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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales in April rose to \$430.5 million, up 12.4% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions of Canada.

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

- Ontario, \$162.2 million (11.0%); Quebec, \$77.0 million (6.0%); British Columbia, \$71.7 million (17.0%); Alberta, \$53.3 million (15.0%); Manitoba, \$27.2 million (13.4%); Atlantic Provinces, \$26.8 million (18.0%); and Saskatchewan, \$12.4 million (24.7%).

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

### Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 136,760 units in April, a drop of 3.6% from 141,832 a year earlier.

Passenger car production declined to 102,225 units from 109,630 while production of commercial vehicles increased to 34,535 units from 32,202 in April 1974.

For the first four months of 1975, Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 461,411 units, down 20.1% from 577,333 in January-April 1974.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact J.S. More (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Refined Petroleum Products

Canadian refineries produced 53.1 million barrels of refined petroleum products in March, down 5.6% from a year earlier.

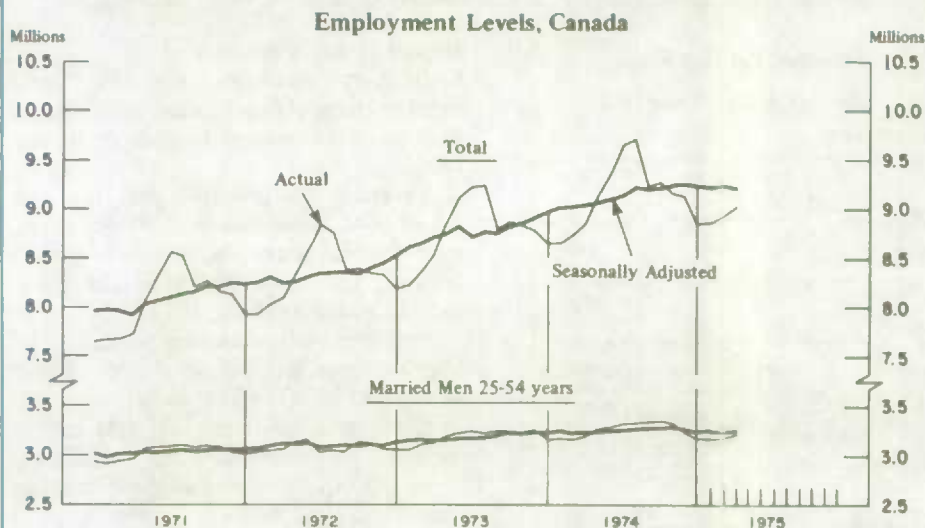
Net sales of refined petroleum products at 48.1 million barrels in the latest month showed a decrease of 6.6% from March 1974.

For further information, order the March 1975 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, 40¢/\$4), or *Energy Statistics Service Bulletin*, Vol. 10, No. 21 (57-002, \$4.20 per year).

### 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)	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)	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	0.2
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)	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.



Source: The Labour Force (71-001)

### New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales of new motor vehicles in April totalled 122,510 units, down 1.3% from a year earlier. Total sales value increased 12.3% to \$653.4 million.

Sales of passenger cars produced in Canada and the United States decreased 6.3% to 76,973 units while those of overseas-manufactured automobiles rose 22.9% to 14,619 units.

Commercial vehicle sales in April increased 2.6% from a year earlier to 30,918 units; included were 29,213 manufactured in Canada and the U.S. (up 2.1%) and 1,705 manufactured overseas (up 11.4%).

For the first four months of 1975, total sales reached 388,378 units with an accumulated value of \$2.05 billion. This represents a decrease of 5.1% in units but an increase of 7.2% in value compared with sales for January-April 1974.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact Michael Kwilecki (613-996-9278), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production for February amounted to 1.64 million barrels per day, down 16.4% from a year earlier.

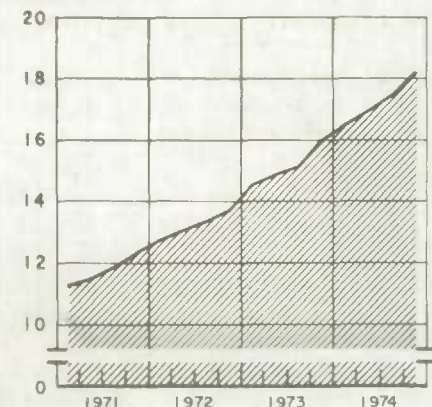
Natural gas production averaged 9.96 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, a decrease of 2.2% from February 1974.

For further information, order the February 1975 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3).

### Trusted Pension Plans

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held

Billions of Dollars



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

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Movements, May  
Department Store Sales and Stocks, April  
Housing Starts and Completions, April  
Real Domestic Product, April  
Retail Trade, April  
The Labour Force, May

### Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada rose to 242.9 in April, an increase of 0.5% from the March level and up 9.3% from a year earlier.

The materials component of the total index advanced 5.1% over the twelve months from April 1974; labour costs increased 12.7%.

Prices of concrete products used in non-residential building construction jumped 21.9% during this period. Other increases included: electrical equipment 8.6%; steel and metal work 4.3%; plumbing, heating and other equipment 4.0%; and other materials 10.6%. Prices of lumber and lumber products dropped 13.0%.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin* (62-007, \$4 per year).

### Report on Job Vacancies

Preliminary estimates for the three months ended April 30 show a continued decline in the average number of vacant jobs.

Vacancies for full-time, part-time and casual jobs numbered 62,800 compared with 68,400 in the three months ended January 1975 and 99,000 in the three months ended April 30, 1974.

Full-time job vacancies declined to 56,800 from 61,900 in the preceding period and 89,600 a year earlier.

For every 1,000 existing jobs in the surveyed three-month period, seven were vacant, down from nine in the preceding period and from 13 a year earlier.

For further information, order *Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies* (71-002, \$1.05/\$4.20).

### Income After Tax, 1972

The average income after tax of Canadian families rose from \$8,783 in 1971 to \$9,550 in 1972, an increase of about 9%. For unattached individuals, the average income after tax increased by about 5% from \$3,710 to \$3,910.

The average total money income, before income tax deductions, of families was \$11,300 in 1972 while for unattached individuals, it was \$4,572.

An income-after-tax report containing 1973 estimates in addition to the 1972 data is being compiled. This report, *Income After Tax, Distributions by Size in Canada, 1972 and 1973* (13-210, price to be determined) is scheduled for release early next year.

### Railway Carloadings

Railways operating in Canada reported a total of 19.3 million tons of revenue carload freight loaded in April, a decrease of 6.1% from a year earlier. Non-carload shipments were down 17.6% to 154,849 tons.

Rail traffic received from U.S. connections at just under 2.0 million tons showed a sharp 28.9% drop from last April – continuing the downtrend begun in late 1974.

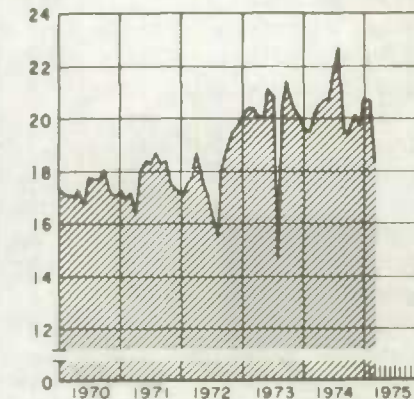
In the latest month, the more notable percentage declines in loadings were recorded for: sand, gravel and crushed stone (-39.0%); potash (-24.1%); and iron ore (-12.3%). Coal registered the only significant increase, rising 27.3% to 1.8 million tons.

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

### Rail Revenue Freight Loaded

(Seasonally Adjusted)

Millions of tons



Source: Railway Carloadings (52-001)



### International Travel

Preliminary estimates show Canada earned \$178 million from international travel in the first three months of this year. But Canadians travelling abroad spent \$680 million in the same period, leaving the international travel account with a deficit of \$502 million.

United States residents spent \$134 million in Canada and \$44 million was spent by visitors from all other countries. Canadian resident spending abroad in the first quarter of 1975 was estimated at \$459 million in the U.S. and \$221 million in all other countries.

The travel account deficit of \$502 million in the latest period was up from \$362 million in January-March 1974.

For further information, order the March 1975 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, 70¢/\$7), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), Financial Flows and Multinational Enterprises Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

### Iron Ore Shipments

Canadian mines shipped 4.21 million tons of iron ore in April, an increase of 3.8% from a year earlier.

Cumulatively, output for the first four months of 1975 totalled 10.94 million tons, up 19.0% from 9.20 million tons in January-April 1974.

For further information, order the April 1975 issue of *Iron Ore* (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50).

### Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971=100)

The residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 138.3 in April, an increase of 1.4% from the previous month's level and up 3.3% from a year earlier.

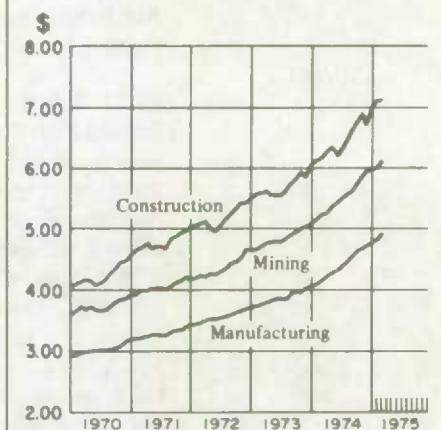
Prices of building materials used in residential building construction decreased 1.2% over the twelve months from April 1974; labour costs rose 11.9%.

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

- Quebec, 6.0%; Prairie Provinces, 4.8%; Atlantic Provinces, 3.7%; British Columbia, 3.5%; and Ontario, 1.4%.

For further information, order the April 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.

### Average Hourly Earnings in Canadian Industry



Source: Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002)

### Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers

Canada's seven major scheduled airlines reported a combined loss of \$1.9 million in 1974 compared with a profit of \$19.0 million in 1973.

Total operating revenues rose 27.8% to \$1.33 billion in the latest year; operating expenses climbed 31.0% to \$1.27 billion.

Passenger traffic — measured in passenger-miles for all services — showed a 12.0% increase over 1973 to 16,741.5 million. Goods ton-miles for all services were up 6.3%.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations* (51-001, 40¢/\$4), or *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin*, Vol. 7, No. 24 (51-004, \$4.20 per year).

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### Railway Operating Statistics

Revenues of the six major railways in Canada rose 21.2% to \$2.46 billion in 1974, while expenses more than kept pace with a 23.1% increase to \$2.38 billion. Net income at \$77.7 million was down 17.1% from the 1973 level.

Canadian National earned \$1.39 billion in railway operating revenues in 1974; expended \$1.37 billion; and recorded net income of \$13.8 million on operations (a decrease of 38.9% from \$22.6 million in the preceding year).

Canadian Pacific reported railway revenues of \$935.2 million in the latest year; had expenses totalling \$867.5 million; and showed net income of \$67.7 million (up 9.9% from \$61.6 million in 1973).

Revenue freight ton-miles of the six major railways increased 6.6% to 133.7 billion in 1974. Total passenger-miles rose 21.6% to 1.81 billion.

For further information, order the December 1974 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

### Railway Freight Traffic, 1974

Railways operating in Canada carried 271.7 million tons of revenue freight in 1974, an increase of 2.4% over 1973.

A breakdown of the 1974 movement by major commodity groups shows that only food, feed and beverages (-0.3%) and crude materials (-0.5%) were handled in lesser volume. Gains were recorded for the following categories: live animals (49.6%); non-carload freight (46.4%); special traffic (13.5%); fabricated materials (7.7%); and end products (6.1%).

On a geographic basis, tonnage loaded increased in Manitoba (7.1%), Ontario (7.0%), Alberta (5.7%), Quebec (4.4%) and Saskatchewan (0.3%). Tonnage declines occurred in New Brunswick (-21.3%), Prince Edward Island (-8.1%), Newfoundland (-5.5%), Yukon and Northwest Territories (-1.4%), British Columbia (-0.9%) and Nova Scotia (-0.7%).

For further information, order *Railway Freight Traffic, 1974* (52-205, \$2.80), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.



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## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED MAY 29 - JUNE 4

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Dairy Factory Production, April 1975	32-002	\$1.50 a year	<b>PRELIMINARY BULLETINS</b>		
<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>			1973 Census of Manufactures - Pen and Pencil Manufacturers	47-205-p-6	
Cheques Cashied, January 1975	61-001	30¢/\$3	Pulp and Paper Mills	36-204-p	
<b>CENSUS</b>			Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturers	44-211-p	\$4.90 for series
Housing - Dwelling Characteristics of Immigrant Households, 1971	93-741	\$1.05	Rubber Products Industries	33-206-p	
Census of Canada			<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Income of Individuals - Employment			<b>Fish and Fish Products - Advance</b>		
Income by Sex, Class of Worker, Age and Weeks Worked, Full- and Part-Time, 1971 Census of Canada	94-764	\$1.05	Release of Fish Landings, April 1975: Maritimes, Vol. 4, No. 36; Newfoundland, Vol. 4, No. 35; Fish Freezings and Stocks, April 1975: British Columbia, Vol. 4, No. 39; Ontario and Prairies, Vol. 4, No. 38; Quebec, Vol. 4, No. 37	24-003	\$1.40 per year
Industries - Industries by Sex, Showing Period of Immigration, Birthplace and Ethnic Group, for Canada and Provinces, 1971 Census of Canada	94-754	\$1.05	Metals and Minerals - Vol. 3, No. 5, Consumption of Cobalt, 1974	41-010	\$2.80 per year
Occupations - Occupation Groups by Sex, Showing Age, Level of Schooling, Number Married and Number of Wage-Earners, for Census Metropolitan Areas, 1971 Census of Canada	94-735	\$2.80	Selected Dairy By-Products - Vol. 4, No. 7, Production and Inventory of Process Cheese, April 1975; Vol. 4, No. 8, Production and Inventory of Instant Dry Skim Milk Powder, April 1975	32-024	\$1.40 per year
Population - Migration by Labour Force Activity, Census Metropolitan Areas, 1971 Census of Canada	92-748	\$1.05	Vinyl-asbestos Floor Tile - Vol. 4, No. 4, Floor Tiles, April 1975	47-001	\$1.40 per year
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
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<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			Power Laundries, Dry Cleaning and Dyeing Plants, 1973	63-205	70¢
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, January 1975	26-006	30¢/\$3	Wholesale Trade, March 1975	63-008	\$1.50 per year
Electric Power Statistics, March 1975	57-001	30¢/\$3	<b>PRICES</b>		
Fisheries Statistics, Newfoundland, 1973	24-202	70¢	<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
Gas Utilities, January 1975	55-002	30¢/\$3	Retail Prices and Living Costs - Vol. 4, No. 5, Canadian Inter-City Retail Price Comparisons as of February 1975	62-005	\$2.80 per year
Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipe and Fittings, March 1975	41-004	15¢/\$1.50	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Oil Pipe Line Transport, March 1975	55-001	30¢/\$3	Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations, December 1974	51-001	40¢/\$4
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, February 1975	35-003	30¢/\$3	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Selected Meat and Meat Preparations, March 1975	32-020	15¢/\$1.50	Aviation Statistics Centre - Vol. 7, No. 26, Aircraft Fleet		
Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, February 1975	32-004	40¢/\$4	Canadian Commercial Air Carriers as of April 15, 1975; Vol. 7, No. 27, Aircraft Movement Statistics, February 1975	51-004	\$4.20 per year
Soaps and Synthetic Detergents, March 1975	46-003	15¢/\$1.50	Communications - Vol. 5, No. 11, Telecommunication Statistics, Fourth Quarter 1974	56-001	\$1.40 per year
			Railway Transport - Vol. 5, No. 6, Railway Operating Statistics, March 1975	52-004	\$1.40 per year