



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## Releases

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<b>Stocks of grain, March 31, 2006</b>	<b>2</b>
For the second consecutive year, total stocks of grain and oilseeds, including commercial and on-farm inventories as of March 31, reached levels well above their 10-year averages, according to surveys of grain farmers and commercial grain holders. In addition, total stocks of soybeans, corn, durum wheat, and canola set new records.	
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## Releases

### Stocks of grain

March 31, 2006

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#### Total stocks of grain at March 31

Crop	2005	2006	2005 to 2006
	'000 tonnes		% change
All wheat	15,388	18,800	22.2
Wheat excl. durum	11,199	13,592	21.4
Barley	6,723	6,485	-3.5
Grain corn	5,268	5,839	10.8
Durum wheat	4,188	5,208	24.4
Canola	3,744	5,114	36.6
Oats	1,934	1,722	-11.0
Soybeans	1,401	1,646	17.5
Dry peas	1,793	1,540	-14.1
Flax	237	641	170.5

#### Jump in wheat excluding durum stocks, durum a record

Total wheat excluding durum stocks (both those on farms and in commercial positions) amounted to 13.6 million tonnes as of March 31, 21.4% or 2.4 million tonnes higher than the 11.2 million tonnes reported in March 2005. The 10-year average is 11.4 million tonnes. Total supplies were higher than in the 2004/2005 crop year, and exports in the 2005/2006 crop year-to-date have been considerably less, leading to the buildup in stocks. Lower than normal quality made it difficult to compete in the high quality milling wheat markets. Competition for feed wheat was also strong due to large world stocks of feed grains.

Stocks of durum wheat reached an all-time high of 5.2 million tonnes, an increase of 24.4% compared to 4.2 million tonnes reached on March 31, 2005. The 10-year average is 3.4 million tonnes.

On-farm durum stock amounts set a record of 4.0 million tonnes. The previous record was 3.1 million tonnes reported in 2001. Over 80% of durum farm stocks are held in Saskatchewan, where 3.3 million tonnes were reported. The previous record for Saskatchewan was 2.6 million tonnes. High carry-in stocks from

#### Note to readers

The March Farm Survey of 17,100 farm operators was conducted by telephone interviews and over the Internet during the last two weeks of March. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage.

Commercial stocks of western major crops originate from the Canadian Grain Commission. Commercial stocks of corn and soybeans are estimated by a Statistics Canada sample survey of grain elevators in Eastern Canada. Commercial stocks of specialty crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of specialty crops.

the 2004/2005 crop year, coupled with the highest production in seven years, led to the record levels.

#### Canola stocks set record

Total stocks of canola reached a record 5.1 million tonnes, an increase of 1.4 million tonnes from the March 2005 level of 3.7 million tonnes. Commercial stocks rose by 36.2% to 1.0 million tonnes, while farm stocks jumped by 36.6% to 4.1 million tonnes. The previous record for total stocks was set in 2000 at 3.9 million tonnes. The 10-year average is 2.8 million tonnes. The rise in stock levels was mainly the result of record production in 2005 that is slowly being coaxed out of the bins as a result of more encouraging market potential from Europe for use in the manufacture of biodiesel fuel.

#### Total stocks of barley down

Total stocks of barley dropped to 6.5 million tonnes as of March 31, down 3.5% from 6.7 million tonnes from March 2005. The 10-year average is 6.1 million tonnes.

On-farm stocks stayed at relatively the same levels for all provinces, leaving the commercial stocks with a drop of 38.2% to 352,000 tonnes, well below the 10-year average of 880,000 tonnes. Market opportunities for feed barley exports early in the 2005/2006 crop year have helped to lower abundant supplies, leaving stocks slightly lower than March 2005.

#### Record stocks of grain corn

As in 2004, farmers experienced record yields in Eastern Canada in 2005, raising production to a record level. Faced with rock bottom domestic prices

that are set by the cost of importing corn into Canada, farmers were very reluctant to sell, pushing up farm stocks of grain corn by 6.4% to a record 4.5 million tonnes, breaking the record of 4.3 million tonnes set in March 2005.

Commercial stocks were at 1.3 million tonnes, above the 10-year average of 1.1 million tonnes but less than the record 1.4 million tonnes set in 2000.

#### **Soybean stocks set second consecutive record**

Total stocks of soybeans were 1.6 million tonnes, 17.5% above the 1.4 million tonnes in storage on March 31, 2005 and the second consecutive record. The record harvests in 2004 and 2005 and relatively stable domestic and export markets are responsible for the buildup in stocks.

On-farm stock records were set in both Ontario and Quebec while commercial stocks were 650,000 tonnes, up only 3.2% over March 2005 and under the record 735,000 tonnes set in 1998.

#### **Flaxseed stocks highest in six years**

Total stocks of flaxseed were estimated at 641,000 tonnes, 170.5% above the 237,000 tonnes reported in March 2005. This is the highest they have been since 2000 when they were 732,000 tonnes. The 10-year average is 451,000 tonnes. Farm stocks in Saskatchewan, where most flaxseed is grown, were at 440,000 tonnes. The five-year average is 132,000 tonnes. The rise in stocks can be attributed to the highest production in six years during the fall

of 2005, and no major increase in international or domestic demand.

#### **Dry field pea stocks dwindle**

Total stocks of peas declined to 1.5 million tonnes, down from 1.8 million tonnes in March 2005.

Supplies were substantial as a result of good production in 2005 and large carry in stocks from the 2004/2005 crop year. However, exceptionally good export movement resulted in the decline in farm stocks. Commercial stocks remained unchanged from March 2005.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0040 to 001-0042.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3443, 3464 and 3476.**

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series: Stocks of Canadian Grain at March 31, 2006*, Vol. 85, no. 3 (22-002-XIB, free) is now available. To obtain a copy, go to the *Our products and services* page online. A paper version (22-002-XPB, \$17/\$95) is also now available. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; [dave.burroughs@statcan.ca](mailto:dave.burroughs@statcan.ca)) or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; [dave.roeske@statcan.ca](mailto:dave.roeske@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## New Housing Price Index

March 2006

The cost of buying a new home continued to rise steeply in March. The New Housing Price Index rose by 1.0% over the previous month to 136.6 (1997=100). On a 12-month basis, the rate of change for this index of contractors' selling prices was 7.6%, the largest annual increase since January 1990.

### New housing price indexes (1997=100)

	March 2006	March 2005 to March 2006 % change	February to March 2006
<b>Canada total</b>	<b>136.6</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>
House only	146.0	7.7	1.0
Land only	118.2	6.6	0.9
St. John's	127.7	3.1	-0.1
Halifax	129.7	6.5	0.0
Charlottetown	115.4	2.9	1.7
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	112.5	3.3	0.6
Québec	141.3	6.6	0.0
Montréal	145.5	3.3	0.1
Ottawa-Gatineau	156.7	2.8	0.1
Toronto and Oshawa	135.8	4.3	0.2
Hamilton	139.4	5.1	0.5
St. Catharines-Niagara	141.8	4.3	0.0
Kitchener	136.4	5.0	0.7
London	131.3	5.9	0.1
Windsor	106.0	0.9	0.0
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury and Thunder Bay	101.1	2.3	0.0
Winnipeg	141.9	10.4	1.6
Regina	149.9	6.6	0.0
Saskatoon	134.1	6.3	4.5
Calgary	183.6	29.6	5.9
Edmonton	153.1	14.3	1.9
Vancouver	109.9	6.9	0.4
Victoria	117.8	7.2	0.7

**Note:** View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.

Prices advanced in 14 of the 21 metropolitan areas surveyed. Calgary led the way with a monthly increase of 5.9%. High demand for new housing, coupled with higher material and labour costs and a shortage of serviced lots, were cited as the main reasons for this increase. Saskatoon (+4.5%), Edmonton (+1.9%), Charlottetown (+1.7%) and Winnipeg (+1.6%) registered significant increases — the result of higher costs for building materials and labour, with higher land values also cited as a factor in Saskatoon, Edmonton and Winnipeg.

Other noteworthy gains were observed in Kitchener and Victoria (+0.7% each) and Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton (+0.6%), where favourable market conditions and higher material and labour costs pushed prices up. Monthly increases were also

noted in Montréal, Ottawa-Gatineau, Toronto and Oshawa, Hamilton, London and Vancouver. Of the 14 metropolitan areas showing increases, land prices rose in 7.

No monthly change was noted in 6 metropolitan areas while St. John's (-0.1%) posted the only decline.

On a 12-month basis, Calgary (+29.6%) had the largest increase for new homes for the sixth consecutive month, followed by Edmonton (+14.3%), Winnipeg (+10.4%), Victoria (+7.2%), Vancouver (+6.9%) and Québec and Regina (+6.6% each).

**Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.**

The first quarter 2006 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XIE, free) will be available in July.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact our Client Services Section (613-951-9606, fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)) or Randy Sterns (613-951-8183; [sterran@statcan.ca](mailto:sterran@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. ■

## Farm product prices

March 2006

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

The Ontario grain corn price in March was \$110.06 per metric tonne, up 2% from one month earlier but down 1% from March 2005 when the price was \$111.39.

The March feeder calves price in Alberta was \$131.24 per hundredweight, down 4% from one month earlier but up 19% from the March 2005 price of \$110.05.

Farm commodity prices are now available on CANSIM. Over 35 commodities are available by province, some series going back 20 years.

**Available on CANSIM: table 002-0043.**

**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](mailto:gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products**

January 2006

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 January.

**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](mailto:energ@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## **Financial Information of Universities and Colleges Survey**

2004/2005

The Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) provides financial data on the major degree-granting institutions in Canada. The CAUBO data are an important part of the Statistics Canada's Financial Information of Universities and Colleges Survey.

The CAUBO data are now available for the 2004/2005 academic year. Aggregated data for degree-granting institutions that are not members of the CAUBO organization are expected to be released in July.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3121.**

For further information, to order data, 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](mailto:educationstats@statcan.ca)), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

## **Cement**

March 2006

Data on cement are now available for March.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.**

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. ■

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2  
Discusses the conditions on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian 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, 1996** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, waste ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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