



# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

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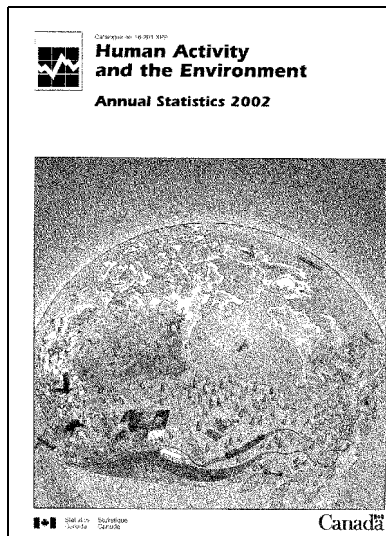
### MAJOR RELEASES

#### ● Building permits, September 2002

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The value of building permits fell in September for a second straight month, as construction intentions retreated in both the residential and the non-residential sectors. Builders took out \$3.7 billion worth of permits, down 6.9% from August.

(continued on page 2)



#### Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics 2002

*Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics 2002* is the first annual update of the more extensive environment statistics compendium, *Human activity and the environment*, which is published every five years.

The 73 data tables in this edition cover topics for which major updates have been made available since the publication of the 2000 edition of *Human activity and the environment*.

This annual publication is intended to provide quick access to updated statistical tables in a format that is convenient and easy to read. Data come from a variety of sources, including various divisions of Statistics Canada, and other federal government departments and agencies.

The feature article, titled "Air quality in Canada," discusses, among other things, the impact of air quality on health and the environment, and what governments and businesses are doing to address air quality concerns. Future editions will examine other environmental issues and provide additional updated data.

*Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics 2002* (16-201-XIE, \$10; 16-201-XPE, \$40, including CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Murray Cameron (613-951-3740; fax: 613-951-0634, [murray.cameron@statcan.ca](mailto:murray.cameron@statcan.ca)), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division.



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## **OTHER RELEASES**

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## **NEW PRODUCTS**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Building permits

September 2002

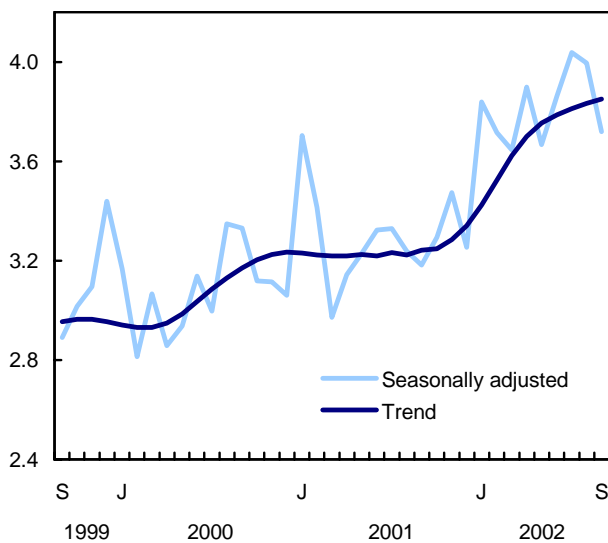
The value of building permits fell in September for a second straight month, as construction intentions retreated in both the residential and the non-residential sectors. Builders took out \$3.7 billion worth of permits, down 6.9% from August.

The value of housing permits declined 4.4% to \$2.4 billion, the result of a sharp drop in construction intentions for multi-family dwellings. Despite this decline, housing construction intentions remained strong. September's level was virtually the same as the monthly average since the beginning of the year, making 2002 an exceptional year so far.

The non-residential sector decreased a significant 11.3% to \$1.3 billion, also for the second straight month. All three components — commercial, industrial and institutional — recorded marked declines.

#### Total value of permits declines for a second consecutive month

\$ billions



The total value of building permits reached \$34.4 billion for the first nine months of 2002, up 16.4% from the same period of 2001. This strong performance is the result of feverish demand for new housing since the beginning of the year. Residential permits have soared 35.2%, but the cumulative value of non-residential permits was down 6.5% from the same period of 2001.

#### Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The Building and Demolitions Permits Monthly Survey covers 2,350 municipalities representing 95% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their building activity has little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (for example, waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

From January to September, 161,700 new dwelling units have been authorized, which is higher than each annual total from 1993 to 2000. It is also within 2,100 units of the total for the entire year of 2001.

Regionally, the largest gains (in dollars) on a year-to-date basis occurred in the census metropolitan areas of Toronto, Montréal and Calgary. Growth in these three areas came from the phenomenal demand for new housing, particularly for single-family units.

#### Value of single-family permits remains high

The value of single-family permits reached \$1.8 billion, up 1.0% from August and a second consecutive monthly increase. In contrast, the value of multi-family permits dropped sharply from the high level in August. Construction intentions for multi-family dwellings totalled \$674 million, down 16.1% from August.

September's decline in the residential sector came largely from Ontario, where the value of permits fell 13.7% to \$1.0 billion, the result of a substantial decline in multi-family permits. In contrast, British Columbia posted the largest increase (in dollars) because of gains in both single- and multi-family components, the second double-digit increase in a row.

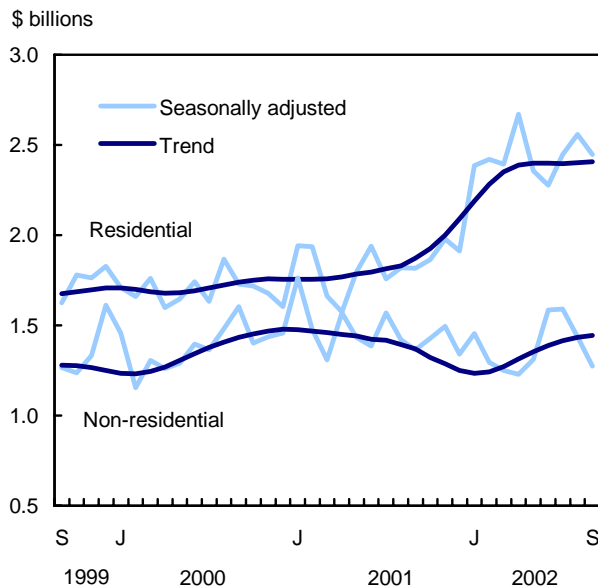
The residential sector was extremely healthy from January to September. Permits for multi-family dwellings increased 35.9%, and those for single-family dwellings rose 34.9%. Most of the gains came from permits for new dwellings, as they accounted for 90% of the value of residential permits issued since the beginning of 2002.

The buoyant performance in housing this year is linked to low mortgage rates and strong job growth, as well as to the low stock of dwellings available for rent or resale. Positive effects related to the strong demand for new housing followed. Thus, furniture stores sales are

at historically high levels and construction employment has increased.

Provincially, the strongest growth in cumulative figures (in dollars) occurred in Ontario (+26.2%) and Quebec (+53.1%). All provinces, territories and census metropolitan areas have recorded advances so far this year, showing that the housing fever is a national phenomenon.

### Significant decline in the non-residential sector



### Second monthly decrease in non-residential sector

The value of non-residential intentions in September fell 11.3% from August to \$1.3 billion. This drop was the largest in dollar terms since March 2001. All three non-residential components fell.

Institutional intentions tumbled 13.7% to \$400 million, the second marked decrease in a row. All categories of institutional buildings except religious buildings and social homes declined, especially educational buildings.

The commercial building component fell 7.0% to \$638 million, the third straight monthly decline. The trade and services category showed the most significant loss after a substantial increase in August.

The value of the industrial component dipped 17.8% to \$237 million, pushed down by a large drop in the manufacturing plants category. This was the second monthly decrease in a row.

Rising vacancy rates for both office and industrial buildings in several major centres may have hurt the

non-residential sector. However, good retail trade and the recovery of operating profits could have a positive impact.

Half of the 28 census metropolitan areas recorded monthly decreases in the value of non-residential permits. By far, the largest decline occurred in Toronto, where intentions fell in the trade and services and warehouse categories. However, this occurred following relatively high commercial levels in August. In contrast, Victoria recorded the highest increase because of large projects in the restaurant category.

Among the provinces, the most significant monthly decline occurred in Ontario, where intentions fell 31.2% to \$486 million. It was the third monthly decline in Ontario, as intentions fell in 8 of the province's 11 census metropolitan areas. In contrast, Alberta posted the largest growth (+25.1% to \$242 million) with an increase in all three components.

From January to September, non-residential building intentions reached \$12.4 billion, down 6.5% from the same period of 2001, the result of a decline in industrial and commercial intentions. Commercial building intentions saw the strongest decline (-9.7% to \$6.3 billion), and permits for industrial intentions fell 11.0% to \$2.4 billion. Only institutional permits recorded an increase (+2.8% to \$3.8 billion).

Among the provinces, British Columbia recorded the largest year-to-date decrease (-26.0% to \$1.3 billion), the result of a decline in educational building and medical and hospital categories. Despite a third consecutive monthly drop, the strongest year-to-date increase was recorded in Ontario (+3.1% to \$5.6 billion), led by an increase in social homes and medical hospital categories.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008, 026-0010 and 026-0015.**

**Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2802.**

The September 2002 issue of *Building permits* (64-001-XIE, \$14/\$145) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

The October 2002 building permit estimate will be released on December 5.

For general information or to order data, contact Vere Clarke (1-800-579-8533; 613-951-6556; [clarver@statcan.ca](mailto:clarver@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Valérie Gaudreault (613-951-1165; [gaudval@statcan.ca](mailto:gaudval@statcan.ca)), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

## Value of building permits

|                          | August<br>2002 <sup>r</sup> | September<br>2002 <sup>p</sup> | August<br>to<br>September<br>2002 | January<br>to<br>September<br>2001 | January<br>to<br>September<br>2002 | January–September<br>2001<br>to<br>January–September<br>2002 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Census metropolitan area | Seasonally adjusted         |                                |                                   |                                    |                                    |                                                              |
|                          | \$ millions                 |                                | % change                          | \$ millions                        |                                    | % change                                                     |
| St. John's               | 17.5                        | 19.4                           | 10.7                              | 132.9                              | 187.4                              | 41.0                                                         |
| Halifax                  | 28.7                        | 21.7                           | -24.3                             | 241.4                              | 330.6                              | 36.9                                                         |
| Saint John               | 8.8                         | 11.7                           | 33.7                              | 61.1                               | 76.2                               | 24.6                                                         |
| Saguenay                 | 11.3                        | 15.4                           | 37.1                              | 152.7                              | 127.8                              | -16.3                                                        |
| Québec                   | 61.3                        | 123.4                          | 101.2                             | 546.5                              | 596.0                              | 9.1                                                          |
| Sherbrooke               | 10.0                        | 14.7                           | 47.3                              | 113.9                              | 154.9                              | 35.9                                                         |
| Trois-Rivières           | 17.8                        | 13.4                           | -24.6                             | 87.7                               | 121.1                              | 38.1                                                         |
| Montréal                 | 460.5                       | 362.9                          | -21.2                             | 3,018.6                            | 3,447.4                            | 14.2                                                         |
| Gatineau                 | 30.6                        | 49.5                           | 61.7                              | 269.3                              | 368.0                              | 36.6                                                         |
| Ottawa                   | 124.8                       | 106.9                          | -14.3                             | 1,147.9                            | 1,277.0                            | 11.2                                                         |
| Kingston                 | 31.5                        | 21.5                           | -31.6                             | 135.5                              | 216.2                              | 59.6                                                         |
| Oshawa                   | 92.2                        | 51.2                           | -44.5                             | 419.4                              | 540.1                              | 28.8                                                         |
| Toronto                  | 908.9                       | 678.1                          | -25.4                             | 6,195.0                            | 6,708.9                            | 8.3                                                          |
| Hamilton                 | 114.3                       | 92.2                           | -19.4                             | 640.8                              | 860.7                              | 34.3                                                         |
| St. Catharines–Niagara   | 73.1                        | 30.5                           | -58.3                             | 311.9                              | 548.3                              | 75.8                                                         |
| Kitchener                | 82.6                        | 66.2                           | -19.9                             | 718.7                              | 765.8                              | 6.5                                                          |
| London                   | 69.7                        | 49.4                           | -29.1                             | 522.6                              | 517.4                              | -1.0                                                         |
| Windsor                  | 49.5                        | 51.3                           | 3.7                               | 416.8                              | 547.9                              | 31.5                                                         |
| Sudbury                  | 9.6                         | 12.3                           | 27.8                              | 58.5                               | 112.4                              | 92.3                                                         |
| Thunder Bay              | 7.9                         | 17.9                           | 126.6                             | 78.4                               | 153.0                              | 95.2                                                         |
| Winnipeg                 | 44.1                        | 34.4                           | -22.1                             | 314.4                              | 343.1                              | 9.2                                                          |
| Regina                   | 11.6                        | 19.1                           | 64.8                              | 152.6                              | 112.7                              | -26.1                                                        |
| Saskatoon                | 25.0                        | 18.4                           | -26.4                             | 185.3                              | 231.2                              | 24.8                                                         |
| Calgary                  | 202.6                       | 224.5                          | 10.8                              | 1,623.3                            | 2,026.9                            | 24.9                                                         |
| Edmonton                 | 180.2                       | 174.2                          | -3.4                              | 1,015.5                            | 1,305.8                            | 28.6                                                         |
| Abbotsford               | 10.7                        | 29.3                           | 173.4                             | 155.1                              | 140.4                              | -9.5                                                         |
| Vancouver                | 266.5                       | 291.5                          | 9.4                               | 2,314.0                            | 2,569.2                            | 11.0                                                         |
| Victoria                 | 32.3                        | 58.4                           | 80.8                              | 270.1                              | 355.4                              | 31.6                                                         |

<sup>r</sup> Revised data.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary data.

**Note:** Data may not add to totals because of rounding.

## Value of building permits

|                           | August<br>2002 <sup>r</sup> | September<br>2002 <sup>p</sup> | August<br>to<br>September<br>2002 | January<br>to<br>September<br>2001 | January<br>to<br>September<br>2002 | January–September<br>2001<br>to<br>January–September<br>2002 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Seasonally adjusted       |                             |                                |                                   |                                    |                                    |                                                              |
|                           | \$ millions                 |                                | % change                          | \$ millions                        |                                    | % change                                                     |
| <b>Canada</b>             | <b>3,995.1</b>              | <b>3,720.1</b>                 | <b>-6.9</b>                       | <b>29,533.2</b>                    | <b>34,379.4</b>                    | <b>16.4</b>                                                  |
| Residential               | 2,558.1                     | 2,445.6                        | -4.4                              | 16,239.4                           | 21,953.2                           | 35.2                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 1,437.0                     | 1,274.4                        | -11.3                             | 13,293.9                           | 12,426.2                           | -6.5                                                         |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 28.0                        | 31.0                           | 10.6                              | 227.5                              | 287.0                              | 26.2                                                         |
| Residential               | 19.9                        | 19.8                           | -0.6                              | 129.2                              | 177.2                              | 37.1                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 8.1                         | 11.2                           | 38.3                              | 98.3                               | 109.9                              | 11.8                                                         |
| Prince Edward Island      | 15.4                        | 13.0                           | -15.4                             | 175.7                              | 108.7                              | -38.1                                                        |
| Residential               | 13.0                        | 5.9                            | -54.6                             | 48.7                               | 74.0                               | 52.0                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 2.4                         | 7.1                            | 199.2                             | 127.0                              | 34.7                               | -72.6                                                        |
| Nova Scotia               | 58.6                        | 72.0                           | 22.9                              | 527.1                              | 648.9                              | 23.1                                                         |
| Residential               | 40.5                        | 45.3                           | 12.0                              | 337.3                              | 448.7                              | 33.0                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 18.1                        | 26.7                           | 47.5                              | 189.8                              | 200.3                              | 5.5                                                          |
| New Brunswick             | 63.8                        | 53.0                           | -16.9                             | 394.2                              | 518.2                              | 31.4                                                         |
| Residential               | 31.6                        | 30.5                           | -3.6                              | 207.3                              | 303.1                              | 46.2                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 32.2                        | 22.6                           | -29.9                             | 186.9                              | 215.0                              | 15.0                                                         |
| Quebec                    | 774.2                       | 773.7                          | -0.1                              | 5,536.7                            | 6,535.5                            | 18.0                                                         |
| Residential               | 485.7                       | 511.3                          | 5.3                               | 2,612.2                            | 3,998.4                            | 53.1                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 288.5                       | 262.5                          | -9.0                              | 2,924.5                            | 2,537.1                            | -13.2                                                        |
| Ontario                   | 1,913.4                     | 1,528.2                        | -20.1                             | 13,345.6                           | 15,593.8                           | 16.8                                                         |
| Residential               | 1,207.6                     | 1,042.7                        | -13.7                             | 7,948.8                            | 10,031.4                           | 26.2                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 705.7                       | 485.5                          | -31.2                             | 5,396.8                            | 5,562.4                            | 3.1                                                          |
| Manitoba                  | 68.5                        | 71.5                           | 4.4                               | 541.2                              | 677.5                              | 25.2                                                         |
| Residential               | 34.7                        | 35.7                           | 2.8                               | 243.8                              | 334.5                              | 37.2                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 33.7                        | 35.8                           | 6.0                               | 297.3                              | 343.0                              | 15.4                                                         |
| Saskatchewan              | 53.6                        | 47.9                           | -10.7                             | 524.8                              | 519.0                              | -1.1                                                         |
| Residential               | 28.3                        | 24.1                           | -14.8                             | 167.7                              | 197.4                              | 17.7                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 25.2                        | 23.7                           | -6.0                              | 357.1                              | 321.6                              | -9.9                                                         |
| Alberta                   | 558.0                       | 603.1                          | 8.1                               | 4,271.0                            | 5,172.5                            | 21.1                                                         |
| Residential               | 364.8                       | 361.5                          | -0.9                              | 2,422.7                            | 3,432.8                            | 41.7                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 193.2                       | 241.7                          | 25.1                              | 1,848.3                            | 1,739.7                            | -5.9                                                         |
| British Columbia          | 439.7                       | 512.2                          | 16.5                              | 3,858.7                            | 4,190.6                            | 8.6                                                          |
| Residential               | 317.3                       | 355.7                          | 12.1                              | 2,074.8                            | 2,870.2                            | 38.3                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 122.4                       | 156.5                          | 27.9                              | 1,783.9                            | 1,320.4                            | -26.0                                                        |
| Yukon                     | 3.6                         | 2.5                            | -29.7                             | 43.6                               | 21.8                               | -50.0                                                        |
| Residential               | 1.7                         | 1.7                            | -0.3                              | 13.1                               | 15.8                               | 20.5                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 1.9                         | 0.9                            | -55.4                             | 30.5                               | 6.0                                | -80.4                                                        |
| Northwest Territories     | 11.0                        | 7.9                            | -28.0                             | 58.3                               | 66.8                               | 14.7                                                         |
| Residential               | 6.4                         | 7.6                            | 18.5                              | 18.8                               | 47.2                               | 151.2                                                        |
| Non-residential           | 4.6                         | 0.3                            | -92.7                             | 39.5                               | 19.6                               | -50.3                                                        |
| Nunavut                   | 7.5                         | 4.0                            | -46.2                             | 28.9                               | 39.0                               | 35.0                                                         |
| Residential               | 6.6                         | 4.0                            | -39.6                             | 14.9                               | 22.5                               | 50.6                                                         |
| Non-residential           | 0.9                         | 0.1                            | -93.9                             | 14.0                               | 16.5                               | 18.3                                                         |

<sup>r</sup> Revised data.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary data.

**Note:** Data may not add to totals because of rounding.

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## OTHER RELEASES

**Farm Product Price Index**

August 2002

The Farm Product Price Index (FPPI) for August remained unchanged from August 2001. This was the first month in which the index did not show a year-over-year decrease, after declining for four consecutive months.

Crop prices climbed 11.3% from August 2001, but prices received by farmers for all livestock and animal products fell 8.4%. The crop index has seen increases in the 12-month change since September 2000. The livestock index has fallen year-over-year for the last six months. Before this, the livestock index was above year-over-year levels each month since September 1999, with the exception of November and December 2001.

The FPPI (1997=100) stood at 102.2 in August, up 0.1% from July. This was the third month-over-month increase after three consecutive drops.

**Farm Product Price Index  
(1997=100)**

|                                      | August<br>2001 | July<br>2002 <sup>r</sup> | August<br>2002 <sup>p</sup> | August<br>2001<br>to<br>August<br>2002<br>% change | July<br>to<br>August<br>2002 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Farm Product Price Index</b>      | <b>102.2</b>   | <b>102.1</b>              | <b>102.2</b>                | <b>0.0</b>                                         | <b>0.1</b>                   |
| <b>Crops</b>                         | <b>90.3</b>    | <b>99.4</b>               | <b>100.5</b>                | <b>11.3</b>                                        | <b>1.1</b>                   |
| Grains                               | 90.0           | 95.8                      | 89.0                        | -1.1                                               | -7.1                         |
| Oilseeds                             | 85.1           | 96.9                      | 102.1                       | 20.0                                               | 5.4                          |
| Specialty crops                      | 89.2           | 123.8                     | 120.3                       | 34.9                                               | -2.8                         |
| Fruit                                | 90.0           | 99.1                      | 107.5                       | 19.4                                               | 8.5                          |
| Vegetables                           | 106.1          | 104.2                     | 104.6                       | -1.4                                               | 0.4                          |
| Potatoes                             | 167.1          | 271.3                     | 236.7                       | 41.7                                               | -12.8                        |
| <b>Livestock and animal products</b> | <b>113.6</b>   | <b>104.4</b>              | <b>104.1</b>                | <b>-8.4</b>                                        | <b>-0.3</b>                  |
| Cattle and calves                    | 126.0          | 114.5                     | 116.4                       | -7.6                                               | 1.7                          |
| Hogs                                 | 108.0          | 86.4                      | 82.0                        | -24.1                                              | -5.1                         |
| Poultry                              | 96.0           | 92.6                      | 92.7                        | -3.4                                               | 0.1                          |
| Eggs                                 | 100.3          | 101.7                     | 101.7                       | 1.4                                                | 0.0                          |
| Dairy                                | 110.6          | 109.9                     | 110.1                       | -0.5                                               | 0.2                          |

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

On a month-to-month basis, the crop index was up 1.1% from July. The index has increased in 8 of the last 12 months. Although there were decreases in the potato, grain and specialty crop indexes, these were offset by the increases in the oilseed, fruit and vegetable indexes.

The oilseed index was at 102.1 in August, up 5.4% from July and the highest level since July 1999. On a year-over-year basis, the oilseed

index rose 20.0%, continuing the upward trend that started in February 2001, pressured by tight world oilseed supplies.

The potato index stood at 236.7 in August, down 12.8% from July. It has shown monthly decreases in only 4 of the last 12 months. However, the potato index has been above year-earlier levels since August 2001, and was 41.7% above year-earlier levels in August 2002. The increase in prices can be attributed to the large decline in potato production in 2001, which placed strong upward pressure on growers' prices.

The fruit (+8.5%) and vegetable (+0.4%) indexes were both up from July. On a year-over-year basis, the fruit index was up 19.4%, but the vegetable index was down 1.4%.

The specialty crop index fell 2.8% from July, down for the second consecutive month. This decrease was influenced mainly by lower prices for lentils and mustard seed. However, specialty crop prices were up 34.9% from August 2001. This index has been above year-earlier levels since June 2001.

The livestock index fell 0.3% from July. Monthly decreases in prices for hogs more than offset increases in those for cattle and calves, dairy and eggs.

The hog index was down 5.1% from July to 82.0; it decreased in three of the last eight months. The hog index was down 24.1% from August 2001, the sixth consecutive month to see a year-over-year decline. Canadian hog prices are being pressured by slower disposition of North American pork supplies and higher slaughter volumes.

The cattle and calves index rose 1.7% in August to 116.4, the first month-to-month increase since March 2002. With the exception of a four-month period last winter, the cattle and calves index has been decreasing on a month-to-month basis since April 2001. On a year-over-year basis, the cattle and calves index was down 7.6%, continuing the downward trend that started in October 2001. Before October 2001, the index had been above year-earlier levels every month since January 1997.

**Available on CANSIM: table 002-0021.**

The August 2002 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 2, no. 8 (21-007-XIB, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information or to order data, call 1-800-465-1991. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact

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## **University spin-off companies**

2001 (preliminary)

As of March 31, 2001, Canadian universities and research hospitals had created a total of 673 spin-off companies to commercialize the results of their research. In 2002, these companies are expected to have total revenues of \$2.5 billion and to employ 18,835 people.

Results from the Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector are now available, along with a related first-time study on the characteristics of spin-off companies. An additional fact sheet is also available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cathy Read (613-951-3838; fax: 613-951-9920; [cathy.read@statcan.ca](mailto:cathy.read@statcan.ca)), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

## **Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics**

2002

The publication *Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics 2002*, released today, contains 73 data tables on topics ranging from Canada's physiography and climate to production and consumption of primary energy resources.

These tables update data in the more extensive compendium, *Human activity and the environment*, which is published every five years. The fifth edition was released on June 29, 2000.

According to the feature article in this new update, "Air quality in Canada," the focus of capital investment of businesses in pollution prevention, abatement and control shifted from substances released to surface waters to those emitted to air from 1994 to 1998.

In 1998, almost 55% of these capital investments were directed toward preventing or abating substances emitted to air, compared with just over 30% in 1994. In contrast, capital expenditures of businesses directed at reducing substances released to surface waters fell from a peak of 55% in 1995 to 21% in 1998.

In 1998, Canadian businesses earned \$527.3 million from air pollution control goods and services. Pollution control systems and equipment generated the vast majority of this total, about \$460.0 million in revenues.

According to other data updated for this annual report, the waste management industry disposed of about 23.1 million metric tonnes of non-hazardous solid waste in 2000, up 11% from 1998. Per capita, each person disposed of an average of 0.75 tonnes of solid waste in 2000, compared with 0.69 tonnes in 1998.

In the 1990s, the Canadian government increased expenditures on forest protection by more than one-third, to \$561.9 million. However, government spending on silviculture declined to \$218.8 million by 1999, less than half of what it had been in 1990.

From 1981 to 1999, thermal-electric power stations more than doubled their use of sub-bituminous coal, lignite and natural gas.

Per capita consumption of energy increased 5.5% in Canada during the 1990s. However, the amount of energy required to produce one dollar of economic output actually declined.

On a per capita basis, each Canadian in 1990 consumed just over 333 gigajoules of energy. By 2000, per capita consumption had increased to more than 351 gigajoules. A 30-litre gasoline fill-up contains about one gigajoule of energy.

Energy consumption for every dollar of inflation-adjusted gross domestic product — a measure of the energy intensity of the economy — declined during the decade.

**Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1209, 1736, 1903 and 2009.**

*Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics 2002* (16-201-XIE, \$10; 16-201-XPE, \$40, including CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Murray Cameron (613-951-3740; fax: 613-951-0634, [murray.cameron@statcan.ca](mailto:murray.cameron@statcan.ca)), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■



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| • <b>Urban transit, 1995</b><br>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. | 2         |
| • <b>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995</b><br>Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses also noticeably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.  | 4         |
| <b>OTHER RELEASES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |
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