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# INFOMAT

Weekly Bulletin



February 15, 1974  
CATALOGUE 11-002

## Retail Trade

Retail sales in December reached \$4.08 billion, an increase of 11.3% from December 1972.

Year-to-year gains were registered in all trade groups, ranging from a high of 24.1% for fuel dealers to a low of 5.8% for variety stores.

All provinces recorded higher sales in the latest month with the largest increases in Newfoundland (14.7%) and British Columbia (14.4%).

Total retail sales reached \$38.2 billion in 1973, up 12.6% from the 1972 figure.

For further information, order the December 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.

## The Labour Force

Employment decreased to an estimated 8.65 million persons in January from 8.79 million in December but was up from 8.19 million a year earlier.

Unemployment increased to 637,000 last month from 512,000 in December but was down from 688,000 in January 1973.

The total labour force numbered 9.28 million in the latest month compared with 8.88 million a year earlier.

Seasonally adjusted, Canada's unemployment rate moved up to 5.5 in January from 5.4 the previous month, but was down from 6.2 in January 1973. Regionally, the rate of unemployment increased in January to 9.3 in the Atlantic Region from 8.9 in December and to 7.7 in Quebec from 7.5. The rate decreased in British Columbia to 5.5 from 6.0 a month earlier, and to 3.0 in the Prairie Region from 3.1. In Ontario the rate remained unchanged at 4.1.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, employment (up 94,000) increased for the fourth consecutive month, pushing the level to 9.01 million persons.

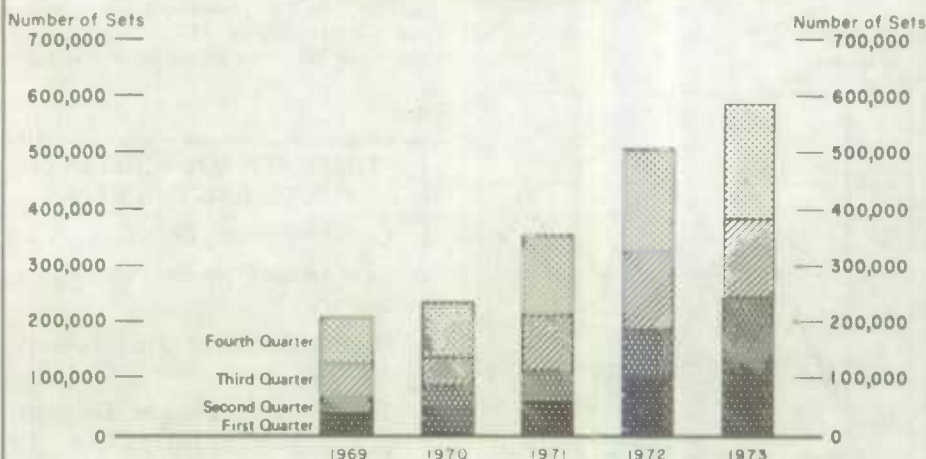
For further information, order the January 1974 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, 30¢/\$3).

## 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)	Jan.	8.65	8.79	5.5
Unemployed	Jan.	637,000	512,000	-7.4
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Electricity Generation (billion k.w.h.)	Dec.	24.8	23.3	6.9
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	Nov.	113.5	92.0	5.6
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	10,502P	10,247P	16.9
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)	Dec.	5,838P	6,293P	25.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	7,657P	7,357P	48.0
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price (Index 1961=100)	Jan.	157.6	156.4	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)	Dec.	634.7P	8,525	31.9
Housing Starts-urban centres (units)	Dec.	17,255	211,543	2.2
<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)	Dec.	1,934	15,137	14.7
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	484	3,651	15.4
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	5,538P	65,273	18.0
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	340	5,364	24.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	4,083	38,239	12.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	3,140	31,210	20.7

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

Manufacturers' Sales of "made-in-Canada"  
Colour Television Sets



Source: Radio and Television Receiving Sets (43-004)

## Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production at 216.8 in December was almost unchanged from 217.1 in November but 4.7% higher than the December 1972 level of 207.1.

Mining (up 0.1%) and manufacturing (down 0.1%) were little changed in the latest month but utilities output declined 0.8%.

During 1973, the index of industrial production showed an increase of 8.3% over the previous year. Mining output advanced 10.0%, manufacturing gained 8.1% and utilities output moved up 7.7%.

For further information, order the December 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 0Z6.

## Restaurant Sales

Restaurant receipts totalled \$126.9 million in December, up 11.2% from December 1972.

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

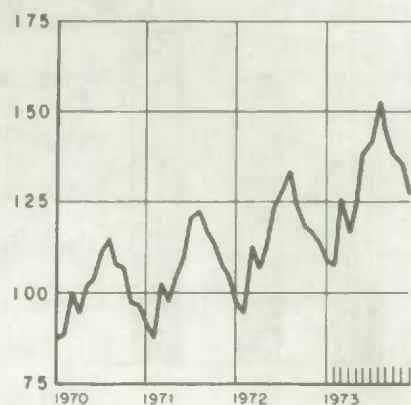
- Prince Edward Island, 28.2%; British Columbia, 17.2%; Newfoundland, 15.3%; Ontario, 13.3%; New Brunswick, 12.2%; Saskatchewan, 11.2%; Manitoba, 10.4%; Quebec, 9.8%; Nova Scotia, 6.9%; Alberta, 2.6%.

Cumulatively, restaurant receipts in 1973 totalled \$1.56 billion, an increase of 12.5% over the 1972 total. Chain restaurants accounted for 10.6% of sales in the latest year, independent restaurants for the balance.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Restaurant Statistics* (63-011, 10¢/\$1).

## Restaurant Receipts

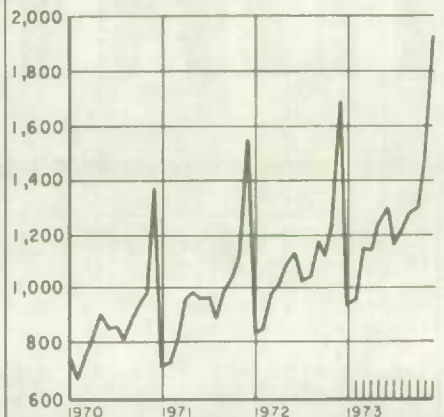
Millions of Dollars



Source: Restaurant Statistics (63-011)

## Chain Store Sales

Millions of Dollars



Source: Chain Store Sales and Stocks (63-001)

## Major Appliance Sales

Canadian manufacturers' sales of white goods in December ran substantially ahead of year-earlier figures.

Major appliance sales recorded during the latest month, with percentage changes from December 1972:

- Refrigerators — 53,720 units (up 52.4%); home and farm freezers — 23,428 units (up 58.9%).
- Electric stoves and ranges — 51,425 units (up 52.1%).
- Automatic washing machines — 35,711 units (up 30.4%); electric clothes dryers — 34,967 units (up 16.3%).
- Television sets — 73,677 units (down 2.3%).

Manufacturers sold 58,569 Canadian-made colour television sets in December, an increase of 4.6% from a year earlier; black-and-white set sales dropped 22.0% to 15,108 units.

For further information, order the December 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 Sets* (43-004, 20¢/\$2).

## THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, December  
Department Store Sales by Regions, January  
General Wholesale Price Indexes, January  
Real Domestic Product, December  
Summary of Exports, January  
Wholesale Trade, December

## Security Transactions with Non-Residents

International transactions in outstanding securities during October led to a sales balance (or net capital inflow) of \$64 million, up from \$9 million the previous month.

Trading in outstanding Canadian securities with non-residents resulted in a net capital inflow of \$60 million in October, comprising net sales of \$19 million of debt issues and \$41 million of equities. Transactions in outstanding foreign securities led to a net capital inflow of \$4 million.

In the first ten months of 1973, trade in all outstanding securities with non-residents produced a net capital outflow of \$28 million, made up of net purchases of \$77 million of Canadian securities and net sales of \$49 million of foreign issues.

For further information, order the October 1973 issue of *Security Transactions with Non-Residents* (67-002, 20¢/\$2).

## Housing Starts and Completions

Housing construction climbed in December as 17,255 starts were recorded in centres of 10,000 population and over compared with 14,106 starts a year earlier.

Apartment units accounted for 49.1% of starts in the latest month, single-family dwellings 38.3%, row housing 8.8% and doubles 3.8%.

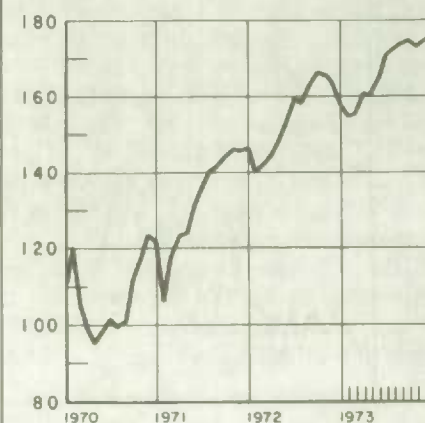
Cumulatively, housing starts in centres of 10,000 population and over totalled 211,543 in 1973, up 2.2% from 206,954 starts registered in 1972.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Housing Starts and Completions* (64-002, \$3 a year, \$3.60 outside Canada).

## Dwelling Units Under Construction

(in centres 10,000 population and over)

Thousands



Source: New Residential Construction (64-002)



### Consumer Price Index (CPI)

(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada rose 0.8% to 157.6 in January from 156.4 in December.

Food prices advanced 1.1% in the latest month, while the level of prices for all-items other than food moved up 0.7%. Among non-food components, increases were recorded for transportation (1.6%), housing (0.6%), recreation, education and reading (0.5%), and health and personal care (0.4%). There was no change in the tobacco and alcohol component, but the clothing index edged down 0.1%.

Between January 1973 and January 1974, the All-Items Consumer Price Index rose 9.1%.

During this period, the following index advances were recorded:

- Food, up 16.0%; transportation, 7.7%; clothing, 7.5%; housing, 7.0%; health and personal care, 6.5%; recreation, education and reading, 5.3%; and tobacco and alcohol, 1.2%.

For further information, order the January 1974 issue of *Consumer Price Movements* (62-001, 10¢/\$1) or *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 40¢/\$4).

### Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products

(1961=100)

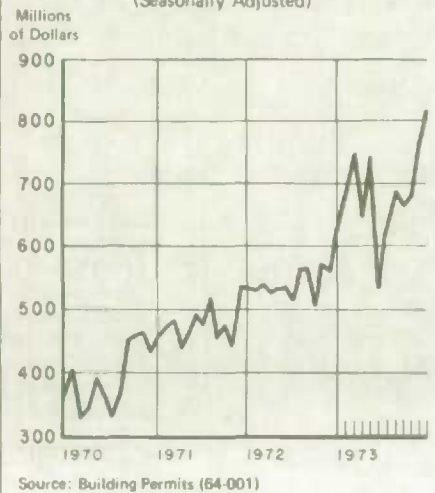
The December index number of farm prices of agricultural products for Canada at 185.3 was up 0.7% from a month earlier.

Over the twelve months from December 1972, the index has shown an advance of 24.4%.

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

### Building Permits, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



### Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in December totalled \$634.7 million, an increase of 43.7% from \$441.7 million in December 1972.

In the latest month, higher totals were recorded for residential permits at \$308.5 million (\$199.9 million a year earlier), commercial permits at \$197.6 million (\$121.6 million) and industrial permits at \$67.9 million (\$48.2 million). Permits taken out for institutional and governmental construction declined to \$60.6 million from \$72.0 million in December 1972.

Cumulatively, building permits taken out in 1973 totalled \$8.52 billion, up 31.9% from \$6.46 billion in 1972.

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland totalled an estimated \$6.67 billion in 1973, up 25.6% from \$5.31 billion in 1972.

Cash receipts rose in all provinces in 1973. Total payments made to farmers (by province and with 1972 receipts in brackets):

- Ontario, \$1.92 billion (\$1.57 billion); Saskatchewan, \$1.40 billion (\$1.17 billion); Alberta, \$1.20 billion (\$902 million); Quebec, \$950 million (\$769 million); Manitoba, \$620 million (\$475 million); British Columbia, \$321 million (\$243 million); New Brunswick, \$95 million (\$64 million); Nova Scotia, \$93 million (\$70 million); Prince Edward Island, \$74 million (\$44 million).

For further information, order the January-December 1973 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 20¢/\$2), or contact E.S. Boyko (613-994-9876), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

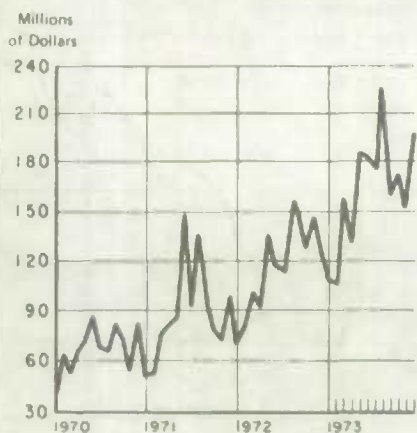
### Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

Preliminary statistics for December show that 3.9 million international travellers entered Canada during the month, an increase of 0.9% from a year earlier.

Included in the latest month's total were 1.7 million non-resident travellers, 1.9 million returning residents and 0.3 million in the "other travellers" category (immigrants, military personnel and crews).

For further information, order the December 1973 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, 40¢/\$4), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-992-5507), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

### Commercial Building Permits Issued in Canada



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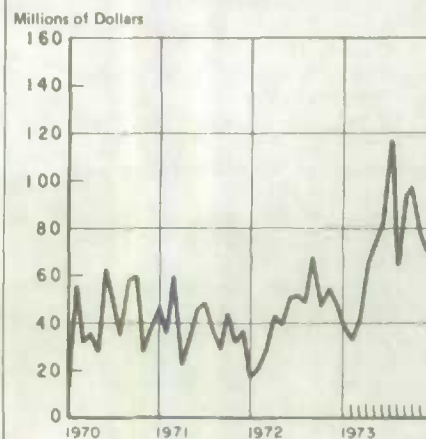
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### Industrial Building Permits, Canada



## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FEBRUARY 7 - 13

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			<b>PRELIMINARY BULLETINS</b>		
Grain Milling Statistics, December 1973	32-003	\$1 a year	1972 Census of Manufactures - Battery Manufacturers;	43-208-p	
Production and Value Estimate of Honey, 1973	23-209	25¢	Commercial Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment Manufacturers;	42-215-p	
Production of Eggs and Poultry, December 1973	23-003	10¢/\$1	Motor Vehicle Manufacturers;	42-209-p	\$3.50
			Railroad Rolling Stock Industry	42-211-p	for series
			1971 Census of Manufactures - Size of Establishments	31-210-p	\$3.50 for series
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>			<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Security Transactions With Non-Residents, October 1973	67-002	20¢/\$2	Chemicals - Vol. 1, No. 7, Consumption of urea, 1971	46-004	\$2 a year
<b>CENSUS</b>			Energy Statistics - Index to Service Bulletin-IND-SB(8), 1972-73;		
Labour Force Activity, 1971 Census of Canada	94-790	50¢	Vol. 9, No. 11, Oil Pipe Line Supply and Disposition, October, 1973;		
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			Vol. 9, No. 12, Coal and Coke Statistics, November 1973; Vol. 9, No. 13, Preliminary Electric Energy Statistics, December 1973	57-002	\$3 a year
Directory of Private Elementary and Secondary Schools in Canada, 1972-73	81-562	75¢	<b>Fabricated Metal Products - Vol. 2, No. 12, December 1973; Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools; Oil Filters and Cartridges</b>		
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>			Fish and Fish Products - Vol. 2 No. 125, Advance Release of Fish Landings, Quebec, December 1973	41-009	\$2 a year
Summary of Exports, November 1973	65-002	20¢/\$2		24-003	\$1 a year
<b>HEALTH AND WELFARE</b>			<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
Hospital Indicators, January-September 1973	83-001	\$1/\$4	Department Store Sales and Stocks, November 1973	63-002	20¢/\$2
<b>LABOUR</b>			Merchandising Inventories, November 1973	63-014	20¢/\$2
Employment, Earnings and Hours, September 1973	72-002	40¢/\$4	Restaurant Statistics, December 1973	63-011	10¢/\$1
Estimates of Labour Income, November 1973	72-005	30¢/\$3	Sales Financing, November 1973	63-013	20¢/\$2
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			<b>PRICES</b>		
Asbestos, December 1973	26-001	10¢/\$1	Consumer Price Movements, January 1974	62-001	10¢/\$1
Asphalt Roofing, December 1973	45-001	10¢/\$1	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Fisheries Statistics, Newfoundland, 1972	24-202	50¢	Construction Price Statistics - Vol. 3, No. 1, Chemical and Mineral Process Plant Price Indexes, Second Quarter 1973; Vol. 3, No. 2, Building Construction Input Price Index, December 1973	62-006	\$3 a year
Gas Utilities, November 1973	55-002	20¢/\$2	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Hardboard, December 1973	36-001	10¢/\$1	Cable Television, 1972	56-205	50¢
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, November 1973	31-001	40¢/\$4	The Motor Vehicle, Part IV, Revenues 1971	53-220	50¢
Iron Ore, December 1973	26-005	10¢/\$1	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Manufacturing Industries of Canada, Ontario, 1970	31-206	75¢	Aviation Statistics Centre - Vol. 6, No. 9, Civil Aviation, September 1973	51-004	\$3 a year
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, December 1973	32-001	10¢/\$1	Communications - Vol. 4, No. 2, Telecommunication Statistics, Third Quarter 1973	56-001	\$1 a year
Oil Pipe Line Transport, October 1973	55-001	20¢/\$2			
Particle Board, December 1973	36-003	10¢/\$1			
Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods, November 1973	35-001	20¢/\$2			
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November 1973	35-003	20¢/\$2			
Rigid Insulating Board, December 1973	36-002	10¢/\$1			
Salt, December 1973	26-009	10¢/\$1			
Scrap Iron and Steel, 1971	41-212	25¢			