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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Mineral Production, 1976

Preliminary estimates show Canada's 1976 mineral production was valued at a record \$15.39 billion, up 15.4% from \$13.34 billion in 1975.

The fuels sector provided the largest component value at almost \$8.0 billion in 1976 while metals were valued at \$5.2 billion, non-metals amounted to \$1.1 billion and structural materials accounted for \$1.0 billion.

These highlights are taken from the publication *Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1976 (26-202, 70¢)* to be released later this month. For further details, call Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 157,440 units in November, up 15.2% from 136,702 a year earlier.

Passenger car production increased to 108,423 units in the latest month from 99,815 and production of commercial vehicles rose to 49,017 units from 36,887 in November 1975.

For the first 11 months of 1976, Canadian production of motor vehicles reached 1,509,002 units, an increase of 15.2% from 1,309,459 in the January to November period of 1975.

For further information, order the November 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.

### Import and Export

#### Price and Volume Indexes

Both import and export prices remained stable in October as they have throughout 1976. In the three-month period ending in October, import prices were at about the same level as in the corresponding period in 1975 while export prices were about 2% higher.

Import and export volumes in October showed sharp drops of 11% and 18%, respectively, from September levels. Despite this, import volume stood 5.5% higher than in the three months ending in October 1975 and export volume was 17.2% ahead.

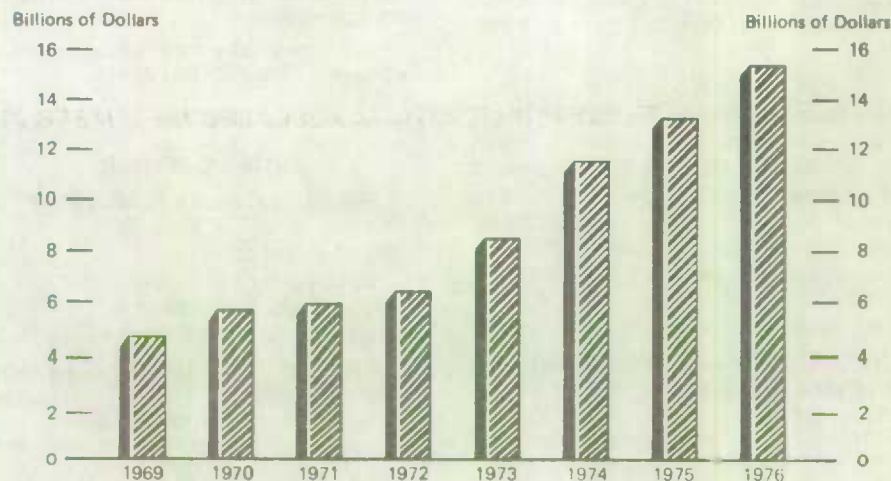
For further information, order the November 1976 issue of *Summary of External Trade (65-001, 40¢/\$4)*.

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Sept. 232.58p	230.80p	11.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	Sept. 9,003.9p	8,737.0p	12.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Nov. 9.59	9.66	1.3
Unemployed	Nov. 708,000	679,000	3.2
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Department Store (\$ million)	Oct. 2,161	1,784	32.9
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Oct. 16,424p	16,316r	7.5
Wholesale (\$ million)	Oct. 6,776	6,800	13.4
<b>ORDERS</b>			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Oct. 8,445p	8,452r	5.1
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Oct. 9,666p	9,517r	-6.3
<b>PRICES</b>			
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Nov. 152.2	151.7	5.6
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Nov. 163.5	163.4r	3.9
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Oct. 510.7	512.5r	1.1
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Oct.* 1,015.2p	10,233.1	15.4
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Oct.* 16,471	171,350	19.7
<b>ENERGY</b>			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Sept. 2,264	19,443	-4.5
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Oct. 23.8	236.6	5.9
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Aug. 256.7	2,289.6	0.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Oct. 49.0	512.5	0.1
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>			
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Nov. 3,362	34,734	15.1
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Nov. 3,474	34,360	8.0
<b>PRODUCTION</b>			
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Nov.* 157.4	1,509.0	15.2
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Oct. 1,179	11,884	1.0
<b>SALES</b>			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Oct. 572.1	4,887.8	13.2
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Oct. 8,297p	81,141	12.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Oct. 843.9	6,534.3	9.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Oct. 5,097	45,911	12.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Oct. 4,112	41,727	10.7

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

### Canada's Mineral Production



Source: Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimates (26-202)



## Housing Starts

New residential construction activity decreased in October as housing starts in Canadian centres of 10,000 population and over dropped 28.9% to 16,471 units from 23,181 a year earlier.

Housing starts recorded in the latest month, by province and with October 1975 figures in brackets: Ontario, 6,107 (9,139); Quebec, 2,584 (5,667); British Columbia, 2,869 (2,631); Alberta, 2,518 (2,253); Saskatchewan, 962 (1,125); Manitoba, 488 (1,069); Newfoundland, 390 (209); New Brunswick, 287 (716); Nova Scotia, 254 (332); and Prince Edward Island, 12 (40).

For the first 10 months of 1976, housing starts in centres of 10,000 population and over totalled 171,350 units, up 19.7% from 143,153 in the corresponding period of 1975.

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

## Residential Building Construction Input Price Index (1971=100)

The residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 165.7 in November, an increase of 0.7% from October and up 9.5% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 7.2% over the 12 months from November 1975; labour costs rose 13.3%.

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

- Prairie Provinces, 12.1%; Atlantic Provinces, 11.8%; British Columbia, 9.6%; Ontario, 9.2%; and Quebec, 7.4%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Atlantic Provinces, 18.3%; Prairie Provinces, 17.1%; Ontario, 14.5%; British Columbia, 10.4%; and Quebec, 7.3%.

For further information, order the November 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.

## International Toll Bridges, 1975

Total operating revenue of \$24.35 million was reported for 1975 for 12 bridges and one tunnel operating as toll facilities between Canada and the United States. Operating expenses amounted to \$15.6 million, leaving net operating income at \$8.7 million. Final net income after interest and taxes totalled \$4.3 million.

The total number of vehicle fares collected by these facilities was 27.8 million in 1975; private passenger vehicles numbered 25.2 million and there were 2.6 million trucks and buses.

For further information, contact R.J. Staveley (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, November  
Consumer Price Index, December  
Department Store Sales by Regions, November  
General Wholesale Price Index, November  
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, November  
Real Domestic Product, November  
Retail Trade, November  
The Labour Force, December

## Radio and Television Broadcasting, 1975

Preliminary results on financial data for privately-owned broadcasting for the year ended August 31, 1975 show radio broadcasting revenue up 14% from the previous year at \$208 million. Net profit before taxes was estimated at \$30 million, an increase of 7% from 1974.

Television broadcasting revenues increased 21% in 1975 to \$233 million. Net profits before taxes were estimated at \$39 million, up from \$24 million the year before.

CBC operations produced revenue from sales of air time totalling \$53 million in the 1975 fiscal year compared with \$49 million in the previous period. Net cost of operating the CBC during the year was \$268 million compared with \$253 million in 1974.

Final information will be included in *Radio and Television Broadcasting, 1975* (56-204, 70¢). For further information, contact Patrick Crosby (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

## Cable Television, 1975

Preliminary results on financial data on cable television operations (over 1,000 subscribers) for year ended August 31, 1975 show total revenue at \$159 million, up 22% from \$130 million in 1974. Net profits before income taxes rose 7% to \$30 million from \$28 million.

Final information will be included in *Cable Television, 1975* (56-205, 70¢).

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## Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)

The Industry Selling Price Index for Manufacturing stood at 163.5 in November, an increase of 0.1% from 163.4 (revised) in October and up 3.9% from the November 1975 level of 157.3.

The food and beverage industries index declined 0.3% in November as prices fell in the feeds industry (-2.5%), in slaughtering and meat processing (-0.6%) and in the poultry processing industry (-3.8%).

This decline was mainly offset by index increases of 0.3% in the primary metal industries where prices were higher in smelting and refining (0.5%), iron and steel mills (0.3%) and iron foundries (1.3%), and 0.4% in the chemical products industries due largely to an increase for toilet preparations (5.9%).

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

- Petroleum and coal products industries, 12.7%; wood industries, 10.4%; non-metallic mineral products industries, 9.3%; leather industries, 7.8%; furniture and fixture industries, 5.8%; textile industries, 5.5%; primary metal industries, 5.3%; and knitting mills, 5.0%.

For further information, order the November 1976 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, 55¢/\$5.50).

## Railway Carloadings

Canadian railways hauled a total of 23.1 million tons of revenue freight in November, an increase of 8.4% from a year earlier. Traffic received from United States connections (included above) declined 0.7% to 2.0 million tons.

Among commodities loaded in increased volume in the latest month were: newsprint paper (up 93.3%); pulpwood chips (up 50.8%); copper-nickel ore (up 38.7%); lumber (up 36.7%); grains other than wheat (up 26.1%); and coal (up 23.2%). Wheat loadings were down 10.2%, the only notable decline from November 1975.

Cumulatively, rail freight traffic in the first 11 months of 1976 totalled 245.0 million tons, up 5.2% from January to November 1975.

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

## The Dairy Review

Canadian production of milk produced for all purposes in October amounted to an estimated 1,267,564,000 pounds, a decrease of 11.2% from a year earlier.

For the first 10 months of 1976, milk production reached an estimated 14,717,271,000 pounds, up 1.0% from January-October 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.



## Real Domestic Product

(1971=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of real domestic product at 123.9 in October was unchanged from the September level. Output of the goods-producing industries declined 0.3% while that of the service-producing industries increased 0.1%.

Within the goods-producing industries, the major changes in October were a decrease in manufacturing output (-2.1%) and an increase in construction (5.2%). In manufacturing, the most notable decline was in motor vehicle manufacturing. Production also fell in the primary metals industries, reflecting decreases in iron and steel mills and in smelting and refining. For construction, the increase was the first since May.

Other notable movements in the goods-producing industries were a decline in forestry output (-7.4%) and an increase in mining (2.5%), due to increased output of the crude petroleum and natural gas industry.

Over-all output of the service-producing industries in October was little changed from September and this pattern extended to most components. In transportation, storage and communication, pipeline transport showed an increase but railway transport decreased due to lower haulings of a number of commodities including wheat and other grains and automobiles. In communications, post office output decreased, partly because of strikes.

Total trade output was up only slightly in October — retail trade advanced 1.5% from the previous month but wholesale trade dropped 1.5%.

For further information, order the October 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.

## Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada rose to 169.7 in November, an increase of 0.7% from October and up 7.7% from a year earlier.

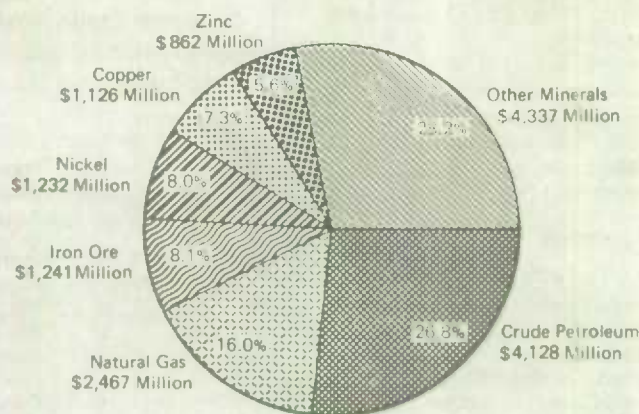
The materials component of the total index advanced 4.4% over the 12 months from November 1975; labour costs rose 11.2%.

Prices of concrete products used in non-residential building construction climbed 9.9% during this period; smaller increases were recorded for: lumber and lumber products (7.4%); plumbing, heating and air conditioning (5.1%); steel and metal work (3.7%); and other materials (4.1%). Electrical equipment prices declined 0.8%.

For further information, order the November 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.

## Canada's Mineral Production, 1976

\$15,392,839,000



Source: Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1976 (26-202)

## Summary of External Trade

At \$2,985 million Canada's November exports, seasonally adjusted on a balance-of-payments basis, were down 4.5% from October while imports rose 5% to \$3,089 million. The merchandise trade balance accordingly changed to a deficit of \$104 million from the surplus of \$190 million recorded in October.

For the three months ending in November, however, the trade surplus totalled \$357 million, up from \$331 million in the preceding three months.

Seasonally-adjusted exports, on a customs basis, fell 1.5% from October to \$3,035 million in November, with the decline concentrated in overseas trade. Wheat clearances were lower in November as were exports of industrial materials, notably non-ferrous metals. Increases were recorded for shipments of metallic ores, asbestos and forestry products.

At \$2,042 million, exports to the United States were nearly 1% higher than in October. Deliveries of motor vehicles and parts recovered considerably following the settlement of local strikes and start-up problems, but shipments of metallic ores and fertilizer materials declined.

Seasonally-adjusted imports (on a customs basis) rose 7% to \$3,139 million in November. The advance was due almost wholly to the 9.5% rebound in imports from the United States to \$2,175 million. Imports of motor vehicles and parts, which regained pre-strike volumes, accounted for about half the over-all increase. Also higher were imports of machinery and other equipment.

Imports from overseas countries rose nearly 2% to \$964 million in November. Crude oil imports recovered from the low levels of September and October, possibly reflecting stockpiling in anticipation of the OPEC price adjustment.

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

## Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in October totalled \$1,015.2 million, down 10.8% from \$1,138.1 million in October 1975.

Lower totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$626.2 million (\$664.4 million in October 1975), institutional and governmental permits at \$97.1 million (\$152.9 million) and industrial permits at \$82.2 million (\$114.6 million); the value of commercial building permits rose to \$209.7 million from \$206.2 million.

Provincial totals for building permits taken out in October, with year-earlier figures in brackets: Ontario, \$344.3 million (\$466.2 million); Quebec, \$207.2 million (\$221.8 million); Alberta, \$177.7 million (\$157.6 million); British Columbia, \$150.3 million (\$136.0 million); Saskatchewan, \$51.7 million (\$47.9 million); Manitoba, \$31.4 million (\$31.9 million); New Brunswick, \$20.8 million (\$24.3 million); Nova Scotia, \$19.0 million (\$33.0 million); Prince Edward Island, \$6.7 million (\$9.7 million); and Newfoundland, \$4.7 million (\$9.1 million).

For the first 10 months of 1976, building permits taken out in Canada reached \$10,233.1 million, up 15.4% from \$8,867.0 million in the corresponding period of 1975.

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

## Asbestos

Canadian producers' shipments of asbestos decreased to 149,881 short tons in November from 152,280 short tons a year earlier.

Cumulative shipments for the first 11 months of 1976 totalled 1,540,275 short tons, up 50.5% from 1,023,419 short tons in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the November 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.



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