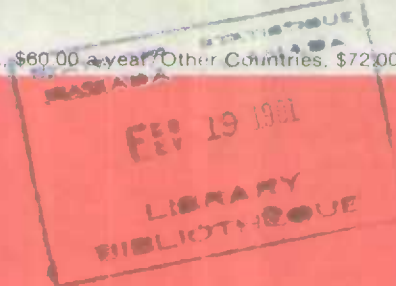


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Weekly Bulletin



February 6, 1981

## Canadian Trade/Preliminary Statement

From preliminary results, it is estimated that on a seasonally adjusted balance-of-payments basis, Canada's December exports dropped 12% or \$874 million to \$6,391 million following an increase of 5.3% in November and 10.9% in October. Imports increased 2.2% or \$125 million to \$5,894 million after a 5.2% decrease in November and an 8.1% increase in October. The large drop in December exports, together with the small increase in imports, led to a decrease of \$999 million in the surplus on merchandise trade to \$497 million in December 1980 from \$1,496 million in November.

In the fourth quarter of 1980, exports increased 9% to \$20.55 billion, following an increase of 4.7% in the third quarter and a decrease of 3.5% in the second. Imports increased 6.4% to \$17.75 billion in the fourth quarter, were unchanged in the third, and decreased 2% in the second. As a result, the merchandise trade surplus increased by \$634 million in the fourth quarter to \$2,807 million — up from \$2,173 million in the third quarter, and \$1,328 million in the second. For the year 1980 compared with 1979, exports increased 16.7% or \$10.9 billion to \$76.1 billion while imports increased 11.3% or \$6.9 billion to \$68.1 billion. As a result, the merchandise trade surplus doubled to \$7,961 million in 1980 from \$3,972 million in 1979.

## Commodity Analysis

On a customs basis, for seasonally adjusted domestic exports the largest decreases in value in December were for passenger cars (down \$85 million to \$440 million), iron ores and concentrates (down \$75 million to \$45 million), petroleum and coal products (down \$70 million to \$180 million) and precious metals (down \$60 million to \$190 million). Motor vehicle parts exports decreased \$45 million to \$295 million and coal was down \$45 million to \$35 million. The major exception to the trend to decreases or small increases in December was natural gas exports which increased \$60 million to \$385 million.

The largest increases in value for December 1980 imports were for chemicals (up \$30 million to \$315 million), agricultural machinery (up \$30 million to \$185 million) and coal (up \$25 million to \$75 million). Non-ferrous metals were down \$45 million to \$140 million, office machinery declined \$45 million to \$170 million, and

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.*	328.04p	329.42p	10.6
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.*	14,054.9p	14,182.8p	12.6
Persons with Jobs (million)	Dec.	10.64	10.74	2.4
Unemployed	Dec.	810,000	787,000	4.0

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	3,070.6	3,088.1	5.5
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	28,520.7p	28,362.8r	11.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Nov.	12,720.5	13,422.7	13.2

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	14,408.0p	15,485.8r	5.6
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	18,627.3p	18,966.0r	8.5

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	221.3	220.0	11.2
Non-food (CPI) Component	Dec.	203.8	202.9	10.6
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Dec.*	125.1	123.2	10.7
22-city Composite Wage, Building (1971=100)	Sept.	252.1p	252.1	9.3
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Nov.	256.9p	255.1r	12.6

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.*	1,152.5p	13,830.7p	4.9
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Dec.*	10,302	125,013	-17.6

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Nov.*	3 287.2	33 157.2	9.1
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.*	32.3	330.2	3.6
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Oct.*	8 056.1	78 708.6	-8.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Nov.	9.2p	101.8p	-2.3

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.*	6,387p	76,077p	16.7
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.*	5,582p	68,116p	11.3

### PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	Dec.	1 300.9	15 686.1	-1.1
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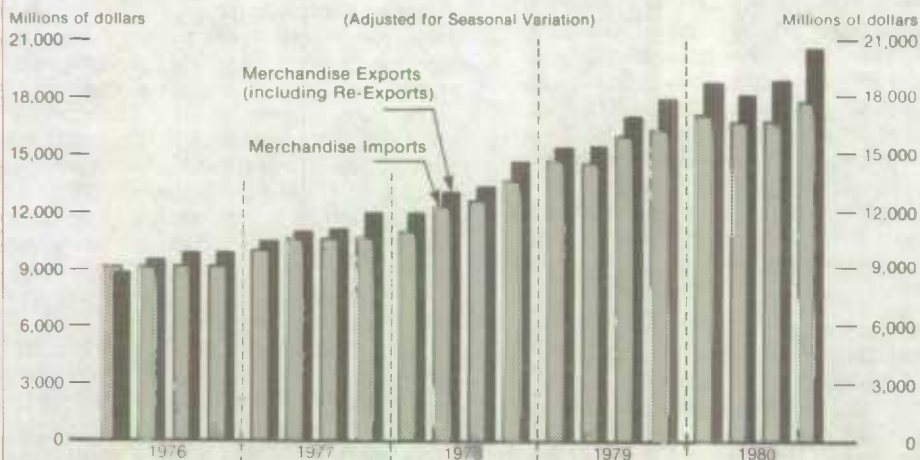
### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	993.6	7,913.0	9.5
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	14,746.7p	151,572.9p	8.6
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.*	729.8	11,378.6	0.9
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	7,693.0p	74,863.0p	8.5
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	6,713.4	73,275.4	9.6

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

## Canadian Merchandise Exports and Imports\*

Quarter-by-Quarter Movements



\* Balance of Payments Basis

Source: Statistics Canada, Summary of External Trade (65-001)



motor vehicle parts imports declined \$30 million to \$680 million.

### Trading Partner Analysis

Exports to the United States, seasonally adjusted on a customs basis, were down by 6.7% or \$305 million to \$4.25 billion in December 1980. Exports to the United Kingdom were down by 23.3% or \$85 million to \$280 million and those to Japan decreased 25.2% or \$97 million to \$287 million.

Imports from the United States increased 1.4% or \$60 million to \$4.26 billion in December. Imports from "Other America" were up \$125 million to \$395 million and those from Japan increased \$80 million to \$300 million.

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

### Review of Canadian Trade, 1980

The main contributions to the \$9.6 billion increase in 1980 domestic exports (on a customs basis) came from non-ferrous metals (\$2.4 billion), particularly precious metals (\$1.1 billion) and aluminum (\$0.6 billion); wheat (\$1.6 billion); natural gas (\$1.1 billion); forest products (\$0.8 billion); chemicals (\$0.7 billion); end products (\$0.6 billion despite a \$1.2 billion decrease in motor vehicle product exports); crude petroleum (\$0.5 billion); and iron and steel (\$0.4 billion). The export markets which yielded the largest increases were the United States (\$3.4 billion); "Other EEC" (\$1.6 billion); "Other America" (\$1.0 billion); "Other OECD" (\$0.6 billion); and the United Kingdom (\$0.6 billion). Exports to Japan increased \$0.3 billion.

The main commodities which contributed to the \$6.0 billion increase in imports were crude petroleum (\$2.4 billion); industrial machinery (\$1.0 billion); metal ores (\$1.0 billion); telecommunication equipment (\$0.9 billion); precious metals (\$0.6 billion); office machinery and equipment (\$0.5 billion); and food, feed, beverages and tobacco (\$0.5 billion). End product imports increased \$1.3 billion despite a \$1.8 billion decrease in motor vehicle product imports. In terms of the source of imports, the largest increases were from the United States (\$2.8 billion); "Other America" (\$1.1 billion); and Japan (\$0.6 billion). Imports from "Other EEC" countries were down \$0.1 billion.

Despite these apparently large increases in value, seasonally adjusted domestic export volume was down 1.6% for the first 11 months of 1980 compared with the same period of 1979 and import volume was down 6.2%. Current-weighted domestic export prices increased 18% and import prices increased 16.7% over the same period.

### Electric Lamps

Total sales of electric lamps (light sources) of all types including imports during the month of December 1980 were valued at \$25,316,882.

For further information, order the December 1980 issue of *Electric Lamps (Light Sources)* (43-009, \$1.50/\$15).

### Business Conditions Survey, Canadian Manufacturing Industries

Canadian manufacturers reporting to the January business conditions survey expressed slightly less optimism about production for the first quarter of 1981 than they did for the last quarter of 1980. The results indicated that 32% of the weighted response expected production to be higher from January through March than it was in the October to December period whereas in the October survey 34% anticipated higher production levels for the upcoming quarter. The proportion expecting production to be lower increased slightly to 23% from the previous quarter's 22%. (Management is asked to allow for normal seasonal conditions when responding.)

The level of new orders was reported to be rising by 23% of the weighted response and declining by 32%. In the October survey, 24% indicated that orders were rising whereas 30% indicated a decline. The proportion of the response indicating a higher than normal backlog of unfilled orders increased to 14% in January 1981 from 11% in October 1980. However, those reporting a lower than normal backlog increased to 33% in January from 27% in October.

The level of finished product inventory was felt to be too high by 26% of the weighted response and too low by 7%. These results were similar to those of October when 29% indicated inventories were too high and 7% too low.

Shortages of working capital and skilled labour were cited as the major sources of production difficulties. The shortage of working capital became a more serious problem with 12% of the weighted response indicating this in January; in October, only 3% indicated that a shortage of working capital was a major production impediment. (The major contribution to this increase came from the export-based industries.) Shortage of skilled labour continued to be a major cause of production difficulties with 12% noting this problem in January.

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

### Railway Carloadings

Revenue freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 17.7 million short tons (16.0 million t) in December 1980, a decrease of 8.3% from a year earlier. The carriers received an additional 1.5 million short tons (1.3 million t) from the United States, a decline of 17.0% from December 1979.

Commodities registering notable changes in volume loaded for the latest month were: coal (up 22.5%); potash (up 21.3%); wheat (up 11.7%); and iron ore and concentrates (down 49.0%).

Total loadings in Canada during 1980 were down 0.8% from the 1979 level while receipts from U.S. connections declined by 13.4%.

For further information, order the December 1980 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, \$1.50/\$15).

### Employment/Earnings/Hours

First estimates show that unadjusted average weekly earnings in Canadian industry were \$328.04 in November 1980, up 10.6% from \$296.68 a year earlier.

Average weekly earnings by province were highest in British Columbia (\$377.57), followed by Alberta (\$356.95), Quebec (\$324.75), Ontario (\$321.93), Saskatchewan (\$312.39), Newfoundland (\$290.98), New Brunswick (\$290.58), Manitoba (\$290.36), Nova Scotia (\$271.75) and Prince Edward Island (\$231.22).

By industry division, average weekly earnings in November were highest in mining, including milling (\$497.32), construction (\$478.05), forestry (\$423.24), transportation, communication and other utilities (\$390.32), manufacturing (\$358.00), finance, insurance and real estate (\$312.29), trade (\$241.93) and service (\$217.39).

For further information, order the November 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.

### New Motor Vehicle Sales

New motor vehicles sold in December 1980 totalled 77,858 units, down 2.7% from a year earlier. This included 42,819 passenger cars (down 6.9%) and 18,479 commercial vehicles (down 14.0%) manufactured in Canada and the U.S., and 14,411 passenger cars (up 26.0%) and 2,149 commercial vehicles (up 92.0%) manufactured overseas.

Total sales value increased 5.2% to \$729.8 million. Canadian and U.S. passenger cars sold for \$362.4 million (up 3.0%) and commercial vehicles for \$226.5 million (down 9.9%). Sales of passenger cars from overseas increased 49.3% to \$123.4 million and those of commercial vehicles increased 117.5% to \$17.6 million. Included in total commercial vehicles sold were 336 units of coaches and buses valued at \$13.3 million.

For the year 1980, total sales reached 1,263,807 units (1,396,402 in 1979), with an accumulated value of \$11,378.6 million. This represented a decrease of 0.9% in value from sales for 1979.

For further information, order the December 1980 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007, \$2.50/\$25), or contact M. Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Petroleum/Natural Gas Production

Production of crude petroleum and equivalent hydrocarbons during October 1980 amounted to 6 979 900 cubic metres, down 14.4% from 8 158 300 cubic metres a year earlier.

Net new production of natural gas decreased 19.9% to 7 070.6 million cubic metres in the latest month from 8 827.0 million cubic metres in October 1979.

For further information, order the October 1980 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, \$2.50/\$25).



### Building Permits

The value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities declined 3.6% in November 1980 to a seasonally adjusted level of \$1,426.4 million from the revised October estimate of \$1,480.1 million. In November 1979, the value of building permits issued was \$1,274.8 million.

In November, the value of non-residential permits issued rose for the third consecutive month, reflecting strength in Ontario, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The seasonally adjusted total of \$760.3 million increased 3.0% from \$738.3 million in October and was comprised of: commercial permits, up 8.5% to \$461.7 million in November from \$425.4 million in October; government and institutional permits, which rose 50.5% to \$178.1 million from \$118.3 million; and industrial permits, which dropped 38.0% to \$120.5 million from \$194.6 million.

Residential permits, estimated at a seasonally adjusted \$666.1 million in November were down 10.2% from the October level of \$741.9 million. Builders' applications were approved for the construction of 8,065 single-detached homes and 5,500 multiple dwellings in November, compared to 8,694 singles and 6,137 multiples in October.

The value of building permits issued during the first 11 months of 1980 totalled \$13.8 billion, up 4.9% from \$13.2 billion in the January-November period of 1979. Residential permits decreased 6.4% to \$6.8 billion in 1980 from \$7.3 billion in 1979 while non-residential permits rose 19.0% in value to \$7.0 billion from \$5.9 billion.

For further information, order the November 1980 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$3.50/\$35), or contact J.P. Delisle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z7.

### Coal and Coke Statistics

Canadian coal production increased 17.3% to 3 287 151 metric tonnes in November 1980 from 2 801 257 tonnes a year earlier. Landed imports rose 3.5% to 1 746 866 tonnes from 1 688 597 tonnes.

During the first 11 months of 1980, domestic production of coal totalled 33 157 181 tonnes, up 9.1% from 30 382 540 tonnes in the January-November period of 1979.

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

### Electric Power Statistics

Net generation of electricity increased to 32.3 TWh in November 1980 from 31.0 TWh a year earlier. Hydro generation rose 3.4% while thermal production was up 6.5%.

Total generation during the first 11 months in 1980 amounted to 330.2 TWh, up 3.6% from the January-November period of 1979.

For further information, order the November 1980 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$2.50/\$25).

### New Housing Price Indexes

The new housing price index (1976=100) for Canada stood at 125.1 in December 1980, an increase of 1.5% from November and up 10.7% from a year earlier.

During the latest 12 months, new housing prices showed the largest increase in Vancouver (46.5%), followed by St. John's (15.4%) and Montreal (11.6%).

For further information, contact L.J. Seary (613-996-3744), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

### Housing Starts

Residential construction activity continued to decline in December 1980 with housing starts in centres of 10,000 population and over dropping 21.9% to 10,302 units from 13,188 a year earlier.

During 1980, housing starts in Canadian urban centres totalled 125,013 units, down 17.6% from the 1979 figure of 151,717. Provincial totals for 1980 were as follows, with 1979 starts in brackets: Ontario, 35,432 (47,759); British Columbia, 30,337 (21,266); Alberta, 25,730 (30,160); Quebec, 23,064 (34,027); Saskatchewan, 4,018 (8,482); Nova Scotia, 2,062 (2,790); Newfoundland, 1,775 (1,064); Manitoba, 1,723 (4,394); New Brunswick, 776 (1,474); and Prince Edward Island, 96 (301).

For further information, order the December 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.

### Refrigerators/Freezers

Domestic production of refrigerators during the month of December 1980 reached 50,108 units. Production of home freezers amounted to 22,808 units.

For further information, order the December 1980 issue of *Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers* (43-001, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Brian Preston (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Automatic Washers/Clothes Dryers

Canadian production of washing machines (electric automatic) in December 1980 totalled 34,917 units. Production of clothes dryers (electric automatic) for the same month was 32,972 units.

For further information, order the December 1980 issue of *Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers* (43-002, \$1.50/\$15), or contact Brian Preston (613-996-3226), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

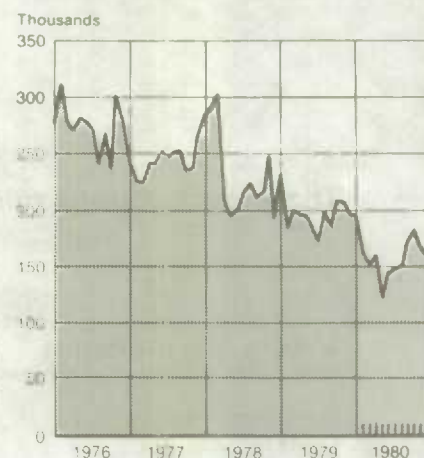
### Urban Transit

Canadian urban transit systems (56) collected 118,767,993 initial passenger fares in December 1980. The total distance run was 36,753,105 miles (59 148 389 km) and operating revenues amounted to \$47,872,245.

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

### Housing Starts in Canada

Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: Statistics Canada, Housing starts and completions (64-002)

### Community College Enrolment

Preliminary data on 1980-81 full-time fall enrolments in post-secondary programs in Canadian community colleges show an increase of about 4% from 1979-80. The increase in career program enrolments was 4.5%, while university transfer enrolments increased by 1.5%. Large provincial differences were noted: Newfoundland and Ontario had the largest increases (11% and 9.5%, respectively), while Prince Edward Island showed a 2% decrease in enrolments.

These advance statistics pertain only to the numbers of full-time students by program type; distributions of students by sex and field of study will be published in the fall of 1981 in *Enrolment in Community Colleges* (catalogue 81-222) following the receipt and processing of the regular annual detailed survey. Information can be obtained in the meantime by contacting Doug Lynd or Rebecca Belanger (613-995-9797), Post-secondary Education Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### The Dairy Review

Milk sold off Canadian farms for all purposes in November 1980 totalled an estimated 498 570 kilolitres, marginally more than in November 1979.

This brought the total estimate of milk sold off Canadian farms during the first 11 months of 1980 to 6 655 335 kilolitres, an increase of 4.0% over the January-November 1979 figure.

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

### Honey Production, 1980

The farm value of the 1980 Canadian honey crop was \$42,357,000, down 7% from the 1979 figure of \$45,682,000.

The final estimate of the 1980 honey crop was 64,421,000 pounds, an 11% decrease from the preceding year.

For further information, order *Honey Production* (23-007, \$3/\$6).



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## These publications released January 30 — February 5

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE STATISTICS</b>			
Production and Stocks of Eggs and Poultry, November 1980	23-003	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>			
Credit Unions, 1978	61-209	\$7	\$8.40
Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1980	61-006	\$7.50/\$30	\$9/\$36
Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics, Third Quarter 1980	61-003	\$10/\$40	\$12/\$48
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
Housing Starts and Completions, November 1980	64-002	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			
Culture Statistics: Film Industry, 1978	87-620	\$6	\$7.20
Salaries and Salary Scales of Full-time Teaching Staff at Canadian Universities, 1980-81	81-258P	N/C	N/C
Salaries and Qualifications of Teachers in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, 1979-80	81-202	\$6	\$7.20
<b>INDUSTRY PRODUCT</b>			
Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, October 1980	61-005	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
<b>LABOUR</b>			
Estimates of Employees by Province and Industry, October 1980	72-006	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
<b>LABOUR FORCE SURVEY</b>			
Historical Labour Force Statistics — Actual Data, Seasonal Factors, Seasonally Adjusted Data, 1980	71-201	\$10	\$12
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			
Apparent Domestic Availability of Selected Manufactured Products, 1977	31-529	\$8	\$9.60
Electric Power Statistics, October 1980	57-001	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Factory Shipments of High Pressure Decorative Laminate Sheet, Quarter Ended December 1980	47-005	\$2.50/\$10	\$3/\$12
Mineral Wool, December 1980	44-004	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, December 1980	32-022	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Production of Selected Biscuits, Quarter Ended December 1980	32-026	\$2.50/\$10	\$3/\$12
The Sugar Situation, December 1980	32-013	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>			
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation, 1980, Vol. 9: No. 12, Pack of Processed Apricots; No. 18, Pack of Processed Brussels Sprouts	32-023	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>			
Merchandising Inventories, October 1980	63-014	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Wholesale Trade, November 1980	63-008	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>PRICES</b>			
Construction Price Statistics, January 1981	62-007	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
Radio Broadcasting, November 1980	56-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18