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Weekly Bulletin

Average Earnings

Average weekly earnings rose 6.7% to \$255.47 in January from \$239.34 in 1977. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing reached \$6.63 (from \$6.11), in construction \$10.21 (\$9.44) and in mining \$8.38 (\$7.84).

First estimates show average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$290.27) and followed by Alberta (\$268.59), Québec (\$253.78), Ontario (\$252.87), Newfoundland (\$248.24), Saskatchewan (\$240.55), New Brunswick (\$232.43), Manitoba (\$229.95), Nova Scotia (\$218.02) and Prince Edward Island (\$192.29).

Average weekly earnings by industry division were: construction, \$365.89, mining, \$364.21; forestry, \$346.92; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$300.83; manufacturing, \$273.98; finance, insurance and real estate, \$238.37; trade, \$195.41; and service, \$174.93.

For further information, order the January 1978 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 70¢/\$7), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Labour Income

January labour income rose 8.1% from January 1977's \$9,171.6 million to \$9,910.5 million.

Preliminary estimates for wages and salaries were: manufacturing, \$2,083.3 million; trade, \$1,218.4 million; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$971.7 million; public administration and defence, \$862.7 million; service, \$771.8 million; finance, insurance and real estate, \$614.0 million; construction, \$611.2 million; mining, \$242.2 million; forestry, \$93.2 million; and agriculture, \$57.7 million.

Supplementary income for January reached \$750.9 million.

See detailed estimates in the January-March 1978 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067), Labour Income Section, Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Farm Equipment Sales

February sales of farm implements and equipment: \$86.3 million, down 2.0% from \$88.1 million a year earlier. Repair parts sold for \$24.7 million, (\$24.9 million).

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Farm Implements and Equipment Sales* (63-009, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Merchandising and Services Division, (613-996-9307).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Jan.*	255.47p	253.02p	6.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Jan.*	9,910.5p	10,145.5p	8.1
Persons with Jobs (million)	Feb.	9.58	9.48	3.1
Unemployed	Feb.	1,007,000	991,000	8.0

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Dec.	1,669.0	2,159.6	3.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Jan.	18,717.3p	18,472.7r	8.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Jan.	7,613.5	7,558.6	6.7

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Jan.	9,142.4p	9,081.4r	11.1
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Jan.	10,853.5p	10,711.8r	10.7

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Feb.	168.9	167.8	8.7
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.	180.2p	178.0r	7.6
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Jan.	580.0p	571.9r	8.8

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Dec.	847.9	12,423.3	1.8
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Nov.	18,022	173,828	-9.5

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Oct.	2,470	26,172	18.3
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Dec.	32.3	319.2	8.8
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Dec.	350.6p	3,617.3	4.5
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Jan.	56.6	56.6	-2.9

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Feb.*	4,055	7,539	19.2
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Feb.*	3,854	7,037	13.8

PRODUCTION

Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Feb.*	236.1	455.5	-5.7
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Feb.	1,255.5	2,566.9	7.9

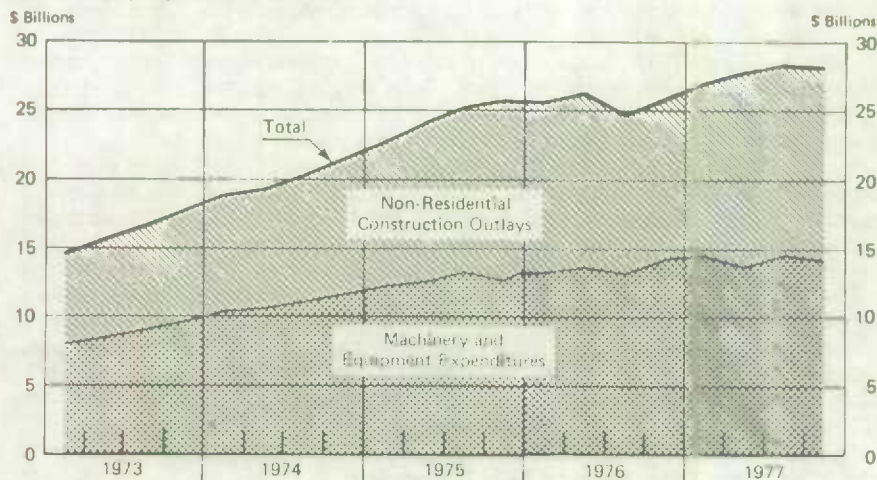
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	424.6	424.6	2.7
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Jan.	9,000.7p	9,000.7	13.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	575.8	575.8	-3.8
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	4,487.9	4,487.9	9.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Jan.	4,167.0	4,167.0	13.7

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

Business Investment in Plant and Equipment

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

Social Security

Health insurance costs per capita of the insured population rose from \$164 in 1971-72 to \$273 in 1975-76. As a proportion of per capita personal income, however, these costs dropped from 4.8% to 4.7%.

More than half our senior citizens need the Guaranteed Income Supplement. (In March 1977, 2,014,301 received old-age pensions, 55.3% also receiving GIS.) Over one third of pensioners are eligible for Canada or Québec pension plan payments. Average payment under both plans came to \$80.00.

Through the Canada Assistance Plan in March 1976, 1,499,855 Canadians, 6.5% of the population, received help. In March 1972, assistance went to 1,533,295 (7%).

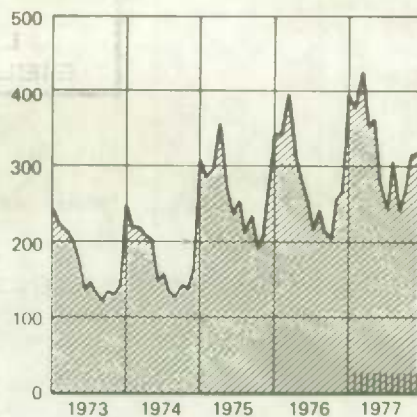
Family allowance payments in March 1977 went to 3,561,457 families and made up 2.9% of average family income.

Social security program cost figures vary considerably depending on provinces or territory: in 1975-76, health insurance costs as a proportion of personal income was 5.6% in Newfoundland, 4.0% in Saskatchewan, 4.3% in Ontario, the Yukon and Northwest Territories; the Guaranteed Income Supplement in 1976-77 went to 81.9% of pensioners in Newfoundland, 74.3% in Prince Edward Island, 71.6% in the two territories and 46.6% in Ontario; in 1975-76, Newfoundland topped other provinces in the proportion of population receiving social welfare help cost-shared through the Canada Assistance Plan at 12.2%, with Ontario 5.1% and Alberta 5.2%; in the Prairie provinces, unemployment insurance payments constituted 0.8% of personal income in contrast to 1.5% in Ontario, 3.2% in Québec, 2.2% in British Columbia and 5.0% in the Atlantic provinces.

For further information, order *Social Security, National Programs, 1978* (86-201, \$8.25 in Canada, \$9.90 elsewhere), or contact H. Mimoto (613-995-0871).

Unemployment Insurance Commission Benefit Payments

Millions of Dollars



Source: Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act (73-001)

Unemployment Insurance

Claimants receiving unemployment insurance benefit for the week of January 8 increased 21% to 995,000 from December and 11% from January 1977. In the latest month, 10% of beneficiaries were paid other than regular benefits, such as sickness, maternity, fishing and training benefits.

Net payments in January reached \$512 million, up 61% from December. A substantial rise is normally recorded between December and January — a year earlier the advance was 46%. Persons seeking benefit filed 300,000 claims in January, down 5% from December but 12% more than in January 1977.

For further information, order the January 1978 issue of *Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics* (73-001p), *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, Quarterly), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Corporate Boardroom Relationships "Mapped" Out in Greater Detail

A first for the new edition of *Inter-Corporate Ownership* is the inclusion of Standard Industrial Classifications (SICs) for each active Canadian corporation — a group can be seen to operate within one industry, in several or in many. Some of the more complicated ownership structures are displayed in inter-corporate "maps", including the interests of the following: Little Long Lac Gold Mines, RCA Corp., Williams Bros./Sandwell, Kaiser Industries Corp., PepsiCo Inc., C.B.S. Inc., Rothmans, Consolidated Foods Corp., Studebaker-Worthington Inc., International Telephone and Telegraph Corp., the Posluns family, Exxon Corp., Argus Corp., the Bronfman family, the Bentley-Prentice families, Noranda Mines, the Irving family, W. Garfield Weston Charitable Foundation, the Desmarais group and Canadian Pacific Ltd.

The group headed by Montréal's Paul G. Desmarais controls more than 175 corporations. Best-known among them are: Power Corporation of Canada, Canada Steamship Lines, Investors Group, Montréal Trust, Bathurst Paper, Consolidated Bathurst and Voyageur Colonial. The Weston interests (150 corporations) are listed as foreign-controlled since Canadian-born Garfield Weston is now a British citizen resident in the United Kingdom. The group includes: Eddy Paper Company, Loblaw Companies, Weston Bakeries, G. Tamblin Ltd. and Zehr's Market Ltd.

Other findings: The Rothmans Group of South Africa controls Rothmans of Canada, Rock City Tobacco Company, Carling O'Keefe Ltd. and Jordan Wines among others. R.C.A. Corporation of the United States controls Hertz Canada Ltd., Ballantine Books of Canada, Random House of Canada Ltd. and Banquet Foods Corporation.

The new issue of *Inter-Corporate Ownership*, a three-volume (Cat. No. 61-517) publication, costs \$36 in Canada, \$43.20 elsewhere.

Statement of Trade

February exports and imports rebounded smartly from January's sharp declines associated with worse-than-usual dislocations due to bad weather. Seasonally-adjusted exports on a balance-of-payments basis rose 23% to \$4,369 million, up 3% from the previous high level in December. At \$4,124 million, imports seasonally-adjusted on a balance-of-payments basis were 25.5% above January and more than 8% above 1977's highest total in December. The merchandise trade surplus of \$245 million was some 8.5% smaller than the revised January balance. In a three-month comparison, seasonally-adjusted exports gained roughly 9% to \$12,160 million after a marginal rise in September-November. Imports increased 8.5% to \$11,212 million in December-February following slight declines in the two previous quarters. The merchandise trade surplus expanded 18% to \$948 million from \$803 million following a rise of 20% from June-August.

Following a 7% fall in January, seasonally-adjusted exports on a Customs basis to the United States rebounded 9.3% in February to \$3,036 million, topping the \$3 billion level for the first time. In contrast to a 38.5% drop in January, shipments to overseas countries rose 74% to \$1,355 million with the European Economic Community and Japan accounting for nearly 40% of the rise. Exports to the U.S. advanced nearly 13% to \$8,798 million over three months and exports to overseas markets gained more moderately to \$3,404 million.

At \$2,836 million, seasonally-adjusted imports (Customs basis) from the U.S. stood 24.7% above the unusually-low January rate — a record.

Imports from overseas surpassed the high level of December in rising almost 30% to \$1,294 million. In a three-month comparison, imports from the U.S. rose 5.5% to \$7,715 million and imports from overseas rose 13.5% to \$3,531 million with the E.E.C. and Japan accounting for 43% of the increase.

For further information on area and commodity trade, order the February 1978 issue of the *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

New Housing Price Indexes

The Canada composite of new housing price indexes covering 22 cities rose 1.7% in February to 104.2 from 102.5 in 1977. January's composite: 104.0.

Indexes, with annual percentage changes: St. John's 101.7 (0.9%); Halifax, 102.2 (-0.1%); Québec, 114.8 (6.8%); Montréal, 106.0 (1.4%); Ottawa-Hull, 101.0 (-2.3%); Toronto, 99.7 (0.6%); Windsor, 110.8 (6.1%); Thunder Bay, 114.7 (8.5%); Winnipeg, 107.2 (2.1%); Regina, 97.6 (-3.1%); Calgary, 108.1 (2.0%); Edmonton, 110.9 (6.3%); Vancouver, 97.9 (-2.1%); and Victoria, 95.8 (-2.3%).

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, 40¢/\$4), or contact L.J. Seary (613-994-9387).

Sales Financing

Companies purchased \$201.5 million of retail finance paper in January, up 9.3% from \$184.4 million in 1977 (\$39.5 million for automobiles, \$28.9 million for other consumer goods, \$76.8 million for commercial vehicles and \$58.3 million for other commercial and industrial goods).

Wholesale financing during the fourth quarter 1977 totalled \$2,135.1 million, up 6.0% from \$2,013.9 million in 1977.

For further information, order the January 1978 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304 or telex 053-3583), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Motor Vehicle Shipments

February shipments dropped 1.6% to 236,081 vehicles from 239,948 in 1977. Year to date production fell 5.7% to 455,473 vehicles from 482,999 last year. February automobiles totalled 89,237 compared with 96,363 a year earlier (two months production: 173,391 against 194,649). All commercial vehicles figures: 146,844 (143,585); 282,082 (288,350).

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact T. Raj Sehdev (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, K1A 0V6.

Stoves/Ranges

Manufacturers' domestic sales of electric stoves and ranges in February fell 14.41% to 31,252 from 36,512 in 1977.

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Stoves and Furnaces* (41-005, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.L. Barnes (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Year 2031 Seniors

By 2031 Canada will have three working-age adults for each senior citizen against seven currently. Due to the smaller number of children however, as a proportion of the population, the combined dependency rate of young and old to the working-age population will be much lower over the next 50 years than ever before in the present century. Nonetheless, there will be a much heavier call on medical, hospital and related services by the older population than by other population groups. The older population, now 9% of the total population, consumed 20% of available "patient days" in 1974. Given the same rate of usage in 2031, older people alone will need 57 million patient days — or 104% of present maximum capacity.

Abstracted from *Social Security, National Programs, 1978* (\$8.25 in Canada, \$9.90 elsewhere, Catalogue No. 86-201, 770 pages).

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Key Economic Series

During April, release of key economic series data is to be as outlined below. Where a range of dates applies, this represents the period within which publication can be reasonably expected given the circumstances peculiar to each series. (A range may be unexpectedly exceeded on rare occasions.)

April 10 to April 13: Retail Trade, February;

April 11: Labour Force Survey, March;

April 11 to April 24: Industrial Selling Price Index, February;

April 12: Consumer Price Index (National), March;

April 14 to April 19: Index of Industrial Production, February;

April 17 to April 26: Wholesale Price Index, February;

April 18 to April 19: Wholesale Trade, February;

April 18 to April 20: Consumer Credit, February;

April 18 to April 20: Inventories Shipments and Orders, February;

April 20: Consumer Price Index (Regional), March;

April 21 to April 26: Real Domestic Product, February;

April 21 to April 27: Employment, Earnings and Hours, February;

April 23 to April 27: Labour Income, February;

April 24 to April 28: Unemployment Insurance, February;

April 28: Preliminary Statement on Canadian Trade, March.

For further information, please contact Jack Kerr (613-992-1548), Production, Planning and Scheduling Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa.

Publications, from page 4

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies (Excluding Nfld. and P.E.I.), December 1977	35-002	30¢/\$3
Quarterly Shipments of Flush Type Doors (Wood) by Canadian Manufacturers, Quarter Ended December 31, 1977	35-004	35¢/\$1.40
Quarterly Shipments of Office Furniture Products, Quarter Ended December 31, 1977	35-006	35¢/\$1.40
Railroad Rolling Stock Industry, 1976	42-211	70¢
Refined Petroleum Products, December 1977	45-004	40¢/\$4
Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, January 1978	26-008	15¢/\$1.50
Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, January 1978	32-004	40¢/\$4
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, January 1978	43-003	15¢/\$1.50
The Sugar Situation, February 1978	32-013	15¢/\$1.50

SERVICE BULLETINS

Fruit and Vegetable Preservation — Vol. 6, 1977: No. 18, Pack of Processed Potatoes; No. 19, Pack of Processed Mushrooms	32-023	/ \$1.40
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MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES

New Motor Vehicle Sales, January 1978	63-007	30¢/\$3
Retail Trade, January 1978	63-005	55¢/\$5.50

PRICES

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, February 1978	62-009	30¢/\$3
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LABOUR

Estimates of Employees by Provinces and Industry, November 1977	72-008	40¢/\$4
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PUBLIC FINANCE

Government Finance — In Accordance with the System of National Accounts, Fourth Quarter 1977	68-001	\$1.05/\$4.20
Social Security — National Programs, 1978	86-201	\$8.25

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports, Third Quarter 1977	51-005	\$1.75/\$7
Radio and Television Broadcasting, 1976	56-204	70¢
Radio Broadcasting, November 1977	56-003	15¢/\$1.50
Urban Transit, January 1978	53-003	15¢/\$1.50
Telephone Statistics, 1976	56-203	\$1.05



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THESE PUBLICATIONS* RELEASED MARCH 24 — APRIL 6

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Coarse Grains Review, November 1977	22-001	\$1.05/\$4.20	Imports by Commodities, December 1977	65-007	80¢/\$8
Dairy Factory Production, February 1978	32-002	15¢/\$1.50	Summary of External Trade, January 1978	65-001	40¢/\$4
Farm Cash Receipts, January 1978	21-001	30¢/\$3	HEALTH		
Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, January 1978	62-003	15¢/\$1.50	Causes of Death — Provinces by Sex and Canada by Sex and Age, 1975	84-203	\$2.80
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, March 1978	32-009	30¢/\$3	MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES		
Stocks of Food Commodities in Cold Storage and Other Warehouses, 1977	32-217	70¢	Asphalt Roofing, January 1978	45-001	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, March 1978	32-012	30¢/\$3	Battery Manufacturers, 1976	43-208	70¢
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, March 1, 1978	32-010	30¢/\$3	Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables — Monthly, January 1978	32-011	30¢/\$3
BUSINESS FINANCE			Consumer Credit, January 1978	61-004	30¢/\$3
Inter-corporate Ownership, 1975: Vol. I, Notes, Definitions and Index; Vol. II, Who Owns Whom — Part 1; Vol. II, Who Owns Whom — Part 2	61-517	Canada \$36/ Other Countries \$43.20	Copper and Nickel Production, January 1978	26-003	15¢/\$1.50
CENSUS			Distilled Beverage Spirits and Industrial Ethyl Alcohol, January 1978	32-021	15¢/\$1.50
Profile Studies — Unemployment in Canada, 1971 Census of Canada	99-713	\$1	Electric Power Statistics, December 1977	57-001	30¢/\$3
CONSTRUCTION			Felt and Fibre Processing Mills, 1976	34-219	70¢
The Non-residential General Building Contracting Industry, 1975	64-207	\$1.05	Fish Freezings and Stocks, January 1978	24-001	40¢/\$4
The Residential General Building Contracting Industry, 1975	64-208	\$1.05	Gas Utilities, December 1977	55-002	30¢/\$3
The Special Trades Contracting Industry, 1975	64-210	\$1.40	General Review of the Mineral Industries, 1975	26-201	\$1.40
SERVICE BULLETIN			Hardboard, February 1978	36-001	15¢/\$1.50
Construction Statistics — Vol. 1, No. 1, Annual Expenditures in Housing, April 1978	64-003	/ \$1.40	Manufacturers of Major Appliances, 1976	43-204	70¢
CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS			Manufacturers of Small Electrical Appliances, 1976	43-203	70¢
Amendment No. 1 to CANSIM Mini Base Series Directory, September 1977	12-204E	\$10	Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, January 1978	24-002	40¢/\$4
EXTERNAL TRADE			Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, 1976	42-209	70¢
Exports by Commodities, January 1978	65-004	80¢/\$8	Oils and Fats, January 1978	32-006	30¢/\$3
Exports by Countries, January-December 1977	65-003	\$2.10/\$8.40	Oil Filters and Cartridges, February 1978	41-016	15¢/\$1.50
			Particle Board, January 1978	36-003	15¢/\$1.50
			Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, February 1978	32-022	15¢/\$1.50
			Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, February 1978	47-001	15¢/\$1.50
			Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, January 1978	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
			Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, January 1978	26-007	15¢/\$1.50

*List continued on page 3