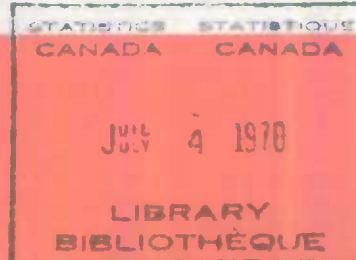


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Weekly Bulletin



Building Permits, Adjusted

Total value rose 9.1% to a \$1,080 million level in April from \$991 million in March. In April 1977 the level reached \$1,028 million.

The gain was entirely in the non-residential sector of construction, \$502 million from \$411 million in March. Commercial projects that included a \$15 million shopping centre in Calgary and a \$10 million office building in Scarborough rose to a level of \$296 million (\$253 million in March). Institutional projects that included a dental arts building (\$13 million) on the campus of Dalhousie University, a college in Lévis (\$7 million) and a detention centre in Edmonton (\$8 million) reached a level of \$138 million (\$81 million in March). New industrial installations, estimated at \$68 million, are down from March (\$77 million).

Residential permits remained unchanged at \$578 million (\$579 million). Composition by type of dwelling changed: single detached homes, 9,340 in March, fell to 8,263 in April and collective dwellings went from 6,895 to 8,467. In annual terms, the April program suggests a volume of 200,800 new dwellings (194,800 in March). New dwellings started in 1977 was 245,724.

Preliminary returns for May indicate no major changes in the general level of permits issued though some increases are expected in the Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Victoria areas.

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

GNP: First Quarter

Gross National Product, seasonally adjusted at annual rates, increased 2.3% in the first quarter of 1978 to a level of \$222.3 billion; measured in real terms, GNP advanced 0.7%. This real growth was the result of a further improvement in the balance of merchandise trade and renewed strength in personal expenditure and government current expenditure offsetting lower gross capital formation, and is a continuation of the pattern of fairly mild quarterly growth rates the economy has exhibited since first quarter 1976. Prices, as measured by the GNE implicit price index, rose by 1.6% compared with an increase of 0.9% in the fourth quarter of 1977, leaving prices in the first quarter 6.6% above their level in the first quarter of the previous year.

For further information, order *National Income and Expenditure Accounts, First Quarter 1978* (13-001, \$1.05/\$4.20).

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Apr.	262.09p	261.01	6.1
Labour Income (\$ million)	Apr.	10,499.9p	10,366.2	8.7
Persons with Jobs (million)	May	10.12	9.75	3.0
Unemployed	May	933,000	999,000	13.2

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Feb.	1,734.2	1,582.1	1.7
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Apr.	19,231p	19,066.9r	8.3
Wholesale (\$ million)	Mar.	13,611.5	7,784.3	8.5

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	10,824.1p	9,118.2r	18.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	11,881.0p	10,624r	11.8

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	171.2	170.8	8.4
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	185.0	182.8	7.1
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Apr.	599.3	588.5	6.9

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Apr.	1,133.5	3,153.4	-3.1
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Mar.	13,781	47,197	33.0

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Jan.	2,745.6	2,745.6	3.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Mar.	30.7	94.2	11.0
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Mar.	315.9p	963.8p	0.2
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Apr.	47.2	210.4	-2.3

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	4,616	16,155	16.4
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Apr.	4,649	15,272	13.0

PRODUCTION

Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Apr.	169.3	630.3	-2.9
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	May	1,423.4	6,744.7	7.8

SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	560.0p	1,945.9p	6.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	10,423.9p	39,350.5p	13.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	931.0	2,997.5	6.9
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	5,575.5p	19,740.3p	9.8
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	4,942.2	18,553.7	9.7

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

Canada's Gross National Product (GNP)

Quarter-to-Quarter Change

All data Seasonally Adjusted



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

Automotive/Foreign Trade

Exports of motor vehicles and parts to the United States gained 10.5% to \$2,709 million in the January-March period of 1978 from \$2,452 million in the first quarter of 1977. A 40% rise in truck exports to \$622 million with a 12% increase in automotive parts shipments to \$1,010 million accounted for the advance. Exports of passenger cars declined about 3% to \$1,039 million and tire shipments at \$38 million were \$1 million lower.

Imports of automotive products rose 6.8% to \$2,762 million from \$2,587 million. The increase was attributable to parts imports, up 12% to \$1,814 million. At \$640 million, imports of passenger cars were a shade below the total for the first quarter of 1977 and a 25% decline in tire imports was recorded.

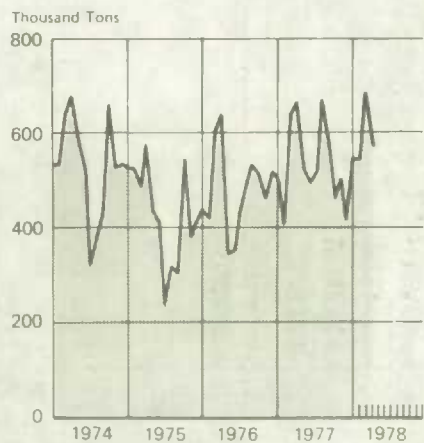
With the expansion of exports surpassing that of imports, the automotive trade deficit declined to \$53 million from \$135 million between the first quarters of the two years. The surplus in the trade in trucks, which more than doubled to \$347 million, was partially offset by the continuing increase in the parts deficit to \$804 million and a 5.5% contraction in the passenger car surplus to \$399 million. There was also a \$10 million turnaround in the tire balance to a surplus of \$5 million.

Exports of automotive products to overseas countries rose 4.5% to \$190 million of 1978 from \$182 million. A gain of \$21 million in trucks was partially offset by a decline in parts exports. Exports of passenger cars and tires and re-exports were each \$1 million higher in 1978.

Imports of motor vehicles and parts increased by one-third to a record level of \$307 million, with most of the rise accounted for by passenger cars. Imports of parts and tires together increased by \$5 million to \$93 million.

For further information, contact H.W. Iwasaki (613-992-2663), External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Potash Production, Canada



Source: Production of Canada's Leading Minerals (26 007)

Real Domestic Product

The seasonally adjusted index of real domestic product increased 0.4% to 130.5 in April from 130.0 in March. The index of industrial production declined 0.2% and goods-producing and service-producing industries rose 0.4%.

Goods-producing industries: agriculture, forestry, fishing and trapping, manufacturing and construction recorded increases. Mining and utilities output declined. In agriculture, higher livestock and dairy production accounted for the increase. Forestry operations advanced due to increased logging and pulpwood activity. The fishing industry experienced higher than normal catches in scallops, herring and cod. Manufacturing: widespread increases with non-durables and durables up significantly. Manufacturers of transportation equipment, electrical products and non-metallic mineral products recorded significant gains. Most of the increase in the electrical products industry lay with major appliances and household radio and television sets. The construction industry recorded the strongest monthly increase since October 1977.

Service-producing industries: trade, finance, insurance, real estate, community business, personal services, public administration and defence services increased; transportation, storage and communication declined. Wholesale and retail trade rose significantly. Finance, insurance and real estate services increased marginally. Community, business and personal services advanced primarily due to increases in accommodation and food services. In public administration and defence services, all levels of government administration recorded increases. Within transportation, storage and communications declines were concentrated in air, railway, bus and pipeline transport and included grain elevators. Communications component: up considerably.

For further information, order the April 1978 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Colling (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Valuing Housekeeping

Estimating the Value of Household Work in Canada, 1971, a study undertaken by Professor Oli Hawrylyshyn of Queen's University and sponsored by Statistics Canada, describes the potential for measuring the economic value of household work and delineates the theoretical and methodological foundations for such evaluation. The paper contains various estimates for such household work in 1971 and analyzes their statistical quality. This paper continues the exploration into the measurement of economic non-market activities that started with the occasional paper: *Review of Recent Proposals for Modifying and Extending the Measure of GNP*, 13-558, \$1.05.

For further information, order *Estimating the Value of Household Work in Canada, 1971* (13-566, \$1.05).

Average Earnings

Average weekly earnings rose 6.1% to \$262.09 in April from \$246.93 in 1977. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing reached \$6.75 (from \$6.27), in construction \$10.18 (\$9.62) and in mining \$8.54 (\$7.97).

First estimates show average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$295.86) and followed by Alberta (\$271.02), Ontario (\$262.36), Québec (\$258.34), Saskatchewan (\$245.77), Newfoundland (\$237.56), Manitoba (\$235.90), New Brunswick (\$229.89), Nova Scotia (\$221.75) and Prince Edward Island (\$195.54).

Average weekly earnings by industry division were: construction, \$382.93; mining \$363.39; forestry \$341.69; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$305.89; manufacturing, \$283.83; finance, insurance and real estate \$241.67; trade \$200.88; and service \$176.99.

For further information, order the April 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

April labour income rose 8.7% from April 1977's \$9,655.7 million to \$10,499.9 million.

Preliminary estimates for wages and salaries (millions of dollars) were: primary industries \$80.0; forestry \$83.5; mines, quarries, oil wells \$239.5; manufacturing \$2,208.1; construction \$692.6; transportation, communication, other utilities \$1,012.8; trade \$1,280.6; finance, insurance, real estate \$639.6; commercial, personal service \$906.8; education, related services \$1,049.3; health, welfare services \$614.4; federal administration, other government offices \$378.2; local administration \$229.7; and provincial administration \$289.9.

Supplementary income for April reached \$794.8 million.

See detailed estimates in the April-June 1978 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067).

Trust and Mortgage Companies

Quarterly Statements of Mortgages Outstanding

Billions of Dollars



Source: Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)

Unemployed: A Portrait

In 1977, the annual average number of unemployed was 862,000. Almost 72% were working before becoming unemployed. The remaining unemployed were from outside the labour force. Of the 862,000 unemployed, 420,000 (48.7%) were job losers, 198,000 (22.9%) were job leavers, 48,000 (5.6%) were new entrants and 196,000 (22.7%) were re-entrants. Of the 196,000, 120,000 (61.2%) were short-term re-entrants and 76,000 (38.8%) were long-term re-entrants.

The new classification of the unemployed analysed in *The Labour Force: Flows into Unemployment* (71-001, 55¢) describes the labour market situation of unemployed persons prior to their becoming unemployed, dividing them into four groups: job losers, job leavers, labour force re-entrants and new entrants to the labour force. The article, covering 1977, is organized in six sections. The first section presents the definitions of the four groups for guidance in the interpretation of the resulting statistics. The second section indicates the degree of comparability with similar data produced in the United States. The third section provides a general decomposition of the unemployed into the four groups plus a finer breakdown of the composition of the job loser, job leaver and labour force re-entrants groups. The fourth section looks at the personal characteristics (i.e. sex, age, marital status and educational level) and provincial distribution of the four groups. The fifth section examines previous work history — when last worked and industry, occupation, duration of last job and hours worked per week. The sixth section looks at the duration of unemployment and type of work sought for the four groups.

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Key Economic Series

During July, 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 exceeded on occasion.)

July 5 to 13: Industry Selling Price Index, May.

July 7 to 18: General Wholesale Price Index, May.

July 11: Labour Force Survey, June.

July 12: Consumer Price Index, June.

July 12 to 14: Wholesale Trade, May.

July 13 to 20: Retail Trade, May.

July 17 to 21: Building Permits, May.

July 18 to 20: Inventories, Shipments and Orders, May.

July 18 to 21: Employment, Earnings and Hours, May.

July 20: Consumer Price Indexes (Regional), June.

July 20 to 25: Index of Industrial Production, May.

July 20 to 25: Real Domestic Product, May.

July 21 to 24: Consumer Credit, May.

July 24 to 26: Labour Income, May.

July 26: Private and Public Investments in Canada, mid-year 1978.

July 28: Preliminary Statement on Canadian Trade, June.

July 28 to August 9: Unemployment Insurance Statistics, May.

Financial Flows, 1st quarter 1978, advance information I on July 3 to 7; **Financial Flows**, 1st quarter 1978, advance information II on July 10 to 14; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 9**, Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada, July 6, at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 10**, Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairies, July 13, at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 11**, Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada, July 27, at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.

For any inquiry concerning the release of these series, contact J. Kerr (613-992-1548), Production Planning and Scheduling Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Coal/Coke Statistics

February coal production decreased 0.3% to 2,903,559 tons (2 643 064t) from 2,913,013 (2 642 641) a year earlier. Imports: 9,833 tons (8 920t) from 68,496 (62 139). Industrial consumers used 2,843,952 tons (2 579 990t) of coal, up 161,103 (146 150) and 454,548 tons (412 359t) of coke, down 8,764 (7 950t).

For further information, order the February 1978 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021), Energy and Minerals Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Records/Pre-recorded Tapes

Manufacturers produced 6,506,195 phonograph records in April (5,714,437 in 1977) and 1,266,661 pre-recorded 8-track cartridges and cassettes (1,107,955).

For further information, order the April 1978 issue of *Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada* (47-004, 15¢/\$1.50).

Railway Operating Statistics

Six major railways' net income rose 19.9% to \$33.1 million in March from \$27.6 million a year earlier. Operating revenues rose 8.1% to \$328.6 million and operating expenses 6.9% to \$295.5 million. Freight ton-miles increased 3.3%, average revenue received per ton-mile 2.1% from 2.284 cents to 2.332 cents and though freight train-miles showed a decline of 0.4%, a percentage gain of 0.4% was recorded for freight car-miles. Passenger miles dipped 1.8% with both commuter and non-commuter services registering declines.

In the first quarter, operating revenues rose 8.7% from a year earlier. Expenses increased 7.3%, net income at \$44.6 million was up 43.0%, cumulative ton-miles rose 2.2% and passenger-miles 14.8%.

For further information, order the March 1978 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.

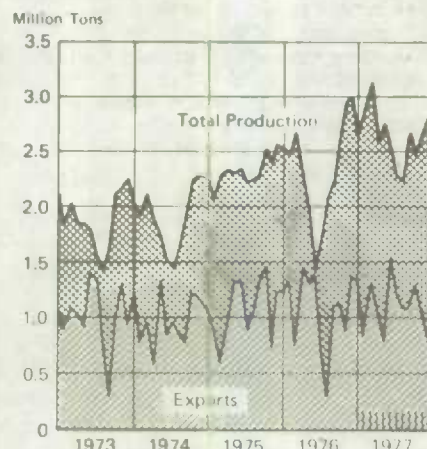
Employment/Earnings/Hours

First estimates, Industrial Composite Index of employment, April, show a 0.2% decline from March. Manufacturing, trade and service registered decreases; remaining industry divisions posted gains. Ontario and British Columbia recorded losses, Prairie region remained unchanged and Québec and Atlantic region registered increases.

Average weekly earnings rose 0.4% with gains in all industry divisions except forestry, mining (including milling), trade and service, all down. All regions contributed to the general advance. Average weekly hours: up in manufacturing and in construction but down in mining (including milling). Average hourly earnings: up in mining (including milling) but down in manufacturing and construction.

For further information, order the April 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.

Coal Production, Canada and Exports



Source: Coal and Coke Statistics (45-002)

Eggs

April saw egg production decrease 2.6% from 1977. Average number of layers: down 3.3% to 23.3 million from 24.1 million.

For further information, order the April 1978 issue of *Production of Eggs and Poultry* (23-003, 30¢/\$3).



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These publications released June 23 — 29

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Dairy Factory Production, May 1978	32-002	15¢/\$1.50	Oils and Fats, April 1978	32-006	30¢/\$3
Dairy Products Industry, 1976	32-209	70¢	Primary Iron and Steel, April 1978	41-001	40¢/\$4
Farm Cash Receipts, April 1978	21-001	30¢/\$3	Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, May 1978	32-022	15¢/\$1.50
Production of Poultry and Eggs, 1977	23-202	70¢	Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, May 1978	32-024	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1, 1978	32-010	30¢/\$3	Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, May 1978	47-001	15¢/\$1.50
CONSTRUCTION					
Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing, First Quarter 1978	31-003	\$1.40/\$5.60	Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, April 1978	32-004	40¢/\$4
Construction in Canada, 1976-1978	64-201	\$1.40	Shoe Factories and Boot and Shoe Findings Manufacturers, 1976	33-203	70¢
Housing Starts and Completions, March 1978	64-002	55¢/\$5.50	Soft Drink Manufacturers, 1976	32-208	70¢
EXTERNAL TRADE					
Exports by Commodities, March 1978	65-004	80¢/\$8	The Sugar Situation, May 1978	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
Imports by Commodities, March 1978	65-007	80¢/\$8	Tobacco and Tobacco Products Statistics, January-March 1978	32-014	70¢/\$2.80
FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTI- NATIONAL ENTERPRISES					
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Vital Statistics, January-March 1978	84-001	35¢/\$1.40	SERVICE BULLETIN		
LABOUR					
Employment, Earnings and Hours, March 1978	72-002	70¢/\$7	Minerals — Vol. 6, No. 3. Consumption of Cobalt, 1977	41-010	/ \$2.80
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES					
Boatbuilding and Repair, 1976	42-205	70¢	MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES		
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, April 1978	32-011	30¢/\$3	Wholesale Trade, April 1978	53-008	10¢/\$1.50
Coal and Coke Statistics, January 1978	45-002	40¢/\$4	OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISER ON INTEGRATION		
Confectionery Manufacturers, 1976	32-213	70¢	Estimating the Value of House- hold Work in Canada, 1971	13-566	\$1.05
Gas Utilities, March 1978	55-002	30¢/\$3	PRICES		
Miscellaneous Wood Industries, 1976	35-208	70¢	Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, May 1978	62-009	30¢/\$3
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, May 1978	32-001	15¢/\$1.50	Industry Price Indexes, February 1978	62-011	55¢/\$5.50
Monthly Review of Canadian Fish- eries Statistics, April 1978	24-002	40¢/\$4	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS		
Motor Vehicle Parts and Acces- sories Manufacturers, 1976	42-210	70¢	Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports, Fourth Quarter 1977	51-005	\$1.75/\$7
Oil Pipe Line Transport, March 1978	55-001	30¢/\$3	Public Warehousing, 1976	63-212	70¢
			Telephone Statistics — Preliminary Report on Large Telephone Systems, 1977	56-202	35¢
			SERVICE BULLETIN		
			Railway Transport — Vol. 8, No. 3, Railway Carloadings, April 1978		
			52-004	/ \$1.40	