

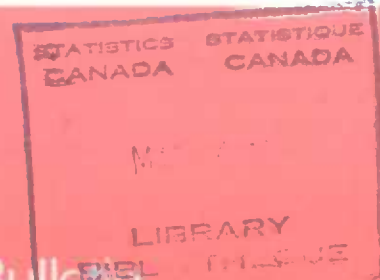


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Weekly Bulletin



Real Domestic Product

The seasonally-adjusted Index of Real Domestic Product (1971=100) increased 0.2% to 136.8 in February from 136.5 in January. The index of industrial production advanced 0.7%. Output of goods-producing industries increased 0.5%, while service-producing industries were relatively unchanged from the January level.

Goods-producing industries recorded the fourth consecutive monthly increase, with gains in agriculture, construction, mining, utilities and manufacturing. Forestry and fishing and trapping declined in February. Agriculture output advanced mainly on the strength of increased dairy production. The mining industry recorded the most significant monthly increase since August 1978, with major production gains in iron mines, crude petroleum and natural gas, and asbestos mines (production in asbestos mines had been affected by several strikes which began in September and terminated in mid-January). Increases in output of both electric power and gas distribution accounted for the gain in utilities. In February, construction output increased slightly to record the first monthly advance since April 1978 — increased residential building activity accounted for the gain. Manufacturing activity in February was just slightly ahead of the January level, with non-durable manufacturing up 0.2%, and durable manufacturing unchanged from the previous month.

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (including the *Index of Industrial Production*), (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Labour Income

Labour income for the month of February was estimated at \$11.2 billion, an increase of \$967.8 million or 9.4% from February 1978.

Adjusted for seasonal variation, wages and salaries increased by \$78.8 million between January and February to \$10.7 billion.

Detailed estimates will be published in the January-March 1979 issue of *Estimates of Labour Income* (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20), or may be obtained upon request from Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8431), Labour Income Section, Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Jan.	269.32p	8.2
Labour Income (\$ million)	Jan.	11,249.1r	10.4
Persons with Jobs (million)	Mar.	9.86	4.1
Unemployed	Mar.	954,000	-5.3

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Feb.*	2,013.5	1,980.6	16.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Feb.*	21,945.1p	21,408.6r	13.5
Wholesale (\$ million)	Feb.	9,603.7	9,143.1	23.4

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Feb.*	11,995.0p	12,103.0r	25.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Feb.*	14,698.3p	14,180.9r	35.6

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Mar.	186.6	184.4	9.2
Non-residential Building Input (1971=100)	Feb.	203.5	202.6	9.5
Residential Building Input (1971=100)	Feb.	203.3	201.9	10.2
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Feb.	205.7p	203.2p	12.5

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Jan.*	487.4p	487.4p	-9.4
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Feb.	6,503	18,036	-32.5

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Jan.	2 879.2	2 879.2	15.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Jan.	34.8	34.8	4.5
Natural Gas Production (thousand cubic metres)	Jan.*	10 387.2	10 387.2	6.2
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Feb.*	53.5p	114.3p	2.8

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Feb.	4,471p	9,438p	25.2
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Feb.	4,441p	9,221p	31.0

PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Mar.*	1,438.0	4,297.3	8.4
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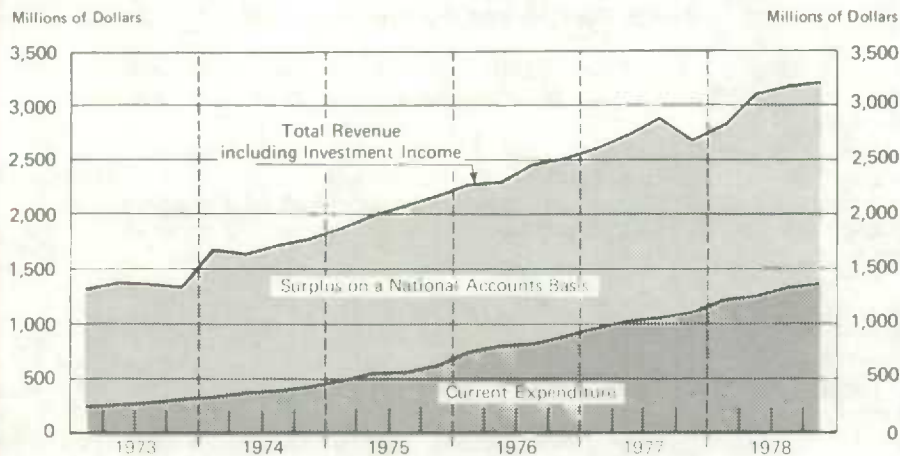
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Feb.*	448.7p	931.5p	8.8
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Feb.*	11,477.7p	22,909.6p	25.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	796.9	1,471.9	19.1
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	5,056.8p	10,064.0p	13.5
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Feb.	5,400.3p	10,661.4p	23.7

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

Canada Pension Plan

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)

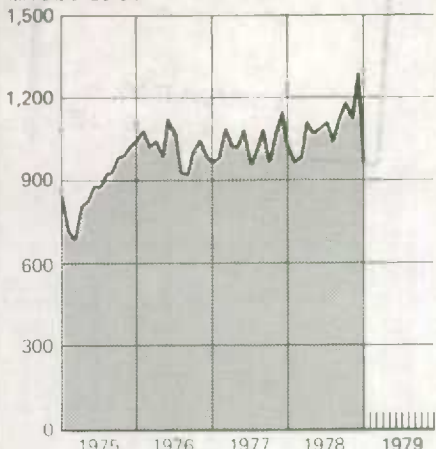


Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-001)

Building Permits, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)

Millions of Dollars



Source: Building Permits (64-001)

Department Store Sales and Stocks

Department store sales rose to \$448.7 million in February, an increase of 4.5% from the \$429.4 million recorded in February 1978.

Sales were up in 28 of the 40 departments with the largest gains posted by furs (+259.9%), repairs and services (+45.1%), and china and glassware (+34.0%). All provinces except Alberta (-0.4%) and British Columbia (-1.8%) reported increased sales ranging from 15.5% for Newfoundland to 0.1% for Manitoba. In metropolitan areas, Montreal sales totalled \$53.5 million, +17.8%; Toronto, \$67.5 million, +7.0%; Winnipeg, \$21.4 million, +0.2%; and Vancouver, \$48.8 million, -1.0%.

Inventories held in February 1979 at \$2,013.5 million showed an increase of 16.1% over February 1978. Stocks increased in 31 of the 40 departments.

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Building Permits

The value of building permits issued during January dropped to a seasonally-adjusted level of \$978 million from a revised \$1,298 million in December 1978. In January 1978, the value of all permits issued was \$1,050 million.

The decrease in the latest month was attributable mainly to residential construction which fell to a four-year low of \$539 million, after reaching an unusually high level of \$772 million in December. (The latter was caused by an upsurge of large apartment projects in Quebec and Ontario.) Non-residential building permits also decreased, to \$439 million in January from \$526 million in December.

Residential permits (seasonally adjusted) were issued for the construction of 7,962 single-detached houses and 6,013 collective dwelling units. In December 1978, 8,324 single-detached and 13,819 multiple dwellings were authorized.

In the non-residential sector, there were decreases in all categories: new industrial projects totalled \$92 million in January compared to \$101 million in the previous month, while commercial projects dropped to an estimated \$230 million in January from \$296 million in December. Publicly-initiated projects remained high at \$117 million, although somewhat lower than in December (\$130 million).

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7), or contact J.P. Delisle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Urban Transit

February saw 58 urban transit systems collect 99,625,638 initial passenger fares with total distance run 30,775,587 miles (49 528 507 km) and operating revenues of \$36,352,932.

For further information, contact the Chief (613-995-1976), Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 (or order the February 1979 issue of *Urban Transit*, 53-003, 15¢/\$1.50).

Inventories/Shipments/Orders

Preliminary estimates show manufacturers' shipments in February 1979, seasonally adjusted, were valued at \$12,186.2 million, up 0.9% from the revised January level of \$12,079.5 million. Durable goods industries' shipments increased 3.2% to \$5,691.6 million from \$5,517.1 million while non-durable goods industries' shipments dropped 1.0% to \$6,494.6 million from \$6,562.4 million.

New orders in all manufacturing industries, seasonally adjusted, rose 0.3% to an estimated \$12,558.7 million in February from \$12,516.5 million (revised) in January. Durable goods new orders increased 2.9% to \$6,064.3 million from \$5,891.1 million while non-durable goods new orders decreased 2.0% to \$6,494.4 million from \$6,625.4 million.

Unfilled orders in all manufacturing industries, seasonally adjusted, rose 2.6% in February to \$14,550.5 million from the revised \$14,178.0 million estimate for January.

Total inventory owned, seasonally adjusted, was estimated at \$21,632.6 million in February, 1.6% higher than the revised January estimate of \$21,289.9 million. Total inventory held, seasonally adjusted, rose 1.7% in February to \$22,605.1 million from January's revised \$22,230.3 million with increases of 2.1%, 1.2% and 1.6% in raw materials, goods in process and finished products, respectively.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned to shipments rose to 1.78:1 in February from 1.76:1 (revised) in January. The finished products to shipments ratio moved up to 0.60:1 from 0.59:1 (revised) in the preceding month.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in February at an estimated \$11,477.7 million were 0.4% higher than the revised January level of \$11,432.0 million.

For further information, order the February issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

The new edition of *Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation* (catalogue No. 66-202, \$3.50 in Canada), a 282-page statistical digest covering 1976 and 1977, is now available.

This edition features an expanded section on recreation participation, summarizing the findings from the 1976 Labour Force Survey supplement on fitness, physical recreation and sport. Also included are data on socio-economic characteristics of households with recreation equipment, and on gun ownership, gun use and the household stock of firearms.

Contents: recreation participation; parks, camping, hunting and fishing; travel to work; domestic travel by residents of Canada; travel between Canada and the U.S. and between Canada and overseas countries; balance of payments and international travel; the plant; employment; and selected influences on travel and recreation.

Future editions will be published biennially rather than annually, because of budgetary constraints. For further information, contact Bob Chadwick (613-995-9697), Chief, Travel, Tourism and Recreation Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Refined Petroleum Products

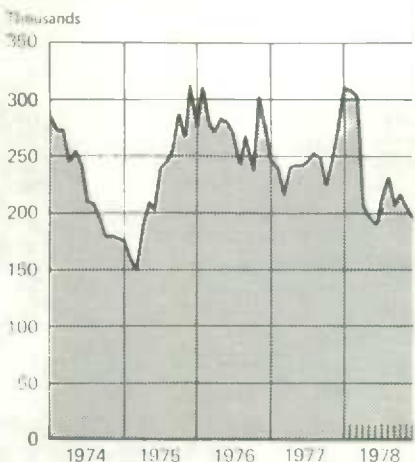
Preliminary data for February show that net sales of all refined petroleum products amounted to 56,359,000 barrels (8 956 thousand cubic metres), an increase of 2.9% from the February 1978 total of 54,767,000 barrels (8 703 thousand cubic metres).

Canadian refineries produced 53,515,000 barrels (8 504 thousand cubic metres) of refined petroleum products in February, down 1.3% from 54,226,000 barrels (8 617 thousand cubic metres) in February 1978.

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products* (45-004, 40¢/\$4), or contact G.R. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Housing Starts in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: Housing Starts and Completions (64-002)

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales for February at an estimated \$5,400,314,000 showed an increase of 21.5% from \$4,443,582,000 in February 1978.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$9,603,749,000, up 23.4% from stocks of \$7,784,312,000 on hand at the end of February last year.

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 15¢/\$1.50).

Community College Enrolment

In the fall of 1978, full-time students enrolled in Canadian community colleges and other post-secondary educational institutions not granting degrees numbered 244,423, up 3.7% from a year earlier. The largest increase was in Alberta (11.2%), mostly in diploma or certificate career programs. In Quebec, the over-all rise was less than 2% because of a decrease in the number of students in university transfer programs; in British Columbia there was a slight decrease in over-all enrolment for the same reason.

For further information, contact John North (613-995-9797), Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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Key Economic Series

During May, the release of Key Economic Series data is expected to be in accordance with the schedule outlined below. Where a range of dates is given for a series, this represents the period within which publication of the data can be reasonably expected, the variability taking account of circumstances peculiar to each series. Any range may be exceeded on rare occasions, for reasons unpredictable at this time.

April 23 to May 4: Unemployment Insurance Statistics, February;

May 3 to 15: Building Permits, February;

May 4: Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade, March;

May 4 to 9: Industry Selling Price Index, March;

May 15: Labour Force Survey, April;

May 16 to 18: Wholesale Trade, March;

May 16 to 18: Industrial Corporations' Financial Statistics (Preliminary Data), 1st Quarter 1979;

May 17 to 25: Inventories, Shipments and Orders, March;

May 18: The Consumer Price Index, April;

May 18 to 24: Retail Trade, March;

May 24 to 30: Index of Industrial Production, March;

May 24 to 31: Real Domestic Product, March;

May 25 to 31: Employment, Earnings and Hours, March;

May 28 to June 5: Unemployment Insurance Statistics, March;

May 30 to June 5: Labour Income, March.

Notice of advance information availability: *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 4, Telegraphic Crop Report — Canada, to be released May 10 at 3 p.m., E.D.S.T.; *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 5, Telegraphic Crop Report — Prairie Provinces, to be released May 17 at 3 p.m., E.D.S.T.; *Field Crop Reporting Series*, No. 6, Telegraphic Crop Report — Canada, to be released May 31 at 3 p.m., E.D.S.T.

For further information, contact Henri Sarrazin (613-992-1566), Production Planning and Scheduling Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Trust and Mortgage Companies

Quarterly Statements of Mortgages Outstanding

Billions of Dollars



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

Visual Artists Survey, 1978

Canadian artists in the main earn less than \$5,000 annually from art sales and have to rely on other employment to supplement their income.

Almost three-quarters of Canadian artists hold either full or part-time jobs in addition to their artistic pursuits. The teaching of art predominates as a field of employment.

Among findings of a national survey last October:

- For all artists, direct art sales provide an annual average of \$6,241
- Salaries and wages account for \$9,213
- Grants, awards and prices average \$2,143
- Average gross income for artists is \$17,597 though only 35% comes from art sales.

Further details will be contained in the forthcoming service bulletin *Preliminary Statistics on Visual Artists*, 87-001 (Vol. 2, No. 3). For further information, contact Brenda Babcock (613-593-6862), Culture Sub-division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Department Stores in Canada, 1923-1976

During the 1970s, the department store sector of retail trade has undergone dynamic change. In 1971, there were 40 department store organizations in Canada operating 434 outlets with sales of \$3,193,589,000. By 1976, the number of department store organizations had declined to 30 due to amalgamations or financial difficulties but there was a net increase of 185 full-line department store outlets and sales rose to \$6,514,325,000. Much of this increase was due to the large-scale expansion of the so-called junior department stores such as K-Mart, Woolco and Miracle Mart.

Now available is the publication *Department Stores in Canada, 1923-1976* (Catalogue No. 63-530, \$2.10 in Canada, \$2.55 elsewhere), a study of how department stores evolved and developed in this country, what the current trends are and what probably lies ahead. Contents include: growth of department stores nationally, by provinces, and at the sub-provincial level; development of junior department stores; department stores in shopping centres; sales per square foot; sales size; commodity mix; and potential for growth.

Supplementary 1977 data compiled too late for inclusion in the publication are also available and will be supplied free of charge to those ordering the publication. For further information, contact David Van Luven (613-995-4198), Analysis and Development Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



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These publications released April 20 — 26

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
Field Crop Reporting Series, No. 3 — Stocks of Grain at March 31, available April 20, 1979	22-002E	\$5.60 for series	Coffin and Casket Industry, 1977	35-210	70¢
Grain Trade of Canada, 1976-77	22-201	\$1.40	Consumption, Production and Inven- tories of Rubber, February 1979	33-003	30¢/\$3
The Dairy Review, February 1979	23-001	40¢/\$4	Cordage and Twine Industry, 1977	34-203	70¢
BUSINESS FINANCE					
Cheques Cashied, February 1979	61-001	30¢/\$3	Corrugated Box Manufacturers, 1977	36-213	70¢
CONSTRUCTION SERVICE BULLETIN					
Construction Statistics — Vol. 2, No. 3, Value of Construction per Capita in Metropolitan Areas, 1974-78	64-003	/\$1.40	Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, December 1978	26-006	30¢/\$3
CONSUMER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Income After Tax, Distributions by Size in Canada, 1976	13-210	\$1.05	Electric Lamps, February 1979	43-009	15¢/\$1.50
FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTI- NATIONAL ENTERPRISES					
International Travel — Advance Information	66-002	15¢/\$1.50	Electric Power Statistics, January 1979	57-001	30¢/\$3
LABOUR					
Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds, 4th Quarter 1978	74-001	35¢/\$1.40	Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, February 1979	43-005	15¢/\$1.50
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES					
Asphalt Roofing, February 1979	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	Glass and Glass Products Manufac- turers, 1977	44-207	70¢
Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers, 1977	36-205	70¢	Manufacturers of Small Electrical Appliances, 1977	43-203	70¢
Clay Products Manufacturers (from Imported Clays), 1977	44-216	70¢	Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, March 1979	32-001	15¢/\$1.50
Coal and Coke Statistics, January 1979	45-002	40¢/\$4	Oil Pipe Line Transport, January 1979	55-001	40¢/\$4
			Office and Store Machinery Manufac- turers, 1977	42-216	70¢
			Particle Board, February 1979	36-003	15¢/\$1.50
			Primary Iron and Steel, January 1979	41-001	40¢/\$4
			Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada, February 1979	47-004	15¢/\$1.50
			Specified Domestic Electrical Ap- pliances, February 1979	43-003	15¢/\$1.50
			Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, March 1979	41-002	15¢/\$1.50
			Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, February 1979	41-006	15¢/\$1.50
			Wineries, 1977	32-207	70¢
			Wooden Box Factories, 1977	35-209	70¢
			PUBLIC FINANCE		
			Provincial Government Employment, October-December 1978	72-007	\$1.05/\$4.20

Additional Information

When names and telephone numbers are not provided, additional information can often be obtained from the regional User Advisory staff of Statistics Canada or from its Central Inquiries Service, Ottawa (613-992-4734).

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Also, toll-free access to the regional statistical information service is provided in Charlottetown, Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John and Sydney by calling the operator and asking for ZENITH 22066. 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.