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Contractors took out their highest level of building permits on record in August, as investment intentions by governments and businesses went through the roof. Municipalities issued a record \$5.4 billion in building permits, up 10.2% from July, and set a new record for non-residential permits.

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Canada's homicide rate jumped in 2004 after reaching a 30-year low in 2003. Five of the nation's largest census metropolitan areas accounted for the majority of last year's increase.

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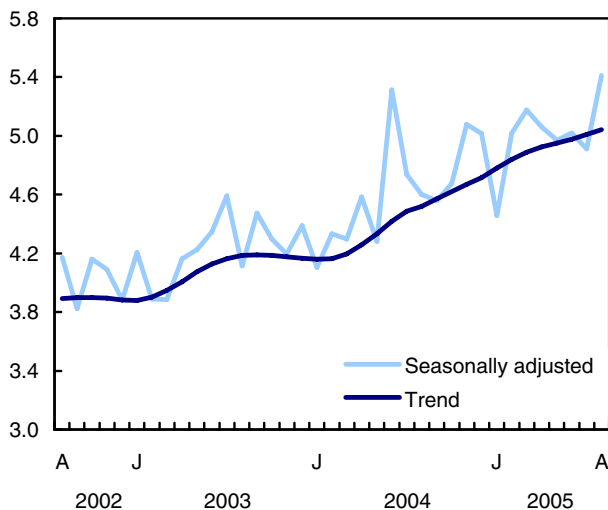
August 2005

Contractors took out their highest level of building permits on record in August as investment intentions by governments and businesses went through the roof.

Municipalities issued a record \$5.4 billion in building permits, a 10.2% increase from July. It broke the previous monthly record of \$5.3 billion set in June 2004.

The total value of building permits reaches a new peak

\$ billions



The value of permits for non-residential projects surged 32.0% to just over \$2.25 billion, which was also a record. The level was fractionally higher than the previous mark set in March this year.

Gains in all three non-residential sectors (industrial, commercial and institutional) surpassed 30% in August. The growth was fuelled by strong non-residential investment intentions in Ontario.

In the residential sector, construction intentions edged down 1.4% to \$3.2 billion, the first decrease in five months. The slip was due to a decline in intentions for multi-family dwellings.

However, the monthly total for housing was still 2.9% higher than the average in 2004, which was a record year.

The total value of building permits has been on an upward trend since the beginning of 2004, thanks to

Note to readers

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

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,380 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 levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

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

constant strength in the residential sector and the surge in non-residential construction intentions.

Massive investment in British Columbia and Alberta

On a year-to-date basis, municipalities issued building permits totalling \$40.0 billion during the first eight months of 2005, up 10.4% from the same period last year.

Construction intentions in the non-residential sector were up 24.0%, more than six times the pace of growth in the value of housing permits.

The biggest factor in the phenomenal growth of building permits so far this year has been construction fever in Alberta and British Columbia. Combined, they have accounted for 87.0% of the year-to-date increase from 2004.

Excluding Alberta and British Columbia, the overall value of building permits for the first eight months of 2005 would have been only 1.9% higher than in the same period last year, instead of 10.4%.

So far this year in Alberta, industrial construction intentions have nearly tripled, while the value of institutional permits almost doubled. In British Columbia, the institutional construction intentions have far more than doubled.

Year-to-date gains (in dollars) in building permits in Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver have surpassed increases in all other census metropolitan areas.

In Calgary and Edmonton, the strength came from both housing and non-residential permits. In Vancouver, the non-residential sector fuelled the gain.

Residential sector: Fourth gain in five months in single-family permits

Contractors took out single-family permits totalling \$2.1 billion in August, up 0.2% from July,

which was the fourth gain in the last five months. In contrast, the value of multi-family permits dropped for a second consecutive month, falling 4.4% to \$1.1 billion.

Advantageous mortgage rates and their positive impact on affordability, and the progression of full-time employment, were key factors behind the demand for housing. However, the Conference Board's consumer confidence index, which remained high throughout the year, declined in August.

Provincially, the largest gain in August (in dollars) occurred in British Columbia as the result of increases in both single- and multi-family construction intentions. The value of single-family permits in British Columbia hit a record high of \$311 million in August. The value of multi-family permits reached its highest level since June 2004.

In Alberta, the value of residential permits reached its second highest value on record, just below last April's level.

In contrast, Ontario and Quebec posted the largest retreats. In Ontario, municipalities issued housing permits worth \$1.1 billion, the lowest level since November 2004.

The value of single-family permits for the first eight months of 2005 was only 0.6% higher than the same period in 2004. For multi-family dwellings, the growth totalled 10.1%.

From January to August, 48.4% of the 156,220 new units approved have been multi-family. This proportion has been steadily rising since 2000 when their share was 38.6%.

Non-residential: Strength across the board

August's record high \$2.3 billion in non-residential building permits marked the second time this year that the total has surpassed the \$2-billion mark.

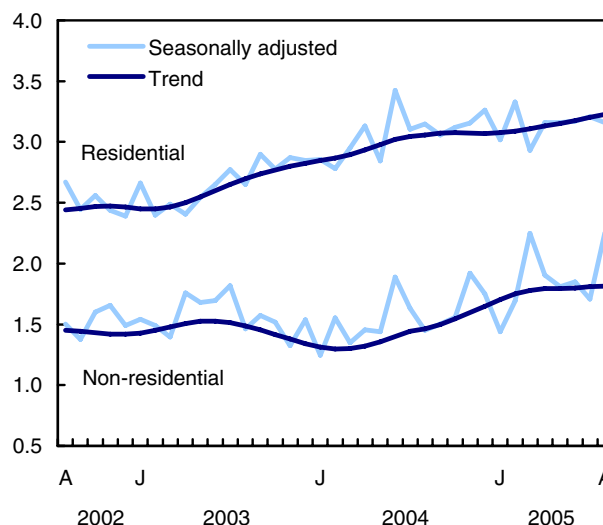
A record value in the institutional component combined with high levels in the industrial and commercial components pushed non-residential permits above the previous record.

In the institutional sector, the value of permits rose 34.1% to \$754 million. Demand for institutional permits was particularly strong in Ontario, where they more than doubled to \$478 million, as intentions for medical buildings increased. This component has been on an upward trend since September 2004.

In the industrial component, intentions rose 31.4% to \$442 million after a 16.8% decline in July. In Ontario, permits for industrial projects surged 50.8% to \$189 million, the biggest gain in dollar terms among the provinces, thanks to proposed projects in plants and utility buildings categories.

Value of non-residential permits surges in August

\$ billions



In the commercial sector, the value of permits rebounded 30.8% to \$1.1 billion following a 21.6% decline in July. The strength came mostly from Ontario and Quebec where every category of commercial buildings showed gains, with the exception of buildings for trade and services in Ontario.

The excellent results for the non-residential sector are consistent with economic indicators. Capacity use by industries edged up to its highest level in nearly five years during the second quarter. Total retail sales reached a new high in July, corporate profits have risen in 12 of the past 14 quarters and office vacancy rates fell in almost all major markets during the last quarter.

Of the 28 census metropolitan areas, 19 recorded monthly increases in the value of non-residential permits in August. The largest gain occurred in the census metropolitan area of Ottawa, and the largest drop was in Edmonton.

On a year-to-date basis, municipalities issued \$14.9 billion worth of non-residential permits, up 24.0% from the January-to-August period in 2004. Last year, it took 10 months to reach this same level.

All three components increased. The value of commercial permits recorded a 22.2% gain. The value of permits increased 23.5% in the institutional component and the industrial sector showed a year-to-date advance of 30.7%.

So far this year, non-residential permits have increased in every province except Quebec. The largest increases were recorded in Alberta and British Columbia. Marked advances occurred in every non-residential component in both provinces.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The August issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-XIE, \$15/\$156) will be available soon.

The September building permit estimate will be released on November 7.

To order data, contact Brad Sernoskie (613-951-4646 or 1-800-579-8533; bdp_information@statcan.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area¹

	July 2005 ^r	August 2005 ^p	July to August 2005	January to August 2004	January to August 2005	January-August 2004 to January-August 2005
seasonally Adjusted						
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions		% change
St. John's	14.0	35.0	149.8	244.9	245.5	0.3
Halifax	55.2	45.4	-17.8	415.3	383.2	-7.7
Saint John	17.9	12.0	-33.0	80.9	100.1	23.8
Saguenay	12.7	17.9	40.8	90.4	109.8	21.5
Québec	144.9	95.0	-34.4	826.1	806.2	-2.4
Sherbrooke	28.4	18.1	-36.1	161.7	168.4	4.2
Trois-Rivières	9.7	23.5	143.5	121.0	117.6	-2.8
Montréal	602.3	482.9	-19.8	4,070.2	3,998.6	-1.8
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	186.7	316.6	69.6	1,567.2	1,555.4	-0.8
Ottawa-Gatineau (Que. part)	25.8	32.7	26.9	385.1	271.2	-29.6
Ottawa-Gatineau (Ont. part)	160.9	283.8	76.4	1,182.2	1,284.2	8.6
Kingston	28.7	17.1	-40.2	160.4	136.8	-14.7
Oshawa	43.2	119.1	175.3	545.3	613.7	12.5
Toronto	846.5	811.3	-4.2	7,569.4	7,184.2	-5.1
Hamilton	53.8	93.4	73.7	708.7	688.0	-2.9
St. Catharines-Niagara	39.1	62.2	58.9	364.3	380.2	4.4
Kitchener	78.6	71.7	-8.9	582.0	664.1	14.1
London	67.8	68.1	0.4	565.6	563.2	-0.4
Windsor	36.0	58.7	62.9	373.5	312.8	-16.3
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	14.6	9.6	-34.4	85.0	116.9	37.6
Thunder Bay	5.6	9.7	74.3	77.8	91.5	17.6
Winnipeg	48.0	54.8	14.3	485.0	462.0	-4.7
Regina	22.9	18.8	-18.1	157.6	171.8	9.0
Saskatoon	27.7	30.6	10.2	173.3	243.9	40.7
Calgary	313.5	310.7	-0.9	1,896.2	2,541.2	34.0
Edmonton	285.3	264.4	-7.3	1,306.1	1,848.6	41.5
Abbotsford	14.1	21.9	54.7	132.3	215.8	63.1
Vancouver	389.0	534.0	37.3	3,233.8	3,583.0	10.8
Victoria	38.0	57.8	52.3	340.1	444.4	30.6

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

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

Note: Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

Value of building permits, by province and territory

	July 2005 ^r	August 2005 ^p	July to August 2005	January to August 2004	January to August 2005	January-August 2004 to January-August 2005
	seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions		% change
Canada	4,910.9	5,411.8	10.2	36,250.4	40,030.6	10.4
Residential	3,205.3	3,159.6	-1.4	24,237.9	25,133.4	3.7
Non-residential	1,705.6	2,252.1	32.0	12,012.5	14,897.2	24.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	28.9	49.9	72.3	321.7	352.1	9.4
Residential	18.3	33.5	83.4	232.4	222.4	-4.3
Non-residential	10.7	16.4	53.4	89.4	129.7	45.1
Prince Edward Island	16.8	42.6	153.7	131.2	175.8	34.0
Residential	11.6	8.7	-25.2	83.4	87.3	4.7
Non-residential	5.1	33.9	558.4	47.8	88.4	85.1
Nova Scotia	107.8	95.3	-11.6	761.3	754.0	-1.0
Residential	64.8	64.4	-0.6	522.3	512.2	-1.9
Non-residential	43.0	30.9	-28.2	239.0	241.8	1.2
New Brunswick	85.4	97.2	13.8	500.4	548.5	9.6
Residential	43.6	39.9	-8.6	325.3	324.6	-0.2
Non-residential	41.8	57.3	37.3	175.1	223.9	27.9
Quebec	1,093.9	984.0	-10.0	7,737.1	7,704.5	-0.4
Residential	832.6	643.9	-22.7	5,179.2	5,357.4	3.4
Non-residential	261.3	340.2	30.2	2,557.9	2,347.1	-8.2
Ontario	1,793.0	2,156.4	20.3	15,516.9	15,882.1	2.4
Residential	1,163.0	1,098.5	-5.5	10,055.3	9,652.6	-4.0
Non-residential	630.0	1,057.9	67.9	5,461.7	6,229.5	14.1
Manitoba	82.6	95.0	15.1	757.2	747.8	-1.2
Residential	51.9	60.8	17.3	450.8	426.4	-5.4
Non-residential	30.7	34.2	11.3	306.4	321.4	4.9
Saskatchewan	67.9	75.9	11.8	494.2	574.9	16.3
Residential	30.0	27.4	-8.7	258.6	257.4	-0.5
Non-residential	37.9	48.5	28.0	235.6	317.6	34.8
Alberta	831.4	847.2	1.9	4,643.9	6,572.1	41.5
Residential	488.8	517.6	5.9	3,133.9	3,886.4	24.0
Non-residential	342.6	329.6	-3.8	1,510.1	2,685.8	77.9
British Columbia	771.0	954.4	23.8	5,252.2	6,614.0	25.9
Residential	489.8	655.7	33.9	3,932.2	4,351.8	10.7
Non-residential	281.2	298.7	6.2	1,320.0	2,262.2	71.4
Yukon	6.3	1.8	-71.6	56.9	32.8	-42.3
Residential	3.7	1.3	-65.0	25.6	23.3	-9.1
Non-residential	2.6	0.5	-80.6	31.3	9.5	-69.6
Northwest Territories	24.0	6.2	-74.2	54.4	63.4	16.4
Residential	5.4	3.2	-40.5	26.3	24.8	-5.6
Non-residential	18.6	3.0	-84.0	28.1	38.5	37.1
Nunavut	2.0	5.9	201.8	23.0	8.5	-63.1
Residential	1.8	4.8	160.4	12.7	6.9	-46.2
Non-residential	0.1	1.1	923.6	10.2	1.6	-84.1

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

Note: Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

Homicides

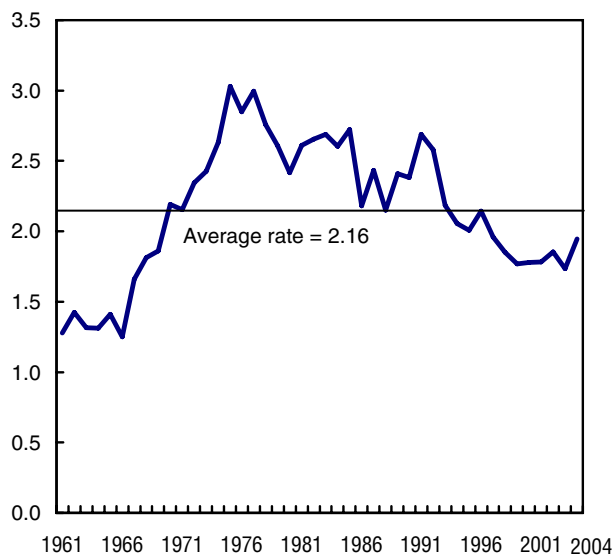
2004

Canada's homicide rate jumped in 2004 after reaching a 30-year low in 2003. Five of the nation's largest census metropolitan areas accounted for the majority of last year's increase.

Police services reported 622 homicides last year, 73 more than in 2003. Together, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Vancouver, Calgary and Montréal accounted for three-quarters of this increase.

Homicide rate, 1961 to 2004

Rate per 100,000 population



The 2004 rate of 1.95 homicides for every 100,000 population was 12% higher than in 2003 and 3% higher than the average over the previous decade. Canada's homicide rate has generally been declining since peaking at just over 3.0 homicides for every 100,000 population in the mid-1970s.

While homicide is often thought of as a major urban phenomena, murder rates outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) are typically as high or higher than those within CMA boundaries, and this was the case in 2004. The combined rate for all CMAs last year was 1.91 homicides per 100,000 population, compared to 2.01 for all areas outside these CMAs.

The study, an in-depth examination of homicide, also showed that the rate of homicides committed with a firearm increased slightly for the second consecutive year.

Note to readers

Aggregate statistics on homicide in Canada for 2004 were first released in *The Daily* on July 21, 2005 as part of a wide-ranging report on crime. This report represents a more detailed analysis of the homicide data.

The Criminal Code classifies homicide as first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter or infanticide. Deaths caused by criminal negligence, suicide, and accidental or justifiable homicide are not included.

The number of spousal homicides declined for the third year in a row in 2004, although all other categories of family homicide increased.

Police reported 18 prostitutes killed, 11 of which were directly related to their profession. In addition, there were 81 victims killed as a direct result of their involvement in other illegal activities such as drug trafficking and gang violence.

Firearm homicides increase slightly

There were 172 homicides committed with a firearm in 2004, 11 more than in 2003 and 20 more than in 2002. However, the 2004 total was still slightly below the average of 176 homicides involving firearms over the past decade.

During the past 10 years, the proportion of homicides involving a firearm has remained fairly stable, ranging from 26% to 34%. In 2004, the proportion was 28%. In contrast, in the United States, two-thirds of all homicide victims were killed with a firearm in 2003, more than double the proportion seen in Canada.

Over the past decade, the highest rates of firearm homicides have been reported in British Columbia and Quebec. However, in 2004, Manitoba recorded 13 homicides committed with a firearm, giving it the highest provincial rate for that year.

Beginning in 2001, handguns have consistently accounted for about two-thirds of all firearm-related homicides in Canada. Last year was no exception, as 65% of firearm homicides were committed with a handgun.

Over the years, the primary method used to commit homicide has varied between stabbings and shootings. With 63 more than in 2003, the most common method used last year was stabbings, accounting for one-third of all homicides. Beatings accounted for 22% and strangulation/suffocation for a further 10%.

Third decline in a row in spousal homicide rate

As in previous years, most homicides in 2004 were committed by someone known to the victim. Among

solved homicides, half were committed by an acquaintance, one-third by a family member and 15% by a stranger.

Spousal homicides are those involving people in legal marriages, those who are separated or divorced from such unions, and those in common-law relationships. The national spousal homicide rate has generally been declining since the mid-1970s.

Police reported that 74 spouses were killed in 2004, down from 78 the year before, and the third consecutive annual decline. Even so, they still accounted for about one in six solved homicides and almost one-half of all family homicides.

Women were much more likely to be killed by their spouse than men. In 2004, the spousal homicide rate against women was five times higher than the corresponding rate for men.

Those in common-law relationships were more at-risk than those living in legally married unions. In 2004, the homicide rate against persons living in common-law relationships was almost five times higher than the rate for those living in legal marriages.

Of the 62 female victims of spousal homicide, 27 women were killed by their legally-married husband, 20 by a common-law husband and 15 by a separated or divorced husband. Of the 12 male victims, 3 were killed by their legally-married wife, 8 by their common-law wife and 1 by a separated or divorced wife.

Homicides involving relationships with intimate partners doubled from 11 in 2003 to 22 in 2004. These included homicides committed by current or former boyfriends, girlfriends and extra-marital lovers.

Among solved homicides involving victims aged 15 and older, one-half of all women were killed by someone with whom they had had an intimate relationship at some point, either through marriage or dating. The comparative figure for men was 8%. Men were far more likely to be killed by an acquaintance or a stranger.

All categories of non-spousal family homicides increased in 2004. There were 36 children killed by their parent, 17 parents killed by their child, 11 victims killed by a sibling and 22 other family-related homicides.

Decline in homicides committed by youth

Despite the overall increase in homicides in 2004, the number of youths aged 12 to 17 accused of homicide fell from 57 in 2003 to 40 in 2004. The youth accused homicide rate was at its second lowest point in more than 30 years.

As was the case historically, youth were more likely than adults to kill other youth and young adults. Among

solved homicides committed by youth in 2004, two-thirds of victims were aged 14 to 24 compared with 17% of homicides committed by adults.

Mental illness a factor in many homicides

A new detailed profile of the relationship, motivation and location of all 2004 homicides revealed that 70 victims were killed by someone that police believed was suffering from mental illness. The majority of these homicides were committed against family members.

There were 33 victims killed during a robbery, two-thirds of which occurred in the victim's residence. Half of those victims killed in their own home were over the age of 60.

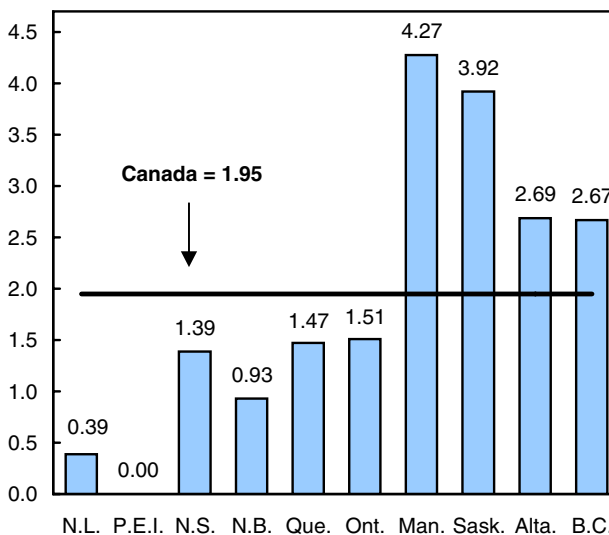
In addition, over half of victims and almost three-quarters of accused persons had consumed alcohol and/or drugs at the time of the homicide. There were also 20 victims killed as a result of an argument originating in a bar.

Homicide rates highest in the West

The 2004 national increase in homicides was mainly due to an increase of 22 homicides in Alberta, 18 in British Columbia, and 12 in Quebec.

Homicide rates by province, 2004

Rate per 100,000 population



The highest homicide rates among the provinces were reported in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, followed by Alberta and British Columbia. Quebec and Ontario's rates were below the national average, while the

lowest rates were found in Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Manitoba's rate of 4.27 homicides per 100,000 population was the second highest in that province since data were first collected in 1961. With almost double the number of homicides in 2004 from the previous year, Winnipeg recorded the highest rate, 4.89, among the nine CMAs with populations over 500,000. Regina had the highest rate of all CMAs at 4.98.

Available on CANSIM: tables 253-0001 to 253-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3315.

The publication *Juristat: Homicide in Canada, 2004*, Vol. 25, no. 6 (85-002-XIE, \$9/\$75; 85-002-XPE, \$11/\$100) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Homicides by province/territory

Province/territory	2004		2003		Average 1994 to 2003	
	Number of victims	Rate ¹	Number of victims	Rate ¹	Number of victims	Rate ¹
Newfoundland and Labrador	2	0.39	5	0.96	5	0.84
Prince Edward Island	0	0.00	1	0.73	1	0.88
Nova Scotia	13	1.39	8	0.85	16	1.67
New Brunswick	7	0.93	8	1.07	10	1.27
Quebec	111	1.47	99	1.32	133	1.81
Ontario	187	1.51	178	1.45	174	1.52
Manitoba	50	4.27	43	3.70	33	2.92
Saskatchewan	39	3.92	41	4.12	27	2.67
Alberta	86	2.69	64	2.03	63	2.15
British Columbia ²	112	2.67	94	2.26	106	2.69
Yukon	7	22.43	1	3.27	2	5.24
Northwest Territories	4	9.34	4	9.48	3	6.23
Nunavut ³	4	13.49	3	10.29	3	9.26
Canada	622	1.95	549	1.73	573	1.89

1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

2. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C., the following homicides were included in the total for British Columbia : 5 homicides in 2004, 7 in 2003 and 15 in 2002. Homicides are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

3. The average in Nunavut is calculated from 1999 to 2003.

Homicides by census metropolitan area¹

	2004		2003		Average 1994 to 2003	
	Number of victims	Rate ²	Number of victims	Rate ²	Number of victims	Rate ²
500,000+ population						
Winnipeg	34	4.89	18	2.61	19	2.86
Edmonton	34	3.39	22	2.22	23	2.42
Vancouver ³	56	2.58	45	2.10	52	2.65
Calgary	20	1.91	11	1.07	15	1.61
Toronto	94	1.80	95	1.85	80	1.73
Montréal	63	1.73	56	1.55	71	2.08
Ottawa ⁴	10	1.14	10	1.15	10	1.25
Hamilton	9	1.30	9	1.31	12	1.82
Québec	6	0.84	3	0.42	9	1.25
Total	326	2.03	269	1.70	291	1.98
100,000 to less than 500,000 population						
Regina	10	4.98	10	5.01	6	2.86
Abbotsford ⁵	7	4.39	8	5.09	4	2.56
Saskatoon	8	3.30	8	3.31	6	2.61
Halifax	9	2.37	3	0.80	7	2.01
Oshawa	6	1.82	1	0.31	2	0.64
St. Catharines–Niagara	7	1.62	6	1.39	6	1.33
Victoria	5	1.51	5	1.52	6	2.00
Saguenay	2	1.35	0	0.00	1	0.67
Kitchener	6	1.26	1	0.21	4	0.96
Windsor	4	1.21	9	2.74	6	2.01
London	5	1.07	8	1.72	5	1.07
Trois–Rivières	1	0.69	0	0.00	2	1.11
Saint John	1	0.69	1	0.69	2	1.35
St. John's	1	0.56	2	1.13	2	1.20
Gatineau ⁶	1	0.35	3	1.08	4	1.51
Sherbrooke	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	1.26
Kingston ⁵	0	0.00	5	3.25	3	2.18
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	0	0.00	1	0.62	3	1.76
Thunder Bay	0	0.00	1	0.80	3	2.10
Total	73	1.51	72	1.50	74	1.54
CMA totals	399	1.91	341	1.65	365	1.88
Less than 100,000 population	223	2.01	208	1.89	215	1.92
Canada	622	1.95	549	1.73	580	1.89

1. CMAs have been adjusted according to police service boundaries.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

3. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C., the following homicides were included in the total for the Vancouver CMA: 5 homicides in 2004, 7 in 2003 and 15 in 2002. Homicides are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

4. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

5. Abbotsford and Kingston became CMAs in 2001. Average number and rate are calculated from 2001 to 2003.

6. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

Firearm-related homicides

Year	Number of firearm-related homicides	% of all homicides	Rate of firearm-related homicides ¹	Number of handgun-related homicides	% of all homicides	Rate of handgun-related homicides ¹
1994	196	32.9	0.68	90	45.9	0.31
1995	176	29.9	0.60	95	54.0	0.32
1996	212	33.4	0.72	107	50.5	0.36
1997	193	32.9	0.65	99	51.3	0.33
1998	151	27.1	0.50	70	46.4	0.23
1999	165	30.7	0.54	89	53.9	0.29
2000	184	33.7	0.60	108	58.7	0.35
2001	171	30.9	0.55	110	64.3	0.35
2002	152	26.1	0.48	98	64.5	0.31
2003	161	29.3	0.51	109	67.7	0.34
2004	172	27.7	0.54	112	65.1	0.35

1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

Canadian Vehicle Survey 2004

Medium and large trucks continued to be driven much more than light vehicles, such as cars, minivans, pick-up trucks and sport-utility vehicles. Average distances driven increased sharply for the larger vehicles in 2004, while travel in light vehicles experienced a slight drop. This decline was due largely to an unusually low amount of driving done during the summer months, July through September, the season when light vehicles are typically driven the most.

During 2004, operators of medium and large trucks drove their vehicles considerably more than in either of the previous two years. Medium trucks (vehicles weighing at least 4.5 tonnes but less than 15 tonnes) were driven an average of 21 421 kilometres, 12% more than in 2003. Large trucks (vehicles weighing 15 tonnes or more), which are used predominantly for long-distance transportation of freight, travelled an average of 74 455 kilometres, also a 12% increase from the previous year. Distances travelled by these large trucks tend to display less seasonal variability than other vehicles.

Light vehicles, those weighing less than 4.5 tonnes, typically belong to households. They were driven an average of 16 021 kilometres in 2004, down 2% from the previous year. Factors such as higher fuel prices and a cool, wet summer for most of Canada may have contributed to the decline.

The Canadian Vehicle Survey was modified in 2004 to measure fuel consumption. Results showed that light vehicles consumed an annual average of 11.0 litres of fuel per 100 kilometres driven. They attained their best fuel efficiency, 10.1 litres of fuel per 100 kilometres, during the summer months when the weather is warmer and more travel is done on highways. These vehicles consumed an average of 12.7 litres of fuel per 100 kilometres during the winter, January through March, as engines generally require more fuel when the weather is colder.

Drivers of cars and station wagons enjoyed an average fuel efficiency of 9.1 litres per 100 kilometres in 2004. In contrast, light trucks, including minivans, pick-up trucks and sport-utility vehicles, consumed an average of 13.3 litres of fuel to travel 100 kilometres.

Users should note that the reliability of the fuel consumption estimates from the survey was not particularly high and, therefore, the estimates of fuel efficiency should be used with caution.

The Canadian Vehicle Survey measures the activity of all on-road vehicles registered in Canada with the exception of some vehicles such as buses, motorcycles, construction equipment and road maintenance equipment.

Estimates of total vehicle-kilometres are available by province and territory. Estimates of passenger-kilometres are available by province only.

Available on CANSIM: tables 405-0055 to 405-0070, 405-0072 to 405-0086, 405-0088 to 405-0090, 405-0097, 405-0098, 405-0100 and 405-0111 to 405-0120.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2749.

The annual 2004 issue of *The Canadian Vehicle Survey* (53-223-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Transport and warehousing*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Production and value of ranch-raised pelts 2004 (preliminary)

The number of ranch-raised fur pelts increased from 1,471,130 pelts in 2003 to 1,479,940 in 2004 and their value was \$85.3 million. This can be attributed to an increase in mink prices.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0014 and 003-0015.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3426.

The publication *Fur Statistics*, Vol. 2, no. 2 (23-013-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-216-2299) or Bernadette Alain (902-893-7251; bernadette.alain@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Production and value of wildlife pelts

2003 (preliminary)

The value of wildlife pelts increased 10.4% to \$26.1 million in 2003 compared with a year earlier. The value of wildlife pelts increased by 11.0% to \$6.5 million in Ontario and by 11.7% in Quebec. These two provinces along with the three Prairie provinces account for about 80% of the total value.

Trappers harvested \$23.6 million worth of wildlife pelts in 2002, down 2.6% from 2001. Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba accounted for about 60% of the total value.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3428.

The publication *Fur Statistics*, Vol. 2, no. 2 (23-013-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-216-2299) or Bernadette Alain (902-893-7251; bernadette.alain@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports

May 2005

The May monthly report, Vol. 2 (TP141, free) is available on Transport Canada's Web site at the following URL (<http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm>).

Note: The TP141 monthly report is issued in two volumes. Volume 1 presents statistics for the major Canadian airports (i.e., those with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers or flight service stations). Volume 2 presents statistics for the smaller airports (i.e., those without air traffic control towers). Both volumes

are available free upon release at Transport Canada's Web site.

For more information about this Web site, contact Michel Villeneuve (613-990-3825; villenm@tc.gc.ca), Transport Canada.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Salary and salary scales of full-time teaching staff at Canadian universities

2004/05 (preliminary)

Preliminary data on the salaries of full-time teaching staff at 30 Canadian universities for the 2004/05 academic year were released in *The Daily* on June 9, 2005.

Information is now available on the salaries of full-time teaching staff at 63 additional Canadian universities, along with information on the salary scales for selected institutions for the 2004/05 academic year. The institutions that are included are all those that have completed the survey by the end of September 2005.

The information is collected annually under the University and College Academic Staff System.

As more information becomes available, it will be released periodically. Once information for all institutions has been received, a final report will be issued. Also available are special requests from this data set.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3101.

For further information or to order data, 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

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• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 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
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