

Statistics  
CanadaStatistique  
CanadaSTATISTICS  
CANADASTATISTIQUE  
CANADA

# informat

Weekly Bulletin

## Average Earnings

Average weekly earnings rose 6.5% to \$264.02 in May from \$248.02 in 1977. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing reached \$6.82 (from \$6.36), in construction \$10.09 (\$9.72) and in mining \$8.57 (\$8.00).

First estimates show average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$300.06) and followed by Alberta (\$272.81), Ontario (\$263.44), Québec (\$261.79), Saskatchewan (\$249.04), Newfoundland (\$236.94), Manitoba (\$235.89), New Brunswick (\$231.97), Nova Scotia (\$221.62) and Prince Edward Island (\$194.56).

Average weekly earnings by industry division were: construction, \$389.30; mining \$364.59; forestry \$332.46; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$307.30; manufacturing \$283.12; finance, insurance and real estate \$244.56; trade \$203.46; and service \$178.07.

For further information, order the May 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.

## Railway Operating Statistics

Six major railways' May net income: \$22.1 million, up 2.6% from 1977. Operating revenues rose 9.5% to \$319.8 million and operating expenses 10.0% to \$297.7 million. Freight ton-miles fell 7.1%, train-miles 3.4% and car-miles 6.5%. Passenger-miles, down 6.2%, declined for commuter and inter-city services.

Five months' operating revenue rose 3.3% above 1977 and expenses showed a 7.7% gain. Net income rose 19.0% from January-May 1977. Cumulative ton-miles slid 0.2% and passenger-miles showed a 3.5% gain.

For further information, order the May 1978 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3).

## Motor Vehicle Production

Automobiles totalled 117,953 in June (129,940 in 1977). January to June: 622,060 (687,070 a year earlier).

Commercial vehicles: 64,642 (57,801) with year to date production 367,548 against 312,210.

For further information, order the June 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, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May*	264.02p	262.21	6.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	May	10,864.3p	10,528.5	9.2
Persons with Jobs (million)	June	10.4	10.12	3.5
Unemployed	June	903,000	933,000	10.9

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	1,809.9	1,734.2	5.6
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	May	19,416.8p	19,568.8r	9.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	May	8,195	8,242	9.9

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	May	11,349.1p	10,654.6r	21.5
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	May	11,732.2p	11,516.7r	13.3

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	June	175.1	173.6	9.2
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	May	186.3	185.6	7.3
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	May	600.6	600.0	7.0

### CONSTRUCTION

			Year-to-date	
Building Permits (\$ million)	May*	1,340.3	4,636.9	-0.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	May	16,441	69,558	6.0

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Apr.	2,734.7	11,286.0	1.1
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Apr.	26.4	121.0	9.1
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Apr.	290.7	1,254.5	-0.9
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	May	48.3	258.7	-5.0

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	June	4,324.1	25,202.4	14.7
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	June	4,363.8	24,062.8	12.3

### PRODUCTION

Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	June*	182.6	989.6	-1.0
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	June	1,363.6	8,108.3	9.7

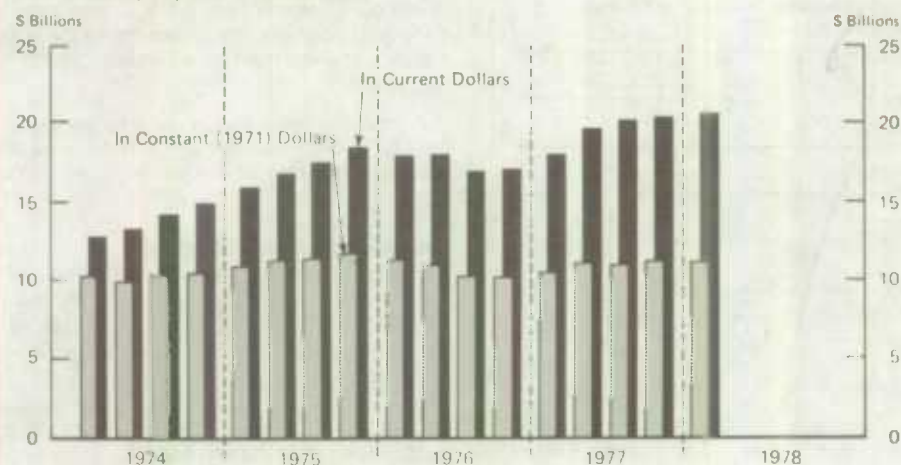
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	May	603.0p	2,548.8p	7.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	May*	11,142.6p	50,470.8p	14.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	June*	1,026.7	5,106.5	12.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	May	6,038.5p	25,706.9p	10.8
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	May	5,828.6	24,382.3	8.7

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

## Non-Residential Construction Expenditures

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates

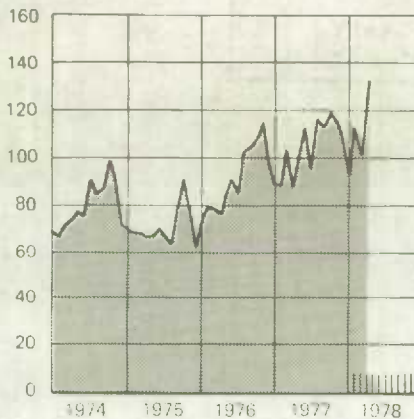


Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13 001)



### Canadian Imports of Communication and Related Equipment

Millions of Dollars



Source: Imports by Commodities (65-007)

### Railway Carloadings

Railways in June loaded 19.2 million short tons (17.5 million t) of revenue freight, down 17.6% from a year earlier. Carriers also received 2.0 million short tons (1.8 million t) from the United States, (up 3.2%).

Commodity movements showing notable percentage changes in volume included iron ore, down 72.0%; sand, gravel and crushed stone, down 19.0%; wheat, down 7.8%; phosphate rock, 60.9%; and potash, up 41.2%. Low loadings of iron ore resulted from a Québec/Newfoundland miners strike.

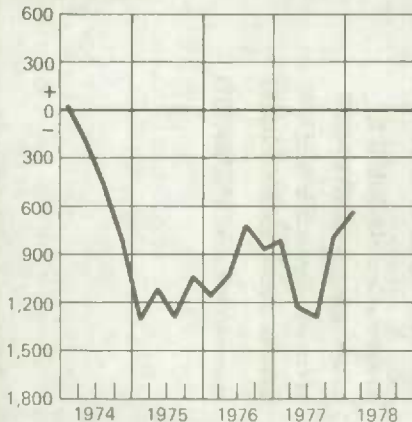
Half-year loadings dropped 9.6% from January-June 1977 and receipts from the U.S. fell 3.7%. Iron ore loadings slid 52.9% but up were logs and poles 20.9%, pulpwood chip shipments 18.7%, sulphur 17.3%, potash 14.5% and grain (other than wheat) 13.8%.

For further information, order the June 1978 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3), or for seasonally-adjusted revenue freight loadings, contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271).

### Canadian Balance of International Payments

Current Account — Seasonally Adjusted

Millions of Dollars



Source: Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments (67-001)

### Trade (Customs Basis)

June exports of \$4,324.1 million took the half-year total to \$25,202.4 million, up 14.7% from a year earlier. Half-year imports rose 12.3% to \$24,062.8 million (June: \$4,363.8 million).

Seasonally-adjusted exports to the United States declined 2.9% to \$2,744 million following a 15% fall in May. However, second quarter figures rose almost 2% to a record high level of \$8,907 million led by motor vehicles and parts, fish, fertilizers, chemicals, non-ferrous metals and other machinery and equipment. Shipments to the U.S. accounted for 71.3% of total value from 69.8% a year earlier. The proportion of exports to other western hemisphere countries also rose but the shares of other destinations contracted.

Seasonally-adjusted exports to overseas countries dropped nearly 20% to \$973 million following a decline of 14.5% in May. Overseas shipments also declined 4.5% on a quarterly basis to \$3,601 million, exports decreasing to all destinations except the United Kingdom and Japan.

With a 9.5% rise to \$2,868 million, seasonally-adjusted imports from the U.S. recovered in part the 19.5% drop in May. Led by motor vehicles and parts, which accounted for roughly 40% of the overall increase, imports of coal, other equipment and consumer goods rose in June. Food, machinery and some industrial materials declined.

Imports, second quarter, increased nearly 14% to a record \$8,749 million following a smaller 3% advance in the first quarter. The U.S. share of total imports declined slightly from 70.9% in the first half of 1977 to 70.7% in 1978 but was larger than 1976's 68.7%.

Seasonally-adjusted imports from overseas countries — \$976 million and down nearly 17% from May — followed a decline of similar magnitude in May. Changes were small in imports from Japan and the European Economic Community. Imports in the second quarter rose almost 4% to \$3,545 million following a 5% advance in the first quarter. Increases in arrivals of food, some industrial materials, non-automotive equipment and consumer goods were partly offset by decreased imports of coffee, metals and especially crude oil. The extent of the E.E.C. and Japan as import sources expanded from 12.6% to 13.8% between the first six months of 1977 and 1978.

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

### Enrolment, Universities 1977

Fulltime fall enrolment at Canadian universities in 1977 fell approximately 1% from 1976. Ontario suffered most — almost 3%. Part-time enrolment continued to grow — 6.7% nationally.

For further information, contact Louise Desramaux or Wally Watson (613-995-1105/1106), Post-Secondary Education Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z5.

### Buying Power in the Home

Incidence of low income nationally decreased from 1971-1973 for almost all categories... (and) for the majority of consumer durables, trends towards owning these items are increasing at a faster rate for those families (single unit households) below the low income cut-offs than those above the low income cut-offs... However, there are two exceptions to this general rule. The percentage of families with two or more cars and the percentage of families with freezers are increasing at a faster rate for families above the low income cut-off. For almost all consumer durables, those families below the low income cut-off are starting from a lower base percentage than in 1968. But, using the updated definition of low income for this group, ownership of most consumer durables has increased at a greater rate than for those above the low income cut-off... the proportion of low income individuals who live alone in single-detached dwellings is decreasing. The proportion of unattached individuals above the low income cut-off who are home owners is increasing... among the same group of unattached individuals the frequency of persons living alone in single-detached dwellings is slightly decreasing. The proportion of low income unattached individuals who are home owners decreased by 24.6% while the proportion of above low income unattached individuals who are home owners increased by 3.9%. The proportion of low income unattached individuals living in single-detached dwellings decreased by 23.8% while for other unattached individuals this proportion decreased by only 7.9%... In summary, as expected, income status is an important variable determining the ownership of consumer durables and access to better housing. However, other variables can also be important, e.g., for the elderly, low money income is partially offset by more frequent home-ownership and the availability of a greater collection of durables. Historically, although low income family units own fewer durables and have less access to various amenities, an optimistic point is that the evidence presented here suggests that the gap between family units above and below low income cut-offs is decreasing.

Abstracted from a feature article entitled *Household Facilities of the Low Income Population* included in *Household Facilities by Income and Other Characteristics* (13-565, \$2.10), Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



### Key Economic Series

During August, 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.)

**August 8:** Labour Force Survey, July

**August 8 to 10:** General Wholesale Price Index, June

**August 15:** Consumer Price Index, July

**August 15 to 17:** Wholesale Trade, June

**August 15 to 22:** Retail Trade, June

**August 16 to 22:** Building Permits, June

**August 17 to 18:** Index of Industrial Production, June

**August 18 to 23:** Inventories, Shipments and Orders, June

**August 21 to 23:** Consumer Credit, June

**August 21 to 25:** Employment, Earnings and Hours, June

**August 23:** Consumer Price Indexes, Regional, July

**August 24 to 28:** Real Domestic Product, June

**August 25:** Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade, July

**August 30 to September 1:** Labour Income, June

**August 30 to September 8:** Unemployment Insurance Statistics, June.

Advance information availability:  
**Field Crop Reporting Series No. 12,** Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces, on August 10, 1978 at 3p.m. E.D.S.T.; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 13,** Stocks of Grain at July 31, on August 18, 1978 at 3p.m. E.D.S.T.; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 14,** Preliminary Estimate of Crop and summerfallow Acreages, on August 25, 1978 at 3p.m. E.D.S.T.; **Field Crop Reporting Series No. 15,** Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada, on August 31, 1978 at 3p.m. E.D.S.T.

For further information, contact Jack Kerr (613-992-1548), Production Planning and Scheduling Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

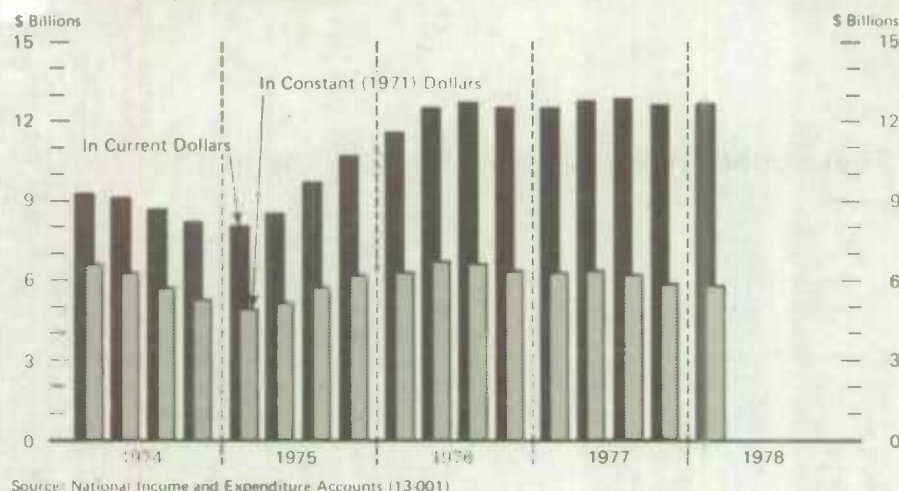
### Oil Pipeline Transport

Pipelines received 2,150,700B/D (341 768 m3D) of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum product in May, 8.4% fewer than 2,348,600B/D (373 216 m3D) a year earlier. Receipt of domestic petroleum and products decreased 6.6% to 1,902,200B/D (302 279 m3D) and imported petroleum and products decreased 20.3% to 248,500B/D (39 489 m3D).

For further information, order the May 1978 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.

### Residential Construction Expenditures

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



### Building Permits

In spite of encouraging signs of greater building permits activity in Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba the value of proposed construction decreased 9.1% to a seasonally-adjusted \$1,017 million in May from a revised \$1,119 million in April. In May 1977 the value of new building construction was estimated at \$1,025 million.

Residential permits remained weak at \$593 million (\$603 million in April) and non-residential permits dropped 17.2% from \$516 million to a seasonally-adjusted \$424 million. The decline in non-residential construction was caused by weaknesses in the commercial sector — which had permits for \$254 million against \$306 million in April — and in the public sector (projects of \$96 million compared with \$140 million in April). New industrial installations rose 6.5% to \$74 million from April's \$70 million.

In the residential sector permits for 8,125 new single-detached homes compared with a seasonally-adjusted 8,724 units in April and 8,884 collective dwellings against 8,687. Unless there is a marked improvement in the level of residential permits issued during June or July there is little hope of housing starts exceeding an annual rate of 210,000 units in the coming months.

For further information, order the May 1978 issue of Building Permits (64-001, 70¢/\$7), or contact J.P. D  sle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada.

### Motor Vehicle Accidents

In 1977, 5,260 persons were killed in motor vehicle traffic accidents, up 0.7% from 5,224 in 1976.

For further information, contact M. McRae (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Contracting Industry 1976

General contractors (9,637) in the building industry earned operating revenues of \$8,120,682,566.

For further information, contact Pierre Schneider (613-994-9795), Construction Census Section, Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### New Housing Price Index

In June, the Canada Composite Index rose 2.3% to 106.1 from 103.7 a year earlier. New housing price indexes regionally, with annual percentage change in brackets: St. John's 101.7 (—), Halifax 102.2 (–0.1), Qu  bec 119.5 (7.0), Monr  al 107.8 (2.4), Ottawa-Hull 100.8 (–1.9), Toronto 99.9 (–0.2), Hamilton 103.9 (—), St. Catharines-Niagara 114.4 (6.0), Kitchener 102.7 (1.9), London 109.0 (3.8), Windsor 113.9 (8.7), Thunder Bay 115.5 (5.4), Winnipeg 110.2 (4.0), Regina 99.8 (–0.2), Saskatoon 112.3 (5.5), Calgary 116.4 (7.6), Edmonton 114.1 (5.6), Vancouver 98.2 (–0.8) and Victoria 95.4 (–2.0).

For further information, order the June 1978 issue of Construction Price Statistics (62-007, 40¢/\$4), or contact L.J. Seary (613-994-9387), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

### Residential Building Input Price Index

For all Canada, the Residential Building Construction Input Price Index rose 8.1% to 190.1 in June from 175.9 a year earlier.

Regional indexes, with June 1977 in brackets: Atlantic provinces 197.4 (185.6), Prairie provinces 200.0 (184.9), British Columbia 187.5 (174.8), Qu  bec 197.2 (178.7) and Ontario 183.2 (170.4).

For further information, order the June 1978 issue of Construction Price Statistics (62-007, \$4).

### HOW TO ORDER

#### Statistics Canada Publications

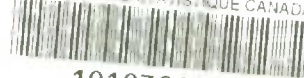
#### Send initial order to:

Publications Distribution,  
Room 1405, Main Building,  
Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

#### State:

Title of Report:  
Month, Quarter or Year of Issue:  
Catalogue Number:

Please enclose money order or cheque made payable to the order of Receiver General for Canada.



1010761783

**These publications released July 28 — August 3**

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 11, 1978	22-002	\$5.60/ series of 21	Coal and Coke Statistics, April 1978	45-002	40¢/\$4
Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, October-December 1977	21-003	\$1.40/\$5.60	Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, May 1978	33-003	30¢/\$3
Stocks of Dairy and Frozen Poultry Products, July 1978	32-009	30¢/\$3	Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, June 1978	36-004	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, July 1, 1978	32-010	30¢/\$3	Fish Freezings and Stocks, May 1978	24-001	40¢/\$4
			Footwear Statistics, May 1978	33-002	30¢/\$3
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>					
Security Transactions with Non-residents, April 1978	67-002	40¢/\$4	Grain Milling Statistics, May 1978	32-003	30¢/\$3
			Household Furniture Manufacturers, 1976	35-211	70¢
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Families — Characteristics of Hus- bands in Husband-wife Families, 1976	93-824	\$2.25	Man-made Fibre, Yarn and Cloth Mills, 1976	34-208	70¢
Census of Canada			Manufacturers of Industrial Chemicals, 1976	46-219	70¢
			Manufacturers of Toilet Preparations, 1976	46-215	70¢
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>					
Building Permits, April 1978	64-001	70¢/\$7	Mineral Wool, June 1978	44-004	15¢/\$1.50
			Miscellaneous Furniture and Fixtures Manufacturers, 1976	35-213	70¢
<b>CONSUMER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</b>					
Household Facilities by Income and Other Characteristics — Feature: Household Facilities of the Low Income Population, 1974	13-565	\$2.10	Oil Burners and Oil-fired Hot Water Heaters, June 1978	41-008	15¢/\$1.50
			Oil Filters and Cartridges, June 1978	41-016	15¢/\$1.50
			Oils and Fats, May 1978	32-006	30¢/\$3
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>					
Culture Statistics — The Arts: Education, 1974-75	87-685	70¢	Primary Iron and Steel, May 1978	41-001	40¢/\$4
Elementary-secondary Education — Financial Statistics, 1975-76	81-250	\$2.10	Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, June 1978	32-022	15¢/\$1.50
Universities: Enrolment and Degrees, 1976	81-204	\$1.40	Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, May 1978	25-001	15¢/\$1.50
			Salt, June 1978	26-009	15¢/\$1.50
<b>GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT</b>					
National Income and Expenditure Accounts, First Quarter 1978	13-001	\$1.40/\$5.60	Selected Petroleum Statistics, Quarterly, 1978 (III)	45-006	70¢/\$2.80
			The Sugar Situation, June 1978	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Surgical Procedures and, Treatments, 1975	82-208	\$2.80	<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
			Consumer Credit, May 1978	61-004	30¢/\$3
<b>LABOUR</b>					
Employment, Earnings and Hours, April 1978	72-002	70¢/\$7	Restaurant Statistics, June 1978	63-011	15¢/\$1.50
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>					
Builders and Shelf Hardware, June 1978	41-014	15¢/\$1.50	<b>PRICES</b>		
Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools, May 1978	41-013	15¢/\$1.50			
			Construction Price Statistics, July 1978	62-007	40¢/\$4
			<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
			Railway Operating Statistics, April 1978	52-003	30¢/\$3
			<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
			Water Transport — Vol. 8, No. 6, Water Carriers Financial Statistics, Preliminary, 1976	54-003	/\$1.40