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Weekly Bulletin

## Automotive Products

January-June automotive product exports to the United States rose 7.8% to \$6.41 billion, an increase of \$465 million from a year earlier. Imports: \$7.87 billion, for an advance of 25.4% (\$1.59 billion). The deficit in automotive trade with the U.S. for the first half of 1979 reached \$1.46 billion compared with \$334 million.

All major components of trade contributed to the increased size of the deficit in the latest period. Exports of cars rose 3.9% to \$2.42 billion but imports advanced 22% to \$1.87 billion so the surplus on cars declined \$250 million to \$545 million. Truck and other motor vehicle exports remained virtually stagnant at \$1.32 billion but imports jumped 65% to \$1.02 billion — a surplus decline of \$412 million to \$307 million. The surplus on vehicles as a whole was down \$662 million to \$852 million. Exports of parts rose 16% to \$2.55 billion and imports 21% to \$4.91 billion (a deficit worsening by \$484 million to \$2.35 billion). Exports of tires and tubes increased 35% to \$117 million. Imports increased 16% to \$79 million and the surplus increased by \$19 million to \$38 million.

Exports of automotive products to countries other than the U.S. rose \$84 million to \$561 million January to June, up 17.6% from a year earlier. Imports declined 3.6% (\$25 million) to \$668 million and the deficit was reduced by half to \$107 million.

Trade in cars and parts accounted for the improvement: exports of cars declined 15% to \$176 million but imports declined 24% to \$343 million causing a decrease in the deficit of \$78 million to \$167 million. Truck and other motor vehicle exports fell 38% to \$102 million, imports rose 6.7% to \$48 million with a surplus decline of \$65 million to \$54 million. Exports of parts more than doubled to \$268 million with imports up 42% to \$177 million. This strong performance changed a deficit of \$28 million in the first half of 1978 into a surplus of \$91 million in the first half of 1979. Tires and tubes, exports were stable at \$6 million but imports increased 39% to \$100 million; the deficit worsened by \$28 million to \$94 million.

For further information, contact David Goldwell (613-995-6115), External Trade Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Steel Ingots

Steel ingots production, August, reached 1,447,873 short tons (1 313 488 t).

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May	285.18p	282.78r	8.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	June	12,318.8p	11,931.4r	9.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Aug.*	10.91	10.88	3.9
Unemployed	Aug.*	772,000	793,000	-12.5

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	June*	2,227.9p	2,434.4p	17.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	June	23,244.0p	23,002.3r	18.7
Wholesale (\$ million)	July*	10,421.1p	10,382.4p	26.3

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	June	13,381.4p	13,550.7r	13.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	June	16,380.3p	16,164.9r	33.2

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Aug.*	192.8	192.1	8.4
Non-food (CPI) Component	Aug.*	178.2	177.0	8.3
New House Price Index (1976=100)	July	109.9	109.7	3.4
22-city Composite Wage, Building (1971=100)	May	229.0	220.0	7.1
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	July	217.0p	215.3r	14.2

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	June	1,164.3	6,187.7	2.1
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	July	12,884	80,200	-21.5

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	June	2 753.6	16 450.9	11.4
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	June	25.8	179.9	5.6
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	May	8 477.9	46 583.6	8.1
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	July*	9.70p	65.55p	9.6

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July	5,000.0p	35,618.3p	20.2
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	July	4,936.9p	35,365.3p	25.4

### PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	July	1 247.1	9 116.9	6.7
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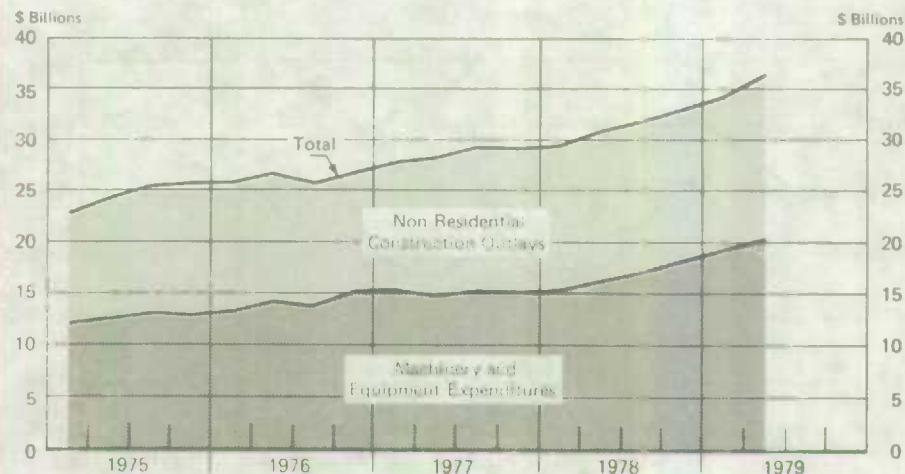
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	June	677.6p	3,510.2p	10.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	June	13,166.0p	62,073.9p	18.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	July	1,070.8	7,067.7	20.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	6,393.9p	42,274.9p	12.9
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July*	6,354.4p	42,408.7p	20.7

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)



### Department Store Sales

July department store sales rose 12.8% to \$620.9 million from \$550.4 million a year earlier. Increases were recorded in all components with the exception of furs which saw a decrease of 39.5%. The most significant gains: girls' and teenage girls' wear (up 36.7% to \$10.3 million), plumbing, heating and building materials (28.7% to \$7.6 million) and lingerie and women's sleepwear (27.3% to \$12.4 million).

All provinces reported increased sales, from 6.3% for Manitoba to 26.5% for Newfoundland. Increases for metropolitan areas: Montréal \$70.0 million (14.8%), Toronto \$87.9 million (9.2%), Winnipeg \$29.9 million (3.0%) and Vancouver \$61.8 million (16.2%).

The selling value of stocks — \$2,385.0 million — increased 19.2% from a year earlier.

*For further information, order the July 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.*

### Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from January-July farming operations totalled \$7,981.8 million compared with \$6,652.9 million in 1978. Receipts from farming operations by province with 1978 comparisons in brackets: Prince Edward Island \$70.7 million (\$58.0 million), Nova Scotia \$93.6 million (\$78.5 million), New Brunswick \$80.7 million (\$67.6 million), Québec \$1,073.6 million (\$904.4 million), Ontario \$2,151.1 million (\$1,781.0 million), Manitoba \$719.6 million (\$613.5 million), Saskatchewan \$1,752.0 million (\$1,567.2 million), Alberta \$1,733.0 million (\$1,293.4 million), British Columbia \$307.5 million (\$289.3 million).

*For further information, order the January-July 1979 issue of Farm Cash Receipts (21-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact P. Lys (613-995-4895), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.*

### Retail Trade

July retail trade reached \$6,393.9 million, up 13.7% from 1978. Sales increased in all trade groups with sporting goods and accessories stores (30.7%), motor vehicle dealers (21.4%) and all other food stores (16.0%) recording the largest increases. All provinces reported increased sales from 21.7% for Alberta to 7.7% for Prince Edward Island. Montréal sales rose 17.9%, Toronto 8.7%, Winnipeg 4.8% and Vancouver 13.5%. Total sales, January to July: \$42,274.9 million, up 12.9% from a year earlier.

Seasonally-adjusted sales: \$6,562.8 million, up 2.5% from \$6,402.4 million in June. Sales increased in 22 of 28 trade groups. Specialty shoe stores (12.5%), sporting goods and accessories stores (9.6%) and florists (7.0%) recorded the largest increases and furniture, TV, radio and appliance stores (8.4%) and household appliance stores (5.6%) recorded the largest decreases. Seven provinces reported increased sales from 4.6% for Newfoundland to 0.3% for Manitoba. Sales in Prince Edward Island (1.5%), Nova Scotia (2.9%) and New Brunswick (1.6%) declined.

Revised June retail trade, without seasonal adjustment, was \$6,939.6 million, up 11.8% from 1978.

*For further information, order the July 1979 issue of Retail Trade, (63-005, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact the Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.*

### Cheques Cashed

Value of cheques cashed in 50 clearing centres in July totalled \$334,000 million, up 33.2% from a year earlier. Debits increased in Newfoundland by 11.0%, Prince Edward Island by 6.0%, Nova Scotia by 83.0%, New Brunswick by 6.1%, Québec by 10.9%, Ontario by 45.3%, Manitoba by 21.9%, Saskatchewan by 29.0%, Alberta by 31.7% and British Columbia by 20.4%.

*For further information, contact Financial Institutions Section (613-995-9771), Business Finance Division, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### International Travel

Dramatic decreases were recorded in July for United States residents visiting and Canadians returning from the U.S. (a confused U.S. gasoline situation and a mid-week Independence Day holiday greatly affected north-south travel). U.S. visitors at five million fell 10.9% from a year earlier and Canadian residents re-entering from the U.S. (4.1 million) fell 20.7%.

Canadians returning from all other countries dropped 3.4% to 149,000 and visitors from those countries — 399,000 — rose 21.7%.

Over seven months, 17.2 million U.S. residents entered, down 4.4%. Visitors from other countries rose 21.6% (1.1 million) and Canadians returning from those countries fell 3.5% to 1.1 million. Residents of Canada returning from the U.S. numbered 20.0 million, down 10.1%.

Longer-term travellers from the U.S. (including overnight or longer bus and auto traffic and all plane, boat and train entries): down 8.3% over seven months to 6.2 million; Canadians returning from the U.S. declined 11.4% to 6.4 million; residents of Canada returning from trips to all other countries fell 3.5% to 1.1 million and visitors from these countries (excluding same-day entries) rose 19.4% to 954,000.

*For further information, order the July 1979 issue of International Travel — Advance Information (66-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Mike Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada.*

### Coal and Coke Statistics

Coal output increased 22.1% to 2 753 594 tonnes in June from 2 255 463 a year earlier. Landed imports rose 4.5% to 1 743 007 tonnes from 1 668 601.

Second quarter industrial consumers used 5 283 113 tonnes of coal (up 17.3% from 4 502 684 in 1978) and 1 373 658 tonnes of coke (up 18.4% from 1 159 995).

*For further information, order the June 1979 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.*

### Oil Pipeline Transport

Oil pipelines received 400 274 m3D of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum product in May, 17.1% more than 341 738 m3D a year earlier. Receipts of domestic petroleum and products increased 20.0% to 362 577 m3D. Imported petroleum and products receipts decreased 8.4% to 37 697 m3D.

*For further information, order the May 1979 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.*

### Wholesale Trade

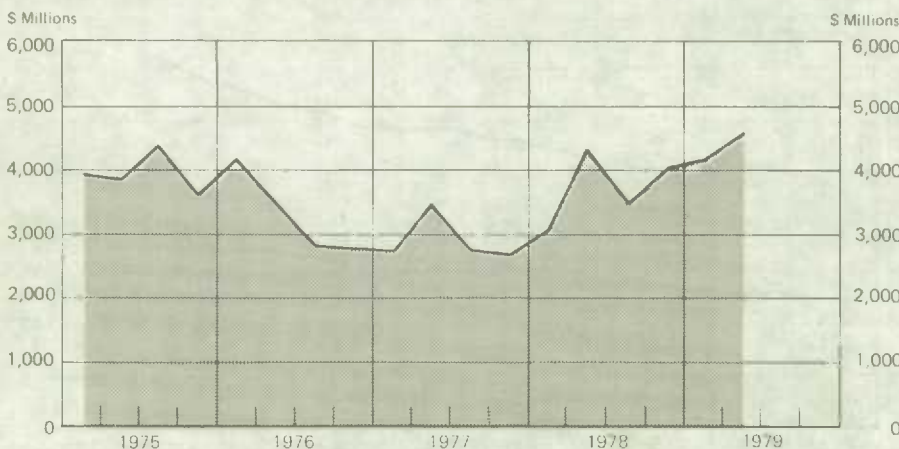
Sales, wholesale, July: \$6,354,378,000, up 25.9% from \$5,046,210,000 in 1978.

Wholesale inventories, valued at \$10,421,101,000, reflected an increase of 26.3% from \$8,251,770,000.

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

### Accrued Net Income of Farm Operators from Farm Production

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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



## Labour Force

The employment level was 10,908,000 in August compared with 10,503,000 a year earlier. The unemployment level and the unemployment rate were 772,000 and 6.6 against 882,000 and 7.7 in 1978.

Seasonally adjusted, the level of employment increased by 42,000 to 10,399,000. The level increased 19,000 for women 15 to 24 and 20,000 for women 25 years and over. There was little or no change for men in either age group. On a provincial basis, the seasonally-adjusted level of employment increased in Ontario (20,000), Québec (12,000) and British Columbia (10,000). There was little or no change for other provinces.

The seasonally-adjusted level of unemployment was 809,000, up 7,000 from July. The level decreased 9,000 for women 25 years and over, increased 7,000 for men 15-24, 5,000 for men 25 years and over and 4,000 for women 15 to 24. Provincially, the unemployment level increased by 4,000 in Nova Scotia and by 3,000 in both Québec and British Columbia. Elsewhere, little or no change occurred. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Canada remained at July's figure — 7.2.

For further information, order the August 1979 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

## Refined Petroleum

July net sales in refined petroleum products reached 8 355.3 thousand cubic metres (52,578,800 barrels), up 9.5% from 7 630.9 thousand (48,020,300) a year earlier.

Refineries produced 9 697.9 thousand cubic metres (61,027,600 barrels) of refined petroleum products, up 3.5% from 9 367.8 thousand (58,950,300).

For further information, order the July 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 0T6*.

## Population Statistics

Canada's population at June 1, 1979, totalled an estimated 23,671,500 with Newfoundland 574,000, Prince Edward Island 122,800, Nova Scotia 846,900, New Brunswick 701,000, Québec 6,298,800, Ontario 8,499,800, Manitoba 1,030,500, Saskatchewan 957,100, Alberta 2,008,900, British Columbia 2,566,900, Yukon 21,600 and Northwest Territories 43,200.

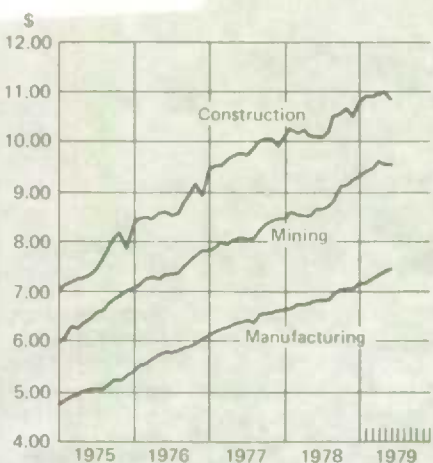
For further information, contact Gertrude Caron (613-995-2212), *Demography Division, Census and Household Surveys Field, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

## Vital Statistics

Estimated births for the year ending June, 1979 — 354,830 — represented a fractional decrease (0.4%) from 1978. The estimated rate was 15.0 per 1,000 population — a decline of 1.3%. Deaths at 168,480 declined 0.7% with the estimated rate per 1,000 population 7.1 — a slight decline of 1.4%.

For further information, order the April-June 1979 issue of *Vital Statistics* (84-001, \$10).

## Average Hourly Earnings in Canadian Industry



Source: Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002)

## Telecommunication Statistics

Telelobe Canada, Canadian National Telecommunications and Canadian Pacific (Telecommunications Branch) report second quarter revenue up 12.6% to \$90.5 million from second quarter 1978. Operating expenses: \$68.1 million, down 1.1%. Net operating revenue: \$22.4 million, up 94.8% from \$11.5 million.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin, Telecommunications Statistics, Second Quarter, 1979* (56-001, \$1.40), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), *Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

## Telecommunications Statistics, 1978

In 1978, operating revenues of telecommunications carriers (including Telesat but excluding telephone companies) totalled \$348.3 million, an increase of 15.3% from 1977. Operating expenses increased 16.3% to \$263.3 million, net operating revenue 12.3% to \$85.1 million and net income before income tax 24.4% to \$86.0 million.

For further information, order the 1978 edition of *Telecommunications Statistics* (56-201, 70¢).

## Telephone Statistics

Major telephone systems (13) reported July revenues of \$424.8 million in July, up 19.1% over 1978. Operating expenses: \$282.1 million, up 15.7%, with net operating revenue \$142.7 million, up 26.2%. Toll messages increased 12.3% to 107.5 million.

For further information, order the July 1979 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$1.50).

## Urban Transit

July saw 56 urban transit systems collect 88,898,692 initial passenger fares, with total distance run 31,568,724 miles (50 804 932 km) and operating revenues of \$36,405,536.

For further information, order the July 1979 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact the Chief (613-995-1976), *Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division*.

## Consumer Price Index

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the Consumer Price Index rose 0.5% between July and August. A 0.5% decline in the food index was accompanied by a 0.8% increase in the all-items-excluding-food index.

Unadjusted, the Index increased 0.4% from a level of 192.1 in July to 192.8, the August to August rise being 8.4%, up slightly from 8.1% in the previous twelve-month period. The food index, after increasing 1.7% in July, declined 0.7%. The all-items-excluding-food index advanced 0.7%, up from 0.6%.

Prices rose in all cities surveyed with the exception of Winnipeg (down 0.2%) and Edmonton (down 0.1%). Among the other 13, advances ranged from 0.1% in Ottawa and Saskatoon to 1.0% in Québec. Factors contributing to the differing rates of price change among cities include the varying rates of change for housing charges and clothing prices. As well, in contrast to the other cities, beef prices rose in Québec and Montréal.

Lower prices for fresh vegetables and beef, down 20.9% and 2.2% on average, were largely responsible for the 1.0% decline in the food-at-home index. Decline in fresh vegetable prices reflected the seasonal availability of local produce. The impact of the decreases was dampened by higher prices for fresh fruit, especially apples, and for selected bakery and dairy products, coffee and sugar. The current monthly decline in the food-at-home index brought this index to a level 9.8% above its August 1978 level. The food-away-from-home index rose 0.8%, resulting in an increase of 11.9% over its level in August 1978.

Higher housing charges, especially for rented accommodation in the province of Québec, and increased clothing prices, in particular for selected women's wear items and for footwear, were largely responsible for the 0.7% increase in the all-items-excluding-food index. Other notable contributors included new North American model cars, gasoline, automobile insurance rates — especially in Ontario — and alcoholic beverages consumed on licensed premises. Increases also came for men's haircuts and women's hairdressing services. Between August 1978 and August 1979 the index for all-items-excluding-food advanced 8.3%.

City increases with annual change in brackets: St. John's 0.4% (9.7%), Charlottetown/Summerside 0.5% (7.9%), Halifax 0.3% (8.7%), Saint John 0.5% (9.1%), Québec 1.0% (8.5%), Montréal 0.6% (8.2%), Ottawa 0.1% (8.7%), Toronto 0.3% (8.6%), Thunder Bay 0.5% (9.0%), Winnipeg -0.2% (8.5%), Saskatoon 0.1% (8.6%), Regina 0.5% (8.1%), Edmonton -0.1% (8.7%), Calgary 0.5% (8.8%) and Vancouver 0.3% (7.6%).

For further information, order the August 1979 issue of *Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities* (62-009, 30¢/\$3).



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## These publications released September 14 — 20

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The Dairy Review, July 1979	23-001	40¢/\$4	<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>		
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Science Statistics — Vol. 3, No. 8, Industrial Research and Development Expenditures, Part 2, 1977	13-003	/\$1.40	Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, August 1979	41-002	15¢/\$1.50
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Exports by Commodities, June 1979	65-004	80¢/\$8	Air Carrier Financial Statements, 1978	51-206	\$1.05
Imports by Commodities, June 1979	65-007	80¢/\$8	Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports, 1978	51-203	\$2.10
Summary of External Trade, July 1979	65-001	40¢/\$4	Railway Freight Traffic, Year Ended December 31, 1978, 1978	52-205	\$2.80
			Urban Transit, July 1979	53-003	15¢/\$1.50

## 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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