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September 6, 1974

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New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales of new motor vehicles reached 113,396 units in July, up 27.0% from a year earlier. Total sales value rose 39.5% to \$34.1 million.

Sales of passenger cars produced in Canada and the United States increased 27.2% to 71,906 units; those of overseas-manufactured automobiles dropped 12.9% to 13,806 units.

Commercial vehicle sales in July rose 63.5% from a year earlier to 27,684 units; included were 25,891 manufactured in Canada and the United States (up 70.9%) and 1,793 manufactured overseas (up 0.7%).

For the first seven months of 1974, sales of new motor vehicles reached 799,841 units with an accumulated value of \$3.74 billion. This represents an increase of 4.3% in units and 13.2% in value over sales for the January-July 1973 period.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact Michael Kwilecki (613-996-9278), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 231.9 in July, an increase of 1.8% from the previous month's level and up 15.3% from a year earlier.

The materials component of the total index rose 21.3% over the twelve months from July 1973; the labour element moved up 10.7%.

Prices of steel and metal work used in non-residential building construction climbed 36.8% during this period, electrical equipment rose 25.2%, plumbing, heating and other equipment 20.9%, concrete products 12.5%, lumber and lumber products 1.7% and other materials 21.9%.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Construction Price Statistics Service Bulletin* (62-006, \$4.20 a year), or contact R.J. Lowe (613-996-2565), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June	177.28P	175.33P	10.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	6,317P	6,157P	15.3
Persons with Jobs (million)	July	9.68	9.40	4.8
Unemployed	July	465,000	469,000	0.9
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	June	1,244	1,360	24.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	June	12,389P	12,152P	27.1
Wholesale (\$ million)	June	5,649	5,366	28.4
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	June	6,775P	7,154P	18.9
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	June	9,154P	9,045P	48.7
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	July	168.0	166.7	11.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	June	169.3	167.9P	20.1
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	June	452.3	453.3P	23.0
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	May	1,153P	3,867	27.1
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	June	19,528	91,016	-1.3
ENERGY				
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	June	20.9	142.0	8.1
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)	June	128.3	856.0	-5.8
Steel (ingots - thousand tons)	July	1,206	8,447	-0.9
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	378	2,511	19.3
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	June	6,666P	38,089	20.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	July	534	3,735	13.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	June	3,761	20,437	13.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	June	3,939	21,097	30.5

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

Canada's Gross National Product (GNP)



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

Gross National Product (GNP)

Preliminary estimates of the National Income and Expenditure Accounts indicate that the Canadian economy may have entered a period of weakness common to industrialized nations of the world. Extraordinary price increases were a dominant feature while final domestic demand in real terms showed little change from the first-quarter level, reflecting weakness in all major components.

Canada's Gross National Product (at market prices) grew by 3.6% in the quarter to reach a level of \$137.6 billion, seasonally adjusted at annual rates.

The current dollar increase, however, came entirely from higher prices with the result that Gross National Expenditure in real terms remained unchanged in the quarter.

There was a softening in the external sector that resulted in a 4% decline in the volume of exports of goods and services — more than twice the decline in imports. However, non-farm business inventories showed a third consecutive large quarterly accumulation and government spending on goods and services in real terms was a source of strength in the second quarter.

Other highlights:

- Business investment in fixed capital goods slowed to a 2.5% rise with strikes in the construction industry contributing significantly to the slowdown. The lower rate of investment was accompanied by a price rise of 5.7%, resulting in a 3.0% decline in real terms.
- Residential construction rose by 8.3% in value terms, but by less than 1% in volume. The increase resulted from a large carry-over of work started in the first quarter, as there was a decline in housing starts in the latest quarter.

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Building Permits, June

Consumer Price Movements, August

General Wholesale Price Index, July

Retail Trade, July

The Labour Force, August

- Consumer spending on goods and services showed an increase of 3.5% — a deceleration from the strong rate of advance registered in the previous quarter — the deceleration occurring in all categories of goods. In volume terms, the overall gain in consumer spending was 0.6%, down from 2.0% in the first quarter.
- Total labour income rose by 3.3% in the second quarter, following a 4.7% advance in the previous quarter. Time lost due to industrial disputes in the second quarter along with irregularly-high retroactive payments and higher rates of employer contributions to various social security schemes in the first quarter were major factors in the deceleration in the rate of growth.
- Corporation profits (before taxes) showed an advance of 7.0% following a 6.6% increase in the first quarter. A significant part of this gain was due to inventory gains resulting from the turn-over of goods at rising prices.
- Accrued net income of farm operators from farm production jumped 26.7% during the latest quarter, reaching an annual level of \$4.92 billion.

For further information, order *National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Second Quarter 1974* (13-001, \$1.05/\$4.20).

Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales in July at \$378.3 million showed a rise of 21.3% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions.

Department store sales by regions in the latest month, with percentage increases from July 1973:

- Ontario, \$143.5 million (21.7%); Quebec, \$69.9 million (23.6%); British Columbia, \$61.9 million (18.4%); Alberta, \$45.3 million (23.2%); the Atlantic provinces, \$24.4 million (20.3%); Manitoba, \$23.9 million (12.9%); and Saskatchewan, \$9.3 million (37.1%).

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.50 a year).

Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems reported net operating revenue of \$66.5 million in June, an increase of 10.6% from June 1973.

Gross operating revenues of the thirteen major telephone companies rose 13.7% to \$194.5 million in the latest month; operating expenses were up 15.4% to \$128.0 million.

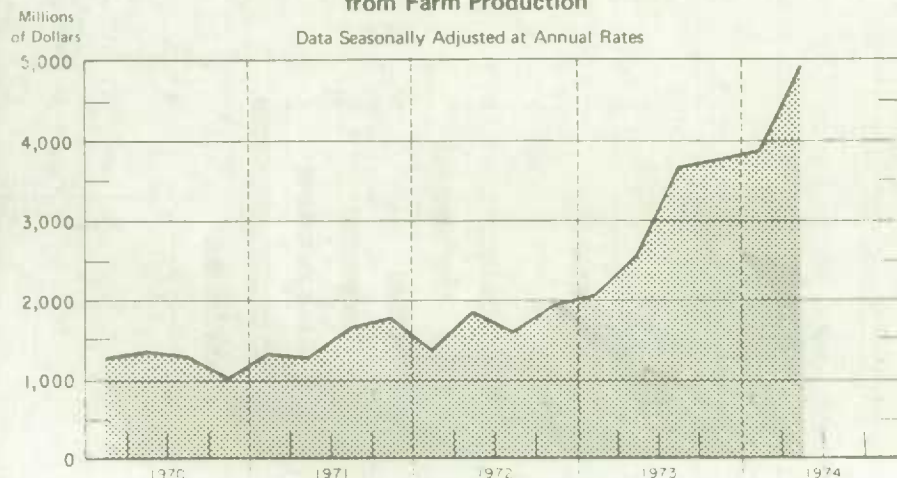
Construction expenditures of the firms in June increased 71.4% from a year earlier to \$116.7 million.

A total of 11.6 million telephones were reported in service at the end of the month compared with 10.8 million in June 1973.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 a year), Vol. 4, No. 15, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, June 1974.

Accrued Net Income of Farm Operators from Farm Production

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

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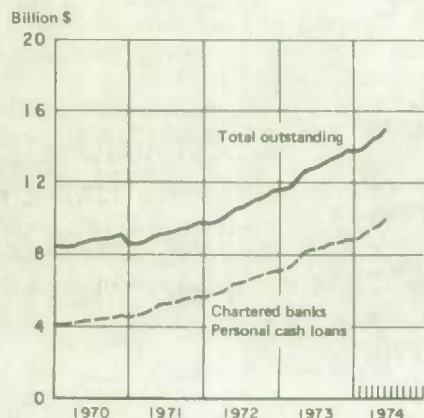
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Consumer Credit

Outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly



Source: Consumer Credit (61-004)

Coal and Coke Statistics

Coal production in June at 1.52 million tons showed a decrease of 5.2% from June 1973. Imports dropped to 2.11 million tons from 2.17 million tons.

For further information, order the June 1974 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or *Energy Service Bulletin* (57-002, \$4.20 a year), or contact D.F. Heney (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

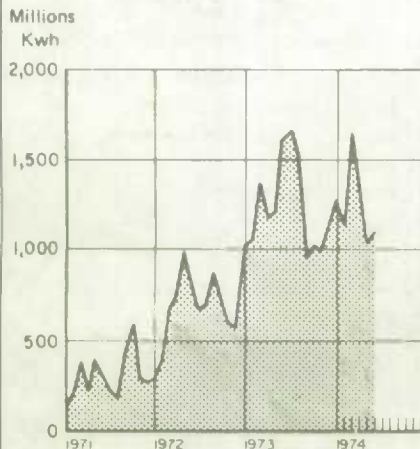
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production for May amounted to 1.83 million barrels per day, down 2.1% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 8.98 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, a decrease of 2.8% from May 1973.

For further information, order the May 1974 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3).

Canadian Net Exports of Electric Power



Source: Electric Power Statistics (57-001)

Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1974, Mid-Year Review

Capital spending by all sectors of the Canadian economy in 1974 now is estimated at \$31.6 billion, up 21% from the level of outlays of \$26.1 billion for 1973 on new buildings, machinery and equipment.

(The estimate is in current dollar terms, without adjustment for price increases. It is based on surveys of investment intention during May, June and early July, updating earlier estimates based on a survey completed last January.)

Within the total for 1974, expenditures on new construction are expected to advance by nearly 20% to \$20.3 billion. Non-residential construction spending is projected at \$13.6 billion, an increase of almost 24% from last year's total. For new housing, the expectation is for spending to reach \$6.7 billion, up nearly 13% from the 1973 level.

Planned acquisition of new machinery and equipment is to expand at a faster pace — up by 23% to a total of \$11.3 billion.

Planned outlays for the business sector (excluding housing) of \$19.5 billion incorporate an increase of 25% from the \$15.6 billion spent in 1973. In manufacturing, a significant expansion in capital spending of some 38% is envisaged for this year following upon the 19% increase attained in 1973.

Spending by government departments is expected to be 21% higher than in 1973. Institutional spending is expected to rise only 2%, with a reduction for universities offsetting most of the increase for hospitals and other institutions.

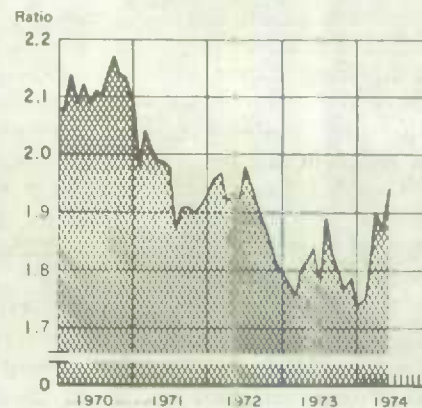
All regions expect increased capital expenditures in 1974. Following are the gains expected compared with 1973:

- New Brunswick, 50%; Saskatchewan, 26%; Alberta, 24%; Quebec, 22%; British Columbia, 21%; Ontario, 19%; Manitoba, 18%; Yukon and Northwest Territories, 15%; Nova Scotia, 12%; Newfoundland, 9%; and Prince Edward Island, 3%.

For further information, order *Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1974, Mid-Year Review* (61-206, 50¢).

Ratio of Manufacturing Inventories Owned to Shipments

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001)

Iron Ore

Canadian mines shipped 5.88 million tons of iron ore in July, down 2.1% from a year earlier. Output for the first seven months of 1974 totalled 26.53 million tons compared with 26.86 million tons shipped in January-July 1973.

For further information, order the July 1974 issue of *Iron Ore* (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50).

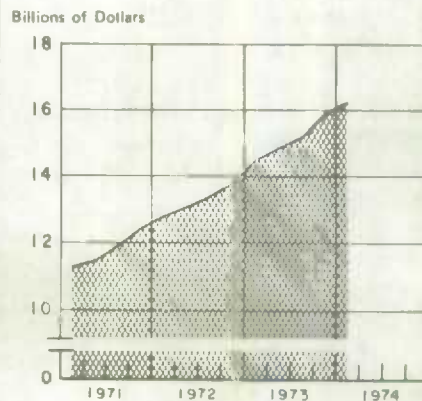
Diesel Engine Sales, 1973

There were 20,787 diesel engines valued at \$176.2 million sold to all types of end-users in Canada during 1973. In addition, there were 11,026 diesel engines with a value of \$55.8 million exported in the latest year.

For further information, order *Diesel and Natural Gas Engine Sales, 1973* (63-221, 70¢/), or contact Wholesale Trade Section (613-996-9307), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Trusted Pension Plans

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held



Source: Quarterly Survey of Trusted Pensions Plans (74-001)

THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 4

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Contracted Acreages of Process- ing Vegetable Crops, 1974	22-003	\$1.40 for series	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, June 1974	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
Dairy Factory Production, July 1974	32-002	\$1.50 per year	Salt, July 1974	26-009	15¢/\$1.50
First Forecast of the Commer- cial Production of all Fruits, 1974	22-003	\$1.40 for series	Selected Meat and Meat Prepara- tions, June 1974	32-020	15¢/\$1.50
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CONSTRUCTION					
Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1974, Mid-year Review	61-206	50¢	32-218-p-1	\$3.50 for series	
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Estimated Population of Canada by Province at June 1, 1974	91-201	35¢	SERVICE BULLETINS Electrical Products – Vol. 3, No. 8, Electric Lamps, March 1974		
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Summary of Foreign Trade, June 1974	65-001	15¢/\$1.50	41-009	\$2.80 per year	
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Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, July 1974	32-001	15¢/\$1.50	Selected Dairy By-Products – Vol. 3, No. 14, Production and Inventory of Instant Dry Skim Milk Powder, July 1974		
Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, June 1974	24-002	40¢/\$4	32-024	\$1.40 per year	
Oil Pipe Line Transport, May 1974	55-001	30¢/\$3	47-001	\$1.40 per year	
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51-004					
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56-001					
Railway Transport – Vol. 4, No. 14, Railway Carloadings, July 1974					
52-004					