

The Daily

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Releases

Non-residential Building Construction Price Index, first quarter 2013

The composite price index for non-residential building construction was unchanged in the first quarter, following 11 consecutive quarterly increases. Contractors reported that price increases in the architectural and structural trades were offset by lower commodity prices in the mechanical and electrical trades.

Of the seven census metropolitan areas (CMAs) surveyed, four (Halifax, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver) reported quarterly increases of 0.1%. Ottawa (-0.5%) reported the largest decrease, followed by Toronto (-0.1%).

Year over year, the composite price index for non-residential building construction was up 1.1%. Among the CMAs surveyed, Halifax (+1.5%) recorded the largest year-over-year increase while Ottawa (+0.4%) recorded the smallest gain compared with the first quarter of 2012.

Note to readers

The Non-residential Building Construction Price Index is a quarterly series that measures changes in contractors' selling prices of new non-residential building construction in seven census metropolitan areas: Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part), Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Three classes of structures are covered: commercial, industrial, and institutional.

Selling prices include costs of materials, labour, equipment, provincial sales taxes where applicable, and contractors' overhead and profit. The cost of land, land assembly, design, development and real estate fees are excluded. Value added taxes such as the Federal Goods and Services Tax and the Harmonized Sales Tax are excluded.

The provincial government of British Columbia introduced legislation on May 14, 2012, announcing the return to a Provincial Sales Tax on April 1, 2013. The provincial sales tax on building materials in British Columbia will be embedded in contractors' selling prices of non-residential buildings. These changes will be reflected in the Non-residential Building Construction Price Index as reported by respondents.

This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted and the indexes published are subject to a one quarter revision period after dissemination of a given quarter's data.

Table 1
Non-residential Building Construction Price Index¹ – Not seasonally adjusted

| | Relative importance ² | First quarter 2012 | Fourth quarter 2012 | First quarter 2013 | Fourth quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013 | First quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013 |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| | % | (2002=100) | | | % change | |
| Composite | 100.0 | 149.8 | 151.4 | 151.4 | 0.0 | 1.1 |
| Halifax | 2.4 | 142.6 | 144.6 | 144.8 | 0.1 | 1.5 |
| Montréal | 16.3 | 142.5 | 143.8 | 143.8 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part ³ | 5.7 | 154.9 | 156.3 | 155.5 | -0.5 | 0.4 |
| Toronto | 40.4 | 150.7 | 152.0 | 151.9 | -0.1 | 0.8 |
| Calgary | 10.9 | 169.4 | 171.6 | 171.7 | 0.1 | 1.4 |
| Edmonton | 11.0 | 166.2 | 168.4 | 168.6 | 0.1 | 1.4 |
| Vancouver | 13.3 | 141.7 | 143.3 | 143.5 | 0.1 | 1.3 |

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

2. The relative importance is calculated using a price adjusted three-year average of the value of building permits for each CMA.

3. For the Ottawa–Gatineau metropolitan area, only Ontario contractors are surveyed for the Non-residential Building Construction Price Index because of different provincial legislation and construction union contracts.

Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0043 and 327-0044.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2317 and 2330.

The first quarter 2013 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in July.

The Non-residential Building Construction Price Index for the second quarter will be released August 13.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Apartment Building Construction Price Index, first quarter 2013

The composite price index for apartment building construction decreased 0.1% in the first quarter compared with the previous quarter. Indexes for the mechanical and electrical trades reflected lower commodity prices, while contractors reported little or no change in the architectural and structural trades.

Of the seven census metropolitan areas (CMAs) surveyed, three reported quarterly increases. The index rose 0.1% in Edmonton and Vancouver and 0.2% in Calgary. Ottawa (-0.5%) reported the largest decrease.

Year over year, the composite price index for apartment building construction was up 1.0%. Of the CMAs surveyed, Calgary (+1.6%) recorded the largest year-over-year increase while Ottawa (+0.5%) recorded the smallest gain from the first quarter of 2012.

Note to readers

The Apartment Building Construction Price Index is a quarterly series that measures changes in contractors' selling prices of new apartment building construction in seven census metropolitan areas: Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part), Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

Selling prices include costs of materials, labour, equipment, provincial sales taxes where applicable, and contractors' overhead and profit. The cost of land, land assembly, design, development and real estate fees are excluded. Value added taxes such as the Federal Goods and Services Tax, and the Harmonized Sales Tax are excluded.

The provincial government of British Columbia introduced legislation on May 14, 2012, announcing the return to a Provincial Sales Tax on April 1, 2013. The provincial sales tax on building materials in British Columbia will be embedded in contractors' selling prices of apartment buildings. These changes will be reflected in the Apartment Building Construction Price Index as reported by respondents.

This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted and the indexes published are subject to a one quarter revision period after dissemination of a given quarter's data.

Table 1
Apartment Building Construction Price Index¹ – Not seasonally adjusted

| | Relative importance ² | First quarter 2012 | Fourth quarter 2012 | First quarter 2013 | Fourth quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013 | First quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013 |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| | % | (2002=100) | | | % change | |
| Composite index | 100.0 | 143.1 | 144.6 | 144.5 | -0.1 | 1.0 |
| Halifax | 2.6 | 137.8 | 139.6 | 139.6 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| Montréal | 26.7 | 140.5 | 141.7 | 141.7 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part ³ | 3.0 | 148.4 | 149.9 | 149.1 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| Toronto | 35.4 | 143.6 | 145.1 | 144.9 | -0.1 | 0.9 |
| Calgary | 5.1 | 165.0 | 167.2 | 167.6 | 0.2 | 1.6 |
| Edmonton | 4.1 | 160.9 | 163.1 | 163.3 | 0.1 | 1.5 |
| Vancouver | 23.1 | 143.0 | 144.7 | 144.9 | 0.1 | 1.3 |

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

2. The relative importance is calculated using a price adjusted three-year average of the value of building permits for each CMA.

3. For the Ottawa–Gatineau metropolitan area, only Ontario contractors are surveyed for the Apartment Building Construction Price Index because of different provincial legislation and construction union contracts.

Available in CANSIM: table 327-0044.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2317 and 2330.

The first quarter 2013 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in July.

The Apartment Building Construction Price Index for the second quarter will be released August 13.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New motor vehicle sales, March 2013

New motor vehicle sales data are now available for March.

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Revised annual sales data for 2012 are available.

Available in CANSIM: tables 079-0003 and 079-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

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Canadian Community Health Survey: Rapid response on food skills – knowledge, planning and transference of skills, 2012

New data on food skills are now available from the rapid response component of the Canadian Community Health Survey – Annual Component.

Note to readers

The data were collected from all provinces in November and December 2012. Respondents were asked a number of questions related to how meals are prepared, such as children's participation, frequency of meals eaten at home and the types of ingredients used. The module also asked questions about grocery shopping. The addition of these questions to the Canadian Community Health Survey was sponsored by the Office of Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Health Canada.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3226.

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