

16.2.3 Provincial highlights

Manufacturing is a major user and producer of goods and an important source of employment in Canada. According to a monthly sample survey of households, 2.1 million persons were paid salaries or wages by the manufacturing industry in 1981 out of a total of 10.9 million in all sectors of the economy. The following summary gives provincial highlights for 1981. Tables 16.1, 16.12 and 16.13 include data for 1982.

Newfoundland. The highest value of manufacturing shipments in 1981 was in the food and beverage industries group at \$551.7 million, with fish products leading at \$399.9 million. This was followed by shipments from pulp and paper mills at \$351.3 million. The food and beverage group recorded the largest number of employees, more than 11,000, with nearly 8,500 of them in the fish products industry.

Prince Edward Island. The highest value of shipments in 1981 was in the food and beverage industries group at \$186.7 million. Under this heading, the highest value was in dairy products, \$58.2 million, followed by fish products, \$49.8 million. The next highest value was in mixed fertilizers in the chemical and chemical products group, at \$15.1 million. More than 2,000 employees were in the food and beverage industries.

Nova Scotia. As in the other Atlantic provinces, the food and beverage industries in 1981 had the highest value of manufacturing shipments, \$951.5 million and nearly 11,800 employees. Under this category, the highest value was in fish products, \$431.8 million. The paper and allied industries group was second with a value of \$428.0 million.

New Brunswick. The food and beverage industries had the highest value of manufacturing shipments, \$863.5 million in 1981 with fish products leading at \$173.1 million. The second highest value was in the wood industries group at \$250.9 million. Nearly 10,000 employees worked in the food and beverage manufacturing industries, and nearly 4,000 in wood industries.

Quebec. By far the highest value in manufacturing shipments was in the food and beverage industries, \$8.3 billion in 1981. Meat and poultry products had a shipment value of \$2.1 billion and dairy products, \$1.9 billion. This was followed by a value of \$5.4 billion in the petroleum and coal products industries, the largest amount coming from refineries. Food and beverage industries employed nearly 59,000 and the clothing industries employed nearly 57,000 of the half million people in the province who worked in manufacturing.

Ontario. The highest value in manufacturing shipments was in the transportation equipment industries, \$15.8 billion. In this group, motor vehicle manufacturers had a shipment value of \$9.3 billion while motor vehicle parts and accessories had a value

of \$4.2 billion. The second highest group was the food and beverage industries at \$12.5 billion. The transportation equipment industries employed nearly 112,000 workers and the metal fabricating industries more than 89,000.

Manitoba. The food and beverage industries group had manufacturing shipments valued at \$1.4 billion in 1981 with \$581.4 million from meat and poultry products and \$508.7 million from slaughtering and meat processors. The machinery industries followed at \$486.9 million. The food and beverage industries had the largest number of employees, 10,509, followed by the clothing industries with 7,058.

Saskatchewan. The highest value in shipments in 1981 was \$871.7 million in the food and beverage industries group. Of this, \$319.5 million came from slaughtering and meat processor industries. Second highest was \$188.4 million in the machinery industries. More than 5,000 employees were in the food and beverage industries and nearly 2,500 in the machinery industries.

Alberta. In this province the value of shipments in the food and beverage industries group was \$3.6 billion, with meat and poultry processors accounting for \$1.9 billion of this total. The second highest value was in the petroleum and coal products industries. Nearly 17,000 people were employed in the food and beverage industries, and more than 10,000 in metal fabricating.

British Columbia. The wood industries group showed the highest value of shipments in 1981, \$4.1 billion, with sawmills, planing and shingle mills adding up to \$3.1 billion. Next came the paper and allied industries at a value of \$2.9 billion. The wood industries also had the largest number of employees, 46,627, followed by the paper and allied industries with 20,660.

16.3 Capacity utilization

Capacity utilization rates measure the extent to which capital stock resources are used in the production of goods. The gap between the potential and actual use made of capital assets is a reflection of economic activity. The capacity utilization rates for all manufacturing rose from 80.3% in the first quarter of 1981 to 81.5% in the second, then fell in each succeeding quarter to a low of 63.5% in the last quarter of 1982.

Capacity utilization for all manufacturing industries in the first quarter of 1983 was 67.0%, a decrease of 3.2% from the same period the previous year and a sharp contrast to 92.8% in the first quarter of 1974 which was the highest rate in the last two decades. By the fourth quarter of 1983, however, total capacity utilization had increased to 72.5% and non-durables measured 78.7%, somewhat greater than 66.4% for durables. Non-durable industries have usually had