

Statistics
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Weekly Bulletin

July 4, 1980

Trade (Preliminary)

On a seasonally-adjusted, balance-of-payments basis, exports fell 6.4% to \$393 million to \$5,768 million in May following a 3.2% decline in April. With imports falling 16.4% or \$1,019 million to \$5,190 million following an 8.7% April increase, the merchandise trade balance swung from a deficit of \$48 million in April to a surplus of \$578 million.

Growth in the short-term trend cycle for exports continued to slow, with increases of 0.8% in January, 0.5% in February and 0.1% in March. The import trend cycle increased 1.0% in January, 1.1% in February and 0.8% in March. As a result of the weakening in exports compared with imports, the trend cycle for the merchandise trade balance — which peaked in December 1979 at \$556 million — fell \$6 million in January, \$32 million in February and \$41 million in March to a level of \$477 million. On a seasonally-adjusted, Customs basis, crude materials and end products showed the heaviest declines in May. The major declines in value at the commodity level were registered by petroleum and coal products (down \$140 million), metallic ores down (\$140 million), non-ferrous metals (down \$75 million), motor vehicle products (down \$75 million) and natural gas (down \$60 million). Crude material exports fell 18% or \$255 million to \$1,135 million. Metallic ores were down 30% or \$140 million to \$330 million, and natural gas exports declined 17% or \$60 million to \$295 million. Crude petroleum exports increased 8% to \$260 million following an 11% decrease in April. End product exports declined 7% or \$120 million to \$1,570 million. Declines were widespread at the commodity level. Motor vehicle products were down 9.4% or \$75 million to \$730 million; trucks and other motor vehicles fell 24% to \$165 million and parts were down 15.4% to \$245 million, while passenger car exports increased 7% to \$320 million following a 13.5% decrease in April. Aircraft and other transportation equipment declined 8.5% to \$170 million. Industrial machinery exports fell 5.4% to \$185 million following a 15% increase in April, and agricultural machinery exports increased 8% to \$85 million following decreases in the three previous months. Telecommunication equipment was down 16% to \$75 million, office machinery and equipment declined 10% to \$50 million and other equipment and tools were down 30%

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Apr.*	310.14p	309.63r	9.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	Mar.	12,783.6p	12,437.8r	11.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	May	10.61	10.35	2.4
Unemployed	May	904,000	937,000	8.1

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Mar.	2,412.4p	2,300.3p	7.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Apr.	27,444.4p	27,025.8r	22.0
Wholesale (\$ million)	Apr.	13,560.6p	12,727.7p	22.1

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	13,189.3p	12,369.2r	6.6
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	18,396.4p	18,539.5r	16.7

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	May	207.6	205.2	9.4
Non-food (CPI) Component	May	192.4	190.2	9.8
New House Price Index (1976=100)	May	117.1	116.4	7.1
22-city Composite Wage, Building (1971=100)	Apr.	230.9	230.9	4.9
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Apr.	240.3p	239.0r	12.9

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Apr.	1,133.1p	3,805.2p	10.7
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	May*	9,777	42,339	-20.0

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Mar.	2 998.9	8 183.4	0.8
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Mar.	34.3	103.4	5.4
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Feb.	8 877.2	19 343.9	-1.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Apr.	8.39p	37.72p	1.4

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	May*	6,017.4p	30,745.5r	18.8
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	May*	5,649.0p	28,918.5r	13.4

PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	May	1 418.0p	5 362.2p	2.4
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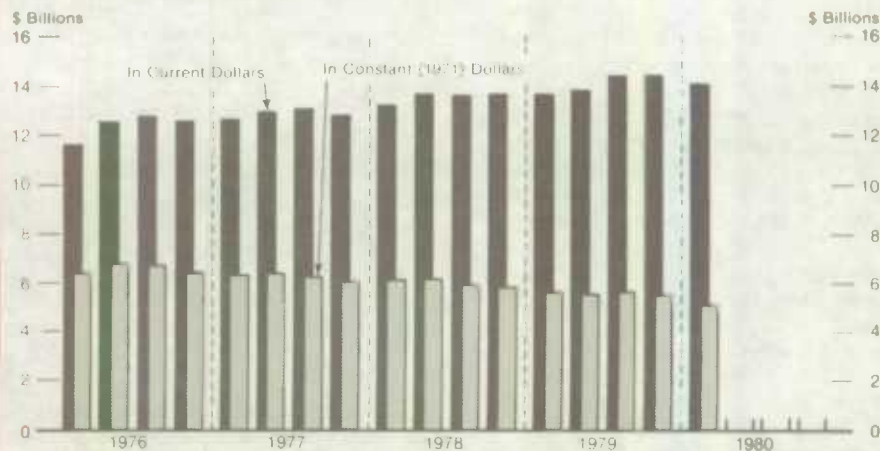
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	684.9p	2,382.9p	11.0
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	13,332.5p	52,947.1p	11.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	1,116.8	3,854.2	6.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	6,754.5p	24,096.6p	8.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	6,611.2p	24,642.7p	14.7

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

Residential Construction Expenditures

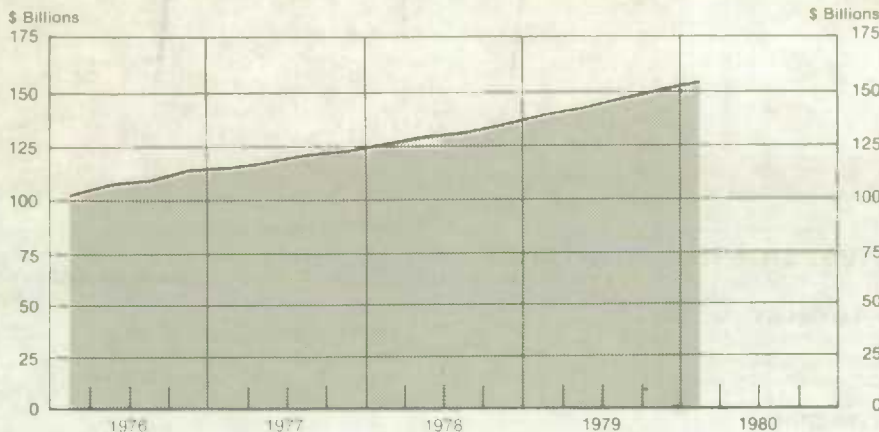
Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

Wages, Salaries and Supplementary Labour Income

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

to \$155 million. Fabricated material exports fell 1.8% to \$2,175 million. Petroleum and coal products were down 57% or \$140 million to \$105 million following a 36% increase in April. Non-ferrous metals declined 17% or \$75 million to \$380 million. Other decreases were 9% for iron and steel to \$150 million, 4.2% for newsprint to \$290 million, and 19% for hardware to \$40 million. Partly offsetting these declines were increases of 29% for chemicals to \$335 million, 3.4% for woodpulp to \$335 million, and 2.7% for lumber to \$240 million. Food, feed, beverages and tobacco increased 5% to \$570 million. Grains and cereal preparations were down 3.4% to \$370 million while fish exports increased 14% to \$75 million following a 36% decrease in April.

Imports on a seasonally adjusted Customs basis saw declines for all four major sections and nearly all major commodities. The most substantial declines in value were for the fabricating materials, end products and crude materials section and for non-ferrous metals (down \$175 million), crude petroleum (down \$130 million), motor vehicle products (down \$85 million), coal (down \$85 million), chemicals (down \$80 million) and industrial machinery (down \$70 million). Fabricated material imports dropped by a third or \$445 million to \$900 million. Non-ferrous metal imports dropped by 52% or \$175 million to \$160 million. Chemical imports dropped 25% or \$80 million to \$250 million. Other decreases were for iron and steel (down 17% to \$115 million), textiles (down 23% to \$90 million) and hardware (down 20% to \$85 million). The percentage decline for imports of end products was much less pronounced than for fabricated and crude materials. End product imports declined 11% or \$365 million to \$3,020 million. Motor vehicle products were down 7.4% or \$85 million to \$1,065 million. Passenger cars declined 7.4% to \$335 million. Parts were down 8.4% to \$610 million and trucks fell 2.5% to \$120 million. Aircraft and other transportation equipment increased 6.4% to \$230 million. Industrial

machinery was down 11.6% to \$520 million and agricultural machinery was down 20% to \$160 million. Crude material imports dropped 25% or \$270 million to \$795 million, mainly as a result of a 19% or \$130 million drop in crude petroleum imports to \$550 million. Coal imports dropped 51% or \$85 million to \$80 million, having more than doubled in the previous month. Food, feed, beverages and tobacco declined 12.5% to \$335 million.

Exports to most major trading areas declined in May for the second month in a row. Exports to the United States fell 8% or nearly \$300 million to \$3.5 billion following declines of 7% in April and 3% in March. Exports to "Other EEC" countries were down 7% to \$550 million, Japan down 18% to \$310 million, "Other America" down 17% to \$250 million, the United Kingdom down 11% to \$220 million and "Other OECD" down 30% to \$150 million.

Imports from all major trading partners, apart from "Other OECD" countries, were down 10% or more in May. Imports from the U.S. dropped 14% or \$615 million to \$3,735 million. Imports from the U.K. dropped 16.5% to \$150 million and those from "Other EEC" 29% or \$100 million to \$240 million. The other declines were 10% for "Other America" to \$305 million, and 10% for Japan to \$195 million. Imports from "Other OECD" countries increased 20% to \$170 million following a 25% decrease in April.

For further information on area and commodity trade, order the May 1980 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, \$3/\$30).

Coal

March coal production rose 10.1% to 2 998 875 metric tonnes from 2 724 002 a year earlier.

For further information, order the March 1980 issue of *Coal and Coke Statistics* (45-002, \$2.50/\$25), or contact Dave Madsen (613-996-3139), Energy Section, MAPID, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Average Earnings

Average weekly earnings rose 9.5% to \$310.14 in April from \$283.26 in 1979. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing reached \$8.02 (from \$7.32), in construction \$11.67 (\$10.96) and in mining \$10.51 (\$9.60).

Provincial breakdowns show average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$354.36) and followed by Alberta (\$328.40), Québec (\$308.57), Ontario (\$305.69), Saskatchewan (\$294.67), Newfoundland (\$287.64), Manitoba (\$276.71), New Brunswick (\$273.65), Nova Scotia (\$259.15) and Prince Edward Island (\$223.37).

Average weekly earnings by industry division were: construction \$440.90; mining \$458.85; forestry \$416.71; transportation, communication and other utilities \$372.92; manufacturing \$336.16; finance, insurance and real estate \$298.09; trade \$234.39 and service \$205.17.

For further information, order the April 1980 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$4/\$40), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

Railway Operating Statistics

Seven major railways' January net income from operations fell 26.1% to \$7.5 million from \$10.1 million in 1979. Operating revenue rose 15.2% to \$382.1 million, operating expenses increased 16.5% to \$374.6 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles decreased 5.8%, freight train-miles 9.5% and freight car-miles 5.2%. Average revenue per ton-mile of freight: 2.835 cents against 2.392 cents in 1979. Passenger miles decreased 15.2% to \$118.7 million.

For further information, order the January 1980 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$2.50/\$25), or contact W.R. Burr (613-995-1976), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Age, Sex, Marriage In The Census

A User's Guide to 1976 Census Data on Age, Sex and Marital Status, No. 2-DSC79 (1976 EVAL.), by J.A. Norland and B. Ram, reviews the basic age, sex and marital status concepts and definitions used in the 1976 Census of Population, the questions asked and the collection and processing methods employed in deriving the data. Information follows on the historical comparability of the data with special emphasis on the evaluation of the 1976 data collection and processing procedures and their data quality implications. The working paper includes a glossary of definitions and technical terms. Copies are obtained from any Statistics Canada reference centre or from Central Inquiries (613-992-4734), User Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Provincial/Territorial Finance, 77-78

Final data, 1977-78, on revenue and expenditure of provincial and territorial governments show rates of growth decelerated from those experienced in recent years. Total revenue at \$43.7 billion was up 13.6% from the preceding year compared with an average year-over-year increase of 17% for the six prior years. Decline in expenditure was even greater: up 11.8% to \$43.6 billion (17.4%).

Among individual revenue sources, only personal income taxes (23.8%) and natural resource revenues (44%) increased from the preceding year at rates above the longer-term averages. Deceleration in the growth rate of transfers (4.6% compared with 16.6% for 1970 to 1977) was particularly notable. On the expenditure side, only debt charges (19.1%) maintained a rate of growth comparable to that of previous years. Health expenditures increased 8.6% (16.1%).

Acceleration in the rate of growth of personal income tax revenue and decline in that of transfers from the federal government resulted mainly from the revised federal-provincial fiscal arrangements of 1977. Growth of natural resource revenue reflected for the most part increased revenue received from oil and natural gas; that of debt charges from increased borrowings of recent years.

Alberta showed a higher growth rate in revenue (30.4%) than its average over the 1970 to 1977 period (27.6%). On the expenditure side, provinces and territories showed marked declines in growth rates except Prince Edward Island, where large increases in expenditures on health-transportation-communications were principal contributors to an increase of 23.4% compared with a longer-term average of 16.7% (1976-77, however, saw Prince Edward Island's expenditure increase only 3.3%).

For further information, order *Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure, 1977-78* (68-207), or contact G. Rhéaume (613-995-8201), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Railway Carloadings

Revenue tonnage loaded by railways in Canada totalled 5.1 million t (5.6 million short tons) in the second week of June, up 10.2% from the year-earlier period. Eastern loadings rose 5.1% while those in the West were up 16.3%.

Container-trailer (piggyback) tonnages (included above) fell by 7.2% in the East and 11.4% in the West to register an over-all decrease of 8.5%.

In the period from January 1 to June 14, 1980, rail freight loadings aggregated 108.1 million t (119.2 million short tons), up 7.3% from the 1979 level. During the same cumulative period, cars loaded increased by 2.8% while container-trailer (piggyback) traffic declined by 11.4%.

For further information, contact W.R. Burr (613-995-1976), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Housing Starts

Residential building in May in centres of 10,000 population and above was marked by housing starts falling 37.9% to 9,777 from 15,737 a year earlier.

Provincial figures with May 1979 totals in brackets: Ontario 2,532 (4,795), Québec 1,972 (4,271), Alberta 1,904 (2,741), British Columbia 2,144 (1,963), Manitoba 336 (364), Saskatchewan 456 (973), Nova Scotia 142 (308), New Brunswick 37 (150), Newfoundland 253 (165) and Prince Edward Island 1 (7).

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Housing Starts and Completions* (64-002, \$3/\$30), or contact J.P. Delisle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Electric Power

In April 1980 net generation rose to 29.0 TW.h from 28.3 TW.h in 1979. Hydro generation increased 2.0%, thermal production 3.0%. Year-to-date: 132.4 TW.h, up 4.7% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the April 1980 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact David Madsen (613-996-3139), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Urban Transit

May saw 62 urban transit systems collect 108,595,704 initial passenger fares, with total distance run 34,983,340 miles (56 300 229 km) and operating revenues of \$44,885,702.

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, \$1.50/\$15), or contact the Head (613-995-1976), Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Provincial Government Employment

Provincial and territorial governments report gross payrolls for the first quarter of 1980 of \$1.758 million, up 6.1% from \$1.657 million for October-December 1979.

For further information, order *Provincial Government Employment, January-March 1980* (72-007, \$1.05), or contact A.G. Kerr (613-995-8201), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Dairy Review

January-April milk sold off farms rose 6.7% to 2 170 606 kilolitres from a year earlier (April total: 615 589 kl, up 6.8%).

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of the *Dairy Review* (23-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact C.M. Riach (613-995-4853), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Stocks Of Fruit/Vegetables

June 1 stocks of fruits totalled 34.0 million pounds against 33.9 a year earlier. Holdings of vegetables: 102.1 million pounds (76.5).

For further information, order the June 1980 issue of *Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables* (32-010, \$1.50/\$15), or contact P.L. Beerstecher (613-995-4859), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

Employment/Earnings/Hours

The first estimate of the seasonally-adjusted Index of Employment (1961=100) for April showed a 0.4% decrease from March. Employment declined in all industry divisions except forestry, mining (including milling) and finance, insurance and real estate, where increases were registered. British Columbia recorded a gain, while the Atlantic and Prairie regions remained unchanged and Québec and Ontario decreased.

Average weekly earnings at the national industrial composite level advanced by 0.2% in April. All industry divisions rose except mining (including milling) and construction, which declined. Québec and Ontario contributed to the increase, the remaining regions declined.

Average weekly hours decreased in mining (including milling), in manufacturing and in construction. Average hourly earnings rose in the mining (including milling) and in manufacturing, but declined in construction.

Detailed information for February and March will be published in the April 1980 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$4/\$40), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Heavy Engineering (Contracting), 1978

The 1,197 establishments classified to the heavy engineering construction industry had operating revenues of \$2,634.9 million in 1978, \$2,554.1 million deriving from new and repair construction activity and \$80.8 million from various non-construction sources.

Detailed summaries and financial ratios will be available shortly in the publication *The Heavy Engineering Contracting Industry* (64-209, \$6). For further information, contact S. Parent (613-995-8423), Construction Census Section, Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Electric Lamps (Light Sources)

Total sales of electric lamps (light sources) of all types, including imports, during the month of May 1980 were 19,035,928 units valued at \$15,234,927.

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Electric Lamps (Light Sources)* (43-009, \$1.50/\$15), or contact J. Pell (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Infomat is bringing out a once-a-month 8-page issue aimed at going beyond Bureau-originated numbers to keep readers abreast of general developments on the statistics scene. News items foreseen as adding to *Infomat's* coverage include appointments, newly-approved publications and reports on activities in the statistics world generally — speeches, papers, conferences and seminars that may reasonably be expected to interest statistics users, internationally. Send items to: George Dufour, 4N, Coats Building, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



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These publications released June 27 — July 3

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE			
Farm Cash Receipts, January to April 1980	21-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Preliminary Estimates of Crop and Summerfallow Area, Canada 1980	22-002	\$15 for series of 8	
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS			
Security Transactions with Non-residents, February 1980	67-002	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
EXTERNAL TRADE			
Summary of External Trade, April 1980	65-001	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES			
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables, April 1980	32-011	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Concrete Products Manufacturers, 1978	44-205	\$4.50	
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, February 1980	26-006	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April 1980	43-005	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Hardboard (Wood Fibre), May 1980	36-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Leather Tanneries, 1978	33-202	\$4.50	
Primary Iron and Steel, April 1980	41-001	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, May 1980	32-022	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, May 1980	32-024	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, May 1980	47-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, April 1980	35-003	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Refined Petroleum Products, February 1980	45-004	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
The Sugar Situation, May 1980	32-013	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES			
Merchandising Inventories, March 1980	63-014	\$2.50/F	\$3/\$30
New Motor Vehicle Sales, April 1980	63-007	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Retail Trade, April 1980	63-005	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
Wholesale Trade, April 1980	63-008	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
PRICES			
Farm Input Price Index, First Quarter 1980	52-004	\$4/\$15	\$4.20/\$19.20
PUBLIC FINANCE			
Local Government Employment, January-March 1980	72-009	\$4/\$16	\$4.80/\$19.20
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS			
Motor Carriers — Freight and Household Goods Movers, 1978	53-222	\$8	\$9.60
Radio Broadcasting, April 1980	56-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18

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