



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Thursday, March 8, 2007**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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## Releases

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New Housing Price Index, January 2007	2
Legal aid, 2005/2006	3
Population of businesses with employees, fourth quarter 2006	3
Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products, November 2006	4

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<b>New products</b>	<b>5</b>
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## New Housing Price Index January 2007

There was a moderate increase in the cost of new housing in January. The New Housing Price Index was up 0.3% to 148.0 (1997=100). This resulted in a year-over-year hike in contractors' selling prices of 10.1%, down from 10.7% in the previous month.

Price increases were seen in 10 of the 21 metropolitan areas surveyed. Edmonton (+1.6%) led the way, followed by Calgary (+0.8%). Costs for construction materials, in particular concrete, and labour for excavation and painting were the contributing factors. Higher lot values were also cited in Edmonton.

Gains were also observed in Montréal, Winnipeg, London, Victoria, Hamilton, Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton, Toronto and Oshawa and St. Catharines–Niagara. Of the 10 metropolitan areas showing increases, land prices rose in 3.

Seven metropolitan areas registered no monthly change. Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay (-0.4%) showed the largest decrease due to competitive factors.

Charlottetown, Ottawa–Gatineau and Kitchener were also down from the previous month.

Calgary (+40.8%) continued to post the largest 12 month increase followed closely by Edmonton (+40.2%). Saskatoon (+16.1%), Regina (+8.3%), Winnipeg (+7.8%) and Vancouver (+6.9%) also had noteworthy year-over-year gains.

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

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

The fourth quarter 2006 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will be available in April.

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; [prices-prix@statcan.ca](mailto:prices-prix@statcan.ca)) or Randy Sterns (613-951-8183; [randy.sterns@statcan.ca](mailto:randy.sterns@statcan.ca)), Prices Division.

## New Housing Price Indexes

	January 2007 (1997=100)	January 2006 to January 2007 % change	December 2006 to January 2007 % change
<b>Canada total</b>	<b>148.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>
House only	157.8	10.1	0.4
Land only	129.0	10.4	0.2
St. John's	132.3	4.3	0.0
Halifax	131.4	1.3	0.0
Charlottetown	117.8	3.4	-0.2
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	113.6	2.0	0.1
Québec	142.7	2.5	0.0
Montréal	151.0	4.6	0.5
Ottawa–Gatineau	161.0	2.9	-0.2
Toronto and Oshawa	139.0	2.8	0.1
Hamilton	145.6	5.3	0.2
St. Catharines–Niagara	147.1	4.3	0.1
Kitchener	138.0	2.4	-0.1
London	135.7	4.1	0.3
Windsor	104.2	-1.7	0.0
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay	102.3	1.7	-0.4
Winnipeg	149.7	7.8	0.4
Regina	162.4	8.3	0.0
Saskatoon	148.9	16.1	0.0
Calgary	238.9	40.8	0.8
Edmonton	208.4	40.2	1.6
Vancouver	116.1	6.9	0.0
Victoria	117.4	0.3	0.3

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

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## Legal aid

2005/2006

Spending by Canada's legal aid plans during fiscal year 2005/2006 was up 9% from the previous year, once inflation was taken into account, according to a new report.

These plans spent \$673 million on delivering legal aid services in 2005/2006, or the equivalent of \$21 for every Canadian. Prior to 2005/2006, spending had been relatively stable for three years.

Each province and territory has developed its own individual legal aid scheme. Structures, operations and eligibility requirements consequently vary from one jurisdiction to the next. For 2005/2006, 11 of the 13 legal aid plans provided data for the report.

Legal aid plans received 780,000 applications for assistance, an increase of 3% from the previous year. About 477,000 applications were approved for full legal aid service. This was up 2% from the year before and represented a reversal of the downward trend seen in the previous four years.

Cases involving criminal matters accounted for slightly more than half of direct legal aid expenditures. The remaining direct expenditures went toward civil cases.

Governments, both provincial/territorial and federal, continued to be the major source of funding for legal aid plans. They contributed \$557 million in 2005/2006, or about 90% of total revenues. Client contributions and cost recoveries accounted for 3%, legal profession contributions, 1%, and other sources, 5%.

Approximately 12,000 lawyers from both the private sector and legal aid plans provided legal aid assistance in 2005/2006. This represents an increase of about 10% from the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 258-0001 to 258-0004.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3308.**

The data are available from the *Summary tables* module of our website.

The annual report *Legal Aid in Canada: Resource and Caseload Statistics, 2005/2006* (85F0015XIE, free) is now available from our website. From the *Publications*

module, choose *Free Internet publications*, then *Crime and justice*.

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

## Population of businesses with employees

Fourth quarter 2006

There were 1,085,000 Canadian businesses with employees in the fourth quarter of 2006, up slightly from the previous quarter and 2.9% more than in the fourth quarter of 2005.

The number of businesses with employees increased in all provinces and territories, except Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island, between the third and fourth quarters of 2006.

Ontario posted the largest quarter-over-quarter increase (+0.7%), followed by Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of businesses with employees in Alberta in the fourth quarter of 2006 was 5.8% higher than in the same quarter of 2005, the largest gain among the provinces. It was followed by British Columbia (+4.5%) and Ontario (+3.1%).

The number of businesses with employees declined in the Atlantic provinces (-1.1%) and in the three territories combined (-0.4%), compared with the fourth quarter of 2005.

Data for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories will be available separately when sufficient quarterly observations are collected.

**Available on CANSIM: table 178-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1105.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Joanne Proulx (613-951-9006; fax: 613-951-6274; [joanne.proulx@statcan.ca](mailto:joanne.proulx@statcan.ca)), Business Register Division. ■

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**Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products**

November 2006

Data on the supply, disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.**

The November 2006 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada*, Vol. 61, no. 11 (45-004-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497 or toll-free 1-866-873-8789; [energ@statcan.ca](mailto:energ@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

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## New products

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**The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada**, November 2006, Vol. 61, no. 11  
**Catalogue number 45-004-XWE**  
(free).

**Industry Price Indexes**, January 2007, Vol. 33, no. 1  
**Catalogue number 62-011-XWE**  
(free).

**Building Permits**, January 2007, Vol. 51, no. 1  
**Catalogue number 64-001-XWE**  
(free).

**Legal Aid in Canada: Resource and Caseload Statistics**, 2005/2006  
**Catalogue number 85F0015XIE**  
(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; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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Statistics Canada

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Thursday, June 5, 1997  
For release at 9:30 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 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 and industry work output in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- Map-based index, May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 9
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg producer, Apr 8, 1997 12

**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED** 11

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