

Statistics
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INFORMAT

Weekly Bulletin

International Travel

Canada posted a record travel account deficit of \$908 million in the first nine months of 1976, up from \$541 million in the January to September period of 1975. The increased deficit resulted from a decrease of 5% in the number of non-resident travellers entering Canada combined with an increase of almost 10% in Canadians travelling abroad.

Spending by non-residents in Canada and fares paid to Canadian carriers totalled \$1.7 billion in the first three quarters of 1976, up 8.5% over 1975. Expenditures by Canadian travellers abroad plus fares paid to foreign carriers surged to \$2.6 billion, almost 24% higher than last year.

In the period January to September 1976, a total of 27.0 million U.S. residents entered Canada, down 6.3% from the previous year while 28.3 million Canadians returned from the U.S., an increase of 9.9%. Both non-residents entering Canada from countries other than the U.S. and Canadians returning from these countries numbered 1.3 million in the latest period, accounting for increases of 22.1% and 10.8%, respectively, from 1975.

For further information, order the July-September 1976 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$1.75/\$7), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Unemployment Insurance Statistics

Net benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act amounted to \$217 million in September, a decrease of 8% from the \$235 million disbursed a year earlier. The average weekly benefit at \$93.20 was up 9% from September 1975.

Persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits in September totalled 524,000, down 8% from both the previous month and September 1975.

Claims filed by persons seeking benefit in September numbered 231,000, up 7% from the same month last year.

For the first nine months of 1976, net payments under the act amounted to \$2,307 million, an increase of 6% from \$2,161 million paid out in the corresponding period in 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, 40¢/\$4), or *Advance Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001p, no charge to subscribers).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug. 230.49p	230.13p	11.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Aug.* 8,737p	8,753p	14.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Oct. 9.66	9.69	1.5
Unemployed	Oct. 679,000	670,000	5.6

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Aug. 1,886	1,785	30.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Sept. 16,342p	16,248r	6.7
Wholesale (\$ million)	Sept.* 6,800	6,873	5.6

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Sept. 8,286p	8,025r	8.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Sept. 9,388p	9,604r	-8.6

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Oct. 151.7	150.7	6.2
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	8,149.0	22.0
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)	Sept. 21.3	213.2	5.9
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	July 262.2	2,032.8	1.1
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Sept. 44.7	462.3	0.1

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

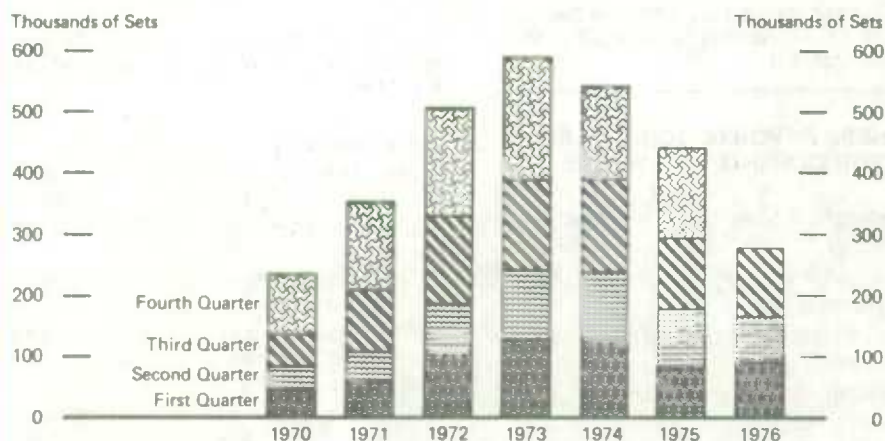
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Sept. 143.8	1,239.7	21.2
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Oct. 1.179	11,884	1.0

SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept. 578.0	4,315.7	13.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Sept. 8,502p	72,808	13.1
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)	Sept.* 4,692	37,615	11.6

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

Manufacturers' Sales of 'Made-in-Canada' Colour Television Sets



Source: Radio and Television Receiving Sets (43-004)

Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in September totalled \$932.5 million, down 11.3% from \$1,050.9 million in September 1975.

Lower totals were recorded in the latest month for all types of building permits: residential at \$633.6 million (\$649.0 million in September 1975); commercial at \$163.7 million (\$215.3 million); industrial at \$72.3 million (\$82.4 million); and institutional and governmental at \$62.9 million (\$104.3 million).

Provincial totals for building permits taken out in September, with year-earlier figures in brackets: Ontario, \$317.1 million (\$382.5 million); Alberta, \$163.6 million (\$114.4 million); British Columbia, \$162.6 million (\$164.8 million); Quebec, \$130.9 million (\$234.7 million); Saskatchewan \$57.5 million (\$50.3 million); Manitoba, \$47.9 million (\$37.4 million); Nova Scotia, \$24.6 million (\$26.8 million); New Brunswick, \$15.0 million (\$21.9 million); Newfoundland, \$7.3 million (\$4.8 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$3.9 million (\$8.4 million).

For the first nine months of 1976, building permits taken out in Canada reached \$9,081.6 million, up 17.5% from \$7,728.9 million in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7).

Railway Operating Statistics

Canada's six major railways reported combined net income of \$20.3 million in September, up from \$11.5 million in September 1975. Operating revenues rose 15.9% to \$267.0 million while operating expenses advanced 12.7% to \$246.7 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles increased 4.8% in the latest month to 11.45 billion; passenger-miles — the total distance travelled by railway passengers — dropped 0.2% to 120.9 million.

During the first nine months of 1976, railway operating revenues rose 12.0% from the year-earlier period while expenses increased 10.8%. Cumulative net income at \$55.6 million was almost double that posted in the January to September period of 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions, October

Employment, Earnings and Hours, September

Gross National Product, Third Quarter 1976

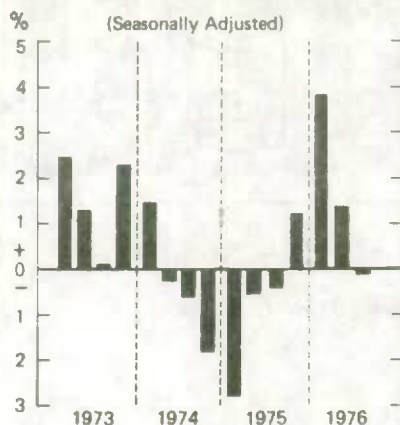
Housing Starts and Completions, September

Motor Vehicle Production, October

New Motor Vehicle Sales, October

Index of Industrial Production

Quarter-to-Quarter Percentage Change



Source: Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry (61-005)

Labour Income

Total labour income for August was estimated at \$8,737.0 million, up 14.5% from August 1975.

Adjusted for seasonal variation, the August estimate of \$8,766.3 million showed an increase of 0.5% from July. The increase was entirely concentrated in the service-producing industries; goods-producing industries recorded a slight decline.

For further information, order the July-September 1976 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in September were estimated at \$4,691.5 million, up 9.5% from September 1975.

In the consumer goods trades, sales of tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks rose 50.8% from the corresponding month last year. In the industrial goods trades, the component for other construction materials and supplies including lumber showed an increase of 15.8%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$6,799.7 million, up 5.6% from September 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 15¢/\$1.50).

Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$192.3 million of retail finance paper in September, a decrease of 7.7% from a year earlier.

The latest month's total comprised \$49.8 million for passenger cars, \$29.3 million for other consumer goods, \$58.2 million for commercial vehicles and \$55.0 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Real Domestic Product

(1971=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product declined 0.1% to 124.1 in September from 124.2 in August. Output of goods-producing industries decreased 0.8% while service-producing industries increased 0.5%.

In the goods-producing industries, there were declines in manufacturing (-0.2%), fishing and trapping (-3.7%) and construction (-5.2%). In manufacturing, both durables and non-durables industries recorded decreases, mostly reflecting lower levels of production by manufacturers of tobacco products, rubber products, petroleum and coal products, and in the primary metals, metal fabricating, machinery and non-metallic mineral products industries. The decline in construction was attributable to both the residential and non-residential components, which were affected to a considerable degree by strikes in Quebec and British Columbia.

In the service-producing industries, increases were recorded in trade (0.5%), finance, insurance and real estate (0.6%), community, business and personal services (0.5%) and public administration and defence (0.5%). In trade, wholesale trade increased 1.3% in September while retail trade remained virtually unchanged from the August level.

During the third quarter of 1976, real domestic product increased by 0.5%. Service-producing industries registered an advance of 1.3% but output of goods-producing industries — following four consecutive quarters of significant growth — declined by 0.7%.

Continued growth among service-producing industries was due to increases in transportation, storage and communication (3.3%), trade (0.5%), finance, insurance and real estate (1.0%), and public administration and defence (1.6%). In transportation, significant gains were recorded in railway transport, due to increased haulings of grain products, coal, iron ore and forestry products, and in air transport which recovered from strikes in June. An increased grain crop was reflected in a 21% rise in output of grain elevators. The communications component advanced strongly as well. Most of the major store-types in retail trade recorded significant increases during the quarter, although wholesale trade declined by 1.9%.

Goods-producing industries declined 0.7%, the first decline since the second quarter of 1975. Construction (-4.1%), mining (-0.4%), manufacturing (-0.1%), agriculture (-0.7%), utilities (-0.2%), and fishing and trapping (-17.4%) each recorded decreases.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (including the Index of Industrial Production), (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

NEW CATALOGUE

The 1976-77 edition of the *Statistics Canada Catalogue*, a listing of all of the bureau's publications and their prices, is off the press and available — free — on request.

The latest edition has some new features, including a special list of publications containing urban data and a list of public libraries that have all Statistics Canada publications available for reference. The sections providing information about unpublished data and dealing with selected statistical reports of other federal government departments have been enlarged.

Ask for *Catalogue* (11-204-E or 11-204-F) from Publications Distribution, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Major Appliances

Sales of electric stoves and ranges increased in September, but Canadian manufacturers' domestic sales of other major appliances ran below year-earlier levels.

Major appliance sales recorded by these manufacturers in the latest month, with percentage changes from September 1975 in brackets:

- Refrigerators, 54,102 (-6.7%); home and farm freezers, 31,837 (-29.4%).
- Stoves and ranges (electric), 45,266 (4.4%).
- Automatic washing machines, 40,621 (-9.6%); electric and gas clothes dryers, 37,112 (-0.9%).
- Television sets, 56,001 (-6.3%).

Manufacturers' sales in September of 50,738 Canadian-made colour television sets represented a decrease of 5.6% from a year earlier; black-and-white set sales declined 12.5% to 5,263 units.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue 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); or contact Mrs. I. Groom (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Report on Job Vacancies

Preliminary estimates for the three-month period ended October 31 show a decrease in the average number of vacant jobs from the three-month period ended July 31. Vacancies for full-time, part-time and casual jobs declined 5% to 56,900 from 59,700. The number of vacancies this year is 15% lower than during the corresponding period in 1975.

Vacancies for full-time jobs decreased 8% to 49,600 from the preceding period while the number of longer-term vacancies — jobs unfilled for more than four weeks — declined 7% to 17,600.

For every 1,000 existing jobs in the three months ended October 31, seven were vacant, the same as in the preceding period, but down from eight in the comparable period a year earlier. The highest vacancy rates were observed in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba while the lowest rates were recorded in the Atlantic and Pacific regions.

For further information, contact J.A. Boucek (613-992-2006), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0V1.

Urban Transit Statistics, 1975

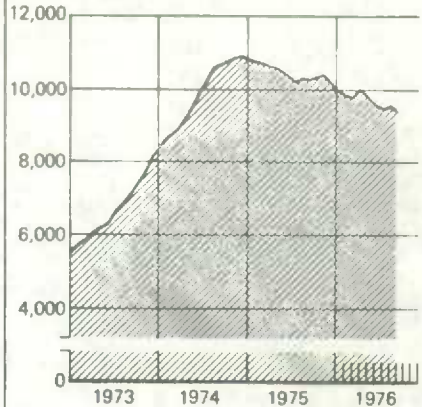
Preliminary statistics of the 1975 urban transit survey show total operating expenses for the industry amounted to \$513.2 million, up 21.4% from 1974. The average number of employees increased 2.5% to 26,731 and the number of vehicles operated rose 6.6% to 10,323.

For additional information on this survey, contact the Chief (613-996-9271), Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Manufacturers' Backlog of Unfilled Orders

(Seasonally Adjusted)

Millions of Dollars



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

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Between September and October, consumer price indexes rose in all 14 regional cities with increases ranging from 0.2% in Saint John to 1.4% in Regina.

Higher home ownership charges — resulting mainly from annual increases in residential property taxes — were largely responsible for these advances while increased prices for clothing contributed to a lesser extent. Other contributing factors included higher fees for dental care and for university tuition.

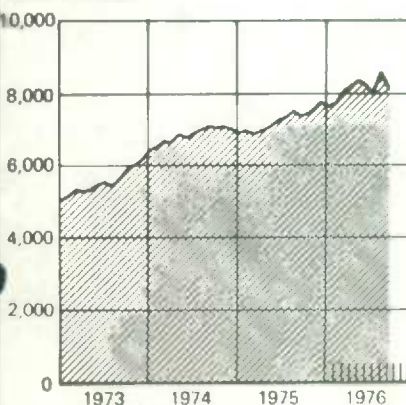
Between October 1975 and October 1976, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities with increases recorded as follows: Vancouver, 8.8%; Regina, 8.1%; Thunder Bay, 7.8%; Winnipeg, 7.7%; Calgary, 7.0%; Saskatoon, 6.6%; Toronto, 6.5%; St. John's, 6.4%; Edmonton, 6.2%; Ottawa, 6.2%; Halifax, 6.0%; Quebec City, 5.5%; Saint John, 5.4% and Montreal, 5.3%.

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities* (62-009, 30¢/\$3).

Manufacturers' Shipments

(Seasonally Adjusted)

Millions of Dollars



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

Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems posted net operating revenue of \$93.7 million in September, an increase of 11.2% from September 1975.

Gross operating revenues of the 13 major telephone companies rose 15.4% to \$279.7 million in the latest month; operating expenses advanced 17.6% to \$186.0 million.

Construction expenditures of these firms totalled \$154.3 million in September, an increase of 43.1% from a year earlier.

A total of 13.1 million telephones were reported in service at the end of the latest month, up 5.1% from the end of September 1975.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 per year), Vol. 6, No. 27, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, September 1976.

Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production for August amounted to 1.35 million barrels per day, down 18.0% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 8.28 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, a decrease of 3.6% from August 1975.

For further information, order the August 1976 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3).

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