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Weekly Bulletin



July 31, 1981

Capital Expenditure 1981 Mid-Year Review

Estimates of intended capital expenditures for 1981 are currently showing more strength than in the earlier release for 1981 on March 27. Following a mid-year survey of capital expenditure intentions for 1981, the total is now expected to reach \$79,298 million, up 3.6% from the \$76,523 million estimated earlier and 21.2% above the \$65,412 million in 1980. The increase last year was only 12.1% over the \$58,354 million in 1979.

In this program, construction activity shows an increase of 4.3% in the non-residential category over the first estimate for 1981 and 23.7% over 1980. The remainder represents a more moderate additional gain of 2.0% for housing to reach 14.6% over 1980. Residential construction, estimated at \$12,550 million for 1981, is being projected on the basis of a low carry-over from 1980 and the expected volume of work needed on an estimated 180,000 starts. The amount for 1980, at \$10,949 million, was based on 159,000 starts while the 1979 total of \$11,617 million reflected 197,000 starts. The machinery component of capital spending in 1981 is now estimated to be 3.5% higher at \$31,466 million for 1981, the new total being 21.2% above the 1980 level of \$25,951 million which, in turn, represented a 15.3% gain over 1979.

The added strength shown at mid-year is particularly notable for the business sector (at \$56,965 million) which is now expected to exceed 1980 programs by 23.8%, up from an 18.1% increase in 1980. The smaller total of \$9,783 million for social capital of institutions and governments and excluding housing is revised upward by 5.4% to a new level 15.6% above 1980. Last year, institutions and governments increased by only 8.8% over 1979.

Mid-year changes for the business sector include a lower total for mining, petroleum and gas wells. This total decreased from \$10,163 million to \$9,949 million of capital spending in 1981. This occurred as a result of a drop of \$392 million in the program for petroleum and gas wells*, which was partly offset by a gain of \$174 million for metal mining. The new overall level is still 21.2% above 1980 compared with an increase of 45.1% in 1980. Agriculture, fishing and forestry did not change significantly at mid-year.

(continued on next page)

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.	343.93p	341.70p	10.9
Labour Income (\$ million)	Apr.	14,591.4p	14,301.3p	12.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	May	11.03	10.70	3.9
Unemployed	May	854,000	886,000	-5.5

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Apr.	3,104.4	2,626.3	13.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Apr.	31,548.4p	30,728.6r	12.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Apr.	16,923.1p	16,799.6p	...

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	16,363.6p	16,510.2r	24.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	19,894.5p	19,657.1r	4.3

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	June	236.8	233.2	12.8
Non-food Component (CPI)	June	219.1	215.9	13.0
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Apr.	132.3	130.0	13.7
22-city Composite Wage, Building (1971=100)	Jan.	253.6p	253.5r	9.7
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	May	269.6p	267.5r	11.2

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Apr.	1,709.4p	4,974.1p	27.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	May	16,985	54,377	28.4

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Apr.	3,473.9	13,815.2	21.7
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Mar.	34.7	104.0	0.5
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Mar.	8,857.2	27,418.7	-4.2
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Apr.	8.3p	35.4p	-6.4

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	May	7,276p	34,292p	11.0
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	May	6,953p	32,393p	11.3

PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	May	1,484.4	7,103.2	5.4
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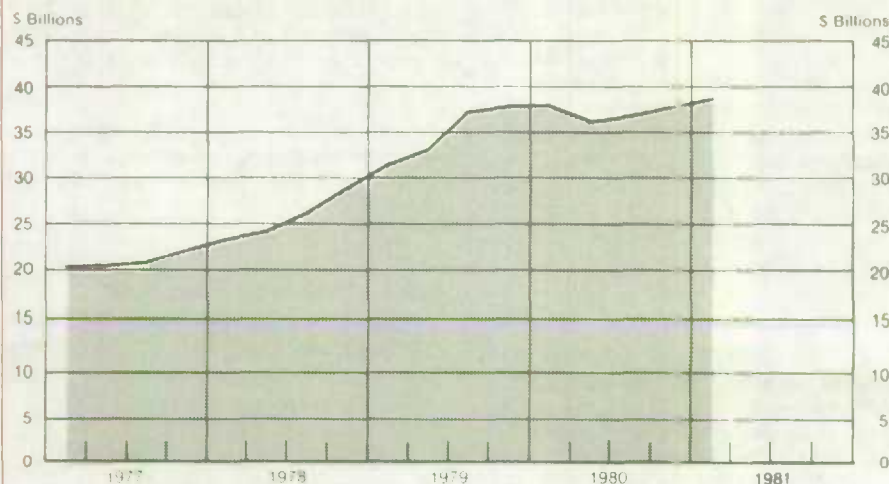
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	May	823.0	3,518.8	11.5
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	16,126.2p	59,994.5p	12.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	May	1,207.1	5,362.6	10.3
Retail Sales (\$ million)	May*	8,278.4p	36,126.9p	14.7
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	9,782.5p	34,868.5p	...

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised.

Corporation Profits (Before Taxes)

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



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

In the other industry groups of the business sector, manufacturing is registering sizeable added strength for 1981 in a further gain of 9.9% to 35.4% over 1980. Transportation equipment was the only group showing a decrease at mid-year but the total of \$1,369 million for that group is still 11.6% above the 1980 expenditure. Of all the other groups showing increases over the initial estimates for 1981 and over 1980, the largest dollar changes were in chemicals (18.9%, 76.1%), followed by paper products (13.0%, 60.5%), and primary metals (13.8%, 26.8%). The total for products of petroleum and coal is now \$776 million, considerably higher than 1980's \$300 million.

A further strength for pipelines dominates the additions to the total of the transportation/communications/utilities sector. Capital outlays for pipelines are now expected to reach \$1,754 million, 10.6% above the first estimate for 1981 and 205.7% over the \$574 million in 1980. In the remaining industry groups, additional strength is in evidence for air and rail transport, urban transit, telephones and gas distribution. In the rest of the business sector, further gains are being shown for real estate developers, hotels and machinery acquired for lease to others.

In institutions and governments representing social capital, the largest gain is for municipal governments which are now expected to spend \$3,485 million or 18.5% more than the \$2,942 million in 1980.

Provincially, the following are the new year-over-year changes for 1981 with the mid-year revision in brackets: Yukon and Northwest Territories, 69.2% (15.2%); Nova Scotia, 41.0% (3.0%); Saskatchewan, 33.2% (4.4%); Newfoundland, 27.8% (2.9%); Alberta, 25.7% (3.0%); Ontario, 19.7% (4.6%); British Columbia, 19.6% (5.0%); Quebec, 13.4% (0.9%); Manitoba, 13.1% (6.2%); New Brunswick, 7.8% (-1.4%); and Prince Edward Island, 5.7% (0.3%).

Additional statistics for the provinces by industry or according to private or public categories can be obtained from the CANSIM data bank. Users are reminded to use the special matrices reserved for mid-year data rather than the regular matrices containing the historical final data, preliminary estimates for 1980 and first estimates of spending intentions for 1981. Other information can also be obtained by contacting Duncan Lusick (613-995-9013), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

** The construction category also includes exploratory and development drilling as well as surface installations related to petroleum and gas wells, extracting of petroleum from shales or sands, gas processing plants and contract drilling for petroleum and gas. Excluded, however, are all geological and geophysical expenditures.*

Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

The preliminary estimate of the value of Canadian manufacturers' shipments in May 1981, seasonally adjusted, was \$15,769.9 million, up 0.5% from the revised April value of \$15,692.5 million. Durable goods shipments were up 1.7% to \$7,010.7 million from \$6,891.1 million in April while non-durable goods shipments decreased 0.5% to \$8,759.2 million from \$8,801.4 million.

The value of new orders received, seasonally adjusted for May, was estimated at \$16,152.9 million, 1.4% higher than the revised April value of \$15,932.2 million. Continuing buoyancy of orders received in the aircraft, shipbuilding and railroad rolling stock industries was largely responsible for a 3.6% increase in the overall value of new orders received in durable goods industries. The May estimate increased to \$7,387.0 million from \$7,130.4 million in April. New orders for non-durable goods dropped a fractional 0.4% to \$8,765.9 million from \$8,801.8 million a month earlier.

The total backlog of unfilled orders for all manufacturing, seasonally adjusted, was an estimated \$19,871.9 million in May, 2.0% higher than the revised April value of \$19,488.9 million. Unfilled orders for durable goods increased 2.2% in May to \$17,606.4 million from \$17,230.1 million and unfilled orders for non-durable goods rose marginally to \$2,265.5 million from \$2,258.8 million.

The seasonally adjusted value of total inventory owned by manufacturers increased 1.5% to \$31,500.5 million in May from \$31,046.1 million as revised for April. Total inventory held, seasonally adjusted, increased 1.3% in May to \$33,016.8 million from \$32,596.1 million for April (revised), with increases in the value of raw materials of 0.9%, in goods in process of 1.2% and in finished products of 1.9%.

The seasonally adjusted ratio of total inventory owned to shipments at the end of May was 2.00:1, up from the revised April ratio of 1.98:1. The finished products to shipments ratio in May was 0.70:1, up from the revised April ratio of 0.69:1.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in May 1981, were estimated at \$16,041.3 million, 0.1% higher than the revised April value of \$16,033.2 million.

For further information, order the May issue of Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries (31-001, \$3.50/\$35).

Index of Industrial Production

The seasonally adjusted index of industrial production declined 0.1% to 138.1 in May from 138.3 in April. Output of mining and utilities declined while manufacturing production increased during the month.

For further information, order the May issue of Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry, including the Index of Industrial Production (61-005, \$3/\$30).

Key Economic Series, August 1981

Key Economic Series data for August are expected to be released according to the following schedule. Under certain circumstances peculiar to each series, the release date might be changed.

July 30-August 7: Labour Income, May 1981.

July 31: Preliminary Statement on Canadian Trade, June 1981.

August 7: Labour Force Survey, July 1981.

August 10-14: Canadian Composite Leading Index, May 1981.

August 10-18: Employment, Earnings and Hours, May 1981.

August 12-14: Farm Cash Receipts, January-June 1981.

August 12-18: Retail Trade, June 1981.

August 14: The Consumer Price Index, July 1981.

August 18-21: Wholesale Trade, June 1981.

August 20-26: Index of Industrial Production, June 1981.

August 20-26: Inventories, Shipments and Orders, June 1981.

August 24-31: Housing Starts in Urban Centres of 10,000 Population and Over, July 1981.

August 24-31: Unemployment Insurance, June 1981.

August 24-31: Building Permits, June 1981.

August 27-September 1: Industrial Corporations Financial Statistics, Second Quarter 1981 (Preliminary Data).

August 28-September 4: Real Domestic Product, June 1981.

August 28-September 4: Gross National Product, Second Quarter 1981.

August 31-September 9: Labour Income, June 1981.

Notice of advance information availability: **Field Crop Reporting Series: No. 5, Stocks of Grain at July 31.** Release: August 21 at 3 p.m. E.D.S.T.

Data Users please note: **Industry Selling Price Index, June 1981** was released in the *Daily* of July 24.

Private and Public Investments in Canada Mid-Year Review, 1981 was released in the *Daily* of July 28 under the title of **Capital Expenditure Program 1981.**

Building Permits, May 1981, was released in the *Daily* of July 29.

For further information concerning the release of these series, contact Jack Kerr (613-992-1548), Production Engineering, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

1976 Census Publications on Microfiche

All publications from the 1976 Census of Canada are now available for immediate delivery on microfiche from Micromedia Ltd., 144 Front St. W., Toronto, Ontario M5J 2L7.

Scenario Drawn For 1981 Census Products

(This article is the fourth in a five-part series summarizing present plans for the dissemination of 1981 Census data. Those wishing a complete description of the current scenario should contact their local Statistics Canada reference centre.)

The 1981 Reference Series will comprise geographic reference products and general reference products and will be available in several formats such as print, microfiche, maps and computer tapes. The geographic reference products will provide information to facilitate the interpretation and analysis of 1981 Census results and data from earlier censuses. Some of these products will also present population counts. A detailed description of them will appear in an August issue of *Infomat*.

The general reference products, available in both print and microfiche, are summarized below.

A **1981 Census Dictionary** will contain definitions of terms employed in 1981 Census data products (publications, tapes, microfiche). As with the 1971 Census Dictionary of Terms, the 1981 Census Dictionary will include mention of the previous censuses for which data on a particular variable are available, the universe for the particular variable, the responses on the '81 Census data base and any explanatory remarks that may be necessary.

Data Quality

Two **1981 Census Summary Guides** will be produced, one covering the data for questions asked of everyone and the other covering the data for questions in the sample. The Guides will include a list of tables available in publications and on microfiche, as well as an index of tables which appear in the publications. They will also include tables showing estimates of population undercoverage, response rates, total standard error estimates for various geographic size groups, and explanatory notes to highlight anomalies in the data.

Two **1981 Census Data Quality** publications will also be forthcoming, one covering the contents of the 100% data and the other covering the contents of the sample data. These bulletins will contain quantitative measures of coverage error, response error, processing error and sampling/weighting error, where applicable. They will also contain a summary of census methodology, including a description of special procedures that could affect the quality of data for particular variables.

A **Tabulation Guide** will serve as the source document for finding specific data in print, on tape or on microfiche. Table descriptions will be listed for all Censuses back to 1871.

Guide to Statistics on Foreign Ownership and Control

The feature article in the April 1981 edition of the Canadian Statistical Review (Catalogue 11-003) is an updated guide to statistics on foreign ownership and control in Canada.

The demand for information on foreign ownership and control of sectors of the Canadian economy continues to grow, and the need to be informed on what figures are available, as well as their potential use, is still great. The terms 'ownership' and 'control' and the various measures of describing different aspects of control still give rise to misunderstandings. The article should help in dispelling some of these.

The article basically describes where statistics may be found, what is contained in the publications and why certain series are produced.

Before describing the specific statistical programs, five broad dimensions of foreign ownership and control which appear in Statistics Canada publications are outlined. The first is the indebtedness of Canada to foreigners, or, in other words, the ownership of Canadian financial liabilities by foreigners. The second is the relative importance of these claims as a proportion of total similar claims held by both Canadians and foreigners. The third dimension is the extent to which ownership of Canadian

share capital by foreigners gives them control of Canadian business. The fourth deals with the structure and behaviour of businesses and activities which are deemed to be foreign-controlled, and the fifth compares domestic and foreign-controlled businesses in Canada.

Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)

The Industry Selling Price Index for Manufacturing increased 0.9% in June 1981 to a preliminary level of 271.9 from a revised May 1981 level of 269.6. The index now stands 11.6% above its level of a year earlier. The 12-month movement has been approximately 11% for most of the year. Since February, the monthly increases have been between 0.7% and 0.9%. The two major groups with the largest increases were the heavily weighted food and beverage industries (up 1.3%) and petroleum and coal products (up 5.5%).

The food and beverage industries index increased 1.3% in June and is now 12.2% above its level of a year earlier. Slaughtering and meat processors rose 4.1% largely because of a 19.1% increase in fresh and frozen pork. Smaller increases were noted for processed pork products, and beef increased only 0.4%. Fish products declined 1.1% in June largely because of declines in fresh and frozen fish. Cane and beet sugar processors increased 9.3% in

June, the first increase since January of this year. The breweries industry posted an increase of 1.9% in June, reflecting increases in draught and bottled beer.

The index for petroleum and coal products industries increased an estimated 5.5% in June, leaving the index approximately 43% above its level of a year earlier. The main contributors to the price change were increased charges levied by the federal government of \$2.35 per barrel of crude oil.

Also affecting the total manufacturing index level were rises in textile industries (1.1%) and furniture and fixture industries (0.8%). The remaining major groups showed only slight price movements in June.

For further information, order the June 1981 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$3.50/\$35), or contact the Information Unit (613-995-5738), Industrial Prices Section, Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

Real Domestic Product, May 1981

Preliminary estimates indicate that the Index of Real Domestic Product dropped slightly from 143.6 in April to 143.5 in May. This was the first decline reported in Real Domestic Product since June 1980. Industrial production also recorded a slight decrease, after three months of relatively strong growth.

Moderate gains in manufacturing and construction were offset by declines in agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining and public utilities, resulting in no growth for goods-producing industries. Service-producing industries also declined in May, mainly because of weakness in trade and in finance, insurance and real estate services.

The most significant weakness occurred in the forestry industry where output was down 23.0%. Substantial layoffs that took effect in April carried on throughout May and, in addition, several work stoppages occurred. Production cutbacks in nickel, iron ore, crude petroleum and coal accounted for the drop in mining during May. The decline in trade, the first this year, was attributable entirely to weakness in retail trade, particularly among department stores and new motor vehicle dealers where sales were down sharply from the levels reported in April. Most of the weakness in finance, insurance and real estate services occurred among financial institutions, especially banks, security brokers and dealers and stock exchanges.

Stronger residential building activity accounted almost entirely for an increase in construction during May. Increased production of pulp and paper, tobacco products and motor vehicles occurred primarily because of the growth in manufacturing.

Users should note that the Indexes of Real Domestic Product have been revised from January 1981 to date to incorporate revised crop estimates in agriculture.

For further information, order the May 1981 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (including the *Index of Industrial Production*) (61-005, \$3/\$30).

PERIODICALS: INDICATIONS OF YET ANOTHER HEALTHY YEAR OF GROWTH IN 1979

Periodicals are classified into eight categories: consumer magazines, roto magazines, religious publications, ethnic publications, farm publications, the business press (trade publications), TV guides and directories.

A few changes have been incorporated in this year's study. TV guides, which were previously included under the category of roto magazines when distributed as part of a daily newspaper or under the category of magazines when published independently, are now considered a separate category whether they are distributed with weekend newspapers, sold separately or home delivered free of charge. Another new category includes all directories published in Canada, such as *Le Bottin Vert* and the *Yellow Directory* that formerly came under the category of consumer magazines. Finally, farm magazines have been made a separate category from business publications. Despite the introduction of new categories in the 1979 classification of periodicals, comparison of total 1979 and 1978 circulation data is still possible.

The periodical industry flourished in 1979 with a 7.1% increase in the number of periodicals over 1978. Total circulation was 55 million in 1979, up 3.9% from the previous year, and average circulation per issue was 53,460, up 4.9% in one year. In 1978, the number of publications had increased by 9%, total circulation by 13% and average circulation by 5%. This series of increases for two consecutive years indicates a healthy and sustained growth in the periodical industry. Periodical advertising revenue increased 15.4%. Largest increases were recorded by consumer magazines (20.8%) and roto magazines (18.2%). Advertising revenue is a good indicator of the health of the industry since the survival of periodicals is directly dependent on the advertising they are able to attract and carry. The larger the readership of a periodical, the keener the interest of advertisers to purchase advertising space in that periodical.

Although the average circulation per periodical compiled for the total number of periodicals is 53,500, this figure conceals significant discrepancies: the average circulation of business publications is 13,500 copies per issue compared to 1.7 million for roto magazines. The method of distribution and the content of periodicals have a significant effect on their circulation. For example, business magazines which address an audience interested in business topics have a more limited readership. On the other hand, roto magazines are general content magazines likely to interest a large and diversified audience; furthermore, they are distributed on weekends with the daily newspapers and thus reach the regular daily subscribers. The variety of content and ease of access explain the large circulation for this type of periodical.

Each type of periodical is aimed at a different market which affects the circulation of the publication as well as the advertising it is able to attract. For example, consumer magazines that address a broad and diversified audience are able to attract a large number and variety of advertisers. Accordingly, the large total circulation of these magazines (almost 27 million copies per issue for all periodicals) attracted \$100 million in advertising revenue in 1979. On the other hand, religious publications, which have a limited market of 876,776 copies per issue, earned only \$8.5 million in advertising revenue. Because of their specific nature and content they lack the general attraction of consumer magazines or roto magazines. Directories are a special case in terms of advertising. Their advertising revenue was \$210 million or 50% of the total advertising revenue earned by all periodicals. Yet their total circulation was only 2.9 million or 5% of the total circulation of all periodicals. This large share of the total advertising revenue is due to the fact that directories are usually annual publications which list members of a profession or companies providing a specific type of service. These publications therefore carry a lot of advertising purchased by the persons or organizations that are listed in them. Finally, periodicals accounted for 30% of all the advertising carried in the written media compared to 60% for daily newspapers and 10% for non-daily newspapers.

Abstracted from Culture Statistics: Newspapers and Periodicals, 1979 (87-625, \$4.50/Other countries \$5.40).

Compensation Data Sourcebook

The Compensation Research Centre of The Conference Board of Canada has produced a comprehensive reference guide to major on-going compensation surveys, covering such topics as benefits and working conditions.

Entitled *Compensation Data Sourcebook*, the 1981 edition contains descriptions of 37 surveys, presented in a standardized format to allow the user to assess and compare survey coverage and methodolo-

gy. The indexes cover subjects and occupations surveyed, geographic areas, and industrial and organizational characteristics.

The book is updated and augmented with additional survey descriptions annually.

Copies may be purchased from The Conference Board of Canada, 25 McArthur Road, Suite 100, Ottawa, Ontario K1L 6R3. Price to non-associates of the Board is \$475. Annual updates are \$225. For inquiries, call (613) 746-1261 ext. 249.

Dissemination and On-line Services

A summary of the increasing number of on-line techniques used by Statistics Canada in data dissemination was provided by Ellis Drover, Director, User Services Division at a recent Canadian-United States Library Resources Conference held at Duke University.

Mr. Drover described CANSIM, the bureau's general purpose data bank system, and CANSEL, an automated search, selection and retrieval system designed to help users determine what data are available on CANSIM. He also discussed some of the new systems being used with Census of Population data.

FACTS (Fast Access to Census Tabulations System) is a fully operational on-line browsing system used to establish the content and availability of tabulated data from censuses and other surveys. This system is not yet available outside Statistics Canada.

The content of each table is analysed to determine:

- a) universe (who or what was counted e.g. 15 years and over; single parents; household, families);
- b) question and response variables (e.g. age: 5 year intervals; sex: males, females; education: primary, secondary and post-secondary);
- c) geo-statistical coverage (e.g. Canada, provinces, federal electoral districts, enumeration area); d) media (e.g. publication, microfiche, tapes);
- e) reference (e.g. publication, catalogue number, file name, microfiche table number).

The various attributes or characteristics of each table are enclosed and stored as mnemonics in a relational data base management system using disk as the storage medium.

The system assists users (ranging from novices to veteran user enquiry staff) to carry out searches in the official language of their choice. They range from general topics such as all tables on housing to specific tables such as average income by detailed occupations at the census tract level for the Census Metropolitan Area of Toronto. Searches generate detailed content description of tables and their location on various media.

Another Census of Population innovation is the Census Summary Data Base System (CSDBS). This system, currently undergoing volume testing, is designed to provide users across Canada with remote on-line access to census summary data files.

The system uses confidential unrounded input data for aggregating data to user-defined areas. The output is subjected to computerized random rounding to ensure confidentiality.

The system prompts users to submit their retrieval request on-line in English or French. The printout contains full text descriptions in either language.

- Some of the system's capabilities are:
- 1) geographic, table and data cell selection and/or aggregation;
 - 2) selective hierarchical aggregation;

- 3) calculation of averages, percentages and other arithmetic operations;
- 4) output of data on magnetic tape or disk complete with user documentation;
- 5) printed reports with full text description.

The system utilizes two of Statistics Canada's proprietary software packages, a tabulation package called STATAPE and a relational data base management system called RAPID. The latter is used primarily to develop and maintain a data dictionary of more than 2,000 tables.

Another developmental project at Statistics Canada is the Statistical Data Documentation System (SDDS) which is envisaged as being both a documentation system of the bureau's surveys (overview, contents and outputs), and as an information system identifying where (in what survey, in what dissemination media, on what master files) particular elements are found.

All this information is available in each of the survey areas. To the extent that information requirements are localized to the output of one or more operationally related surveys, service tends to be good. Unfortunately, as the information requirements are generalized to be applicable to a number, or all, survey areas, such as, for example, the process of corporate planning, evaluation and decision making, there is no routine way by which it can be made available.

Two of the inter-related modules of the SDDS of most interest to users are the Dissemination Module (DM) and the Thesaurus Module. The former is a documentation and search system providing information on the existence and location of statistical data produced by Statistics Canada. Its ultimate scope will include all bureau output files at the detailed table level. The DM will permit searches to take place at various levels of aggregation of the data and will allow the user to choose an alternate level if data does not exist at the level of the original request. The Thesaurus Model will provide a means of linking user terms with official Statistics Canada terms as well as a means of linking differently named but related bureau terms to one another.

This is a significant project under development which is not yet funded to proceed to the operational stage.

Copies of the full text of these remarks can be obtained at Statistics Canada regional reference centres.

Statistics Act Amendments

The Statistics Act was amended by Parliament earlier this year to allow Statistics Canada to conduct surveys on a voluntary basis.

The section of the Act which has been added reads:

"The Minister may, by order, authorize the obtaining, for a particular purpose, of information, other than information for a census of population or agriculture, on a voluntary basis and where such information is requested section 29 does not apply in respect of a refusal or neglect to furnish the information."

Specific Area Intelligence System

During May, Canada Systems Group (CSG), announced Phase 1 of SAIS, their Specific Area Intelligence System. The heart of this service is the data files compiled and maintained by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE).

In response to a growing demand for detailed community and county information not included in the census or other conventional publications, DREE formed a Task Force which compiled a large integrated data base to be used for small area research. This data base draws from a broad range of data sources in both the private and public sectors. The SAIS system has a number of interesting capabilities, the most significant of which is the Fact Sheet, a mini-version of the full data file which allows for detailed profiling at both the community and county level. The Fact Sheet is a unique research tool in that it allows for the integration of many separate data sources into single, identifiable geographic areas. This reduces search time, redundancies and other costs associated

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with the retrieval of needed information.

CSG feels that SAIS' "Community" data files are the most extensive single source of machine-readable community data within the Canadian government. Originally designed to assist researchers in gauging the economic progress and well-being of various regions within Canada, the data base includes 1,133 communities and covers 82 per cent of the Canadian population.

Similar to the "Community", the "County" file contains a wide variety of data sources and was intended to assist researchers in performing sub-provincial economic and social analysis. Because of the extended geographic area, it is possible to obtain data for this file not available at the community level. An added feature of the County File is the inclusion of selected time series data, particularly population, income and industrial activity.

Until now, DREE and other federal government departments have had the exclusive rights to access this continually updated information system. In an effort to allow greater access to these data files, CSG has secured, from DREE, the rights to

distribute the Fact Sheet and other related data products.

Possible applications are target marketing, advertising, cross tabulating, factor analysis and regression analysis. For individuals or businesses with less analytical requirements, this data can be used to study the attributes of a well-defined geographic area with an eye to future business opportunities.

Customers will be notified of revisions to the existing data shortly after the update. By following this policy, CSG will enable users to obtain the most current information available in both the private and public sectors.

To obtain individual Fact Sheets, provincial sets, or nation-wide sets, or for further information, contact Paul B. Whitley (613-563-444), Canada Systems Group, 90 Sparks Street, Suite 704, Ottawa K1P 5B4.

Canadian Travel Research Notes

Approximately twice each year, *Canadian Travel Research Notes* is published by the Canadian Government Office of Tourism (CGOT) for those concerned with travel research in Canada. The notes cover such topics as surveys being planned within the federal and provincial governments, and by others in Canada and the United States.

The 13-page March 1981 issue contains items from CGOT, Statistics Canada, Transport Canada, Air Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, the United States Travel Data Centre and Canada Fitness Incorporated.

As an example of the information contained in the publication, the item from Canada Fitness refers to a new survey designed to measure fitness levels and physical activity patterns that this private non-profit organization is launching. The data collection period will last six months, from February to July 1981, so that several seasons will be covered. Further information is available from Dr. Tom Stephens, Executive Director, at Suite 506, 294 Albert St., Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 6E6.

Those wishing to receive the Notes regularly should contact B.M. Rusk, Marketing Research, Policy, Planning and Coordination Division, Canadian Government Office of Tourism, 235 Queen St., Ottawa K1A 0H6. There is no charge.

Railway Operating Statistics

The seven major railways reported a combined net income from operations of \$76.5 million in March, up 172.5% from 1980. Operating revenues were up 27.9% from the 1980 figure to \$546.8 million.

Revenue freight-ton-miles increased 2.6% for March. Freight-train-miles showed a decrease of 0.8% while freight-car-miles increased 1.7%. The average revenue per ton-mile of freight was 3.154 cents for March 1981. Passenger-miles revenue decreased by 5.3% to \$129.1 million.

For further information, order the March issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$2.50/\$25), or contact C.S. Cannif (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

Raw Materials Price Index

With six components rising and two falling, the preliminary Raw Materials Price Index for June 1981 was 4.2% higher than in the previous month and 27.7% higher than in June 1980. Excluding coal, crude oil and natural gas, the index of raw materials increased 1.1% to a level 7.7% higher than a year ago.

For the second consecutive month the coal, crude oil, natural gas component registered the largest increase with a 7.6% jump. This was due mainly to the 9% increase in crude oil caused by increases in the petroleum compensation charge and the special compensation charge. This leaves this component of the index 58.3% higher than a year earlier.

The vegetable products component reversed the downward trend begun in February, 1981 by advancing 2.8% in June. This leaves it 3.7% higher than in June, 1980. This monthly increase came on the strength of an 11% increase for raw sugar prices and fresh vegetables. On a yearly basis, fresh vegetables were 57% higher, mainly because of potatoes, but this was offset by a 45% decline for sugar. Wheat and other grains were down 1% this month, but up 25% over the year.

The animal and animal products component was up 1.8% and stood 14.7% higher than in June, 1980, mainly because of a 19% increase in hog prices. Also contributing to June's increase were cattle and calf prices (up 2%) and sheep and lamb prices (up 13%). The 13% decrease for fish offset these increases somewhat.

Other components showing increases in June were textile materials (0.3%), wood materials (0.2%) and non-metallic mineral materials (0.7%).

The largest decrease was for non-ferrous metals which dropped 1.1% over the month and 7.9% over the year. Silver and gold were the main contributors to the decline of this component. Ferrous materials dropped 0.6% because of lower prices paid for steel scrap.

For further information, order the June 1981 issue of Industry Price Indexes (62-011, \$3.50/\$35).

School Board Administrative and Supervisory Staff

Statistical tabulations profiling Canada's 4,300 school board administrative and supervisory staff in 1979-80 are now available. The following highlights emerge:

- Almost three-quarters of these educators were employed as consultants or supervisors.
- Two-thirds were located in school boards enrolling 10,000 or more students.
- Average experience for this group was 18 years, with 11 years in their current school district.
- Average annual salary was \$30,000.

For further information, contact Michele Vigder (613-995-9795), Elementary-Secondary Section, Education, Science and Culture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z5.

Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act (CALURA) Labour Unions

Labour union membership passed the three million mark in 1979. Total membership was 3,035,752, an increase of 128,113 or 4.4% over 1978. Canadian-based national and government employees unions accounted for 63.5% of the increase, while U.S.-based international unions comprised 36.5% of the growth.

International unions continued to lose ground to the Canadian-based unions, reporting 51.9% of the total union membership in Canada, down more than 0.5% since 1978. In 1962, when CALURA was enacted, international unions accounted for more than two-thirds of the total Canadian union membership. A continuous decline has occurred because of the faster growth of the Canadian based unions. Out of a total gain in Canadian union membership of 1.5 million members since 1962, only one-third have joined the ranks of international unions. The growth of Canadian-based unions has accelerated in recent years. For example, out of a total union membership growth of 353,000 since 1974, only one in four (87,000) has joined the ranks of international unions.

The percentage of women members in Canadian labour unions continued to increase in 1979, up to 29.3% from 28.7% in 1978. Recently developed statistics on women executive board members indicate that women comprised 21.1% of executive board members, also up 3.6% from the previous year. Regionally, the proportion of women to total membership increased slightly in nearly all provinces with the exception of Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories. Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories continued to maintain the highest proportion of women members, with Newfoundland having the lowest. Nationally, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) reported the greatest number of women members in 1979 with 109,847 or 43.6% of the membership. The Public Service Alliance of Canada followed, a distant second with 58,763 women members or 38.5% of the total.

The percentage of total unionized workers among total paid workers declined for the third consecutive year to 30.3%, the lowest level since 1965. Public administration continued as the most highly organized economic sector in 1979 with 67.8% of its paid workers unionized. With the exception of the agriculture, trade and finance sectors, all remaining industrial sectors reported a decline in the proportion of unionized workers among total paid workers. The sectors reporting the largest increases in union membership were services, food and beverages and public administration.

The increase in membership in the services sector was concentrated within Canadian-based unions and occurred largely within hospital care and nursing home facilities. An organizing drive by the newly formed U.S.-based United Food and

Commercial Workers International Union resulted in thousands of Newfoundland fishermen and fish plant workers being added to the membership rolls, thus providing the significant increase in membership within the food and beverages industry.

Provincial and municipal government employees in the province of Quebec accounted for more than 48% of the increase in membership within the public administration sector, followed by small increases in government employees unions of British Columbia. The Public Service Alliance of Canada reported a membership decline of 4,531 members for 1979.

The economic slowdown in the construction industry is demonstrated clearly by a decrease in union membership for the second consecutive year. The 1979 drop of 11,310 members brought the total two-year decline in union membership in the construction industry to 27,820 members.

In 1979, 114 out of 182 labour organizations in Canada subject to CALURA were affiliated with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC). This affiliation encompassed 2.3 million or 74.6% of all unionized workers, a 1.0% decrease from 1978. Similarly the percentage of total membership affiliated with the CLC has declined for the second year. This is due mainly to the membership growth of labour unions having no affiliation. For example, of the 128,000 increase in membership in 1979, 55,000 or 42.6% was in unions having no congress affiliation.

Four union mergers and one amalgamation occurred during 1979.

Membership dues and assessments paid by Canadian union members amounted to \$248.2 million in 1979, up 12% from 1978. Of this amount, \$90.2 million or 36% was paid to U.S.-based international unions, up 9.3%. Payments to the Canadian membership by the international unions with respect to salaries, strike payments and welfare benefits amounted to \$48.1 million in 1979, virtually the same as in 1978.

Investment patterns indicate that unexpended funds of government employees organizations are invested primarily in cash and time deposits with Canadian financial institutions. In 1979, of the \$53.8 million of unexpended funds, more than 80% was invested in time deposits, 6% was held as cash, and 2.6% was invested in Canadian stocks and bonds. National unions reported a similar pattern. Of the \$50.1 million in unexpended funds, nearly \$35 million or 70% was held as cash and time deposits while 11.4% was invested in Canadian stocks and bonds. The U.S.-based international unions report a different investment pattern with approximately 10% of funds held in cash while the bulk of the remaining funds are invested in stocks and bonds.

For further information, order the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act Report for 1979, Part II — Labour Unions (71-202, \$7), or contact the Labour Unions Section (613-995-9804), Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Museums (Abstract)

...to examine the national distribution of the 1,035 respondent institutions for 1979, the country was divided into five regions and the number of museums per 100,000 population in each of these regions was counted. A comparison of these results with those of 1976 reveals no major change in terms of availability, suggesting that the supply of museums available to museum-goers has remained relatively stable. ...the results of the survey indicate that Quebec is the least equipped of all provinces, with an average of 2.2 museums per 100,000 population, compared with the national average of 4.3. The other regions appear more privileged as they all have an average equal to or greater than the national average.

...An examination of the federal government's financial contribution for 1979 reveals that it allotted an average of \$71,374 per museum at the national level. Ontario received federal grants amounting to \$148,176 per institution, twice as much as the average national grant. However, the majority of the recipient institutions were large museums (those with a budget of \$1.0 million or more), 44% of which were located in Ontario. Quebec, on the other hand, with 17% of the large museums, saw its federal grants cut almost in half, the large museums being the hardest hit; they received an average federal grant of \$96,147 in

1979, compared with \$566,619 three years earlier. In this particular case, the province made up for this deficit by granting its large museums an average sum 20 times larger than in 1976 (\$1.08 million in 1979 compared with \$53,625 in 1976). In general, the federal government increased its average financial aid at the national level by 29%, from \$55,441 in 1976 to \$71,374, and the federal and provincial governments seem to be carrying an equal share of the load at the national level as they each contributed 33% (\$71,374 and \$70,815 respectively per institution) of the average total income of \$213,652. ... "Other" income (consisting of donations from the private sector and museum operating income) is scant in comparison with the amounts received from the federal and provincial governments but compares favourably with the amounts received from local governments. In 1979 it accounted for \$38,698 per museum or 18% of average total income, compared with \$27,728 in 1976 or 17% of average total income. As the figures indicate, this source of income is relatively stable.

Abstracted from Service Bulletin 87-001, Vol. 4, No. 6, and citing preliminary figures for 1979. Final data will be contained in a more detailed publication in preparation. Further information can be obtained from Michèle Cardin-Parent (613-593-6862), Analysis Section, Culture Sub-division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Labour Force Survey

Canada's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.3% in June, up from 7.1% the previous month; the rate in June 1980 was 7.8%. The seasonally adjusted participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 64.9% in June. The employment/population ratio increased from 60.1% to 60.2%.

For the week ending June 20, 1981, the seasonally adjusted employment level was 11,003,000, up 21,000 from May. The estimated level increased for men 15-24 (+8,000), women 25 and over (+5,000), and men 25 and over (+7,000). For women 15-24, the level showed little change.

On a provincial basis, the seasonally adjusted level of employment increased in Quebec (+17,000), Ontario (+10,000), and British Columbia (+13,000). In the remaining provinces, there was little change.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment estimate was 866,000, up 21,000 from May. The level of unemployment increased slightly in all age/sex groups except for women 15-24, where there was little change.

Provincially, the unemployment level increased in Newfoundland (+4,000), and Ontario (+12,000), while it decreased in British Columbia (-6,000). In the remaining provinces, the level showed little or no change.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the provinces in June were as follows, with May figures in brackets: Newfoundland, 13.5% (11.9%); Prince Edward Island, 10.5% (10.4%); Nova Scotia,

10.1% (10.0%); New Brunswick, 11.4% (11.0%); Quebec, 9.9% (10.0%); Ontario, 6.3% (6.1%); Manitoba, 5.9% (5.5%); Saskatchewan, 4.4% (4.2%); Alberta, 3.4% (3.5%); and British Columbia, 6.1% (6.6%).

The unadjusted employment level for Canada was 11,323,000 in June, up 381,000 (3.5%) from June, 1980. The unemployment level was 855,000, down 32,000 from last year. The unemployment rate was 7.0% in June, down from 7.5% a year earlier. The participation rate was 66.6%, up by 0.9, from last year. The employment/population ratio was 61.9%, up from 60.8% a year ago.

The unemployment rate for students 15-24 returning to school in the fall was 15.2% in June, down from 16.5% last year. The rate for students 15-19 was 16.3% and for students 20-24, it was 11.4%. A year ago the rates were 17.9% and 10.5% respectively. In June 1981, 842,000 returning students were employed, up from 779,000 in June, 1980.

For further information, order the June issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$3.50/\$35).

Urban Transit

In May 1981, 57 urban transit systems collected 107,632,623 initial passenger fares. The total distance run was 55 676 084 km, and operating revenue amounted to \$47,209,681.

For further information, order the May 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.

Building Permits

Construction intentions slipped 17.8% in May when building permits were issued for a seasonally adjusted value of \$1,501.9 million, down from a record high of \$1,826.3 million in April. Both residential and non-residential permits contributed to the decline. However, residential construction continued to exhibit moderate strength in the single-detached dwelling category. In May 1980, the seasonally adjusted value of all permits issued was \$1,045.3 million.

During May 1981, Canadian municipalities issued residential permits for \$895.7 million, down 12.8% from \$1,027.6 million in April, reflecting seasonally adjusted decreases from 10,205 to 9,500 single-detached dwellings, and from 9,643 to 7,126 multiple dwellings.

The value of non-residential permits issued in May (\$606.2 million) was down 24.1% from April (\$798.7 million). During the month, industrial projects decreased 27.0% from \$170.0 million to \$124.0 million, commercial projects 24.0% from \$493.0 million to \$375.1 million, and government-initiated projects 23.3% from \$135.7 million to \$107.1 million.

Building permits issued during the first five months of 1981 totalled \$6.731 billion, an increase of 30.0% over the corresponding 1980 figure of \$5.176 billion. This was largely because of particularly active residential construction in Quebec, Ontario and the Western provinces.

For additional information, order the May issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$3.50/\$35), or contact Germaine Allard (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z7.

Preliminary Report on Unemployment Insurance Statistics

Benefits paid to unemployment insurance claimants in May totalled \$376 million*, a drop of 18% from April but 2% greater than in May 1980. For the first five months of 1981, benefits totalled \$2,327 million, up 9% from the same period in 1980. Average weekly payments, based on the five months, rose 8% to \$130.22, up from \$120.40 in 1980.

The number of persons qualifying for benefits for the week ending May 16 was 677,000*, down 15% from April and 6% from May 1980. Eight percent of the beneficiaries reported earnings from employment, up from 7% in 1980.

Claimants filed 167,000 applications in May, a decrease of 13% from April and 16% from May 1980. Claims for the year-to-date reached 1,070,000, a decrease of 8% from a year earlier. Claims were fewer in all areas for the year-to-date except for Manitoba (up 1%), Alberta (up 5%), the Yukon (up 21%) and the Northwest Territories (up 8%).

* The count of beneficiaries cannot be related to the benefit payments made during a month. Whereas the latter figure covers all benefit payments made during the month, the count of beneficiaries represents the number of persons who qualified for benefits for a specific week each month regardless of when they received payment.



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