



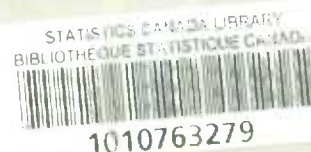
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INFOMAT

Weekly Bulletin



March 22, 1974
CATALOGUE 11-002

Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics

Canadian industrial corporations recorded estimated after-tax profits of \$2.33 billion for the fourth quarter of 1973, an increase of 58.9% over year-earlier results.

Sales in the latest quarter were estimated at \$42.9 billion, up 23.3% from the fourth quarter in 1972.

Assets of industrial corporations increased by \$12.56 billion (11.9%) during 1973.

For further information, order *Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics* (61-003, \$1/\$4), or contact J.D. Wilson (613-994-9622), Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z1.

Canada-U.S. Automotive Trade

Canada's trade position in automotive products with the United States shifted to a deficit of \$356 million in 1973 from a surplus of \$75 million in 1972.

Imports of automotive products from the United States showed a sharp 26.3% rise to \$5.66 billion that considerably outpaced Canada's gain in exports, which rose by 16.4% to \$5.30 billion. It was the third consecutive year that import growth exceeded export expansion, with the spread widening.

The trend of exports to the United States differed for vehicles and parts. In the case of vehicles, despite a 37% decline in snowmobiles to \$66 million, sales of other types of vehicles were up 13% to \$3.00 billion. Parts exports advanced strongly by 24.4% to \$2.24 billion, in line with the buoyancy of the U.S. car market last year.

For imports from the United States, growth rates also differed between purchases of vehicles and parts. However, the vehicle component of imports grew more strongly. In response to higher automobile sales in Canada, vehicle imports surged by 33.8% to \$2.08 billion, while parts imports advanced a more moderate 22.3% to \$3.58 billion.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Dec.	160.69P	165.20P	5.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Dec.	5,491P	5,583P	10.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Feb.	8.67	8.65	4.7
Unemployed	Feb.	635,000	637,000	-3.1
ENERGY				
Electricity Generation (billion k.w.h.)	Jan.	27.0	24.8	13.6
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	Dec.	134.7	113.5	7.2
INVENTORIES				
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	10,543 ^r	10,274 ^r	17.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	Jan.	4,756	4,578	17.9
Department Store (\$ million)	Jan.	967	1,035	11.7
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	5,939 ^r	6,331 ^r	27.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	7,819 ^r	7,381 ^r	51.2
PRICES				
Consumer Price (Index 1961=100)	Feb.	159.2	157.6	9.6
Industry Selling Price (Index 1961=100)	Jan.	156.1	152.0 ^r	17.3
Residential Building Construction (Index 1971=100)	Jan.	128.9	128.4 ^r	10.4
Wholesale Price (Index 1935-39=100)	Jan.	427.0	412.8 ^r	26.6
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Dec.	634.7P	8,565	32.5
Housing Starts-urban centres (units)	Jan.	13,506	13,506	20.7
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports (\$ million)	Jan.	2,278P	2,278	21.3
Imports (\$ million)	Jan.	2,161P	2,161	24.5
SALES				
Chain Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	1,934	15,137	14.7
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	294	294	19.5
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	5,501 ^r	65,255	17.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	405	405	25.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	2,997	2,997	13.0
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	2,869	2,869	29.9

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

Canada -- United States Trade in Automotive Products



Retail Trade

Retail sales rose to \$3.00 billion in January, an increase of 13.0% from January 1973.

Year-to-year gains were registered in all trade groups, ranging from a high of 40.8% for fuel dealers to a low of 5.1% for general merchandise stores.

Higher sales were recorded in all provinces in the latest month, with the largest increases in Prince Edward Island (19.5%), British Columbia (17.4%) and Manitoba (17.0%).

Seasonally adjusted, January retail sales increased 2.9% from the previous month to a total of \$3.41 billion with increases in fifteen of the eighteen trade groups.

For further information, order the January 1974 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 30¢/\$3), or contact R. Potvin (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in January were estimated at \$2.87 billion, up 29.9% from a year earlier.

The most significant sales change in the consumer goods trades was a 22.1% increase registered by the "groceries and food specialties" component.

In the industrial goods trades, the most notable item was a 62.9% gain for the "iron and steel" category.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$4.76 billion in the latest month, an increase of 17.9% over January 1973.

For further information, order the January 1974 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 10¢/\$1).

Unemployment Insurance Claims

Benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act rose to \$248 million in January, up 75% from \$142 million in December and 1% more than the \$244 million disbursed in January 1973.

The average weekly payment to claimants advanced 4% to \$73.80 in January from the previous month's average of \$71.19 and was 9% more than the year-earlier payment of \$67.68.

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance totalled 278,000 in the latest month, an increase of 8% from the December count of 256,000 and 3% more than the 270,000 received in January 1973.

For further information, order the January 1974 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.

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions, February

Estimates of Labour Income, January

General Wholesale Price Indexes, February

New Motor Vehicle Sales, February

Summary of Exports, February

Real Domestic Product (RDP)

Canada's seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product increased 0.9% in January from a month earlier.

The main factor in the advance was a 2.1% gain in manufacturing output as motor vehicle production rebounded following a December strike.

Within manufacturing, pulp and paper mills, iron and steel mills, tobacco products manufacturers and manufacturers of industrial chemicals also registered significant increases. The main decline was in production of motor vehicle parts and accessories.

Lesser contributions to the January advance in RDP came from transportation, wholesale trade and agriculture.

In transportation, the major increase was in railway transport (up 4.1%). The increase originated mainly with transportation of manufactured goods, especially motor vehicles, and also machinery, farm machinery and paper.

Widespread gains were registered within wholesale trade. Total retail trade output, however, was almost unchanged from the December level.

Agriculture production in January was up 3.6% from December.

For further information, order the January 1974 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.

Computer Service Industry, 1972

The computer service industry recorded operating revenues of \$535.0 million in 1972, according to a pilot survey of 309 companies providing computer services as a major activity.

Salaries and wages totalling \$154.8 million were paid that year to the 14,364 employees and 50 working proprietors engaged within the industry.

For further information, order *Computer Service Industry 1972* (63-222, 75¢), or contact E. Yablonski (613-996-9301), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles reached 141,398 units in February, an increase of 3.3% from a year earlier.

Passenger car production rose 2.4% to 108,441 units in the latest month; production of commercial vehicles advanced 6.4% to 32,957 units.

For the first two months of 1974, motor vehicle production totalled 294,931 units, up 4.4% from the January-February period in 1973.

For further information, order the February 1974 issue of *Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles* (42-001, 10¢/\$1).

The Wheat Review

Supplies of wheat held by the four traditional major exporters at February 1, 1974 for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,632.0 million bushels, a decrease of 15% from a year earlier.

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

• Canada, 622.6 (631.1); United States, 553.5 (1,011.6); Australia, 311.4 (134.7); Argentina, 144.5 (132.6).

Canadian exports of wheat (and flour in terms of wheat equivalent) during the August-January period of the current crop year amounted to 206.5 million bushels, some 34% less than the 310.8 million bushels exported during the first half of the previous crop year. Shipments to the U.S.S.R. of wheat in bulk dropped to 35.1 million bushels from 92.2 million bushels a year earlier, while exports to the People's Republic of China fell to 15.5 million bushels from 79.3 million bushels.

For further information, order the February 1974 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 30¢/\$3).

Provincial Government Assets, 1972

Financial assets of Canada's provincial and territorial governments totalled \$15.89 billion at March 31, 1972, up 14.3% from \$13.90 billion a year earlier.

Liabilities of these governments amounted to \$17.11 billion, an increase of 17.2% from \$14.60 billion at March 31, 1971.

For further information, order *Provincial Government Finance, Assets, Liabilities and Sources and Uses of Funds, 1972* (68-209, \$1), or contact Public Finance Division, Provincial Government Section (613-994-9338), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z7.

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Between January and February, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities and city-combinations with increases ranging from 0.5% in Halifax to 2.0% in St. John's.

Food indexes increased in all cities mainly in response to higher quotations for dairy, bakery and cereal products, beef cuts, fresh produce, processed fruit and vegetables, margarine, sugar and restaurant food.

Housing components advanced in all centres reflecting increased shelter costs. Prices were also higher for furniture, floor coverings, linens, draperies and household supplies.

The health and personal care elements rose in all cities with increased charges for men's haircuts and women's hairdressing and for pharmaceuticals and some toiletries.

Over the twelve months from February 1973, consumer price indexes advanced in all regional cities with increases as follows: St. John's, 11.7%; Ottawa, 10.6%; Quebec City, 10.4%; Saint John, 10.0%; Vancouver, 9.8%; Montreal, 9.7%; Halifax, 9.2%; Toronto, 8.8%; Thunder Bay, 8.7%; Edmonton-Calgary, 8.4%; Winnipeg, 7.9%; and Saskatoon-Regina, 7.3%.

For further information, order the February 1974 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 40¢/\$4).

Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure, 1971-72

Gross general revenue of provincial and territorial governments totalled \$16.78 billion in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1972. Sources of these funds were:

- taxes (\$9.16 billion); transfer payments from other levels of government (\$4.36 billion); natural resource revenues (\$641 million); liquor board profits (\$556 million); privileges, licences and permits (\$555 million); other (\$151 billion).

Gross general expenditure for the same period reached \$17.31 billion. Expenditures on education (\$4.64 billion), health (\$4.62 billion), social welfare (\$1.95 billion) and transportation and communications (\$1.72 billion) accounted for more than 70 % of the total.

For further information, order *Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure, 1971-72* (68-207, \$1.50). Advance details may be obtained from Public Finance Division, Provincial Government Section (613-994-9338), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z7.

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Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly totalled \$13.78 billion at the end of January, up 18.3% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks reached \$8.83 billion in the latest month, an increase of 23.0% from January 1973.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.15 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper (an increase of 11.9% from a year earlier) and had \$1.42 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 14.6%).

Total outstanding balances on the books of credit holders reporting quarterly as well as those reporting monthly had reached \$17.69 billion at the end of December 1973, a level 19.1% higher than that reached a year earlier.

For further information, order the January 1974 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.



Farm Equipment Sales

Farm implement and equipment sales reached \$23.9 million in January, up 57% from a year earlier.

Sales of repair parts for farm equipment showed an increase of 66.4% to \$8.3 million in the latest month.

For further information, order the January 1974 issue of *Farm Implement and Equipment Sales* (63-009, \$1 a year), or contact Y. Lebel (613-996-9307), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Department Store Sales

Department store sales rose to \$293.9 million in January, an increase of 19.5% from the \$246.0 million registered in January 1973. Gains were reported in all provinces, ranging from a high of 34.8% for Prince Edward Island to a low of 12.5% for New Brunswick.

Sales increased in thirty-eight of the thirty-nine departments in the latest month with the largest advances recorded in furs (42.3%) and furniture (40.9%).

Inventories held (at selling price) in January were valued at \$966.6 million, up 11.7% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the January 1974 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 white goods in January ran well ahead of year-earlier figures but television set sales showed a decline.

Domestic sales of major appliances recorded by these firms in the latest month, with percentage changes from January 1973:

- Refrigerators — 44,172 units (up 14.4%); home and farm freezers — 21,460 units (up 35.1%).
- Stoves and ranges — 42,979 units (up 2.8%).
- Automatic washing machines — 30,908 units (up 21.9%); electric clothes dryers — 30,641 units (up 19.8%).
- Television sets — 53,870 units (down 16.6%).

Manufacturers sold 39,898 Canadian-made colour television sets in January, a decrease of 6.1% from a year earlier; black-and-white set sales fell 36.7% to 13,972 units.

For further information, order the January 1974 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).

THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED MARCH 14 — 20

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE			PRELIMINARY BULLETINS		
Farm Wages in Canada, January 1974	21-002	25¢/75¢	1972 Census of Manufactures —		
Fluid Milk Sales, December 1973	23-002	\$1 a year	Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
Index Numbers of Farm Prices of			Manufacturers	42-210-p	
Agricultural Products, January 1974	62-003	10¢/\$1	Sound Recording and Musical		
Report on Livestock Surveys, Pigs,			Instrument Manufacturers	47-205-p	\$3.50
January 1, 1974	23-005	\$1 a year	Truck Body Manufacturers	42-217-p	for series
The Wheat Review, February 1974	22-005	30¢/\$3	SERVICE BULLETINS		
CENSUS			Electrical Products — Vol. 3,		
Estimated Population by Sex and Age			No. 1, Domestic Water Tank Heaters,		
Group, for Canada and Provinces,			January 1974	43-007	\$1 a year
June 1, 1973	91-202	25¢	Energy Statistics — Vol. 9,		
EXTERNAL TRADE			No. 22, Retail Gasoline Statistics		
Exports by Countries, January-			by Metropolitan Area, 4th Quarter		
December 1973	65-003	\$1/\$4	1973; Vol. 9, No. 23, Preliminary		
Imports by Countries, January-			Electric Energy Statistics, January		
December 1973	65-006	\$1/\$4	1974; Vol. 9, No. 24, Net Sales of		
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT			Selected Refined Petroleum		
System of National Accounts —			Products 1972; Vol. 9, No. 25,		
National Income and Expenditure			Salient Crude Petroleum and Natural		
Accounts, Fourth Quarter and			Gas Statistics, November 1973	57-002	\$3 a year
Preliminary Annual 1973	13-001	75¢/\$3	Fabricated Metal Products — Vol.		
HEALTH AND WELFARE			1, No. 4, Shipments of Domestic		
Vital Statistics, Vol. 1, Births,			Mobile Homes, 1973; Vol. 3, No. 1,		
1971	84-204	\$1.50	Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks		
INDUSTRY PRODUCT			and Tools, January 1974; Vol. 3,		
Indexes of Real Domestic Product			No. 1, Heating Boilers and		
by Industry, December 1973	61-005	30¢/\$3	Radiators, January 1974	41-009	\$2 a year
JUDICIAL			Fruit and Vegetable Preservation —		
Juvenile Delinquents, 1972	85-202	\$1.50	Vol. 3, No. 1, 1974 Pack of Frozen		
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY			Fruits and Vegetables as Reported		
INDUSTRIES			up to the end of January 1974	32-023	\$1 a year
Bread and Other Bakery Products,			Phonograph Records and Pre-Recorded		
Quarter ended December 31, 1973	32-015	25¢/\$1	Tapes — Vol. 3, No. 1, Pro-		
Breweries, January 1974	32-019	10¢/\$1	duction and Sales of Phonograph		
Copper and Nickel Production,			Records and Pre-Recorded Tapes		
January 1974	26-003	10¢/\$1	in Canada, January 1974	47-004	\$1 a year
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas			MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES		
Production, October 1973	26-006	20¢/\$2	Merchandising Inventories,		
Distilled Beverage Spirits and			December 1973	63-014	20¢/\$2
Industrial Ethyl Alcohol, January			Motion Picture Production, 1972	63-206	50¢
1974	32-021	10¢/\$1	Sales Financing, December 1973	63-013	20¢/\$2
Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers,			PRICES		
January 1974	43-001	10¢/\$1	Consumer Price Movements, February		
Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes			1974	62-001	10¢/\$1
Dryers, January 1974	43-002	10¢/\$1	Prices and Price Indexes, August		
Factory Sales of Electric Storage			1973	62-002	40¢/\$4
Batteries, January 1974	43-005	10¢/\$1	Prices and Price Indexes, September		
Gold Production, January 1974	26-004	10¢/\$1	1973	62-002	40¢/\$4
Iron Ore, January 1974	26-005	10¢/\$1	SERVICE BULLETIN		
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks,			Retail Prices and Living Costs —		
January 1974	32-001	10¢/\$1	Vol. 3, No. 1, Canadian Inter-		
Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, 1972	42-209	50¢	City Retail Price Comparisons		
Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water			as of December, 1973	62-005	\$2 a year
Heaters, January 1974	41-008	10¢/\$1	PUBLIC FINANCE		
Pack, Shipments and Stocks of Selected			Provincial Government Employment,		
Canned Fruits and Vegetables,			October-December 1973	72-007	50¢/\$2
January 1974	32-011	20¢/\$2	TRANSPORTATION AND		
Preliminary Report on the Production			COMMUNICATIONS		
of Motor Vehicles, February 1974	42-001	10¢/\$1	Air Carrier Operations in Canada,		
Production of Canada's Leading			July-September 1973	51-002	\$1/\$4
Minerals, January 1974	26-007	10¢/\$1	Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents,		
Production, Shipments and Stocks on			January-March 1972	53-001	75¢/\$3
Hand of Sawmills in British			The Motor Vehicle, Part II — Motive		
Columbia, December 1973	35-003	20¢/\$2	Fuel Sales, 1972	53-218	50¢
Raw Hides, Skins and Finished			Transcontinental and Regional Air		
Leather, January 1974	33-001	10¢/\$1	Carrier Operations, October 1973	51-001	30¢/\$3
Silver, Lead and Zinc Production,			SERVICE BULLETIN		
January 1974	26-008	10¢/\$1	Aviation Statistics Centre — Vol.		
Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, February			6, No. 16, Civil Aviation, Air		
1974	41-002	10¢/\$1	Carrier Operations in Canada, 3rd		
The Sugar Situation, January 1974	32-013	10¢/\$1	Quarter 1973	51-004	\$3 a year
			Water Transport — Vol. 4, No. 1,		
			Containerized Freight Statistics,		
			1972	54-003	\$1 a year