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Weekly Bulletin

Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$205.60 in August were up 13.1% from \$181.73 a year earlier.

First estimates show that (unadjusted) average weekly earnings (by province) were highest in British Columbia (\$230.44), followed by Alberta (\$211.81), Ontario (\$207.03), Quebec (\$201.67), Newfoundland (\$198.08), Saskatchewan (\$191.01), Manitoba (\$190.28), New Brunswick (\$182.74), Nova Scotia (\$173.86) and Prince Edward Island (\$152.45).

Average weekly earnings in August (by industry division) were as follows: construction, \$298.22; mining, \$275.82; forestry, \$236.46; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$233.53; manufacturing, \$213.86; finance, insurance and real estate, \$194.50; trade, \$164.29; and service, \$145.23.

Compared with August 1974, average hourly earnings were up 16.9% in construction, 16.1% in mining and 14.6% in manufacturing.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 70¢/\$7), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes rose in 10 of the 14 regional cities in September while reflecting a general deceleration in the recent upward trend of prices. Movements ranged from a decline of 0.3% in Saint John to a 1.3% increase in Regina.

This general deceleration was mainly attributable to decreases in the food index as a result of seasonally-lower prices for fresh produce, vegetables in particular. Higher shelter charges for both owned and rented accommodation, as well as increased charges for energy — for fuel oil and gasoline in certain provinces, and electricity and domestic gas rates in a number of cities — were main contributing factors to the overall advances. Other notable price increases were registered for clothing and household appliances.

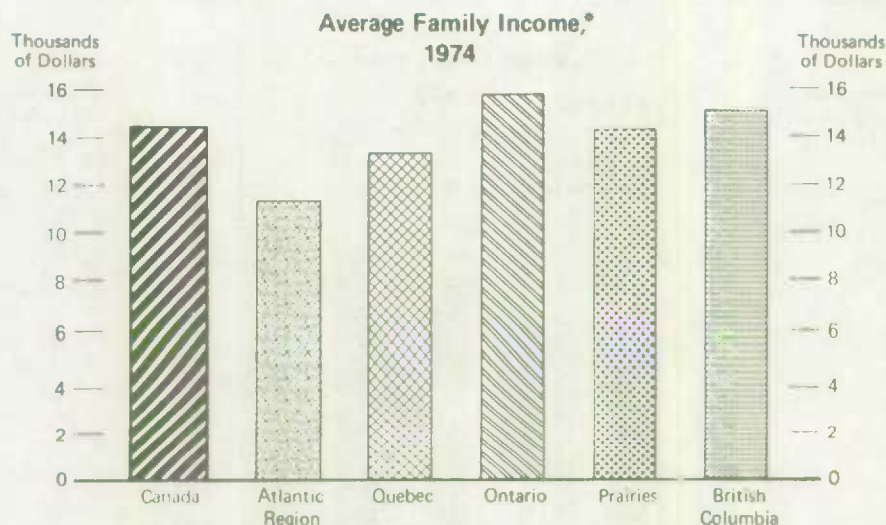
Between September 1974 and September 1975, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities with increases recorded as follows: St. John's, 12.4%; Winnipeg, 12.2%; Calgary, 12.1%; Saint John, 12.0%; Saskatoon, 11.6%; Regina, 11.2%; Edmonton, 11.2%; Montreal, 11.2%; Vancouver, 10.9%; Quebec City, 10.7%; Toronto, 10.2%; Thunder Bay, 9.9%; Ottawa, 9.7%; and Halifax, 9.5%.

For further information, order the September 1975 issue of *Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities* (62-009, 30¢/\$3).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug.* 205.60p	205.07p	13.1
Labour Income (\$ million)	July 7,335p	7,403p	14.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept. 9.41	9.78	2.1
Unemployed	Sept. 586,000	623,000	36.0
INVENTORIES			
Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.* 1,452	1,354	6.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug. 15,064p	15,024r	13.1
Wholesale (\$ million)	Aug.* 6,365	6,515	11.3
ORDERS			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug. 6,899p	6,670r	1.8
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug. 9,844p	9,704r	-2.8
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)	July* 924.7p	5,482	-0.7
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug. 17,530	101,108	-17.1
ENERGY			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	July 2,070	15,865	25.6
Electricity Generation (billion kwh.)	Aug. 20.7	180.9	-2.2
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	May 275.3	1,463.3	-1.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Aug.* 52.9	416.0	-3.7
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)	Sept.* 1,009	10,664	-2.6
SALES			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug. 460.6	3,287	12.4
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug. 6,759p	55,183	6.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug. 554.0	4,676	10.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Aug.* 4,277	31,279	10.5
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Aug.* 3,571	29,416	3.0

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



Source: Income Distributions by Size in Canada (113-206)

* Preliminary estimates — includes all money income before taxes or other deductions and does not take inflation into account.

Index of Industrial Production (1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production increased 0.5% in August to 209.6 from 208.7 in July.

Total manufacturing output rose 0.5% in the latest month; durables manufacturing increased 1.0% while non-durables manufacturing was off 0.1%.

Mining production increased 1.2% in August; utilities' output fell 0.3%.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4).

Domestic Mobile Homes

Shipments of domestic mobile homes decreased to 2,782 single units in the second quarter of 1975 from 7,109 in April-June 1974. Shipments of double-wide units fell to 431 from 1,511.

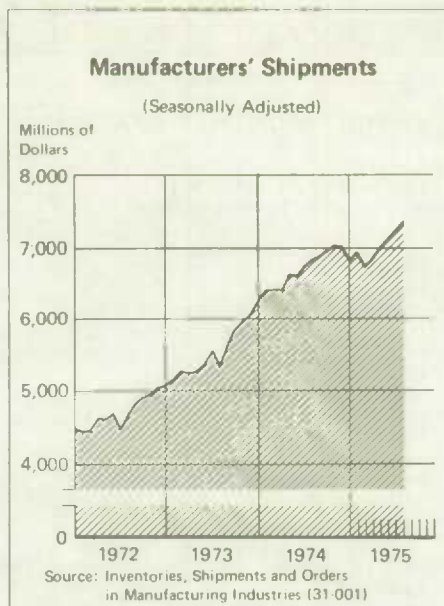
For further information, order *Fabricated Metal Products Service Bulletin* (41-009, \$2.80 per year), or contact J.S. More (613-992-0388), *Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6*.

Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$203.6 million of retail finance paper in August, a decrease of 2.5% from a year earlier.

The latest month's total comprised \$60.1 million for passenger cars, \$24.5 million for other consumer goods, \$69.4 million for commercial vehicles and \$49.7 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3).

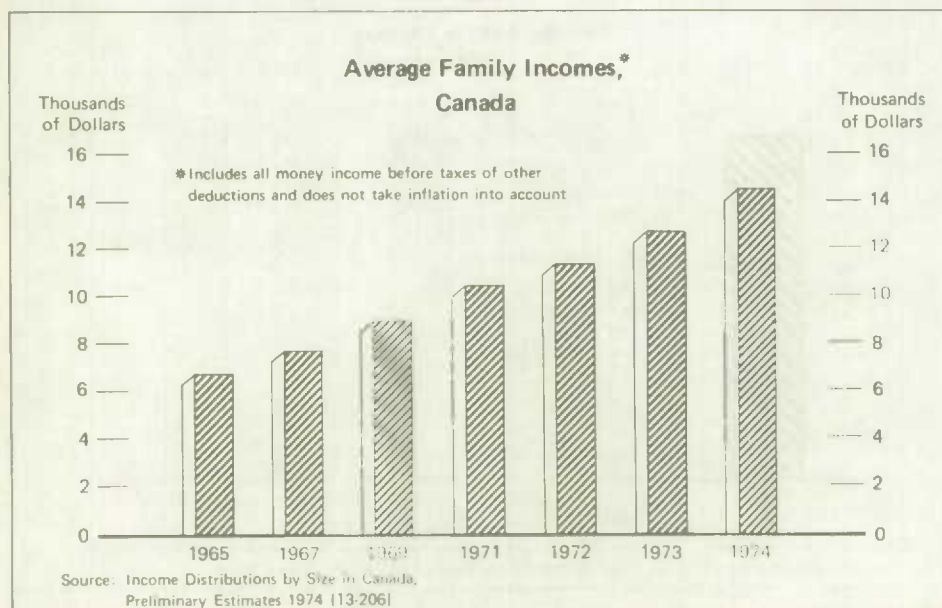


Aggregate Productivity Measures, 1970-74

Output per man-hour for all commercial industries decreased 0.5% in 1974 — the first drop in productivity in 15 years, and following two years of successively smaller increases.

The decline in output per man-hour, along with a large increase in labour compensation rates, resulted in a 12.6% increase in unit labour cost during 1974. For manufacturing industries, output per man-hour declined 0.3% and unit labour cost increased 11.6%.

For further information, order *Aggregate Productivity Measures, 1946-1974* (14-201, \$1.05), or contact Mrs. A. Brownlee (613-995-8261), *Input-Output Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.



Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in July totalled \$924.7 million, up 12.3% from \$823.5 million a year earlier.

Higher totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$574.7 million (\$393.9 million a year earlier) and institutional and governmental permits at \$108.4 million (\$59.5 million). Commercial building permits declined to \$160.7 million from \$189.1 million and industrial building permits dropped to \$81.0 million from \$181.1 million.

Building permits taken out in July, by province and with July 1974 figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$405.0 million (\$325.3 million); Quebec, \$146.8 million (\$111.6 million); Alberta, \$110.0 million (\$161.0 million); British Columbia, \$108.4 million (\$116.9 million); Saskatchewan, \$44.9 million (\$21.9 million); Nova Scotia, \$38.1 million (\$27.4 million); Manitoba, \$31.6 million (\$22.2 million); New Brunswick, \$27.6 million (\$26.2 million); Prince Edward Island, \$6.8 million (\$4.8 million); and Newfoundland, \$5.1 million (\$5.8 million).

Cumulatively, building permits taken out in Canada in the first seven months of 1975 totalled \$5.48 billion, down 0.7% from \$5.52 billion in January-July 1974.

For further information, order the July 1975 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

Refined Petroleum Products

Canadian refineries produced 52.9 million barrels of refined petroleum products in August, up 1.0% from a year earlier.

Net sales of refined petroleum products at 44.3 million barrels in the latest month showed a decrease of 2.1% from August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, 40¢/\$4), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), *Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6*.

Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems reported net operating revenue of \$77.8 million in August, an increase of 17.3% from August 1974.

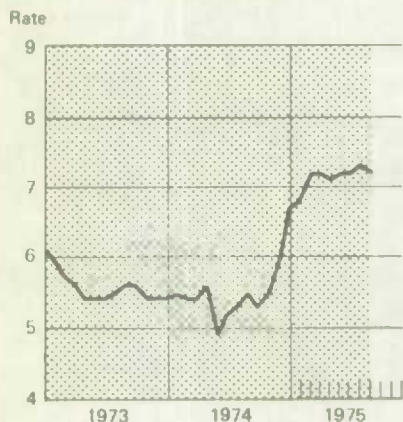
Gross operating revenues of the 13 major telephone companies rose 18.4% to \$237.0 million in the latest month; operating expenses increased 18.9% to \$159.2 million.

Construction expenditures of these firms at \$141.9 million in August showed an increase of 16.3% from a year earlier.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year), Vol. 5, No. 24, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, August 1975.

Unemployment Rate, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: The Labour Force (71-001)

Railway Operating Statistics

Canada's six major railways reported combined net income of \$8.9 million in August, up from \$4.8 million a year earlier. Operating revenues rose 11.8% to \$219.3 million while operating expenses increased 9.9% to \$210.4 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles declined 5.7% to 10.7 billion in the latest month.

During the first eight months of 1975, railway revenues rose 15.2% while expenses increased 15.3%. Cumulative net income at \$14.1 million in the latest period was virtually unchanged from January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Movements, October
 Department Store Sales by Regions, September
 General Wholesale Price Index, September
 Housing Starts and Completions, September
 New Motor Vehicle Sales, September
 Summary of Foreign Trade, September
 The Labour Force, October

Department Store Sales and Stocks

Department store sales rose to \$461.6 million in August, an increase of 14.4% from \$403.4 million in August 1974.

Sales rose in all 40 departments in the latest month; the largest gains were recorded by major appliances (29.4%) and women's and misses' coats and suits (29.3%).

All provinces reported increased sales over August 1974 with a high of 24.1% for New Brunswick. Sales were up 16.4% in Toronto, 14.8% in Montreal, 9.8% in Vancouver and 7.7% in Winnipeg.

Inventories held in August (at selling price) were valued at \$1.45 billion, up 6.8% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact B. Theriault (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in August were estimated at \$3.57 billion, down 1.9% from August 1974.

One of the most notable sales changes in the consumer goods trades was registered by the groceries and food specialties component, showing an increase of 8.6%. In the industrial goods trades, sales of farm machinery rose 18.8% from a year earlier.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$6.37 billion in the latest month, up 11.3% from August of last year.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 15¢/\$1.50).

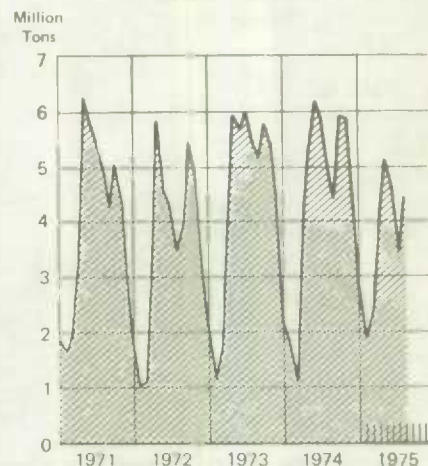
Vending Machine Operators, 1974

Vending machine operators reported total sales of \$227.4 million in 1974, an increase of 9.8% over 1973.

Included in the latest year's total were sales through the following vending machines: cigarette machines, \$105.4 million (up 5.7% from a year earlier); coffee machines, \$36.1 million (up 12.9%); soft drink machines, \$34.6 million (up 10.9%); packaged confectionery, pastry and snack food machines, \$21.2 million (up 17.8%); packaged milk and juice machines, \$7.5 million (up 15.4%); and hot canned food and soup machines, \$4.1 million (up 20.5%).

For further information, order *Vending Machine Operators, 1974* (63-213, 70¢), or contact Merchandising and Services Division (613-996-9304), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Canadian Producers' Shipments of Iron Ore



Source: Iron Ore (26-006)

Railway Transport, Part 1, 1974

Investments of railways in road and equipment property totalled \$9.20 billion at December 31, 1974, up from \$8.85 billion a year earlier.

Railways operated 44,266 miles of first main track (or route miles) in Canada at the close of 1974. Provincial mileage figures showed Ontario first with 9,847 route miles of track followed by Saskatchewan with 8,561 miles and Alberta with 6,227 miles.

The average carload was 49.14 tons in 1974 and average gross tons per train amounted to 3,906. The average length of haul was 471 miles.

For further information, order *Railway Transport, Part 1, 1974* (52-207, \$1.05), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

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