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Weekly Bulletin

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

(1971=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.2% to 141.5 in September from 141.2 in August, reflecting a distinctly slower rate of rise than in the three preceding summer months. Lower food prices contributed to this deceleration along with a somewhat less rapid rise in the index for all-items excluding food, which moved up 0.7%.

A 0.7% decrease in the food index was largely attributable to seasonally lower quotations for fresh produce, vegetables in particular; also contributing to this decline were lower prices for beef and for bakery products. But pork prices continued to climb, rising a further 6.5% in September to a level 42% above that of a year earlier, and poultry prices also increased.

Higher energy prices — for fuel oil and gasoline in certain provinces, as well as advances in electricity and domestic gas rates in several cities — provided the major impetus behind the latest month's 0.7% rise in the index for all-items excluding food.

Between September 1974 and September 1975, the All-Items Consumer Price Index advanced 10.6%.

During this period, the following component index increases were recorded:

- Food, 13.1%; transportation, 12.5%; tobacco and alcohol, 12.4%; health and personal care, 11.6%; housing, 9.6%; recreation, education and reading, 9.3%; and clothing, 4.7%.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the all-items index rose 0.6% between August and September. The current annual rate of change in the CPI, based on the seasonally-adjusted movement since three months earlier, was 10.2%, considerably lower than the rates registered more recently.

For further information, order the September 1975 issue of *Consumer Price Movements* (62-001, 30¢/\$3).

Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales in August rose to \$460.6 million, up 14.2% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions of Canada.

Department store sales by region for the latest month, with percentage increases over August 1974 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$168.3 million (15.2%); Quebec, \$84.1 million (17.8%); British Columbia, \$76.5 million (12.0%); Alberta, \$60.2 million (11.2%); Atlantic Provinces, \$30.4 million (17.3%); Manitoba, \$27.8 million (6.1%); and Saskatchewan, \$13.1 million (15.5%).

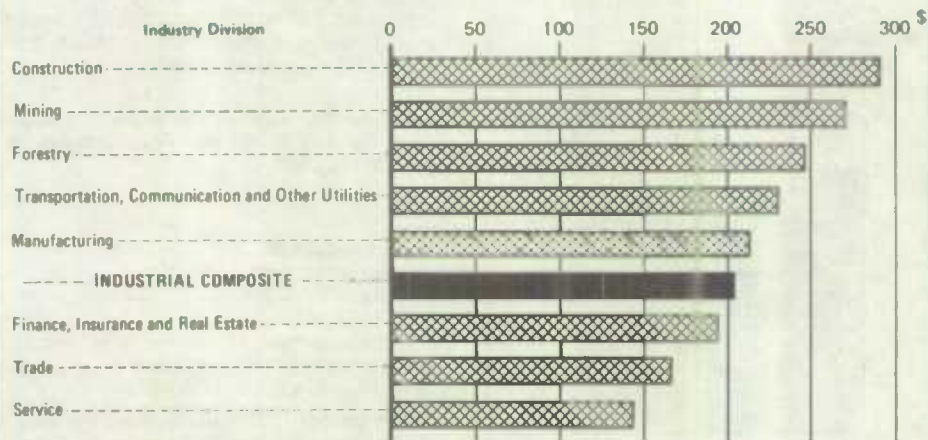
For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.50 per year).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	204.27p	203.16p	13.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	7,335p	7,403p	14.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Aug.	9.78	9.83	0.8
Unemployed	Aug.	623,000	653,000	39.4
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	July*	1,354	1,310	3.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	15,046p	15,215r	16.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	July	6,515	6,611	16.0
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	6,802p	7,236r	2.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	9,771p	9,918r	-0.6
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.*	141.5	141.2	10.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Aug.*	193.6	192.0r	10.1
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Aug.*	499.4	490.2	6.1
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	June	950.7	4,557	-3.0
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug.*	17,530	101,108	-17.1
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	June	2,348	13,796	23.5
Electricity Generation (billion kwh.)	July	20.3	160.2	-1.9
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	May	275.3	1,463.3	-1.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	50.4	310.2	-4.1
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports (\$ million)	Aug.	2,262	21,164	1.9
Imports (\$ million)	Aug.	2,563	22,776	13.0
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Aug.*	85.1	897.5	-12.5
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Aug.	1,063	9,658	-0.6
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug.*	460.6	3,287	12.4
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	6,450p	48,534	6.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.*	554.0	4,676	10.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	4,253	26,991	10.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July	4,076	25,846	3.7

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised. * - new this week.

Average Weekly Earnings in Canadian Industry (July 1975*)



* First Estimates

Source: Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002)

New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales of new motor vehicles totalled 99,253 units in August, down 5.1% from a year earlier. Total sales value increased 11.9% to \$554.0 million.

Sales of passenger cars produced in Canada and the United States decreased 7.3% to 59,034 units while those of overseas-manufactured automobiles increased 2.0% to 14,076 units.

Commercial vehicle sales in August declined 3.6% from a year earlier to 26,143 units; included were 24,791 manufactured in Canada and the U.S. (down 2.5%) and 1,352 manufactured overseas (down 20.1%).

For the first eight months of 1975, total sales of new motor vehicles reached 865,210 units with an accumulated value of \$4.68 billion. This represents a decrease of 4.3% in units but an increase of 10.6% in value compared with sales for January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact Michael Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Iron Ore

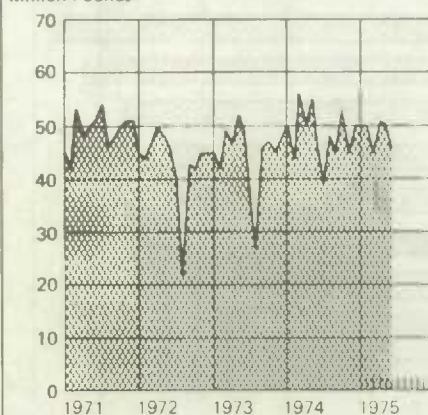
Canadian mines shipped 4.41 million tons of iron ore in August compared with 4.85 million tons a year earlier.

Cumulative output for the first eight months of 1975 at 28.57 million tons was down 8.9% from 31.38 million tons in January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Iron Ore* (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Nickel* Production, Canada

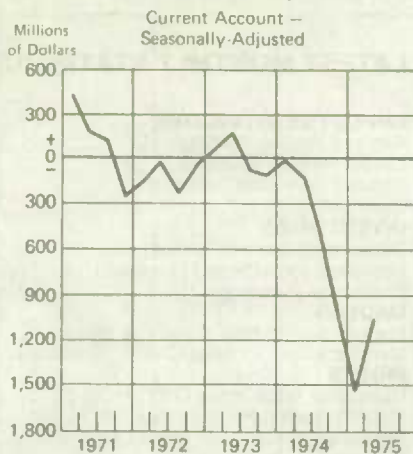
Million Pounds



* Refined nickel and nickel in oxide produced plus recoverable nickel in matte exported

Source: Copper and Nickel Production (26-003)

Canadian Balance of International Payments



Source: Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments (67 001)

General Wholesale Index (1935-39=100)

The general wholesale price index advanced 1.9% in August to 499.4 from 490.2 in July to stand 6.1% higher than the August 1974 level of 470.6. Six of the eight major group indexes increased while two decreased.

The vegetable products group index rose 8.4% in August due mainly to higher prices for potatoes (up 29.8%), tea, coffee and cocoa (up 23.8%), sugar and its products (up 20.9%), grains (up 10.2%) and vegetable oil products (up 10.0%). The non-metallic minerals group index rose 1.2% as prices increased 17.3% for asphalt, 6.1% for coal tar and 2.3% for petroleum and its products.

Over the 12 months from August 1974, the following percentage changes were recorded for the major group indexes:

- Wood products, 14.3%; chemical products, 13.2%; non-metallic minerals, 13.1%; animal products, 11.0%; iron products, 10.9%; vegetable products, -0.5%; non-ferrous metals, -2.9%; and textile products, -7.3%.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).

Gold Production

Production of gold increased to 127,266 troy ounces in August from 117,789 troy ounces a year earlier.

Gold production for the first eight months of 1975 at 1,076,871 troy ounces showed a drop of 3.4% from January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 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.

Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland totalled an estimated \$6.87 billion in the January to August period of 1975, up 7.8% from \$6.38 billion in the first eight months of 1974.

Total payments made to farmers in the latest period, by province and with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Saskatchewan, \$2.04 billion (\$1.87 billion); Ontario, \$1.64 billion (\$1.54 billion); Alberta, \$1.38 billion (\$1.22 billion); Quebec, \$812.0 million (\$728.9 million); Manitoba, \$587.0 million (\$583.5 million); British Columbia, \$231.5 million (\$221.4 million); Nova Scotia, \$74.3 million (\$67.2 million); New Brunswick, \$59.1 million (\$72.5 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$49.4 million (\$63.7 million).

For further information, order the January-August issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact E.S. Boyko (613-994-9876), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

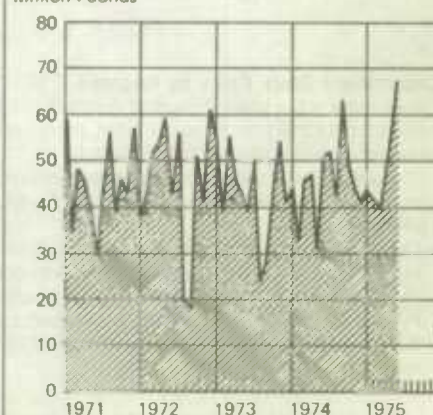
Crude petroleum production for June amounted to 1.58 million barrels per day, down 13.5% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 8.84 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, an increase of 2.3% from June 1974.

For further information, order the June 1975 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3), or contact G. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Exports of Nickel*

Million Pounds

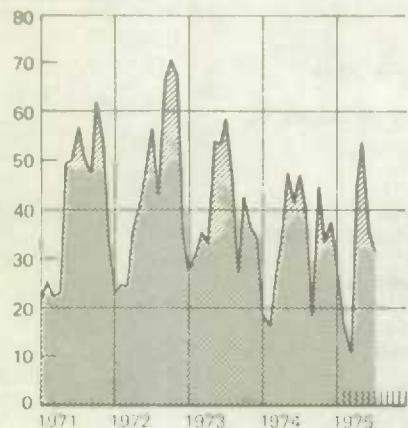


* Includes nickel in matte or speiss, oxide and fine

Source: Exports by Commodities (65-004)

Canadian Exports of Wheat (and wheat flour*)

Millions of Bushels



* In Terms of Wheat equivalent

Source: The Wheat Review (22-005)

Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index (1961=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada rose to 256.7 in August, an increase of 1.4% from the July level and up 9.3% from a year earlier.

The materials component of the total index advanced 3.3% over the 12 months from August 1974; labour costs increased 14.2%.

Prices of concrete products used in non-residential building construction jumped 18.4% during this period and plumbing, heating and other equipment increased 0.6%. But price declines were recorded for: electrical equipment, -5.7%; steel and metal work, -1.4%; and lumber and lumber products, -1.1%. Other materials increased 10.3%.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin* (62-007, \$4 per year).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, August

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, September

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, August

Real Domestic Product, August

Retail Trade, August

The Labour Force, September

Wholesale Trade, August

Major Appliance Sales

Sales of stoves and television sets declined, but Canadian manufacturers' domestic sales in August of other major appliances ran well above year-earlier levels.

Major appliance sales recorded by these manufacturers in the latest month, with percentage changes from August 1974 in brackets:

- Refrigerators, 45,101 (up 11.7%); home and farm freezers, 38,843 (up 104.8%);
- Stoves and ranges, 32,997 (-8.3%);
- Automatic washing machines, 28,302 (up 31.9%); electric and gas clothes dryers, 25,009 (up 8.9%);
- Television sets, 37,709 (-36.2%).

Manufacturers' sales in August of 34,519 Canadian-made colour television sets represented a decrease of 17.4% from a year earlier; black-and-white set sales dropped to 3,190 units from 17,272.

For further information, order the August 1975 issues of: *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, 15¢/\$1.50); *Stoves and Furnaces* (41-005, 30¢/\$3); *Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers* (43-002, 15¢/\$1.50); and *Radio and Television Receiving Sets* (43-004, 30¢/\$3).

Industry Selling Price Index: Manufacturing (1961=100)

The industry selling price index for total manufacturing rose to 193.6 in August, an increase of 0.8% from July and up 10.1% from a year earlier.

The food and beverages group index increased 1.5% in the latest month, reflecting price advances of 19.2% for sugar refineries, 4.6% for poultry processors and 2.8% for feed manufacturers. Price increases in the petroleum refining industry (5.0%) were mainly responsible for moving the petroleum and coal products group up 4.9%.

Over the 12 months from August 1974, the largest price increases were shown by the following group indexes:

- Non-metallic mineral products industries, 17.3%; chemical and chemical products industries, 13.7%; paper and allied industries, 13.6%; and petroleum and coal products industries, 10.9%.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).

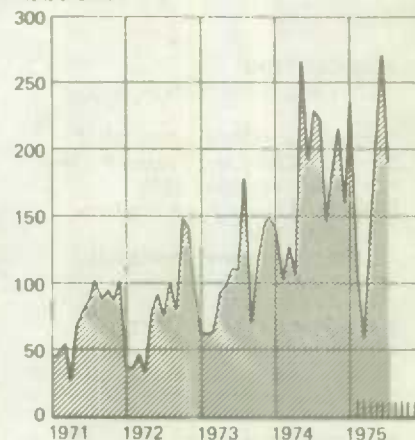
Asbestos

Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos dropped to 78,002 tons in August from 172,862 tons a year earlier. This brought year-to-date shipments in 1975 to 691,987 tons, down 42.5% from January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Asbestos* (26-001, 15¢/\$1.50).

Canadian Exports of Wheat (and wheat flour)

Millions of Dollars



Source: Exports by Commodities (65-004)

Housing Starts

New residential construction activity increased in August with housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over rising 18.0% to 17,530 units from 14,857 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with August 1974 figures in brackets: Ontario, 5,873 (6,731); Quebec, 4,764 (3,659); British Columbia, 2,453 (1,446); Alberta, 1,658 (674); Saskatchewan, 868 (404); Manitoba, 747 (632); New Brunswick, 499 (664); Newfoundland, 408 (336); Nova Scotia, 228 (300); and Prince Edward Island, 32 (11).

For the first eight months of 1975, housing starts in urban centres totalled 101,108 units, down 17.1% from 121,968 in January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Housing Starts and Completions* (64-002, 40¢/\$4).

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Index of Farm Production, 1974	21-203	35¢	Sporting Goods and Toy Industries, 1973	47-204	70¢
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, September 1975	32-009	30¢/\$3	SERVICE BULLETINS		
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, September 1975	32-012	30¢/\$3	Electrical Products — Vol. 4, No. 15, Factory Shipments of Electric Motors and Parts, 1974		
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, September 1, 1975	32-010	30¢/\$3	43-007 / \$1.40		
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS			Fabricated Metal Products — Vol. 4, August 1975: No. 38, Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools; No. 39, Builders and Shelf Hardware		
Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, Second Quarter 1975	67-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	41-009 / \$2.80		
BUSINESS FINANCE			Selected Dairy By-Products — Vol. 4, August 1975: No. 15, Production and Inventory of Instant Dry Milk Powder; No. 16, Production and Inventory of Process Cheese		
Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1975	61-003	\$1.75/\$7	32-024 / \$1.40		
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Building Permits, June 1975	64-001	55¢/\$5.50	32-022 / \$1.40		
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Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies, First Quarter 1975	71-002	\$1.05/\$4.20	Department Store Sales by Regions, August 1975		
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			63-004 / \$1.50		
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, July 1975	33-003	15¢/\$1.50	Department Store Sales and Stocks, July 1975		
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Hardboard, August 1975	36-001	15¢/\$1.50	Merchandising Inventories, July 1975		
Jewellery and Silverware Industry, 1973	47-211	70¢	63-014 40¢/\$4		
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Miscellaneous Food Preparations, Quarter Ended June 30, 1975	32-018	35¢/\$1.40	63-204 / \$1.05		
Miscellaneous Paper Converters, 1973	36-206	70¢	PRICES		
Motor Vehicle Shipments, August 1975	42-002	15¢/\$1.50	Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin, September 1975		
Selected Meat and Meat Preparations, July 1975	32-020	15¢/\$1.50	62-007 40¢/\$4		
			Prices and Price Indexes, April 1975		
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