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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$195.54 in March were up 14.3% from \$171.07 a year earlier.

First estimates show that average weekly earnings (by province) were highest in British Columbia (\$220.69), followed by Alberta (\$199.82), Ontario (\$196.98), Newfoundland (\$190.14), Quebec (\$190.05), Saskatchewan (\$181.29), Manitoba (\$179.88), New Brunswick (\$178.37), Nova Scotia (\$169.43) and Prince Edward Island (\$146.30).

Average weekly earnings in March (by industry division) were as follows: mining, \$270.13; forestry, \$267.65; construction, \$258.98; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$225.05; manufacturing, \$205.76; finance, insurance and real estate, \$187.39; trade, \$155.11; and service, \$139.02.

For further information, order the March 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.

### Retail Trade

Retail sales in Canada reached \$3.69 billion in March, an increase of 10.4% from a year earlier.

Sales increased in all trade groups except household appliance stores (-5.2%) and furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores (-11.1%). The largest gains were shown by women's clothing stores (19.7%) and grocery, confectionery and sundries stores (16.2%).

All provinces except Prince Edward Island (-3.3%) recorded higher sales than in March 1974. The largest increases were registered in Newfoundland (20.5%) and Alberta (19.2%). Sales rose 13.4% in Montreal, 9.0% in Vancouver, 5.7% in Toronto and 0.9% in Winnipeg.

Revised data for February show retail sales for the month at \$3.22 billion, up 2.1% from February 1974.

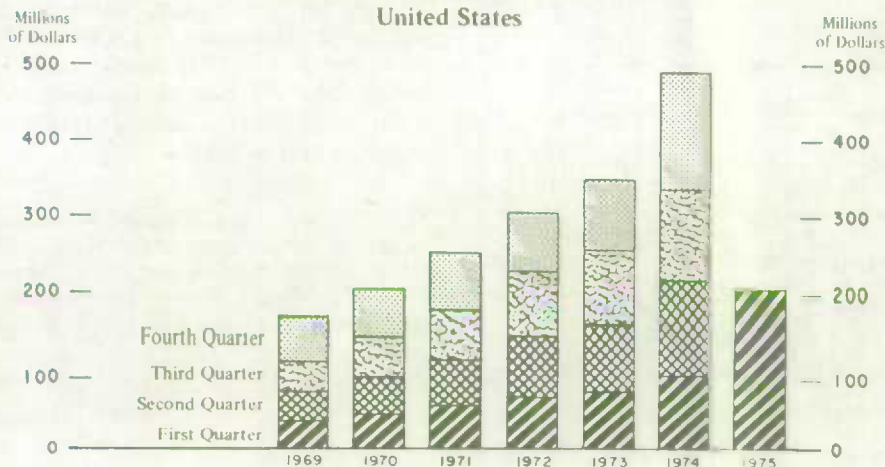
For further information, order the March 1975 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact B. Theriault (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.*	195.54P	194.08P	14.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.	6,586P	6,563P	15.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Apr.	9.01	8.95	1.5
Unemployed	Apr.	795,000	840,000	40.0
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	1,315	1,273	9.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Feb.	14,750P	14,729P	30.9
Wholesale (\$ million)	Mar.	6,348	6,207	24.3
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Feb.	6,342P	6,278P	3.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Feb.	10,147P	10,258P	21.8
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	Apr.	179.8	178.9	11.1
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Mar.	187.0	187.0P	14.9
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Mar.	477.6	483.3P	7.2
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Feb.	470.3P	Year-to-date 977.5	-1.2
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Mar.	6,261	18,367	-48.7
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Mar.*	2,313	6,759	11.7
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	Mar.	24.9	75.4	0.3
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Jan.	308.8	308.8	-3.3
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Feb.	48.5	101.9	-6.2
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Apr.*	2,595	10,156	5.8
Imports (\$ million)	Apr.*	2,865	11,131	20.2
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Mar.	125.6	324.7	-25.5
Steel (ingots - thousand tons)	Apr.*	1,257	4,943	2.5
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	384.1	1,015	10.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Feb.	6,453P	12,759	8.3
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	544.1	1,393	5.0
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.*	3,688	10,191	11.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	3,644	9,875	4.9

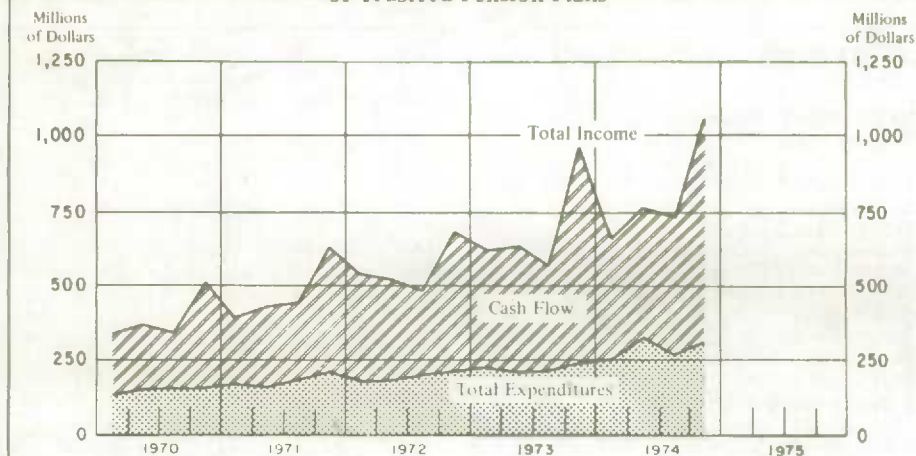
Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. P - preliminary. P - revised. \* - new this week.

Canadian Exports of Natural Gas to the United States



Source: Summary of External Trade (65-001)

### Quarterly Estimates of Income and Expenditures of Trusteed Pension Plans



Source: Quarterly Survey of Trusteed Pension Plans (74-001)

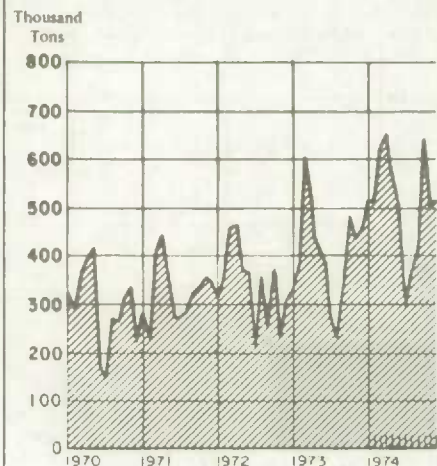
### Coal and Coke Statistics

Production of coal in Canada increased 10.0% in March to 2.31 million tons from 2.10 million tons in March 1974. Imports rose to 262,577 tons from 113,545 tons.

Industrial consumers used 1.69 million tons of coal in the latest month (down 12.4% from a year earlier) and 377,950 tons of coke (down 18.5%).

For further information, order the March 1975 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact D. Madsen (613-992-2231), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Potash Production, Canada



Source: Production of Canada's Leading Minerals (26-007)

### Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies

In the first quarter of 1975 there were on average 56,300 vacancies for full-time jobs in Canada, down 14,900 (21%) from the 1974 fourth quarter and down 23,700 (30%) from the first quarter of 1974.

All five economic regions of Canada showed decreases from the previous quarter and on a year-to-year comparison.

In the year-to-year comparison, 76% of the total decrease of 23,700 vacancies originated in goods-producing industries, with the largest decline occurring in manufacturing (-15,400). In service-producing industries, the largest decreases occurred in community, business and personal services sector (-4,800) and the trade sector (-4,200). Public administration was the only service-producing sector to show an increase from the previous year (up 5,000).

For further information, order *Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies, First Quarter 1975* (71-002, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact J.A. Boucek (613-992-2006), Job Vacancy Survey Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V3.

### Farm Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The Farm Input Price Index for Canada rose 1.1% in the first quarter of 1975, moving to 206.6 from the fourth-quarter 1974 level of 204.3. The eastern index declined 0.5% while the western index advanced 3.1%.

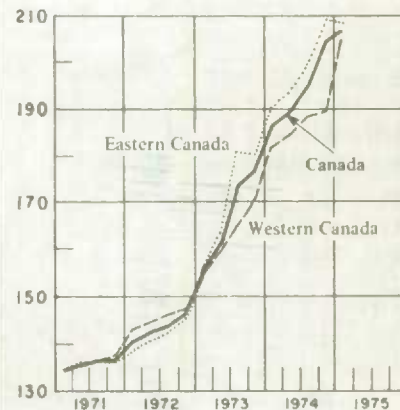
The latest index showed higher prices for mortgage credit, property taxes, machinery and motor vehicle replacement and operation and seed. Prices were lower for feed and feeder cattle.

Over the twelve months from the first quarter of 1974, the Canada index showed a rise of 10.2%. During this period, production costs increased 9.0% for farmers in Eastern Canada and 11.6% for western farmers.

For further information, order *Farm Input Price Indexes, First Quarter 1975* (62-004, 35¢/\$1.40).

### Farm Input Price Index

(1961=100)

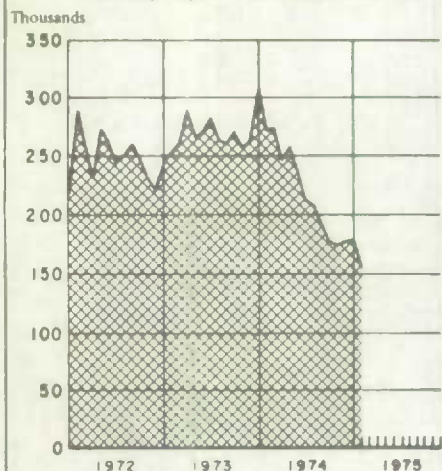


Source: Farm Input Price Indexes (62-004)



### Housing Starts in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: Housing Starts and Completions (64-002)

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**Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade**  
Canada's seasonally-adjusted merchandise trade balance moved into surplus in April as a result of a month-to-month increase of 3.5% in exports and a decline of 4.5% in imports. The April surplus of \$55 million compared with a deficit of \$170 million for March.

The continued drop in the value of shipments to the United States was more than offset by a sharp rise in seasonally-adjusted exports to overseas countries (excluding the United Kingdom).

Exports of wheat rebounded following the settlement of the longshoremen's strike on the Pacific coast, and exports of coal, iron and nickel ores, lumber, motor vehicles and parts also increased. Crude oil deliveries to the U.S. declined and exports of asbestos, copper ores, newsprint and fertilizer also decreased.

Seasonally-adjusted imports were lower, except from Japan. Imports from Japan for the three months ending in April, however, were still 17% below the preceding three-month period.

Unadjusted exports of \$10.16 billion in the first four months of 1975 were 5.8% higher than those for the corresponding period of 1974. Exports to the U.S. increased 5.4%, while shipments to Japan fell 20.4%.

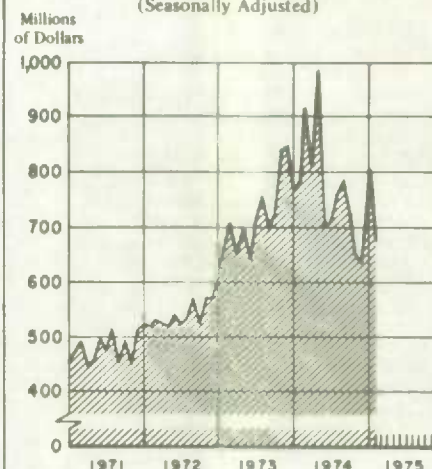
Deliveries of crude oil and natural gas to the U.S. rose some \$300 million. Exports of newsprint were up \$150 million and wood pulp shipments were \$120 million ahead. Smaller but still important gains were recorded in exports of wheat, iron and nickel ores, fertilizer and motor vehicles. However, exports of copper ores and metal fell about \$200 million, and there was a decline of nearly \$170 million for lumber. Exports of aluminum, zinc and automotive parts also decreased in the latest period.

Year-to-date imports of \$11.13 billion in 1975 showed an increase of 20.2% from January-April 1974.

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

### Building Permits, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Building Permits (64-001)

### Gas Utilities

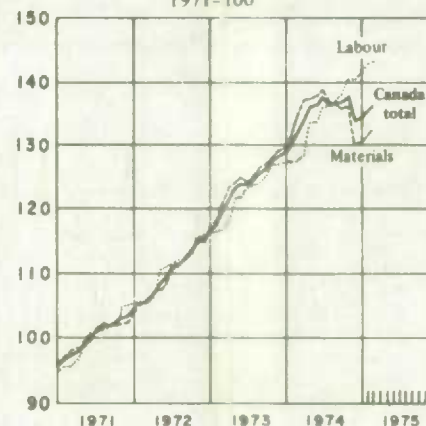
Canadian consumers purchased 147.6 billion cubic feet of natural gas in February, up 4.1% from a year earlier. Exports decreased 5.1% to 74.5 billion cubic feet.

Cumulatively, sales of natural gas for the first two months of 1975 totalled 296.9 billion cubic feet, an increase of 0.4% from January-February 1974.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, 30¢/\$3), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Residential Building Construction Input Price Indexes, Canada

1971=100



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



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## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED MAY 22 - 28

10/07/61865	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
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Grain Milling Statistics, March 1975	32-003	30¢/\$3	Glass Products Manufacturers	44-207-p-2	
Intentions to Contract Acreages of Processing Vegetable Crops, 1975	22-003	\$1.40 for 1975 series	Heating Equipment Manufacturers	41-225-p	
Report on Livestock Surveys, Pigs, April 1, 1975	23-005	\$1.40/year	Leather Glove Factories	33-204-p	
			Leather Tanneries	33-202-p-1	
			Manufacturers of Electrical Industrial Equipment	43-207-p	
			Manufacturers of Electric Wire and Cable	43-209-p	
			Sporting Goods Manufacturers	47-204-p-1	
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<b>CENSUS</b>					
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<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE SERVICE BULLETIN</b>					
Education, Science and Culture Division - Vol. 4, No. 3, Book Publishing in Canada, 1972 and 1973	81-001	N/C			
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Fabric Glove Manufacturers	34-218-p-1				
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