



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, March 15, 2004**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **New motor vehicle sales, January 2004** 2  
After five consecutive months of declines, new motor vehicle sales turned around in January, rising 1.3% from December. This movement looks set to strengthen, since preliminary data indicate a sizable gain of approximately 7% in February.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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## NEW PRODUCTS

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### New motor vehicle sales

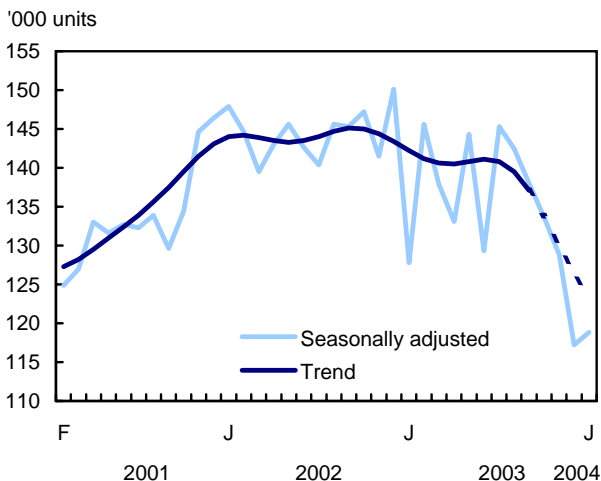
January 2004

After five consecutive months of declines, new motor vehicle sales turned around in January, rising 1.3% from December. This movement looks set to strengthen, since preliminary data indicate a sizable gain of approximately 7% in February, mainly attributable to strong sales of trucks.

In all, 118,779 new motor vehicles were sold in January, up 1,568 units from December. New passenger cars and trucks both contributed to the gain observed in January. Trucks include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses. Despite the recovery of the overall sales of new vehicles in January, the level is still 18.3% lower than in July 2003, the last month to show an increase.

New motor vehicle sales have maintained a steady downward movement since the second half of 2003. During the first half, sales seesawed but the trend was relatively stable. Previously, new motor vehicle sales had remained at record levels throughout 2002, following a period of sustained growth in 2001.

#### Slight increase in new motor vehicle sales in January following five consecutive months of decline



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

#### Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated. Seasonally adjusted provincial data back to January 1991 are available on CANSIM.

**Passenger cars** include those used for personal and commercial purposes, 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.

#### Increase in sales of trucks of all origins and North American-built cars

In January, consumers were more inclined to purchase trucks of all origins and North American-built passenger cars. As a result, sales of these vehicles advanced after several months of declines.

The number of new trucks sold in January rose 1.8% from December, when sales registered a fifth straight decline (-10.6%). In all, 54,583 new trucks were purchased in January.

Dealers reported selling 64,196 passenger cars in January, up 1.0% from December. This gain followed four consecutive monthly declines. It is entirely attributable to sales of North American-built cars, which rose 2.2% following a steep drop (-13.6%) in December. Sales of overseas-built cars were 1.5% lower in January than in December, when they had risen substantially (+7.4%).

Sales of new passenger cars have been following a downward trend since the fall of 2002, while truck sales did not experience a similar slowdown until the last part of 2003. Previously, sales of both categories had remained generally stable during 2002, following an upward trend that began in early 2001.

#### Sales rebound in provinces that were down the most in December

In January, new motor vehicle sales advanced in New Brunswick, Alberta, Quebec and Ontario, the provinces that reported the largest declines in December.

In the Atlantic provinces, sales declined everywhere but in New Brunswick, which posted the largest national

increase (+9.4%). This gain followed a series of five consecutive declines. Sales in New Brunswick had been following a downward trend since the spring of 2002, following a period of sustained growth in 2001.

In Western Canada, sales fell in all provinces except Alberta (+5.4%). For Alberta, this increase put an end to five straight months of declines. New motor vehicle sales in the province have generally been trending downward since the fall of 2002, following a period of increases going back to the summer of 1999.

In Quebec (+4.2%) and Ontario (+2.5%), the increases followed, respectively, four and three consecutive declines.

In the other provinces, sales declined in January, with Newfoundland and Labrador posting the highest decrease (-19.7%), followed by Saskatchewan (-17.4%). Saskatchewan also posted the largest year-over-year decline.

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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.**

The January 2004 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 February will be released on April 19.

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

**New motor vehicle sales**

	January 2003	December 2003 <sup>r</sup>	January 2004 <sup>p</sup>	January 2003 to January 2004	December 2003 to January 2004
seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>127,838</b>	<b>117,211</b>	<b>118,779</b>	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Passenger cars	71,977	63,579	64,196	-10.8	1.0
North American <sup>1</sup>	47,145	42,698	43,637	-7.4	2.2
Overseas	24,831	20,881	20,559	-17.2	-1.5
Trucks, vans and buses	55,862	53,632	54,583	-2.3	1.8
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,628	2,255	1,810	11.2	-19.7
Prince Edward Island	325	344	334	2.8	-2.9
Nova Scotia	3,509	3,746	3,555	1.3	-5.1
New Brunswick	2,847	2,592	2,836	-0.4	9.4
Quebec	33,016	29,882	31,150	-5.7	4.2
Ontario	49,067	43,908	44,989	-8.3	2.5
Manitoba	3,418	3,366	3,334	-2.5	-1.0
Saskatchewan	3,028	3,119	2,575	-15.0	-17.4
Alberta	15,514	13,942	14,690	-5.3	5.4
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	15,486	14,057	13,506	-12.8	-3.9
	January 2003	December 2003	January 2004 <sup>p</sup>	January 2003 to January 2004	
unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>95,477</b>	<b>112,870</b>	<b>85,238</b>	<b>-10.7</b>	
Passenger cars	49,890	55,707	43,142	-13.5	
North American <sup>1</sup>	34,345	39,213	30,151	-12.2	
Overseas	15,545	16,494	12,991	-16.4	
Trucks, vans and buses	45,587	57,163	42,096	-7.7	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	964	1,555	971	0.7	
Prince Edward Island	210	295	205	-2.4	
Nova Scotia	2,348	3,312	2,245	-4.4	
New Brunswick	1,914	2,298	1,884	-1.6	
Quebec	22,031	24,640	19,906	-9.6	
Ontario	37,490	44,856	33,402	-10.9	
Manitoba	2,696	3,303	2,403	-10.9	
Saskatchewan	2,446	3,534	2,026	-17.2	
Alberta	12,550	14,835	11,302	-9.9	
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	12,828	14,242	10,894	-15.1	

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Steel pipe and tubing

January 2004

Data on production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for January.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0003.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.**

The January 2004 issue *Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing*, Vol. 28, no. 1 (41-011-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](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Passenger bus industry

2002(preliminary)

Preliminary financial data for 2002 for the urban transit and passenger bus industry are now available.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2798.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Harold Kohn (613-951-0162; [kohnhar@statcan.ca](mailto:kohnhar@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

### Steel wire and specified wire products

January 2004

Data on production of steel wire and specified wire products are now available for January.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0010.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2106, 2116 and 2184.**

The January 2004 issue of *Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products*, Vol. 59, no. 1 (41-006-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](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Sawmills and Planing Mills**, December 2003, Vol. 57, no. 12  
Catalogue number **35-003-XIB** (\$10/\$93).

**Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products**, January 2004, Vol. 59, no. 1  
Catalogue number **41-006-XIB** (\$6/\$51).

**Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing**, January 2004, Vol. 28, no. 1  
Catalogue number **41-011-XIB** (\$6/\$51).

**The General Social Survey: An Overview**, Catalogue number **89F0115XIE** (free).

**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.

### How to order products

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**To order a product by mail write:** Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6. Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

**To order by Internet:** write to [infostats@statcan.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.ca) or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's website ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

**Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.**

Catalogue 1-004 (Parcours 1-001) ISSN 0897-0443

**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, most Canadians 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, 1995** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- **Measures of Inflation, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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