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Weekly Bulletin



New Motor Vehicle Sales

New motor vehicles sold in December fell 7.2% to 74,010 from 1977. Automobiles made in the United States and Canada rose 1.6% to 45,373 and Canadian and U.S. commercial vehicles 0.5% to 21,676.

Automobiles from overseas fell 48.6% to 6,433 from 1977 and overseas-made commercial vehicles fell 48.9% to 528. Value of the cars fell 29.9% to \$45.0 million and the commercial vehicles 37.6% to \$3.5 million. Value of U.S. and Canadian cars sold rose 11.6% to \$317.9 million; commercial vehicles rose 16.1% to \$214.7 million.

Sales value of all vehicles increased 7.7% to \$581.1 million, including 264 coaches and buses valued at \$8.2 million. Seasonally-adjusted sales of automobiles manufactured in Canada and the U.S. rose 7.8% from November to 61,846 and those of cars from overseas decreased 9.9% to 10,092. Seasonally-adjusted sales of all commercial vehicles rose 3.2% to 30,480.

Total 1978 sales reached 1,366,456 units (1,344,959 in 1977), value \$9,648.5 million, up 12.9% from 1977.

For further information, see the December 1978 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact M. Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

General Wholesale Index

The December General Wholesale Index rose 0.5% to 643.3 from revised November's 639.9, up 12.5% from 1977 (571.7). Major groups with most effect:

- Vegetable group, up 1.3%; increases due largely to 3.5% for tobacco, 1.0% for grains, 4.8% for vegetable oil products and 1.9% for sugar and its products (tea, coffee and cocoa registered a partially offsetting decrease of 1.5%)
- Increases of 3.9% for fish and 1.4% for livestock were mainly responsible for an 0.8% rise in the animal products group (fresh meats decreased 0.8)
- A rise of 0.6% in non-ferrous metals (18.2% for gold and 1.3% for silver); tin decreased 5.2%.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, 56¢/\$5.50), or contact the Information Unit, Industrial Prices (613-995-5738/9), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5. Users are reminded that the General Wholesale Index, including special sub-aggregations, will no longer be calculated as of the release of the December 1978 indexes.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Nov.	Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	272.38p	272.01r	6.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.	11,384.3p	11,409.6r	9.7
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.	9.81	10.14	4.8
Unemployed	Jan.	977,000	870,000	0.0

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	2,389.9p	2,416.3p	9.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	20,175.7p	19,854.8r	9.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Oct.	8,262.0	8,213.7	11.3

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	12,405.8p	12,665.4r	26.8
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	13,126.4p	13,011.6r	27.5

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	181.3	180.8	8.4
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	195.8	195.3	0.3
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Dec.	643.3	639.9	0.5

CONSTRUCTION

		Nov.	Year-to-date	
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	977.8	12,014.2	3.9
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	12,034	178,678	-10.7

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Nov.	3,073.4	30,416.1	6.1
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.	29.2	301.8	6.1
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Oct.	287.6p	2,837.9p	-3.7
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Nov.	59.9	600.9	0.2

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	4,587p	52,606p	19.0
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	4,251p	49,605p	18.0

PRODUCTION

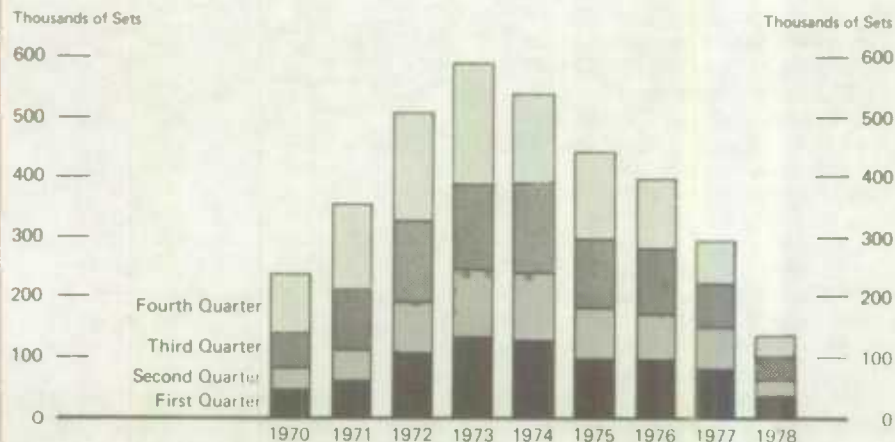
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Jan.	1,518.9	1,518.9	15.9
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SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	1,178.3p	7,667.9p	11.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	12,291.0p	118,969.9p	18.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	581.1	9,648.5	12.9
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	6,233.8p	61,465.0p	12.2
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	5,712.2	57,069.8	11.5

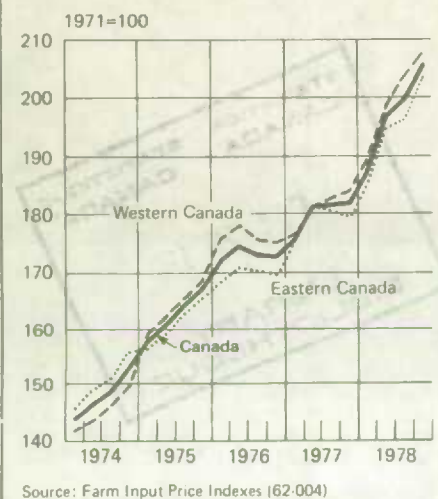
Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised. * - new this week.

Manufacturers' Sales of "Made-in-Canada" Colour Television Sets



Source: Radio and Television Receiving Sets (43-004)

Farm Input Price Indexes



Farm Input Price Indexes

The Farm Input Price Index increased 2.9% in the fourth quarter of 1978 to 205.5 from (revised) 199.7 in the preceding quarter, the eastern index rising 3.5% to 203.1 from 196.2 and the western 2.2% to 207.6 from 203.2.

Over the last 12 months the Index rose 13.0%, the eastern index 13.0% and the western 12.8%.

For further information, order the fourth quarter issue of *Farm Input Price Indexes* (62-004, 35¢/\$1.40), or contact Information Unit (613-995-5738), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Farm Products Indexes

Farm Products Indexes, December: 212.2, up 1.3% from November.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact Information Unit, Industrial Prices (613-995-5738), Statistics Canada, Prices Division, Ottawa.

Apparent Per Capita Food Consumption in Canada 1977

This publication contains a summary of the amounts of major food commodities available for consumption by Canadians in 1976 and 1977. The per capita values (in pounds) in the examples reproduced here (1977 in brackets) do not represent total food supplies actually consumed by an individual or a specific group of individuals but rather what is available on average to the total population:

- Fruits (fresh equivalent weight) 307.17 (295.99)
- Vegetables (fresh equivalent weight) 127.89 (127.11)
- Meat (carcass weight) 177.03 (171.37)
- Poultry (eviscerated weight) 44.69 (45.47)
- Fish (edible weight) 16.09 (16.97)
- Fluid milk production (retail weight) 261.20 (260.33)
- Eggs (fresh equivalent weight) 28.72 (27.86)
- Oils and fats (fat content) 45.01 (44.87)
- Cereals (retail weight) 156.91 (154.17)
- Sugars and syrups (sugar content) 95.38 (95.82)

No attempt is made to account for waste occurring in retail stores, households, private institutions and restaurants and the nutritional data contained in this publication provide information on what nutrients are available to Canadians on the average — not the nutritional adequacy of food consumed by individuals or specific groups.

For further information, order *Apparent Per Capita Food Consumption in Canada 1977* (Catalogue 32-226, \$1.05), or contact Karen Wardley (613-995-4877), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

Department Store Sales

December sales totalled \$1,178.3 million. Up 11.9% from a year earlier, sales rose in all regions.

Department store sales by regions, with percentage changes from 1977 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$444.3 million (10.1%)
- Québec, \$224.5 million (13.9%)
- British Columbia, \$183.6 million (13.9%)
- Alberta, \$149.9 million (16.1%)
- Atlantic Provinces, \$82.3 million (11.4%)
- Manitoba, \$60.8 million (3.4%)
- Saskatchewan, \$32.9 million (11.1%)

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Department Store Sales by Regions* (63-004, \$1.50 a year).

Tuberculosis Statistics 1977

Tuberculosis incidence of new active and reactivated cases for the year 1977 totalled 3,194 (3,143 in 1976). The rate per 100,000 population was 13.7 for both years.

Pending publication of *Tuberculosis Statistics: Morbidity and Mortality, 1977* (82-212), advance information is available from A. Bourdon (613-995-0861), Vital Statistics and Disease Registries Section, Health Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Sugar Sales

Sugar refineries reported January sales of 83 932 766 kilograms (185,040,553 lbs.), 72,961,728 kilograms (160,853,102 lbs.) domestically and 10 971 038 kilograms (24,187,451 lbs.) in export sales.

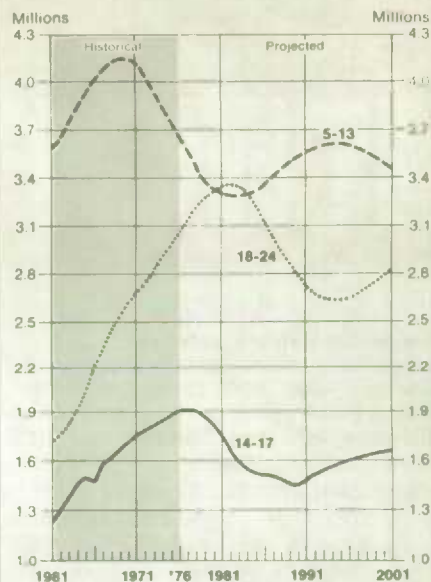
For further information, contact T.P. Sterling (613-992-8619), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Farm Prices Index

The Index of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, December, stood at 219.7, up 0.5% from the November's 218.6.

The index has been rebased to a new time and weight base with 1971 as the reference. For further information, contact Peter Lys or George Beelen (613-995-4895), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

School Age Population — Canada, 1961-2001



Fluctuations in the school-age population, which have plagued education planners throughout the 1970s, are going to get worse, not better. This is the conclusion of a new study based on just-available 1976 Census data.

The Class of 2001, a non-catalogued 143-page publication, gives four alternative projections of the school-age population, nationally and by province. The report includes charts and tables containing basic historical and projected data. It is available free of charge, in English or French, from the Education, Science and Culture Division, or from the Canadian Teachers' Federation, co-sponsor of the study. For further information, contact Z. Zsigmond or W. Clark (613-995-9685 or 9692), Projections Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Coal/Coke Statistics

November coal production increased 15.9% to 3,073,449 tons (2 788 186 metric tonnes) from 2,651,225 (2 405 151) a year earlier. Year-to-date production rose 6.1% to 30,416,090 tons (27 593 013 metric tonnes). Imports increased to 2,353,924 tons (2 135 444 metric tonnes) from 1,444,032 (1 310 004). Industrial consumers used 2,371,504 tons (2 151 392 metric tonnes) of coal, up 107,585 (97 599), and 453,475 tons (411 386 metric tonnes) of coke, down 42,260 (38 338) from a year earlier.

For further information, order the November 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.

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Appliances

Manufacturers' December domestic sales of refrigerators: 38,980 compared with 37,629 a year earlier. Domestic sales of home and farm freezers increased to 17,545 from 13,786. Manufacturers' domestic sales of automatic washing machines reached 27,849 from 26,653 a year earlier. Electric clothes dryers: 27,065 against 27,423.

For further information, order the December 1978 issues of *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, 15¢/\$1.50) and *Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers* (43-002, 15¢/\$1.50).

Farm Implement/Equipment Sales

Farm implement and equipment 1978 sales reached \$1,288.0 million, up 14.5% from 1977's \$1,124.6 million. Repair parts: \$191.4 million against \$161.7 million in 1977.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Farm Implement and Equipment Sales* (63-009, 15¢/\$1.50) or contact *Merchandising and Services Division* (613-996-9307), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Urban Transit

December saw 54 urban transit systems collect 101,066,208 initial passenger fares with total distance run 32,901,808 miles (52 950 333 km) and operating revenues amounting to \$37,972,056.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact the *Chief* (613-996-9271), *Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

Stoves and Ranges

Manufacturers' December domestic sales of electric stoves and ranges rose 25.3% to 36,919 from 29,475 in 1977.

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

Eggs

Egg production rose 0.3% to 38.1 million dozen in December from 38.0 million a year earlier.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Production of Eggs and Poultry* (23-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact P.L. Beerstecher (613-995-4853), *Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7*.

Corporation Finance 1976

Financial characteristics reported by corporations in 1976 reflected the continuation of the lower rates of economic growth prevailing since 1974. Total assets of all industries rose from \$483 billion in 1975 to \$547 billion in 1976, up 13% as in 1975. At the 182 industry level the fastest rate of growth again took place in the fertilizer industry where assets jumped from \$120 million to \$218 million, up 82%. In services, other recreational services reported an increase in assets of 66% from the \$1.0 billion recorded in 1975. Total non-financial corporations disclosed total revenue of \$323 billion in 1976, up from \$286 billion in the previous year and an increase of 13% compared with 11% in 1975 and 27% in 1974. The largest percentage increase in revenue occurred in retail tobacconists (up 45% to \$183 million) closely followed by pipelines (44% to \$2,756 million) and gas distribution (43% to \$2,114 million).

In the financial sector, 1976 saw a \$457 million increase in pretax profits compared with \$354 million in 1975. In the non-financial sector, a \$606 million turn-around in profitability brought a 3% gain against a \$878 million decline in 1975. Total pretax profits in all industries amounted to \$24.4 billion, up \$1,063 million from 1975 and representing a 5% increase compared with a 2% decrease in 1975. Some of the losing industries in the previous year showed the greatest recovery: sawmills (\$121 million, \$9 million loss in 1975) and manufacturers of fish products (\$16 million, \$5 million loss in 1975). Synthetics textiles continued to decline, however, with losses in 1976 increasing to \$34 million from \$3 million. In the transportation sector, air transport again reported a further decrease in profitability with losses up from \$18 million in 1975 to \$34 million. Although profitability increased from \$84 million in railroads to \$132 million reversing 1975's decline, water transport showed a decrease in profits from \$61 million to \$10 million. One of the highest ratios of net profit after tax to equity in 1976 was 33.9% in the bakery products industry (17.4% in 1975).

For further information may be obtained from A. Dorland (613-996-5980), *Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*. Additional details on a 182 industry basis, including key corporate financial ratios, are available in the 1976 issue of *Corporation Financial Statistics* (61-207, \$7.50).

Motor Vehicle Shipments

Automobile production, December: 84,853 (82,173 in 1977).

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50).

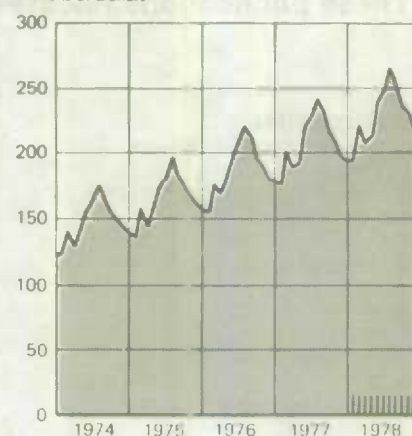
Iron Ore

Mines shipped 5,419,720 short tons of iron ore in December (4,780,951 a year earlier). Twelve months' output: 47,334,831 short tons (59,107,141).

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Iron Ore* (26-005, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), *Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6*.

Restaurant Receipts

Millions of Dollars



Source: Restaurant Statistics (63-011)

Restaurant Statistics 1978

All provinces participating, restaurant receipts rose 9.5% over 1977 to \$2,720,860,000. December: \$218,165,000 (9.7%).

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Restaurant Statistics* (63-011, 15¢/\$1.50).

Electric Power Statistics

November net generation increased to 29.2 TW.h from 28.4 TW.h in 1977. Hydro generation decreased 1.5%, thermal production rose 13.3%. Eleven months generation: 301.8 TW.h, up 6.1%.

For further information, order the November 1978 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021), *Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

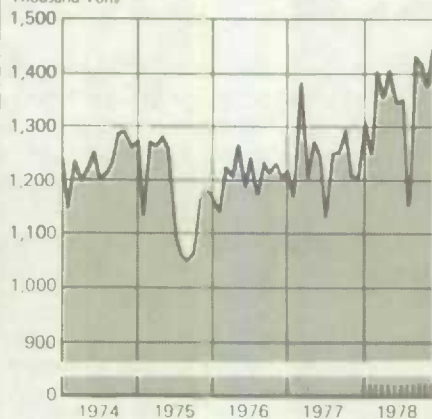
Steel Ingots

Steel ingots production, January 1,518,871 short tons (1 377 897 t).

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *Steel Ingots and Pig Iron* (41-001, 15¢/\$1.50).

Steel Ingot Production, Canada

Thousand Tons



Source: Primary Iron and Steel (41-001)



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These publications released February 9 — 15

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Grains and Oilseeds Review, December 1978	22-007	40¢/\$4	Domestic and Farm Water Systems, December 1978	41-015	15¢/\$1.50
Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, January 1979	32-012	30¢/\$3	Domestic Water Tank Heaters, December 1978	43-008	15¢/\$1.50
BUSINESS FINANCE					
Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1978	61-003	\$1.75/\$7	Electric Lamps, December 1978	43-009	15¢/\$1.50
CONSTRUCTION					
Building Permits, November 1978	64-001	70¢/\$7	Gold Production, November 1978	26-004	15¢/\$1.50
Housing Starts and Completions, December 1978	64-002	55¢/\$5.50	Hardboard, December 1978	36-001	15¢/\$1.50
INDUSTRY PRODUCT					
Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, November 1978	61-005	40¢/\$4	Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, November 1978	24-002	40¢/\$4
INPUT-OUTPUT					
The Input-output Structure of the Canadian Economy, 1961-74	15-508E	\$6	Motor Vehicle Shipments, December 1978	42-002	15¢/\$1.50
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES					
Asbestos, December 1978	26-001	15¢/\$1.50	Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water Heaters, December 1978	41-008	15¢/\$1.50
Builders and Shelf Hardware, December 1978	41-014	15¢/\$1.50	Oil Filters and Cartridges, December 1978	41-016	15¢/\$1.50
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, November 1978	32-011	30¢/\$3	Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, November 1978	26-007	15¢/\$1.50
Cemented Tungsten Carbide Blanks and Tools, December 1978	41-013	15¢/\$1.50	Salt, December 1978	26-009	15¢/\$1.50
Copper and Nickel Production, November 1978	26-003	15¢/\$1.50	Sanitaryware, December 1978	41-012	15¢/\$1.50
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, December 1978	36-004	15¢/\$1.50	Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, November 1978	26-008	15¢/\$1.50
			The Sugar Situation, December 1978	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
SERVICE BULLETIN					
			Fruit and Vegetable Preservation — Vol. 7, No. 4, Pack of Processed Peas, 1978	32-023	/ \$1.40
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES					
			Restaurant Statistics, December 1978	63-011	15¢/\$1.50
			Sales Financing, November 1978	63-013	30¢/\$3
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS					
			Railway Carloadings, December 1978	52-001	30¢/\$3

User Advisory Services

When amplification of summaries would be helpful, additional information can often be obtained from the regional User Advisory Services staff of Statistics Canada or from its Central Inquiries Service, Ottawa (613-992-4734)

Toll free access to statistical information within the New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia region is available by direct dialing the User Advisory Services Halifax office, 1-800-565-7192. Throughout Saskatchewan, the Regina office can be reached by dialing 1-800-667-3524. Throughout Alberta, the Edmonton office can be reached by dialing 1-800-222-6400.

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