

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, December 8, 2011

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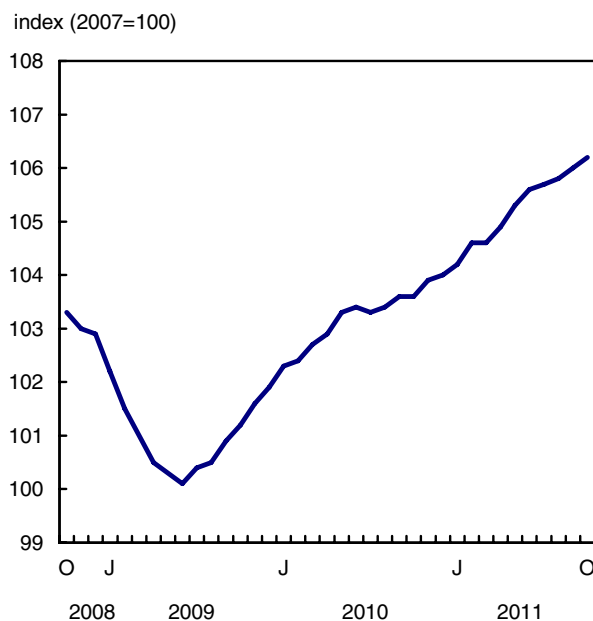


## New Housing Price Index

October 2011

The New Housing Price Index (NHPI) rose 0.2% in October, following a similar increase in September.

### Evolution of the New Housing Price Index



The metropolitan regions of Toronto and Oshawa, and Edmonton were the top contributors to the increase in October. The positive impact of these metropolitan regions on the overall index was offset in part by decreases observed in Vancouver and Victoria.

Between September and October, Edmonton (+0.6%) posted the largest monthly price advance, followed by Toronto and Oshawa (+0.4%).

In Edmonton, price increases were primarily the result of higher material and labour costs as well as higher land values. In Toronto and Oshawa, some builders cited good market conditions as the main reason for their price increases.

In October, prices were unchanged in 9 of the 21 metropolitan regions surveyed.

The most significant monthly price declines were recorded in Victoria (-0.6%) and Saskatoon (-0.3%).

Some builders in Victoria reported that the primary reason for their price decreases was having lowered their prices to stimulate sales.

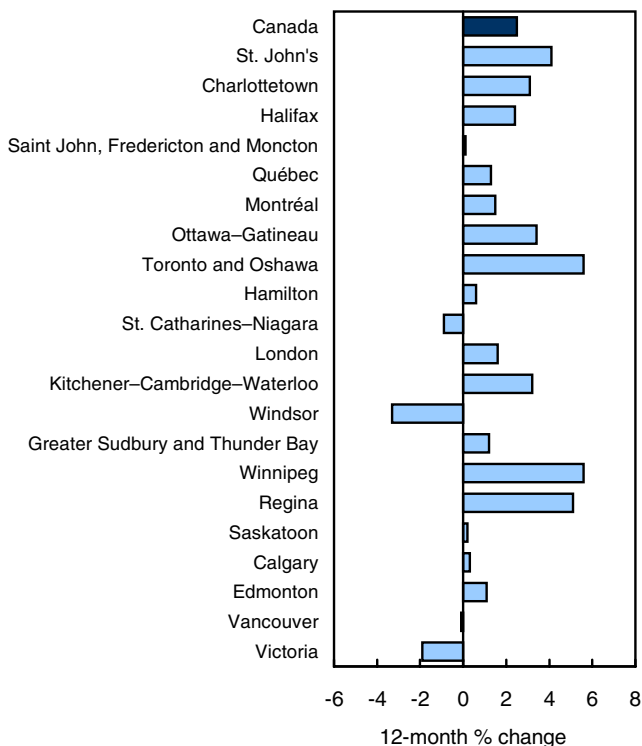
In Saskatoon, a few builders reported reducing their prices because of slower market conditions. These reductions were partially offset by increases in material costs.

Year over year, the NHPI was up 2.5% in October. The main contributor to this advance was the metropolitan region of Toronto and Oshawa.

The largest year-over-year price increases were in Toronto and Oshawa, and in Winnipeg (both up 5.6%).

### Toronto and Oshawa, and Winnipeg post the highest year-over-year price increases

metropolitan areas



Compared with October 2010, contractors' selling prices were also higher in Regina (+5.1%) and St. John's (+4.1%).

Among the 21 metropolitan regions surveyed, 4 posted 12-month price declines in October, led by Windsor (-3.3%) and Victoria (-1.9%).

**Note:** The New Housing Price Index measures changes over time in the selling prices of new residential houses agreed upon between the contractor and the buyer at the time of the signing of the contract. It is designed to measure the changes in the selling prices of new houses where detailed specifications pertaining to each house remain the same between two consecutive periods. The prices collected from builders and included in the index are market selling prices less value added taxes, such as the Federal Goods and Services Tax or the Harmonized Sales Tax.

This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted and the indexes published are final.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0046.

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

The third quarter 2011 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will be available in January 2012.

The new housing price indexes for November will be released on January 12, 2012.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-888-951-4550; 613-951-4550; fax: 1-855-314-8765 or 613-951-3117; [ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca)), Producer Prices Division.

## New Housing Price Indexes – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	October 2010	September 2011	October 2011	September to October 2011	October 2010 to October 2011
	%	(2007=100)		% change		
<b>Canada total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>
House only	...	103.6	106.2	106.4	0.2	2.7
Land only	...	103.4	105.1	105.3	0.2	1.8
St. John's	1.79	140.9	146.7	146.7	0.0	4.1
Charlottetown	0.25	100.4	103.2	103.5	0.3	3.1
Halifax	1.24	110.0	112.6	112.6	0.0	2.4
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton <sup>2</sup>	0.70	108.3	108.4	108.4	0.0	0.1
Québec	2.91	116.8	118.2	118.3	0.1	1.3
Montréal	11.19	112.5	114.2	114.2	0.0	1.5
Ottawa-Gatineau	5.68	109.9	113.5	113.6	0.1	3.4
Toronto and Oshawa <sup>2</sup>	27.39	106.7	112.2	112.7	0.4	5.6
Hamilton	2.94	103.8	104.2	104.4	0.2	0.6
St. Catharines-Niagara	0.96	104.9	104.0	104.0	0.0	-0.9
London	1.60	107.1	108.8	108.8	0.0	1.6
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	2.21	104.7	108.1	108.1	0.0	3.2
Windsor	0.45	99.4	96.0	96.1	0.1	-3.3
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay <sup>2</sup>	0.67	105.0	106.3	106.3	0.0	1.2
Winnipeg	2.14	119.4	126.0	126.1	0.1	5.6
Regina	0.92	142.0	149.3	149.3	0.0	5.1
Saskatoon	1.36	115.7	116.2	115.9	-0.3	0.2
Calgary	11.44	95.4	95.5	95.7	0.2	0.3
Edmonton	11.87	89.1	89.6	90.1	0.6	1.1
Vancouver	10.97	98.7	98.7	98.6	-0.1	-0.1
Victoria	1.39	89.2	88.0	87.5	-0.6	-1.9

... not applicable

1. The relative importance is calculated using a price adjusted three-year average of the value of building completions for each metropolitan area.

2. To ensure data confidentiality, the following census metropolitan areas and census agglomeration are grouped together as follows: Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton; Toronto and Oshawa; and Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay.

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



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## Study: Sea ice trends in Canada 1968 to 2010

During the past four decades, the average area covered by sea ice during summer has declined in all nine sea ice regions in Canada's North. It also declined in two of three northern shipping route regions. These northern routes are not normally navigable because of ice cover.

The largest declines occurred in five southern and eastern sea ice regions: Northern Labrador Sea, where sea ice decreased at a rate of 1,536 square kilometres, or 17%, per decade, followed by Hudson Strait (down 4,947 square kilometres, or 16%, per decade), Davis Strait (down 6,581 square kilometres, or 14%, per decade), Hudson Bay (down 16,605 square kilometres, or 11%, per decade) and Baffin Bay (down 18,658 square kilometres, or 10%, per decade).

The two shipping route regions that recorded declines were the Arctic Bridge route (Canadian portion), over which ice cover fell at a rate of 14,147 square kilometres (-15%) per decade, and the southern route of the Northwest Passage, over which it fell by 6,986 square kilometres (-6%) per decade.

The Northwest Passage links the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and the Arctic Bridge extends across the top of Hudson Bay into Hudson Strait and links North American markets to European and Asian markets.

The Northwest Passage shipping routes are usually blocked by sea ice during all seasons, significantly limiting any navigation. However, they could cut the distance for shipping voyages and all were navigable for a short period of time in late summer and early fall 2007.

This study also examines multi-year ice cover, which is the area covered by older ice that has survived at least one summer's melt.

Of the seven regions reporting multi-year sea ice, only the Baffin Bay region showed a statistically significant trend, which was downward. Historically, multi-year ice only ever covers a very small part of this region.

**Note:** This article is the fourth in an ongoing series in *EnviroStats* showcasing data related to Canada's climate and the impacts of climate change. These articles are short statistical analyses of climate-related data, such as temperature and snow cover. The third article in the series, released in September 2011, examined precipitation trends across Canada.

This study examines data consisting of the average area covered by total (all) and multi-year sea ice during

the summer in Canada. Data were analysed for nine sea ice regions and three shipping route regions for total ice cover and five sea ice regions and two shipping route regions for multi-year ice cover between 1968 and 2010.

Time series data used for this article were derived from weekly sea ice charts produced by the Canadian Ice Service. The sea ice charts were produced using a combination of aerial surveys, surface observations, airborne and ship reports, and remotely sensed (satellite) data. The charts were compiled into a time series by the Climate Research Division at Environment Canada.

Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada and Statistics Canada are collaborating on a project to prepare a series of CANSIM tables. They will be available early in 2012.

The article "Sea ice trends in Canada" is now available in the winter 2011 issue of *EnviroStats*, Vol. 5, no. 4 (16-002-X, free), from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

The articles "Consumption-related greenhouse gas emissions in Canada, the United States and China" and "Use and disposal of compact fluorescent lights by Canadian households" are also available in this issue of *EnviroStats*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-0297; [environ@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:environ@statcan.gc.ca)), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

## Production of poultry and eggs

October 2011 (preliminary)

Data on the production of poultry and eggs are now available for October.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.**

The fourth quarter 2011 issue of the *Poultry and Eggs Statistics*, Vol. 8, no. 4 (23-015-X, free), will be released in March 2012.

For more information, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Emily Makosky (613-951-2442; [emily.makosky@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:emily.makosky@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

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## Travel arrangement services

2010

The 2010 edition of *Service Bulletin: Travel Arrangement Services*, which contains industry highlights along with financial data including revenues, expenses and operating profit margins, is now available.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 351-0003 and 351-0007.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2423.**

The publication *Service Bulletin: Travel Arrangement Services*, 2010 (63-250-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; [servicesind@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:servicesind@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kristina Myers (613-951-2327; [kristina.myers@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:kristina.myers@statcan.gc.ca)), Service Industries Division. ■

## Newspaper publishers

2010

The 2010 edition of *Service Bulletin: Newspaper Publishers*, which contains industry highlights along with financial data including revenues, expenses and operating profit margins, is now available. The publication also includes data by region, type of revenue source and type of newspaper.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 361-0003 and 361-0022.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4710.**

The publication *Service Bulletin: Newspaper Publishers*, 2010 (63-241-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; [servicesind@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:servicesind@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Richard Sabourin (613-951-7086; [richard.sabourin@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:richard.sabourin@statcan.gc.ca)), Service Industries Division. ■

## New products and studies

**Canadian Economic Observer**, December 2011,  
Vol. 24, no. 12  
Catalogue number 11-010-X (HTML, free)

**EnviroStats**, winter 2011, Vol. 5, no. 4  
Catalogue number 16-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Industry Price Indexes**, October 2011, Vol. 37, no. 10  
Catalogue number 62-011-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Newspaper Publishers**, 2010  
Catalogue number 63-241-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Travel Arrangement Services**, 2010  
Catalogue number 63-250-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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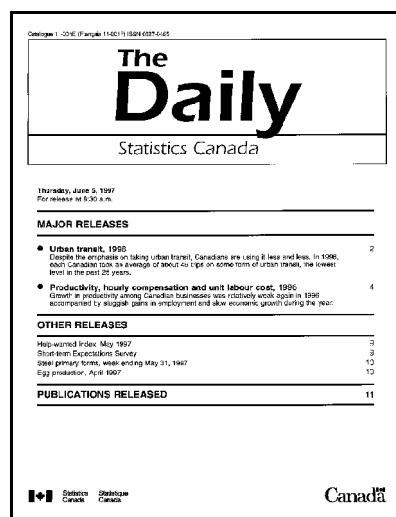
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