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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Consumer Price Index (CPI)

(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.8% to 181.3 in May from 179.8 in April. The latest rise, though somewhat greater than the increase in the preceding month, was less than half that registered between April and May in 1974.

Nearly two-fifths of the over-all advance in May was due to higher food prices, which rose by 1.1%. Housing accounted for another one-quarter. The index for all items excluding food moved up 0.8% — about the same rate of change experienced over the five months since the beginning of the year.

The main impetus behind the latest rise in the general food price level was provided by seasonally-higher prices for fresh produce along with generally-increased quotations for meat.

Between May 1974 and May 1975, the All-Items Consumer Price Index advanced 10.1%.

During this period, the following component index increases were recorded:

- Tobacco and alcohol, 13.2%; health and personal care, 11.9%; recreation, education and reading, 11.8%; food, 11.0%; transportation, 10.6%; housing, 9.4%; and clothing, 6.0%.

For further information, order the May 1975 issue of *Consumer Price Movements* (62-001, 30¢/\$3).

### Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production decreased 0.7% in April to 209.2 from its upwardly-revised level of 210.7 in March.

Total manufacturing output was down 1.3% in the latest month; durables manufacturing decreased 1.4% and non-durables manufacturing was off 1.2%.

Mining production increased 1.8% in April and utilities' output was up 0.4%.

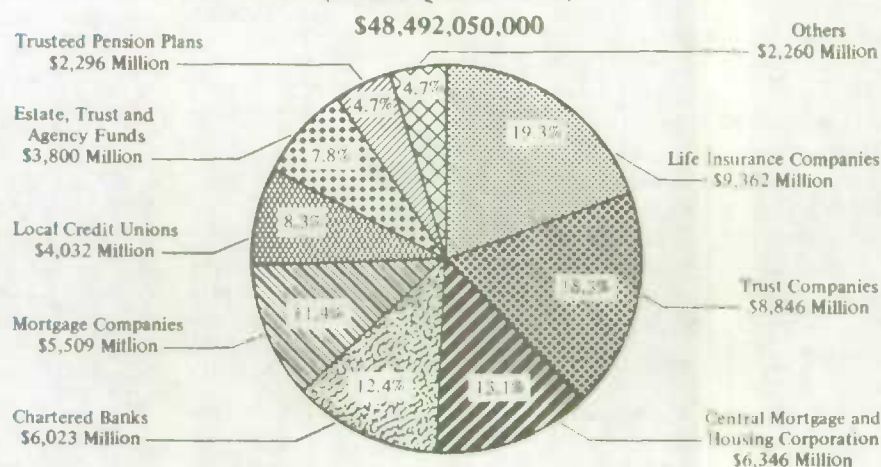
For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### 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)	May* 9.38	9.01	2.5
Unemployed	May* 714,000	795,000	36.3
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Department Store (\$ million)	Mar. 1,315	1,273	9.3
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Mar. 15,225P	15,000P	27.2
Wholesale (\$ million)	Mar. 6,348	6,207	24.3
<b>ORDERS</b>			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Mar. 6,756P	6,421P	-1.1
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Mar. 10,258P	10,357P	15.4
<b>PRICES</b>			
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	May* 181.3	179.8	10.1
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Apr.* 188.9	187.1P	14.0
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Apr.* 483.0	477.8P	6.4
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Feb. 470.3P	977.5	-1.2
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Apr.* 11,929	30,296	-41.3
<b>ENERGY</b>			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Mar. 2,313	6,714	10.9
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	Apr.* 22.8	98.2	0.1
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Feb.* 278.8	588.1	-2.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Mar.* 53.1	155.0	-6.0
<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)	Apr. 136.8	461.4	-20.1
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Apr. 1,257	4,943	2.5
<b>SALES</b>			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr. 430.5	1,445	10.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Mar. 6,855P	19,764	6.7
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr. 653.4	2,047	7.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar. 3,688	10,191	11.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Mar. 3,644	9,876	4.9

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

### Estimated Mortgages Outstanding by Selected Financial Institutions (Fourth Quarter 1974)



Source: Financial Institutions. Financial Statistics (61-006)

### Farm Implement Sales

Sales of farm implements and equipment for January to April 1975 were valued at \$186.8 million, up 44.5% from \$129.3 million in the first four months of 1974.

Sales of repair parts for farm equipment decreased 3.5% to \$38.6 million in the latest period.

For further information, order the April 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.

### Industry Selling Price Index: Manufacturing

(1961=100)

The industry selling price index for total manufacturing rose to 188.9 in April, an increase of 1.0% from the March level and up 14.0% from a year earlier.

The food and beverage group moved up 1.8% in the latest month, reflecting increases in butter and cheese plants (10.2%) and slaughtering and meat packing (1.7%). The wood products group advanced 4.8%, due mainly to higher prices in sawmills and planing mills (6.5%). Prices increases recorded in pulp and paper mills (0.8%) led to an 0.7% rise in the paper and allied products group.

Over the twelve months from April 1974, the largest price increases were shown by the following component group indexes:

- Petroleum and coal products industries, 26.2%; chemical and chemical products industries, 24.2%; paper and allied industries, 24.1%; non-metallic mineral products industries, 21.0%; and rubber products industries, 15.4%.

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

### Electric Power Statistics

Net generation rose slightly in April to 22,807 billion kilowatt hours from 22,803 billion kwh. a year earlier.

There were increases in net generation in seven regions of Canada in the latest month while decreases were registered in New Brunswick (-13.2%), Ontario (-7.7%), Quebec (-4.7%), Saskatchewan (-4.2%) and Manitoba (-0.5%). The largest increases were recorded in the Northwest Territories (30.5%) and Newfoundland (30.3%).

Hydro generation increased 2.0%; thermal production decreased 5.9%.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, 30¢/\$3).

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, April

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, May

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, April

Real Domestic Product, April

Retail Trade, April

Summary of Foreign Trade, May

### International Travel

Preliminary statistics for April show that 1.8 million United States visitors entered Canada, down 15.1% from April 1974. Canadian resident travellers returning from visits to the U.S. decreased by 1.0% to 2.3 million. (These declines reflect the fact that most of the Easter holiday traffic this year occurred in March rather than in April, which has been the pattern over the past five years).

Visitors entering Canada from countries other than the U.S. decreased 9.3% to 62,000; however, Canadian travellers returning from abroad increased by 16.4% to 135,000.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

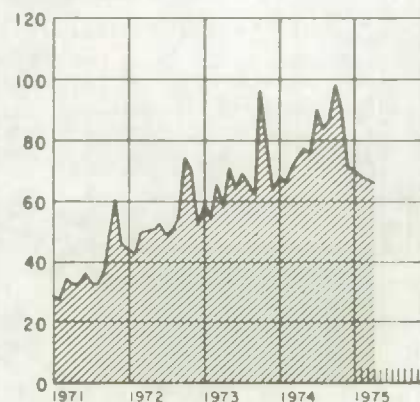
### Gold Production

Production of gold declined to 139,138 troy ounces in April from 150,115 troy ounces a year earlier.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Gold Production* (26-004, 15¢/\$1.50).

### Canadian Imports of Communication and Related Equipment

Millions of Dollars



Source: Imports by Commodities (65-007)

### The Labour Force

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Canada edged down to 7.1% in May from 7.2% in April.

Last month the unemployment rate for men 25 years of age and over increased to 5.5% from 5.4%, while for women 25 and over it declined to 4.4% from 4.5% in April. For persons aged 14-24, the unemployment rate declined to 12.5% from 12.9%.

The seasonally-adjusted participation rate — percentage of the population 14 and over included in the labour force — increased to 59.0% in May from 58.7% a month earlier.

On an actual basis, the number of persons employed rose to 9.38 million last month from 9.01 million in April and was up from 9.15 million in May 1974.

The actual unemployment total was 714,000 or 7.1% of the 10.09 million included in the labour force last month. By province, unemployment rates were: Newfoundland, 18.9%; New Brunswick, 14.6%; Nova Scotia, 9.5%; Quebec, 8.7%; British Columbia, 7.3%; Ontario, 6.1%; Manitoba, 4.4%; Alberta, 3.4%; and Saskatchewan, 2.0%.

For further information, order the May 1975 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

### Major Appliance Sales

Freezer sales soared, but Canadian manufacturers' domestic sales in April of other major appliances ran well under year-earlier levels.

Major appliance sales recorded by these manufacturers in the latest month, with percentage changes from April 1974 in brackets:

- Refrigerators, 35,437 (-27.2%); home and farm freezers, 41,700 (up 89.7%).
- Stoves and ranges, 31,947 (-35.7%).
- Automatic washing machines, 19,375 (-38.8%); electric and gas clothes dryers, 15,262 (-43.9%).
- Television sets, 34,635 (-21.7%).

Manufacturers' sales in April of 27,925 Canadian-made colour television sets represented a drop of 21.5% from a year earlier; black-and-white set sales fell 22.7% to 6,710 units.

For further information, order the April 1975 issues of: *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, 15¢/\$1.50); *Stoves and Furnaces* (41-005, 30¢/\$3); *Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers* (43-002, 15¢/\$1.50); and *Radio and Television Receiving Sets* (43-004, 30¢/\$3).



### Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland totalled an estimated \$3.73 billion in the January to April period of 1975, up 15.0% from \$3.24 billion in the first four months of 1974.

Total payments made to farmers in the latest period, by province and with year-earlier totals in brackets:

- Saskatchewan, \$1.31 billion (\$955.9 million); Alberta, \$786.5 million (\$682.6 million); Ontario, \$776.6 million (\$737.0 million); Manitoba, \$339.9 million (\$342.6 million); Quebec, \$332.0 million (\$301.5 million); British Columbia, \$94.2 million (\$99.7 million); Nova Scotia, \$35.6 million (\$32.9 million); New Brunswick, \$26.9 million (\$43.9 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$21.7 million (\$43.3 million).

For further information, order the January-April 1975 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact E.S. Boyko (613-994-9876), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in March were estimated at \$6.58 billion, down 3.3% from \$6.81 billion in February. New orders for durable goods decreased 3.8% to \$2.87 billion, while those for non-durable goods were off 3.0% to \$3.71 billion.

Total unfilled orders were estimated at \$10.17 billion, down 1.4% from the previous month.

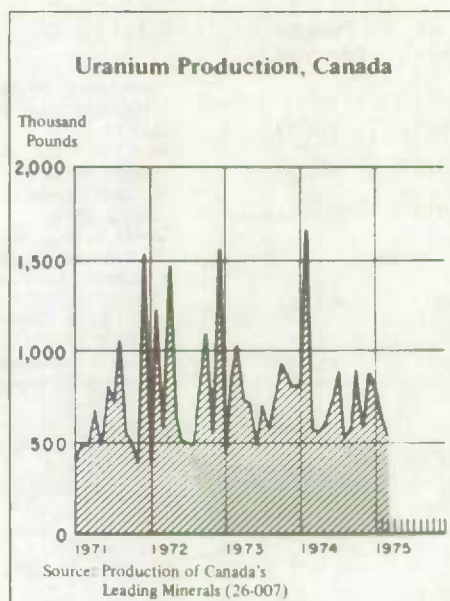
Total inventory owned, seasonally adjusted, was 1.2% higher at \$15.07 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments rose to 2.24:1 in March from 2.15:1 in February, while the finished products — to shipments ratio moved to 0.75:1 from 0.72:1.

Manufacturers' shipments in the latest month, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$6.72 billion, a decrease of 2.9% from February.

Not adjusted for seasonal variations, manufacturers' shipments in March were estimated at \$6.86 billion. Shipments in the first three months of 1975 totalled \$19.76 billion, up 6.7% from January-March 1974.

For further information, order the March 1975 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50).



### Housing Starts

New residential construction activity continued to decline in April with housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over dropping 24.4% to 11,929 units from 15,782 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with April 1974 figures in brackets: Ontario, 4,900 (7,226); Quebec, 2,703 (2,990); British Columbia, 1,955 (2,643); Alberta, 1,085 (1,648); Nova Scotia, 375 (238); Manitoba, 303 (534); Saskatchewan, 281 (164); New Brunswick, 217 (91); Newfoundland 90 (151); and Prince Edward Island, 20 (97).

For the first four months of 1975, housing starts in urban centres totalled 30,296 units, down 41.3% from 51,608 in January-April 1974.

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

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### Provincial Government Employment

Canada's provincial and territorial governments (excluding British Columbia) employed a total of 322,663 persons in general government services during the last pay period of March 1975.

Gross payrolls for the first quarter of 1975 amounted to \$830.2 million.

For further information, order *Provincial Government Employment, First Quarter 1975* (72-007, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact T.D. Harris (613-995-0676), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### General Wholesale Index

(1935-39=100)

The general wholesale price index increased 1.1% in April to 483.0 from 477.8 (revised) in March to stand 6.4% higher than the April 1974 level of 454.0. Four of the eight major groups increased while four decreased.

The iron products group index rose 3.2% in April, reflecting price increases of 49.3% for pig iron, 5.6% for tinplate and galvanized sheets and 1.1% for iron foundries' products and steel pipe and tubing. Animal products' prices advanced 2.6% with increases of 37.3% for hides and skins, 6.1% for leather and for dressed fowl, 5.4% for milk and its products, 3.2% for livestock, 2.5% for fresh meats and 2.3% for furs. The wood products group index moved up 2.5% due to increases of 17.7% for spruce, 5.1% for fir, 4.2% for hemlock and 3.7% for cedar.

Over the twelve months from April 1974, the following percentage changes were registered for the major group indexes:

- Chemical products, 24.2%; non-metallic minerals, 21.8%; iron products, 17.3%; wood products, 11.1%; animal products, 4.2%; vegetable products, 1.3%; non-ferrous metals, - 2.5%; and textile products, - 7.4%.

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

### Radio Time Sales

Sales of advertising to national advertisers on AM and FM stations totalled \$4.9 million in February, up 19.5% from a year earlier. Agency and other commissions reduced gross national sales to \$3.9 million.

Net local air time sales at \$9.4 million in the latest month showed an increase of 10.6% from February 1974.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year).

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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JUNE 5 - 11

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, February 1975	31-001	55¢/\$5.50
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, May 1975	32-009	30¢/\$3	Iron Ore, April 1975	26-005	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, May 1975	32-012	30¢/\$3	Mineral Wool, April 1975	44-004	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, May 1, 1975	32-010	30¢/\$3	Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, April 1975	32-001	15¢/\$1.50
			Motor Vehicle Shipments, April 1975	42-002	15¢/\$1.50
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>			Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water Heaters, April 1975	41-008	15¢/\$1.50
Security Transactions With Non-Residents, January 1975	67-002	40¢/\$4	Oils and Fats, February 1975	32-006	30¢/\$3
			Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods, March 1975	35-001	30¢/\$3
<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>			Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, January 1975	35-002	30¢/\$3
Cheques Cashied, February 1975	61-001	30¢/\$3	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, March 1975	35-003	30¢/\$3
<b>CENSUS</b>			Quarterly Shipments of Flush Type Doors (Wood) by Canadian Manufacturers, Quarter Ended March 31, 1975	35-004	35¢/\$1.40
Industries – Industries by Sex, Showing Age, Marital Status, Level of Schooling and Class of Worker, for the Atlantic Provinces, 1971 Census of Canada	94-750	\$1.40	Rigid Insulating Board, April 1975	36-002	15¢/\$1.50
Industries – Industries by Sex, Showing Level of Schooling by Age, and School Attendance, for Canada, 1971 Census of Canada	94-753	70¢	Salt, April 1975	26-009	15¢/\$1.50
Labour Force Activity – Work Experience, Weeks Worked in 1970 for Labour Force and Wage-earners by Sex, 1971 Census of Canada	94-778	\$1.05			
Labour Force and Individual Income – Employment Income, for Canada, Provinces and Census Divisions, 1971 Census of Canada	94-711	\$1.40	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Occupations – Occupations by Sex, Showing (a) Level of Schooling by Age and School Attendance, (b) Vocational Training, for Canada, 1971 Census of Canada	94-729	\$1.40	Electrical Products – Vol. 4, No. 7, Electric Lamps, April 1975	43-007	\$1.40 per year
			Energy Statistics – Vol. 10, No. 21, Refined Petroleum Products, March 1975; Salient Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Statistics, February 1975	57-002	\$4.20 per year
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			<b>Fabricated Metal Products – Vol. 4, April 1975: Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools, No. 16; Oil Filters and Cartridges, No. 17; Domestic and Farm Water Systems, No. 18; Builders and Shelf Hardware, No. 19</b>	41-009	\$2.80 per year
Expenditures on Scientific Activities by Private Non-profit Organizations, 1973	13-404	70¢	<b>Fish and Fish Products – Advance Release of Fish Landings, April 1975: British Columbia, Vol. 4, No. 42; Quebec, Vol. 4, No. 43; Fish Freezings and Stocks, April 1975: Canada, Vol. 4, No. 41; Maritimes, Vol. 4, No. 40</b>	24-003	\$1.40 per year
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>					
Trade of Canada Commodity Classification, January 1, 1975	12-520E	\$3.50	<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
			Consumer Credit, March 1975	61-004	30¢/\$3
<b>HEALTH</b>			Department Store Sales by Regions, April 1975	63-004	\$1.50 per year
Annual Salaries of Hospital Nursing Personnel, 1974	83-401	\$1.40			
Hospital Indicators, January-December 1974	83-001	\$1.40/\$5.60	<b>PRICES</b>		
			Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin, May 1975	62-007	40¢/\$4
<b>INDUSTRY PRODUCT</b>					
Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, March 1975	61-005	40¢/\$4	<b>STANDARDS</b>		
			Standard Geographical Classification Manual – Volume I: The Classification, January 1974	12-545	\$2.80
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, March 1975	73-001	40¢/\$4	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
			Shipping Statistics, July 1974	54-002	30¢/\$3
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>					
Asbestos, April 1975	26-001	15¢/\$1.50	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Biscuits and Confectionery, Quarter Ended March 31, 1975	32-016	35¢/\$1.40	Aviation Statistics Centre – Vol. 7, No. 28, Canada-U.S.A. Scheduled Air Passenger Origin & Destination, Fourth Quarter 1974 and 1973; Vol. 7, No. 29, Scheduled Air Passenger Origin and Destination (Domestic), Fourth Quarter 1974 and 1973	51-004	\$4.20 per year
Cement, April 1975	44-001	15¢/\$1.50	<b>Railway Transport – Vol. 5, No. 7, Railway Operating Statistics, December 1974</b>	52-004	\$1.40 per year
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, March 1975	33-003	15¢/\$1.50			
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April 1975	43-005	15¢/\$1.50			
Footwear Statistics, March 1975	33-002	30¢/\$3			
Gypsum Products, April 1975	44-003	15¢/\$1.50			
Hardboard, April 1975	36-001	15¢/\$1.50			