

Statistics
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Weekly Bulletin

Household Facilities and Equipment

Almost 61% of Canada's 6,918,000 households now have colour television sets, the household item that has shown the fastest sales increase in recent years. From April 1975 to May 1976, households with colour TV sets increased to 60.6% from 53.4%; the percentage of households with black-and-white sets decreased to 62.4% from 67.8%.

The 1976 survey of household facilities and equipment also showed these notable changes from 1975:

- Canadian households with two or more cars increased to 24.4% from 23.0%; single-automobile households dipped to 55.0% from 55.9%.
- Households using electric heating rose to 13.1% from 10.5%.
- Households with clothes dryers increased to 54.7% from 51.6%.
- Households with automatic dishwashers rose to 18.6% from 15.2%.
- Home ownership increased to 62.5% from 62.0%.
- Some 69.7% of dwellings in Canada had five rooms or more and 57.7% had three or more bedrooms.

For further information, order *Household Facilities and Equipment, 1976* (64-202, 70¢).

Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971=100)

The residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 164.5 in October, an increase of 0.5% from September and up 9.7% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 7.6% over the 12 months from October 1975; labour costs rose 12.9%.

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

- Prairie Provinces, 12.2%; Atlantic Provinces, 12.1%; British Columbia, 10.1%; Ontario, 9.1%; and Quebec, 7.7%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Atlantic Provinces, 18.7%; Prairie Provinces, 17.4%; Ontario, 13.1%; British Columbia, 11.9%; and Quebec, 7.3%.

For further information, order the *October 1976 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.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

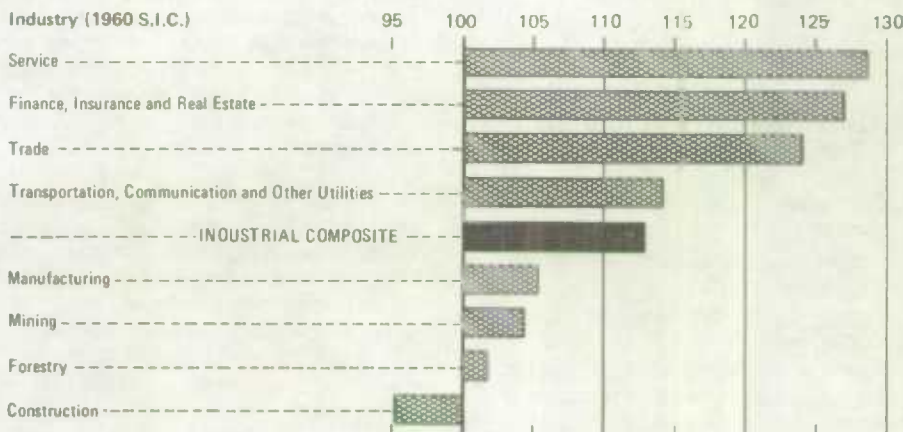
		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug.	230.49p	230.13p	11.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Aug.	8,737p	8,753p	14.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Oct.	9.66	9.69	1.5
Unemployed	Oct.	679,000	670,000	5.6
INVENTORIES				
Department Store (\$ million)	Sept.*	1,784	1,886	29.8
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)	Sept.*	932.5p	9,081.6	17.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Sept.*	18,849	154,879	29.1
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.	44.4	463.4	0.3
FOREIGN TRADE				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Oct.*	3,100	31,191	14.4
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Oct.*	3,003	30,893	7.2
PRODUCTION				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Oct.*	111.8	1,351.6	15.2
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.

Employment Indexes for Selected Canadian Industries (August 1976)

(1971=100)

Seasonally Adjusted



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

Gross National Product (GNP)

Gross National Product, seasonally adjusted at annual rates, increased 2.0% in the third quarter of 1976 to a level of \$187.0 billion; after adjustment for price changes, real GNP grew 0.8%.

The real growth resulted from a modest accumulation of inventories and from increases in personal expenditure, the balance of trade in goods and services, and government current expenditure. Real gross fixed capital formation declined in the third quarter, as did real expenditure on imports; the net effect of these changes was that real final domestic demand was unchanged from the previous quarter.

The implicit price index for total GNP rose 1.1% in the third quarter. This was the smallest percentage increase in this price index since the second quarter of 1972, but much of the deceleration was due to the distortion, in a national accounting sense, of large government retroactive wage payments made in the second quarter. Nevertheless, the year-over-year rate of inflation, as measured by the GNE implicit price index, has been 9.0%, the lowest such rate in over three years.

The third quarter was in many respects typical of the expansion in economic activity that has taken place over the past 12 months. The economy has averaged a quarterly rate of growth of about 1% during this period, which is only slightly higher than the rate achieved in the third quarter. This rate of growth, while somewhat slow by historical standards, has been fairly broadly based and all the major expenditure aggregates, with the exception of gross fixed capital formation, are above their levels of a year ago. The expansion has been driven largely by personal expenditure and by inventory movements. The value of the physical change in inventories, which has undergone considerable fluctuation in recent quarters, shifted on balance over the past year to small accumulation from heavy liquidation in 1975, and this pattern is consistent with previous cyclical upswings.

For further information, order *National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Third Quarter 1976* (13-001, \$1.05/ \$4.20).

THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Movements, November
Department Store Sales by Regions, October
Employment, Earnings and Hours, September
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, October
Retail Trade, October
The Labour Force, November

NEW YEAR BOOK

The 1975 edition of the *Canada Year Book*, a comprehensive annual review of social, economic and political developments in Canada, is now available.

The publication, in hard cover and including tables, charts and maps to highlight the text, is produced in both English and French versions (11-202-E and 11-202-F).

To order, send cheque or money order for \$10, payable to the Receiver General for Canada, to Publications Distribution, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6. Price outside Canada is \$12.

International Travel

Preliminary statistics for October show that 2.2 million United States visitors entered Canada, down 6.4% from October 1975. Canadian residents returning from the United States numbered 3.1 million, up 14.3% over last year.

Visitors entering Canada from countries other than the United States increased by 4.0% in October to 107,000. Canadian travellers returning from these countries totalled 122,000, up 13.4% from October 1975.

For further information, order the *October 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*.

Railway Carloadings

Canadian railways carried a total of 24.4 million tons of revenue freight in October, an increase of 4.7% from a year earlier. Traffic received from United States connections (included above) declined 0.3% to 2.1 million tons.

On a commodity basis, October 1976 loadings of pulpwood, pulpwood chips, lumber and newsprint paper were significantly higher because of labour problems in the forest products industry in the year-earlier period. Also higher were shipments of containerized freight and grains other than wheat. But alumina tonnages dropped 98.8% in the latest month due to a continuing strike at the Aluminum Company of Canada.

Cumulatively, rail freight traffic in the first 10 months of 1976 totalled 221.4 million tons, up 4.9% from January to October 1975. Notably higher in the latest period were loadings of forest products, iron ore, copper-nickel ores, potash and "other grain". Declines were registered for shipments of coal, wheat and alumina.

For further information, order the *October 1976 issue of Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3), or for seasonally-adjusted revenue freight loadings, contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), *Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

Foreign Long-Term Investment in Canada, 1974

The book value of foreign long-term investment in Canada stood at \$60,213 million at the end of 1974, an increase of 10% over 1973. United States residents, both corporate and individual, continued to own the largest share with 77% while the portions owned by investors in the United Kingdom and "all other countries" remained unchanged at 9% and 14%, respectively.

Direct investment, representing the stock of capital (both long-term debt and equity) in Canadian enterprises that is attributable to the foreign country of control, rose 10% to \$36,237 million and comprised 60% of total foreign long-term investment at the end of 1974. Foreign holdings of bonds of Canadian governments increased by \$1,506 million (15%) to \$11,419 million. Corporate portfolio investment increased by \$492 million (6%) to \$9,110 million. Miscellaneous investment — comprising foreign investment in real estate, mortgages, private investment companies, assets administered for non-residents, etc. — was up \$173 million (5%) to \$3,447 million.

Foreign long-term investment in manufacturing increased by 11% to \$16,708 million at the end of 1974. Within manufacturing, the largest growth was registered in the iron and products sector which expanded by 12% to \$4,958 million. Other major increases were recorded for chemicals (\$300 million), wood and paper products (\$268 million) and vegetable products (\$243 million).

Foreign long-term investment in the petroleum and natural gas industry rose 6% during 1974 to a level of \$10,112 million while investment in the financial industry was up 10% to \$6,480 million.

For further information, contact F. Chow (613-996-2545), *Balance of Payments Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8*.

Security Transactions with Non-Residents

Transactions in outstanding Canadian and foreign securities resulted in a net capital inflow of \$44 million in August, an increase of \$30 million from July.

Trade in outstanding Canadian securities produced a net inflow of \$46 million, comprised of net sales to non-residents of bonds and debentures amounting to \$63 million, and net purchases by Canadians of common and preferred shares amounting to \$17 million. Transactions in foreign securities resulted in a net outflow of \$2 million.

For the first eight months of 1976, transactions in outstanding Canadian and foreign securities led to a net inflow of \$629 million, compared with a net inflow of \$258 million in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the *August 1976 issue of Security Transactions with Non-Residents* (67-002, 40¢/\$4).

Statement of Canadian Trade

Both exports and imports, seasonally adjusted on a balance-of-payments basis, declined again in October — exports falling 4.3% to \$3,095 million while imports decreased 1.3% to \$2,932 million. Canada's merchandise trade surplus declined to \$163 million from \$271 million in September.

The merchandise trade surplus for the three months ending in October was \$783 million compared with \$133 million for the preceding three-month period and \$34 million for the three months ended in April.

Seasonally-adjusted exports, on a customs basis, decreased 6.9% in October to \$3,028 million. About four-fifths of the decline was in exports to the United States, which fell 8.3% to \$1,996 million. The widespread decline in commodity shipments was led by motor vehicles and automotive parts which, after seasonal adjustment accounted for well over half the over-all fall; much of this was due to the strike at the Ford Motor Company. Also lower were exports of metallic ores, metals, forestry products, other industrial materials and machinery. However, the value of natural gas shipments increased.

Exports to overseas markets decreased 4.2% in October to \$1,032 million, mostly reflecting lower shipments of wheat, metallic ores and forestry products.

Seasonally-adjusted imports (on a customs basis) fell 5.4% in October to a level of \$2,937 million. Imports from the United States were down 8.0% from September to \$1,998 million; contributing most substantially to the drop were automotive products, in particular vehicle parts, again apparently because of the Ford strike. Imports of other equipment and household goods were moderately lower.

Imports from overseas countries rose 0.5% in October to \$939 million. Crude oil landings rose sharply from the low September level and there were small increases in imports of raw sugar, fuel oil and motor vehicles. However, this was almost wholly offset by lower imports of a variety of commodities including automotive parts, equipment and consumer goods.

For further information on area and commodity trade, order the October 1976 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

Asbestos

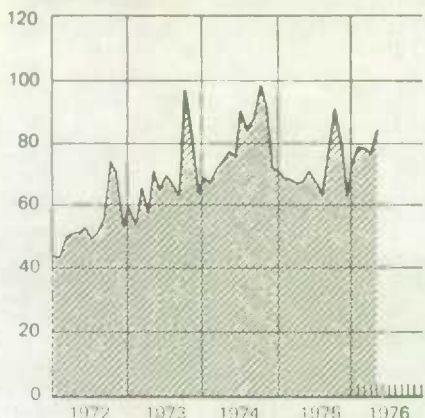
Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos increased to 148,023 short tons in October from 98,560 short tons a year earlier.

Cumulative shipments for the first 10 months of 1976 totalled 1,390,394 short tons, up 59.6% from 871,139 short tons in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *Asbestos* (26-001, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Canadian Imports of Communication and Related Equipment

Millions of Dollars



Source: Imports by Commodities (65-007)

Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 111,828 units in October, down 25.5% from 150,054 a year earlier.

Passenger car production declined to 78,140 units in the latest month from 109,622 and production of commercial vehicles dropped to 33,688 units from 40,432 in October 1975.

For the first 10 months of 1976, Canadian production of motor vehicles reached 1,351,562 units, an increase of 15.2% from 1,172,757 in the January to October period of 1975.

For further information, order the October 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.

The Dairy Review

Canadian production of milk produced for all purposes in September amounted to an estimated 1,424,756,000 pounds, a decrease of 7.0% from a year earlier.

For the first nine months of 1976, milk production reached an estimated 13,473,725,000 pounds, up 2.6% from January-September 1975.

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001, 40¢/\$4), or contact C.M. Riach (613-994-9974), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

Gas Utilities

Canadian consumers purchased 69.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas in August, down 3.0% from a year earlier. Exports rose 1.1% to 75.1 billion cubic feet.

Cumulatively, sales of natural gas in the first eight months of 1976 totalled 896.2 billion feet, an increase of 0.4% from the corresponding period in 1975.

For further information, order the August 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.

Housing Starts

New residential construction activity dipped slightly in September as housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over decreased 0.1% to 18,849 units from 18,864 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with September 1975 figures in brackets: Ontario, 5,648 (6,488); Quebec, 4,773 (4,429); British Columbia, 2,805 (2,781); Alberta, 2,403 (2,435); Nova Scotia, 918 (481); Manitoba, 900 (557); Saskatchewan, 672 (938); New Brunswick, 372 (400); Newfoundland, 336 (246); and Prince Edward Island, 22 (109).

For the first nine months of 1976, housing starts in centres of 10,000 population and over totalled 154,879 units, up 29.1% from 119,972 in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the September 1976 issue of *Housing Starts and Completions* (64-002, 40¢/\$4).

Import and Export Price and Volume Indexes

Both import and export prices have remained relatively stable throughout 1976. In the three-month period ending in September, import prices were at about the same level as in the corresponding period in 1975 while export prices were about 3% higher.

Import volume has shown little change in the past several months after rising sharply in the first three months of 1976; it now stands 9.2% higher than in the three months ending in September 1975. Export volume has maintained a steady growth throughout 1976 and in September was up 16.6% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

Book Publishing Survey

The Education, Science and Culture Division has recently completed a survey covering 224 Canadian book publishers and 40 exclusive agents. Publishers reported 1975 sales of \$245 million and agents \$34 million.

The division is still analysing the data for a forthcoming publication. Further information may be obtained from the Arts and Media Section (613-995-9682), Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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Coarse Grains Review, August 1976	22-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Products Made from Canadian Clays, September 1976	44-005	15¢/\$1.50
Farm Cash Receipts, September 1976	21-001	30¢/\$3	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, September 1976	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
Livestock and Animal Products Statistics, 1975	23-203	\$1.40	Raw Hides, Skins and Finished Leather, September 1976	33-001	30¢/\$3
Report on Livestock Surveys, Pigs, October 1, 1976	23-005	35¢/\$1.40	Specified Chemicals, September 1976	46-002	15¢/\$1.50
The Dairy Review, September 1976	23-001	40¢/\$4	Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, September 1976	43-003	15¢/\$1.50
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Security Transactions With Non-Residents, August 1976	67-002	40¢/\$4	SERVICE BULLETINS		
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Mental Health Statistics: Volume I — Institutional Admissions and Separations, 1974	83-204	\$3.50	Consumer Credit, September 1976	61-004	30¢/\$3
LABOUR					
Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds, 2nd Quarter 1976	74-001	35¢/\$1.40	Department Store Sales and Stocks, September 1976	63-002	40¢/\$4
Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies, Third Quarter 1976	71-002	70¢/\$2.80	Merchandising Businesses Survey: Agents and Brokers, 1974	63-602	\$1.05
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, July 1976	73-001	40¢/\$4	New Motor Vehicle Sales, September 1976	63-007	30¢/\$3
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Electric Power Statistics: Volume II — Annual Statistics, 1974	57-202	\$1.40	Retail Trade, September 1976	63-005	55¢/\$5.50
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