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Weekly Bulletin

February 26, 1982

## Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance benefits disbursed in December 1981 amounted to \$476 million, up 26% from November (the same rate of increase as between November and December 1980) and 19% more than in December 1980. Payments for the calendar year 1981 reached \$4,828 million, an increase of 10% from the 1980 level. Most of the rise was attributable to an 8% increase in the average weekly benefit to \$130.45.

For the week ended December 12, persons qualifying for unemployment insurance benefits totalled 861,000, an increase of 24% from November. (Since 1976, the average rate of increase between November and December has been about 18%.) Compared with December 1980, the number of beneficiaries rose by 14%. Females comprised 41% of the beneficiaries, the same proportion as a year earlier.

Claimants filed 372,000 applications for benefits in December, up 6% from November and 23% more than in December 1980. Claims for 1981 were 2,947,000, some 7% more than in 1980. All provinces and territories reported larger volumes for the year; however, claims were only up marginally in Ontario and Prince Edward Island.

For further information, order *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, Fourth Quarter 1981* (73-001, \$6/\$24), or contact George Fincham (613-995-8445), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

## Canada's Mineral Production

Preliminary estimates show production of minerals in Canada in 1981 reached a record level of \$33.1 billion, up from \$31.8 billion in 1980.

For further information, order *Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate 1981* (26-202, \$4.50), or contact Don Wilson (613-996-3139), Energy and Minerals Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## International Travel Account

Preliminary estimates for 1981 show that the deficit on international travel narrowed to \$1,158 million, 5.7% less than the 1980 deficit of \$1,228 million. Canada earned \$3,731 million from international travel, up (continued on next page)

## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

### EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

		Nov.	Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	369.26p	369.56p	12.1
Labour Income (\$ million)	Nov.	15,986.5p	16,090.4p	13.6
Persons with Jobs (million)	Jan.	10.41	10.66	-0.5
Unemployed	Jan.	1,096,000	987,000	16.0

### INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Dec.	2,842.3	3,437.4	13.4
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	33,350.3p	32,860.0r	16.2
Wholesale (\$ million)	May	17,091.0	16,923.1	..

### ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	14,834.7p	15,056.3r	3.4
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	18,264.2p	18,498.0r	-0.2

### PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.	249.7	248.0	11.4
Non-food Component (CPI)	Jan.	233.8	232.3	13.1
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Dec.	134.8	134.3	7.8
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Dec.	187.2p	193.0p	14.0
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	279.2p	278.2p	8.0

### CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.	1,513.8p	16,573.7p	18.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Dec.	14,099	142,441	13.9

### ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Nov.	3,545.1	36,032.9	8.5
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.	33.1	341.7	3.4
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Nov.	8,636.4	87,956.5	-0.8
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Dec.	9.1p	104.0p	-7.3

### FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	6,890p	84,029p	10.3
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	5,803p	77,522p	13.4

### PRODUCTION

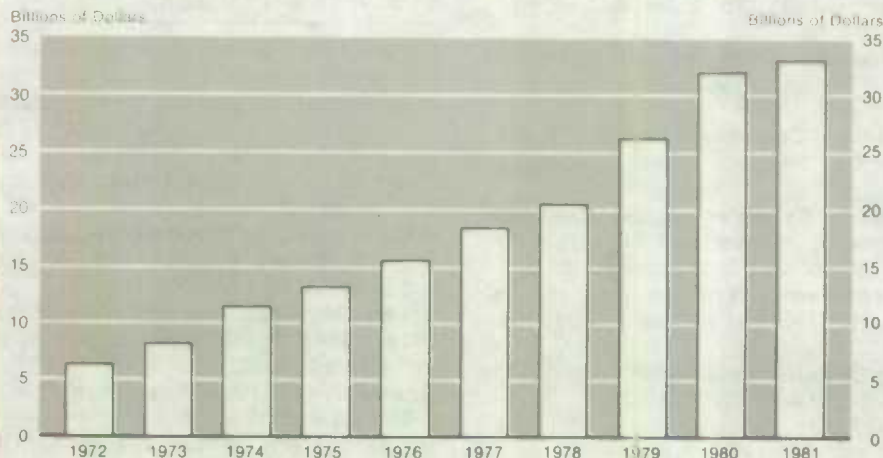
Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	Dec.	1,066.1	14,625.8	-6.7
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### SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	1,542.5	10,218.5	9.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	15,068.5p	188,295.4p	12.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	694.3	11,905.9	4.6
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	10,038.1p	94,537.5p	12.5
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	May	9,701.6p	44,570.1p	..

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

## Canada's Mineral Production



Source: Statistics Canada, Canada's Mineral Production, Preliminary Estimate (26-202)



11.4% from 1980, while Canadians travelling abroad increased their payments by 6.8% to \$4,889 million. The moderation in the deficit in the travel account in 1981 was primarily due to an improvement in Canada's receipts and payments position with the United States.

In the fourth quarter of 1981, preliminary estimates show that Canada posted a deficit of \$391 million, up from \$371 million in the 1980 period. Receipts from the U.S. amounted to \$361 million, while receipts from other countries totalled \$178 million. Payments by Canadians abroad were estimated at \$600 million to the U.S. and \$330 million to countries other than the U.S.

For further information, order the October-December 1981 issue of *Travel Between Canada and Other Countries* (66-001, \$7.50/\$30), or contact Paul Paradis (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

## Key Economic Series

Key Economic Series data for March 1982 are expected to be released according to the following schedule. Under certain circumstances peculiar to each series, the release date might be changed.

**Housing Starts in Centres of 10,000 Population and Over**, January 1982, to be published February 24 to March 3;

**Gross National Product**, 4th Quarter 1981, to be published February 25 to March 2;

**Gross Domestic Product (Industrial Production)**, December 1981, to be published February 26 to March 3;

**Industrial Corporations Financial Statistics (Preliminary Data)**, 4th Quarter 1981, to be published February 26 to March 4;

**Private and Public Investment in Canada (National Totals)**, Outlook 1982, to be published March 1 to 5;

**Building Permits**, December 1981, to be published March 1 to 8;

**Industry Selling Price Index**, January 1982, to be published March 3 to 8;

**Labour Income**, December 1981, to be published March 3 to 9;

**Gross Domestic Product by Industry**, December 1981, to be published March 3 to 10;

**Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade**, January 1982, to be published March 4;

**Canadian Composite Leading Index**, December 1981, to be published March 5 to 12;

**Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments**, 4th Quarter 1981, to be published March 8;

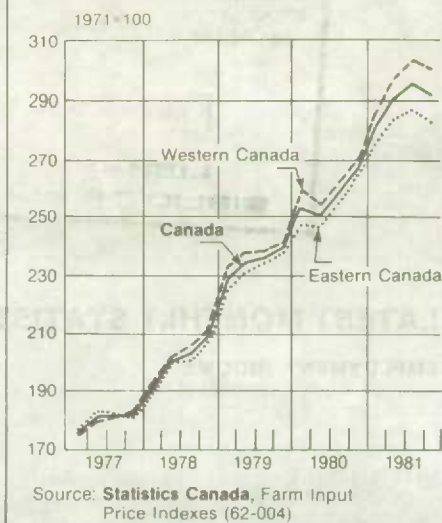
**Employment, Earnings and Hours**, December 1981, to be published March 9 to 15;

**Farm Cash Receipts**, January 1982, to be published March 10 to 15;

**Retail Trade**, January 1982, to be published March 10 to 17;

**Wholesale Trade**, January 1982, to be published March 10 to 18;

## Farm Input Price Indexes



## Farm Input Price Indexes

The Canada farm input price index (1971=100) stood at 292.0 in the fourth quarter of 1981, down 1.2% from the third quarter level of 295.4 but up 9.2% over the fourth quarter 1980 index of 267.5.

Farm production costs in Western Canada decreased 1.0% in the latest quarter but were up 11.2% over the 12-month period. For farmers in Eastern Canada, production costs declined 1.3% in the fourth quarter but showed a year-to-year rise of 7.2%.

For further information, order *Farm Input Price Indexes* (62-004, \$4/\$16).

## Construction Bulletins

Now available free of charge are two separate information bulletins for the 1980 reference year, showing selected financial and operational ratios for *Heavy Engineering General Contractors* and *Highway, Road, Street and Bridge General Contractors*.

For copies or additional information concerning these industries, call S. Parent collect at 613-995-8423 or write the Construction Census Section, Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

**Labour Force Survey**, February 1982, to be published March 12;

**Inventories, Shipments and Orders**, January 1982, to be published March 18 to 22;

**The Consumer Price Index**, February 1982, to be published March 19;

**Private and Public Investment in Canada (by Provinces)**, Outlook 1982, to be published March 22 to 26;

**Gross Domestic Product (Industrial Production)**, January 1982, to be published March 25 to 30;

**Unemployment Insurance**, January 1982, to be published March 26 to 31;

**Housing Starts in Centres of 10,000 Population and Over**, February 1982, to be published March 29 to April 2.

## Wholesale Trade

Sales by Canadian wholesale merchants in December 1981 decreased by 8.2% from the November 1981 level. Lower sales were posted in eight provinces, declines ranging from 5.7% for Manitoba to 13.1% for Quebec.

Wholesale inventories in December showed an increase of 0.3% from the previous month.

For further information, order the December 1981 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$1.50/\$15), or contact the Wholesale Trade Section (613-996-9307), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

## Federal Employees

Employees of the federal government (including members of the Canadian Armed Forces) and government enterprises numbered 590,256 as of December 1981, an overall increase of 2,105 from December 1980. General government employees increased by 12,990, while those in government enterprises decreased by 10,885.

Gross payrolls (including overtime and retroactive payments) for October-December 1981 totalled \$3,355.6 million, an increase of \$464.7 million over the corresponding quarter in 1980.

The October-December 1981 issue of *Federal Government Employment* (72-004, \$5/\$20) will be released at a later date. Questions pertaining to the data should be directed to T. Moore (613-995-9894), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Electric Power Statistics

Net generation of electric power in Canada increased to 33.1 TW.h in November 1981 from 32.3 TW.h a year earlier. Hydro generation was up 3.6%, while thermal production decreased 0.6%.

Total generation during January-November 1981 reached 341.7 TW.h, an increase of 3.4% from the 1980 period.

For further information, order the November 1981 issue of *Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact David Madsen (613-996-3139), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Provincial Accounts

Now available is the publication *Provincial Economic Accounts*, 1965-1980. This volume presents tables on provincial gross domestic product and expenditure at market price as well as government revenue, expenditure and surplus or deficit by level of government.

For further information, contact Joel Diena (613-995-0611), Gross National Product Division, Statistics Canada, or order *Provincial Economic Accounts*, 1965-1980 (13-213, \$10). To obtain these data from CANSIM on magnetic tape or computer printouts, contact CANSIM Division (613-995-0575), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.



## Manufacturing Activity

Preliminary estimates show the value of new orders received in all Canadian manufacturing industries rose 2.2% in December 1981 to a seasonally adjusted level of \$15,436.5 million from the revised November value of \$15,097.9 million. In durable goods industries, the preliminary estimate of \$6,489.5 million was up 9.6% from \$5,922.2 million (revised) in November, reflecting substantial increases in new orders received in primary metals, metal fabricating, machinery and transportation equipment industries; however there was a decline posted in electrical products industries. New orders in non-durable goods industries at \$8,947.0 million were 2.5% below the revised November level of \$9,175.9 million.

Canadian manufacturers' shipments in December 1981 were estimated at \$15,434.7 million, seasonally adjusted, down 1.4% from the revised November estimate of \$15,659.7 million. Shipments of durable goods rose 0.4% to \$6,530.1 million from \$6,504.9 million in November, while a sharp \$154.9 million decline for petroleum refineries helped push non-durable goods shipments down 2.7% to \$8,904.6 million from \$9,154.8 million.

The total value of unfilled orders in manufacturing industries showed little change from November to December — the preliminary estimate of the December backlog was \$18,893 million, seasonally adjusted, compared with the revised value of \$18,891.2 million for November.

At the end of December, the total value of inventory owned by manufacturers, seasonally adjusted, was \$33,462.3 million, up 0.5% from \$33,306.5 million in November. The value of finished products inventory grew 1.5% during the month and raw materials 0.5% while goods in process were down 1.9%.

The seasonally adjusted ratio of total inventory owned to shipments at the end of December was 2.17:1, compared to 2.13:1 as revised for November. While the December ratio marked a high since May 1975, it was below the past decade's peak level of 2.20:1 set in both January and March of that year.

The preliminary estimate of the total value of shipments in manufacturing industries for 1981 of \$188,295.4 million was 12.8% above the comparable value for the previous year of \$166,958.3 million. Largest relative growth took place in Alberta where 1981 shipments of \$12,987.7 million were 22.8% higher than in 1980. The smallest increase was recorded in British Columbia where declines in shipments of the forest products industries held the 1981 value to \$18,539.0 million, 4.2% above the 1980 total.

For further information, order the December 1981 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, \$3.50/\$35), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008).

## Market Research

Still available from the second printing are a limited number of copies of the *Market Research Handbook*, 1981, a publication that provides the most comprehensive array of Canadian marketing information available in a single volume. The 751-page Handbook can be used for analysis of market areas of all sizes ranging from local or regional to national in scope.

The publication brings together a wide selection of the data most needed by market specialists for sound decision-making. Although it cannot be expected to contain all the data required to solve every specific marketing problem, it provides an excellent source of general marketing statistics and offers directions on where to look for more detailed information.

In order that trends can be identified, the Handbook includes data for previous years tabulated with the most recent statistics. Where possible, projections of population growth and school enrolment are included. An index of major subjects is provided to assist in locating specific data. Definitions of terms and special notes allow users to make accurate interpretations of tabulated data.

Priced at \$25 a copy in Canada and \$30 elsewhere, the *Market Research Handbook*, 1981 (catalogue number 63-224) can be ordered from any of Statistics Canada's regional reference centres or from Publication Sales and Services, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V7. Cheques should be made payable to the Receiver General for Canada.

## Manufacturing, 1979

The value of all shipments of goods of own manufacture reported by manufacturing establishments in Canada for 1979 totalled \$152.1 billion, up 18.0% over the 1978 figure of \$128.9 billion.

After the provincial level, the next largest geographic area for which manufacturing statistics are compiled is the economic region. The five largest economic regions in terms of the value of shipments of manufactured goods in 1979 were:

- Central Ontario region with shipments of \$52.0 billion, up 18.5% over 1978;
- Montreal region in Quebec with shipments rising 16.7% to \$26.4 billion in 1979;
- Southwestern Ontario region with shipments of \$15.1 billion in 1979, for a gain of 9.5% over the previous year;
- Lower mainland region in British Columbia with a gain of 20.6% to \$7.5 billion in 1979;
- Eastern Ontario region, up 25.1% to \$5.2 billion.

## Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The All-items Consumer Price Index for Canada (1971=100) increased by 0.7% in January 1982 to 249.7 from 248.0 in December 1981. The 12-month rise between January 1981 and January 1982 stood at 11.4%, down from the 12.1% registered between December 1980 and December 1981. The latest monthly increase was largely attributable to higher housing charges, increased food prices and higher transportation costs. The food index, which had registered declines in each of the last four months, advanced by 1.0% between early December and early January. The all-items-excluding-food index increased by 0.6% in the latest month, down slightly from the advance of 0.8% registered in the previous month.

Higher prices for fresh vegetables (most notably for celery, lettuce and tomatoes), coupled with increased prices for poultry, soft drinks, fresh fruits and selected dairy products were largely responsible for the 1.0% increase in the food-for-home-consumption index. In January, the food-for-home-consumption index stood 5.0% above its level of January 1981. The food-away-from-home index advanced 0.8% in January, up 10.1% over the corresponding month of January 1981. As a result, the aggregate food index stood 6.1% above its level of January 1981, up from the 5.6% increase registered between December 1980 and December 1981.

Higher electricity charges, most notably in the provinces of Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, increased postal rates and higher automobile insurance premiums were largely responsible for the 0.6% increase in the all-items-excluding-food index. Other notable contributors included higher shelter charges, primarily reflecting increased owned accommodation costs, increased air fares and, in several urban centres, higher local transit fares. Between January 1981 and January 1982, the all-items-excluding-food index advanced 13.1%, down from the increase of 14.0% registered between December 1980 and December 1981.

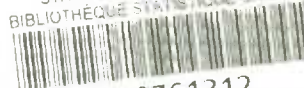
Viewed in terms of goods and services, the price level for goods advanced by 0.2% while that for services increased by 1.4%. As a result between January 1981 and January 1982 the price level for goods advanced by 9.9% while that for services rose by 13.7%.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the all-items CPI rose 0.7% between December 1981 and January 1982; this comprised a 1.1% rise in the food index and a 0.6% increase in the all-items-excluding-food index.

### City Highlights

Between December 1981 and January 1982, consumer prices rose in all cities for which CPIs are produced.

For further information, order the January 1982 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001, \$2.50/\$25), or contact Sandra Shadlock or Suzanne Lavoie (613-995-4078).



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## THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FEBRUARY 19 — 25

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE STATISTICS</b>			
Farm Cash Receipts, January-December 1981	21-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Grains and Oilseeds Review, December 1981	22-007	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
Honey Production, 1981	23-007	\$3/\$6	\$3.60/\$7.20
Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, December 1981	62-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>BUSINESS FINANCE</b>			
Cheques Cashed, December 1981	61-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE</b>			
<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>			
Culture Statistics — Vol. 5, No. 2, Recording Industry, 1980	87-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>			
Imports by Commodities, November 1981	65-007	\$5/\$50	\$6/\$60
<b>FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES</b>			
International Travel — Advance Information, December 1981	66-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT</b>			
Provincial Economic Accounts, Experimental Data, 1965-1980	13-213	\$10	\$12
<b>LABOUR</b>			
Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, April-June 1981	73-001	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28.80
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			
Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables — Monthly, December 1981	32-011	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Construction Type Plywood, December 1981	35-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Consumption of Purchased Fuel and Electricity by the Manufacturing, Logging and Electric Power Industries, 1979	57-208	\$7	\$8.40
Particleboard and Waferboard, December 1981	36-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Specified Chemicals, December 1981	46-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, December 1981	43-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, January 1982	41-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Vegetable Oil Mills, 1980	32-223	\$4.50	\$5.40
<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>			
Fruit and Vegetable Preservation — Vol. 10, 1981: No. 13, Pack of Processed Pumpkin and Squash; No. 16, Pack of Processed Lima Beans; No. 25, Pack of Processed Mixed Vegetables	32-023	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>			
Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics, November 1981	63-011	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Wholesale Trade, November 1981	63-008	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>PRICES</b>			
Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, October-December 1981	62-010	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28.80
Industry Price Indexes, December 1981	62-011	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
The Consumer Price Index, January 1982	62-001	\$2.50/\$25	\$3/\$30
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
Road Motor Vehicles, Registrations, 1980	53-219	\$4.50	\$5.40
Telephone Statistics, December 1981	56-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18