

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 24, 2003

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MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Cable and satellite television 2002

Small dishes on roofs are becoming part of the landscape. The number of subscribers to satellite and wireless cable (multipoint distribution system or MDS) television services surpassed 2.0 million in 2002, up from 1.6 million in 2001.

At the end of August 2002, wireless operators served 20.9% of multi-channel video services customers, compared with 17.0% in 2001. The rapid rise of satellite and MDS television in recent years has, however, lost momentum. The 25.1% jump in the number of subscribers to these services in 2002 was modest compared with gains of 66.4% in 2001 and 74.4% in 2000.

Some of the 2.0 million customers of wireless operators were lured away from cable companies. The number of subscribers to cable television peaked in 1999 and has eroded since then. The 3.1% decline in 2002 was the most severe in history. Cable operators in smaller communities were hit particularly hard by competition, with a drop in subscription of 5.6% in 2002.

Despite the loss of subscribers, cable operators' revenues have continued to grow by more than 7.0% per year since 1999. This relatively good performance is in large part due to the popularity of high speed Internet and digital cable. In 2002, revenue per subscriber for operators providing both these services was 32.8% higher than those of operators that did not offer these services, or offered only one of the two.

The availability and adoption of high speed Internet by cable are progressing quickly. At the early stage of deployment, high speed Internet by cable was mainly a large city (Census metropolitan areas) phenomenon. Since then, the accessibility of this technology in smaller communities (outside Census metropolitan areas) has advanced rapidly. In 2000, 32.2% of homes with access to cable in smaller communities could subscribe to high speed Internet by cable. Two years later, that proportion has leaped to 70.6%.

Not only is this technology more widely available, but it is also more widely used. From August 2000 to August 2002, the number of subscribers to Internet by cable has more than doubled to reach 1.9 million. The increase was stronger in smaller communities (+256%) than in larger communities (+123%).

The entry of satellite and MDS operators into the multi-channel video market is at the origin of a shift towards digital technology. At the end of August 2002, 3.2 million, or one third, of multi-channel video services customers subscribed to digital wireless or digital cable services. Although wireless providers continued to dominate the digital service market with 2.0 million customers, cable operators were rapidly closing the gap. The number of subscribers to digital cable jumped 50.5 % in 2002, twice the growth for wireless digital services. This was the second consecutive year that digital cable growth outpaced wireless digital growth.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2728.

More detailed information will soon be available in the *Broadcasting and telecommunications service bulletin*, Vol. 33, no. 3 (56-001-XIE, \$11/\$35). See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel April (613-951-3177; daniel.april@statcan.ca), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division.

Natural gas sales

August 2003 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 3 969 million cubic metres in August, up 0.3% from August 2002. The industrial (including direct sales) sector showed an increase in sales of 1.3%, while the residential sector (-4.3%) and commercial sector (-2.7%) each registered a decrease.

Year-to-date sales at the end of August were up 2.7% from the same period of 2002. The residential (+4.9%) and commercial (+6.0%) sectors both posted gains. Use of natural gas by the industrial sector (including direct sales) has gone up 0.6% so far this year.

2.7

4.9

6.0

0.6

3			
	August	August	August
	2003 ^p	2002	2002
			to
			August
-			2003
	Thousands of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	3 969 625	3 957 934	0.3
Residential	418 704	437 556	-4.3
Commercial	359 240	369 119	-2.7
Industrial	1 611 895	1 444 923	
			1.3
Direct	1 579 786	1 706 336	
		Year-to-date	
	2003 ^p	2002	2002 to 2003
	Thousands of cu	ıbic metres	% change

Natural gas sales

Residential

Commercial

Industrial

Direct

Natural gas sales

Available on CANSIM: tables 129-0001 to 129-0004.

48 400 069

12 027 555

13 151 820

14 042 259

9 178 435

47 135 345

11 460 543

8 656 079

12 298 618

14 720 105

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; enera@statcan.ca). То enauire about concepts. methods or data quality of this release, contact Pierre Després (613-951-3579; pierre.despres@statcan.ca), Tom Lewis (613-951-3596: tom.lewis@statcan.ca). or Llovd Cundell (613-951-7346; lloyd.cundell@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

March 2003

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for March 2003.

Available on CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2148 and 2191.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release.

contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Electric utility construction price indexes

Annual 2002 (revised) and first half 2003 (preliminary)

Construction costs for distribution systems increased 0.2% in the first half of 2003. The major factors behind this increase were the higher costs of distribution systems equipment (+0.8%) and materials (+0.6%), which were moderated by the lower costs of construction indirects (-1.4%). Meanwhile, the revised 2002 data for distribution systems showed an increase of 0.7 % from 2001.

Construction costs for the transmission line system series declined 1.5% in the first half of 2003, compared with a 1.8% increase in 2002. The transmission line component fell (-0.6%) compared with an increase of 1.6% in the previous year. Construction indirects (-2.0%) had the largest influence on the 2003 downward movement. The substation component decreased in the first half of 2003 (-2.1%) following the 2.0% increase the previous year. Station equipment was the largest contributor (-4.3%) to the 2003 index decline.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2316.

The second quarter 2003 issue of *Capital expenditure price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$26/\$85) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; adrianfisher@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

Steel primary forms — weekly data

Week ending October 18, 2003 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 18 totalled 307 651 metric tonnes, up 2.1% from 301 415 tonnes a week earlier and 12.4% from 273 636 tonnes in the same week of 2002.

The year-to-date total as of October 18 was 12 510 940 tonnes, down 2.1% from 12 783 300 tonnes in the same period of 2002.

p Preliminary figures.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Primary iron and steel

August 2003

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for August.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The August 2003 issue of *Primary iron and steel*, Vol. 58, no 8 (41-001-XIB, \$6/\$51) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*) Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Survey of earned doctorates

Data from the 2002/03 demonstration project of the Survey of Earned Doctorates are now available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3126.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — a weekly review, October 24, 2003 Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$100).

Infomat — a weekly review, October 24, 2003 Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Primary iron and steel, August 2003, Vol. 58, no. 8 Catalogue number 41-001-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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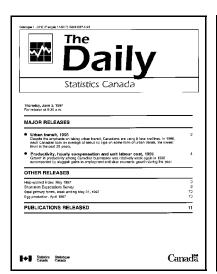
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RELEASE DATES: OCTOBER 27 TO 31

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
27	Employment, earnings and hours	August 2003
28	Employment Insurance	August 2003
29	Industrial Product Price and Raw Materials Price Indexes	September 2003
30	Knowledge workers in Canada	1971 to 2001
31	Gross domestic product by industry	August 2003
31	Factors related to adolescents' self-perceived health	2000/01