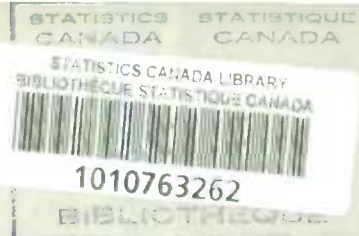


# INFORMAT

Weekly Bulletin



February 1, 1974  
CATALOGUE 11-002

## Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$165.67 in November were up 7.7% from \$153.86 a year earlier.

First estimates show that average weekly earnings (by industry division) were highest in construction (\$234.39), followed by mining (\$219.10), forestry (\$207.97), transportation, communication and other utilities (\$185.46), manufacturing (\$172.65), finance, insurance and real estate (\$157.96), trade (\$129.13), and service (\$117.83).

Average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$185.19), followed by Ontario (\$169.98), Alberta (\$166.21), Quebec (\$159.10), Newfoundland (\$157.45), Saskatchewan (\$148.82), Manitoba (\$148.69), Nova Scotia (\$142.30), New Brunswick (\$139.62) and Prince Edward Island (\$114.36).

Hourly earnings in November averaged \$5.99 in construction, \$4.93 in mining and \$3.94 in manufacturing.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

## Merchandise Trade Balance

Canada's merchandise trade surplus increased by \$478 million to \$1.87 billion in 1973 from \$1.4 billion a year earlier.

Nevertheless, the surplus was still significantly lower than the surpluses of \$2.2 billion and \$2.9 billion recorded in 1971 and 1970.

The year 1973 was characterized by substantial improvements in bilateral trade balances: \$880 million with Japan; \$206 million with the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth group of countries; and \$150 million with the original six member countries of the European Economic Community.

However, Canada's surplus with the United States dropped by \$460 million, while the surplus with "other countries" fell by \$90 million.

Canada's deficit with Latin America widened by nearly \$210 million in 1973, partly because of sharply-rising oil costs.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	165.67P	164.79P	7.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.	5,573P	5,590P	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	10,075P	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	6,410P	22.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	7,353P	7,175P	42.6
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price (Index 1961=100)	Dec.	156.4	155.5	9.1
Industry Selling Price (Index 1961=100)	Dec.	151.7	150.2P	15.9
Residential Building Construction (Index 1971=100)	Dec.	127.9	127.0	10.8
Wholesale Price (Index 1935-39=100)	Dec.	412.0P	408.9P	25.5
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	751.5P	7,890	31.0
Housing Starts-urban centres (units)	Nov.	18,079	194,288	7
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Dec.	2,162P	25,170	25.4
Imports (\$ million)	Dec.	1,966P	23,296	24.8
<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.

## Canadian Merchandise Exports and Imports



Source: Summary of Foreign Trade (65-001)

### Department Store Sales

Department store sales in December showed an increase of 19.2% from the corresponding month in 1972.

Sales were up in all regions in the latest month, with the following percentage gains recorded:

- Atlantic Provinces, 23.0%; British Columbia, 22.8%; Ontario, 20.2%; Saskatchewan, 20.0%; Quebec, 16.7%; Alberta, 15.2%; Manitoba, 14.8%.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1 a year).

### Residential Building Construction

#### Input Price Index

(1971=100)

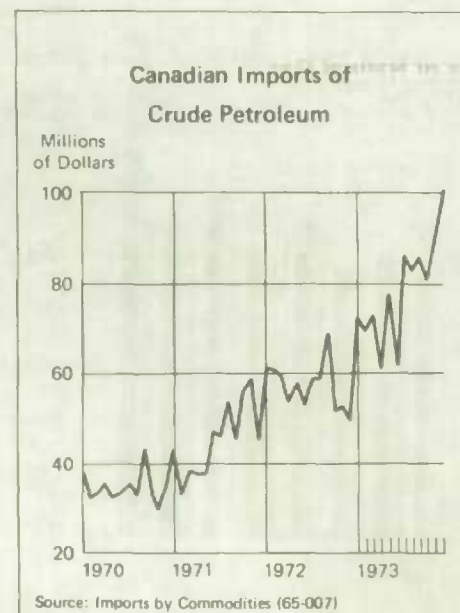
The residential building construction input price index for Canada moved up to 127.9 in December, up 0.7% from the month before, and 10.8% higher than in December 1972.

Over the twelve months, December to December, prices of building materials used in residential construction rose 11.6%; labour costs increased 9.2%.

During this period, residential building construction input price indexes advanced in all regions, with the following increases recorded:

- Atlantic Provinces, 14.0%; Prairie Provinces, 11.2%; Ontario, 11.0%; Quebec, 9.9%; British Columbia, 9.2%.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact P. Du Brûle, (613-996-2565), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.



### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Building Permits, December

Consumer Price Movements, January

Housing Starts and Completions, December

New Motor Vehicles Sales, December

Retail Trade, December

The Labour Force, January

### Industry Selling Price Index:

#### Manufacturing

(1961=100)

The industry selling price index for manufacturing rose to 151.7 in December, up 1.0% from November and 15.9% higher than in December 1972.

Sixty-eight of the 103 industry indexes included in the total index advanced in the latest month, seven declined and 28 were unchanged.

Price increases in petroleum refining were mainly responsible for a 4.9% rise in the petroleum and coal group in December. Chemical and chemical products industries moved up 3.0%, reflecting higher prices in the industrial chemicals group, and in plastics and synthetic resins.

Over the twelve months from December 1972, the largest price advances were shown by the following component group indexes:

- Petroleum and coal products industries, 31.4%; Textile industries, 24.3%; Food and beverage industries, 23.6%; Primary metal industries, 20.1%; Paper and allied industries, 19.3%.

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

### Oil Pipe Line Transport

Canadian oil pipe lines received 2.92 million barrels per day of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum products in October, an increase of 8.6% from a year earlier.

Domestic oils were up 9.5% to 2.46 million B/D in the latest month; imported oils increased 4.2% to .46 million B/D.

For further information, order the October 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.

### Summary of Exports

Canadian exports rose by \$5.1 billion (25.4%) to a record \$25.2 billion in 1973.

Exports increased to all trading areas, with the United States accounting for \$3.1 billion (61%) of the overall increase.

More than half of the total advance in exports to the United States was attributable to a small group of commodities, including automotive and related products (up \$645 million), crude petroleum (up \$475 million), lumber (up \$265 million), pulp (up \$145 million) and newsprint (up \$135 million).

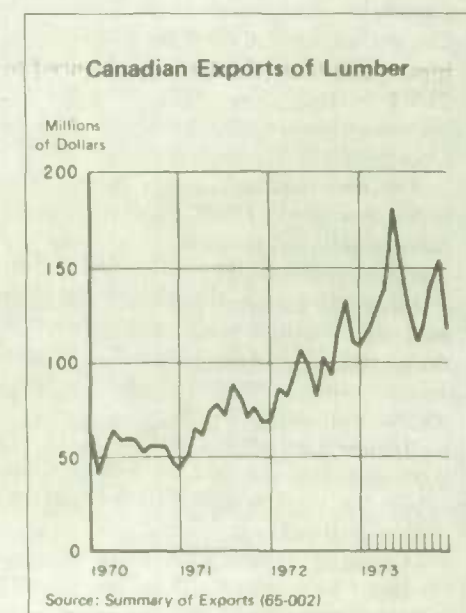
Similarly, a few commodities accounted for more than half of the \$2 billion gain in exports to other countries: nickel ore and metal (up \$350 million), wheat (up \$285 million), lumber (up \$157 million), oil seeds (up \$155 million) and pulp (up \$90 million).

With about 14% of the export growth in 1973 represented by higher average prices, the increase in the volume of exports was approximately 10%, similar to the growth recorded the previous year.

Shipments to the United States accounted for 67.8% of Canada's total 1973 exports (down from 69.4% in 1972). Export shares expanded from 4.8% to 7.1% for Japan; for other areas, changes were far more moderate.

Unadjusted December exports at \$2.16 billion were some \$400 million (22.9%) higher than in December 1972.

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





### Summary of Imports

Canadian imports reached a record \$23.3 billion in 1973, up 24.8% from \$18.7 billion in 1972.

Purchases of \$16.5 billion from the United States accounted for 70.7% of all imports in 1973 (69.0% a year earlier). Leading the \$3.6 billion expansion of imports from that country were automotive and related products (up \$1,190 million), aircraft and parts (up \$220 million), food (up \$205 million), and fabricated steel materials (up \$100 million).

Crude petroleum (up \$260 million), food (up \$200 million) and communication equipment (up \$55 million) contributed to the increase from overseas countries.

Since 9% of the import growth in 1973 was attributable to higher average prices (3.5% in 1972), the increase in the volume of imports was only of the same order as in the preceding year (16%).

Unadjusted December imports of \$1.97 billion were \$451 million (29.7%) higher than a year earlier. Imports increased from all areas, except the United Kingdom.

The United States accounted for 64% of the December rise, with the more notable increases recorded in: aircraft (up \$37 million), fabricated steel materials (up \$19 million), industrial machinery (up \$17 million) and food (up \$17 million). Crude petroleum (up \$52 million) and food (up \$36 million) led the rise in imports from overseas sources.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Summary of Imports* (65-005, 20¢/\$2).

### Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 208.3 in December, up 1.1% from the previous month and 9.8% higher than in December 1972.

The materials component of the total index has risen 13.6% over the twelve months since December 1972; the labour component is up 6.9%.

Under the materials grouping, electrical equipment prices have climbed 20.4% during this period, steel and metal work 16.6%, lumber and lumber products 15.2%, plumbing, heating and other equipment 11.6%, concrete products 9.0% and other products 11.4%.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact P. Du Brûle, (613-996-2565), *Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5*.

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### General Wholesale Price Index

(1935-39=100)

The general wholesale price index rose to 412.0 in December, up 0.8% from 408.9 (revised) in November and 25.5% higher than in December 1972.

Five of the eight major group indexes moved higher in the latest month, three declined.

The vegetable products group index increased 2.2% in December on higher prices for sugar and its products, vegetable oil products, livestock and poultry feeds, rubber and its products, canned vegetables and fruits and miscellaneous products. The chemical products group index also advanced 2.2%, with price increases for fertilizer materials and paint and paint materials.

The iron products group moved up 1.5% on price increases for scrap iron and steel, hardware and rolling mill products. Indexes for non-metallic minerals and textile products each rose 1.3%.

Over the twelve months from December 1972, the following advances were recorded by the major group indexes:

- Vegetable products, 50.8%; Textile products, 38.3%; Non-ferrous metals, 30.0%; Animal products, 22.3%; Non-metallic minerals, 18.1%; Iron products, 12.8%; Chemical products, 11.5%; Wood products, 10.5%.

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

### Labour Income

Total labour income was estimated at \$5.57 billion in November, up 12.5% from \$4.95 billion a year earlier.

Seasonally adjusted, the November estimate of \$5.55 billion showed an increase of 1.0% from the previous month. Wages and salaries in the goods-producing industries advanced by 1.6%; those in the service-producing industries moved up 0.6%.

For further information, order the November 1973 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, 30¢/\$3), or contact Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067), *Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2*.

### Canadian Exports of Natural Gas to the United States



Source: Summary of Exports (65-002)

## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JANUARY 24 - 30

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Dairy Factory Production, December 1973	32-002	\$1 a year	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, October 1973	35-003	20¢/\$2
Farm Cash Receipts, November 1973	21-001	20¢/\$2	Products Made From Canadian Clays, November 1973	44-005	10¢/\$1
Fourth Estimate of the Commercial Production of Fruit, 1973	22-003	\$1 a year	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, November 1973	25-001	10¢/\$1
Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, July-September 1973	21-003	\$4 a year	Radio and Television Receiving Sets, November 1973	43-004	20¢/\$2
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, January 1974	32-009	20¢/\$2	Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, November 1973	46-001	10¢/\$1
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Labour Force by Level of Schooling, 1971 Census of Canada	94-786	25¢	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			Electrical Products - Vol. 2, No. 30, Electric Lamps, November 1973	43-007	\$1 a year
Building Permits, November 1973	64-001	40¢/\$4	Energy Statistics - Vol. 9, No. 4, Preliminary Review for Coal Mines, 1972; Vol. 9, No. 5, Supply and Disposition of Propane, April, May and June, 1973	57-002	\$3 a year
<b>CONSUMER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</b>			Fabricated Metal Products - Vol. 2, No. 11, Heating Boilers and Radiators, November 1973; Vol. 2, No. 11, Sanitaryware, November 1973	41-009	\$2 a year
Urban Family Expenditure on Shelter and Household Durables, 1971	62-540	\$2	Fish and Fish Products - Vol. 2, No. 118, Advance Release of Fish Landings, British Columbia, December 1973; Vol. 2, No. 119, Fish Freezings and Stocks, Ontario and Prairies, December 1973	24-003	\$1 a year
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			Rubber and Plastics Products Industries - Vol. 2, No. 9, Factory Shipments of High Pressure Decorative Laminate Sheet, Quarter Ended December 31, 1973	47-002	\$1 a year
Industrial Research and Development Expenditures in Canada, 1971	13-203	\$1	Selected Dairy By-Products - Vol. 2, No. 22, Production and Inventory of Instant Dry Skim Milk Powder, December 1973	32-024	\$1 a year
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Education Division - Vol. 2, No. 1, 1972 Survey of Selected Leisure Time Activities, March 1972	81-001	\$1 a year	Advertising Agencies, 1972	63-201	50¢
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>			Consumer Credit, November 1973	61-004	20¢/\$2
Imports, Merchandise Trade, 1970-1972	65-203	\$9	Farm Implement and Equipment Sales, January 1 to November 30, 1973	63-009	\$1 a year
<b>FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTI-NATIONAL ENTERPRISES</b>			<b>PRICES</b>		
Financial Flow Accounts, Second Quarter 1973	13-002	\$1/\$4	<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, October 1973	66-001	40¢/\$4	Construction Price Statistics - Vol. 2, No. 18, Building Construction Input Price Index, August, September, and October 1973	62-006	\$3 a year
United States Vehicles Entering Canada, November 1973	66-002	10¢/\$1	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION - SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
<b>LABOUR</b>			Aviation Statistics Centre - Vol. 6, No. 3, International Air Charter Statistics, August 1973; Vol. 6, No. 4, Civil Aviation, August 1973; Vol. 6, No. 6, Scheduled Air Passenger Origin and Destination, First Quarter 1973	51-004	\$3 a year
Quarterly Survey of Trusteed Pension Plans, 3rd Quarter 1973	74-001	25¢/\$1	Communications - Vol. 4, No. 1, Monthly Telephone Statistics, November 1973	56-001	\$1 a year
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Cement, November 1973	44-001	10¢/\$1			
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Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, November 1973	33-003	20¢/\$2			
Electric Power Statistics, November 1973	57-001	20¢/\$2			
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Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, October 1973	31-001	40¢/\$4			
Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, November 1973	24-002	30¢/\$3			
Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, November 1973	26-007	10¢/\$1			
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, October 1973	35-002	20¢/\$2			