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# inFOMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### The Labour Force

Canada's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate edged down to 7.1% in December from 7.3% in November.

Last month the unemployment rate for men 25 years of age and over remained unchanged at 5.0% while for women 25 and over it went down to 4.3% from 4.5% in November. For persons aged 14 to 24, the unemployment rate decreased to 12.9% from 13.3%.

The seasonally-adjusted participation rate — percentage of the population 14 and over included in the labour force — dropped to 58.5% from 58.8% a month earlier.

On an actual basis, the number of persons employed decreased to 9.23 million in December from 9.33 million in November but was up from 9.12 million in December 1974.

The actual unemployment total was 697,000 or 7.0% of the 9.92 million included in the labour force last month. By province, unemployment rates were: Newfoundland, 17.5%; New Brunswick, 12.2%; Quebec, 9.4%; Nova Scotia, 8.0%; British Columbia, 7.7%; Ontario, 5.6%; Manitoba, 5.6%; Saskatchewan, 3.6%; and Alberta, 3.0%.

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

### Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 136,702 units in November, down 4.9% from 143,723 a year earlier.

Passenger car production decreased to 99,815 units from 108,116 but production of commercial vehicles rose to 36,887 from 35,607 in November 1974.

For the first 11 months of 1975, Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 1,309,459 units, down 8.6% from 1,432,574 in January-November 1974.

For further information, order the November 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.

### Mineral Production

Preliminary estimates show Canada's 1975 mineral production was valued at a record \$13.4 billion, up about 15% from \$11.71 billion in 1974.

The fuels sector provided the largest component at \$6.8 billion while metals were valued at \$4.8 billion, non-metals amounted to \$3.2 billion and structural materials accounted for \$607 million.

For further information, order *Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1975* (26-202, 70¢).

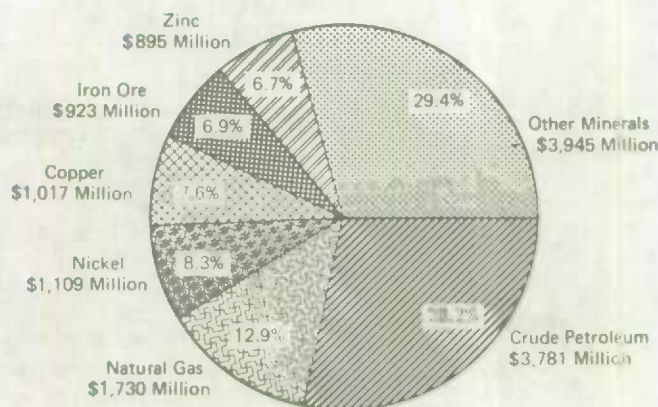
### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Oct. 209.89p	207.31p	12.2
Labour Income (\$ million)	Oct. 7,578p	7,536p	12.6
Persons with Jobs (million)	Dec. 9.23	9.33	1.2
Unemployed	Dec. 697,000	640,000	16.8
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Department Store (\$ million)	Sept. 1,386	1,452	8.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Oct. 14,948p	15,020r	8.1
Wholesale (\$ million)	Sept. 6,438	6,365	11.7
<b>ORDERS</b>			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Oct. 7,785p	7,412r	2.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Oct. 9,795p	9,757r	-4.5
<b>PRICES</b>			
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Dec. 144.3	144.1	9.5
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Oct. 195.4	194.4	8.6
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Oct. 503.5	502.2r	5.1
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Oct. 1,118.0p	8,732	7.0
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Nov. 18,935	162,088	1.3
<b>ENERGY</b>			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Sept. 2,293	20,349	25.7
Electricity Generation (billion kwh.)	Oct. 22.2	223.5	-2.7
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	June 265.1	1,731.8	-0.9
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Oct. 49.9	512.7	-4.0
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>			
Exports (\$ million)	Nov. 2,866	29,758	0.9
Imports (\$ million)	Nov. 3,180	31,940	10.6
<b>PRODUCTION</b>			
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Nov. 136.7	1,309.5	-8.6
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Nov. 1,179	12,949	-4.3
<b>SALES</b>			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Oct. 522.3	4,315	13.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Oct. 7,747p	70,408	5.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov. 649.6	6,594	18.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Sept. 4,158	35,381	10.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Sept. 4,285	33,701	4.0

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

### Canada's Mineral Production, 1975

\$13,400,000,000



Source: Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1975 (26-202)

### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in October were estimated at \$7.25 billion, up 1.2% from \$7.16 billion (revised) in September. New orders for durable goods rose 3.5% to \$3.33 billion while those for non-durable goods decreased 0.7% to \$3.92 billion.

The backlog of unfilled orders in all manufacturing industries in October, seasonally adjusted, was estimated at \$9.89 billion, up 0.4% from the previous month.

Total inventory owned, seasonally adjusted, was 0.3% lower at \$15.07 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments dipped to 2.09:1 in October from the revised September ratio of 2.11:1, while the finished products — to shipments ratio remained at 0.69:1 in both months.

Manufacturers' shipments in October, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$7.21 billion, an increase of 0.7% from September.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in October at an estimated \$7.75 billion showed a rise of 3.0% from a year earlier. Cumulative shipments for the first 10 months of 1975 totalled \$70.41 billion, up 5.9% from January-October 1974.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Help-Wanted Index (1969=100)

The seasonally-adjusted Help-Wanted Index declined to 158 in the fourth quarter of 1975, down 9% from the previous quarter. All regions contributed to the decrease.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 1974, the index showed a drop of 13%. All regions except Quebec reported declines.

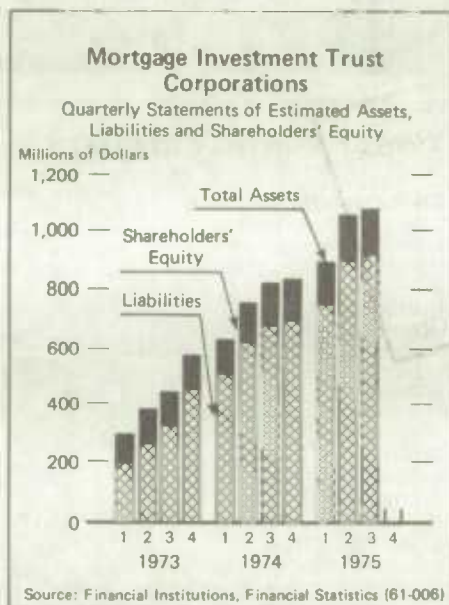
The annual index for 1975 was down 18% to 164 from 199 in 1974 — posting the first year-to-year decrease since 1970.

For further information, contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

### Asbestos

Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos increased to 152,280 tons in November from 142,503 tons a year earlier. This brought year-to-date shipments in 1975 to 1,023,419 tons, down 38.7% from the first 11 months of 1974.

For further information, order the November 1975 issue of *Asbestos* (26-001, 15¢/\$1.50).



### Restaurant Statistics

Restaurants in Canada had total estimated receipts of \$168.2 million in November, an increase of 10.8% from a year earlier. Sales were up in all provinces.

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

- Ontario, \$60.4 million (9.2%); Quebec, \$57.0 million (8.8%); British Columbia, \$13.9 million (10.5%); Alberta, \$12.9 million (22.9%); Manitoba, \$9.9 million (18.1%); Saskatchewan, \$5.9 million (11.5%); Nova Scotia, \$4.0 million (8.8%); New Brunswick, \$2.7 million (15.6%); Newfoundland, \$1.3 million (6.5%); and Prince Edward Island, \$291,000 (21.3%).

Cumulatively, restaurant receipts for the first 11 months of 1975 totalled an estimated \$1.82 billion, up 11.0% from January-November 1974.

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

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, December

Employment, Earnings and Hours, November

Estimates of Labour Income, November

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, November

Major Appliance Sales, November

Real Domestic Product, November

Summary of Foreign Trade, December

### Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in October totalled \$1.12 billion, up 31.9% from \$847.8 million a year earlier.

Lower totals were recorded in the latest month for industrial permits at \$113.2 million (\$117.4 million in October 1974) and institutional and governmental permits at \$152.8 million (\$155.7 million). But the value of residential permits jumped to \$648.3 million from \$379.2 million and commercial building permits increased to \$203.8 million from \$195.5 million.

Building permits taken out in October, by province and with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$463.5 million (\$313.8 million); Quebec, \$211.9 million (\$202.4 million); Alberta, \$156.8 million (\$100.9 million); British Columbia, \$130.4 million (\$90.8 million); Saskatchewan, \$47.5 million (\$26.3 million); Nova Scotia, \$32.9 million (\$41.8 million); Manitoba, \$31.9 million (\$28.4 million); New Brunswick, \$23.7 million (\$23.4 million); Prince Edward Island, \$9.7 million (\$9.3 million); and Newfoundland, \$9.1 million (\$8.7 million).

Cumulatively, building permits taken out in Canada in the first 10 months of 1975 totalled \$8.73 billion, up 7.0% from \$8.16 billion in January-October 1974.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7).

### Electric Power Statistics

Net generation declined 3.8% in November to 22.9 billion kilowatt hours from 23.8 billion kwh. a year earlier.

Hydro generation decreased 7.3% in the latest month; thermal production increased 7.5%.

For further information, order the November 1975 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$228.5 million of retail finance paper in October, an increase of 7.8% from a year earlier.

The total for the latest month comprised \$56.8 million for passenger cars, \$28.4 million for other consumer goods, \$76.4 million for commercial vehicles and \$56.8 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

For further information, order the October 1975 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3).



### Consumer Price Index (CPI) (1971=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada edged up 0.1% to 144.3 in December from 144.1 in November, registering its smallest month-to-month rise in over three years.

This slowing of the rate of increase in the all-items index was largely due to an 0.7% decline in the level of food prices. The housing component, which moved up by 0.9% from the preceding month, was mainly responsible for the latest over-all CPI advance, with an increase in the clothing index contributing to a lesser extent. In contrast to the decline in the food index, the index for all-items excluding food increased 0.5%.

Lower prices for pork products, and to a lesser extent for beef as well, were major contributing factors to the drop in the food index.

Increased shelter charges for both owned and rented accommodation, as well as higher prices associated with the operation of the household — including the impact of higher domestic gas rates in both Vancouver and Montreal — accounted for much of the increase in the index for all-items excluding food.

Between December 1974 and December 1975, the All-Items Consumer Price Index advanced 9.5%.

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

- Transportation, 12.4%; housing, 10.8%; health and personal care, 10.4%; food, 9.0%; tobacco and alcohol, 8.5%; recreation, education and reading, 7.6%; and clothing, 4.3%.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the all-items index rose 0.3% between November and December. The current annual rate of change in the CPI, based on the seasonally-adjusted movement since three months earlier was 10.0%, down from the 11.0% rate recorded in November.

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

### New Publication

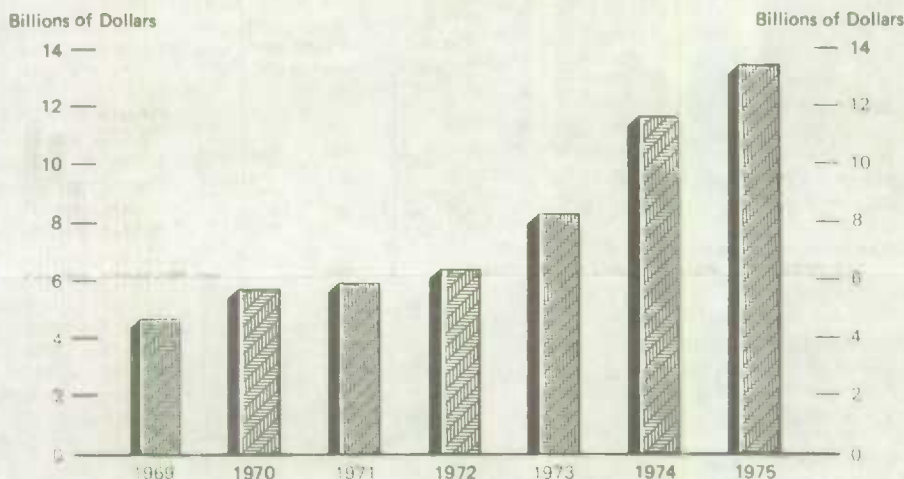
Working Life Tables for Males in Canada and Provinces, 1971 by K.S. Gnanasekaran and G. Montigny has been released recently by the Content and Analysis Branch, Census Field.

Efforts to construct working life tables for Canada were first undertaken by Frank Denton and Dr. Sylvia Ostry, based upon the results of the 1961 census. Closely following their efforts, the present study attempts to examine the recent changes in working life of Canadian males, using the 1971 census data.

In addition, this volume focuses on national trends in labour force accession as well as retirement rates, and on provincial differences in these components. Recognizing the new advances in demographic and labour force research, it is also attempted here to construct generation or cohort working life tables for Canada.

For further information, order *Working Life Tables for Males in Canada and Provinces 1971* (71-524E, \$1.40).

### Canada's Mineral Production



Source: Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimates (26-202)

### Housing Starts

New residential construction activity remained at a high level in November with housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over rising 64.8% to 18,935 units from 11,489 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with November 1974 figures in brackets: Ontario, 7,489 (4,188); Quebec, 3,668 (3,211); Alberta, 2,638 (1,314); British Columbia, 2,498 (935); Saskatchewan, 1,067 (511); Manitoba, 578 (391); Nova Scotia, 390 (314); New Brunswick, 357 (458); Newfoundland, 235 (153); and Prince Edward Island, 15 (14).

For the first 11 months of 1975, housing starts in urban centres totalled 162,088 units, up 1.3% from 160,079 in January-November 1974.

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

### Robberies in Canada

Preliminary figures for the first six months of 1975 show robberies in Canada increased 43.7% to 9,645 from 6,711 in the corresponding period of 1974.

Robberies involving firearms increased 43.1% in the latest period to 3,097 from 2,164, those involving other offensive weapons rose 54.0% to 1,736 from 1,127 and other robberies increased 22.1% to 4,165 from 3,412.

For further information, contact V. Fitzgibbon (613-995-0855), project manager, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Judicial Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Deaths in Canada, 1974

In 1974 there were 166,786 Canadian resident deaths registered in Canada, a slight increase from 164,082 in 1973. However, the death rate of 7.4 per 1,000 population remained unchanged from the previous year.

Diseases of the heart continued to be the leading cause of death, accounting for 58,170 deaths or 34.9% of the total. Cancer claimed 33,751 victims (20.2%). The number of deaths due to accidents — the third leading cause — totalled 12,944 (7.8%).

For further information, contact Dr. J.S. Cudmore, Epidemiologist or J. Silins (613-995-0864), Vital Statistics Section, Health Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Motor Carriers—Freight, 1974

Preliminary results from the Motor Carriers—Freight survey indicate that approximately 14,000 for-hire trucking firms (excluding household movers) grossed \$3.14 billion in 1974.

For further information, contact the Chief, Surface Transport Section (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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