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Weekly Bulletin

April 18, 1975

CATALOGUE 11-002E

Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales in February rose to \$306.8 million, up 10.3% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions of Canada.

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

- Ontario, \$113.5 million (10.9%); Quebec, \$57.4 million (15.5%); British Columbia, \$51.3 million (2.9%); Alberta, \$40.6 million (13.8%); Manitoba, \$18.4 million (1.9%); Atlantic Provinces, \$17.5 million (10.9%); and Saskatchewan, \$8.0 million (21.2%).

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

Canada's Foreign Trade

in Automotive Products, 1974

Canada's deficit in trade in automotive products with the United States increased in 1974 to \$1.33 billion from \$440 million in 1973.

Imports of automotive products from the U.S. showed a 17.7% rise to \$6.75 billion that considerably outpaced Canada's gain in exports, which rose by 2.4% to \$5.42 billion. It was the fourth consecutive year that import growth exceeded export expansion, with the spread widening.

Nearly three-fourths of the deterioration in the trade balance in 1974 was attributable to the deficit on automotive parts, which expanded 47% to \$2.05 billion. Trucks and tires also contributed to widening the deficit. Only the surplus on passenger cars improved moderately — possibly because of the consumer preference in the U.S. for the smaller-sized automobiles assembled in Canada.

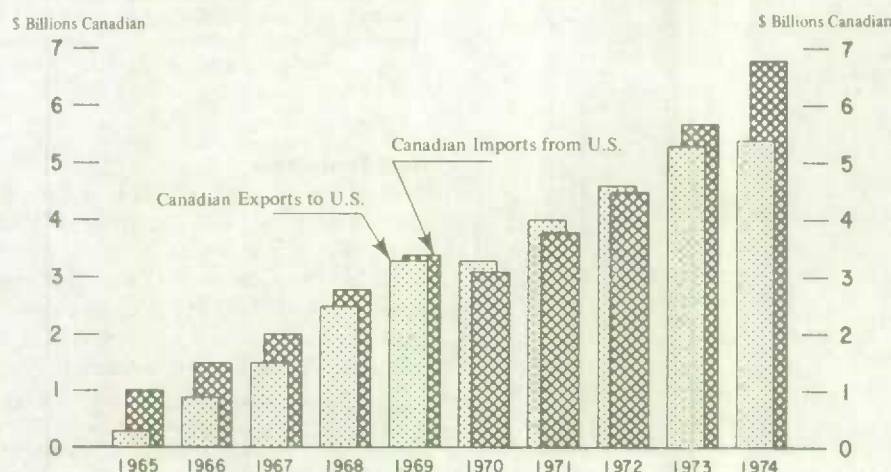
Canada's deficit in automotive trade with overseas countries also continued to expand in 1974, up \$82 million to \$484 million. Over-all imports of automotive and related products from these countries increased \$137 million to \$760 million, while exports rose \$55 million to \$276 million.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Jan.	191.92P	185.20P	14.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	Jan.	6,520P	6,709P	15.4
Persons with Jobs (million)	Feb.	8.95	8.87	2.5
Unemployed	Feb.	840,000	839,000	40.2
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	Jan.	1,156	1,295	17.6
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Jan.	14,704P	14,394P	33.9
Wholesale (\$ million)	Jan.	6,116	5,938	28.6
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Jan.	6,485P	6,726P	5.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Jan.	10,297P	10,277P	26.6
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	Mar.	178.9	178.0	11.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Feb.	186.5	185.6P	16.5
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Feb.	483.2	484.3P	10.4
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Jan.	494.3P	494.3	9.7
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Feb.	4,973	12,106	-46.3
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Jan.	2,269	2,269	11.6
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	Feb.	23.9	50.5	1.0
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Nov.	289.9	3,112	-1.7
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Jan.	53.4	53.4	-5.3
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports (\$ million)	Feb.	2,424	5,108	12.1
Imports (\$ million)	Feb.	2,616	5,429	25.2
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Feb.	107.0	199.1	-31.3
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Feb.	1,115	2,390	0.1
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	306.8	630.7	9.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Jan.	6,465P	6,465	10.7
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	477.8	849.1	2.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	3,288	6,633	13.9
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	3,059	3,059	6.6

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

Canada — United States Trade in Automotive Products



Retail Trade

Retail sales in Canada reached \$3.29 billion in February, an increase of 13.7% from a year earlier. Sales increased in 25 of the 28 trade groups with the largest gains recorded by book and stationery stores (33.4%) and grocery, confectionery and sundries stores (31.7%).

All provinces and territories reported sales increases over February 1974 with highs of 19.4% for Newfoundland and Saskatchewan. Sales rose 15.7% in Montreal, 10.2% in Toronto, 8.1% in Vancouver and 0.9% in Winnipeg.

Revised data for January 1975 show total retail sales at \$3.34 billion, up 14.0% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact B. Theriault (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

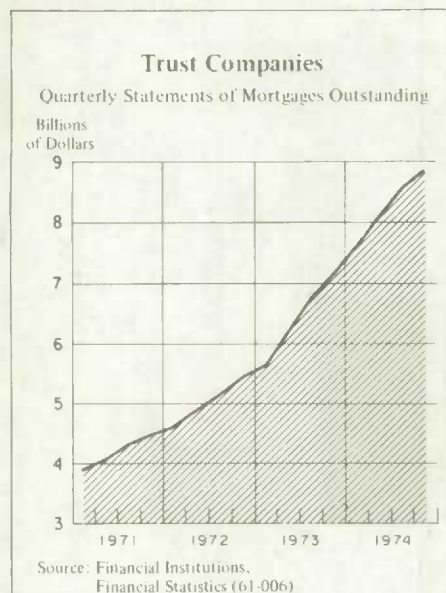
Unemployment Insurance Payments

Net benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act reached \$288 million in February, an increase of 30% from \$221 million a year earlier. The average weekly payment was up 12% to \$84.11 from \$75.00.

Initial and renewal claims received in February numbered 219,000, up 29% from the February 1974 total of 170,000.

For the first two months of 1975, net payments under the act amounted to \$594 million, an increase of 27% from the \$468 million disbursed in January-February 1974.

For further information, order the February 1975 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.



THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Building Permits, February

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, March

Estimates of Labour Income, February

Real Domestic Product, February

Summary of Foreign Trade, March

Farm Implement Sales

Sales of farm implements and equipment for the first two months of 1975 were valued at \$60.9 million, up 29.6% from \$47.0 million in January-February 1974.

Sales of repair parts for farm equipment increased 1.7% to \$18.3 million in the latest period.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Farm Implement and Equipment Sales* (63-009, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Y. Lebel (613-996-9307), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

International Travel

Preliminary statistics for February show 1.4 million United States visitors entered Canada, down 1.8% from February 1974. Canadian resident travellers returning from visits to the U.S. increased 9.3% to 1.8 million.

Visitors entering Canada from countries other than the U.S. rose 15.7% to 34,800 in the latest month. Residents of Canada returning from abroad numbered 122,500, up 14.4% from February 1974.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

Gold Production

Production of gold declined to 133,406 troy ounces in February from 144,307 troy ounces a year earlier.

Gold production for the first two months of 1975 at 263,018 troy ounces showed a drop of 9.6% from 288,215 troy ounces in January-February 1974.

For further information, order the February 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.

Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production increased 0.7% to 211.5 in February from a downward-revised level of 210.0 in January. But the index was down 5.8% from a year earlier.

Total manufacturing output was up 0.5% in the latest month; non-durable manufacturing decreased 0.4% but durables manufacturing increased 1.5%.

Mining production showed a 2.1% gain and utilities output advanced 0.4%.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

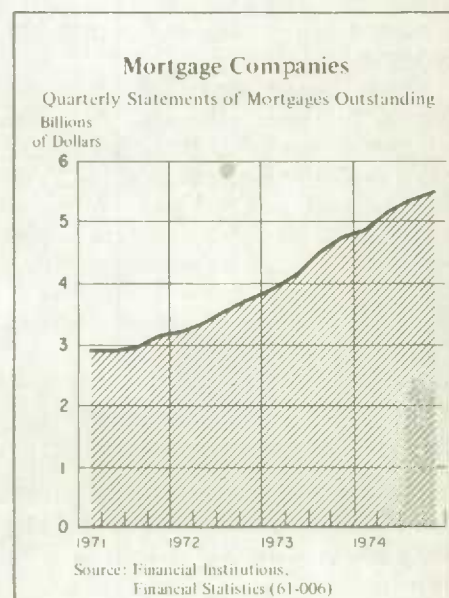
Housing Starts

New residential construction activity continued to decline in February with housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over dropping 44.9% to 4,973 units from 9,029 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with February 1974 figures in brackets: Ontario, 1,656 (3,495); Quebec, 1,369 (2,022); British Columbia, 930 (1,585); Alberta, 671 (1,044); Manitoba, 118 (347); Saskatchewan, 97 (231); Nova Scotia, 87 (162); Newfoundland, 28 (125); New Brunswick, 17 (18); and Prince Edward Island, 0 (-).

For the first two months of 1975, housing starts in urban centres totalled 12,106 units, down 46.3% from 22,535 in January-February 1974.

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



Canadian Direct Investment Abroad, 1971

At the end of 1971, the total book value of Canadian long-term direct investment abroad in subsidiaries, controlled companies, affiliates and branches was \$6.53 billion, an increase of \$346 million (6%) over 1970.

Over one-half of total direct investment at the end of 1971 was in manufacturing, as investment in this industrial component rose 8% to \$3.45 billion. Investment in utilities at \$1.28 billion was next in importance, followed by mining and petroleum at \$934 million.

Direct investment in United States firms rose \$137 million — the smallest increase in the last four years — to \$3.39 billion and accounted for 52% of Canada's direct investment abroad at the end of 1971. Investment in the U.S. manufacturing sector, at \$1.97 billion, represented 30% of total direct investment abroad.

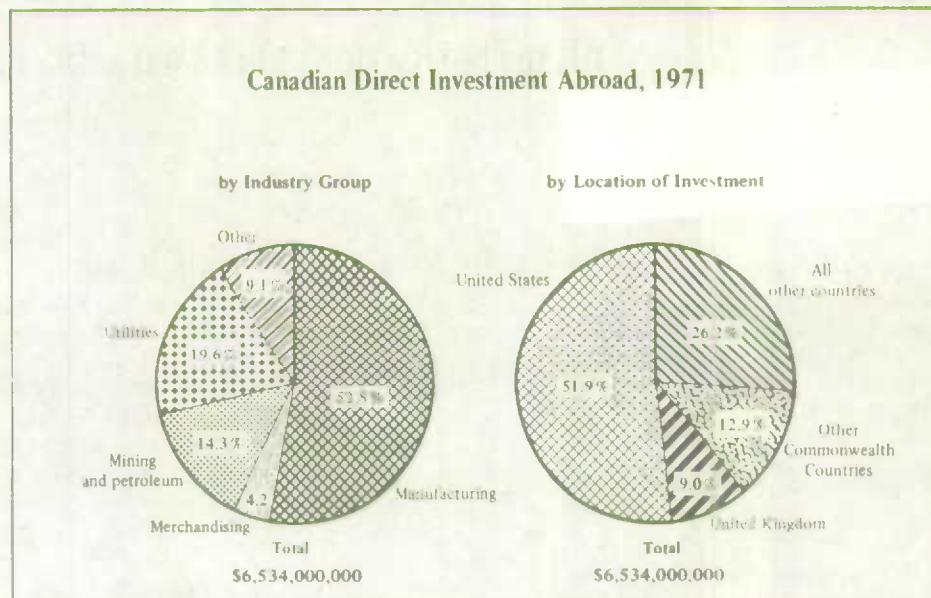
For further information, contact F. Chow (613-996-2545), Balance of Payments Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

Oil Pipe Line Transport

Canadian oil pipe lines received 2.65 million barrels per day of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum products in February, down 14.0% from a year earlier.

Receipts of domestic oils declined 15.4% to 2.23 million B/D in the latest month; imported oils decreased 6.2% to 424,000 B/D.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of Oil Pipe Line Transport (55-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.



Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in February were estimated at \$3.17 billion, up 5.2% from February 1974.

Notable sales changes from a year earlier included groceries and food specialties, up 20.7%, and industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, up 30.9%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$6.21 billion in the latest month, an increase of 23.8% over February of last year.

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

Restaurant Statistics

Restaurants in Canada had total estimated receipts of \$137.8 million in February, an increase of 10.5% from a year earlier. Sales were up in all provinces.

Restaurant receipts for the latest month, by province and with percentage gains over February 1974 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$51.8 million (9.5%); Quebec, \$43.4 million (13.2%); British Columbia, \$14.0 million (6.7%); Alberta, \$11.3 million (10.8%); Manitoba, \$6.6 million (10.6%); Saskatchewan, \$4.1 million (12.1%); New Brunswick, \$2.5 million (5.4%); Nova Scotia, \$2.3 million (8.6%); Newfoundland, \$1.5 million (9.5%); and Prince Edward Island, \$300,000 (9.5%).

Cumulatively, restaurant receipts for the first two months of 1975 totalled an estimated \$277.8 million, up 10.6% from January-February 1974.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of Restaurant Statistics (63-011, 15¢/\$1.50).

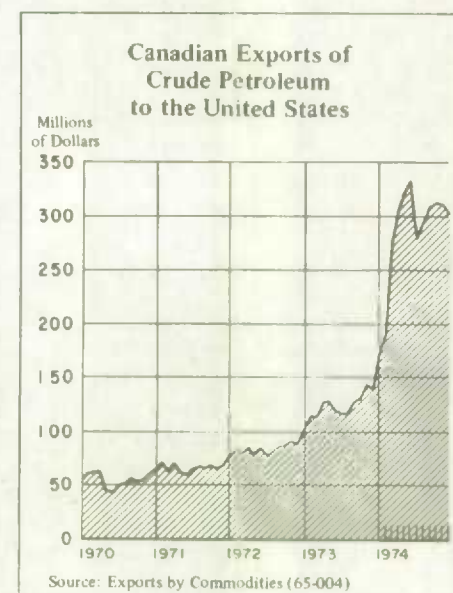
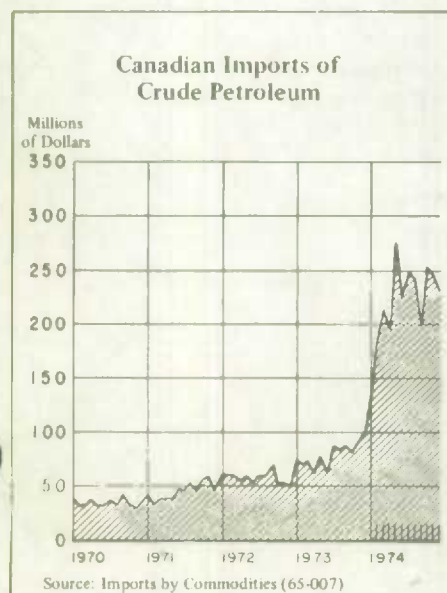
Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly reached \$16.21 billion at the end of February, an increase of 16.5% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks rose to \$10.98 billion in the latest month, up 22.1% from February 1974.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.15 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper (an increase of 0.8% from a year earlier) and had \$1.49 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 4.8%).

For further information, order the February 1975 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.



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	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Farm Wages in Canada, January 1975	21-002	35¢/\$1.05	Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water Heaters, February 1975	41-008	15¢/\$1.50
Handbook of Agricultural Statistics, Part VII, Dairy Statistics, 1920-1973	21-515	\$1.05	Oil Pipe Line Transport, January 1975	55-001	30¢/\$3
The Dairy Review, January 1975	23-001	40¢/\$4	Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods, January 1975	35-001	30¢/\$3
			Primary Iron and Steel, January 1975	41-001	40¢/\$4
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS					
Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, Fourth Quarter 1974	67-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Rigid Insulating Board, February 1975	36-002	15¢/\$1.50
			Salt, February 1975	26-009	15¢/\$1.50
BUSINESS FINANCE					
Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics, Fourth Quarter 1974	61-006	\$1.40/\$5.60	Sand and Gravel Pits, 1973	26-215	70¢
			Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, February 1975	26-008	15¢/\$1.50
			Specified Chemicals, February 1975	46-002	15¢/\$1.50
			The Sugar Situation, February 1975	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
CENSUS					
Families - Incomes of Families, Family Heads and Non-Family Persons Showing Selected Characteristics, 1971 Census of Canada	93-725	\$2.10	PRELIMINARY BULLETINS		
Industries - Industries by Sex, Showing Occupation Major Groups, for Canada, 1971 Census of Canada	94-758	\$1.05	1973 Census of Manufactures - Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Automobile Fabric Accessories Industry	36-205-p	
Occupations - Occupation Groups by Sex, for Municipal Subdivisions from 10,000 to 30,000, 1971 Census of Canada	94-722	\$1.05	Cane and Beet Sugar Processors	34-222-p	
			Fur Dressing and Dyeing	32-222-p	
			Office Furniture Manufacturers	47-205-p-8	
			Refractories Manufacturers	35-212-p	
			Thread Mills	44-214-p	\$4.90
				34-210-p-1	for series
LABOUR					
Labour Costs in Canada: Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells, 1972	72-613	\$1.40	SERVICE BULLETINS		
			Electrical Products - Vol. 4, No. 3, Domestic Water Tank Heaters, February 1975	43-007	\$1.40 per year
			Energy Statistics - Vol. 10, No. 10, Refined Petroleum Products, Selected Preliminary Data, January 1975	57-002	\$4.20 per year
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES					
Asphalt Roofing, February 1975	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	Fish and Fish Products - Vol. 4, No. 21, Fish Freezings and Stocks, Canada, February 1975	24-003	\$1.40 per year
Cement, February 1975	44-001	15¢/\$1.50	Fruit and Vegetable Preservation - Vol. 4, No. 2, 1975 Pack of Frozen Fruits and Vegetables as Reported up to the end of February 1975	32-023	\$1.40 per year
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, January 1975	33-003	30¢/\$3	MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES		
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, November 1974	26-006	30¢/\$3	Computer Service Industry, 1973	63-222	\$1.05
Distilled Beverage Spirits and Industrial Ethyl Alcohol, February 1975	32-021	15¢/\$1.50	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS		
Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers, February 1975	43-001	15¢/\$1.50	Air Carrier Operations in Canada, July-September 1974	51-002	\$1.40/\$5.60
Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers, February 1975	43-002	15¢/\$1.50	Railway Carloadings, February 1975	52-001	30¢/\$3
Footwear Statistics, January 1975	33-002	30¢/\$3	Shipping Statistics, April 1974	54-002	30¢/\$3
Gas Utilities, November 1974	55-002	30¢/\$3			
Gypsum Products, February 1975	44-003	15¢/\$1.50	SERVICE BULLETIN		
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, December 1974	31-001	55¢/\$5.50	Railway Transport - Vol. 5, No. 2, Railway Carloadings, February 1975	52-004	\$1.40 per year