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Weekly Bulletin

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## Real Domestic Product, Adjusted

Real Domestic Product declined 0.2% to 129.9 in March from the revised level of 130.1 in February. The Index of Industrial Production was unchanged from February's level of 126.1 (Goods-producing industries, no change; service-producing industries declined 0.3%).

In goods-producing industries construction and manufacturing increased, agriculture, forestry, fishing and trapping, mining and utilities declined. Construction, with a second consecutive monthly increase, saw most of the gain in residential building activity. In manufacturing durable manufacturing industries were up sharply with six of the seven major industry groups recording increases (wood products industries declined). Substantial increases were recorded by manufacturers of primary metals and transportation equipment. In non-durables declines were widespread, the most notable being in manufacturers of refined petroleum and coal products. The decline in agriculture resulted from lower livestock and dairy production.

Service-producing industries: trade and transportation, storage and communication — substantial declines; finance, insurance and real estate — unchanged; community, business/personal services and public administration/defence services — slight increases. In trade wholesale and retail fell sharply from high February levels. In wholesale most components declined. All major store-types in retail trade declined, most significant being department stores, motor vehicle dealers, clothing stores and drug stores. Furniture, television, radio and appliance stores increased slightly.

For further information, order the March 1978 issue of *Index of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4).

## Sales Financing

Companies purchased \$265.1 million of retail finance paper in March, up 14.9% from \$230.8 million in 1977, comprising \$63.5 million for automobiles, \$33.0 million for other consumer goods, \$113.1 million for commercial vehicles and \$55.5 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

Wholesale financing undertaken, fourth quarter of 1977, amounted to \$2,135.1 million, up 6.0% from \$2,013.9 million financed October-December 1976.

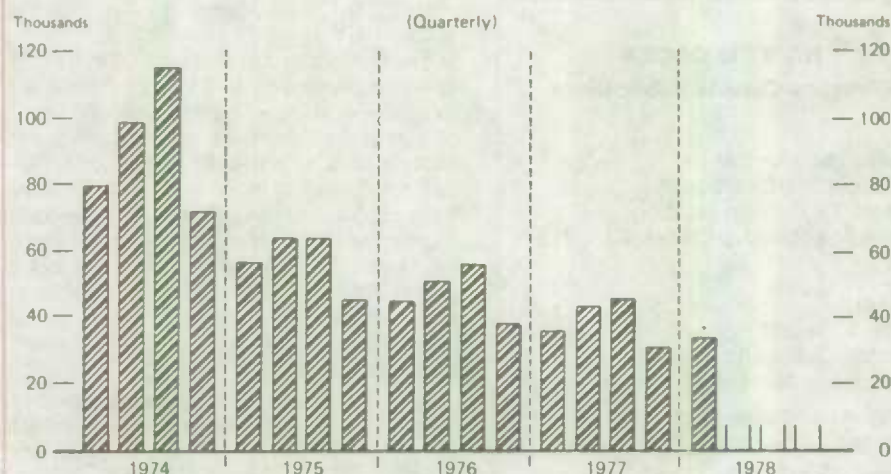
For further information, order the March 1978 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3).

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.*	260.90p	260.06	6.6
Labour Income (\$ million)	Feb.	9,986.3p	9,877.9p	7.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Apr.	9.72	9.68	3.5
Unemployed	Apr.	999,000	1,045,000	9.3
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	Feb.	1,734.2	1,582.1	1.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Mar.*	19,197.3	19,136.7	7.7
Wholesale (\$ million)	Mar.*	13,611.5	7,784.3	8.5
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Mar.*	10,777.6	9,600.6	9.3
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Mar.*	11,720.6	11,311.4	12.5
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	171.2	170.8	8.4
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Mar.	182.6	181.7	6.8
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Mar.	587.7	586.7	5.9
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Feb.*	581.7	1,079.6	-1.6
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Mar.	13,781	47,197	33.0
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Dec.	2,792.1	31,616.2	12.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Feb.	30.2	63.5	9.8
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Feb.*	302.0	647.9	2.7
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Mar.	53.7	163.2	-3.1
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Mar.	3,938	11,511	13.4
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Mar.	3,511	10,595	6.7
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Mar.	291.1	746.5	-7.7
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Mar.	1,364.3	3,931.2	6.1
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	529.7	1,383.7	6.5
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Mar.*	10,368.5	28,616.1	10.7
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	830.6	2,066.5	2.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.*	5,333.2	14,306.3	12.1
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	5,000.9	13,611.5	8.5

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

## Full-Time Job Vacancies, Canada



Source: Quarterly Report on Job Vacancies (171-002)

\* Preliminary Estimates



### Domestic Product, 1st Quarter

Seasonally adjusted, the Index of Real Domestic product advanced 0.6% to 129.6 in the first quarter of 1978 from 128.8 in the fourth quarter of 1977. The Index of Industrial Production was relatively unchanged in the first quarter (Goods-producing industries were off 0.3%, service-producing industries increased 1.2%).

Goods-producing: moderate increases in agriculture, forestry, fishing and trapping and utilities. Manufacturing showed no growth. Mining and construction declined sharply. Agriculture was up slightly. Forestry output improved about 1.0% but the first quarter level remained well below the first three quarterly levels of 1977. Utilities continued to show strength although rate of growth was less than in the two previous quarters. Non-durable manufacturing recorded the largest quarterly increase since the first quarter of 1977. Durable manufacturing recorded the largest decline since the first quarter of 1975. Mining output dropped for the third consecutive quarter. Mineral fuels production was down in the first quarter after a strong fourth quarter. Construction declined for the fourth consecutive quarter.

Service-producing: all components advanced. Transportation, storage and communication showed considerable strength with major gains in air transport, railway transport, urban transit systems, grain elevators and communications. Wholesale and retail trade experienced substantial increases. Retail trade increases were confined to motor vehicle dealers, clothing, furniture, television, radio and appliance stores. Food and department stores declined slightly. Finance, insurance and real estate, and community, business/personal services industries continued to record substantial growth. Public administration/defence services: almost unchanged from the fourth quarter.

For further information, order the March 1978 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.

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### Minority Language Education

*Minority and Second Language Education, Elementary and Secondary Levels* examines the status of minority language education in elementary-secondary schools for the school years 1970-71, 1975-76 and 1976-77. Legislation respecting the education of the minority language group is summarized for each province, and the following programs are examined independently:

- Minority language as the language of instruction
- Second language education, and
- Immersion programs.

Data within each program are examined by grade, percent of school week devoted to the program, proportion of students enrolled, number of schools offering the program and other selected indicators. In 1976-77, 179,000 students outside Québec were enrolled in programs for French-speaking students (approximately 80% of all French students enrolled in school). Nearly 1.5 million students attending English schools studied French as the second language (a 40% participation rate). Almost 20,000 students were enrolled in French immersion programs in 241 schools outside Québec. In Québec, virtually all French secondary students studied English as a second language and nearly all English students were being educated in their own language.

*Abstracted from Minority and Second Language Education, Elementary and Secondary Levels, 1975-76 and 1976-77 (81-257, \$1.05).*

### Railway Operating Statistics

December net income, six major railways: \$12.1 million (\$25.2 million in 1976). Operating revenues increased 10.0% to \$290.9 million, operating expenses 16.5% to \$278.8 million. Freight ton-miles totalled 9,699.2 million, down 1.1%. Freight train-miles and freight car-miles dropped 4.3% and 2.2%. Passenger-miles were 0.6% above 1976.

Twelve-month figures: an 11.1% gain in operating revenues to \$3,398.7 million, an increase of 8.9% in expenses to \$3,186.2 million and an improvement of 61.4% in net income to \$212.5 million. Canadian National: net operating income of \$121.1 million from \$56.1 million. Operating revenues increased 10.2%, operating expenses were held to a 6.7% gain. Canadian Pacific: \$94.8 million from railway operations against \$87.8 million. Ton-miles generated by all six lines rose 3.9% and passenger-miles increased 0.2%.

For further information, order the December 1977 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Inventories/Shipments/Orders

Manufacturers' shipments in March were estimated at \$10,368.5 million, 12.1% higher than the revised February value of \$9,253.4 million. Cumulative shipments for the first three months of 1978 were estimated at \$28,616.1 million, 10.7% higher than the 1977 three month total of \$25,839.7 million.

Shipments in March, seasonally adjusted, estimated at \$9,813.3 million, rose 0.1% from the revised February value of \$9,806.0 million. Durable goods shipments were estimated at \$4,425.2 million, 1.1% lower than the revised February value of \$4,473.7 million. Non-durable goods shipments rose 1.0% to \$5,388.1 million from \$5,332.3 million.

Seasonally-adjusted new orders were estimated at \$10,266.9 million, 1.5% higher than the revised February value of \$10,118.1 million. Durable goods new orders rose 2.6% to \$4,846.7 million from \$4,724.4 million and non-durable goods new orders increased 0.5% to \$5,420.2 million from \$5,393.7 million.

Seasonally-adjusted unfilled orders, estimated at \$11,642.8 million, rose 4.1% from the revised February value of \$11,189.2 million. Total inventory owned, seasonally adjusted, was estimated at \$18,849.0 million, 0.4% lower than the revised February value of \$18,934.1 million. Total inventory held decreased 0.2% to \$20,062.3 million from \$20,095.1 million with decreases of 0.9% and 1.2% in goods in process and finished products and an increase of 1.2% in raw materials.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory to shipments was 1.92:1 in March compared with the revised February ratio of 1.93:1. The finished products to shipments ratio was 0.66:1. The revised February ratio: 0.67:1.

For further information, order the March 1978 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

### Retail Trade

Retail trade, March, at \$5,333.2 million rose 13.0% from 1977. Increases in 25 of 28 trade groups saw significant percentage gains for food (21.8%), service stations and garages (12.1%), motor vehicle dealers (7.0%) and department stores (10.4%). Declines: speciality shoe stores (12.2%), family shoe stores (0.6%), furniture, T.V., radio and appliance stores (7.5%).

Increases favoured all provinces ranging from 10.0% for Manitoba to 18.1% for Alberta. Sales increased in Montréal by 10.7%, Toronto 12.3%, Winnipeg 13.5% and Vancouver 15.8%.

Revised total retail trade sales for February are \$4,485.2 million, up 10.9% from February 1977.

Seasonally-adjusted level, March: \$5,572.0 million, up 0.6% from \$5,540.0 million in February.

For further information, order the March 1978 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



### International Travel 1977 And 1st Quarter 1978

Earnings 1977: \$2,025 million, up 4.9% from 1976 but Canadians travelling abroad spent \$3,666 million, up 17.5%. Deficit: \$1,641 million.

Receipts from the United States reached \$1,525 million, up 13.3%. Those from other countries totalled \$500 million, 14.4% lower than the Olympic year of 1976. Payments to the U.S. amounted to \$2,280 million, up 16.6%. Those to other countries equalled \$1,386 million, an increase of 19.0%.

Preliminary estimates for the first quarter of 1978 show \$204 million earned from international travel. Canadians travelling abroad spent \$1,122 million. Deficit: \$918 million. Some \$144 million came from 4.1 million U.S. visitors. Expenditures of \$752 million were attributed to 7.6 million Canadians visiting the U.S. Deficit: \$608 million. Receipts from countries other than the U.S. reached \$60 million when 135,100 visitors entered Canada. The 544,300 Canadians travelling in these countries contributed to payments of \$370 million. Deficit: \$310 million.

Figures in this summary include international fare payments.

For further information, order the January-March 1978 issue of *Travel Between, Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$1.75/\$7), or contact M.W. Valiquette (613-995-0847), Financial Flows and Multinational Enterprises Division, International Travel Section.

### Building Permits, Seasonally Adjusted

Permits, February, fell to the level of \$893 million from a revised \$1,035 million in January. Level in February 1977 was \$983 million.

Residential permits reached a two-year low of \$539 million (January: \$609 million). Single-detached and multiple dwellings decreased: when adjusted, the figures represent rates of 7,118 homes and 7,727 collective dwellings against rates of 9,655 and 9,212 in January.

Non-residential permits (January: \$425 million) fell back to \$355 million when the value of new commercial projects decreased to \$159 million level (\$175 million in January). Government-initiated projects also decreased in value to a rate of \$111 million from \$158 million. New industrial installations at \$85 million declined from January's \$92 million.

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7).

### Crude Petroleum/Natural Gas

Crude petroleum production, February, averaged 1,426,000 barrels/day (227 000 cubic metres/day), down 5.2% from 1,504,000 barrels/day (239 000 cubic metres/day) in 1977. Natural gas averaged 10,786,000 Mcf./day (306 000 thousands of cubic metres/day), up 1.4% from 10,636,000 Mcf./day (301 000 thousands of cubic metres/day).

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3), or contact G. Kitchen (613-992-4021).

### In short, the first century . . .

Statistics are of little use unless they are timely; hence many publications contained estimates and preliminary figures . . . later corrected. But eventually a line had to be drawn on revisions of past data, i.e., certain historical statistics should be considered final. In short, a volume containing a definitive series of education statistics would be valuable to all concerned. To accomplish this objective, the most reliable figures have been assembled and analysed, and logically justified estimates have been made where data published in the past were obviously incomplete, incorrect or missing . . .

*Historical Compendium of Education Statistics* derives from work required to revise and update the chapter on education in the new edition of *Historical Statistics of Canada*, edited by M.C. Urquhart, and K.A.H. Buckley (MacMillan Company of Canada Ltd., 1965). The Education, Science and Culture Division decided to produce a separate publication containing education series in more detail than could be included in the latter. The technical aspect of this undertaking was entrusted to Mr. Adam Alexander, Project Manager, under the direction of Dr. Z. Zsigmond, Chief, Projections Section.

Abstracted from the Foreword, *Historical Compendium of Education Statistics, Confederation to 1975* (81-568, \$5.25).

### Refrigerators/Freezers

Canadian manufacturers' March domestic sales of refrigerators: 39,271 (42,133 a year earlier). Home and farm freezers, 16,933 from 17,824.

For further information, order the March 1978 issue of *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, 15¢/\$1.50).

### New Motor Vehicle Sales, 1977

New motor vehicle sales in 1977 totalled \$8,545.9 million comprising a record 991,398 automobiles (\$5,795.6 million) and a record 353,561 commercial vehicles (\$2,750.3 million).

Vigorous sale of imported cars (combined with sustained sales for North American-produced cars) was responsible for raising automobile transactions to a record level. Imported car sales rose over 40,000 to 193,646, up 26.3% from 1976, pushing the share of the domestic market held by imports from 16.2% to 19.5%. Japan enjoyed the major share of this expansion, up 32.8% from 101,558 sales to 134,900. Receipts rose 36.9% from \$414.0 million to \$566.6 million. European cars, sales increasing 13.6% to 58,746, saw receipts grow 19.5% from \$305.3 million to \$364.8 million. Sales of cars produced in Canada and the United States, edging up 0.6% from 793,201 to 797,752, recorded receipts up 7.5% from \$4,522.7 million to \$4,864.2 million.

Commercial vehicles accounting for a quarter in number and a third of the value of all new vehicles sold saw a 2.5% increase from 344,975 to a record 353,561 units in 1977 with and a 9.5% growth in receipts from \$2,512.1 million to \$2,750.3 million. As usual over 95% of these vehicles were produced in Canada and the United States and their sales were uniformly good across the country, except in Saskatchewan where sales declined again this year, by over 5,000 or 20.9%.

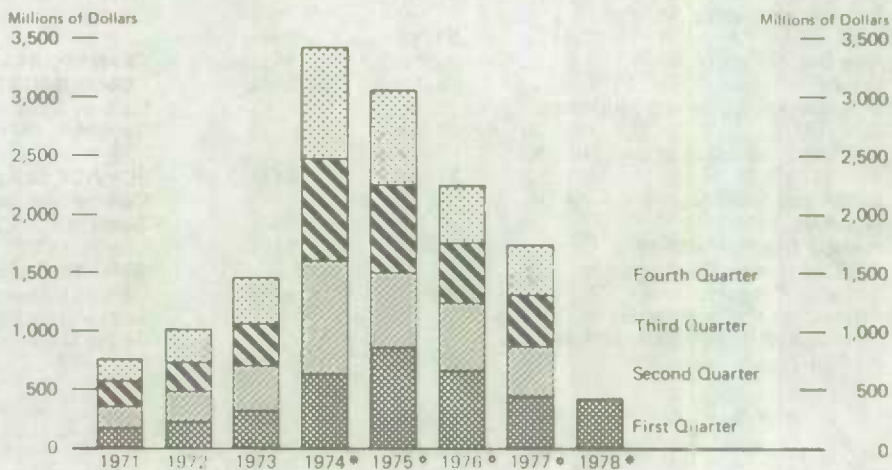
For further information, order the 1977 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-208, \$1.05).

### Telephone Statistics, 1977

In 1977, 15 telephone systems' revenues of \$3,811.8 million rose 14.7% over 1976. Operating expenses: \$2,610.7 million, 16.2% over 1976. Net operating revenue: \$1,201.1 million, up 11.5%. Telephone toll messages: up 8.0% to 991.4 million.

For further information, order *Telephone Statistics, Preliminary Report on Large Telephone Systems, 1977* (56-202, 35¢).

### Canadian Exports of Crude Petroleum to the United States



Source: Exports by Commodities (65-004)

\* Includes the export tax



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## These Publications Released May 19 — 25

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
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<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>					
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Cheques Cashied in Clearing Centres, 1977	61-201	\$1.05	Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, March 1978	26-007	15¢/\$1.50
Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics, First Quarter 1978	61-003p	N/C	Production of Eggs and Poultry, March 1978	23-003	30¢/\$3
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			Water Transport — Vol. 8, No. 4, Cargo Loaded and Unloaded in Coastwise Shipping by Vessels of Foreign Registries, January-March 1978 and 1977	54-003	/ \$1.40