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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 7, 2005
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Releases

(continued on page 2)

Education Matters

The third issue of volume 2 of Statistics Canada's online publication, *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada*, contains two articles.

Drawing on data from the Census and from the 2001 Aboriginal Peoples Survey, the article "Aboriginal peoples in Canada's urban areas — Narrowing the education gap" examines the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the Aboriginal population residing in 11 large urban areas over the 1981 to 2001 period. The focus is on trends in educational attainment among the Aboriginal population and how these trends compare to those observed for the non-Aboriginal population.

"Graduates of doctoral programs — Who are they and what are their post-degree plans?" reports on results from the 2003 Survey of Earned Doctorates, providing information on the labour market plans of graduates, how doctoral candidates fund their graduate studies, how much time was required to complete a doctoral degree, as well as basic data on the demographic characteristics of the graduates.

Education Matters is a free, on-line publication released every two months. A source of facts and analysis on education, training and learning, *Education Matters* offers quick access to the latest education indicators and in-depth research from Statistics Canada. It also links electronically to a wide variety of data, news on education, learning resources and tables, charts and analysis.

The third issue of volume 2 of *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada* (81-004-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Education*, then *Education Matters*.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382 or 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; *educationstats@statcan.ca*), Centre for Education Statistics.

Releases

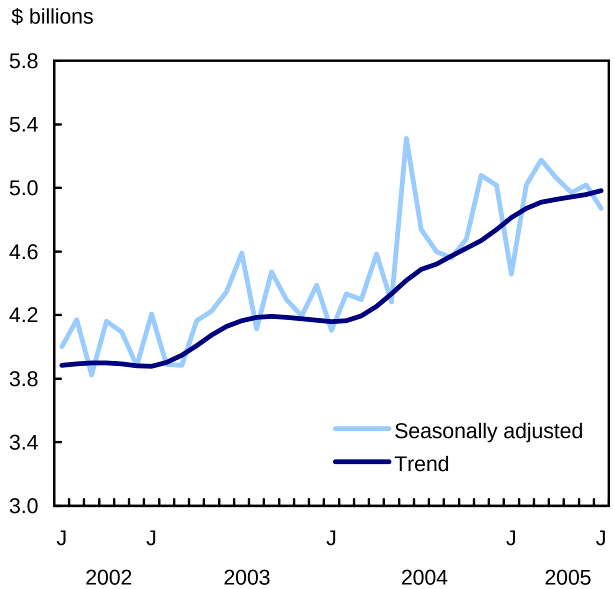
Building permits

July 2005

The overall value of building permits fell for the third time in four months in July as industrial and commercial intentions declined, and the value of housing permits showed only a modest increase. Municipalities issued $4.9 billion worth of building permits, down 3.0% from June.

The decline came in the wake of a 1.0% increase in June. Still, July's level remained 5.2% higher than the average monthly level in 2004, which was a banner year.

Total value of permits declines



The value of housing permits edged up 1.3% to $3.2 billion, as an increase in the single-family component more than offset a slight decline in the value of multi-family permits. Increases in the last four months contributed to extend the upward trend recorded since the beginning of 2003.

Contractors took out $1.7 billion worth in non-residential permits, down 10.2%, and a third monthly decline since the record of $2.2 billion set in March. These retreats contributed to the flattening of the upward trend observed since the beginning of 2004 in the non-residential sector.

Retreats in the value of industrial and commercial permits more than offset a jump in the institutional component.

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.

The constant strength in the housing sector as well as the good results in the non-residential sector led the cumulative value of overall permits to $34.6 billion, a 9.3% jump from the same period last year. Permits in the non-residential sector surged 19.3%, while the residential sector showed a more moderate 4.2% increase.

Among metropolitan areas, the largest advance (in dollars) on a year-to-date basis occurred in Calgary and Edmonton, driven by gains in both residential and non-residential sectors.

Residential sector: Both single- and multi-family permits remain high

The value of single-family permits increased 2.3% to $2.1 billion in July, the third gain in four months. Permits for multi-family dwellings slipped 0.6% to $1.1 billion. However, permits for multi-family dwellings surpassed the $1 billion mark for the sixth time since the beginning of the year.

Advantageous mortgage rates, the favourable job market, high levels of consumer confidence and the strong resale market are factors that explained the positive results in the residential sector.

Provincially, the largest gain (in dollars) in July occurred in Quebec. The value of building permits in Quebec increased for a fourth consecutive month in July to $822 million; a new record high which is explained by the high demand for new apartment/condo units. In contrast, British Columbia posted the largest decline as the multi-family segment retreated to its lowest level since December 2004.

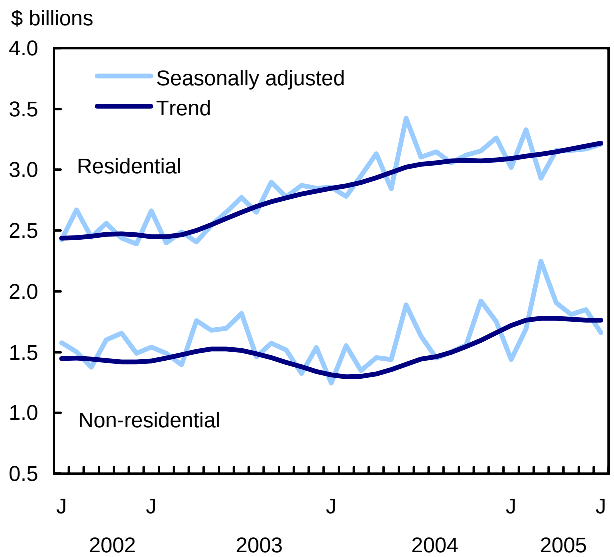
Since the beginning of the year, the value of single-family permits reached $14.4 billion, up 1.7% from the same period in 2004 although the number of units authorized declined 6.0% to nearly 70,900 units. The value of multi-family permits increased 9.4%

to $7.6 billion and the number of multi-family units totalled 66,740, up 1.8% from last year.

Provincially, the largest advance in the cumulative figures occurred in Alberta where the value of housing permits advanced 23.3%. The national figures for residential permits were greatly inflated by Alberta. If we exclude Alberta, the cumulative growth since the beginning of the year would be 1.4% instead of the 4.2% recorded at the national level.

British Columbia and Quebec also posted sizeable gains in comparison with last year.

Residential permits are up for a fourth consecutive month



Value of industrial and commercial permits declines

A substantial gain in institutional permits in July failed to offset declines in the industrial and commercial sectors.

After recording levels over the one billion mark four times since the beginning of the year, commercial intentions dropped in July, falling 23.1% to $791 million. This was the lowest level since May 2004. The decline came from a fall in the value of permits for office buildings in Ontario after a jump in June.

Following a substantial increase in June, intentions for industrial construction tumbled 17.8% to $332 million, with manufacturing buildings showing the biggest drop. Despite this decrease, the July level was 14.9% higher than the average monthly level of 2004. Quebec recorded the largest decrease with intentions down 42.8% to $68 million.

Construction intentions in the institutional sector continued their upward trend, increasing 29.0% to $536 million in July. The increase was based mainly on strong construction intentions in the medical and educational categories. Ontario experienced the greatest increase as a result of educational projects.

Of the 28 census metropolitan areas, half recorded monthly decreases in the value of non-residential permits. Vancouver recorded the largest decline due to lower construction intentions in the three components. In contrast, Edmonton recorded the largest increase due to a strong rise in the institutional component.

Among the provinces, the largest decreases in non-residential permits in July occurred in Ontario, down 17.8% to $592 million and the fourth decrease in a row. In contrast, Alberta recorded a 20.5% increase, the largest (in dollars) among provinces.

Despite a recent slowdown, the year-to-date results indicated that about $12.6 billion worth of non-residential permits were issued in the first seven months of 2005, up 19.3% from the same period of 2004. The non-residential sector reached a year-to-date record, with all classes of permits recording high levels. Builders took out $2.2 billion in industrial permits (+24.2%), $7.0 billion in commercial permits (+22.0%) and $3.4 billion in institutional permits (+11.5%).

These results are consistent with recent economic indicators. Among them, corporate profits continued to climb in the second quarter, retailers experienced their 15th monthly sales gain in June since the start of 2004, office vacancy rates have declined and industrial capacity use hit a record level in manufacturing sector.

Among the provinces, Alberta had the largest year-to-date gain in the wake of strong increases in non-residential permits across the province. Quebec recorded the largest decrease due to a marked decline in the institutional component.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

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

The August building permit estimate will be released on October 6.

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 area[1]

	June 2005[r]	July 2005[p]	June to July 2005	January to July 2004	January to July 2005	January-July 2004 to January-July 2005
	seasonally adjusted					
	$ millions		% change	$ millions		% change
St. John’s	39.6	13.7	-65.5	206.6	210.3	1.8
Halifax	56.5	55.0	-2.5	368.9	337.7	-8.4
Saint John	9.0	17.8	96.6	70.0	88.0	25.6
Saguenay	13.1	12.7	-3.0	76.3	91.9	20.4
Québec	85.6	144.0	68.3	746.1	710.3	-4.8
Sherbrooke	25.4	27.2	7.0	133.4	149.2	11.9
Trois–Rivières	20.3	9.6	-52.5	104.8	94.1	-10.2
Montréal	529.7	589.7	11.3	3,599.7	3,503.1	-2.7
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	169.2	187.1	10.6	1,365.4	1,239.3	-9.2
Ottawa–Gatineau (Que. part)	58.1	25.8	-55.7	334.2	238.5	-28.7
Ottawa–Gatineau (Ont. part)	111.1	161.3	45.2	1,031.2	1,000.8	-2.9
Kingston	16.0	28.5	78.7	142.5	119.4	-16.2
Oshawa	66.4	43.1	-35.1	513.8	494.5	-3.8
Toronto	742.4	846.8	14.1	6,491.0	6,373.1	-1.8
Hamilton	91.8	53.6	-41.6	577.0	594.5	3.0
St. Catharines–Niagara	39.8	39.1	-1.6	324.0	318.0	-1.8
Kitchener	119.7	78.4	-34.5	520.8	592.2	13.7
London	74.3	67.5	-9.2	496.0	494.8	-0.2
Windsor	33.4	35.0	4.9	306.8	253.1	-17.5
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	28.9	14.6	-49.6	67.0	107.3	60.0
Thunder Bay	8.7	5.1	-40.5	64.1	81.3	26.9
Winnipeg	101.7	47.8	-53.0	435.5	407.0	-6.5
Regina	12.6	22.6	79.2	136.4	152.7	12.0
Saskatoon	27.4	26.6	-3.1	140.3	212.2	51.2
Calgary	279.6	311.8	11.5	1,670.1	2,228.7	33.4
Edmonton	237.9	284.0	19.4	1,150.9	1,583.0	37.5
Abbotsford	21.2	14.1	-33.6	105.1	193.8	84.5
Vancouver	555.5	380.3	-31.5	2,901.8	3,040.2	4.8
Victoria	52.6	38.9	-26.0	304.4	387.5	27.3

r Revised data.
p Preliminary data.
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

	June 2005[r]	July 2005[p]	June to July 2005	January to July 2004	January to July 2005	January-July 2004 to January-July 2005
	seasonally adjusted					
	$ millions		% change	$ millions		% change
Canada	**5,019.9**	**4,870.9**	**-3.0**	**31,650.2**	**34,578.8**	**9.3**
Residential	3,171.1	3,210.9	1.3	21,089.4	21,979.4	4.2
Non-residential	1,848.8	1,660.0	-10.2	10,560.7	12,599.4	19.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	55.3	28.5	-48.4	272.7	301.9	10.7
Residential	31.2	17.8	-42.7	203.3	188.4	-7.3
Non-residential	24.2	10.7	-55.8	69.4	113.4	63.4
Prince Edward Island	19.3	16.9	-12.6	114.5	133.3	16.4
Residential	14.8	11.7	-20.6	74.2	78.8	6.2
Non-residential	4.5	5.1	13.9	40.4	54.5	35.1
Nova Scotia	105.7	106.6	0.8	656.0	657.5	0.2
Residential	75.1	63.9	-14.9	451.0	447.0	-0.9
Non-residential	30.6	42.7	39.4	205.0	210.6	2.7
New Brunswick	72.8	85.4	17.3	435.8	451.3	3.5
Residential	41.2	43.7	6.1	282.1	284.7	0.9
Non-residential	31.6	41.8	32.0	153.7	166.6	8.3
Quebec	1,025.4	1,080.3	5.4	6,821.4	6,706.9	-1.7
Residential	714.8	821.7	15.0	4,535.3	4,702.6	3.7
Non-residential	310.7	258.7	-16.7	2,286.1	2,004.3	-12.3
Ontario	1,931.2	1,786.0	-7.5	13,420.6	13,718.8	2.2
Residential	1,211.5	1,194.2	-1.4	8,622.7	8,585.3	-0.4
Non-residential	719.6	591.8	-17.8	4,797.9	5,133.5	7.0
Manitoba	144.9	82.1	-43.4	668.0	652.4	-2.3
Residential	56.3	51.5	-8.6	397.2	365.2	-8.0
Non-residential	88.6	30.6	-65.5	270.8	287.2	6.0
Saskatchewan	55.7	66.6	19.5	423.9	497.7	17.4
Residential	30.9	29.3	-5.1	217.9	229.3	5.2
Non-residential	24.8	37.2	50.2	206.0	268.4	30.3
Alberta	735.7	829.3	12.7	4,073.5	5,722.9	40.5
Residential	451.6	487.1	7.9	2,729.9	3,367.1	23.3
Non-residential	284.1	342.2	20.5	1,343.6	2,355.8	75.3
British Columbia	863.4	761.5	-11.8	4,643.9	5,650.0	21.7
Residential	538.8	481.5	-10.6	3,519.5	3,687.8	4.8
Non-residential	324.7	280.0	-13.8	1,124.3	1,962.2	74.5
Yukon	1.6	3.0	86.4	52.1	27.7	-46.8
Residential	1.3	2.6	100.9	22.1	20.9	-5.5
Non-residential	0.3	0.4	31.1	30.0	6.8	-77.3
Northwest Territories	8.5	24.0	182.0	46.8	57.2	22.1
Residential	3.5	5.3	53.6	23.5	21.6	-8.2
Non-residential	5.0	18.7	270.4	23.4	35.6	52.5
Nunavut	0.2	0.7	177.0	20.8	1.3	-93.8
Residential	0.2	0.5	168.8	10.6	0.7	-93.0
Non-residential	0.0	0.1	227.3	10.1	0.5	-94.6

[r] *Revised data.*
[p] *Preliminary data.*
Note: *Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.*

■

Community corrections

Nearly 369,000 adults were admitted to federal or provincial-territorial correctional services in 2002/03, of which 30% were admitted to community supervision. At the same time, there were about 50,000 young people aged 12 to 17 years old admitted to provincial or territorial correctional services, with half admitted to probation. (Youth data excludes Ontario 12-to-15 year olds.)

The report *Community Corrections in Canada* describes the delivery of community correctional services for youths and adults across Canada, including probation, diversion programs, pre-trial supervision and temporary absences. It also presents information on administrative activities such as pre-sentence reports and risk/needs assessments.

The report contains data on admissions and average counts of adults and youths under community supervision, identifying trends since 1993/94. It also provides data related to characteristics of offenders, such as sex and Aboriginal status.

Community Corrections in Canada, 2004 (85-567-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services page*, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Justice*.

For more 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. ■

Farm Product Price Index
June 2005

Prices farmers received for their commodities fell 8.9% in June from the same month a year earlier in the wake of a sharp decline in crop prices, while prices for livestock dipped slightly.

Overall, producers received prices for crops that were 19.2% below levels in June 2004, continuing a downward trend in year-over-year price changes that began in September 2003, according to the Farm Product Price Index. Farmers received lower prices for grains, oilseeds, special crops and fruit.

Prices for livestock and animal products were 0.5% lower in June than they were a year earlier. This was the second consecutive decline in the overall livestock and animal products index following year-over-year increases since June 2004.

Lower hog and egg prices drove the total livestock and animal product index down, while prices rose in June for cattle and calves, poultry and dairy. Gains ranged from 2.7% for poultry to 8.0% for cattle and calves over year earlier levels.

On a monthly basis, prices farmers received for their commodities dropped 2.0% in June from May, as both the overall crops and livestock and animal products indexes recorded losses.

The FPPI (1997=100) stood at 95.2 in June, down from a revised May index of 97.1. The index has been struggling to make gains from the recent low of 93.4 in November 2004, decreasing in three out of the six months this year.

Prices for livestock and animal products were down 1.7% in June from the revised May index, as sinking hog prices more than offset gains in dairy and cattle and calf prices.

Hog prices were down in June, marking the largest decrease since the end of 2003. Ample supplies, a stronger Canadian dollar and lower demand (as the popularity of low-carbohydrate diets fade) have encouraged the price slide.

Cattle and calf prices rose slightly in June for the first time since March when a preliminary injunction was granted by a Montana District Court Judge to temporarily delay the reopening of the border just days before the scheduled March 9th opening. However, appeals on the preliminary injunction which kept the border closed to live cattle imports were set for July.

Farm Product Price Index
(1997=100)

	June 2004[r]	May 2005[r]	June 2005[p]	June 2004 to June 2005	May to June 2005
				% change	
Farm Product Price Index	**104.5**	**97.1**	**95.2**	**-8.9**	**-2.0**
Crops	**107.1**	**87.1**	**86.5**	**-19.2**	**-0.7**
Grains	105.2	69.3	68.8	-34.6	-0.7
Oilseeds	109.8	80.9	81.1	-26.1	0.2
Specialty crops	111.9	86.3	91.3	-18.4	5.8
Fruit	107.6	101.5	102.7	-4.6	1.2
Vegetables	113.9	116.2	115.7	1.6	-0.4
Potatoes	123.0	122.9	129.4	5.2	5.3
Livestock and animal products	**102.4**	**103.7**	**101.9**	**-0.5**	**-1.7**
Cattle and calves	90.1	97.1	97.3	8.0	0.2
Hogs	102.7	93.4	85.7	-16.6	-8.2
Poultry	96.6	99.9	99.2	2.7	-0.7
Eggs	108.6	95.4	95.4	-12.2	0.0
Dairy	119.0	124.2	125.0	5.0	0.6

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*

The overall crops index was slightly lower in June as both grain and vegetable prices were lower. The grains index was down slightly for the third consecutive month as supplies remained ample. Prices for oilseeds rose slightly in June as concerns were raised over dry growing conditions and the threat of the Asian soybean rust spreading in the United States.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The June issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 5, no. 6 (21-007-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information or to order data, call (1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445: fax: 204-983-7543; *gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Farm product prices

July 2005

Prices received by farmers in July for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, potatoes, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The Quebec hogs price in July was $73.11 per hundredweight, down 4% from June and down 34% from July 2004 when the price was $91.56.

The July oats price in Saskatchewan was $108.17 per metric tonne, up 5% from June but down 3% from the July 2004 price when it was at $111.24.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3436.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; *gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Natural gas transportation and distribution

March 2005

Data on natural gas transportation and distribution for March are now available.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, or 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. ■

New products

Farm Product Price Index, June 2005, Vol. 5, no. 6
Catalogue number 21-007-XIE
(free).

Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada, Vol. 2, no. 3
Catalogue number 81-004-XIE
(free).

Community Corrections in Canada, 2004
Catalogue number 85-567-XIE
(free).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -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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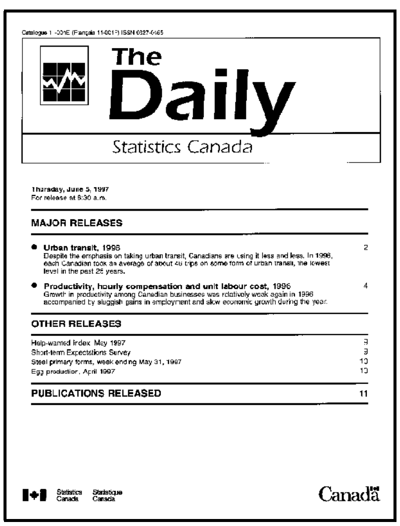
Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit**, 1996 — 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 45 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 relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index, May 1997	9
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Egg production, April 1997	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED — 11

Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

Canada

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