



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, October 13, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES

New Housing Price Index, August 1998	2
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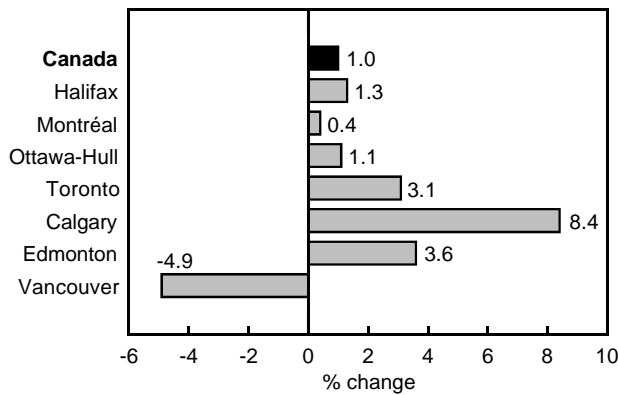


OTHER RELEASES

New Housing Price Index
 August 1998

In August, the New Housing Price Index was unchanged from a month earlier, but remained 1.0% higher compared with August 1997.

New housing price indexes
 August 1997 to August 1998



The largest monthly increases occurred in Regina (+0.6%) and Halifax (+0.5%) as some builders passed on higher construction costs to new home buyers. Smaller increases were also noted in several other Canadian cities. However, these increases were counterbalanced by monthly decreases in Vancouver (-0.3%), Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton (-0.2%), Windsor (-0.2%), Charlottetown (-0.1%) and Saskatoon (-0.1%). Generally, contractors attributed these decreases to competitive factors.

Annual changes varied considerably among the cities surveyed. The largest annual increase was in the active Calgary (+8.4%) market. The largest annual decreases were in Victoria (-7.2%) and Vancouver (-4.9%) where market conditions continue to be very competitive.

New housing price indexes
 (1992=100)

	Aug. 1998	Aug. 1997 to Aug. 1998	July 1998 to Aug. 1998
Canada	100.2	1.0	-
House only	100.6	1.5	-0.1
Land only	102.0	0.6	0.2
St. John's	96.0	-0.8	-
Halifax	108.2	1.3	0.5
Charlottetown	101.3	-3.2	-0.1
St. John-Moncton-Fredericton	93.2	-1.3	-0.2
Quebec City	98.9	1.0	-
Montréal	102.3	0.4	-
Ottawa-Hull	98.2	1.1	0.4
Toronto	102.2	3.1	-
Hamilton	102.2	2.2	0.4
St. Catharines-Niagara	100.1	3.3	0.3
Kitchener-Waterloo	100.6	2.5	0.2
London	97.7	0.3	-
Windsor	105.2	0.1	-0.2
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	100.3	-2.4	0.1
Winnipeg	112.3	0.9	-
Regina	124.7	3.8	0.6
Saskatoon	112.5	1.9	-0.1
Calgary	124.6	8.4	0.3
Edmonton	107.9	3.6	-
Vancouver	87.4	-4.9	-0.3
Victoria	78.4	-7.2	-

- Nil or zero.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9921.

The third quarter 1998 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in December. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Robert Gamson (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

Passenger bus industry
 1997

The passenger bus industry generally suffered revenue declines compared with 1996. Expenditures increased sharply due to corporate take-overs and financial restructuring — primarily in the school bus industry.

Excluding these sharp increases, expenditures industry-side remained flat.

In contrast to the industry in general, urban transit companies revenues rebounded after a decline in 1996, gaining 6.5% compared with a year earlier — in part a result of ridership increases.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 346-347.

To find out more about competition in the bus industry, revenue diversification and a comparison

of fuel and maintenance costs by type of service (for example, intercity or urban), *Surface and marine transport: Service bulletin, Vol. 14, no. 4* (50-002-XPB, \$10/\$62) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Steel wire and specified wire products, August 1998
Catalogue number 41-006-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises,
second quarter 1998
Catalogue number 61-008-XPB
(Canada: \$35/\$114; outside Canada: US\$35/US\$114).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are riding to less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the last 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Statform: Directorate, Service** 10
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 10
- **Egg production, April 1997** 11

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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