

Statistics  
CanadaStatistique  
Canada

# informat

## Weekly Bulletin

### Unemployment Insurance Statistics

Net benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act reached \$281 million in May, an increase of 4% from the \$271 million disbursed a year earlier. The average weekly benefit at \$91.77 was up 10% from May 1975.

Persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits in May numbered 692,000, down 13% from April. Some 37% of the beneficiaries resided in Quebec, 27% in Ontario, 18% in the Atlantic Provinces and 17% in the western provinces.

Claims filed by persons seeking unemployment insurance benefit in May totalled 184,000, down 7% from a year earlier.

For the first five months of 1976, net payments under the act amounted to \$1.68 billion, an increase of 10% from \$1.52 billion paid out in January-May 1975.

For further information, order the May 1976 issue of *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, 40¢/\$4) or *Advance Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001-p, no charge to subscribers), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

### Local Government Employment

Municipal governments in Canada employed a total of 245,572 persons in general government services at the end of March, an increase of 6,568 (2.7%) from the corresponding period in 1975.

Gross payrolls for the first quarter of 1976 amounted to \$644.4 million, up 16.9% from \$551.0 million in January-March 1975.

For further information, order *Local Government Employment, First Quarter 1976* (72-009, 70¢/\$2.80).

### Railway Operating Statistics

Canada's six major railways reported a combined net deficit of \$11.9 million in May, up from the deficit of \$10.6 million posted in May 1975. Operating revenues increased 4.8% to \$235.0 million while operating expenses rose 6.0% to \$246.9 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles declined 4.5% in the latest month to 11.63 billion; passenger-miles — the total distance travelled by railway passengers — showed an increase of 7.0% to 136.0 million.

For further information, order the May 1976 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

#### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Apr.	222.94p	221.28p	12.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Apr.	8,268p	8,180p	14.7
Persons with Jobs (million)	June	9.86	9.58	2.9
Unemployed	June	702,000	708,000	2.0

#### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Apr.	2,008	1,558	31.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	May*	16,205p	16,237r	5.1
Wholesale (\$ million)	May	7,011	6,888	9.9

#### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	May*	8,237p	8,446r	9.2
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	May*	9,803p	9,966r	-7.9

#### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	June	148.7	148.0	7.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	May	160.6	159.9r	5.0
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	May*	513.8	510.7r	5.9

#### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	May*	1,084.0p	4,427.6	22.8
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Apr.	16,213	53,072	74.9

#### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Feb.	2,490	5,008	15.8
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	May*	23.9	126.7	6.0
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Dec.	319.1	3,444.6	0.5
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	May	52.1	254.6	-1.8

#### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	June*	3,566	18,683	13.2
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	June*	3,595	19,191	9.0

#### PRODUCTION

Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	May	149.2	742.2	25.9
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	June	1,155	7,098	-5.3

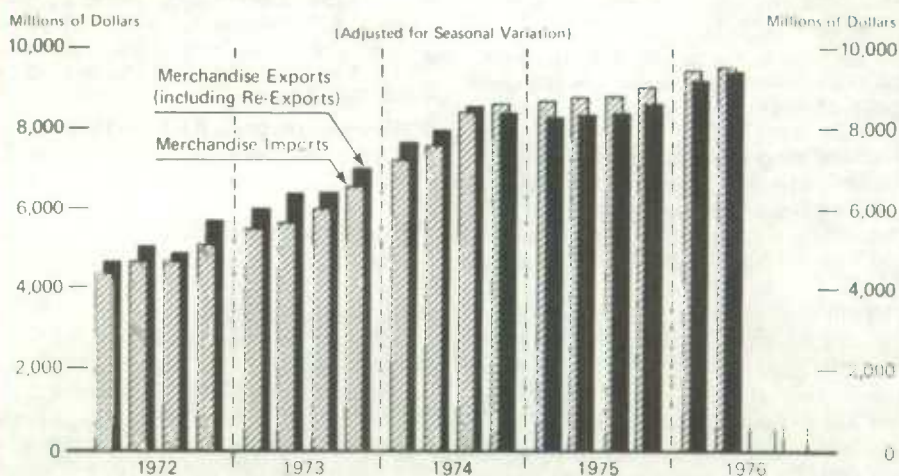
#### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	May*	513.8	1,704.8	13.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	May*	8,400p	40,042	14.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	May	820.2	3,217.6	16.3
Retail Sales (\$ million)	May	4,966	21,622	16.8
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	May	4,495	20,083	12.9

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

### Canadian Merchandise Exports and Imports

Quarterly by Quarter Movements



## Aggregate Productivity Measures, 1971-75

Output per man-hour for all commercial industries showed a decline of 0.2% in 1975, according to preliminary estimates. This marks the second successive annual decline and reflects decreases of 0.9% in output and 0.7% in man-hours. Labour compensation increased 14.0%, and with the decline in output, unit labour cost rose 15.0%.

In manufacturing, however, output per man-hour rose 1.6% in 1975 following a fractional decline in 1974. Unit labour cost in manufacturing increased 14.6% in 1975.

*These data revise and update the indexes published in Aggregate Productivity Measures, 1946-1974 (14-201, \$1.05). For further information, contact Miss Monique Larose (613-995-8261), Input-Output Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

## Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems reported net operating revenue of \$84.5 million in May, an increase of 27.0% from May 1975.

Gross operating revenues of the 13 major telephone companies rose 18.4% to \$268.1 million in the latest month; operating expenses advanced 14.8% to \$183.6 million.

Construction expenditures of these firms at \$155.5 million in May showed an increase of 3.6% from a year earlier.

*For further information, order Communications Service Bulletin (56-001, \$1.40 per year), Vol.6, No.17, Monthly Telephone Statistics, May 1976.*

## Department Store Sales by Regions

Department store sales rose to \$513.8 million in May, up 3.5% from a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all regions of Canada except Ontario, where sales decreased 1.7%.

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

- Ontario, \$186.4 million (-1.7%); Quebec, \$104.4 million (5.0%); British Columbia, \$77.7 million (5.1%); Alberta, \$66.9 million (10.7%); Atlantic Provinces, \$33.4 million (6.3%); Manitoba, \$30.7 million (7.5%); and Saskatchewan, \$14.2 million (11.4%).

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

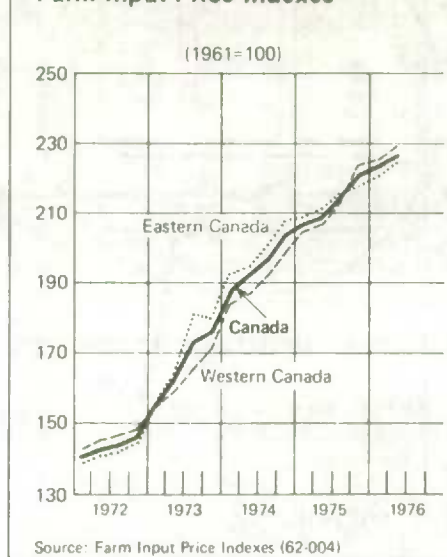
## Merchandising Inventories

Merchandising inventories held in May by selected groups were as follows:

- Wholesale merchants, \$7,010.9 million (up 1.8% from April and up 9.9% from May 1975);
- Department stores, \$1,951.8 million (down 2.8% from April but up 33.6% from May 1975);
- Retail chain stores, \$2,257.3 million (up 0.6% from April and up 13.4% from May 1975).

*For further information, order the May 1976 issue of Merchandising Inventories (63-014, 40¢/\$4).*

## Farm Input Price Indexes



## Farm Input Price Index

(1961=100)

The Farm Input Price Index for Canada rose 1.4% in the second quarter of 1976, moving to 226.9 from the revised first-quarter level of 223.8. On a regional basis, both eastern and western indexes increased 1.4%.

Higher prices for building replacement, hired farm labour and feeder cattle produced most of the increase in the indexes.

Over the 12 months from June 1975, the Canada index showed an increase of 6.6%. During this period, production costs rose 5.9% for farmers in Eastern Canada and 7.4% for western farmers.

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

## Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$265.0 million of retail finance paper in May, an increase of 0.2% from a year earlier.

The total for the latest month comprised \$72.0 million for passenger cars, \$28.2 million for other consumer goods, \$109.2 million for commercial vehicles and \$55.6 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

*For further information, order the May 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.*

## Railway Transport, Part IV, 1975

Railways operating in Canada handled a total of 282.0 million tons of revenue freight in 1975, a decrease of 10.0% from 1974. Revenue freight ton-miles were down 2.6% to 135.1 billion. (The decreases reflected strikes in certain industries as well as adverse economic conditions).

The number of persons travelling by rail decreased 2.3% in 1975 to 23.6 million and passenger-miles at 1.8 billion were down 3.0% from the previous year. The average passenger journey was 77 miles in 1975 compared with 78 miles in 1974.

*For further information, order Railway Transport, Part IV, 1975 (52-210, 70¢).*

## Statement of Canadian Trade

Seasonally-adjusted imports on a balance-of-payments basis increased 9.5% in June to a record level of \$3.20 billion while exports rose 2.5% to \$3.15 billion. Canada's merchandise trade balance swung to deficit of \$52 million from the surplus of \$150 million posted in May.

Seasonally-adjusted exports, on a customs basis, gained \$229 million (7.5%) in June to reach a record \$3.28 billion with some 84% of the rise concentrated in shipments to overseas countries. At \$2.19 billion, exports to the United States were up only 1.5% from May.

Up by \$70 million in June were wheat shipments to destinations including Brazil, India and the United Kingdom. The restoration of freight services in British Columbia contributed to the recovery of shipments of forestry products. However, disruptions of production at aluminum smelters lowered exports of non-ferrous metals.

With an 11% increase to \$3.26 billion in June, seasonally-adjusted imports rebounded from the 9% drop in May.

Accounting for about 20% of the overall advance were imports from the United States, which rose 3% to \$2.17 billion. While imports increased from Japan and the EEC countries, the overseas rise was concentrated in the remaining countries. This development was largely due to sharp fluctuations in imports (seasonally adjusted) of crude oil, which after falling 47% in May, more than doubled in June.

At \$9.38 billion, second-quarter exports stood 3% above the first quarter while imports rose 1% to attain a record level of \$9.41 billion.

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

## Oil Pipe Line Transport

Canadian oil pipe lines received 2.49 million barrels per day of crude oil, pentanes plus and refined petroleum products in May, an increase of 10.4% from a year earlier.

Receipts of domestic petroleum and products rose 13.1% to 2.06 million B/D in the latest month while imports decreased 6.9% to 431,000 B/D.

*For further information, order the May 1976 issue of Oil Pipe Line Transport (55-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.*

## THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

- Consumer Price Movements, July
- Department Store Sales by Regions, June
- Employment, Earnings and Hours, May
- Estimates of Labour Income, May
- Housing Starts and Completions, May
- New Motor Vehicle Sales, June
- The Labour Force, July

### Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)

The industry selling price index for total manufacturing rose to 161.3 in June, an increase of 0.3% from the revised May level and up 5.5% from a year earlier.

More than two-thirds of the latest month's rise was attributable to advances in the indexes for food and beverages (0.6%) and for primary metals (8.8%).

Among food and beverage items, higher prices were recorded for feed grains, vegetable oils, bakery products and fish. The primary metals index rose mainly in response to increased prices for aluminum and for sheet metal.

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

- Petroleum and coal products industries, 14.6%; non-metallic mineral products industries, 12.4%; leather industries, 11.8%; textile industries, 8.5%; metal fabricating industries, 7.3%; primary metal industries, 6.5%; wood industries, 5.9%; machinery industries, 5.8%; furniture and fixtures industries, 5.7%; and knitting mills, 5.6%.

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

### Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971=100)

The Residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada remained at 160.3 in June, unchanged from May but up 11.5% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 9.7% over the 12 months from June 1975; labour costs rose 14.3%.

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

- Prairie Provinces, 15.7%; Ontario, 11.5%; Atlantic Provinces, 11.1%; Quebec, 10.2%; and British Columbia, 8.1%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Prairie Provinces, 25.5%; Ontario, 15.1%; Atlantic Provinces, 14.7%; Quebec, 10.2%; and British Columbia, 4.9%.

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

### HOW TO ORDER

#### Statistics Canada Publications

Send initial order to:

Publications Distribution,  
Room 1200, Main Building,  
Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

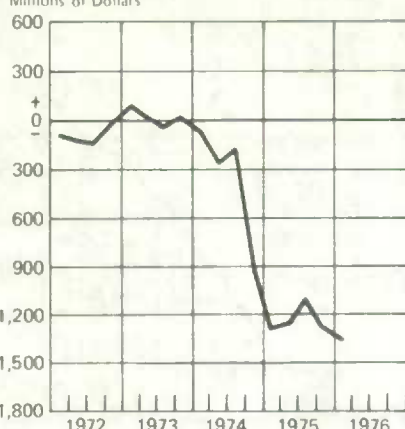
State:

Title of Report;  
Month, Quarter or Year of Issue;  
Catalogue Number.

Please enclose money order or cheque made payable to the order of: Receiver-General for Canada.

### Canadian Balance of International Payments

Current Account — Seasonally Adjusted  
Millions of Dollars



Source: Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments (67-001)

### Balance of International Payments

In the first quarter of 1976, the current account of the Canadian balance of international payments produced a seasonally-adjusted deficit of \$1.38 billion, up 8% from the previous quarter and 12% higher than the average quarterly deficit during 1975.

For further information, order *Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, First Quarter 1976* (67-001, \$1.05/\$4.20).

### Real Domestic Product

(1971=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product increased 0.2% in May to 121.0 from 120.7 in April.

Most of the rise was attributable to the goods-producing industries — with manufacturing, utilities, agriculture, and fishing recording increases. In manufacturing, non-durables industries advanced 1.5%, due mainly to increased output of rubber, pulp and paper and petroleum and coal products. Durables manufacturing recorded a 0.4% gain, mainly due to increases by manufacturers of motor vehicles and non-metallic mineral products. Mines, quarries and oil wells declined 1.7%, the result of several strikes in the mineral fuels sector. A slight increase in utilities was due to higher electric power output, while gas distribution declined in May. Construction output remained unchanged, with some weakness in non-residential construction activity.

Service-producing industries were relatively unchanged during May, with small increases in transportation, storage and communication, finance, insurance and real estate, and community, business and personal services. Declines were recorded in trade and public administration and defence.

For further information, order the May 1976 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (including the index of industrial production) (61-005, 40¢/\$4).

### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in May were estimated at \$8.01 billion, down 4.2% from \$8.36 billion (revised) in April. New orders for durable goods dropped 11.3% to \$3.57 billion while those for non-durable goods increased 2.3% to \$4.44 billion.

The backlog of unfilled orders in all manufacturing industries in May, seasonally adjusted, was estimated at \$9.78 billion, down 2.2% from the previous month.

Total inventory owned by manufacturers, seasonally adjusted, was 0.7% higher at \$16.24 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments remained at 1.97:1 in May, unchanged from April, while the finished products — to shipments ratio increased to 0.67:1 from 0.66:1 (revised).

Manufacturers' shipments in May, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$8.23 billion, an increase of 0.3% from April.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in May at an estimated \$8.40 billion were up 12.0% from a year earlier. Cumulative shipments for the first five months of 1976 totalled \$40.04 billion, up 14.1% from \$35.09 billion in January-May 1975.

For further information, order the May 1976 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.

### Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in May totalled \$1,084.0 million, up 3.4% from \$1,047.9 million in May 1975.

Higher totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$678.8 million (\$664.9 million a year earlier), commercial permits at \$188.9 million (\$166.8 million), and industrial permits at \$114.7 million (\$92.1 million). Permits taken out for institutional and government building construction declined to \$101.6 million from \$124.2 million.

Provincial totals for building permits taken out in May, with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$389.7 million (\$409.5 million); Quebec, \$207.5 million (\$214.3 million); Alberta, \$183.3 million (\$116.4 million); British Columbia, \$149.6 million (\$169.5 million); Saskatchewan, \$53.3 million (\$29.2 million); Manitoba, \$34.9 million (\$35.1 million); Nova Scotia, \$27.9 million (\$34.0 million); New Brunswick, \$23.5 million (\$27.0 million); Newfoundland, \$7.3 million (\$6.7 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$3.9 million (\$6.0 million).

For the first five months of 1976, building permits taken out in Canada reached \$4,427.6 million, up 22.8% from \$3,606.1 million in January-May 1975.

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



1010761982

## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JULY 22 — 28

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Coarse Grains Review, May 1976	22-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Products Made From Canadian Clays, May 1976	44-005	15¢/\$1.50
Farm Cash Receipts, May 1976	21-001	30¢/\$3	Radio and Television Receiving Sets, May 1976	43-004	30¢/\$3
Grain Milling Statistics, May 1976	32-003	30¢/\$3	Raw Hides, Skins and Finished Leather, May 1976	33-001	30¢/\$3
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>					
Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, First Quarter 1976	67-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, April 1976	32-004	40¢/\$4
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Families — Family Migration, 1971 Census of Canada	93-771	\$1.50	Soaps and Synthetic Detergents, April 1976	46-003	30¢/\$3
General Review: Administrative Report of the 1971 Census	99-740	\$8	Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, May 1976	43-003	15¢/\$1.50
Profile Studies — Canada's Livestock Industry, 1971 Census of Canada	99-728	\$1	Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, May 1976	41-006	15¢/\$1.50
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>					
Tuition and Living Accommodation Costs at Canadian Universities, 1975-76 and 1976-77	81-219	70¢	Stoves and Furnaces, May 1976	41-005	30¢/\$3
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>					
Imports by Commodities, February 1976	65-007	80¢/\$8	<b>PRELIMINARY BULLETINS</b>		
Imports by Commodities, March 1976	65-007	80¢/\$8	<b>1974 Census of Manufactures —</b>		
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Quarterly Survey of Trusteed Pension Plans, 1st Quarter 1976	74-001	35¢/\$1.40	Commercial Printing	36-203-P-1	
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>					
Agricultural Implement Industry, 1974	42-202	70¢	Cotton Yarn and Cloth Mills	34-205-P	
Bread and Other Bakery Products, Quarter Ended March 31, 1976	32-015	35¢/\$1.40	Household Furniture Manufacturers	35-211-P-2	
Canvas Products and Cotton and Jute Bags Industries, 1974	34-202	70¢	Miscellaneous Furniture and Fixtures Manufacturers	35-213-P	
Fisheries Statistics of Canada — Canada Summary, 1974	24-201	70¢	Machine Shops	42-207-P	\$4.90 series
Fisheries Statistics — Ontario, Prairie Provinces and Northwest Territories, 1974	24-207	70¢	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Fish Freezings and Stocks, April 1976	24-001	40¢/\$4	<b>Rubber and Plastics Products Industries —</b>		
Flour and Breakfast Cereal Products Industry, 1974	32-228	70¢	Vol. 5, No. 3, Factory Shipments of High Pressure Decorative Laminate Sheet, Quarter Ended June 30, 1976		
Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipe and Fittings, May 1976	41-004	15¢/\$1.50	<b>Selected Dairy By-Products —</b>		
Manufacturers of Miscellaneous Electrical Products, 1974	43-210	70¢	Vol. 5, June 1976, No. 11, Production and Inventory of Process Cheese; No. 12, Production and Inventory of Instant Dry Skim Milk Powder		
Miscellaneous Vehicle Manufacturers, 1974	42-212	70¢	32-024		
Pack, Shipments and Stocks of Selected Canned Fruits and Vegetables, May 1976	32-011	30¢/\$3	<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, April 1976	35-002	30¢/\$3	Wholesale Trade, May 1976		
			63-008		
			<b>PRICES</b>		
			Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, June 1976		
			62-009		
			<b>PUBLIC FINANCE</b>		
			Provincial Government Employment, January-March 1976		
			72-007		
			<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
			Railway Operating Statistics, April 1976		
			52-003		
			Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations, March 1976		
			51-001		
			Urban Transit, May 1976		
			53-003		
			<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
			<b>Communications —</b>		
			Vol. 6, No. 17, Monthly Telephone Statistics, May 1976		
			56-001		