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Weekly Bulletin



September 20, 1974

CATALOGUE 11-002

Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$178.73 in July were up 12.3% from \$159.18 a year earlier.

First estimates show that average weekly earnings (by industry division) were highest in construction (\$250.75), followed by mining (\$233.67), forestry (\$208.77), transportation, communication and other utilities (\$202.38), manufacturing (\$183.90), finance, insurance and real estate (\$175.86), trade (\$144.66) and service (\$129.03).

Average weekly earnings in July were highest in British Columbia (\$197.78), followed by Ontario (\$181.95), Alberta (\$181.92), Quebec (\$173.29), Manitoba (\$166.52), Saskatchewan (\$161.90) and the Atlantic region (\$158.88).

Hourly earnings averaged \$6.20 in construction, \$5.51 in mining and \$4.38 in manufacturing.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Department Store Sales

Department store sales rose to \$378.3 million in July, an increase of 21.3% from \$311.8 million in July 1973.

Sales were up in thirty-eight of the thirty-nine departments in the latest month with the largest advances recorded by boy's clothing and furnishings (39.1%) and plumbing, heating and building materials (36.7%).

All provinces reported increased department store sales from a year earlier with a high of 37.1% for Saskatchewan. Sales were up 21.2% in Montreal, 18.6% in Toronto, 15.7% in Vancouver and 12.5% in Winnipeg.

Inventories held in July (at selling price) were valued at \$1.30 billion, up 27.0% from the corresponding month in 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, 30¢/\$3), or contact B. Theriault (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

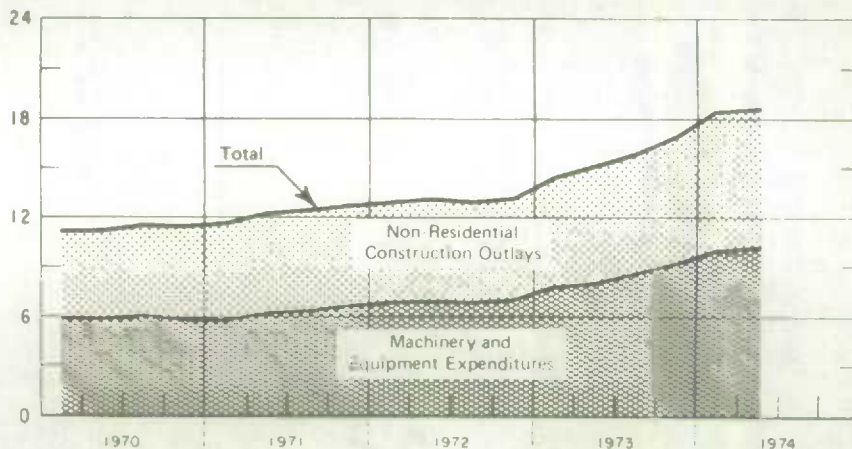
		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	178.73P	176.86P	12.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	6,317P	6,157P	15.3
Persons with Jobs (million)	Aug.	9.71	9.68	5.1
Unemployed	Aug.	447,000	465,000	3.2
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	July	1,298	1,244	27.0
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	12,598P	12,449P	29.5
Wholesale (\$ million)	July	5,614	5,649	25.2
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	6,472P	6,978P	19.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	9,445P	9,320P	45.2
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	Aug.	169.6	168.0	10.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	July	172.7	169.9P	20.8
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	July	462.5	452.5P	23.2
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	June	763.8P	Year-to-date 4,630	21.0
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	July	16,095	107,111	-7.0
ENERGY				
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	July	21.3	163.3	7.4
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	June	80.5	731.7	10.2
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	56.6	323.6	11.2
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports (\$ million)	July	2,748	17,932	24.7
Imports (\$ million)	July	2,735	17,526	32.8
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	July	92.7	948.7	-5.3
Steel (ingots - thousand tons)	Aug.	1,197	9,652	2.1
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	378	2,511	19.3
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	6,347P	44,473	21.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	July	534	3,735	13.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	3,711	24,148	14.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July	3,817	24,914	31.1

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

Business Investment in Plant and Equipment

Billions of Dollars

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (113-001)

Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive and Related Products

Canada's trade in automotive products with the United States produced a first-half 1974 deficit of \$529 million, up sharply from the \$62 million deficit incurred during January-June 1973.

Imports of automotive products from the United States totalled \$3.15 billion in the latest period, up 7.4% from a year earlier. Exports of these products to the United States showed an 8.5% drop to \$2.62 billion.

Some \$203 million of the increase in the trade deficit was due to lower exports of parts, as imports of parts were unchanged. Higher imports and reduced exports of passenger cars contributed another \$114 million. Finally, net increases in imports of trucks and tires added approximately \$100 million and \$50 million, respectively, to the increase in the deficit.

The fall in U.S. demand for Canadian automotive products was primarily the result of a large contraction in sales of new cars in the U.S. Canadian demand for cars and trucks remained high, resulting in increased imports in the first half of 1974.

Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in June totalled \$763.8 million, a drop of 2.8% from \$785.5 million in June 1973.

Lower totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$403.1 million (\$465.7 million a year earlier) and commercial permits at \$175.0 million (\$182.3 million). Increases were registered for industrial permits at \$97.8 million (\$80.9 million) and institutional and governmental permits at \$87.9 million (\$55.6 million).

Building permits taken out in June (by province):

- Ontario, \$324.5 million (\$383.2 million a year earlier); Quebec, \$177.8 million (\$133.5 million); British Columbia, \$77.3 million (\$110.2 million); Alberta, \$64.0 million (\$67.5 million); Nova Scotia, \$40.3 million (\$16.7 million); Saskatchewan, \$27.9 million (\$19.7 million); Manitoba, \$26.9 million (\$19.5 million); New Brunswick, \$12.4 million (\$12.9 million); Newfoundland, \$5.9 million (\$4.9 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$5.2 million (\$511,000).

For further information, order the June 1974 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions, August

General Wholesale Price Index, August

New Motor Vehicle Sales, August

Real Domestic Product, July

Summary of Foreign Trade, August

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities and city-combinations in August with increases ranging from 0.2% in Halifax to 1.3% in Thunder Bay and Vancouver.

Food indexes advanced in all cities with rises for beef, pork, dairy, bakery and cereal products, fresh fruit, beverages and restaurant food. Prices were lower in most centres for fresh vegetables, poultry and eggs.

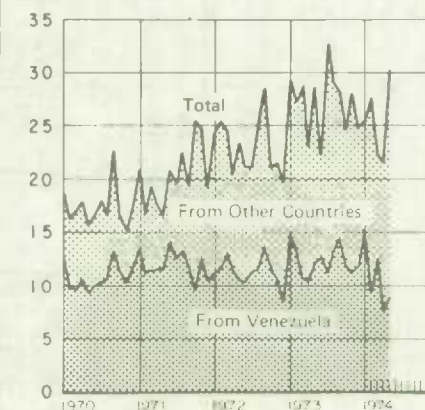
Housing components rose in all cities as a result of increased shelter costs and higher prices for furniture, floor coverings and household supplies.

Over the twelve months from August 1973, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities, with increases as follows: Vancouver, 12.5%; St. John's, 12.4%; Quebec City, 11.5%; Montreal, 11.2%; Winnipeg, 10.8%; Toronto, 10.7%; Edmonton-Calgary, 10.5%; Ottawa, 10.4%; Thunder Bay, 10.4%; Saint John, 10.2%; Halifax, 9.6%; and Saskatoon-Regina, 9.5%.

For further information, order the August 1974 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).

Canadian Imports of Crude Petroleum

Millions of Barrels*



* Barrels of 35 Canadian Gallons

Source: Imports by Commodities (65-007)

Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production decreased by 0.9% in July to 220.7 from 222.6 in June to stand 1.9% higher than the July 1973 level of 216.6.

Total manufacturing output was down 0.7% in the latest month; non-durable manufacturing dropped 1.3% and durable manufacturing was off 0.1%. Mining output decreased 4.1% while utilities output showed a 1.8% gain.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z6.

Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 92,686 units in July, a decrease of 0.5% from a year earlier.

Passenger car production fell 14.6% to 64,642 units; production of commercial vehicles increased 60.6% to 28,044 units.

Motor vehicle production for the first seven months of 1974 totalled 948,655 units, down 5.3% from the corresponding period in 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50).

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in July were estimated at \$3.82 billion, up 34.2% from July 1973.

Significant sales changes from a year earlier included groceries and food specialties, up 29.3%, and iron and steel, up 66.0%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$5.61 billion in the latest month, an increase of 25.2% over July of last year.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 15¢/\$1.50).

Gold Production

Gold production declined to 124,511 troy ounces in July from 148,376 troy ounces a year earlier.

Gold production for the first seven months of 1974 at 996,775 troy ounces showed a drop of 13.4% from 1,151,483 troy ounces in January-July 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Gold Production* (26-004, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Retail Trade

Retail sales in July reached \$3.71 billion, an increase of 19.5% from July 1973.

Year-to-year gains were registered in all trade groups with a high of 40.5% for fuel dealers.

All provinces recorded higher sales in the latest month with the largest increases in Saskatchewan (33.7%) and Alberta (23.4%).

Seasonally adjusted, July retail sales showed an increase of 1.7% from June to a level of \$3.75 billion with increases in thirteen of the eighteen trade groups.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact B. Theriault (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly totalled \$15.34 billion at the end of July, an increase of 18.4% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks rose to \$10.25 billion in the latest month, up 23.1% from July 1973.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.23 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper (an expansion of 11.5% from a year earlier) and had \$1.51 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 10.0%).

Outstanding balances of the books of credit holders reporting quarterly as well as those reporting monthly totalled \$19.22 billion at the end of June, a level 18.0% higher than that reached a year earlier.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Consumer Credit* (61-004, 30¢/\$3), or contact Consumer Credit Section (613-996-9278 or Telex 053-3585), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Construction Machinery and Equipment Sales, 1973

The value of new construction machinery and equipment entering the market to end-users amounted to \$1.07 billion in 1973, an increase of 31.6% over 1972 sales of \$811.4 million.

Sales of used construction machinery and equipment were valued at \$178.5 million in the latest year while rental revenue for all types of machinery amounted to \$106.9 million.

Further information will be contained in *Construction Machinery and Equipment Sales 1973* (63-220, 70¢) and advance details may be obtained from Merchandising and Services Division (613-996-9307) Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

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The Wheat Review

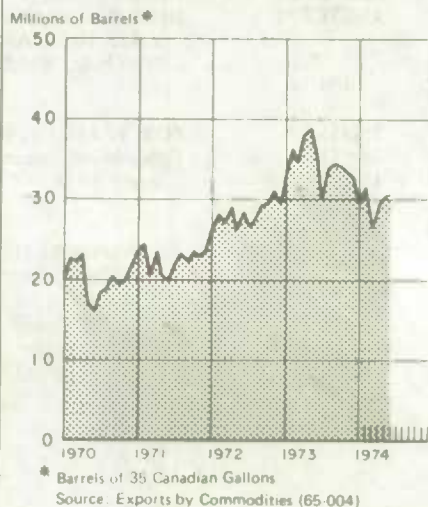
Canada's wheat exports during the 1973-74 crop year totalled 418.5 million bushels, down 27.4% from 576.6 million in the previous August-July period.

Shipments to the People's Republic of China dropped to 53.7 million bushels from 153.3 million, while exports to the U.S.S.R. fell to 36.0 million bushels from 163.2 million.

Wheat supplies remaining at the July 31, 1974 close of the Canadian crop year amounted to 379.4 million bushels, up 3.8% from 365.4 million on hand a year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1974 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 40¢/\$4).

Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum to the United States



Unemployment Insurance

Benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act totalled \$159 million in July, up 8% from \$148 million in June and 10% more than \$145 million disbursed in July 1973.

The average weekly payment was \$73.11 in the latest month, up 7% from \$68.33 a year earlier.

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance numbered 188,000 in July, up 20% from the June total of 157,000 and 5% more than the 179,000 received in July 1973.

For the first seven months of 1974, payments under the act amounted to \$1.41 billion, up 5% from \$1.34 billion in January-July 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, 40¢/\$4), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in July were estimated at \$6.81 billion, up 1.5% from the revised June level of \$6.71 billion. New orders for durable goods dropped 3.9%, while those for non-durable goods showed a 6.8% increase.

Unfilled orders in July were estimated at \$9.38 billion, up 1.0% from the previous month.

Total inventory owned (seasonally adjusted) was 1.9% higher at \$12.76 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments dropped back to 1.90:1 in July from 1.94:1 in June, while the finished products — to shipments ratio was 0.61:1 as compared with 0.64:1.

Manufacturers' shipments in the latest month, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$6.72 billion, an increase of 4.3% from the revised June value of \$6.44 billion.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in July at \$6.35 billion were up 24.9% from a year earlier. Shipments for the first seven months of 1974 totalled \$44.47 billion, up 21.2% from \$36.70 billion in January-July 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED SEPTEMBER 12 - 18

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
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Shorn Wool Production, 1974	23-204	35¢	1972 CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES -		
The Dairy Review, July 1974	23-001	40¢/\$4	Canvas Products Manufacturers	34-202-p	
			Fur Goods Industry	34-213-p	
			Hat and Cap Industry	34-218-p	
			Men's Clothing Contractors	34-216-p	
			Other Knitting Mills	34-215-p	
			Plastics Fabricating Industry	47-208-p	
			Shoe Factories	33-203-p	\$3.50
			Wool Yarn and Cloth Mills	34-209-p	for series
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS					
Security Transactions With Non-residents, May 1974	67-002	40¢/\$4			
CENSUS					
Occupations - Occupations by Sex, for Canada and Provinces, 1971 Census of Canada	94-717	\$1.05	SERVICE BULLETINS		
Appendix of Occupational Codes	94-727	50¢	Electrical Products - Vol. 3, No. 10, Domestic Water Tank Heaters, July 1974	43-007	\$1.40 per year
Quarterly Estimates of Population for Canada and Provinces, July 1974	91-001	35¢	Energy Statistics - Vol. 9, No. 75, Salient Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Statistics, May 1974	57-002	\$4.20 per year
Summary of Family Characteristics, 1971 Census of Canada	93-748	35¢	Fabricated Metal Products - Vol. 2, No. 7, July 1974: Sanitaryware; Vol. 3, No. 7, July 1974: Builders and Shelf Hard- ware; Domestic and Farm Water Systems; Oil Filters and Cartridges	41-009	\$2.80 per year
CONSTRUCTION			Fruit and Vegetable Preservation - Vol. 3, No. 11, 1974 Pack of Frozen Fruits and Vegetables as Reported up to the End of July 1974	32-023	\$1.40 per year
Housing Starts and Completions, July 1974	64-002	40¢/\$4)	Tobacco and Tobacco Products - Vol. 3, No. 9, Production and Distribution of Tobacco Products, July 1974	32-022	\$1.40 per year
The Mechanical Contracting Industry, 1972	64-204	\$1.40			
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			Restaurant Statistics, July 1974	63-011	15¢/\$1.50
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Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, June 1974	61-005	40¢/\$4	SERVICE BULLETINS		
LABOUR			Construction Price Statistics - Vol. 3,		
Employment Earnings and Hours, February 1974	72-002	55¢/\$5.50	No. 13, Price Indexes for Chemical and Mineral Process Plant and for Machinery and Equipment, March 1974;		
Estimates of Labour Income, June 1974	72-005	40¢/\$4	Vol. 3, No. 16, Price Indexes of Machinery and Equipment, April, May and June, 1974		
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			Retail Prices and Living Costs - Vol. 3, No. 3, Additional Consumer Price Index Weighting Diagrams, 1973		
Asphalt Roofing, July 1974	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	62-006		
Cement, July 1974	44-001	15¢/\$1.50	\$4.20 per year		
Clay Products Manufacturers (From Domestic Clays), 1972	44-215	70¢			
Coal and Coke Statistics, June 1974	45-002	40¢/\$4			
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, June 1974	31-001	55¢/\$5.50			
Iron Ore, July 1974	26-005	15¢/\$1.50	PUBLIC FINANCE		
Mineral Wool, July 1974	44-004	15¢/\$1.50	Federal Government Employment, January - March 1974		
Oil Burners and Oil-fired Hot Water Heaters, July 1974	41-008	15¢/\$1.50	72-004		
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Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, August 1974	41-002	15¢/\$1.50	Communications - Vol. 4, No. 18, Monthly Survey of Radio Broadcasting Stations, April 1974		
			56-001		
			\$1.40 per year		