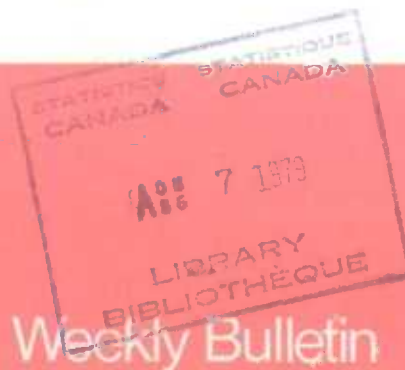


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Weekly Bulletin



## Capital Costs Outlook, 1979

A mid-year review indicates intended capital expenditures to be \$56,442 million, a 3.1% increase over the first estimate of \$54,723 million and 12.3% above the \$50,238 million for 1978 estimated earlier (Private/Public Investment, Outlook 1979, *Infomat*, April 6, 1979).

New capital outlay for construction at \$35,797 million is 2.8% above the \$34,816 million estimated earlier for 1979 and 11% higher than the \$32,261 million for 1978. Strength comes from non-residential construction which is now expected to reach \$24,148 million, 4.5% over the \$23,101 million estimated earlier for 1979 and 15.6% above the \$20,886 million for 1978. Housing construction is reduced marginally 0.6% to \$11,649 million compared with \$11,715 million in the preceding 1979 total and only 2.4% higher than the 1978 total of \$11,375 million. Current estimates for housing are now based on 207,500 starts compared with 215,000 starts used earlier for 1979 and 228,000 in 1978. Capital spending for the acquisition of new machinery and equipment during 1979 now totals \$20,644 million or 3.7% above the earlier estimate of \$19,907 million and 14.8% higher than the \$17,978 million for 1978.

Both the business and social capital groups show a further increase at mid-year. The business group is now expected to be up by 16.7% over 1978 compared with a gain of 11.6% estimated earlier. The social capital group of institutions and governments is now shown as 9.2% above 1978 compared with an increase of 7.0% estimated earlier for 1979.

The increase for the business sector at mid-year is most evident in the primary industries group. The petroleum and natural gas industry is shown as increasing by a further 12.4% over the first estimates for 1979 to a record level of \$3,713 million of capital outlays. This program represents a gain of 35.1% over the total of \$2,748 million in 1978. A significant further gain is also shown for agriculture and fishing (6.4%), now at \$4,020 million or 15.1% above the \$3,491 million last year.

Manufacturing registers a significant gain at mid-year (\$392 million, 5.8%) to a new level of \$7,190 million which is 15.2% above the \$6,240 million in 1978. The further strength is shown for primary metals (\$71 million, 8.7%), non-metallic minerals

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May	285.18p	282.78r	8.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	Apr.	11,475.0p	11,379.1r	10.2
Persons with Jobs (million)	June	10,626	10,363	3.5
Unemployed	June	798,000	836,000	-10.5

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Apr.	2,270.1p	2,233.3p	11.9
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Apr.	22,599.4p	22,737.5r	15.5
Wholesale (\$ million)	May	10,347.0p	10,284.5p	26.3

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	12,384.0p	13,584.6r	15.9
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	15,318.5p	15,103.5r	33.0

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	June	190.6	189.7	8.9
New House Price Index (1976=100)	May	109.3	108.0	3.4
Non-residential Building Material (1971=100)	Apr.	201.9	196.6	14.5
22-city Composite Wage, Building	Apr.	220.0	219.9	6.9
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	May	213.3p	211.9r	13.5

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	May*	1,368.6	4,737.9	2.2
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	May	15,737	52,964	-23.9

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Apr.	2,656.8	10,773.7	6.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Apr.	28.3	126.4	4.5
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Apr.	8,469.4	38,075.1	7.4
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	May	9.16p	46.3p	11.4

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	May	5,690.8p	25,342.7p	20.0
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	May	5,598.8p	25,275.8p	27.2

### PRODUCTION

Steel (Ingots — thousand tons)	June	1,380.8	8,693.3	7.2
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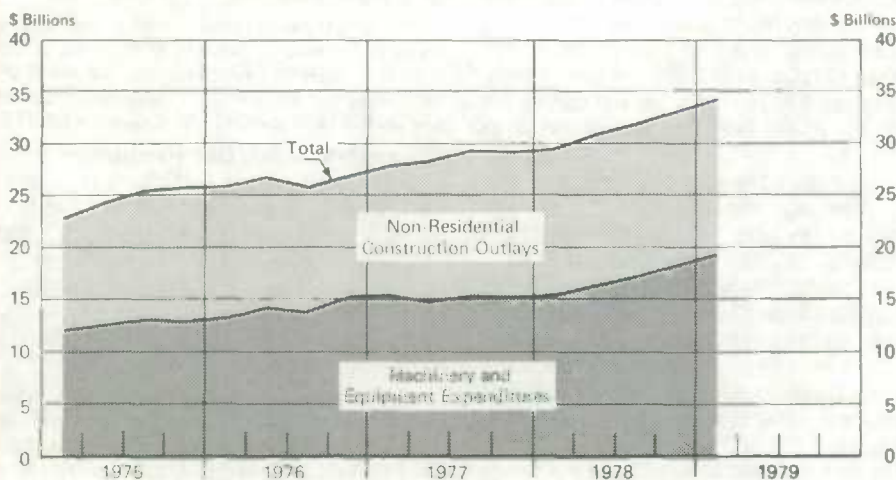
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	May	685.1p	2,832.6p	10.5
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	12,169.0	48,193.7	22.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	May	1,213.2	4,835.7	19.7
Retail Sales (\$ million)	May	6,767.9p	28,930.1p	13.0
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	May	7,010.5p	29,520.1p	21.1

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

## Business Investment in Plant and Equipment

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (113 001)



(\$51 million, 16.2%), paper products (\$49 million, 6.8%), metal fabricating (\$31 million, 13.7%), rubber (\$31 million, 24.8%), food and beverages (\$31 million, 4.6%).

The total capital spending programs for the trade-financial-commercial services group is now larger than for the manufacturing group and the upward revisions at mid-year in that area (\$372 million, 5.4%) contributed significantly to the overall gain for 1979. The largest part of the increase originated with real estate developers and the finance group (\$187 million, 6.9%) followed by trade (\$102 million, 8.5%) and by commercial services (\$83 million, 2.8%).

The utilities group of transportation, communications and other utilities shows the smallest increase over earlier estimates for 1979 (\$88 million, 0.7%) but its total of \$11,840 million still represents the largest part of the capital spending in the business sector. The new total for 1979 is 10.6% above the \$10,701 million in 1978. Electric power in the other utilities group continues to dominate the total with a total program of \$6,623 million, down marginally from the \$6,636 million estimated earlier for this year but still \$588 million or 9.7% above 1978. In the transportation group, rail and air transport continue as a major part of the total with a small further increase for 1979. Rail transport is now expected to have capital expenditures of \$748 million, 31.5% above the \$568 million in 1978. Air transport at \$613 million is now showing an increase of 69.8% over the \$361 million in 1978. The currently estimated intended outlays for pipelines in 1979 are shown at \$281 million, up by 4.1% from the earlier estimates for 1979 but still 12.3% below 1978. The total for communications at \$2,314 million shows little change from the earlier estimate for 1979 for a resultant increase of 4.1% over the \$2,223 million in 1978.

In the social capital group, planned capital spending by all three levels of government registered a further increase of \$62 million or 1% for a resultant combined total in 1979 of \$6,422 million, a level 6% above the \$6,058 million in 1978. Federal government is now expecting outlays of \$957 million for 1979 compared with \$1,107 in 1978 for a decrease of 13.5%. This reduction was more than offset by gains for provincial and municipal governments. The current expectations for institutions are for capital outlays of \$1,890 million, an increase of 6% over earlier estimates for 1979 but 21.8% over the \$1,552 million in 1978.

Provincially, the following are the new year-over-year changes for 1979 with the mid-year revision in parenthesis: Newfoundland 35.3% (4.6%), Alberta 18.7% (6.5%), Saskatchewan 16.2% (6.8%), British Columbia 12.9% (2.8%), Nova Scotia 11.6% (6.8%), Ontario 11% (0.8%), Prince Edward Island 9.9% (5.6%), New Brunswick 9.6% (5.2%), Québec 8.7% (2.6%), Yukon and Northwest Territories 4.7% (-5.1%), Manitoba 2.7% (2.0%).

For further information, contact Duncan Lusick (613-995-9013), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Real Domestic Product

Real Domestic Product increased 0.6% in May following a decline of 0.9% in April. The May level was only slightly above the first quarter level. The Index of Industrial Production also increased in May following a decline of 1.3% in April.

Output in the goods-producing increased 0.7% in May and the service-producing industries by 0.5%. From September 1978 to May 1979, the goods-producing industries increased by 0.1%. During the same period the service producing industries increased 1.2%.

Much of the May increase in RDP occurred in industries which operated at relatively low levels of output in April and generally output levels in May were below March. A truckers' strike in the United States affected a number of industries in April. In particular, motor vehicle manufacturing was affected by shortages of parts originating in the U.S. and Canadian motor vehicle parts manufacturers were unable to supply plants in the U.S. Weather conditions were also responsible for disruption of rail and road transport in April. A number of industries were indirectly affected — notably grain elevators. Recovery from strikes in April was the main factor in the metal fabricating and primary metal increases.

Retail trade increased about 1% in May. However, the level of activity was below that of February. Increases in the components of retail trade were generally small with the largest contribution to the overall increase originating with motor vehicle dealers, merchandise stores and drug stores. The 2.4% increase in wholesale trade resulted from increases in virtually all components.

Notable increases also came in forestry — as a result of increased demand for pulpwood — and in security dealers and brokers and services to business management.

Crude petroleum output decreased substantially in May following an increase in April. Pipelines output also decreased. The fall in pulp and paper output in May was due to decreased pulp production following very high levels of output in March and April. Output of machinery manufactures also dropped in May.

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

### Crude Petroleum / Gas Production

Crude petroleum production, April, averaged 261 500 cubic metres/day (1,645,600 barrels/day), up 35.7% from 192 700 (1,212,900) in 1978. Net new production of natural gas averaged 301 300 000 cubic metres/day (10,635,800,000 cubic feet/day), up 10.1% from 273 500 000 (9,656,500,000).

For further information, order the April 1979 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3), or contact G. Kitchen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Business Conditions Survey

Manufacturers report less optimism about production for the third quarter of 1979 than they indicated for the previous quarter. Production is expected to be higher by 36% of the weighted response and lower by 23% in April, 32% forecast higher production for the period from then until June; only 12% expected less.

The level of new orders received was reported to be rising by 36% of the weighted response and declining by 13%. In the April survey, new orders were rising for 40% and declining for 9%. Those reporting a higher than normal unfilled orders backlog increased slightly to 31% from 27% in the previous quarter while the proportion reporting a lower than normal unfilled orders backlog was a shade higher at 10% against 9% three months earlier.

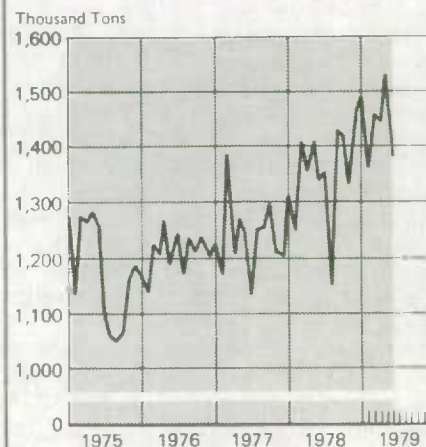
Finished products inventory was considered too high by 15% of the weighted response and too low by 9%. These are slightly different levels than in April when 11% felt inventories were too high and 12% too low.

Consistent with response in all four previous quarters, raw materials and skilled labour shortages were cited as the greatest impediments to production with 15% indicating raw material shortages and 12% noting a shortage of skilled labour.

When classified by economic use or type of market served the most significant changes from the previous quarter appeared in the other intermediate goods category — expectations for lower production increased to 31% from 8% — and also in export-based industries where 50% consider their unfilled orders backlog as higher than normal, up from 32% the previous quarter.

Response to the July business conditions survey represents more than 6,700 manufacturing establishments whose shipments accounted for about 55% of all shipments in the pertinent industries in 1976. For further information, contact Brian Preston (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Steel Ingot Production, Canada



Source: Primary Iron and Steel (41-001)



### Culture/Public Costs, '76-'77

Culture is defined here as the creative and expressive artistic activities generally referred to as the performing, visual and creative arts... such institutions as museums, libraries, archives and historic sites whose functions and activities take in the preservation and dissemination of cultural heritage are included. Excluded are activities which are specifically related to religion and physical recreation. This definition of culture is by no means comprehensive... This publication presents statistics of federal government expenditure on the following functions which, from the operational point of view, constitute culture: libraries, museums, public archives, historic parks and sites, films, broadcasting, visual arts, performing arts, literary arts and "other". The functions and sub-functions included... are not exhaustive and are based on the availability of data from the published sources... The federal government universe covered by this publication consists of all departments, ministries, agencies, commissions, boards, special funds and government business enterprises. In addition to the actual expenditures of the CBC, arts program of Canada Council, Canadian Film Development Corporation, National Arts Centre Corporation and National Film Board, budgetary expenditures of other federal government entities for the production, development, promotion and support of cultural activities are included in this publication... The data presented here have been collected from the Public Accounts of Canada, published financial reports of those entities not reported within the Public Accounts of Canada, study of the inventory of heritage activities in the federal government by the Department of the Secretary of State, and additional data obtained on request from individual departments and agencies.

*Abstracted from Government Expenditures on Culture, 1976-'77 (87-680, 70¢/Other Countries 85¢).*

### Coal and Coke Statistics

Coal production in Canada increased 20.8% in May to 2 908 795 metric tonnes from 2 408 017 tonnes a year earlier. Landed imports rose 48.0% to 4 091 557 tonnes.

Canadian coal production for the first five months of 1979 totalled 13 682 484 tonnes, up 9.3% from 12 515 853 tonnes in the January-May 1978 period.

*For further information, order the May issue of Coal and Coke Statistics (45-002, 40¢/\$4), or contact Dave Madsen (613-992-4021), Energy Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Labour Income

May labour income was estimated at \$11.9 billion, up 10.5% or \$1,129.8 million from a year earlier. Total wages and salaries, \$11,001.4 million, rose 10.5% from \$9,953.9 million a year earlier. Breakdowns for wages and salaries (millions of dollars) were: primary industries \$114.1; forestry \$118.4; mines, quarries, oil wells \$285.7; manufacturing \$2,539.4; construction \$796.2; transportation, communication, other utilities \$1,151.7; trade \$1,443.0; finance, insurance, real estate \$743.3; commercial, personal service \$1,031.9; education, related services \$1,127.4; health, welfare services \$678.8; federal administration, other government offices \$403.9; local administration \$246.6; and provincial administration \$321.1.

Supplementary income for May reached \$894.6 million.

*See detailed estimates in the May 1979 issue of Estimates of Labour Income (72-005, \$1.05/\$4.20), or contact Mrs. G. Gauthier (613-995-8067), Labour Income Section, Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa*

### Railway Carloadings

Canadian railways loaded 23.4 million short tons (21.2 million t) of revenue freight in June, a 22.0% gain from June 1978. An additional 2.0 million short tons (1.8 million t) entered from the United States, up 0.6%.

Commodities recording notable percentage change included: iron ore and concentrates (up 311.8% due to traffic losses resulting from strikes in 1978); other grain (up 42.1%); alumina, bauxite and other aluminum ores (down 90.5% due to a strike at Alcan); copper-nickel ores and concentrates (down 74.9%, reflecting the effects of this year's Inco strike); and wheat (down 35.4%).

In the period January-June 1979, rail freight volume loaded increased 12.7% and receipts from the U.S. were 0.6% higher than in the first six months of 1978.

*For further information, order the May 1979 issue of Railway Carloadings (52-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact L.E. Robbins/M. Vallières (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Refined Petroleum Products

Refineries produced 9 165 000 cubic metres of refined petroleum products in May, an increase of 15.9% compared with the previous year (7 909 000). Net sales amounted to 8 157 000 cubic metres, 8.7% over last year (7 499 000).

*For further information, order the May 1979 issue of Refined Petroleum Products (45-004, 40¢/\$4).*

### HOME OWNERSHIP SURVEY TELLS MORTGAGE DEBT STORY

A report containing tables on home ownership and mortgage debt of Canadian families and unattached individuals is being released by the Consumer Income and Expenditure Division. The information was collected by the Survey of Consumer Finances in the spring of 1977. For copies of the non-catalogued report *Home Ownership and Mortgage Debt in Canada, 1977*, contact the Data Dissemination Unit (613-996-5294), Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Unemployment Insurance

Some 733,000 people qualified for unemployment insurance benefits in the week of May 13, down 16% from April. Declines between 11% and 15% have been recorded between April and May for the three previous years. Compared with May, 1978 a decrease of 14% was registered.

Payments for unemployment insurance benefits totalled \$385 million in May, down 7% from April and 15% from May 1978. Year-to-date benefits totalled \$2,180 million, 7% less than in the January-May period in 1978. The average weekly benefit dropped 1% to \$108.89.

Claims filed for benefits in May numbered 197,000, up 4% from April but 8% fewer than in May 1978. For five months, 1,084,000 claims were received, down 6% from a year earlier.

*For further information, order the May 1979 issue of Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics (73-001P, 40¢/\$4), the Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act (73-001, Quarterly, 40¢/\$4), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.*

### Import/Export, Price/Volume Indexes

On a fixed-weighted basis, May import prices rose 0.6%. Export prices rose 1.7%. (Compared with a year ago import prices rose 11% and export prices 19%.) Import volume, seasonally adjusted, rose almost 5% (after declining in April) and export volume 3.2%.

*For further information, order the June 1979 issue of Summary of External Trade (65-001, 40¢/\$4).*

### Electric Power

May net generation increased to 27.6 TW.h from 25.2 TW.h in 1978. Hydro generation increased 8.6% and thermal production 12.7%. Year-to-date generation: 154.1 TW.h, up 5.4% from a year earlier.

*For further information, order the May 1979 issue of Electric Power Statistics (57-001; 30¢/\$3), or contact David Madsen (613-992-401), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Financial Flows

Information on the first quarter, for selected sectors, is now available.

*For further information, contact P. Odenbach (613-995-0851), Financial Flows Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Tobacco Products

Production of cigarettes for June: 5.8 billion (5.5 billion) a year earlier.

*For further information, order the June 1979 issue of Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products (32-022, 15¢/\$1.50).*



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## These publications released July 27 — August 2

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, June 1979	32-001	15¢/\$1.50
Farm Cash Receipts, January to March 1979	21-001	30¢/\$3	Oil Pipe Line Transport, April 1979	55-001	40¢/\$4
<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>			Primary Iron and Steel, May 1979	41-001	40¢/\$4
Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds, First Quarter 1979	74-001	35¢/\$1.40	Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, June 1979	32-022	15¢/\$1.50
<b>CENSUS</b>			Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, June 1979	47-001	15¢/\$1.50
Population: Demographic Charac- teristics, Introduction to Volume 2, 1976 Census of Canada	92-820	\$1.50	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, May 1979	35-003	30¢/\$3
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			The Sugar Situation, June 1979	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
Educational Staff of Community Colleges and Vocational Schools, 1977-78	81-254	\$1.40	<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
Elementary-Secondary Education — Financial Statistics, 1976-77	81-250	\$2.10	<b>Metals</b> — Vol. 7, No. 4, Consump- tion of Magnesium Metal, 1978	41-018	/\$2.80
<b>HEALTH</b>			<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
List of Hospitals with Therapeutic Abortion Committees as Reported by Provinces in Canada, January 1, 1979	82-211	N/C	New Motor Vehicle Sales, May 1979	53-007	30¢/\$3
<b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS</b>			<b>PRICES</b>		
Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names, 1978	12-201	\$1.05	Construction Price Statistics, July 1979	62-007	40¢/\$4
<b>INDUSTRY PRODUCT</b>			Industry Price Indexes, May 1979	62-011	55¢/\$5.50
Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, April 1979	61-005	40¢/\$4	<b>PUBLIC FINANCE</b>		
<b>LABOUR</b>			Local Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure, Preliminary 1977- Estimates 1978, 1977 and 1978	68-203	\$1.05
Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics, February 1979	73-001p	N/C	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
<b>LABOUR FORCE SURVEY</b>			Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports, Fourth Quarter 1978	51-005	\$1.75/\$7
Guide to Labour Survey Data	71-528	\$1.05	Telephone Statistics, May 1979	56-002	15¢/\$1.50
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Bread and Other Bakery Products, Quarter Ended March 31, 1979	32-015	35¢/\$1.40	<b>Aviation Statistics Centre</b> — Vol. 11, Summary Statistics: No. 6, Cana- dian Air Transport Industry; No. 7, Canadian Air Transport Industry	51-004	/\$4.20
Consumption of Purchased Fuel and Electricity, by the Manufactur- ing, Mining, Logging and Electric Power Industries, 1976	57-208	\$1.05	<b>Communications</b> — Vol. 9, No. 4, Cable Television Statistics, 1978	56-001	/\$1.40