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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Unemployment Insurance Statistics

Net benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act reached \$253 million in June, an increase of 6% from the \$238 million disbursed a year earlier. The average weekly benefit at \$90.87 was up 9% from June 1975.

Persons receiving unemployment insurance benefits in June numbered 589,000, down 15% from May and 12% below the level of June 1975.

The number of claims for benefit received in June was 195,000, up 6% from May and up 1% from a year earlier.

For the first six months of 1976, net payments under the act amounted to \$1,928 million, an increase of 10% from \$1,757 million paid out in the corresponding period last year.

For further information, order the June 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).

### Commercial Failures

Business failures recorded under the provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts increased to 646 in the first quarter of 1976 from 546 in the corresponding period of 1975. Estimated total liabilities of bankrupt firms jumped to \$916.8 million from \$90.5 million.

The largest number of failures occurred in the trade sector, with bankruptcies rising to 285 from 214 in the January-March 1975 period; liabilities in this industry increased to \$27.5 million from \$23.7 million. In the manufacturing industry, the number of insolvencies declined to 47 from 65 but liabilities climbed to \$839.1 million from \$22.8 million.

For further information, order *Commercial Failures, First Quarter 1976* (61-002, 70¢/\$2.80).

### Domestic Mobile Homes

Canadian shipments of domestic mobile homes increased to 4,845 single units in the second quarter of 1976 from 4,430 in April-June 1975.

Shipments of double-wide units rose to 258 in the latest period from 804.

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

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

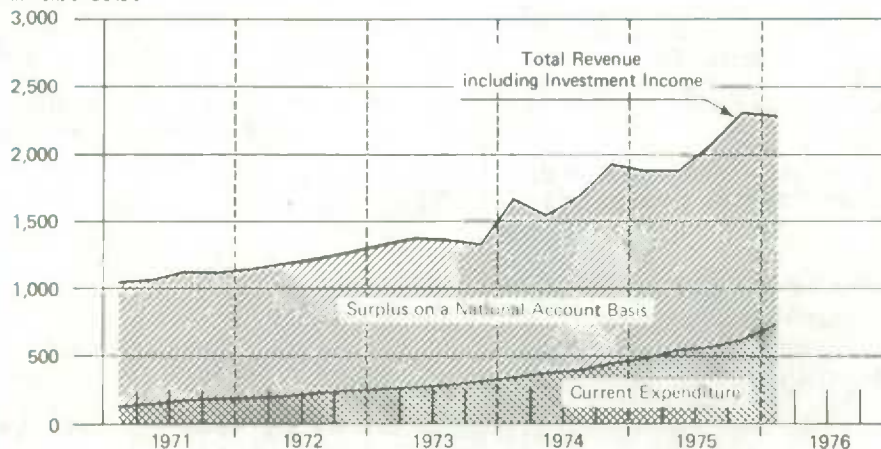
		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May	225.02p	224.26p	12.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	May	8,809p	8,302p	17.0
Persons with Jobs (million)	July	10.06	9.86	2.3
Unemployed	July	775,000	702,000	9.3
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	May	1,952	2,008	33.6
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	June	16,126p	16,054r	4.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	June*	6,851	7,011	3.6
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	June	8,536p	8,356r	16.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	June	9,577p	9,838r	-7.6
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	July	149.3	148.7	6.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	June	161.3	160.8r	5.5
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	June	515.3	512.9r	6.6
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	May	1,084.0p	4,503.2	24.9
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	May	22,799	75,811	59.7
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Mar.	2,676	7,684	16.1
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	June	22.2	149.1	6.6
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Dec.	319.1	3,444.6	0.5
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	53.5	308.1	-1.4
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July*	2,957	21,646	12.7
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July*	2,933	22,100	8.7
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	June	170.2	912.4	26.8
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	July	1,228	8,327	-3.1
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	June*	522.8	2,741.4	14.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	June	8,796p	48,923	14.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	June	832.8	4,050.5	15.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	June*	5,070	26,618	14.3
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	June*	4,550	24,633	13.2

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

### Canada Pension Plan

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)

Millions of Dollars



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

## Private and Public Investment in Canada

The mid-year review of 1976 intended capital expenditures in Canada shows a further increase over the total published earlier in May. The current dollar amount is now expected to be \$42,599 million, a rise of 1.5% from the earlier estimate of \$41,954 million and up 12.1% from the 1975 total of \$37,997 million.

Capital outlays on new construction are now estimated at \$27,190 million, 1.4% above the earlier estimate of \$26,810 million for 1976, and 13.8% over the 1975 total of \$23,894 million. The housing component of this total is \$8,777 million, based on a projected 245,000 starts. The current calculation for housing put in place is 1.9% higher than the previous estimate of \$8,614 million (based on 235,000 starts during 1976), and 23.9% above the \$7,085 million for 1975. In non-residential construction, further additions of 1.2% increase the expected total in 1976 to \$18,412 million or 9.5% above last year.

The measurement for the acquisition of new machinery and equipment during 1976 is now at \$15,410 million, 1.8% above the earlier estimate of \$15,144 million and 9.3% higher than the \$14,103 million in 1975.

The mid-year pattern shows contrasting changes between business and social capital. A further 2.2% for business adds to the gain over 1975 for a resultant 11.0%. On the other hand, the current pattern for the social capital of institutions and governments (excluding housing) shows declines by more than a percentage point for a net gain of only 3.8% over 1975.

For further information, order *Private and Public Investment in Canada, Mid-Year Review 1976* (61-206, \$1.05).

## Coal and Coke Statistics

Production of coal in Canada decreased 3.3% in April to 2,261,745 tons from 2,338,838 tons in April 1975. Imports increased to 1,875,364 tons from 1,780,124 tons.

Industrial consumers used 1,398,623 tons of coal in the latest month (down 227,264 tons from a year earlier) and 486,360 tons of coke (up 98,086 tons).

For further information, order the April 1976 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Price Movements, August  
General Wholesale Price Index, July  
Gross National Product, Second Quarter 1976

Housing Starts and Completions, June

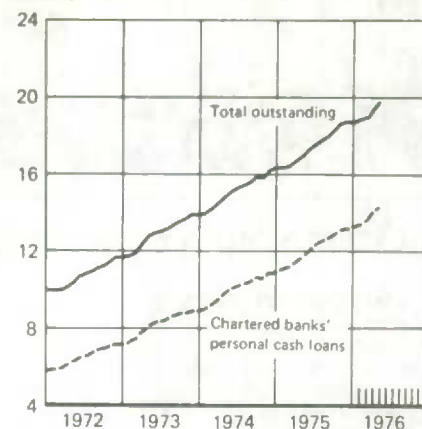
Motor Vehicle Production, July

New Motor Vehicle Sales, July

## Consumer Credit

Outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly

Billions \$



Source: Consumer Credit (61-004)

## Estimates of Canada's Population

Canada's population as of June 1, 1976, was estimated at 23,110,000, up 310,000 from the same date in 1975.

Population estimates for June 1, 1976 (by province): Ontario, 8,331,000; Quebec, 6,243,000; British Columbia, 2,491,000; Alberta, 1,826,000; Manitoba, 1,028,000; Saskatchewan, 935,000; Nova Scotia, 832,000; New Brunswick, 688,000; Newfoundland, 557,000; and Prince Edward Island, 120,000. Population numbered 38,000 in the Northwest Territories and 21,000 in the Yukon.

For further information, order the 1976 issue of *Estimated Population of Canada by Province* (91-201, 35¢).

## Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971=100)

The Residential Building Construction Input Price Index for Canada advanced to 160.9 in July, an increase of 0.4% from June and up 9.7% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 7.1% over the 12 months from July 1975; labour costs rose 13.9%.

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

- Prairie Provinces, 14.6%; Atlantic Provinces, 10.4%; Ontario, 9.1%; Quebec, 8.4%; and British Columbia, 6.9%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Prairie Provinces, 25.2%; Atlantic Provinces, 15.4%; Ontario, 14.1%; Quebec, 10.2%; and British Columbia, 5.1%.

For further information, order the July 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.

## Report on Job Vacancies

Preliminary estimates for the three months ending July 31 show an increase in the average number of vacant jobs from the previous three-month period. Vacancies for full-time, part-time and casual jobs rose 19% to 58,800 from 49,600. (However, on a year-to-year basis, job vacancies declined by 16%.)

The number of vacancies for full-time jobs increased by 19% from the preceding period to 53,600 while the number of longer-term vacancies — jobs unfilled for more than four weeks — increased by 24% to 18,000.

For every 1,000 existing jobs in the three-month period ending July 31, seven were vacant, down from eight in the preceding period and eight in the three months ending July 31, 1975. The highest vacancy rates were shown in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba while the lowest rates were recorded in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec.

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

## Railway Transport, Part III, 1975

Consumption of diesel oil by Canadian railways totalled 483.7 million gallons in 1975, down 4.8% from 1974. The amount of crude oil used in motive power equipment increased 10.1% to 29.7 million gallons. The average unit cost of these fuels rose 5.36 cents and 5.60 cents, respectively.

There were 193,197 owned and leased freight cars in service on Canadian railway lines at the close of 1975, an addition of 2,305 from the previous year-end. The average carrying capacity of these cars increased to 63.4 tons from 62.1 tons.

The length of first main track in Canada totalled 43,941 miles at the end of 1975, a decrease of 325 miles from December 31, 1974. The total length of all track including multiple main tracks, yard tracks and sidings declined about 200 miles last year to 60,045.2 miles.

For further information, order *Railway Transport, Part III, 1975* (52-209, 70¢), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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## Real Domestic Product

(1971=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product at 120.9 in June was virtually unchanged from May.

Output of goods-producing industries decreased 0.8% in June — the first such decline since October 1975. Lower production levels were registered in manufacturing, mining, agriculture, fishing and trapping and construction.

In manufacturing, output was lower in both non-durables industries and durables industries. In non-durables manufacturing, production of pulp and paper decreased following several months of increases due to strike recovery. Construction showed a decline for the second consecutive month due to reduced activity in both the residential and non-residential sectors.

Service-producing industries posted a 0.4% growth in June resulting from increases in trade, finance, insurance and real estate and community, business and personal service industries. Transportation, storage and communication, and public administration and defence each recorded decreases.

In trade, significant gains were shown in both retail and wholesale trade. In retail trade, most of the strength occurred in new motor vehicle dealers, department stores and food stores. Wholesale merchants were responsible for most of the increase in wholesale trade.

During the second quarter of 1976, real domestic product increased by 1.2% — the fifth consecutive quarter of growth.

Goods-producing industries advanced 1.8%, with increases in manufacturing (2.2%), utilities (3.2%), agriculture (2.0%), forestry (17.7%), fishing and trapping (1.7%), and construction (0.4%).

Service producing industries advanced 0.8 in the second quarter, due to increases in: transportation, storage, and communications (0.7%); trade (1.4%); finance, insurance, and real estate (1.4%); and community, business, and personal services (0.9%).

For further information, order the June 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.

## Sales Financing

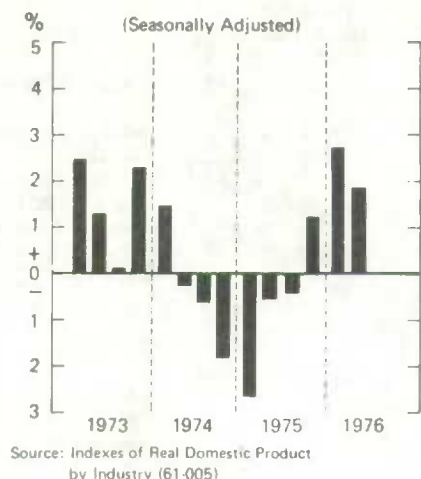
Sales finance companies purchased \$283.2 million of retail finance paper in June, an increase of 8.2% from a year earlier.

The latest month's total comprised \$78.3 million for passenger cars, \$29.7 million for other consumer goods, \$113.7 million for commercial vehicles and \$61.7 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

For further information, order the June 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.

## Index of Industrial Production

Quarter-to-Quarter Percentage Change



## Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 23.3 million tons in July, up 9.5% from a year earlier. Traffic received from United States connections (included above) rose 4.9% to 1.7 million tons.

On a commodity basis, significant increases were noted in loadings of: pulpwood chips (more than double those of July 1975); copper-nickel ores (up 67.9% to 534,659 tons); and potash (up 52.7% to 685,955 tons). Because of strikes, decreases occurred in shipments of coal and alumina.

Cumulatively, rail freight traffic in the first seven months of 1976 totalled 149.4 million tons, an increase of 2.5% from January-July 1975. Notably higher in the latest period were movements of iron ore, pulpwood chips, copper-nickel ores and lumber; declines were recorded for sulphur, sand, coal and alumina.

For further information, order the July 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.

## Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in June were estimated at \$4,549.6 million, up 14.5% from June 1975.

In the consumer goods trades, sales of tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks rose 42.7% from the corresponding month in 1975. In the industrial goods trades, the component for other construction materials and supplies, including lumber showed an increase of 22.2%.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$6,851.4 million in June, up 3.6% from a year earlier.

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

## Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in June totalled \$1,375.9 million, up 33.2% from \$1,033.3 million in June 1975.

Higher totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$807.4 million (\$652.3 million a year earlier), commercial permits at \$352.9 million (\$188.3 million) and industrial permits at \$129.7 million (\$79.1 million). Permits taken out for institutional and government building construction declined to \$85.8 million from \$113.5 million.

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

- Ontario, \$415.2 million (\$394.5 million); Quebec, \$368.5 million (\$188.1 million); Alberta, \$218.6 million (\$128.6 million); British Columbia, \$175.3 million (\$176.2 million); Nova Scotia, \$54.7 million (\$29.9 million); Saskatchewan, \$50.9 million (\$54.8 million); Manitoba, \$41.9 million (\$28.9 million); New Brunswick, \$25.1 million (\$20.5 million); Newfoundland, \$18.8 million (\$4.1 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$4.5 million (\$5.7 million).

For the first six months of 1976, building permits taken out in Canada reached \$5,879.1 million, up 26.7% from \$4,639.4 million in January-June 1975.

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

## Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

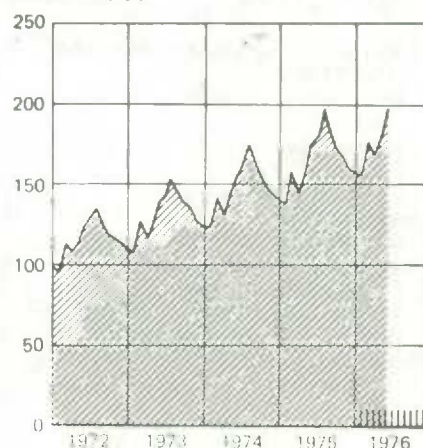
Crude petroleum production for April amounted to 1.26 million barrels per day, down 8.2% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 9.70 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, an increase of 0.7% from April 1975.

For further information, order the April 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.

## Restaurant Receipts

Millions of Dollars



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Fruit and Vegetable Production, August 1976	22-003	40¢/\$3	Particle Board, June 1976	36-003	15¢/\$1.50
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