

INFORMAT

Weekly Bulletin

February 21, 1975

Department Store Sales and Stocks

Department store sales rose to \$733.4 million, an increase of 12.7% from \$650.6 million in December 1973.

Sales were up in 37 of the 40 departments in the latest month with the largest gains recorded by plumbing, heating and building materials, which more than doubled in sales to \$4.6 million from \$2.1 million, major appliances (42.0%) and floor coverings (38.5%).

All provinces reported increased department store sales over December 1973 with a high of 58.8% for Prince Edward Island. Sales rose 12.6% in Montreal, 10.0% in Winnipeg, 6.4% in Toronto and 5.4% in Vancouver.

Inventories held in December (at selling price) were valued at \$1.30 billion, up 26.2% from the corresponding month in 1973.

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

Fossil Fuel Production, 1973-74

The value of all production of Canadian fossil fuels (oil, natural gas, natural gas by-products and coal) climbed 60% to \$5.17 billion in 1974 from \$3.23 billion in 1973.

Over-all production of crude oil decreased 6.0% in 1974 to 616.2 million barrels, but the value of production rose 60% to \$3.59 billion. Domestic production of natural gas fell 1.2% to 3.08 trillion cubic feet but the total value of production rose 52% to \$686.6 million. Production of natural gas by-products fell 2.7% to 113.1 million barrels, with the value increasing 80% to \$629.0 million.

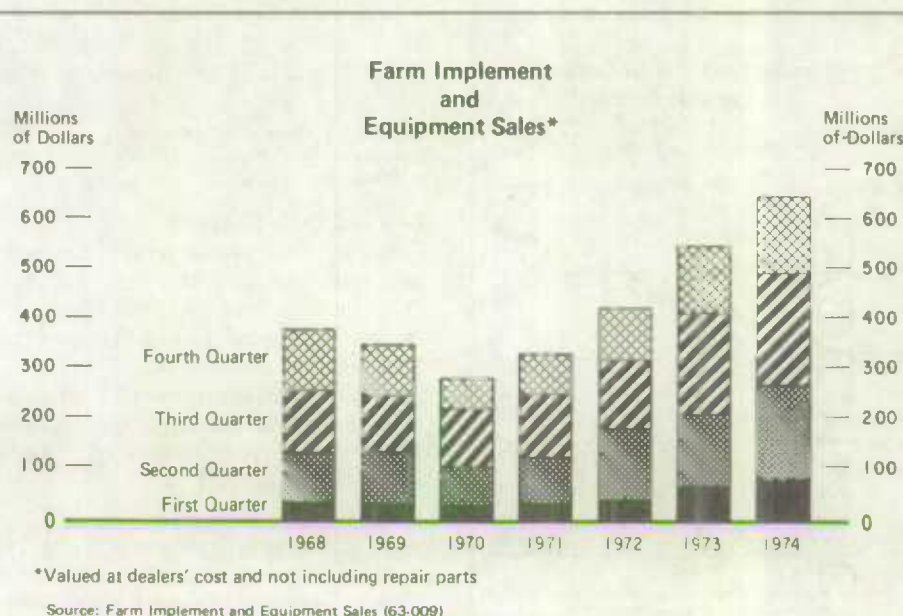
Coal production rose 4.6% in 1974 to 23.6 million tons, with the total value increasing 49% to \$268.0 million.

For further information, order *Energy Statistics Service Bulletin* (57-002, \$4.20 per year), Vol. 10, No. 2, *Fossil Fuel Production and Value, 1973-74*.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	187.92P	187.10P	13.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.	6,572P	6,609P	16.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.	8.87	9.12	2.5
Unemployed	Jan.	817,000	597,000	28.3
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	Dec.	1,295	1,562	26.2
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	14,213P	13,882r	33.7
Wholesale (\$ million)	Dec.	5,938	5,818	29.7
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	6,655P	7,278r	10.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	10,124P	10,170r	29.5
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	Jan.	176.6	175.8	12.1
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Dec.	182.3	182.6r	19.2
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Dec.	481.9	491.3r	16.7
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	576.4P	Year-to-date 8,743	10.5
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	9,358	169,437	-19.9
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Nov.	2,281	20,709	1.9
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	Dec.	25.5	279.2	6.5
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Sept.	253.7	2,537	-0.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Nov.	53.5	587.5	5.1
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports (\$ million)	Dec.	2,676	31,946	26.3
Imports (\$ million)	Dec.	2,756	31,527	35.3
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Dec.	94.7	1,524.9	-3.2
Steel (ingots - thousand tons)	Jan.	1,304	1,304	5.3
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	733	5,059	17.2
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	6,701P	79,345	21.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	345	5,921	10.3
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	4,571	43,829	14.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	3,245	43,210	26.8

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



Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in December were estimated at \$6.98 billion, down 3.5% from the revised November level of \$7.23 billion. New orders for durable goods fell 9.8%, while those for non-durable goods rose 2.5%.

Total unfilled orders were estimated at \$10.26 billion in December, down 1.0% from the previous month.

Total inventory owned, seasonally adjusted, was 1.9% higher at \$14.22 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments rose to 2.01:1 in December from 1.99:1 (revised) in November, while the finished products — to shipments ratio moved to 0.67:1 from 0.66:1 (revised).

Manufacturers' shipments in the latest month, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$7.08 billion, an increase of 0.9% from the revised November value of \$7.02 billion.

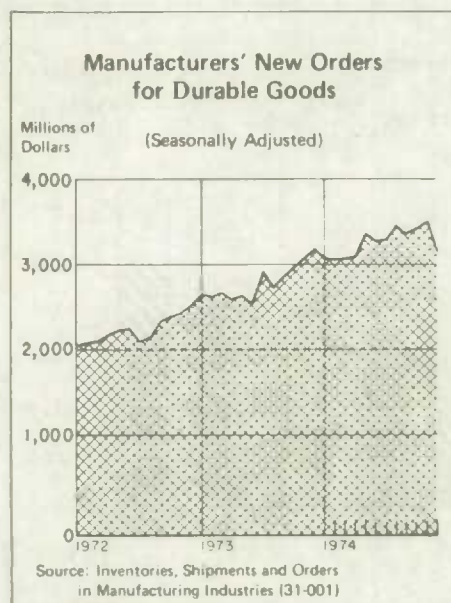
Unadjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in December at an estimated \$6.70 billion showed an increase of 20.3% from a year earlier. Shipments in 1974 totalled \$79.34 billion, up 21.4% from \$65.37 billion in 1973.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

Gold Production

Production of gold decreased to 138,514 troy ounces in December from 159,305 troy ounces a year earlier.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Gold Production* (26-004, 15¢/\$1.50).



THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions, January

Employment, Earnings and Hours, December

Estimates of Labour Income, December

General Wholesale Price Index, January

New Motor Vehicle Sales, January

Summary of Foreign Trade, January

Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production declined 0.7% in December to 214.5 from 215.9 (revised) in November to stand 2.5% below the December 1973 level of 219.9.

Mining output rose 2.7% in the latest month. Total manufacturing output was down 1.1%; durables manufacturing decreased 1.7% and non-durable manufacturing was off 0.5%. Utilities output declined 1.2%.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4).

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in December were estimated at \$3.25 billion, up 13.0% from December 1973.

Notable sales changes from a year earlier included groceries and food specialties, up 23.5%, and industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, up 31.0%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$5.94 billion in the latest month, an increase of 29.7% over December of last year.

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

Coal and Coke Statistics

Canadian coal production in December increased 1.4% to 2.28 million tons from 2.25 million tons in December 1973. Imports decreased to 174,510 tons from 1.26 million tons.

Industrial consumers used 1.70 million tons of coal in the latest month (down 19.5% from a year earlier) and 544,186 tons of coke (up 10.1%).

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact D. Madsen (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities during January, with increases ranging from 0.1% in Winnipeg to 0.8% in Saint John and Quebec City.

Food indexes increased in nine centres, declined in four and were unchanged in one. Quotations were generally higher for dairy, bakery and cereal products, eggs, processed fruit and vegetables, beverages and restaurant food. Prices were lower for most meats, poultry, fresh fruit and sugar.

Between January 1974 and January 1975, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities, with increases as follows: St. John's, 13.5%; Winnipeg, 13.4%; Vancouver, 13.3%; Thunder Bay, 13.2%; Toronto, 12.3%; Saskatoon, 12.2%; Calgary, 12.2%; Montreal, 11.9%; Edmonton, 11.9%; Regina, 11.7%; Saint John, 11.5%; Quebec City, 11.4%; Ottawa, 10.2%; and Halifax, 10.1%.

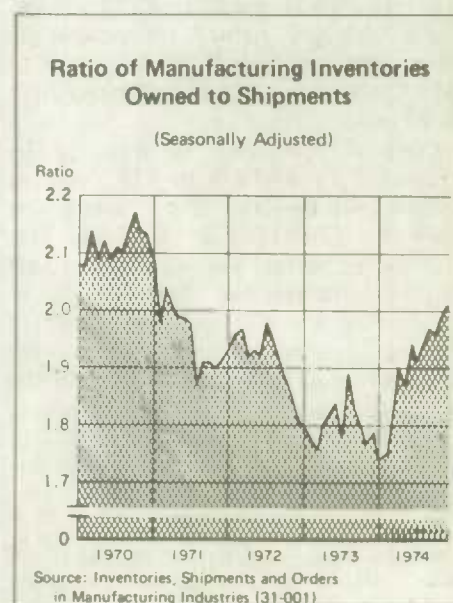
For further information, order the January 1975 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).

Franchise Food Outlet Sales

Total estimated 1973 sales and receipts of outlets associated with franchise food serving operations in Canada amounted to \$379.7 million.

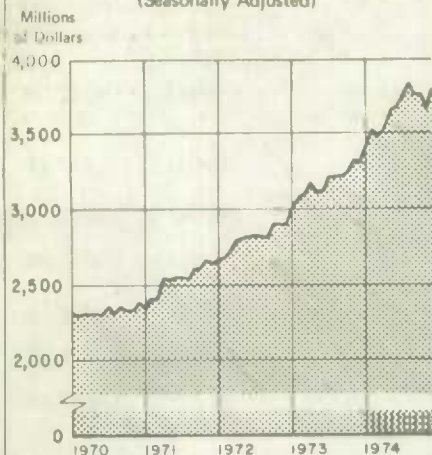
Sales by product lines showed chicken represented 36.1% of total food, non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverage sales. Hamburger sales were reported at 26.0%, followed by dairy products and soft drinks at 13.9%.

For further information, order *Franchising in Canada's Food Serving Industry, 1973* (63-524, 50¢), or contact E. Yablonski (613-996-9301), Commercial Services Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.



Retail Trade

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Retail Trade (63-005)

The Wheat Review

Total exports of wheat from the four traditional major exporters during August-December 1974 amounted to 783.6 million bushels, down 9% from the August-December 1973 record level of 857.7 million.

Total supplies of wheat remaining in these countries at January 1, 1975 for export and for carryover at the end of respective crop years amounted to 1,720.2 million bushels, down 0.2% from 1,724.0 million a year earlier.

Supplies were held as follows, in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets: United States, 788.2 (659.6); Canada, 557.1 (645.8); Australia, 332.1 (330.3); and Argentina, 42.8 (88.3).

For further information, order the January 1975 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, \$54/\$5.50).

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Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly reached \$16.17 billion at the end of December, an increase of 16.7% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks rose to \$10.82 billion in the latest month, up 21.8% from December 1973.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.21 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper (an increase of 5.0% from a year earlier) and had \$1.51 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 6.1%).

For further information, order the December 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.

Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems reported net operating revenue of \$55.7 million in December, a decrease of 8.5% from December 1973.

Gross operating revenues of the thirteen major telephone companies rose 13.4% to \$206.7 million in the latest month; operating expenses jumped 24.6% to \$151.1 million.

Construction expenditures of the firms at \$169.5 million in December showed an increase of 34.1% from a year earlier.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year), Vol. 5, No. 5, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, December 1974.

Restaurant Statistics

Restaurants in Canada had total estimated receipts of \$144.5 million in December, an increase of 11.4% from a year earlier. Sales were up in all provinces.

Restaurant receipts for the latest month, by province and with percentage gains over December 1973 in brackets:

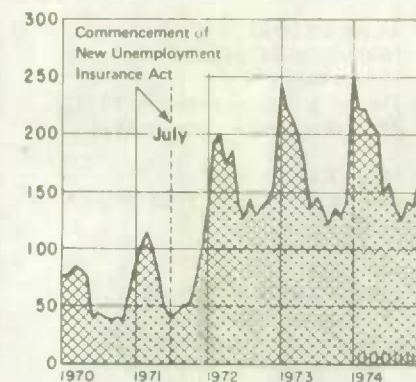
- Ontario, \$55.0 million (12.3%);
- Quebec, \$47.9 million (10.9%); British Columbia, \$12.3 million (11.4%);
- Alberta, \$10.3 million (10.2%);
- Manitoba, \$6.9 million (12.3%);
- Saskatchewan, \$4.6 million (11.4%);
- Nova Scotia, \$3.3 million (9.1%);
- New Brunswick, \$2.6 million (7.2%);
- Newfoundland, \$1.3 million (10.8%);
- and Prince Edward Island, \$334,000 (\$11.3%).

In 1974, restaurant receipts totalled an estimated \$1.77 billion, up 10.3% from the 1973 figure.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Restaurant Statistics* (63-011, 15¢/\$1.50).

Unemployment Insurance Commission Benefit Payments

Millions of Dollars



Source: Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act (73-001)

Unemployment Insurance Payments

Net benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act totalled \$164 million in December, an increase of 16% from \$142 million in December 1973. The average weekly payment was \$73.95, up 11% from \$65.72 a year earlier.

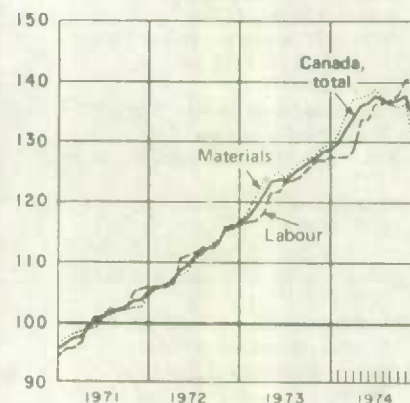
Initial and renewal claims received in December numbered 332,000, up 31% from the November total of 253,000 and 30% greater than the 256,000 filed in December 1973.

In 1974, net payments under the act amounted to \$2.12 billion, an increase of 6% from \$2.00 billion in 1973.

For further information, order the December 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.

Residential Building Construction Input Price Indexes, Canada

1971=100



Source: Construction Price Statistics
Monthly Bulletin (62-007)



1010761852

NEW PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FEBRUARY 13 - 19

1010761852	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Production of Eggs and Poultry, December 1974	23-003	30¢/\$3	Particle Board, December 1974	36-003	15¢/\$1.50
The Dairy Review, December 1974	23-001	40¢/\$4	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November 1974	35-003	30¢/\$3
The Wheat Review, January 1975	22-005	55¢/\$5.50	Products Made From Canadian Clays, December 1974	44-005	15¢/\$1.50
BUSINESS FINANCE					
Commercial Failures, Third Quarter 1974	61-002	35¢/\$1.40	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, December 1974	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
CENSUS					
Industries (Regina - Winnipeg), 1971 Census of Canada	94-756	\$2.10	Raw Hides, Skins and Finished Leather, December 1974	33-001	30¢/\$3
Occupations - Occupations by Sex, Showing Age, Marital Status and Class of Worker, 1971 Census of Canada	94-723	\$1.05	Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, November 1974	26-008	15¢/\$1.50
CONSTRUCTION					
Housing Starts and Completions, December 1974	64-002	40¢/\$4	Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, January 1975	41-002	15¢/\$1.50
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE			SERVICE BULLETINS		
Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation - A Statistical Digest, 1973 and 1974	66-202	\$2.80	Electrical Products - Vol. 3, No. 29, Domestic Water Tank Heaters, December 1974	43-007	\$1.40 per year
SERVICE BULLETIN			Fabricated Metal Products - Vol. 2, No. 4, Shipments of Domestic Mobile Homes, Fourth Quarter 1974		
Education, Science and Culture Division - Vol. 4, No. 1, Financial Statistics of School Boards, 1972 to 1974	81-001	N/C	Fruit and Vegetable Preservation - Vol. 3, No. 28, 1974 Pack of Frozen Fruits and Vegetables as Reported up to the End of December 1974	41-009	\$2.80 per year
EXTERNAL TRADE			Phonograph Records and Pre-Recorded Tapes - Vol. 2, No. 12, Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-Recorded Tapes in Canada, December 1974		
Summary of Exports, December 1974	65-002	30¢/\$3			
Summary of Imports, December 1974	65-005	30¢/\$3	MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES		
FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES			New Motor Vehicle Sales, December 1974		
International Travel, December 1974	66-002	15¢/\$1.50	Sales Financing, November 1974	63-007	30¢/\$3
Travel Between Canada and Other Countries, November 1974	66-001	55¢/\$5.50		63-013	30¢/\$3
HEALTH			PRICES		
Hospital Indicators, January-September 1974	83-001	\$1.40/\$5.60	SERVICE BULLETIN		
JUDICIAL			Retail Prices and Living Costs - Vol. 4, No. 2, City Average Retail Prices, October 1974		
Correctional Institution Statistics, 1973	85-207	\$1.05	62-005 \$2.80 per year		
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			PUBLIC FINANCE		
Asbestos Mines, 1973	26-205	70¢	Provincial Government Employment, July-September 1974		
Asphalt Roofing, December 1974	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	72-007 \$1.05/\$4.20		
Copper and Nickel Production, November 1974	26-003	15¢/\$1.50	Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure (Estimates), 1974		
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, December 1974	43-005	15¢/\$1.50	68-205 \$1.40		
Fish Freezings and Stocks, December 1974	24-001	40¢/\$4	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS		
Gold Production, November 1974	26-004	15¢/\$1.50	Railway Operating Statistics, November 1974		
Gypsum Mines, 1973	26-221	70¢	52-003 30¢/\$3		
Iron Ore, December 1974	26-005	15¢/\$1.50	The Motor Vehicle, Part II: Motive Fuel Sales, 1973		
Manufacturers of Industrial Chemicals, 1972	46-219	70¢	53-218 70¢		
Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water Heaters, December 1974	41-008	15¢/\$1.50	Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations, October 1974		
Pack, Shipments and Stocks of Selected Canned Fruits and Vegetables, December 1974	32-011	30¢/\$3	51-001 40¢/\$4		
			SERVICE BULLETINS		
			Aviation Statistics Centre - Vol. 7, No. 1, Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers, September 1974; Vol. 7, No. 5, Preliminary Aircraft Movement Statistics, October 1974		
			51-004 \$4.20 per year		
			Communications - Vol. 5, No. 5, Monthly Telephone Statistics, December 1974		
			56-001 \$1.40 per year		