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Weekly Bulletin

Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$207.79 in September were up 12.7% from \$184.34 a year earlier.

First estimates show that (unadjusted) average weekly earnings (by province) were highest in British Columbia (\$235.14), followed by Alberta (\$215.53), Ontario (\$209.70), Quebec (\$202.93), Newfoundland (\$201.63), Manitoba (\$190.64), Saskatchewan (\$190.63), New Brunswick (\$183.10), Nova Scotia (\$175.51), and Prince Edward Island (\$154.98).

Average weekly earnings in September (by industry division) were as follows: construction, \$306.23; mining, \$286.77; forestry, \$240.40; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$232.95; manufacturing, \$217.46; finance, insurance and real estate, \$196.10; trade, \$163.96; and service, \$148.31.

Compared with September 1974, average hourly earnings were up 17.3% in construction, 18.4% in mining and 13.0% in manufacturing.

For further information, order the September 1975 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.

Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in September totalled \$935.8 million, up 7.6% from \$870.0 million a year earlier.

Lower totals were recorded in the latest month for commercial building permits at \$183.4 million (\$246.8 million in September 1974), industrial permits at \$78.3 million (\$145.2 million) and institutional and governmental permits at \$96.0 million (\$115.8 million). But the value of residential permits jumped to \$578.1 million from \$362.1 million.

Building permits taken out in September, by province and with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$363.6 million (\$382.4 million); Quebec, \$203.4 million (\$186.8 million); British Columbia, \$122.3 million (\$101.8 million); Alberta, \$110.9 million (\$101.1 million); Manitoba, \$36.4 million (\$23.3 million); Saskatchewan, \$34.3 million (\$30.7 million); Nova Scotia, \$26.5 million (\$19.9 million); New Brunswick, \$20.7 million (\$18.0 million); Prince Edward Island, \$7.9 million (\$2.5 million); and Newfoundland, \$4.8 million (\$3.2 million).

Cumulatively, building permits taken out in Canada in the first nine months of 1975 totalled \$7.51 billion, up 2.7% from \$7.31 billion in January-September 1974.

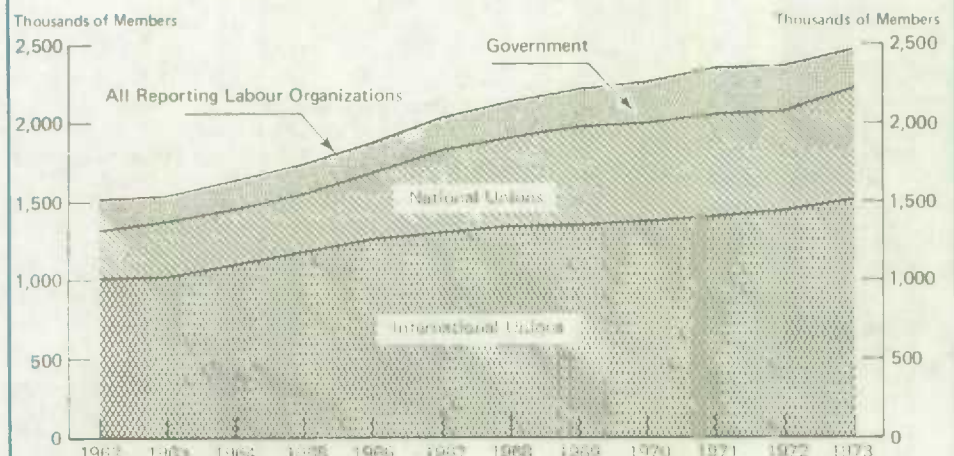
For further information, order the September 1975 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Sept.* 207.79p	205.84p	12.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Aug. 7,269p	7,401p	11.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Oct. 9.41	9.41	1.5
Unemployed	Oct. 576,000	586,000	34.0
INVENTORIES			
Department Store (\$ million)	Sept.* 1,386	1,452	8.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Sept. 15,083p	15,028r	10.9
Wholesale (\$ million)	Sept. 6,438	6,365	11.7
ORDERS			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Sept. 7,299p	6,813r	2.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Sept. 9,818p	9,838r	-3.8
PRICES			
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Oct. 142.8	141.5	10.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Sept. 194.4	193.6	9.3
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Sept. 501.8	499.6r	6.1
CONSTRUCTION			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Sept.* 935.8p	7,507	2.7
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Sept. 18,864	119,972	-11.5
ENERGY			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Aug. 2,274	18,056	26.5
Electricity Generation (billion kwh.)	Sept. 20.4	201.3	-2.3
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	June 265.1	1,731.8	-0.9
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Sept. 46.7	462.8	-4.0
FOREIGN TRADE			
Exports (\$ million)	Oct.* 2,948	26,818	1.1
Imports (\$ million)	Oct.* 3,195	28,835	11.5
PRODUCTION			
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Sept. 125.2	1,022.7	-10.3
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Oct.* 1,040	11,746	-4.0
SALES			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept.* 505.3	3,793	13.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Sept. 7,319p	62,251	5.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Sept. 503.8	5,179	11.7
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Sept.* 4,158	35,381	10.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Sept. 4,285	33,701	4.0

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

Growth in Canadian Membership of Reporting Labour Organizations, 1962-1973



Source: Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act (71-202)

Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade

Measured on a balance-of-payments basis, Canada's seasonally-adjusted trade balance shifted to a deficit of \$89 million in October from a surplus of \$53 million in September. Imports showed an increase of 1% in the month while exports declined by 3.5%.

Seasonally-adjusted exports, on a customs basis, decreased 1% to a level of \$2.75 billion; shipments to the United States rose 4% but this was more than offset by a decline of 11% to overseas markets. The reduction in October exports was concentrated in metal ores and minerals, forestry products and automotive goods. Shipments of wheat and agricultural implements were higher.

Seasonally-adjusted imports increased 2.3% in October to \$2.97 billion, as imports from overseas countries rose 15% while those from the U.S. dropped 3%. Imports of automotive products, machinery and other equipment declined during the month but imports of crude oil and coal were higher.

In the first 10 months of 1975, unadjusted exports of \$26.8 billion were \$295 million (1.1%) above those for the corresponding period in 1974.

Exports of automotive and related products were \$420 million higher in the latest period. Natural gas deliveries rose \$465 million but crude oil shipments fell \$275 million. Declines of more than \$300 million were registered for lumber, copper ore and non-ferrous metals.

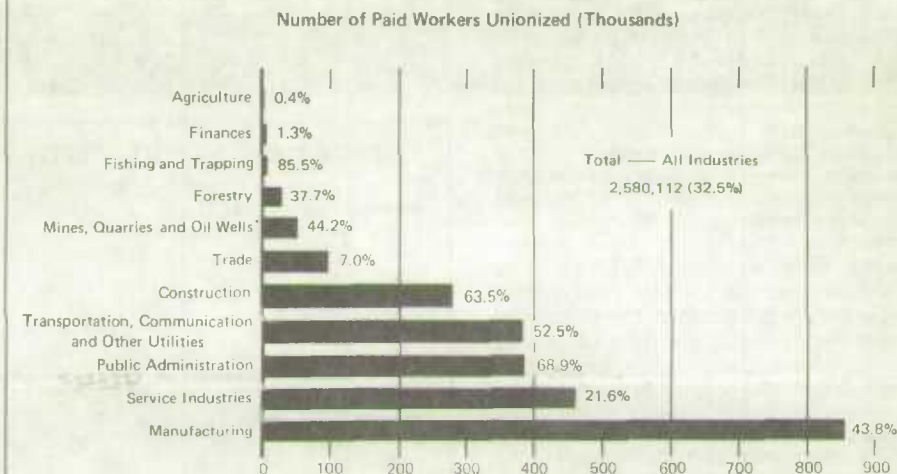
Canadian imports increased \$3.0 billion (11.5%) from \$25.9 billion in the first 10 months of 1974 to \$28.8 billion in January-October 1975.

Markedly higher — each rising almost \$800 million — were imports of: crude oil; automotive and related equipment; and industrial and farm machinery. Smaller advances were recorded for coal (up \$220 million) and wheel tractors (up \$120 million).

The year-to-date merchandise trade deficit of \$2.0 billion in 1975 contrasted with a surplus of \$0.7 billion recorded in the first 10 months of 1974.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

Degree of Union Organization by Industry, 1973



Source: Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act (71-202)

Railway Carloadings

The volume of revenue carload freight loaded in Canada in October was down 6.8% from a year earlier to 21.0 million tons. Rail shipments received from U.S. connections dropped 20.9% to 2.0 million tons.

On a commodity basis, loadings of pulpwood fell 68.4%, pulpwood chips dropped 57.8%, newsprint paper decreased 43.6% and wood pulp was down 39.1% from October 1974 levels. However, shipments of wheat and coal rose 40.6% and 16.8%, respectively.

Cumulatively, carload revenue freight loaded in the first 10 months of 1975 totalled 190.8 million tons, down 6.8% from January-October 1974. Declines were noted for loadings of asbestos (-35.4%), pulpwood chips (-31.6%) and pulpwood (-29.3%). Coal loadings increased 34.4%.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3).

Department Store Sales and Stocks

Department store sales rose to \$505.3 million in September, an increase of 19.4% from \$432.2 million in September 1974.

Sales rose in 38 of the 40 departments in the latest month; the largest gains were recorded by food and kindred products (38.1%) and photographic equipment and supplies (36.9%).

All provinces reported increased sales over September 1974 with a high of 31.2% for Saskatchewan. Sales were up 21.4% in Montreal, 14.9% in Vancouver, 14.8% in Winnipeg and 14.7% in Toronto.

Inventories held in September (at selling price) were valued at \$1.39 billion, up 8.4% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the September 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.

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Export and Import Price and Volume Indexes

Measured at 1971 constant prices, seasonally-adjusted import volume increased 3.5% in September to a level 45.5% above 1971. Export volume rebounded from the low August level to move 13% above 1971.

However, on a three-month, moving-average basis, import and export volumes in September were 8.6% and 11.4%, respectively, below corresponding 1974 levels.

Both import and export prices declined in September. But import prices increased 12.2% and export prices were up 6.9% from the same three-month period in 1974.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Movements, November
General Wholesale Price Index, October
Gross National Product, Third Quarter 1975

Housing Starts and Completions, October
New Motor Vehicle Sales, October
The Labour Force, November

Real Domestic Product (1961=100)

Canada's seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product increased 0.7% in the third quarter of 1975 to 203.1 from 201.8 in the second quarter. Output of goods-producing industries declined for the sixth consecutive quarter, but service-producing industries showed the strongest quarterly gain to date in 1975, increasing 1.6%.

The index of industrial production has not increased since the first quarter of 1974, and continued its downward trend in the latest quarter with a decline of 0.9%.

The non-durable component of manufacturing was down a sharp 2.8% — the decrease due almost entirely to substantial output declines in the pulp and paper industry, severely affected by strikes that commenced in mid-July at a number of mills in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. The petroleum and coal products and food and beverages components also recorded notable declines during the quarter.

Durables manufacturing increased 1.0% in the third quarter, mainly on the strength of a 13.5% increase in output by motor vehicle manufacturers. The electrical products industry showed signs of recovery with a 2.0% increase in the quarter due to production increases for refrigerators, home freezers and color television sets. (The increase in this component followed four successive quarterly declines.) The wood products component declined by 11.7% in the third quarter, mainly caused by strikes that occurred in forestry and sawmill operations in British Columbia.

Construction industry output increased by 4.0% in the latest quarter — most of the strength coming from the residential construction area.

In contrast to the decline in the goods-producing industries, the service-producing industries recorded an increase of 1.6%, the most significant climb since the first quarter of 1974. All components within the service-producing industries sector increased, with the most notable gains recorded in retail trade (up 4.9%) and wholesale trade (up 2.2%).

In September the index of real domestic product declined 0.5% with the index of industrial production dropping 1.9%.

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

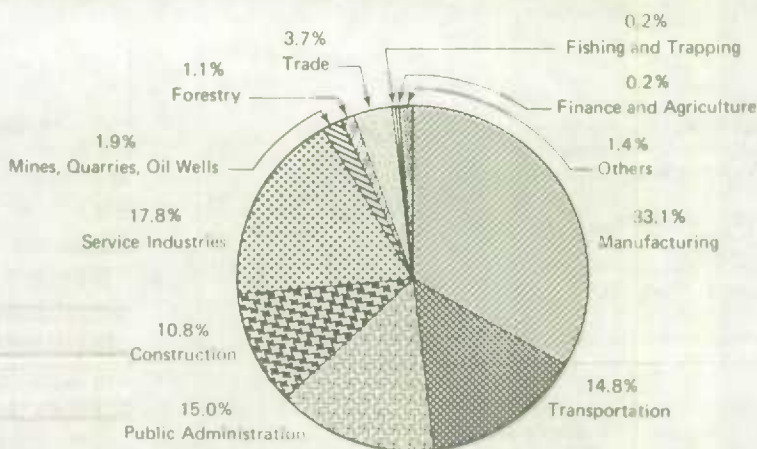
Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$208.3 million of retail finance paper in September, an increase of 7.7% from a year earlier.

The latest month's total comprised \$57.3 million for passenger cars, \$27.3 million for other consumer goods, \$75.5 million for commercial vehicles and \$48.3 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

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

Percentage Distribution of Union Membership, 1973



Source: Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act (71-202)

Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers

Canada's seven major scheduled airlines reported (combined) net profit of \$13.62 million in August, down from \$13.76 million a year earlier.

Total operating revenues rose 12.6% to \$167.1 million in the latest month; operating expenses advanced 16.2% to \$133.9 million.

Passenger traffic — measured in passenger-miles for all services — showed a 4.4% increase over August 1974 to 2,032.1 million. Goods ton-miles for all services were up 0.7% to 38.5 million.

For further information, order *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, Vol. 7, No. 69* (51-004, \$4.20 per year).

Residential Building Construction Input Price Index (1971=100)

The residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 150.1 in October, an increase of 1.4% from the September level and up 9.8% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 6.8% over the 12 months from October 1974; labour costs rose 15.1%.

During this period, residential building construction input price indexes advanced in all regions of Canada, with increases recorded as follows:

- Quebec, 14.3%; Prairie Provinces, 11.4%; British Columbia, 11.0%; Ontario, 7.4%; and Atlantic Provinces, 6.4%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Quebec, 22.9%; Prairie Provinces, 18.9%; British Columbia, 15.7%; Ontario, 11.2%; and Atlantic Provinces, 10.1%.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin* (62-007, \$4 per year), or contact L.J. Seary (613-994-5807), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

The Wheat Review

Total exports of wheat from the four traditional major exporters during August-September 1975 have amounted to 339.7 million bushels, up 16% from 292.9 million bushels in the corresponding period in 1974.

Total supplies of wheat remaining in these countries at October 1, 1975 for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,186.5 million bushels, an increase of 17% from the 1,872.3 million bushels on hand at the same date in 1974.

Supplies were held as follows, in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets: United States, 1,430.6 (1,089.8); Canada, 640.5 (623.3); Australia, 108.6 (116.7); and Argentina, 6.8 (42.5).

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 55¢/\$5.50).

Divorce Decrees, 1974

There were 45,019 divorces in Canada in 1974 — reflecting a continuation of the upward trend in divorce decrees granted that began after legislative changes in 1968. The rate (200.3) per 100,000 population crossed the 200 mark for the first time in 1974; the rate for 1973 was 166.1.

For further information, order *Vital Statistics, Volume II, Marriages and Divorces, 1974* (84-205, \$1.40).

Asbestos

Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos dropped to 98,560 tons in October from 170,110 tons a year earlier. This brought year-to-date shipments in 1975 to 871,139 tons, down 43.0% from the first 10 months of 1974.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Asbestos* (26-001, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.



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Grain Milling Statistics, September 1975	32-003	30¢/\$3	Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods, August 1975	35-001	30¢/\$3
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The Wheat Review, October 1975	22-005	55¢/\$5.50	Refined Petroleum Products, August 1975	45-004	40¢/\$4
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Estimates of Labour Income, August 1975	72-005	40¢/\$4	Electrical Products — Vol. 4, No. 23, Factory Shipments of Electrical Wires and Cables, 1974	43-007	/ \$1.40
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