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Weekly Bulletin

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## Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on books of selected credit holders reached \$24,435 million at the end of December, up 11.8% from a year earlier. Outstandings at the end of December, with percentage change from 1976:

- Chartered banks' personal loans: \$18,731 million, up 15.8%.
- Québec savings banks' personal loans: \$87 million, up 20.8%.
- Life insurance companies' policy loans: \$1,282 million, up 4.1%.
- Sales finance and consumer loans companies' loans: small \$208 million, down 11.5%; large \$1,459 million, down 2.7%; instalment sales paper \$1,100 million, down 3.0%.
- Department, furniture, TV, radio and household appliance stores: \$1,567 million, up 4.1%.

Credit holders reporting quarterly had combined outstanding balances of \$6,404 million at the end of the third quarter, up 16.4% from a year earlier. Largest such credit holders, credit unions and caisses populaires, reported balances outstanding of \$4,475 million, up 18.8%. (Also included in the quarterly total: other retail stores, other credit-card issuers, public utilities, and trust and mortgage companies.)

Including quarterly reporters, outstanding balances at the end of the third quarter totalled \$30,118 million, up 13.3% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the December 1977 issue of *Consumer Credit* (61-004, 30¢/\$3), or contact Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304/telex 053-3585), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada.

## Housing Starts

Residential building in December in centres of 10,000 population and above was marked by housing starts advancing 16% to 20,485 from 17,658 a year earlier. Over 12 months starts totalled 194,313, down 7.4% from 209,762 in 1976.

Provincial figures with 1976 December totals in brackets: Ontario, 7,315 (6,493); Québec, 3,471 (4,609); Alberta, 3,348 (2,007); British Columbia, 2,005 (2,836); Saskatchewan, 1,712 (750); Nova Scotia, 1,345 (204); Manitoba, 779 (515); Newfoundland, 212 (59); New Brunswick, 163 (188); Prince Edward Island, 135 (17).

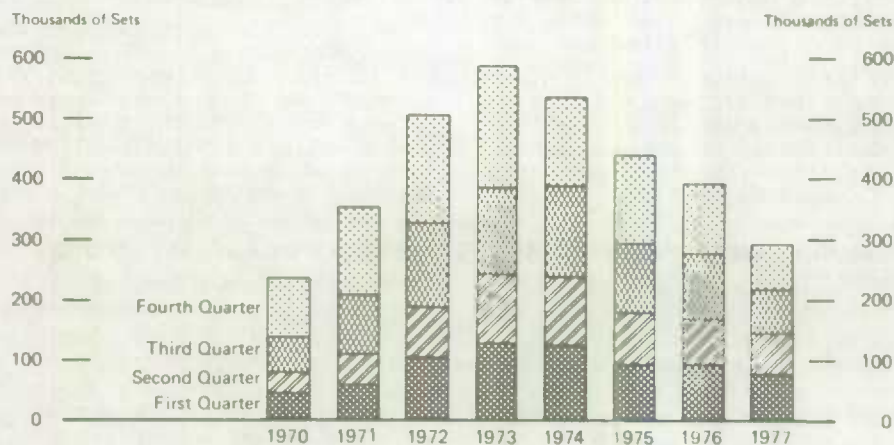
For further information, order the December 1977 issue of *Housing Starts and Completions* (64-002, 40¢/\$4).

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>			
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov. 256.17p	257.94p	8.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov. 10,225.7	10,351.0	9.2
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan. 9.48	9.73	2.4
Unemployed	Jan. 991,000	882,000	11.5
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Department Store (\$ million)	Oct. 2,105.3	1,707.3	2.2
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov. 18,330.5p	18,035.3	9.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	Dec. 7,558.6	7,493.5	5.8
<b>ORDERS</b>			
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov. 9,853.7p	9,870.9r	14.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov. 10,644.4p	629.8r	9.9
<b>PRICES</b>			
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Jan. 167.8	167.2	9.0
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Dec. 177.8p	177.5r	7.4
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Dec. 572.1p	571.5r	8.9
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Building Permits (\$ million)	Oct. 980.1	10,436.4	0.6
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Nov. 18,022	173,828	-9.5
<b>ENERGY</b>			
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Aug. 2,222	21,065	22.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Sept. 23.6	229.3	7.8
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Nov. 284.4p	3,232.9p	3.0
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Dec. 60.8	660.8	5.6
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>			
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Nov. 3,618	40,042	15.3
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Nov. 3,524	38,499	12.0
<b>PRODUCTION</b>			
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Dec. 131.5	1,775.4	8.3
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Jan. 1,310.3	1,310.3	7.4
<b>SALES</b>			
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec. 1,049.8	6,939.9	6.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov. 9,839.1p	100,627.8p	11.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec. 539.6	8,543.8	10.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec. 6,802.1	61,598.6	7.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Dec. 4,396.0	55,575.5	11.2

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

## Manufacturers' Sales of 'Made-in-Canada' Colour Television Sets

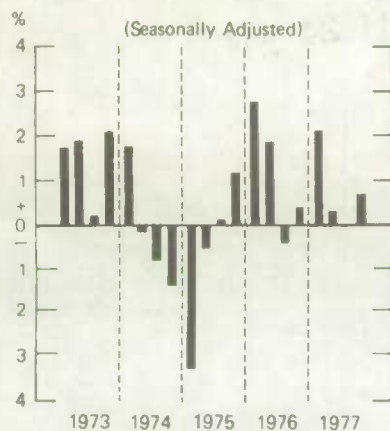


Source: Radio and Television Receiving Sets (43-004)



## Index of Industrial Production

Quarter-to-Quarter Percentage Change



Source: Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry (61-005)

## Regional Consumer Price Indexes

From December 1977 to January 1978 the regional consumer price index rose in 13 cities and remained unchanged in Montréal. Advances ranged from 0.1% in Halifax to 0.7% in Ottawa. Higher prices for meat products, soft drinks and restaurant meals with increased shelter charges were largely responsible. Other important contributing factors included higher prices for imported cars and seasonally-higher train fares. Prices for fresh produce declined noticeably. Clothing prices were also generally lower across the country.

Regionally, with increases from a year earlier in brackets: St. John's, up 0.3% (7.8%); Halifax, 0.1% (8.9%); Saint John, 0.2% (8.7%); Québec, 0.4% (8.5%); Montréal, 0.0% (8.7%); Ottawa, 0.7% (9.0%); Toronto, 0.6% (9.2%); Thunder Bay, 0.4% (10.1%); Winnipeg, 0.3% (8.7%); Saskatoon, 0.4% (9.8%); Regina, 0.4% (10.5%); Edmonton, 0.5% (10.1%); Calgary, 0.2% (8.3%); Vancouver, 0.5% (7.5%).

For further information, order the January 1978 issue of *Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities* (62-009, 30¢/\$3).

## Petroleum/Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production rose 7.2% in November to 1,592,000 B/D from 1,485,000 in 1976. Natural gas averaged 10,606,000 Mcf./day, up 4.9% from 10,114,000.

For further information, order the November 1977 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3), or contact G. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## ANNUAL WORK PATTERNS SURVEY DISSECTS BY AGE/SEX/REGION

Data now are available from the 1975 Annual Work Patterns Survey. Undertaken as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey in February 1976, the work patterns survey provides information on the labour force activity in 1975 of persons over 15. The breakdown includes: number of weeks worked, usual number of hours worked per week, number of weeks people without work were looking for work. Tables provide data on labour force activity and unemployment experience during 1975 detailed by sex, age and region. For further information, contact Richard Veevers (613-996-4150/70), Labour Force Survey Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## International Travel, 1977

Canada earned \$2,006 million from international travel in 1977, up 3.9% from 1976. Canadian residents travelling abroad spent \$3,661 million, up 17.3%; thus we sustained a deficit of \$1,655 million on international travel.

The 31.8 million United States visitors (down 1.4%) spent \$1,509 million. Expenditures of 37.9 million Canadian residents visiting the U.S. (up 5.5%) were \$2,278 million for an estimated deficit of \$769 million.

Receipts from countries other than the U.S. reached \$497 million when 1.4 million visitors entered Canada, 9.7% lower than the Olympic year of 1976. However, when compared with 1975, the 1977 visitors represent an increase of 7.3%. The 1.8 million Canadian residents travelling in these countries (up 12.3%) contributed to payments of \$1,383 million, a deficit of \$886 million.

The fourth quarter's figures suggest that some leveling off in the decline in visitors may be in the process, as well as some moderation in the rate at which the deficit has been deteriorating in recent quarters.

However, any changing trends in travel patterns which may be developing are difficult to substantiate until further data become available.

For further information, order the October-December 1977 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$1.75/\$7), or contact M.W. Valiquette, International Travel Section (613-995-0847), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## Mineral Production

December's production decreased in all sectors compared with December 1976. December and 1977, with comparable 1976 production in brackets:

- Gold, 146,047 troy ounces (148,993) — 1,703,635 (1,691,808)
- Silver, 3,461,379 troy ounces (3,661,249) — 44,648,280 (41,199,142)
- Primary copper, 58,894 tons (67,394) — 861,542 (805,712)
- Primary nickel, 19,013 short tons (23,419) — 255,254 (265,464)
- Refined lead, 17,437 short tons (18,406) — 206,636 (198,698)
- Refined zinc, 37,704 short tons (52,736) — 545,521 (520,639).

For further information, order the December 1977 issues of: *Gold Production* (26-004, 15¢/\$1.50); *Silver, Lead and Zinc Production* (26-008, 15¢/\$1.50), and *Copper and Nickel Production* (26-003, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## Industry Structure And Foreign Control

Foreign control surfaces largely in the larger companies, mainly in industries dominated by a few giants. In 1972, of 29,812 firms in manufacturing, mining and forestry, 100 accounted for 46% of all value added and, of these, 66 were foreign-controlled. The next 100 largest companies did 11% of the business and of these 74% were foreign-controlled.

Canadian firms among the top 100 on average were more diversified — in 7.6 industries against six. Only two domestically- and seven foreign-controlled firms operated in only one industry.

The 34 Canadian firms in the top 100 tended to operate more in industries dominated by a few enterprises and enjoyed higher average market shares than the 66 foreign-controlled.

(These findings are based on 1972 data: they apply generally to today's economy since industry-structure changes occur slowly.)

For further information, contact John McVey (613-995-1073), Chief, Multinational Enterprises Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

*Structural Aspects of Domestic and Foreign Control in the Manufacturing, Mining and Forestry Industries*, Cat. No. 31-523, at \$2.80 in Canada; \$3.35 elsewhere.

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## Corporation Financial Statistics

Financial characteristics reported by corporations in 1975 reflect the tapering off of the strong economic growth generated in 1973 and 1974. Total assets of all industries rose from \$428 billion in 1974 to \$483 billion, an increase of 13%, compared with 19% and 16% in 1974 and 1973. At the 182 industry level, the fastest rate of growth took place in the Fertilizer industry (more than doubling assets, from \$50 million to \$120 million) and in Other Construction, up 35% from the \$1.2 billion reported in 1974.

For further information, contact A. Dorland (613-996-5980), Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6. Additional detail on a 182 industry basis, including key corporate financial ratios, is available in the 1975 issue of *Corporation Financial Statistics* (61-207, \$2.80).



### Households by Family Structure

Five years between 1971 and 1976 saw an increase of 674,725 families in private households.

Husband-wife families represented the vast majority (90.2%) of total families. Lone-parent families accounted for 9.8%.

An increase of 81,810 lone-parent families included a majority of female lone-parents comprising 83.0% of total lone-parent families.

The pattern of increases in the distribution of lone-parent families and the corresponding decreases in the distribution of husband-wife families was encountered in all provinces bar Newfoundland and Saskatchewan plus the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Ontario showed the greatest increase in the proportion of lone-parent families from 1971 to 1976 (8.9% to 9.6%).

Female lone-parent families in Canada increased 23.1%. Male lone-parent families decreased 5.3%.

*Further information including geographic detail will be published early this year (Catalogue No. 93-822, Bulletin 4-3). In the meantime for information on families in private households in Canada, by structure for census divisions, contact Census Information Services (613-996-5254), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T7.*

### Industrial Production Index

The seasonally-adjusted Index of Industrial Production rose 0.2% in December to 125.6 from 125.4 in November. Mining and utilities showed increases; manufacturing output remained virtually unchanged.

For the year, 1977 showed a 3.3% advance over 1976, the Index rising from 120.5 to 124.5.

Mines (including milling) rose 3.4% from 110.4 to 114.2; manufacturing rose 3.1% from 120.0 to 123.7; utilities, 5.2% from 137.8 to 145.1; non-durable manufacturing, 3.1% from 117.3 to 120.9; and durable manufacturing, 3.1% from 122.7 to 126.5.

*For further information, order the December 1977 issue of Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Refined Petroleum

Refineries produced 60,879 thousand barrels of refined petroleum products in December, up 4.5% (58,253,000 a year earlier). Net sales of all refined petroleum products amounted to 58,874 thousand barrels, down 5.2% (62,014,000).

*For further information, order the December 1977 issue of Refined Petroleum Products (45-004, 40¢/\$4), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

Mines shipped 5,570,198 short tons of iron ore in December (4,270,200 a year earlier). The 12 months output reached 59,999,977 short tons against 61,086,065.

*For further information, order the December 1977 issue of Iron Ore (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### PRIVATE AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT, 1978 OUTLOOK

Estimates of capital expenditures were compiled for special early release in advance of final estimates, including the provinces. Amounts shown are in current dollars without adjustment for price changes in 1977/1978.

The total of capital expenditures during 1978 by all sectors of the economy is estimated at \$48,910 million, up 4.8% from \$46,670 million in 1977 (which in turn was 7% higher than the \$43,636 million in 1976).

In the components of capital outlays, new construction is expected to reach a total of \$31,876 million for a 4.8% gain over the \$30,420 million in 1977. This increase is below the 8.1% advance in 1977 from the \$28,144 of 1976.

The non-residential portion of the construction program is expected to be \$20,533 million, up 5.4% from \$19,488 million last year, while residential construction is estimated at \$11,344 million, 3.8% over the \$10,932 million in 1977.

These housing estimates for the current year are based on 230,000 starts projected for 1978 compared with 245,000 starts last year.

The other component of total capital expenditures is the acquisition of machinery and equipment which is expected to increase by 4.8% as in construction. Totals for machinery are \$17,033 million for 1978, \$16,250 million in 1977 and \$15,492 million in 1976.

#### Utilities' Increases Dominate

Capital expenditures by the business group are shown at \$30,057 million, 5.4% higher than the \$28,517 million in 1977. Outlays for social capital by institutions and governments are \$7,509 million, 4% above the \$7,221 million in 1977. Both categories anticipate a smaller increase in the current year than in 1977 when increases of 8.6% and 10.5% rose above 1976 totals of \$26,252 million for business and \$6,532 million for social capital.

In the business sector, utilities are again largest in size and in rate of increase among the various industries. Capital expenditures of this group in 1978 are estimated at \$10,709 million, an increase of 13.7% over the \$9,418 million last year. Electric power, telephones and air transport dominate the increase.

#### Metal Mines Unfavoured

In manufacturing, the 1978 total at \$6,244 million would be 3.7% above the \$6,023 million of last year. Strength is mostly shown in the chemical products industry (which includes heavy water) and in the manufacture of transportation equipment. Some of the offsetting decreases are recorded in construction for petroleum refining, for non-metallic mineral products and for paper and allied products.

In the rest of the business sector, the mining quarrying, petroleum and gas group shows a decrease of 6% in 1978 at the new estimated total of \$3,760 million. This amount reflects decreases for iron mining, for the copper-gold-silver group and for other metal mines.

In the petroleum and gas group, capital expenditures are estimated at \$2,718 million, 3.9% above the 1977 program. Small increases are recorded for agriculture, primary fishing, trade and finance.

#### Municipal Government Ahead

The commercial services group indicates more strength even though the amounts exceed only marginally the level of 1976 (which included outlays on the installations for the Olympic Games).

Capital outlays of the social capital group of institutions and governments, amounting to \$7,509 million, are expected to increase by 4% over the \$7,221 million in 1977. Last year the increase was 10.5% over 1976.

The program for municipal governments is the largest part of all three levels of government, the total of which is expected to be higher by \$232 million (4.1%) in 1978.

In the institutions group, expenditures on hospitals show the largest increase — \$49 million or 11% — in 1978.

*For further information, contact Duncan Lusick/Richard Landry (613-994-9546).*

### Oil Pipeline Transport

Lines received 2,595,900 B/D (412 515 m3D) of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum product in November, up 4.0% from 2,505,400 B/D (398 133 m3D) a year earlier. Receipts of domestic petroleum and products rose 4.0% to 2,284,200 B/D (362 982 m3D) and imported petroleum and products' receipts increased 0.7% to 311,700 B/D (49 532 m3D).

*For further information, order the November 1977 issue of Oil Pipe Line Transport (55-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact G. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Telephone Statistics

Thirteen telephone systems' December revenues rose 17.2% to \$340.8 million over December 1976. Operating expenses: \$232.5 million, up 9.7%. Net operating revenue: \$108.3 million, an increase of 37.1%. Telephone toll messages rose 9.9% to 84.6 million. (A work stoppage at the British Columbia Telephone System beginning November 24 continued during December.)

*For further information, order Telephone Statistics, December 1977 (56-002, \$1.50 per year), or contact Patrick Crosby (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*



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Production of Eggs and Poultry, December 1977	23-003	30¢/\$3	Iron Ore, December 1977	26-005	15¢/\$1.50
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Agriculture, Prince Edward Island, 1976 Census of Canada	96-802	\$4.25	Products Made From Canadian Clays, December 1977	44-005	15¢/\$1.50
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Canadian Statistical Review Annual Supplement to Section 1, 1976	11-206	\$1.05	Selected Meat and Meat Preparations, December 1977	32-020	15¢/\$1.50
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			Food and Beverage Industry Survey, 1976	63-529	70¢
			<b>PRICES</b>		
			Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, January 1978	62-009	30¢/\$3
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