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Weekly Bulletin

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August 1, 1980

## Trade

From preliminary results, on a seasonally-adjusted balance of payments basis June merchandise exports rose 3.6% (\$208 million) to \$5,977 million following a 7% decrease in May. Imports fell 2% (\$105 million) to \$5,085 million (18.6% down in May). As a result, June's trade surplus increased by \$313 million (\$579 million in May) to \$892 million.

Second quarter exports declined more than imports with a 3.5% decrease to \$18.0 billion compared with a 1.1% decrease for imports to \$16.7 billion. The merchandise trade surplus was therefore reduced to \$1.3 billion in the second quarter from \$1.8 billion in the first. This brought the trade surplus for the first half of 1980 to \$3.1 billion compared with a surplus of \$1.4 billion in the first half of 1979.

The main June increases in value for exports (seasonally adjusted, Customs basis) on a domestic exports basis included wheat exports, up nearly \$200 million, petroleum and coal products, up \$115 million, fertilizers, up \$85 million, and woodpulp, up \$65 million.

The largest June changes in value for imports (seasonally adjusted Customs basis) were decreases of \$130 million for imports of motor vehicle parts and \$85 million for imports of crude petroleum and increases of \$85 million for imports of non-ferrous metals and \$70 million for passenger cars.

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

## Help-wanted Index, Second Quarter 1980

In the second quarter of 1980, the help-wanted index (1969=100) dropped to 191 on a seasonally-adjusted basis, down 7% from the previous quarter. The index for British Columbia rose 8% and that for the Prairie region 2%. Indexes for the remaining three regions were lower, ranging from 4% to 18%.

The overall index was 5% higher when compared with the second quarter of 1979. British Columbia and the Prairie region recorded gains of 38% and 13%. The Ontario and Québec indexes were down 6% and 2% and the Atlantic region was unchanged.

For further information, contact George Fincham (613-995-8445), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	May*	312.39p	310.76r	9.2
Labour Income (\$ million)	May	13,281.1p	12,903.8p	11.0
Persons with Jobs (million)	June	10.94	10.61	3.0
Unemployed	June	887,000	904,000	11.2

### 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)	May	14,097.2p	13,635.2r	27.5

### 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)	June	209.9	207.6	10.1
Non-food (CPI) Component	June	193.9	192.4	10.2
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)	May	242.8p	240.8r	13.2

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	May*	1,174.8p	5,079.6p	1.2
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	June*	11,406	53,745	-20.0

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	May*	2,907.6	14,186.6	3.6
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	May*	27.5	159.9	3.7
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Feb.	8,877.2	19,343.9	-1.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	May	8.54p	46.26p	0.7

### 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

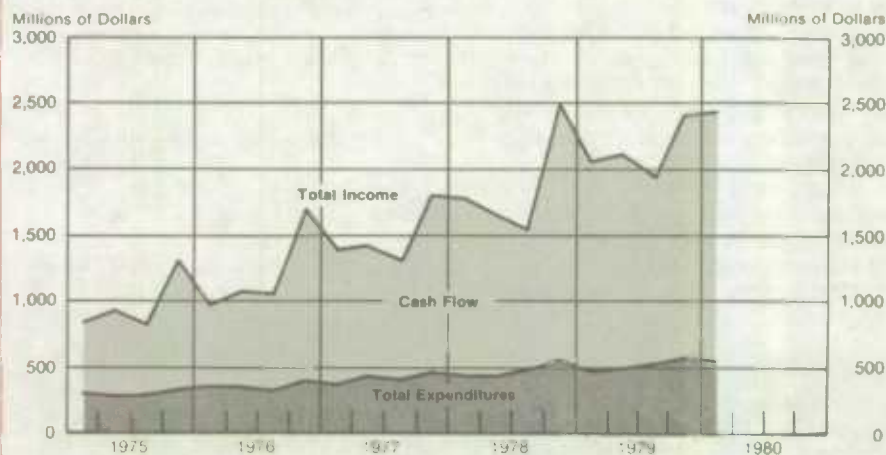
Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	June	1,322.3p	8,062.1p	1.8
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### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	May	765.5p	3,148.4p	10.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	13,332.5p	52,947.1p	11.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	May	1,009.0	4,863.2	0.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	May	7,319.9p	31,406.6p	8.4
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	May	6,894.8p	31,517.1p	12.9

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

## Quarterly Estimates of Income and Expenditures of Trusteed Pension Funds



Source: Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds (74-001)



## Building Permits

Seasonally adjusted, May building permits decreased 15.6% in value to a three-year low of \$952.5 million from a revised \$1,128.4 million in April. In May 1979, municipalities authorized building construction work estimated at \$1,199.3 million. This May decline — the fourth consecutive one — was attributable to the continuing slowdown in residential construction and a softening of building intentions in Alberta where activity has been particularly buoyant during the last two years.

Proposed construction in the residential sector decreased in May to a seasonally-adjusted level of \$432.4 million from a revised \$553.1 million in the preceding month. Authorization was granted for the construction of 5,026 new single-detached homes and 4,060 multiple units compared to 6,365 singles and 5,342 multiples in April. (On the basis of building permit activity in May, it is unlikely that the pace of housing starts will show improvement during the summer months of 1980.)

Activity in the non-residential sector continued its downward movement in May, totalling a seasonally adjusted \$520.1 million against \$575.3 million in April. Building permits were issued for \$120.1 million of new industrial installations, \$293.2 million of commercial projects and \$106.8 million of institutional buildings. In April, the seasonally-adjusted value of industrial construction authorized was \$124.0 million, commercial projects totalled \$296.1 million and institutional facilities \$155.2 million.

During January-May, municipalities issued building permits valued at \$5,079.6 million (\$5,018.4 million for 1979). Residential construction permits were 15.3% lower but those for non-residential construction increased 22.8% from 1979. Increases over 1979 were shown for three provinces: Newfoundland (40.1%), British Columbia (39.7%) and Alberta (4.8%).

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$3.50/\$35), or contact J.P. Delisle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

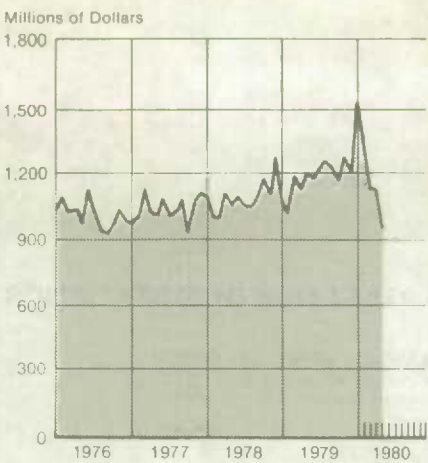
## Travel to Work, 1979

Automobiles continued to be the means of travelling to work for almost three-fourths of all commuters in Canada in 1979. This was virtually unchanged from 1978. Another 15% of commuters used public transportation. Although there was no change recorded in the proportion of commuters using automobiles the size of automobiles driven continued to shrink: the number of the largest automobiles declined by 13% from 1978 — the number of the smallest group grew by 4%.

This information is derived from the November 1979 Survey of Travel to Work. Further information will be released in Catalogue 87-001, Vol. 3, No. 7, \$1.50, or may be obtained by calling Janice Ite (613-995-9689), Travel Tourism and Recreation Section.

## Building Permits, Canada

(Seasonally Adjusted)



## Employment/Earnings/Hours

The Canada Industrial Composite Index of Employment (1961=100) for May showed a 0.8% decrease from April. All industry divisions decreased except mining (including milling) and construction which increased. All regions registered losses with the exception of British Columbia which increased. Average weekly earnings advanced 0.5%. All industry divisions rose except finance, insurance and real estate which declined. All regions contributed to the increase. Average weekly hours increased in manufacturing and in construction but decreased in mining (including milling). Average hourly earnings rose in mining (including milling) but declined in manufacturing and in construction.

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

## Footwear

The total monthly production of footwear of all kinds for May 1980 was 3,386,092 pairs.

For further information, order the May issue of *Footwear Statistics* (33-002, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Allan Shusterman (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Catalogued Publications

### Order through:

Publications Distribution  
Room 1405, Main Building  
Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### State:

Title of Report  
Month, Quarter or Year of Issue  
Catalogue Number.

Please enclose money order or cheque made payable to the order of: Receiver General for Canada.

## Business Conditions Survey

Canadian manufacturers reporting to the July Business Conditions Survey expressed pessimism about production in the third quarter of 1980. Lower production is expected by 47% of the weighted response and higher by only 18% for the period from July through September. In April, 25% forecast lower production and 25% also expected it to be higher from then until June. (Management is asked to allow for normal seasonal conditions when responding.)

The level of new orders was reported to be declining by 49% of the weighted response and rising by only 16%. In April, 39% noted declining new orders and 18% indicated they were rising. The proportion of the response indicating a lower than normal backlog of unfilled orders rose to 50% in July from 41% in April and those reporting a higher than normal backlog decreased to 9% from 11%.

The level of finished product inventory was felt to be too high by 34% of the weighted response and too low by 4%. In April, 30% reported these stocks of finished goods as too high and another 3% reported them to be too low.

A shortage of skilled labour was cited as the major cause of production difficulties with 12% noting this problem. A shortage of working capital became less of a problem with only 3% noting this in July against 12% declaring this in April.

When results are classified by economic use or type of market served by the manufacturers, the export-based industries and the other intermediate goods industries show the greatest quarter-to-quarter changes. In the export-based industries, 67% now expect lower production against only 37% anticipating this in April. A similar situation exists within the other intermediate goods industries where 57% now expect lower production but only 29% expected this in April. These groups appear to be affected by decreased automotive production and also by a general slowdown in many other areas.

Response from the July survey represented more than 6,400 manufacturing establishments whose shipments accounted for about 53% of all shipments in these industries in 1977. Answers were weighted by attaching to each the value of shipments reported to the 1977 Census of Manufactures. (The April 1980 data published here include some response received too late for the first release of results from that survey.)

Percentages are proportions of the total weighted response indicating a specified condition (e.g. "too high", "too low" or "about right") in answer to each question.

For further information, contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

## Coal Statistics

May coal production reached 2 907 647 tonnes, down 0.5% from 1979.

For further information, contact Dave Madsen (613-996-3139), Energy Section, MAPID, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.



### Key Economic Series

During August, release of key economic series data is to be as outlined below. Where a range of dates applies, this represents the period within which publication can be reasonably expected given the circumstances peculiar to each series. (A range may be exceeded on occasion.)

**Aug. 1:** Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade, June

**Aug. 5-6:** Industry Selling Price Index, June

**Aug. 5-8:** Private/Public Investments in Canada, Mid-year Review 1980

**Aug. 6-14:** Retail Trade, June

**Aug. 12:** Labour Force Survey, July

**Aug. 15:** Consumer Price Index, July

**Aug. 18-25:** Wholesale Trade, June

**Aug. 19-20:** Inventories/Shipments/Orders, June

**Aug. 21-27:** Industrial Corporations Financial Statistics, 2nd Quarter 1980 (Preliminary Data)

**Aug. 22-26:** Index of Industrial Production, June

**Aug. 22-27:** Labour Income, June

**Aug. 25-28:** Employment/Earnings/Hours, June

**Aug. 25-29:** Housing Starts/10,000 and up, July

**Aug. 25-29:** Building Permits, June

**Aug. 25-29:** Gross National Product, 2nd Quarter 1980

**Aug. 25-29:** Unemployment Insurance, June

**Aug. 28-Sept. 3:** Real Domestic Product, June

Notice of advance information availability: **Field Crop Reporting Series**, no. 5, **Stocks of Grain at July 31**. Released August 22, at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.

For inquiry concerning the release of these series, contact Jack Kerr (613-992-1548).

### Railway Carloadings

Tonnage loaded by railways in Canada totalled 5.5 million t (6.1 million short tons) in the second week of July, up 16.1% from a year ago. Loadings increased by 23.5% in the East and 7.7% in the West.

Container-trailer (piggyback) tonnages (included above) rose by 3.9% in the East and decreased by 12.6% in the West to register an overall decrease of 0.9%.

In the period January 1 to July 14, 1980, rail freight loadings aggregated 129.2 million t (142.4 million short tons), up 5.8% from the 1979 level. During the same cumulative period cars loaded increased by 1.7% and container-trailer (piggyback) traffic declined by 9.7%.

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

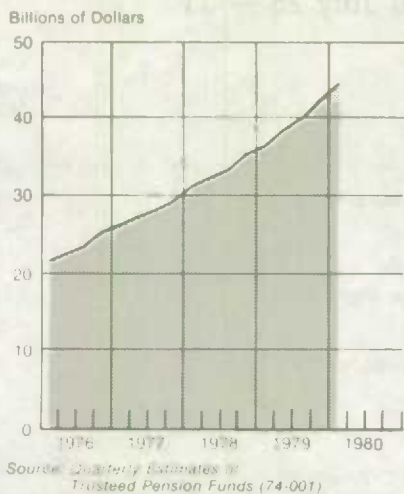
### Production of Rubber

Canadian production of rubber in May 1980 was 23 454 000 kg (51 707 219 pounds) compared with 22 367 000 kg (49 310 794 pounds) for the same month of the previous year. Consumption of rubber was 22 536 000 kg (49 683 375 pounds).

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Production, Consumption and Inventories of Rubber* (33-003, \$1.50/\$15).

### Trusted Pension Funds

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held



### Real Domestic Product

The seasonally-adjusted Index of Real Domestic Product is estimated to have declined 0.8% to 138.0 in May from 139.1 in April. The Index of Industrial Production fell 1.8% in May. At a level of 131.7 industrial production was 4.3% below the peak monthly level of 137.6 in September 1979. The sharp declines in industrial production in April and May in Canada coincided with similar movements in the United States industrial production for the same two months, although the U.S. trend began in February. Goods-producing industries declined 1.9%, the sharpest monthly drop since March 1975; service-producing industries were relatively unchanged from April.

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$3/\$30), or contact R. Kennedy (613-995-0568), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Sawmills in British Columbia

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 940.9 million feet board measure (2 220.3 m<sup>3</sup>) of lumber and ties in May, down from 1,116.6 million feet board measure (2 634.9 m<sup>3</sup>) a year earlier.

January-May production decreased to 5,194.7 million feet board measure (12 258.1 m<sup>3</sup>) in 1980 from 5,464.9 million feet board measure (12 895.7 m<sup>3</sup>) in 1979.

For further information, order the May 1980 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$2.50/\$25), or contact P.E. Martin (613-992-0388).

### Engineering/Scientific Services, 1978

In 1978, the 1,523 firms in Canada providing consulting engineering services reported total fee income of \$1,115 million. As well, 1,561 firms offered either surveying, laboratory or other scientific services and these firms had total fee income of \$461 million.

For further information, contact Mrs. R. Bennett (613-996-9301), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Census/Manufactures, 1978

Preliminary figures from the 1978 Census of Manufactures show that 31,963 establishments reported shipments of goods of their own manufacture valued at \$129,019 million, up 18.5% from a restated \$108,882 million reported by 27,716 establishments for 1977. The value of total shipments plus other revenues for 1978 came to \$148,921 million, up 17.9% from \$126,325 million in 1977.

Of this \$148,921 million, 1.6% is due to the addition of nearly 4,000 establishments (mostly very small) to the census to develop a more comprehensive survey coverage. Without the addition, the total would have been approximately \$146,937 million and the percent increase 16.3%.

Manufacturers provided work for 1.79 million people, up 5.1% from 1.70 million the year previous. Total salaries and wages came to \$26,577 million, 12.6% over \$23,595 million in 1977.

For further information, contact R. Staveley (613-996-4991), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6. Complete data will be published in *Manufacturing Industries of Canada: National and Provincial Areas, 1978* (31-203, \$10).

### Sugar Situation

For June 1980, Canadian sugar refiners reported total sales of 86 232 477 kilograms of all types of sugar, 85 272 571 kilograms in domestic sales and 959 906 kilograms in export sales.

For detailed information on stocks, production and shipments (sales) of refined sugar for the same period, order the June issue of *The Sugar Situation* (32-013, \$1.50/\$15), or contact J.G. Pell (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Female Labour Supplementary

In March of this year, Statistics Canada published *Canada's Female Labour Force* (Catalogue No. 98-804E). This was the fourth in a series of five popular, non-technical studies, based largely on the 1976 Census of Population. These publications were designed to be topical, brief and uncomplicated. However, when *Canada's Female Labour Force* was first released, a number of readers indicated to Statistics Canada that certain passages could be seen as not representing contemporary perceptions of the rightful position of women in the Canadian labour force. Accordingly, all future sales of this publication will include a set of "supplementary notes" designed to expand on some of these passages to clarify their intended meaning. These "supplementary notes" will also be sent to those who have already purchased copies of *Canada's Female Labour Force*.



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## These publications released July 25 — 31

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			
Fruit and Vegetable Production, July 1980	22-003	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, May 1980	62-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>			
Security Transactions with Non-residents, March 1980	67-002	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
<b>DEMOGRAPHY</b>			
Estimates of Population for the Census Metropolitan Areas of Canada as of June 1, 1979	91-207	\$3	\$3.60
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			
<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>			
Education Statistics — Vol. 2, No. 5, Sex Differences in the Employment Characteristics of Bachelor's Degree Recipients, 1978	81-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES</b>			
International Travel, May 1980	66-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT</b>			
National Income and Expenditure Accounts, First Quarter 1980	13-001	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28.80
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Nursing in Canada: Canadian Nursing Statistics, 1978	83-226	\$7	
<b>LABOUR</b>			
Estimates of Employees by Province and Industry, April 1980	72-008	\$3/\$30	\$3.50/\$35
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, January-March 1980	73-001	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28.80
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables — Monthly, May 1980	32-011	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Construction Type Plywood, May 1980	35-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, May 1980	33-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, May 1980	43-005	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Factory Shipments of High Pressure Decorative Laminate Sheet, Quarter Ended June 1980	47-005	\$2.50/\$10	\$3/\$12
Gypsum Products, June 1980	44-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Hardboard, June 1980	36-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, March 1980	31-001	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
Metal Rolling, Casting and Extruding, 1978	41-215	\$4.50	
Mineral Wool, June 1980	44-004	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Monthly Production of Soft Drinks, June 1980	32-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Primary Iron and Steel, May 1980	41-001	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, June 1980	32-022	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, June 1980	32-024	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, June 1980	47-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Quarterly Report on Energy Supply-demand in Canada, 1979 — III	57-003	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28
Sawmills and Planing Mills and Shingle Mills, 1978	35-204	\$6	
Specified Chemicals, May 1980	46-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>			
New Motor Vehicle Sales, May 1980	63-007	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Retail Trade, May 1980	63-005	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
Wholesale Trade, May 1980	63-008	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
International Air Charter Statistics, 1979	51-207	\$6	\$7.20
Railway Operating Statistics, January 1980	52-003	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30