



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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Residential break-ins are on the rise in Canada after declining for three straight years during the early 1990s. Thieves broke into just over 242,000 homes in 1996, the equivalent of about 1 in every 50 residences.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial capacity utilization rates

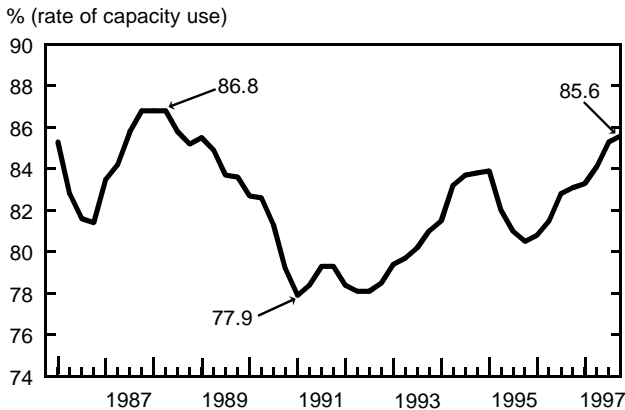
Fourth quarter 1997

In the fourth quarter of 1997, industries increased their rate of capacity use only slightly to 85.6%, reflecting the slowed rate of economic growth. The slim 0.3 percentage point rise over the third quarter marked two full years of rising rates and brought the fourth quarter level to 1.2 percentage points below the peak of 86.8% recorded during the 1988 economic expansion. (The rates of capacity use have been revised back to 1991 to incorporate revisions in source data.)

Note to readers

An industry's capacity use is the ratio of its actual output to its estimated potential output. Statistics Canada derives estimates of an industry's potential output from measures of its capital stock. In addition, since 1987, Statistics Canada has been surveying companies for their estimates of annual capacity use, in order to produce survey-based industry measures. A company's measure of its level of operation, as a percentage of potential, takes into account changes in the obsolescence of facilities, capital-to-labour ratios and other characteristics of production techniques. The surveyed rates anchor the calculated quarterly series and ensure they reflect such changes.

Capacity use edges up



in the short term while expanding production capacity and hence allowing for further growth of production in the longer term.

Relatively high rates of capacity use have persisted for some time and are widespread. Of the 28 industry groups included in the total non-farm industrial aggregate, 7 recorded rates over 90% in the fourth quarter and only four had rates of less than 80%. However, despite these high rates, industrial prices have remained relatively stable for the past two years and labour cost have also changed little over that period. In addition, consumer prices have been in check for some time. In January 1998, consumer prices were 1.1% higher than they were in January 1997, up slightly from November and December's increases, but still lower than any other annual advance reported since January 1995.

Increased exports and consumer spending, although not as robust in the fourth quarter as earlier in the year, contributed to the increased production. Another significant factor was a build-up of inventories. Rates of capacity use rose in response, but not as much as production because capacity also grew.

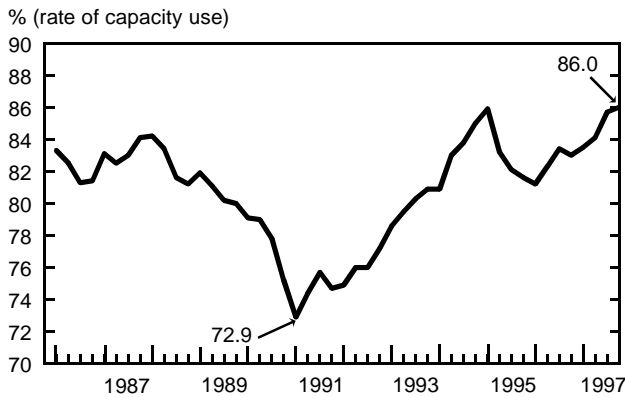
There are signs that production will continue to grow in 1998. According to the results of the Business Conditions Survey released in January, the majority of manufacturers expect production levels to be sustained or increased during the first quarter.

Also, although business spending on plant and equipment declined during the fourth quarter of 1997, firms stepped up their spending substantially during 1997 as a whole (+14.4% over 1996), according to the Survey of Private and Public Investment released in February. The survey showed that firms plan a further increase of spending (+6.2%) in 1998. Business spending on plant and equipment stimulates production

Growth in manufacturing slows

Manufacturers marked a full year of rising rates of capacity use with a fourth quarter increase of 0.3 percentage points to 86.0%, a level just a shade over the previous peak of 85.9% recorded in the first quarter of 1995. Of the 22 industry groups in manufacturing, 17 raised their rates of capacity use.

Manufacturing just above previous peak



In the non-metallic mineral products group of industries, the rate of capacity use rose 4.5 percentage points to 84.4% as producers of cement and concrete benefited from increased non-residential construction activity. Production of cement rose particularly strongly in December as producers built up inventories in anticipation of further brisk activity in 1998.

Producers of refined petroleum and coal products increased their rate of capacity use 4.8 percentage points, bringing the level to an all-time peak of 99.3%. Firms in the industry reported that they planned to spend \$440 million on plant and equipment in 1998 (+26% over 1997). This should provide additional production capacity in the future.

Consumer spending on furniture spurred producers to raise their rate 3.7 percentage points to 91.0% — matching the all-time peak for the industry recorded in 1973. Firms in the industry estimated their 1997 spending on new plant and equipment was \$174 million (+41% over 1996) and that they plan to expand their

production capacity again in 1998 by spending a further \$264 million (+52% over 1997).

Cutbacks in production by makers of telecommunications equipment were mainly responsible for lowering the rate of capacity use in the electrical and electronic products group of industries to 80.8%. The drop of 3.8 percentage points from the third quarter was the largest decline in the manufacturing sector.

Output by sawmills declined in the fourth quarter as exports remained weak, causing the rate of capacity use in the wood industries to fall 2.1 percentage points to 85.0%.

Mixed pattern in non-manufacturing

Construction industries posted a 1.1 percentage point increase in their use of capacity, bringing the level to 87.1%. Both residential and non-residential construction contributed to the gain.

In mining, quarrying and oil wells, a rise in the rate for mining and quarrying was offset by a decline in the rate for crude petroleum and natural gas industries. This left the rate for the sector as a whole at 84.3%, unchanged from the third quarter.

Rates fell in both electric power systems (-0.7 percentage points to 85.4%) and gas distribution (-4.7 percentage points to 69.3). Production fell in both industry groups as a result of lower domestic consumption due to relatively mild weather.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 3140.

For further information on this release, contact Susanna Wood (613-951-0655) or Richard Landry (613-951-2579), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

Industrial capacity utilization rates

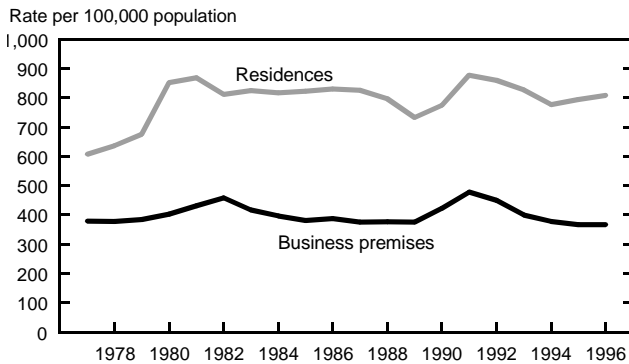
	Third quarter 1997	Fourth quarter 1997	Third to fourth quarter 1997	Annual average		
				1996	1997	1996 to 1997
				percentage point change		percentage point change
Total, non-farm goods-producing industries	85.3	85.6	0.3	82.1	84.6	2.5
Logging and forestry	78.6	79.7	1.1	80.7	77.7	-3.0
Mining (including milling), quarrying and oil wells	84.3	84.3	0.0	82.1	83.2	1.1
Mining (including milling) and quarrying	90.8	91.8	1.0	84.3	88.8	4.5
Crude petroleum and natural gas	80.5	80.0	-0.5	80.8	80.0	-0.8
Manufacturing	85.7	86.0	0.3	82.5	84.8	2.3
Durable goods	86.3	86.6	0.3	82.2	85.2	3.0
Wood	87.1	85.0	-2.1	86.4	87.2	0.8
Furniture and fixture	87.3	91.0	3.7	83.6	87.6	4.0
Primary metal	92.4	94.9	2.5	88.9	90.3	1.4
Fabricated metal products	83.6	85.1	1.5	79.6	83.2	3.6
Machinery	91.6	91.5	-0.1	80.1	88.5	8.4
Transportation equipment	86.4	87.4	1.0	84.8	87.1	2.3
Electrical and electronic products	84.6	80.8	-3.8	76.7	79.4	2.7
Non-metallic mineral products	79.9	84.4	4.5	76.7	80.9	4.2
Other manufacturing	82.1	82.3	0.2	79.7	80.9	1.2
Non-durable goods	84.9	85.3	0.4	82.8	84.5	1.7
Food	81.3	82.0	0.7	79.6	81.0	1.4
Beverage	77.9	78.6	0.7	80.2	78.6	-1.6
Tobacco products	70.7	68.9	-1.8	81.0	74.0	-7.0
Rubber products	96.0	97.2	1.2	89.5	94.0	4.5
Plastic products	79.9	80.9	1.0	78.4	79.6	1.2
Leather and allied products	80.0	82.1	2.1	75.4	79.2	3.8
Primary textile	88.4	89.7	1.3	83.0	86.4	3.4
Textile products	79.1	80.2	1.1	74.0	78.6	4.6
Clothing	88.7	88.9	0.2	83.0	87.3	4.3
Paper and allied products	89.5	90.7	1.2	89.1	90.9	1.8
Printing, publishing and allied	84.1	84.3	0.2	81.9	83.6	1.7
Refined petroleum and coal products	94.5	99.3	4.8	92.8	93.6	0.8
Chemical and chemical products	90.0	88.7	-1.3	86.3	88.2	1.9
Construction	86.0	87.1	1.1	80.1	85.6	5.5
Electric power and gas distribution systems	84.5	83.2	-1.3	83.1	84.4	1.3
Electric power	86.1	85.4	-0.7	83.8	86.0	2.2
Gas distribution	74.0	69.3	-4.7	78.3	74.0	-4.3

Breaking and entering

1996

Residential break-ins are on the rise in Canada after declining for three straight years during the early 1990s. Thieves broke into just over 242,000 homes in 1996, the equivalent of about 1 in every 50 residences.

Residential and business breaking and entering, 1977-1996



Breaking and entering is one of the most common and most serious property crimes. Not only can this crime result in the loss or destruction of property, but it is also an invasion of a personal space that can leave victims fearful of recurrence or personal harm. Residential break-ins are usually reported to police. According to results from a recent victimization survey, over 8 in 10 persons who were victimized in 1995 reported this crime to police.

In 1996, the rate of residential break-ins rose 2% for the second year in a row. Police reported 808 residential break-ins per 100,000 population in 1996, compared with 794 in 1995. Although the rate dropped 8% between 1991 and 1996, the rate was still 33% higher in 1996 than 20 years earlier. Residential break-ins continued to account for 6 in every 10 break-ins in 1996.

In 1996, just over 110,000 businesses reported a break-in to police. The rate of break-ins at businesses remained stable in 1996 after declining for four consecutive years.

Overall, police reported 396,085 break-ins, counting residential, commercial and other types of break-ins. After declining for four years in a row, the overall rate remained virtually unchanged in 1996 (+0.2%).

As the rate of break-ins has been falling in recent years, so too has the cost to the insurance industry.

Note to readers

Breaking and enterings reported by police include both completed and attempted break-ins. The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey categorizes breaking and entering as follows:

Residential break-ins: private residences, including single homes, garden homes, apartments, cottages, mobile homes, rooming houses, etc.

Business break-ins: facilities used for commercial or public affairs. These include, for example, stores, financial institutions, government buildings and non-profit organizations.

Other break-ins: private property structures (e.g., sheds, detached garages) or storage or transport facilities.

The analysis in this release is based on data first released in July 1997.

Between 1992 and 1996, the number of residential and commercial claims dropped 30% and the cost to the insurance industry fell from \$434 to \$398 million (-8%), according to the Insurance Council of Canada. Police statistics indicate that thieves took mainly audio and video equipment and jewellery from homes, and money and office equipment from businesses.

Rates highest in British Columbia

As with other property crimes, British Columbia reported the highest rate of total break-ins among the provinces (2,039 per 100,000 population), followed by Saskatchewan (1,803). Over the last five years, rates have consistently been highest in British Columbia, and, except for 1992, Manitoba and Saskatchewan have always ranked within the top three. Rates were lowest in the Atlantic provinces, with Newfoundland reporting the lowest rate (less than half that of British Columbia).

The only two provinces to show a decline in residential break-ins from 1995 to 1996 were Alberta (-4%) and Ontario (-2%). Newfoundland reported the largest growth (+28%).

Among 25 census metropolitan areas (CMAs), Regina reported the highest overall rate of break-ins by a wide margin (3,034 break-ins per 100,000 population). Regina was followed by Vancouver (2,510) and Saskatoon (2,100).

Overall, rates declined in 13 of the CMAs in 1996. Decreases in some cities may be due to special police initiatives designed to target known offenders and reduce occurrences.

Youths accounted for 4 in 10 persons charged

In 1996, police caught and charged over 46,200 persons with breaking and entering. Of these, 40%

were youths aged 12 to 17 years and 60% were adults, a distribution that has not changed in the last decade. Data from a sample of police departments show that a large portion of persons accused of this crime were aged 15 to 19 years (40%).

Thirty-nine percent of youths convicted of breaking and entering were sentenced to custody, compared with 67% of adults. Adults were generally sentenced to a longer period of incarceration. The median sentence length for adults was 180 days, compared with 90 days for youths. Although data on adult recidivism are unavailable, harsher sentences for adults may be due to longer criminal histories.

About 4 in 10 youths convicted of breaking and entering in 1995/96 had previous convictions for

Criminal Code offences. As expected, youths with previous convictions were treated more severely by the courts. Almost 20% of first-time offenders were sentenced to custody compared with almost 60% of repeat offenders.

Breaking and entering in Canada, 1996, which appears in *Juristat*, Vol. 18, no. 5 (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93, Internet: 85-002XIE, \$7) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023 or 1 800 387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

**Breaking and entering by census metropolitan area (CMA)¹
1996**

	Residential				Business			
	1996 number	1996 rate ²	% change in rate 1995- 1996 ³	% change in rate 1991- 1996 ³	1996 number	1996 rate ²	% change in rate 1995- 1996 ³	% change in rate 1991- 1996 ³
Calgary	5,610	657	2.1	-12.5	3,635	426	11.4	-32.9
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	1,728	1,029	-6.5	-5.1	593	353	1.2	-25.4
Edmonton	5,388	605	-6.3	-54.2	3,264	366	-7.8	-40.1
Halifax	2,617	760	16.7	-31.3	1,092	317	-0.9	-36.9
Hamilton	4,005	609	9.6	-7.5	1,355	206	-14.1	-32.9
Kitchener ⁴	3,010	705	13.0	3.3	1,477	346	5.8	-35.0
London	2,658	632	-14.2	-24.7	1,761	419	-18.9	-15.2
Montréal	35,512	1,055	1.6	-18.8	12,901	383	1.3	-29.2
Ottawa-Hull (Ont. part)	7,933	1,016	-8.8	22.8	3,004	385	-29.4	-15.0
Ottawa-Hull (Que. part)	2,854	1,106	8.1	-8.5	806	312	18.5	-9.5
Québec	7,396	1,058	21.3	-13.8	2,446	350	17.1	-22.4
Regina	4,268	2,142	6.0	16.0	1,242	623	-22.5	-25.4
Saint John	1,060	819	25.6	68.4	415	321	3.2	-6.5
Saskatoon	3,256	1,457	15.0	37.9	868	388	3.0	-15.3
Sherbrooke	1,685	1,131	-3.8	-37.3	550	369	7.4	-10.8
St. Catharines-Niagara ⁴	3,447	816	-9.2	-1.9	1,808	428	3.8	-13.1
St. John's	1,179	673	33.3	15.5	418	239	10.3	-52.6
Sudbury	1,344	806	-7.2	-31.2	509	305	-0.4	-61.1
Thunder Bay	1,039	799	-24.8	-24.2	368	283	-17.2	-43.6
Toronto	21,586	489	-1.6	-14.7	13,554	307	-7.6	-30.2
Trois-Rivières	1,254	883	8.1	-2.8	440	310	6.7	-33.5
Vancouver	26,129	1,387	1.2	1.0	14,692	780	15.3	13.3
Victoria	2,443	775	-4.9	9.9	899	285	-22.6	-48.4
Windsor	1,776	604	34.2	-36.6	889	302	31.5	-32.8
Winnipeg	6,050	889	0.4	-25.7	2,052	302	-5.4	-27.0

¹ The Oshawa census metropolitan area (CMA) is excluded from this table due to methodological concerns with the matching of the police force jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

² Rate per 100,000 population. Population estimates provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demography Statistics, Demography Division. Population estimates as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

³ Percentage changes based on non-rounded rates.

⁴ Populations have been adjusted to match the police force's jurisdictional boundaries.

Breaking and entering, 1986 to 1996

	Residential			Business		
	Number	Rate ¹	Annual % change in rate ²	Number	Rate ¹	Annual % change in rate ²
1986	217,675	831	1.0%	101,536	387	1.7
1987	219,324	826	-0.6%	99,733	376	-3.1
1988	214,101	796	-3.6%	101,377	377	0.3
1989	200,836	734	-7.9%	102,886	376	-0.3
1990	215,284	775	5.6%	117,399	422	12.4
1991	246,716	877	13.3%	134,432	478	13.2
1992	245,453	860	-2.0%	128,514	450	-5.8
1993	239,322	827	-3.9%	115,757	400	-11.2
1994	227,199	777	-6.1%	110,480	378	-5.6
1995	235,129	794	2.2%	108,749	367	-2.8
1996	242,132	808	1.8%	110,073	367	-

- Nil or zero.

¹ Rate of incidents per 100,000 population. Population estimates provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: revised intercensal estimates from 1986-1990; final postcensal estimates for 1991 and 1992; updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995; preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

² Percentage changes based on non-rounded rates.



OTHER RELEASES

Production and disposition of tobacco products

January 1998

Canadian manufacturers started the year with strong growth in cigarette production. Declining January sales increased inventories, which had been left low at year-end.

Production reached 3.9 billion cigarettes during the month of January, up 41% from December and 7% higher than the January 1997 level. Normally low, total January shipments fell to 3.2 billion cigarettes. While this represented a drop of 33% from the previous month, it was still 13% above the total shipped in January last year. The bulk of total shipments were to the domestic market, with 0.1 billion cigarettes exported, down 13% from the previous month.

The high level of production started to replenish inventories, which were drawn down during December. Although closing inventories increased 4% to 3.6 billion cigarettes, they remained 32% below those of January 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 46.

The January 1998 issue of *Production and disposition of tobacco products* (32-022-XPB, \$7/\$62) will be available shortly. See: *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511; Internet: zylspet@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing, January 1998
Catalogue number 41-011-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Juristat: Breaking and entering in Canada, 1996, Vol. 18, no. 5 (Internet version)
Catalogue number 85-002-XIE
(Canada: \$7; outside Canada: US\$7).

Farm input price index, fourth quarter 1997
Catalogue number 62-004-XPB
(Canada: \$25/\$83; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$83).

Juristat: Breaking and entering in Canada, 1996, Vol. 18, no. 5 (paper version)
Catalogue number 85-002-XPE
(Canada: \$10/\$93; outside Canada: US\$10/US\$93).

Retail trade, December 1997
Catalogue number 63-005-XPB
(Canada: \$21/\$206; outside Canada: US\$21/US\$206).

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

MAJOR RELEASES

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

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