

## Building Permits

Building permits value last November fell $9.5 \%$ to a seasonally-adjusted $\$ 1,076$ million from revised October's \$1,188 million, reflecting a residential construction slowdown. November 1977 saw permits issued worth $\$ 1,081$ million

Following October's unexpected $\$ 708$ million level, residential permits tell in November to a pre-October average of $\$ 608$ million ( 8.320 single-detached homes and 9.300 mulliple dwellings agains1 9,477 singles and 10.938 multiples in October). Housing starts are expected to remain at relatively low levels in the coming months.
Value of non-residential permits fell 2.5\% $10 \$ 468$ mitlion from October's $\$ 480$ million. Strength in the industrial sector brought construction of plants and other industrial buticings totalling $\$ 147$ million compared whit $\$ 85$ million but commercial projects tropped to $\$ 133$ million from $\$ 296$ million and iristitutional buildings estimated at $\$ 99$ million in October decreased to $\$ 88$ million.
Partial returns for December presage a seasonally-adjusled level of $\$ 1,120$ million with $\$ 610$ miltion for residential construction: if attaned. 1978 permits will reach $\$ 13.0$ billion ( $\$ 12.4$ billion in 1977). Not included: engineering projects such as highways, pipelines, oil refineries and hydro-electric developments not generally requiring building permits.

For lurther information, order the November 1978 issue of Building Permits (64-001. 706/57). or contact J.P. Délisle (613-9958215). Construction Division, Stalistics Canada, Ollawa K1A OT6.

## Job Vacancles

Fourth quarter average number of jobs vacant on a daily basis fell $11 \%$ to 44,300 from 50,000 in Ihird quarter 1978. Compared with fourth quarter 1977, vacancies increased by 8,600 . Vacancies for fulltime jobs fell $12 \%$ to 39,500 from 45,000 in the third quarter. Jobs unfilled for more than four weeks fell $6 \%$ to 15.200
For every 1,000 existing jobs live were vacant, as in the previous quarter (a year ago, four per 1,000 ). Highest vacancy rate (nine per 1.000): Alberta Lowest varancy rate (inree per 1,000 ): Newfoundland, Nova Scoula and New Brunswick

For further information, contact J.A. Bouauk 1613-992-2006), or Ms M. Beaubien (613996.7148), Labour Division. Statistics Canada, Otrawa KIA OV1.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

## EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

| Average Weekly Earnings (\$) Labour income ( $\$$ million). Persons with Jobs (million). Unemployed <br> INVENTORIES | Sept Oct. Dec Dec | $\begin{gathered} 270.45 p \\ 11.4860 \\ 10.14 \\ 870,000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 267.23! \\ 11.372 .9 r \\ 10.20 \\ 850.000 \end{gathered}$ | 5.9 8.8 4.2 1.4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Department Store ( $\$$ million) Manulacturers' Owned (\$ million) Wholesale (\$ million) | Nov. <br> Oct. <br> Oct. | $\begin{array}{r} 2.189 .9 \mathrm{p} \\ 19.842 .6 \mathrm{p} \\ 8.262 .0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.416 .3 p \\ 19.704 .3 \mathrm{p} \\ 8.213 .7 \end{array}$ | 9.1 9.7 1.3 |
| ORDERS Manulacturers' Manulacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million) | Oct. Oct. | $\begin{aligned} & 12.3712 \mathrm{p} \\ & 12.805 .1 \mathrm{p} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12.172 .6 r \\ & 12.515 .4 r \end{aligned}$ | 26.4 24.7 |
| Consumer Price Index ( $1971=100$ ). Industry Seiling Price Index (1971=100) Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100) | Dec ${ }^{*}$ <br> Nov. <br> Nov. | $\begin{aligned} & 181.3 \\ & 1947 \\ & 637.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 180.8 \\ & 194.2 \\ & 6350 \end{aligned}$ | 8.4 9.6 11.5 |
| CONSTRUCTION <br> Building Permits (\$ million). <br> Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units) <br> ENERGY | Nov. Dec. | $\begin{array}{r} 977.8 \\ \mathbf{1 2 . 0 3 4} \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year-t } \\ & 12,014.2 \\ & 178,678 \end{aligned}$ | -date 3.9 -10.7 |
| Coal Production (thousand tons) Electricity Generation (terawatt hours Natural Gas Production (billion cu. Ht Petroleum Relining (million barrels) | Oct. Oct Sept Nov | 2.881 .7 <br> 27.6 <br> 255.20 59.9 |  | 5.1 6.4 3.6 0.2 |
| FOREIGN TRADE <br> Exports - Customs Basis (\$ million) <br> Imports - Customs Basis (\$ million) | Nov Nov | $\begin{aligned} & 5.221 p \\ & 4.873 p \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 47,974 p \\ & 45.334 p \end{aligned}$ | 19.8 17.8 |
| PRODUCTION Steel (ingots - thousand tons sales | Dec. | 1.447 .4 | 16,192.0 | 9.9 |
| Department Store Sales (\$ million). Manutacturers' Shipments (\$ million New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million) Retail Sales (\$ million). | Nov <br> Oct <br> Nov <br> Nov <br> Nov | $\begin{array}{r} 831.4 \mathrm{p} \\ 12.081 .5 \mathrm{p} \\ 7277.9 \\ 6.233 .8 \mathrm{p} \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 6.489 .6 p \\ 106,592.2 p \\ 9,067.4 \\ 61,465.0 p \\ 57,069.8 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10.2 \\ & 17.2 \\ & 13.3 \\ & 12.2 \\ & 11.5 \end{aligned}$ |

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

Full-Time Job Vacancies, Canada



## Population Growth Rate Slows

Estimates to September 30, 1978, demonstrate a 12 -month population growth fate declining to 8.8 per 1.000 from 10.5 for the 12 months earlier, with the difference mainly due to 33,800 fewer immigrants and a 3,400 drop in natural increase. Growth totalled 205.400 (242,700 in 1976-77). taking the population to $23.548,400$ as of October 1
The 12 months saw 400,300 people move from one province to another compared with 410,700 the previous year. 34\% of this interprovincial migration took place from July 10 September and 30\% from October to December Québec had a net third quarter 1978 loss of 14,500 through interprovincial migration compared with 18,400 during the same quarter of the previous year. In Manitoba, the population decrease of 2.000 is attributable to an increase in the number of migrants to Alberta and British Columbia from Manitoba. In Alberta and British Columbia $50 \%$ of 1977-78 annual population increases are due to net gains in interprovincial migration.
For further information. order the third quarter 1978 issue of Population Estimates For Canada And The Provinces (91-001, 35 (\$1.40).

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## Real Domestic Product Index

The seasonally-adjusted Index of Real Domestic Product increased 0.6\% in November from 135.1 in October with service-producing industries rising 0.9\%, goods-producing industries 0.3\%. The Index of Industrial Production increased $0.5 \%$ to 135.5. Manufacturing and utilities contributed to the increase, mining declined slightly:
For further-information, order the November issue of Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry fincluding the Index of Industrial Production) (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division. Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OT6.

## Motor Carriers/Freight, 1977

Motor carriers-treight, 1977: 2,884 carriers with gross operating revenues of $\$ 100,000$ or more in 1976 enjoyed total operating revenues of $\$ 3,264.8$ million, up $14.0 \%$ from 1976. Operating expenses: up $14.0 \%$ to $\$ 3,131.6$ million. The household goods movers (309 carriers, gross operating revenues of $\$ 100,000$ or more) increased operating revenues $25.4 \%$ to $\$ 199.9$ million. Operating expenses rose $20.0 \%$ to $\$ 182.6$ million.

For further information, contact the Chief (613-996-9271) Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OT6.

## Appliance Sales

Manufacturers' November domestic sales of electric stoves and ranges fell $2.7 \%$ to 35,456 units from 36,455 a year earlier. Automatic washing machines rose to 31,107 units from 31,033. Electric clothes dryer sales fell to 29,308 from 30,595 . Refrigerators reached $42.189(42.106)$ and home and farm freezer sales increased to 23,831 from 21,327

For further information, order the November 1978 issue of Stoves and Furnaces (41$005,30 c / \$ 3$ ), Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers (43-002, 15¢/\$1.50) and Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers (43-001. 154/\$1.50).

## Tobacco Products

Production of cigarettes, December: 4.6 billion ( 4.7 billion a year earlier). Cigars. December: 30.6 million ( 36.5 million).

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products (32-022, 156 1\$1.50), or contact T. P. Sterling (613-992-8619), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ortawa K1A OV6.

## Trade(Preliminary Report)

Exports, 1978, rose $17.2 \%$ to $\$ 52.3$ billion (imports $17 \%$ to $\$ 48.8$ billion) with a surplus of $\$ 3.52$ billion against $\$ 2.92$ billion in 1977 and 1976's \$1.34 billion

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

Trust and Mortgage Companies
Ouarterly Statements of Mortgages Ouistanding Billions of Dollars 21 -


## Radio Broadcasting

September gross radio air-time sales rose $10.6 \%$ to $\$ 7.3$ million from $\$ 6.6$ million a year earlier. After deduction of agency and other commissions, net national sales rose $5.1 \%$ to $\$ 6.2$ million from $\$ 5.9$ million. Net local air-time sales: up $13.8 \%$ to $\$ 18.2$ million from \$16.0 million.

Gross radio air-time sales, nine monthe: $\$ 229.7$ miltion, up $15.9 \%$ trom $\$ 198.2$ mialiont in 1977. Net sales rose $15.6 \%$ to \$2136 million from $\$ 184.9$ million.
For further information, order the Sup tember 1978 is sue of Radio Broadcasting iais: 003. 156/\$1.50), or contact J.R. Slattery ( 1.13 996-9271). Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada. Ottawa KiA OT6.

## Industrial Firms Financial Statistics

Commencing with the third quarter 1978 issue of publication 61-003 quarterly figures previously published have been revised for 1975 to 1978. In addition, real estate rental real estate development and construction industry statistics are published for the first time (these statistics are not, however, included in "Total, All Industries" and are not published for years before 1977). To maintain a consistent series of data covering several years the statistics compiled by the previous methodology will be retained in CANSIM. This series terminated after the first quafter 1978 and the new series commenced with first quarter 1974 For further information, order the thir: quarter 1978 issue of Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics (61-003, $\$ 1.75 / \$ 7$ ). or contact R Martelock (613-996-0275). Busines: Finance Division. Statistics Canadia. Oltawa K1A OT6.

## Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index rose $0.3 \%$ from 16018 in November to 181.3 in December, with the rise between December 1977 and Decernber 1978 8.4\%, down from $88 \%$ in lovem ber. Food and housing accounted or mcst of the changes, food advancing 0.896 , the index for all-items-excluding-food $2.3 \%$

Higher prices for beef cuts (on average 2.5\% in early December) and processed fruit were largely responsible for the 0.5\% increase in the lood-at-home index. Prices for selected dairy products increased largely because in two provinces prices for milk rose. Effect of the increases was dampened by lower prices for selected pork cuts. chicken and fresh fruit and vegetables. Between December 1977 and December 1978 the index for food-at-home increased $13.5 \%$. The rood-away-fromhome index advanced $0.6 \%, 9.5 \%$ over December 1977.

## Goods Services Rise 0.3\%

Higher shelter charges and furniture and appliances were largely responsible for the $0.2 \%$ increase in the all-tiems-excludingfood index. Other notable increases: selected clothing items (especially women's wear) and, in several cities, gasoline The impact was dampened by lower new car prices resulting from November's reduction thi 'he manufacturers' sales tax. Between Decernber 1977 and December 1978 the indox for all-items-excluding-food advaned 6 B\%
la ierms of goods and services the price levals tor both advanced 0.3\%. December 15.7 to December 1978, goods advanced $9.5 \%$, services $6.5 \%$.

On an annual average basis. the Consumer Price Index advanced 9.0\% ( $8.0 \%$ in 1977). The food index rose $15.5 \%$ (compared with $8.4 \%$ in 1977) and all-items-excluding-food advanced $6.4 \%(7.8 \%)$. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the index advanced $0.6 \%$ between November and December (a 0.9\% increase in the food index and a $0.4 \%$ increase in the all-items-excluding-food index)

## 3 Cities' CPis Unchanged

Between November and December, consumer prices rose in 12 cities and stayed put in Toronto. Thunder Bay and Calgary. The variation was mainly due to the differing rates of price movement for food: they ranged from a decline of $1.0 \%$ in Calgary 10 an increase of $1.8 \%$ in Montreal. Percentage increases with annual change in brackels: St. John's 0.3\% ( $9.0 \%$ ), Charlottelown/Summerside $0.3 \%(8.0 \%)$. Halifax $0.2 \%$ ( $7.8 \%$ ), Saint John 0.3\% ( $8.0 \%$ ),〇uebec 0.3\% ( $7.9 \%$ ), Montréal 0.5\% ( $7.4 \%$ ). Ottaver $0.5 \%(8.1 \%)$, Toronto ( $7.8 \%$ ), Thunder Eay (7.2\%), Winnipeg 0.2\% (8.3\%), Firstu:ioon $0.4 \% \quad(6.4 \%)$, Regina $0.3 \%$ C.0\%) Edomonton $0.3 \%(8.1 \%)$, Calgary (2.6\%) and Vancouver $0.4 \%$ ( $7.5 \%$ ).
for turther information, order the December 1978 issue of Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities (62-009, 30¢ / \$3).

## Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly reached $\$ 28,130$ million at the end of November, up $151 \%$ from a year earlier. Outstanding balances with percentage changes from a year earlier:

- Chartered banks' personal loans: $\$ 21,646$ million, up $16.7 \%$
- Québec savings banks' personal loans: \$103 million, up $17.0 \%$
- Life insurance companies policy loans: $\$ 1,338$ million, up $4.7 \%$
- Sales finance and consumer loan companies' loans: small $\$ 177$ million, down $12.4 \%$; large $\$ 1.490$ million, up $2.0 \%$; instalment sales paper $\$ 1,170$ million, up 7.5\%
- Department, furniture, TV, radio and household appliance stores: $\$ 1,562$ million, up 10.0\%
- Trust and mortgage companies' personal loans: $\$ 644$ million, up $75.5 \%$.
Credit holders reporting quarterly: $\$ 6.940$ million at end of third quarter 1978. up $15.5 \%$ from a year earlier. Credit unions and caisses populaires, the largest quarterly reporters: $\$ 5.232$ million, up $18.1 \%$ (also included in the quarterly total: other relail stores, other credit-card issuers and public utilities).

Including quarterly reporters, consumer credit outstanding, third quarter 1978 , lotalled $\$ 34.496$ million, up $14.7 \%$ from 1977.

For further information, order the November 1978 issue of Consumer Credit (61-004, $304 / \$ 3$ ), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304, telex 053-3585), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OV6.

## Restaurant Statisics

Restaurants throughout Canada increased their January-November receipls a total of $9.5 \%$ to $\$ 2.502 .7$ million from a year earlier. Breakdown per province: Ontario $\$ 941.2$ million ( $10.1 \%$ ), Québec $\$ 761.8$ million ( $7.9 \%$ ), British Columbia, Yukon and Territories $\$ 2729$ million ( $12.3 \%$ ), Alberta $\$ 219.4$ million ( $13.3 \%$ ), Manitoba $\$ 123.7$ million (5.8\%). Saskatchewan $\$ 68.8$ million $(6.3 \%)$. New Brunwick $\$ 43.5$ million ( $7.5 \%$ ), Nova Scotia $\$ 46.9$ million ( $7.3 \%$ ). Newfoundland $\$ 18.8$ million ( $8.0 \%$ ) and Prince Edward Islan. $\$ 5.8$ million ( $7.9 \%$ ). November over November 1977: Canada increased receipts $9.5 \%$ to $\$ 229.6$ million, Ontario $\$ 83.2$ million ( $8.5 \%$ ). Québec $\$ 75.8$ million $(9.4 \%)$, British Columbia, Yukon and Territories $\$ 21.1$ inillion (13.3\%). Alberta $\$ 19.5$ million ( $17.3 \%$ ), Manitoba $\$ 11.9$ million $(3.8 \%)$. Saskatchewan $\$ 7.6$ million ( $6.5 \%$ ). New Brunswick $\$ 3.5$ million ( $7.3 \%$, Nova Scotia $\$ 5.0$ million ( $5.4 \%$ ), Newfoundland $\$ 1.6$ million ( $11.7 \%$ ) and Prince Edward Island $\$ 350,000$ ( $8.0 \%$ ).

For further information, order the November 1978 issue of Restaurant Receipts (63. 011, 15¢/\$1.50).

## Motor Vehicies Registrations, 1977

The 1977 licence year brought $9,554,290$ passenger autumobite registrations. Trucks and buses totalled 2.494,345, motorcycles and mopeds 372,028 and 65,772. Drivers' licences in torce: 12.9 million.

For further information, contact M. Vallières (613-996-9271). Transportation and Communicatiors Division. Statistics Canada, Ottawa KiA OT6.

## Provinciai Government 1976-77 Revenue Up 18\%, Expenditure 13.7\%

Final data, revenue/expenditure of provincial/terntorial governments 1976-77, show gross general revenues at $\$ 38.5$ billion rose $18 \%$ from a year earlier - about the average rate of recent years. Expenditures increased $13.7 \%$ compared with an average $178 \%$ over the past five years.

Among individual revenues, a $4.3 \%$ rise in corporation income lax stood in marked contrast to a $19.1 \%$ increase in personal income tax. 19.9\% in sales and related taxes and $31.3 \%$ in miscellaneous taxes. Significant to the increase in personal income tax was the larger abatement of its share of the tax which the federal government made beginning in January 1977 - under the new Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act. Apart from natural resource revenue (where the major year-over-year increases of $57 \%$ and $92 \%$ in 1973-74 and 1974-75 distort the picture), other revenue components generally recorded average increases.

Health ( $\$ 9.7$ billion), education ( $\$ 9.1$ billion) and social services ( $\$ 5.6$ billion) increased $13.2 \%, 14.2 \%$ and $18.1 \%$. Other major expenditure functions generally showed slower rates of growth then the average of recent years. Natural resources (up $35.9 \%$ Irom 1975-76) and Iransportation and communications (up 1.8\%) were notable exceptions.

The Northwest Territories (28.5\%) and British Columbia (23.3\%) recorded higher than average year-over-year increases in revenues. Saskatchewan (12.7\%). New Brunswick ( $9.3 \%$ ) and Prince Edward Island ( $8.7 \%$ ) showed increases significantly lower than averages of recent years.

Expenditures: the Northwest Territories ( $30.0 \%$ ) and Albent ( $23.7 \%$ ) showed above average year-over-year increases. Saskatchewan (19.1\%) and Québec ( $17.3 \%$ ) were close to their averages. Increases in Manitoba (14.5\%), Ontar o (11.2\%), Nova Scolia ( $10.7 \%$ ) and New Brunswick ( $9.4 \%$ ) were below averages of recent years and those in Newtoundland ( $8.9 \%$ ). British Columbia ( $4.1 \%$ ), Prince Edward Island ( $3.3 \%$ ) and Yukon ( $2.7 \%$ ) were significantly below.

For further information, order Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure, 1976 (68-207, $\$ 2.10$ ), or contact $G$. Rhéaume (613-995-8201), Public Finance Division. Statistics Canada, Oltawa K1A OT6.

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