



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, October 14, 2003

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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The number of new motor vehicles sold in August slipped 1.1% from July. This is the smallest monthly change in 2003.
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2001 Census topic-based tabulations (various levels of geography)

Now available free of charge on Statistics Canada's website are additional topic-based tabulations for the "Income of individuals, families and households" and "Earnings of Canadians" topics for various levels of geography. From the *Census* page, choose *Data*, then *Topic-based tabulations*.

For more information, contact the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



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MAJOR RELEASES

New motor vehicle sales

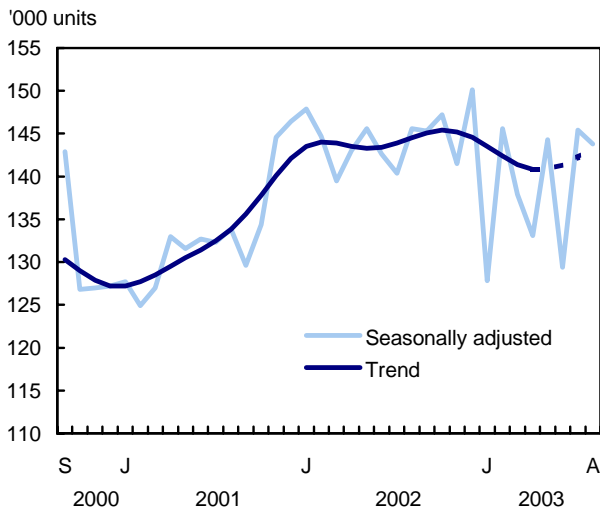
August 2003

The number of new motor vehicles sold in August slipped 1.1% from July. This is the smallest monthly change in 2003, a year during which sales have gone through major fluctuations. In July, sales had advanced 12.4% after falling 10.4% in June.

In August, motor vehicle dealers sold 143,816 new vehicles, down 1,619 units from July. The decline in August was mainly attributable to trucks.

The sales decrease in August occurred despite the continuation of incentives that had helped boost sales in July. A blackout struck Ontario in mid-month, forcing some dealers to shut their doors for a few days.

New motor vehicle sales edged down in August



The last few trend points could be subject to revisions when more data are added. This is indicated by the dashed line.

On the basis of preliminary figures from the automobile industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in September is estimated to have declined approximately 2%, primarily because of weak sales of passenger cars.

New motor vehicle sales have gone through major fluctuations in 2003. Overall, sales in the first eight months of 2003 were 3.6% lower than in the same period of 2002, a record year.

Note to readers

All data in this release have been seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated. Provincial seasonally adjusted data dating back to January 1991 are available on CANSIM.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purpose, such as taxis or rental cars. **Trucks** include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

For reasons of confidentiality, data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are included with those for British Columbia.

New motor vehicle sales remained at a high level throughout 2002, following a period of sustained growth that prevailed during most of 2001.

Truck sales were down

The number of new trucks sold fell 2.9% in August to 68,762 vehicles. This decline followed a sizable increase (+18.5%) in July, which was largely due to incentives offered by automakers. Trucks include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

Despite August's decrease, new truck sales have maintained an upward movement in the past few months, following a period of decline that started in early 2003. Previously, sales had generally remained stable throughout 2002.

Overseas-built passenger cars saved the day

Sales of overseas-built passenger cars rose 4.3% in August, pushing up overall sales of new passenger cars (+0.6%) to reach a level of 75,054 vehicles. For overseas-built cars, this was only the second rise in sales in 2003, the only other occurring in January. North American-built passenger cars edged down 0.9% in August after jumping 10.6% in July.

The movement of new passenger car sales has stabilized in recent months, following a downward movement that began in the fall of 2002. Previously, sales had remained at a high level during the major portion of 2002, following an upward trend that began in early 2001.

Three provinces stand out

In August, sales of new motor vehicles were down in almost all provinces compared with July. In Ontario, which accounts for approximately 37% of the national market, sales slipped 1.9%. Elsewhere, sales declined in all western provinces, while in the Maritimes, they fell in Nova Scotia and in New Brunswick.

Three provinces reported increases in August: Quebec (+1.9%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+4.9%) and Prince Edward Island (+9.6%). For Newfoundland and Labrador, this was the fifth consecutive increase, while in Prince Edward Island and Quebec, the increase observed in August was the second in a row.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, sales have been following an upward movement in recent months, after remaining generally stable since the fall of 2001. Previously, they experienced a period of growth that began at the start of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 079-0001 and 079-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The August 2003 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$14/\$133) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for September 2003 will be released on November 13.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Clérance Kimanyi (613-951-6363; clerance.kimanyi@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

New motor vehicle sales

| | August 2002 | July 2003 ^r | August 2003 ^p | August 2002 to August 2003 | July to August 2003 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | |
| | Number of vehicles | | | % change | |
| New motor vehicles | 145,562 | 145,435 | 143,816 | -1.2 | -1.1 |
| Passenger cars | 78,809 | 74,614 | 75,054 | -4.8 | 0.6 |
| North American ¹ | 56,020 | 53,255 | 52,779 | -5.8 | -0.9 |
| Overseas | 22,789 | 21,359 | 22,276 | -2.3 | 4.3 |
| Trucks, vans and buses | 66,753 | 70,821 | 68,762 | 3.0 | -2.9 |
| New motor vehicles | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 2,155 | 2,217 | 2,326 | 7.9 | 4.9 |
| Prince Edward Island | 414 | 415 | 455 | 9.9 | 9.6 |
| Nova Scotia | 4,066 | 4,484 | 4,055 | -0.3 | -9.6 |
| New Brunswick | 3,461 | 3,594 | 3,327 | -3.9 | -7.4 |
| Quebec | 36,351 | 37,274 | 37,999 | 4.5 | 1.9 |
| Ontario | 57,876 | 54,715 | 53,698 | -7.2 | -1.9 |
| Manitoba | 4,449 | 4,262 | 4,161 | -6.5 | -2.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 3,438 | 4,025 | 3,902 | 13.5 | -3.1 |
| Alberta | 17,101 | 17,953 | 17,451 | 2.0 | -2.8 |
| British Columbia ² | 16,251 | 16,497 | 16,443 | 1.2 | -0.3 |
| | August 2002 | July 2003 | August 2003 ^p | August 2002 to August 2003 | |
| Unadjusted | | | | | |
| | Number of vehicles | | | % change | |
| New motor vehicles | 150,865 | 148,957 | 145,108 | -3.8 | |
| Passenger cars | 84,511 | 78,388 | 78,013 | -7.7 | |
| North American ¹ | 57,576 | 54,580 | 52,954 | -8.0 | |
| Overseas | 26,935 | 23,808 | 25,059 | -7.0 | |
| Trucks, vans and buses | 66,354 | 70,569 | 67,095 | 1.1 | |
| New motor vehicles | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 2,497 | 2,718 | 2,655 | 6.3 | |
| Prince Edward Island | 444 | 501 | 494 | 11.3 | |
| Nova Scotia | 4,128 | 4,853 | 4,047 | -2.0 | |
| New Brunswick | 3,491 | 3,628 | 3,293 | -5.7 | |
| Quebec | 39,960 | 39,790 | 40,504 | 1.4 | |
| Ontario | 59,989 | 55,033 | 53,348 | -11.1 | |
| Manitoba | 4,666 | 4,373 | 4,209 | -9.8 | |
| Saskatchewan | 3,533 | 3,968 | 3,918 | 10.9 | |
| Alberta | 16,429 | 17,111 | 16,679 | 1.5 | |
| British Columbia ² | 15,728 | 16,982 | 15,961 | 1.5 | |

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

² Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

NEW PRODUCTS

Steel wire and specified wire products, August 2003,
Vol. 58, no. 08
Catalogue number 41-006-XIB (\$6/\$51).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (F) (English) 11-001-XIE (F) (English) 11-001-XIE (F) (English)

The Daily
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 using it less and less. In 1996, 65th calendar year, an average of about 40 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 initially weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Highered Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM, Statistics Canada's data retrieval system. A telephone enquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services — from seminars to consultations — are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

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