# Statistics Statistique <br> Canada Canada <br> InFomAt <br> Weekly Bulletin 

## The Labour Force

Etployment and unemployment, on a seasonally-adiusted basis, both showed increases in March but Canada's unemployntent rate tose to $8.1 \%$ from $7.9 \%$ in Februak. Therate in March 1976 was $6.8 \%$

The adusted employment level was estimated at 9,672,000 in March, up 16,000 from February. The unemployment level was estimated at 856,000 , an increase of 27,000 trom February.

The increase in employment in March was entirely concentrated among female workers: 15,000 for women 25 years of age and over and 10,000 for women 15-24. The level decreased for men 25 years of age and over $(-8,000)$, while it showed litte? change for men 15-24.

The adjusted unemployment level incransed for men 15-24 (7,000), men 25 and ove: ( 11,000 ) and women 25 and over 10.000)

Seasonally-adjusted March unemployTheit rates for the provinces, with February dates in brackets: Newfoundland 16.1\% (15.1\%); Prince Edward Island 9.9\% (9.0\%): Nova Scolia $11.7 \%$ ( $11.0 \%$ ); New Brunswick $143 \%(13.0 \%)$; Quebec $10.0 \%(9.7 \%)$ : Ontario $7.1 \%$ (6.8\%): Manitoba $5.7 \%$ ( $6.0 \%$ ). Saskatchewan $4.6 \%(3.7 \%)$ : Alberta $4.5 \%$ ( $4.0 \%$ ); and British Columbia $8.8 \%$ ( $8.2 \%$ ).

Without seasonal adjusiment, the March labour force was $10,294,000$ with $9,350,000$ employed and 944.000 unemployed for an unemployment rate of $9.2 \%$. In February. the labour force was $10,222.000$ with $9,290,000$ employed and 932,000 unemployed for a rate of $9.1 \%$. In March 1976, the labour force was $10,019,000$ with $9,259,000$ employed and 759.000 unemployed for a rate of $7.6 \%$.

For further information, order the March 1977 issue of The Labour Force (71-001. $55 c / \$ 5.50$ ).

## Farm Equipment Sales

Sales of farm implements and equipment for January to February 1977 were valued at $\$ 90.3$ million (dealers' cost), down $4.0 \%$ from $\$ 94.1$ million in the lirst two months of 1976
Sales of repair parts for farm equipment coss $12.9 \%$ in the latest period to $\$ 25.1$ rition from $\$ 22.2$ million.
Fur further information, order the February :9.7 issue of Farm Implement and Equipment Sites (63-009, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact the Merchandising and Services Division (613-996-9307). Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OT6.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

## EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)
Labour income (\$ million).
Persons with Jobs (million)

## Unemployed

## INVENTORIES

Departmen! Store (\$ million)
Manutacturers Owned (\$ million)
Wholesale (\$ million)

## ORDERS

Manufacturers New Orders (\$ million).
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million).

## PRICES

Consumer Price Index $(1971=100)$.
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100).

## CONSTRUCTION

Builaing Permits (\$ million).
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)
ENERGY
Coal Production (thousand Ions).
Electricity Generation (terawall hours)...
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.) ....
Pelroleum Refining (milion barrels)

## FOREIGN TRADE

Exports - Customs Basis (\$ million). Imports - Customs Basis (\$ million).

## PRODUCTION

Motor Vehicles (thousand units) .....
Steel (ingols - thousand tons).

## SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million).
Manulaclurers Shipments (\$ million)
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)
Retarl Sales ( $\$$ million).
)....
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)
Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p-preliminary. $r$ - revised. - new this week.

Canada - United States Trade in Automotive Products


## Consumer Price Index (CPI)

(1971=100)
The all-items Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced $1.0 \%$ to 157.0 in March from 155.4 in February, marking the third consecutive month in which relatively-large increases have been recorded. Higher prices for petroleum products accounted for approximately one-quarter of this increase while a rise in the food index - up for the fourth successive month - contributed an additional one-quarter. While the food index increased $0.9 \%$, the index for all items excluding food rose by $1.0 \%$. Between March 1976 and March 1977, the total CPI advanced $7.4 \%$, the largest 12 month increase since mid-1976.

The $0.9 \%$ increase in the food index was largely due to higher prices for fresh fruit, fresh milk, coflee, bakery producls and restaurant meals. Following a year of relative price stability in 1976, the index for food consumed at home (up $0.8 \%$ in the latest month) has now increased $4.7 \%$ in the three-month period between December 1976 and March 1977.

Higher prices for both gasoline and fuel oil were a large contributing factor to the $1.0 \%$ increase in the index for all items excluding food. Notable price increases were also registered for many seasonal clothing items, plane fares, postage, cigarettes and, in some urban centres, for electricity and local transit fares.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the allitems index advanced $1.1 \%$ between February and March. The current annual rate of change in the CP1, based on the seasonally-adjusted movement since three months earlier was $12.0 \%$ upfrom the $9.2 \%$ rate recorded the previous month.
For further information, order the March 1977 issue of The Consumer Price Index (62. 001, 304/\$3).

## Urban Transit

Urban transit systems carried 101.7 million fare passengers in February and had operating revenues amounting to $\$ 33.3$ million. Revenue vehicle-miles run totalled 28.3 million.

For further information, order the February 1977 issue of Urban Transit (53-003. 15\$/\$1.50), or contact the Chief (613-9969274). Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statislics Canada, Otlawa K1A OT6.

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## Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from farming operations in all provinces except Newfoundland totalled an estimated $\$ 1,973.2$ million in the January to February period of 1977, down $18.7 \%$ from $\$ 2.426 .9$ million in the first Iwo months of 1976

These estimates include: cash receipts from the sale of farm products; Canadian Wheat Board participation payments on previous years' grain crops: cash advances on farm-stored grains in Western Canada; and deficiency payments made by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. No deduction was made for the cost incurred by farmers in the production of the commodities sold.

Total payments made 10 farmers in the latest period, by province and with JanuaryFebruary 1976 payments in brackets:

- Saskatchewan, \$676.4 million (\$975.6 million): Alberta, $\$ 430.1$ million ( $\$ 517.5$ million): Ontario. $\$ 405.1$ million ( $\$ 409.0$ million): Quebec, $\$ 174.4$ million ( $\$ 192.2$ million): Manitoba, $\$ 164.1$ million ( $\$ 205.7$ million); British Columbia, $\$ 64.4$ million ( $\$ 66.4$ million); Nova Scotia, $\$ 19.7$ million ( $\$ 18.7$ million): Prince Edward Island, $\$ 19.6$ million ( $\$ 22.0$ million): and New Brunswick, $\$ 19.4$ million ( $\$ 19.8$ million).
For further information, order the February 1977 issue of Farm Cash Receipts (21-001, 304/\$3), or contact E.S. Boyko (613-9949876), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OL7.


## Coal and Coke Statistics

Production of coal in Canada increased $5.2 \%$ in January to 2.650 .446 tons from 2.518 .517 tons in January 1976. Imports decreased to 236,290 tons from 344,530 tons.
Industrial consumers used $3,166,541$ tons of coal in the latest month (up 546,273 tons from a year earlier) and 485,196 tons of coke (up 8.133 tons).
For further information, order the January 1977 issue of Coal and Coke Statistics (45$002,40 c$ /\$4), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021). Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OT6.

## Building Permits

Building permits, seasonally adjusted decreased $8.0 \%$ to $\$ 916$ million in January from $\$ 996$ million in December 1975 Permits for all categories of bulldin construction were lower: residential at $\$ 549$ million ( $\$ 598$ million in December); indus. trial at $\$ 75$ million ( $\$ 86$ million); commercıal at $\$ 186$ million ( $\$ 203$ million); and institutional at $\$ 107$ miltion ( $\$ 108$ million).
Residential permits (which are indicative of potential housing starts) confirmed in January the downturn observed in December with 210,000 units, seasonally adjusled at an annual rate. In December 1976, residential permits were at a rate of 248,000 units while in November the rate was 267,200.

Among non-residential categories, industrial projects showed the largest decrease in January, $13.2 \%$, followed by commercial projects, which dropped $8.8 \%$.
For further information, order the January 1977 issue of Builaing Permits $164-001$. 704/87).

## New Motor Vehicle Sales

Retail sales of new motor vehicles reached 97.389 units in February, up 18\% from a year earlier. Total sales value increased $21.1 \%$ to $\$ 609.4$ million.
Sales of passenger cars produced in Canada and the United States rose 22.3\% 1060.199 units while those of overseasmanufactured automobiles were up 17.2\% to 10,823 units.
Commercial vehicle sales in Februa advanced $9.4 \%$ from a year earlier to 26.367 units; included were 25.478 produced in Canada and the U.S. (up $9.8 \%$ ) and 889 manufactured overseas (down $0.1 \%$ ).

For the first two months ol 1977, sales of new motor vehicles totalied 191,149 units with an accumulated value of $\$ 1,207.6$ million. This represents an increase of $25.1 \%$ in units and $30.7 \%$ in value compared with sales for January-February 1976.

For further information, order the February 1977 issue of New Motor Vehicle Sales (63007, 30¢/\$3), or contact M. Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division. Statistics Canada. Ottawa K1A OV6.

## Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index

(1971-100)
The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada rose to 172.5 in February, an increase of $0.2 \%$ from January and up $8.8 \%$ from a year earlier.

The materials component of the total index advanced $5.1 \%$ over the 12 months from February 1976; labour costs rose $12.5 \%$.

Prices of concrete products used in nonresidential building construction climbed $9.0 \%$ during this period; smaller increases were recorded for: plumbing, heating an air conditioning ( $7.1 \%$ ); electrical equir ment ( $5.5 \%$ ): lumber and lumber products (2.8\%); steel and metal work (1.6\%); and other materials ( $4.9 \%$ ).

For further information, order the February 1977 issue of Construction Price Siatistics, Monthly Bulletin (62-007, \$4 per year).

## International Travei

Preliminary statistics tor February show that 1.3 million United States visitors entered Canada, down 10.2\% from February 1976. Cenadian residents relurning from the U.S. numbered 2.2 million, up 5.4\% from last year

Visitors entering Canada from countries other than the U.S. decreased by $4.9 \%$ in February to 34,200 . Canadian Iravellers returning from these countries totalled 141.500, up $13.1 \%$ from February 1976

For further information, order the February issue of International Travel - Advance Information (66-002. 154/\$1.50), or contact M. W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section. Statistics Canada, Ollawa kia ot6.

## General Whoiesale Price Index

( $1935-39=100$ )
The general wholesale price index increased $1.4 \%$ in February to 540.9 from 533.6 (revised) in January 10 stand $7.1 \%$ higher than the February 1976 level of 505.1 Increases were shown for all eight major groups.

The vegetable products group index rose $2.9 \%$ in February due to price increases recorded for fresh vegetables ( $46.8 \%$ ), fresh fruits (12.0\%), dried fruits ( $10.7 \%$ ), tea, coffee and cocoa ( $9.0 \%$ ), grains ( $3.6 \%$ ) and polatoes (3.3\%). Increases in solder $(15.6 \%)$, tin ( $9.7 \%$ ), lead and its products (5.7\%) silver ( $4.9 \%$ ) and copper ( $2.5 \%$ ) were mainly responsible for a $1.7 \% \mathrm{in}$ crase in the non-ferrous metals index. Allimal products rose $1.6 \%$ in February, due o increases in furs ( $19.7 \%$ ), fish (3.5\%). cured meats $(3.0 \%)$, and eggs ( $2.2 \%$ ). Increases in hemlock ( $2.2 \%$ ), spruce (1.8\%). fir ( $1.4 \%$ ), newsprint and wrapping paper ( $1.1 \%$ ) and hardwoods ( $1.0 \%$ ) advanced the wood products index $1.0 \%$. Smaller increases were noted for: ir on products 0.7: chemical products $0.6 \%$; textile products $0.5 \%$; and non-metalic minerals $0.2 \%$.

Over the 12 months from February 1976 the major group indexes showed the following percentage changes:

- Non-terrous metals including gold $13.7 \%$; wood products, $13.0 \%$; textile products, $10.4 \%$; non-metallic minerals, $8.1 \%$; iron products, $6.4 \%$ : vegetable products, $5.0 \%$, chemical products. $4.7 \%$, and animal products, $-1.1 \%$.
For further information, order the February 1977 issue of Industry Price indexes (62-011. 55 / $\$ 5.50$ ).


## Oil Pipellne Transport

Cana dian oil pipe lines received 2.51 million barrels per day of crude oil, condensate. pentanes plus and refined petroleum products in January, a decrease of 5.0\% from a year earlier

Receipts of domestic petroleum and products increased $0.5 \%$ to 2.17 million $3 / \mathrm{D}$ in the latest month while imports fell $294 \% 10341.000 \mathrm{~B} / \mathrm{D}$.

For further information. order the January issue of Oil Pipe Line Transport (55-001. 300 ; $\$ 3$ ), of contact G.R. Kitchen (613-9924021). Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division. Statistics Canada. Ottawa K1A OV6.


## Industry Selling Price Index

(1971=100)
The Industry Selling Price Index for manufacturing stood at 168.0 in February, up $0.7 \%$ from the revised January level of 166.9 and $5.9 \%$ higher than the February 1976 index of 158.6. Price increases in food and beverage industries, primary metal industries and non-metallic mineral products industries contributed most to the over-all February rise.

The food and beverage index rose $1.2 \%$ in February, reflecting higher prices for miscellaneous food processors ( $4.7 \%$ ). slaughtering and meat processors (1.1\%) and feeds (1.5\%). Primary metal industries increased $1.4 \%$ as indexes rose $16 \%$ for iron and steel mills and $1.4 \%$ for smelting and refining. The index for non-metallic mineral products rose $2.2 \%$, due mainly to price increases of $5.6 \%$ for glass and glass products manufacturers and $3.3 \%$ for cement manufacturers.

Over the 12 months from February 1976. the largest price advances were recorded for the following group indexes

- Petroleum and coal products industries, $13.1 \%$; primary metal industries, $9.5 \%$; non-metallic mineral products industries, $9.4 \%$; leather industries. $8.0 \%$; wood industries, $8.0 \%$; paper and allied industries. $6.1 \%$; and furniture and fixture industries, $5.1 \%$.
For further intormation, order the February 1977 issue of Industry Price Indexes (62-011. 55e/\$5.50).


## Radio Air-Time Sales

Gross national AM and FM radio air-lime sales totalled $\$ 7.4$ million in November, up 13.8\% from a year earlier. Agency and other commissions left net national sales at $\$ 6.3$ million

Nel local air-time sales were reported at $\$ 158$ million in the latest month, an increase of $18.8 \%$ from November 1976.
For further information, order the Communications Service Bulletin (56-001, \$1.40 per year), or contact P.T. Crosby (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division. Statistics Canada, Ottawa KIA OTG.

## Retall Trade

Seasonally-adjuled February relail sales decreased $0.2 \%$ from January to a level of $\$ 5,008.4$ million

Total retail trade without seasonal adjustment reached $\$ 4.012 .6$ milion in February. up $9.2 \%$ from a year earlier. All provinces reported increased sales over February 1976 with the largest advance in Ontario ( $11.4 \%$ ). Sales were up $15.3 \%$ in Vancouver, $\mathbf{1 3 . 5 \%}$ in Toronto, $7.5 \%$ in Montreal and 2.8\% in Winnipey.

Year-to-year increases were registered in 24 of the 28 trade groups with the largest gains posted by specialty shoe stores ( $31.2 \%$ ) and book and stationery stores (26.0\%).

Revised data for January show retail sales for the month at $\$ 4,093.6$ million, up 9.2\% from Janua y 1976

For lurther information, order the February 1977 issue of Retail Trade (63-005, $55(\$ 5.50$ ) , or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304). Merchandising and Services Division. Statistics Canada, Ottawa kia ova.

## Labour Income

Total labour income for January was estimated at $\$ 8987.7$ million, up 12.9\% from January 196

Adjusted for seasonal variation, the January estimate of $\$ 9.151 .0$ million showed a decrease $3.1 \%$ from December The decrease noted mainly resulted from retroactive payments of $\$ 318$ million made during Decembe it the estimates were adjusted for thes special payments, they would show a sliuht increase in January
For further inforination, order the JanuaryMarch 1977 issue of Estimates of Labour income (72-005, $\$ 1.05$ \$4.20). Additional information may te obtained from Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Oltawa K1A OV2.

## Iron Ore

Canadian mines shipped 1.046.253 short tons of iron ore in February compared with $1,377,217$ short tons a year earlier

Output for the first two months of 1977 at $3.888,216$ short tons was up $18.9 \%$ from $3,268,784$ short tons in January-February 1976

For further information, order the February 1977 issue of Iron Ore (26-005. 15¢/\$1.50). or contact Alt Symons (613-992-0491). Manufacturing and Priniary Industries Division. Statisfics Canada, Ottawa K1A OV6.

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AGRICULTURE
Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, July-September 1976
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry
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Siocks of Frozen Meat Products,
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Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables.
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## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments,
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## BUSINESS FINANCE

Cheques Cashed, January 1977
Commercial Failures Under the Bankruptcy and Winding-up Acts. Fourth Quarler 1976

## CENSUS

Industries: Introduction to Volume III (Part 4). 1971 Census of Canada Industries: Introduction to Volume III (Part 5). 1971 Census of Canada

## CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits, Annual Summary

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Canada, Outlook 1977

## CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Canadian Statistical Review.
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EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE
Continuing Education: Elementary-
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