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INFOMAT

Weekly Bulletin

The Labour Force

Canada's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate climbed to 7.6% in October from 7.3% in September.

Last month the unemployment rate for men 25 years of age and over rose to 4.9% from 4.3% in September while for women 25 and over it declined to 6.9% from 7.8%. For persons aged 15 to 24, the unemployment rate increased to 13.0% from 11.9%.

Between September and October, the seasonally-adjusted participation rate — percentage of the population 15 and over included in the labour force — decreased to 61.1% from 61.2%.

On an actual basis, the number of persons employed declined to 9.66 million in October from 9.69 million in September but was up from 9.52 million in October 1975.

The actual unemployment total was 679,000 or 6.6% of the 10.34 million included in the labour force last month. By province, unemployment rates were: Newfoundland, 12.0%; Nova Scotia, 9.6%; New Brunswick, 9.6%; Quebec, 8.6%; Prince Edward Island, 8.1%; British Columbia, 7.1%; Ontario, 5.7%; Manitoba, 3.8%; Alberta, 3.4%; and Saskatchewan, 2.9%.

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales of new motor vehicles totalled 73,954 units in September, down 17.1% from a year earlier. Total sales value decreased 13.5% to \$438.0 million.

Sales of passenger cars produced in Canada and the United States fell 23.5% to 38,682 units while those of overseas-manufactured automobiles rose 6.0% to 15,499 units.

Commercial vehicles sales in September dropped 17.6% from a year earlier to 19,773 units; included were 18,466 produced in Canada and the U.S. (down 17.6%) and 1,307 manufactured overseas (down 16.5%).

For the first nine months of 1976, sales of new motor vehicles reached 957,468 units with an accumulated value of \$5,690.4 million. This represents an increase of 0.1% in units and 9.5% in value compared with sales for January-September 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact M. Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

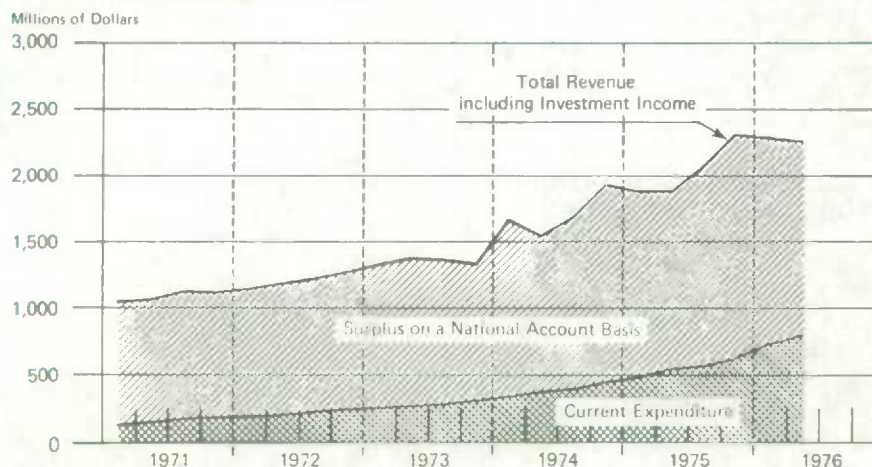
LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug.	230.49p	230.13p	11.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	8,668p	9,043p	11.3
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.	9.69	10.06	1.9
Unemployed	Sept.	670,000	709,000	6.2
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.	1,886	1,785	30.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug.	16,300p	16,185r	6.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Aug.	6,873	6,968	8.0
ORDERS				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	8,037p	7,380r	13.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	9,587p	9,521r	-7.5
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.	150.7	150.0	6.5
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.	163.3	162.4	4.4
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Sept.*	512.0	513.8r	2.0
CONSTRUCTION				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Aug.	964.0p	8,075.8	20.9
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug.	16,288	136,030	34.5
ENERGY				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Aug.	2,110	17,179	-4.9
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Aug.	21.7	191.9	6.1
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	June	265.7	1,770.5	2.2
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Aug.	53.0	417.6	0.5
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	3,055	27,897	15.0
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	2,885	27,827	8.2
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Sept.	143.8	1,239.7	21.2
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Sept.	1,182	10,668	-0.3
SALES				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept.*	578.0	4,315.7	13.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug.	7,971p	64,335	13.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Sept.*	438.0	5,690.4	9.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Sept.*	4,728	40,850	13.1
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	4,083	32,924	11.9

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

Canada Pension Plan

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-001)

Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales rose to \$578.0 million in September, up 15.4% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions of Canada.

Department store sales by regions for the latest month, with percentage changes from September 1975 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$210.0 million (11.8%); Quebec, \$117.7 million (22.4%); British Columbia, \$91.3 million (17.2%); Alberta, \$71.2 million (13.5%); Atlantic Provinces, \$36.0 million (11.7%); Manitoba, \$35.1 million (14.7%); and Saskatchewan, \$16.7 million (22.2%).

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.50 per year).

General Wholesale Price Index

(1935-39=100)

The general wholesale price index decreased 0.4% in September to 512.0 from 513.8 (revised) in August but was still up 2.0% from the September 1975 level of 502.0. Three of the major groups included in the total index declined while the other five increased.

The vegetable products group index dropped 3.3% in September, mainly due to lower prices for potatoes (-26.5%), fresh vegetables (-22.5%), sugar and its products (-14.1%) and grains (-7.8%). Decreases of 0.1% were recorded for iron products and non-ferrous metals.

The textile products group index rose 1.6%, reflecting price increases for miscellaneous cotton products (7.2%), domestic raw wool (4.5%) and raw cotton (3.6%). The non-metallic minerals group advanced 1.4% with increases for asphalt (4.0%) and petroleum and its products (3.7%). Increases were also noted for animal products (0.3%), chemical products (0.2%) and wood products (0.1%).

Over the 12 months from September 1975, the major group indexes showed the following percentage changes:

- Textile products, 10.9%; non-metallic minerals, 10.4%; iron products, 8.2%; wood products, 7.6%; non-ferrous metals including gold, 4.6%; chemical products, 2.5%; animal products, -4.2%; and vegetable products, -9.0%.

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

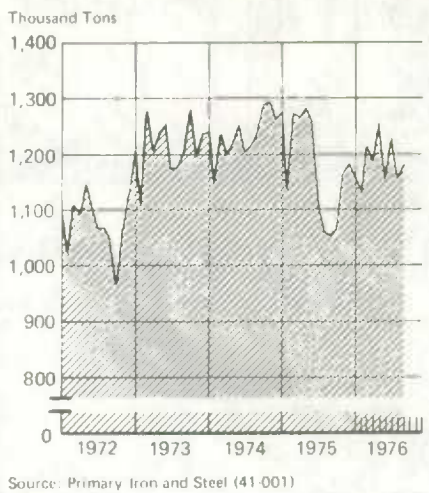
THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, October

Department Store Sales and Stocks, September

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, September
Real Domestic Product, September
Summary of Foreign Trade, October

Steel Ingot Production, Canada



Business Conditions Survey, Canadian Manufacturing

According to the October business conditions survey of the opinion of management of Canadian manufacturing establishments, 23% of the weighted response anticipates an increase in the volume of production from November through January when compared with the activity in the immediately preceding three months, and 32% expects production will decline. The balance expected it to be about the same in both periods.

The preceding survey taken in July indicated that for 27% of the weighted response an increase in production was anticipated from August through October when compared with the May-July period, and just 26% forecast a decline. No figures of a directly comparable nature are available for the same periods of earlier years, but management is asked to allow for normal seasonal conditions when responding.

The proportion reporting new orders to be declining, at 31%, was 7% higher than in July, while the percentage reporting the level of new orders was increasing dropped to 21% in October from 26% in July. The remainder reported that the level of new orders being received was about normal.

There was very little change over the period in the over-all opinion of the level of backlog of unfilled orders. This backlog was higher than normal for 11% of the response in both periods and lower than normal for 33% in October and 32% in July.

The proportion reporting the level of finished products inventory was too high grew from 20% to 24% from July to October, and there was no change in the 6% value of weighted response indicating it was too low.

The response to the October survey was from management representing more than 6,000 establishments whose shipments account for about 50% of all Canadian manufacturing shipments. For further details on this survey, see the November 9 issue of the *Statistics Canada Daily Bulletin* (11-001-E, 10¢ per copy/\$25 a year).

Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland totalled an estimated \$7,477.2 million in the January-September period of 1976, up 0.9% from \$7,408.4 million in the corresponding period of 1975.

These estimates include: cash receipts from the sale of farm products; Canadian Wheat Board participation payments on previous years' grain crops; cash advances on farm-stored grains in Western Canada; and deficiency payments made by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. No deduction was made for the cost incurred by farmers in the production of the commodities sold.

Total payments made to farmers in the first nine months of 1976, by province and with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$1,957.2 million (\$1,884.8 million); Saskatchewan, \$1,900.0 million (\$2,014.6 million); Alberta, \$1,397.2 million (\$1,397.6 million); Quebec \$1,024.9 million (\$954.6 million); Manitoba, \$665.4 million (\$677.9 million); British Columbia, \$285.9 million (\$281.2 million); Nova Scotia, \$91.0 million (\$80.9 million); New Brunswick, \$83.3 million (\$63.6 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$72.3 million (\$53.2 million).

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact E.S. Boyko (613-994-9876), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

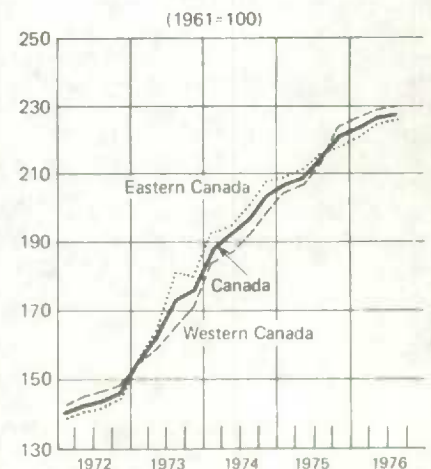
Domestic Mobile Homes

Canadian shipments of domestic mobile homes decreased to 3,941 single units in the third quarter of 1976 from 4,121 in July-September 1975.

Shipments of double-wide units increased to 1,093 in the latest period from 1,090.

For further information, order *Fabricated Metal Products Service Bulletin* (41-009, \$2.80 per year), or contact Mrs. I. Groom (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Farm Input Price Indexes



Farm Implement Sales

Sales of farm implements and equipment for January to September 1976 were valued at \$901.2 million (dealers' cost), up 26.3% from \$713.6 million in the first nine months of 1975.

Sales of repair parts for farm equipment rose 4.3% in the latest period to \$128.2 million.

For further information, order the September 1976 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 0T6.

Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems posted net operating revenue of \$90.7 million in August, an increase of 5.8% from August 1975.

Gross operating revenues of the 13 major telephone companies rose 18.3% to \$280.3 million in the latest month; operating expenses advanced 25.3% to \$189.5 million.

Construction expenditures of these firms totalled \$129.5 million in August, a decrease of 8.8% from a year earlier.

These systems reported a total of 93,439 employees, up by 5,517 from August 1975.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year), Vol. 6, No. 24, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, August 1976.

Farm Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The Farm Input Price Index for Canada rose 0.5% in the third quarter of 1976, moving to 227.6 from the revised second-quarter level of 226.4. On a regional basis, the eastern and western indexes rose 0.6% and 0.5%, respectively.

Higher prices for building repairs, fencing and hired farm labour were responsible for most of the increase in the index.

Over the 12 months from September 1975, the Canada index showed an increase of 4.8%. During this period, production costs rose 4.6% for farmers in Eastern Canada and 5.0% for farmers in the West.

For further information, order *Farm Input Price Indexes, Third Quarter 1976* (62-004, 35¢/\$1.40).

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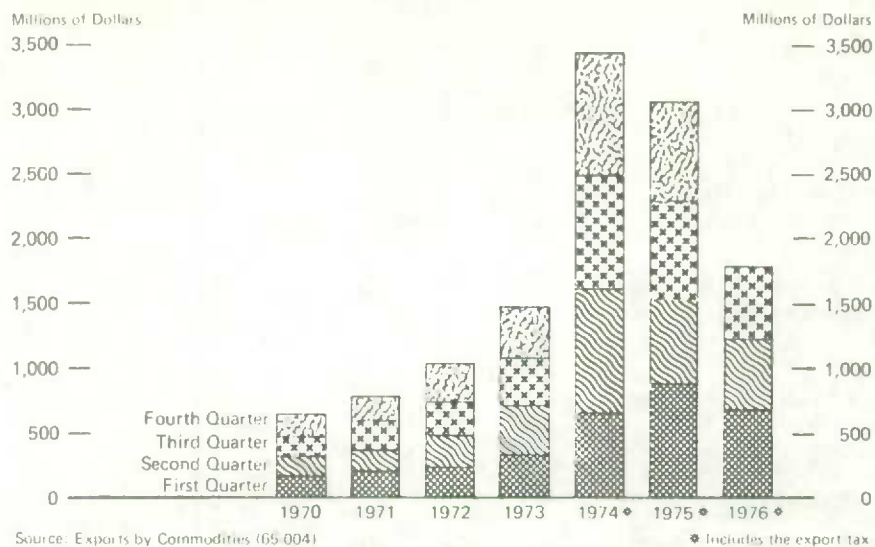
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Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum to the United States



Retail Trade

Seasonally-adjusted September retail sales increased 1.0% from August to a level of \$4,833.3 million.

Total retail trade without seasonal adjustment reached \$4,728.3 million, up 13.7% from a year earlier. All provinces reported increased sales over September 1975 with the largest advance in British Columbia (24.6%). Sales were up 24.2% in Vancouver, 14.3% in Winnipeg, 11.0% in Toronto and 10.2% in Montreal.

Year-to-year increases were registered in 26 of the 28 trade groups with the largest gains posted by grocery, confectionery and sundries stores (29.6%) and garages (28.9%).

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Snowmobile Accidents

After several years of little change, the number of snowmobile fatalities in Canada dropped 20% to 110 during the 1975-76 winter season from the 132 fatalities of the previous year. The number of fatal accidents due to snowmobiling decreased to 104, the lowest level in the past six years.

For further information, contact M. McRae (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

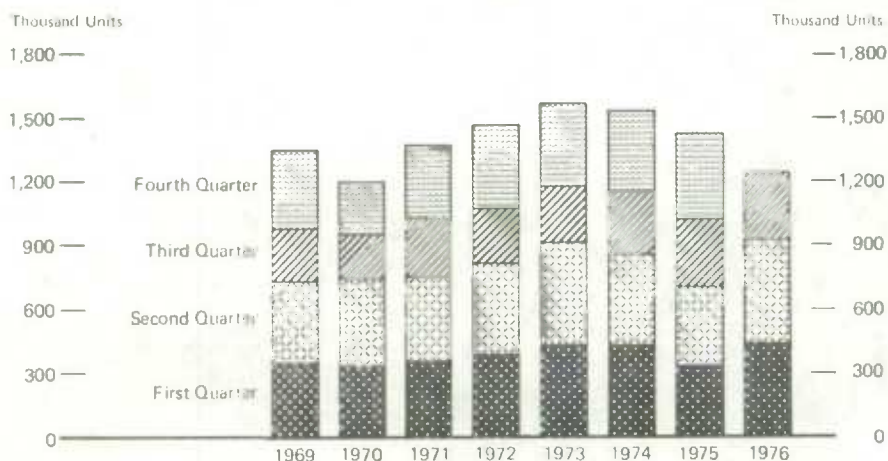
Iron Ore

Canadian mines shipped 6,494,829 short tons of iron ore in September compared with 3,989,389 short tons a year earlier.

Output for the first nine months of 1976 at 46,222,588 short tons was up 31.6% from 35,120,723 short tons in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Iron Ore* (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Canadian Production of Motor Vehicles





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THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED NOVEMBER 4 — 10

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE				
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, October 1, 1976	32-010	30¢/\$3	Women's and Children's Clothing Industries, 1974	34-217 \$1.05
BUSINESS FINANCE			SERVICE BULLETINS	
Cheques Cashed, August 1976	61-001	30¢/\$3	Energy Statistics — Vol. 11, No. 26, Refined Petroleum Products, August 1976	57-002 /\$4.20
EXTERNAL TRADE			Electrical Products — Vol. 5, No. 19, Factory Shipments of Electrical Wires and Cables, 1975	43-007 /\$1.40
Imports by Countries, January- June 1976	65-006	\$2.10/\$8.40	Fabricated Metal Products — Vol. 5, September 1976, No. 45, Oil Filters and Cartridges; No. 46, Builders and Shelf Hardware; No. 47, Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools	41-009 /\$2.80
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES	
Asbestos, September 1976	26-001	15¢/\$1.50	Department Store Sales by Regions, September 1976	63-004 /\$1.50
Asphalt Roofing, September 1976	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	Department Store Sales and Stocks, August 1976	63-002 40¢/\$4
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, September 1976	36-004	15¢/\$1.50	Sales Financing, August 1976	63-013 30¢/\$3
Gold Quartz and Copper-Gold-Silver Mines, 1974	26-209	70¢	PRICES	
Household Furniture Manufacturers, 1974	35-211	\$1.05	Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin, October 1976	62-007 40¢/\$4
Manufacturers of Industrial Chemicals, 1974	46-219	70¢	Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, July-September 1976	62-010 \$1.40/\$5.60
Mineral Wool, September 1976	44-004	15¢/\$1.50	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS	
Motor Vehicle Shipments, September 1976	42-002	15¢/\$1.50	SERVICE BULLETIN	
Oils and Fats, August 1976	32-006	30¢/\$3	Aviation Statistics Centre — Vol. 8: No. 56, Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers, July 1976; No. 57, Helicopter Revenue Hours Flown, 2nd Quarter and Semi- Annual 1976	51-004 /\$4.20
Peeler Logs, Veneers and Plywoods, August 1976	35-001	30¢/\$3	Communications — Vol. 6, No. 25, Telecommunication Statistics, Second Quarter 1976	56-001 /\$1.40
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, July 1976	35-002	30¢/\$3		
Radio and Television Receiving Sets, August 1976	43-004	30¢/\$3		
Rigid Insulating Board, September 1976	36-002	15¢/\$1.50		
Salt, September 1976	26-009	15¢/\$1.50		
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, August 1976	43-003	15¢/\$1.50		
Stoves and Furnaces, August 1976	41-005	30¢/\$3		

Additional Information

When names and telephone numbers are not provided, additional information can often be obtained from the regional User Advisory staff of Statistics Canada or from its Central Inquiries Service, Ottawa (613-992-4734).

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