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Weekly Bulletin

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January 25, 1974

CATALOGUE 11-002

## Department Store Sales

Department store sales in November rose to \$484.0 million, an increase of 20.5% from 401.7 million in November 1972. Gains were reported in all provinces, ranging from a high of 35.6% in Nova Scotia to a low of 14.0% in Manitoba.

Sales increased in thirty-eight of the thirty-nine departments in the latest month with the largest advances recorded in:

- Millinery (42.5%); gasoline, oil, auto accessories, repairs and supplies (41.6%); and jewellery (34.9%).

Inventories held (at selling price) in November were valued at \$1.22 billion, up 18.2% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, 20¢/\$2), or contact R. Potvin (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

## Major Appliance Sales

Canadian manufacturers' sales of major appliances showed continuing strength in November, running well ahead of year-earlier levels.

Major appliance sales recorded during the latest month, with percentage increases from November 1972:

- Refrigerators — 53,564 units (20.1%); home and farm freezers — 30,231 units (67.9%).
- Stoves and ranges — 51,188 units (4.2%).
- Automatic washing machines — 34,236 units (6.6%); electric clothes dryers — 38,547 units (1.2%).
- Television sets — 87,843 units (8.2%).

Canadian manufacturers' sales of colour television sets in November at 67,781 units showed an increase of 21.4% from a year earlier; black-and-white television sales dropped 20.8% to 20,062 units.

For further information, order the November 1973 issues of: *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, 10¢/\$1); *Stoves and Furnaces* (41-005, 20¢/\$2); *Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers* (43-002, 10¢/\$1); and *Radio and Television Receiving Sets* (43-004, 20¢/\$2).

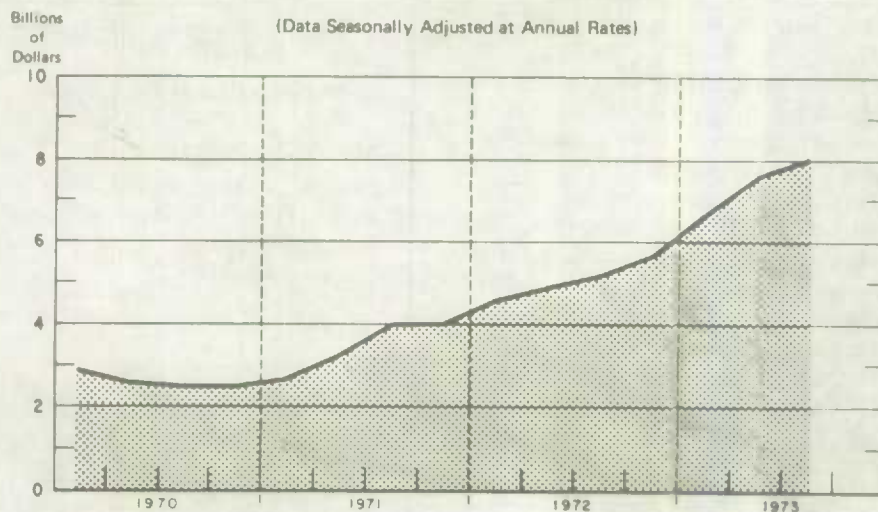
## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Oct.	165.56P	163.75P	7.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Oct.	5,577P	5,519P	12.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Dec.	8.79	8.83	5.3
Unemployed	Dec.	512,000	468,000	-12.3
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Electricity Generation (billion k.w.h.)	Nov.	23.3	21.6	7.6
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	Nov.	113.5	92.0	5.6
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	10,217P	10,075 <sup>r</sup>	15.1
Wholesale (\$ million)	Nov.	4,383	4,307	15.1
Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	1,217	1,127	18.2
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	6,254P	6,410 <sup>r</sup>	22.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	7,353P	7,175 <sup>r</sup>	42.6
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price (Index 1961=100)	Dec.	156.4	155.5	9.1
Industry Selling Price (Index 1961=100)	Nov.	150.1	148.8 <sup>r</sup>	15.7
Residential Building Construction (Index 1971=100)	Nov.	127.0	125.7	10.1
Wholesale Price (Index 1935-39=100)	Nov.	408.7P	404.8 <sup>r</sup>	26.5
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	751.5P		Year to date 7,870 30.7
Housing Starts-urban centres (units)	Nov.	18,079	194,288	.7
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Nov.	2,558	22,764	24.4
Imports (\$ million)	Nov.	2,274	21,330	24.4
<b>SALES</b>				
Chain Store Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	1,477	13,204	14.7
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	484	3,651	15.4
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	6,076P	59,702	17.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	457	5,024	25.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	3,601	34,157	12.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	3,140	31,210	20.7

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised.

## Undistributed Corporation Profits

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



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

## Real Domestic Product

Canada's seasonally-adjusted real domestic product increased by 0.4% in November following an advance of 1.5% (revised) in October.

The major increases in the latest month were in the trade sector (up 1.7%).

Some of the main contributors to the 2.6% advance in wholesale trade were: auto parts and accessories; industrial and transportation equipment; and newsprint, paper and paper products. Motor vehicle dealers were mainly responsible for the 1.1% increase in retail trade, with lesser contributions from department stores and fuel dealers.

Electric power, gas and water utilities output also advanced strongly due to an increase in the output of electrical utilities. Mining output gained in November with the major increase in iron mining.

Manufacturing production showed no change from the October level. Non-durables manufacturing increased with the dominant movement being a continued strike-recovery for pulp and paper mills. Durables manufacturing output declined due to a strike-caused decrease in output of motor vehicle manufacturers.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 30¢/\$3), or contact R.W. Collins, (613-992-9751), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

## Railway Freight Traffic Third Quarter 1973

Railways in Canada carried a total of 62.9 million tons of revenue freight during the third quarter of 1973, an increase of 12.2% from the corresponding period in 1972.

Crude materials (up 48.6%) and end products (up 5.5%) were the only major commodity groups to show tonnage gains during the latest quarter.

Total rail loadings rose 13.8% with Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Quebec registering substantially-higher loadings while all other areas showed declines.

Cumulatively, total tonnage carried during the January-September period of 1973 was up 13.7% at 194.3 million tons.

For further information, order *Railway Freight Traffic, Third Quarter 1973* (52-002, 75¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery, (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

## THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions,  
December

General Wholesale Price Indexes,  
December

Housing Starts and Completions,  
December

New Motor Vehicle Sales, December

Summary of Exports, December

## Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers

Canada's seven major airlines reported combined net income of \$23.7 million for the first eight months of 1973, an increase of 33.8% from \$17.7 million for the corresponding period in 1972.

Operating revenues rose 20.8% to \$697.3 million in the latest period; operating expenses advanced 20.8% to \$631.8 million.

For August, the airlines reported net income of \$9.5 million, down from \$9.8 million a year earlier. Air Canada showed a profit of \$7.8 million in the latest month, CP Air earned \$154,000 and the five regional carriers had combined net income of \$1.6 million. (The regional air carriers are Eastern Provincial Airways, Nordair, Pacific Western Airlines, Quebecair and Transair).

Passenger-miles for all services in August were up 9.8% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of *Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations* (51-001, 30¢/\$3).

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## Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in November were estimated at \$3.14 billion, up 23.5% from the corresponding month in 1972.

The most significant change in the consumer goods trades was a 30.7% increase in the "automotive parts and accessories" category.

In the industrial goods trades, the "other construction materials and supplies including lumber" component showed an advance of 25.2%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$4.38 billion in the latest month, an increase of 15.1% from November 1972.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 10¢/\$1).

## Unemployment Insurance Claims

Benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act dropped to \$129 million in November, down 5% from \$135 million in October and 10% less than \$144 million disbursed in November 1972.

The average weekly payment to claimants declined 1% to \$68.99 in November from the previous months' average of \$69.76 but was 9% more than the year-earlier payment of \$63.46.

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance totalled 247,000 in the latest month, an increase of 29% from the 191,000 received in October but 7% less than the 266,000 received in November 1972.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, 20¢/\$2), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

## Railway Operating Statistics

Canada's six major common carrier railways reported net income of \$17.7 million in November, an increase of 21.8% from November 1972. Operating revenues were up 13.7% to \$190.5 million; expenses rose 12.9% to \$172.7 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles increased 5.9% in the latest month; passenger-miles were 19.5% above year-earlier levels.

For the January-November period of 1973, railway revenues rose 7.2% while expenses were up 8.8%. Net operating income of \$55.0 million was 27% lower than in the corresponding period in 1972.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 20¢/\$2), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.



### Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities and city combinations in December with increases ranging from 0.3% in Toronto and Saskatoon-Regina to 1.4% in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Housing components advanced in all centres, reflecting increased home ownership and tenancy costs along with higher prices for furniture, appliances, linens, draperies and household supplies. In eastern Canada, fuel oil rose in price.

Transportation also increased in all cities, reflecting advances in train and plane fares. In eastern Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, gasoline and motor oil were higher in price.

Clothing indexes moved up in ten of the twelve centres in December, and food components rose in seven cities. The remaining components registered mixed movements.

Over the twelve months from December 1972, the greatest increase in the Consumer Price Index was recorded in St. John's (11.3%).

*For further information, order the December 1973 issue of Prices and Price Indexes (62-002, 40¢/\$4).*

### Refined Petroleum Products

Canadian refineries produced 52.4 million barrels of refined petroleum products in November, an increase of 7.0% from a year earlier.

*For further information, order the November 1973 issue of Refined Petroleum Products (45-004, 30¢/\$3), or Energy Service Bulletin, Vol. 9, No. 9 (57-002, \$3 a year), or contact Ian Cavanagh (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.*

### Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems earned net operating revenue of \$64.2 million in November, an increase of 15.1% from November 1972.

In the latest month, operating revenues of the thirteen major telephone systems at \$184.3 million were 14.8% higher than a year earlier; operating expenses rose 14.6% to \$120.1 million.

For the first eleven months of 1973, net operating revenues of the telephone systems totalled \$665.4 million, up 15.0% from the corresponding period in 1972. Operating revenues showed a gain of 13.8% to \$1.89 billion in the latest period; operating expenses were 13.1% higher at \$1.23 billion.

*For further information, order the Communications Service Bulletin (56-001, \$1 a year), Vol. 4, No. 1, Monthly Telephone Statistics, November 1973.*

### The Wheat Review

Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining (at December 1, 1973) in Canada and the United States for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years plus the year-end (November 30) carryover stocks in both Australia and Argentina amounted to 1,492.2 million bushels, down 25% from a year earlier.

Supplies on hand in these countries were as follows (in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets):

- United States, 753.0 (1,221.7); Canada, 672.1 (695.8); Argentina, 49.4 (17.9); and Australia, 17.7 (50.1).

Canadian exports of wheat (and flour in terms of wheat equivalent) during the August-November period of the current crop year amounted to 152.6 million bushels, some 38% less than the 247.4 million bushels exported during the corresponding period the year before.

*For further information, order the December 1973 issue of The Wheat Review (22-005, 30¢/\$3).*

### Gas Utilities

Canadian consumers purchased 113.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas in November, an increase of 5.6% from a year earlier.

Exports of natural gas declined 1.3% to 84.5 billion cubic feet in the latest month.

*For further information, order the November 1973 issue of Gas Utilities (55-002, 20¢/\$2), or contact Ian Cavanagh, (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.*

### Railway Carloadings

Railways operating in Canada reported a total of 18.0 million tons of revenue freight loaded in December, an increase of 2.3% from December 1972. Cars loaded decreased 0.2% to 310,166.

Commodities moved by rail that showed significant tonnage increases in the latest month included: potash (up 35.8%); sand, gravel and crushed stone (33.7%); and coal (15.8%).

In 1973, carloadings rose 6.3% and relative tonnages were up 12.5% from 1972 figures. Cumulatively, the largest percentage increases in tonnage were recorded for: iron ore (up 52.4%); sand, gravel and crushed stone (31.3%); sulphur (31.1%); containerized freight (25.2%); potash (23.8%); pulpwood chips (17.7%); and fuel oil (17.0%).

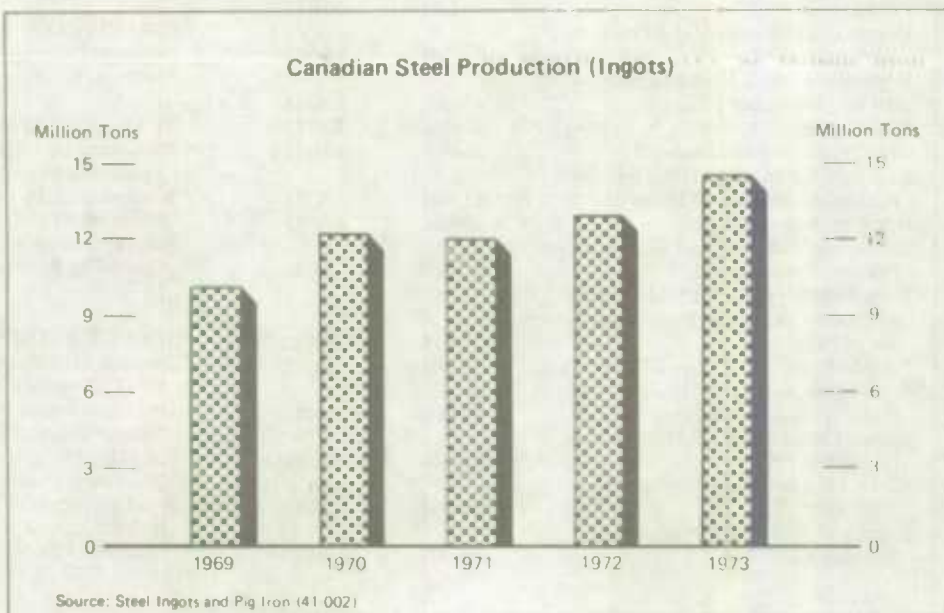
*For further information, order the December 1973 issue of Railway Carloadings (52-001, 20¢/\$2), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.*

### Oil Pipe Line Transport

Canadian oil pipe lines received 2.85 million barrels per day of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum products in September, an increase of 11.9% from a year earlier.

Domestic oils were up 14.6% to 2.39 million B/D in the latest month; imported oils decreased 0.3% to .46 million B/D.

*For further information, order the September 1973 issue of Oil Pipe Line Transport (55-001, 20¢/\$2), or contact Ian Cavanagh (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.*



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<b>BUSINESS REGISTER</b>			The Sugar Situation, November 1973	32-013	10¢/\$1
New Manufacturing Establishments in Canada, December 1973	31-002	75¢/\$1.50	<b>PRELIMINARY BULLETIN</b>		
<b>CENSUS</b>			1972 Census of Manufactures - Glass Manufacturers	44-207-p	\$3.50 for series
Labour Force by Marital Status and Age Group, 1971 Census of Canada	94-785	25¢	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
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