; Canadian Wheat Board participation payments on previous years' grain crops; net cash advances on farm-stored grains in Western Canada; and supplementary payments to dairy producers. (No deduction is made for the cost incurred by farmers in the production of the commodities sold).

For further information, order the January-August 1973 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 20¢/\$2).

### Canada-United States Trade in Motor Vehicles and Parts

Total automotive trade between Canada and the United States increased by 24.9% to \$5.8 billion in the first half of 1973, from \$4.7 billion in the corresponding period last year.

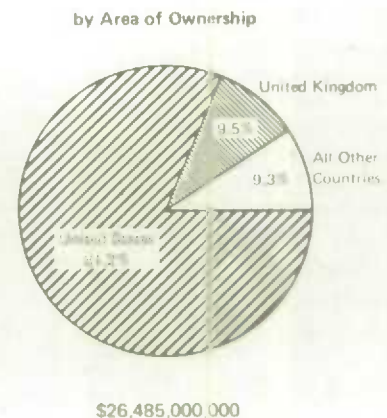
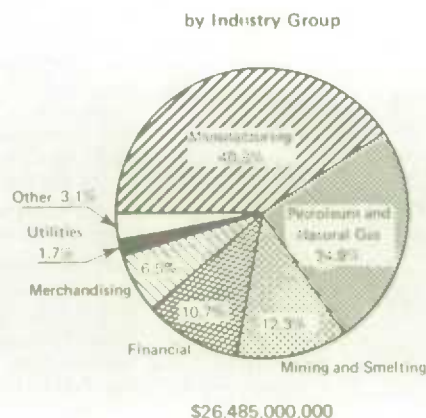
Canadian shipments to the United States rose 19.0% to \$2.87 billion in the latest period, but imports from the United States increased 31.1% to \$2.94 billion, producing a first-half 1973 deficit for Canada of \$68 million, compared with a \$171 million surplus in the first half of 1972.

Canada has recorded surpluses in automotive trade with the United States in each of the last three years, following deficits in the 1965-1969 period. The cumulative total of Canada's trade deficit for 1965 through 1972 is \$1.82 billion (based on a newly-presented table, worked out by a joint committee of United States and Canadian statisticians formed to determine the most satisfactory method of measuring this trade).

Total Canada-United States auto trade has increased seven-fold since the Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965 was concluded. In that time, Canadian shipments to the United States have increased to \$4.6 billion in 1972 from \$250 million in 1965; Canadian imports from the United States have risen to \$4.5 billion in 1972 from \$961 million in 1965.

(The foregoing is a digest of a summary and tables that appeared in the *Statistics Canada Daily*, issue of Friday, October 12. For the full report, order 11-001, 10¢ per issue, \$25 per year).

### Foreign Direct Investment in Canada, 1970





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