

INFORMAT

Weekly Bulletin

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

(1971=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.5% to 150.7 in September from 150.0 in August.

Higher prices for fuel oil and gasoline contributed to over 60% of this latest advance while increased shelter charges — for both owned and rented accommodation — contributed to a lesser extent. (The index for all items excluding food rose 1.0%.)

The impact of these increases was lessened by a further decline in food prices, the food index level dropping 0.7% in September. The decline largely resulted from seasonally-lower prices for fresh vegetables as well as from price decreases for sugar and poultry. Partially offsetting these declines were higher prices for beef (down 13% from a year earlier) and higher restaurant meal charges.

Between September 1975 and September 1976, the All-Items Consumer Price Index advanced 6.5%.

During this period, the following movements were recorded in the component indexes:

- Housing, 11.2%; transportation, 10.1%; tobacco and alcohol, 7.7%; health and personal care, 7.6%; clothing, 5.8%; recreation, education and reading, 5.6%; and food, -0.5%.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the all-items index rose 0.7% between August and September. The current annual rate of change in the CPI, based on the seasonally-adjusted movement since three months earlier was 4.4%, up from the 2.7% rate recorded the previous month.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Consumer Price Movements* (62-001, 30¢/\$3).

Provincial Government Employment

Canada's provincial and territorial governments (excluding British Columbia) employed a total of 351,462 persons (full-time and other) in general government services during the last pay period of June, an increase of 5,296 (1.5%) from a year earlier.

Gross payrolls for the second quarter of 1976 amounted to \$1,039.5 million, up 2.4% from \$822.3 million in April-June 1975.

For further information, order *Provincial Government Employment, April-June 1976* (72-007, \$1.05/\$4.20).

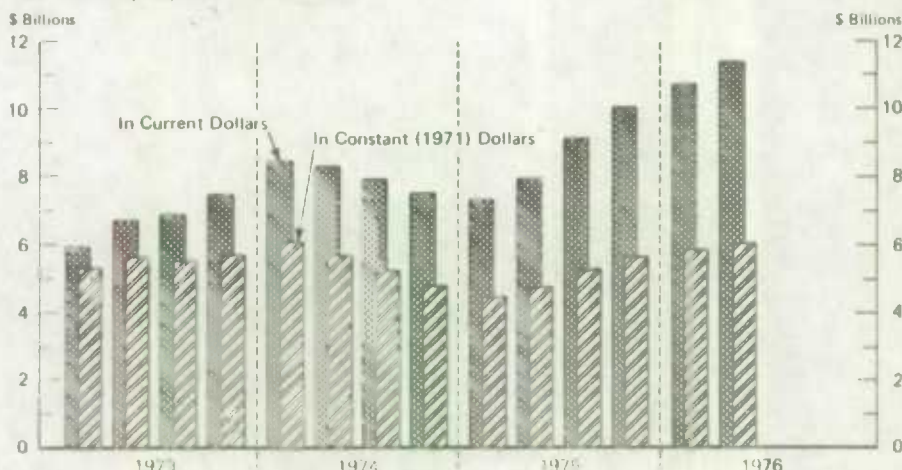
LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	June	229.0p	225.56p	12.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	9,053p	8,825p	16.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Aug.	10.06	10.06	2.5
Unemployed	Aug.	709,000	775,000	2.3
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	July	1,785	1,663	31.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	16,140p	16,054r	5.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	July	6,968	6,851	7.0
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	7,552p	8,540r	9.8
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	9,586p	9,588r	-6.3
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.*	150.7	150.0	6.5
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Aug.*	162.4	162.2r	4.6
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	July	515.8	515.6r	5.2
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	July	1,035.0p	7,039.9	25.1
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	June	23,301	99,112	53.0
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	July	1,739	12,551	-7.2
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	July	21.6	170.3	6.3
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	May*	281.6	1,504.7	2.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	53.5	308.1	-1.4
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	3,029	24,740	15.1
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	2,959	25,043	9.3
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Aug.*	112.0	1,095.9	22.1
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Aug.	1,185	9,513	-1.5
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	509.0	3,250.4	14.7
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	7,554p	56,471	13.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	July	633.6	4,684.1	13.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	4,931	31,540	14.1
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July	4,208	28,841	11.6

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

Residential Construction Expenditures

Data: Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-601)

Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)

The Industry Selling Price Index for manufacturing edged up 0.1% to 162.4 in August from 162.2 (revised) in July and stood 4.6% above its August 1975 level of 155.3. In the latest month, increases for most non-food components outweighed a 0.5% decline for food and beverages.

The wood index advanced 2.1% in August as higher prices were recorded for lumber, plywood, shingles and shakes. Paper and allied products moved up 0.4% mainly as a result of price increases for pulp and newsprint. The primary metals index also rose 0.4%, chiefly reflecting higher steel and lead prices.

The decline in food prices in August was mainly due to decreases for pork, sugar, animal feeds and some vegetable oils.

Over the 12 months from August 1975, the largest price increases were recorded for the following group indexes:

- Non-metallic mineral products industries, 10.8%; leather industries, 10.1%; petroleum and coal products industries, 9.3%; wood industries, 8.9%; furniture and fixture industries, 7.6%; metal fabricating industries, 7.4%; textile industries, 7.2%; and primary metal industries, 7.2%.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).

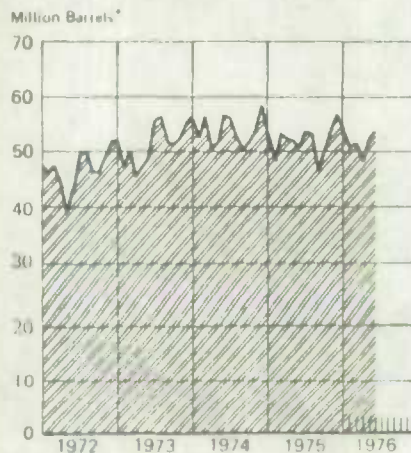
Federal Government Employment

Canada's federal government had 564,449 employees (including members of the Canadian Forces) as of June 1976, an increase of 8,572 (1.5%) from a year earlier.

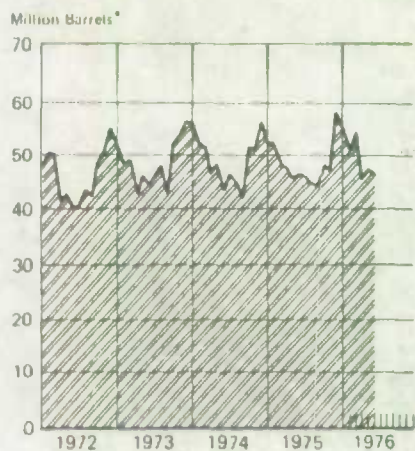
Gross payrolls for the second quarter of 1976 (including retroactive and overtime payments) amounted to \$2,039.0 million, up \$272.6 million (15.4%) from the corresponding period in 1975.

For further information, order *Federal Government Employment, Second Quarter 1976* (72-004, 70¢/\$2.80), or contact T. Moore (613-995-0669), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Refinery Production in Canada of Petroleum Products



Net Sales in Canada of Refined Petroleum Products



International Travel

Preliminary statistics for August show that 5.4 million United States visitors entered Canada, down 14.8% from August 1975. Canadian residents returning from the United States numbered 4.6 million, up 4.7% over last year.

Visitors entering Canada from countries other than the United States increased by 15.4% to 265,000. Canadian travellers returning from these countries totalled 197,000, down 4.4% from August 1975.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *International Travel — Advance Information* (66-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact M. W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Radio Air-Time Sales

Gross national AM and FM radio air-time sales totalled \$7.4 million in June, up 10.0% from a year earlier. Agency and other commissions left national sales at \$6.4 million.

Net local air-time sales were reported at \$13.9 million in the latest month, an increase of 13.8% from June 1975.

For further information, order the *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year), or contact P. T. Crosby (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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Index of Farm Production

Gross farm production rose 7.5% in Canada in 1975 with the increase mainly due to higher production of grains and oilseeds. Production of cattle, dairy products and most fruits also increased at the national level. Partially offsetting these increases were declines in the over-all production of hogs, poultry, eggs and potatoes.

The largest increase in production occurred in British Columbia (15.4%) where higher cattle production was primarily responsible. Larger rapeseed, potato and apple crops also contributed to the gain in output.

In Alberta, production increases were recorded for grains, oilseeds, cattle, milk and eggs, but the rise in the provincial index (14.8%) was somewhat dampened by a substantial decline in hog production.

Sizeable increases in over-all farm production also took place in Manitoba (10.5%) and Saskatchewan (8.7%) due to the larger grain and oilseed crops in 1975 following the below-average yields which occurred in 1974.

In Nova Scotia, increased cattle, poultry, dairy and apple production led to a 7.7% rise in farm output.

Ontario's increase of 4.5% was largely attributable to higher production of corn and soybeans. Increases were also recorded for other grains, most of the fruit crops and manufacturing milk.

Over-all farm production declined in 1975 in Quebec (-1.5%), Prince Edward Island (-8.8%) and New Brunswick (-10.6%).

For further information, order *Index of Farm Production, 1975* (21-203, 35¢).

Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles reached 111,975 units in August, up 31.5% from 85,137 a year earlier.

Passenger car production increased to 79,709 units in the latest month from 66,873 while production of commercial vehicles rose to 32,266 from 18,264 in August 1975.

For the first eight months of 1976, production of motor vehicles totalled 1,095,926 units, an increase of 22.1% from 897,479 in January-August 1975.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Mrs. I. Groom (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Gas Utilities

Canadian consumers purchased 70.0 billion cubic feet of natural gas in July, down 2.2% from a year earlier. Exports fell 7.1% to 72.5 billion cubic feet.

Cumulatively, sales of natural gas in the first seven months of 1976 totalled 826.5 billion cubic feet, an increase of 0.7% from January-July 1975.

For further information, order the July 1976 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, 30¢/\$3), or contact R. C. Peacock (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products

Canada's deficit in trade in automotive products with the United States narrowed to \$555 million in the first six months of 1976 from \$988 million in the corresponding period of 1975. Exports increased nearly 40% to \$3,956 million while imports showed a 21% rise to \$4,611 million.

An increase of 12% in the parts deficit to \$1,507 million for the first half of 1976 was outweighed by more substantial rises in surpluses in vehicle trade to \$667 million for passenger cars and \$188 million for trucks and other vehicles. The deficit on tires almost disappeared because of a production disruption in the rubber industry in the United States that commenced in April.

Canadian exports of motor vehicles increased by 31% between the two periods to \$2,523 million and shipments of parts were up an impressive 55% to \$1,365 million. Parts now account for 34.5% of exports of automotive products to the United States.

Imports of parts from the United States rose by 29% in the latest period to \$2,872 million — accounting for 62.5% of all Canadian imports of automotive products from the United States.

Canada's deficit in automotive trade with countries other than the United States climbed to \$277 million in the first half of 1976 from \$56 million in January-June 1975. Exports of motor vehicles and parts to these countries dropped 35.5% to \$194 million from \$301 million; in contrast, imports of automotive products rose 32% to \$471 million from \$357 million.

Passenger car imports increased 20% to 400,900 units in the latest period with most of the rise originating in the United States and Japan. The fall of 9% in the exchange rates of a basket of foreign currencies against the Canadian dollar had a moderating influence on the rise in the average unit values of foreign cars — restricting the increase between the two periods to 0.7%.

For further information, contact H.W. Iwasaki (613-992-2663), External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index (1961=100)

The Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada rose to 283.8 in August, an increase of 0.7% from July and up 10.5% from a year earlier.

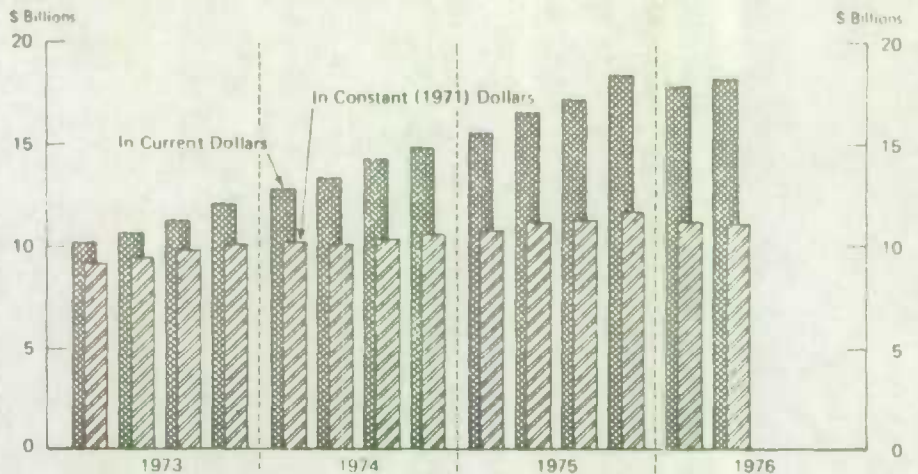
The materials component of the total index advanced 6.8% over the 12 months from August 1975; labour costs increased 13.2%.

Prices of lumber and lumber products climbed 10.7% during this period; smaller increases were recorded for: concrete products (8.9%); plumbing, heating and other equipment (6.8%); steel and metal work (5.9%); and other materials (7.0%). Electrical equipment prices dipped 0.6%.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin* (62-007, \$4 per year).

Non-Residential Construction Expenditures

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (113-001)

The Wheat Review

Total exports of wheat from the four traditional major exporters during the August 1975-June 1976 period amounted to 1,893.8 million bushels, up 12% from the year-earlier level. Canadian wheat exports rose to 414.5 million bushels from 363.4 million.

Total supplies of wheat remaining in Canada, the United States, Australia and Argentina at July 1, 1976 for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,345.2 million bushels compared with 885.4 million bushels on hand at the same date in 1975.

Supplies were held as follows, in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets: United States, 664.7 (319.3); Canada, 334.3 (326.6); Australia, 227.2 (179.1); and Argentina, 119.0 (60.4).

For further information, order the July 1976 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 55¢/\$5.50).

Asbestos

Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos increased to 139,268 short tons in August from 78,002 short tons a year earlier.

Cumulative shipments for the first eight months of 1976 at 1,083,511 short tons were up 56.6% from 691,987 short tons in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Asbestos* (26-001, 15¢/\$1.50).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, August
Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, September
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, August
Real Domestic Product, August
Retail Trade, August
The Labour Force, September

Urban Transit

Urban transit systems carried 90.4 million fare passengers in August and had operating revenues amounting to \$29.5 million. Revenue vehicle-miles run totalled 28.4 million.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact the Chief (613-996-9276), Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

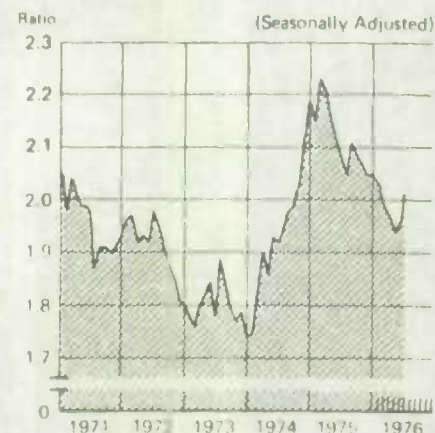
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production for June amounted to 1.59 million barrels per day, down 0.2% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 8.86 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, an increase of 0.5% from June 1975.

For further information, order the June 1976 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Ratio of Manufacturing Inventories Owned to Shipments



Source: Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001)

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	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE			Production, Shipments and Stock on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, June 1976		
Dairy Factory Production, August 1976	32-002	15¢/\$1 50		35-002	30¢/\$3
Farm Cash Receipts, July 1976	21-001	30¢/\$3	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, June 1976		
Honey Production, 1976	23-007	35¢		35-003	30¢/\$3
Index of Farm Production, 1975	21-203	35¢	Products Made From Canadian Clays, July 1976		
Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, January-March 1976	21-003	\$1 40/\$5 60		44-005	15¢/\$1 50
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, September 1976	32-009	30¢/\$3	Selected Meat and Meat Preparations, July 1976		
The Dairy Review, July 1976	23-001	40¢/\$4		32-020	15¢/\$1 50
The Wheat Review, July 1976	22-005	55¢/\$5 50	Soaps and Synthetic Detergents, July 1976		
BUSINESS FINANCE				46-003	30¢/\$3
Cheques Cashed, July 1976	61-001	30¢/\$3	Stone Products Manufacturers, 1974		
CONSTRUCTION				44-213	70¢
Housing Starts and Completions, June 1976	64-002	40¢/\$4	Stoves and Furnaces, July 1976		
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE				41-005	30¢/\$3
Publicly-Supported Vocational Training Involving the Private Sector, 1973-74	81-238	\$1 40	Tobacco and Tobacco Products Statistics, April-June 1976		
LABOUR				32-014	70¢/\$2 80
Employment, Earnings and Hours, March 1976	72-002	70¢/\$7	Wire and Wire Products Manufacturers, 1974		
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, May 1976	73-001	40¢/\$4		41-216	70¢
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			SERVICE BULLETINS		
Asbestos, August 1976	26-001	15¢/\$1 50	Energy Statistics — Vol. 11: No. 23, Retail Gasoline Statistics by Metropolitan Area, 2nd Quarter 1976. No. 24, Crude Oil Requirements, 4th Quarter 1976		
Bakeries, 1974	32-203	\$1.05		57-002	/\$4 20
Coal and Coke Statistics, May 1976	45-002	30¢/\$3	Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tile — Vol. 5, No. 8, Floor Tiles, August 1976		
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, July 1976	33-003	30¢/\$3		47-001	/\$1 40
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, May 1976	26-006	30¢/\$3	MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES		
Footwear Statistics, July 1976	33-002	30¢/\$3	Consumer Credit, July 1976		
Gas Utilities, June 1976	55-002	30¢/\$3		61-004	30¢/\$3
Gypsum Products, August 1976	44-003	15¢/\$1 50	Wholesale Trade, July 1976		
Hardboard, August 1976	36-001	15¢/\$1 50		63-008	/\$1 50
Mineral Wool, August 1976	44-004	15¢/\$1 50	PRICES		
Miscellaneous Food Preparations, Quarter Ended June 30, 1976	32-018	35¢/\$1 40	Consumer Price Movements, September 1976		
Miscellaneous Textile Industries, 1974	34-210	\$1 05		62-001	30¢/\$3
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, August 1976	32-001	15¢/\$1 50	PUBLIC FINANCE		
Nickel-Copper Mines, 1974	26-211	70¢	Local Government Employment, April-June 1976		
Ornamental and Architectural Metal Industry, 1974	41-221	70¢		72-009	70¢/\$2 80
Plastics Fabricating Industry, 1974	47-208	70¢	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS		
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