



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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NEW PRODUCTS



OTHER RELEASES

New Housing Price Index

March 2004

The New Housing Price Index (1997=100) rose 0.3% in March, down slightly from February's monthly increase of 0.4%. On a 12-month basis, this index of contractors' selling prices rose 5.1%, up from February's increase of 4.9%.

Prices were up in 14 of the 21 metropolitan areas surveyed. Winnipeg led the way with a monthly increase of 1.3%, followed by Saskatoon (+1.2%) and Victoria (+1.1%). For the most part, increases in these metropolitan areas were the result of higher prices for labour and building materials such as lumber and drywall. Higher land values also contributed to the increases in Saskatoon and Victoria.

Significant gains were observed in Ottawa–Gatineau (+0.8%), Regina (+0.6%), Montréal (+0.5%), Calgary (+0.5%) and Vancouver (+0.5%), mostly as the result of higher prices for building materials and labour. Builders in Calgary also cited higher land values.

New Housing Price Indexes¹ (1997=100)

	March 2004	March 2003 to March 2004	February to March 2004
	% change		
Canada total	120.8	5.1	0.3
House only	128.3	6.3	0.4
Land only	106.4	2.0	0.2
St. John's	115.5	4.1	0.3
Halifax	121.1	3.3	0.0
Charlottetown	108.6	3.3	0.3
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	103.9	2.0	0.0
Québec	127.6	6.9	0.3
Montréal	132.3	6.1	0.5
Ottawa–Gatineau	144.0	5.2	0.8
Toronto and Oshawa	123.6	5.5	0.2
Hamilton	123.8	3.9	-0.5
St. Catharines–Niagara	124.5	6.0	-0.2
Kitchener	122.2	2.5	-0.2
London	119.8	5.2	0.2
Windsor	102.1	0.0	0.0
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay	98.0	1.9	0.0
Winnipeg	117.9	4.0	1.3
Regina	130.6	6.2	0.6
Saskatoon	117.3	4.6	1.2
Calgary	136.4	5.6	0.5
Edmonton	127.0	3.5	0.2
Vancouver	99.7	4.6	0.5
Victoria	102.6	10.6	1.1

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas.

New home prices rose in St. John's, Charlottetown, Québec, London, Edmonton and Toronto and Oshawa.

Four metropolitan areas registered no change, while monthly decreases were registered in Hamilton (-0.5%), St. Catharines–Niagara (-0.2%) and Kitchener (-0.2%), partly as a result of competitive factors.

Victoria continued to post the largest 12-month increase for new homes (+10.6%). Québec (+6.9%) was next followed by Regina (+6.2%), Montréal (+6.1%) and St. Catharines–Niagara (+6.0%).

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.

The first quarter 2004 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$26/\$85) will be available in July 2004.

The April 2004 New Housing Price Index will be released on June 10.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9606, fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Susan Morris (613-951-2035; morrisus@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Commercial Software Price Index

February and March 2004 (preliminary)

The Commercial Software Price Index (CSPI) is a monthly series measuring the change in the purchase price of pre-packaged software typically bought by businesses and governments. The CSPI for February was 80.5, up 2.7% from January. The index for March was 80.6, up 0.1% from February.

This index is available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 331-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5068.

For more information on these indexes, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; infounit@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Fred Barzyk (613-951-2493; fred.barzyk@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Environment industry: Data on technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

2002 (preliminary)

This release refers to information collected in 2002 Environment Industry Survey about technologies used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Canadian environmental businesses earned \$370.3 million in revenues from the sales of technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2002.

The 2002 total of revenues shows a 29.8% increase from the reported level in 2000. The technologies used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions include industrial equipment, systems and processes that reduce or prevent the release of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere.

Fuel cells and alternative fuel technologies revenues accounted for close to one-third of the total in 2002 (\$118.1 million). During the same year, sales of solar and wind energy systems and equipment reached \$112 million. Additional revenues of \$8.6 million were derived from systems and equipment for the following "carbon-neutral" applications to produce heat or electricity: cogeneration, methane capture and use, and waste-to-energy.

Clean technologies also reduce greenhouse gas emissions from industrial processes. Examples include integrated process and materials recovery technologies, the sales of which earned businesses \$13.1 million in 2002.

Small- and medium-sized firms are the main suppliers of the technologies used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Small businesses represented more than half of total revenues from the sales of technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2002 (\$208.7 million). Medium-sized firms generated \$123.7 million or 33% of the total, while large firms made up the remaining 10% (\$37.8 million).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1209.

Tables from this data release are now available upon request. Information on research and development

activities aimed at developing goods and services related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions are also available. For more information or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Rowena Orok (613-951-0344) or the information officer (613-951-0297; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

Natural gas transportation and distribution

October to December 2003

Data on natural gas transportation and distribution for the period of October to December 2003 are now available.

Users should take note that a number of data series have been revised back to January 2002.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For general information, to order data 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. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

December 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 December 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. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat: A Weekly Review, May 11, 2004
Catalogue number **11-002-XIE** (\$100).

Farm and Off-Farm Income Statistics, 2001
Catalogue number **21-019-XIE**
(free).

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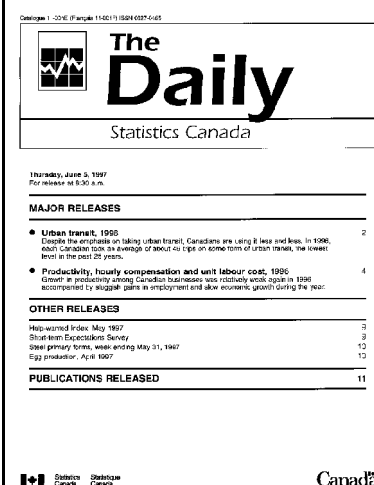
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The Daily
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Discusses the importance of taking urban transit. Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, about Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 12 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 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.

OTHER RELEASES

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- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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