

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, September 9, 2013
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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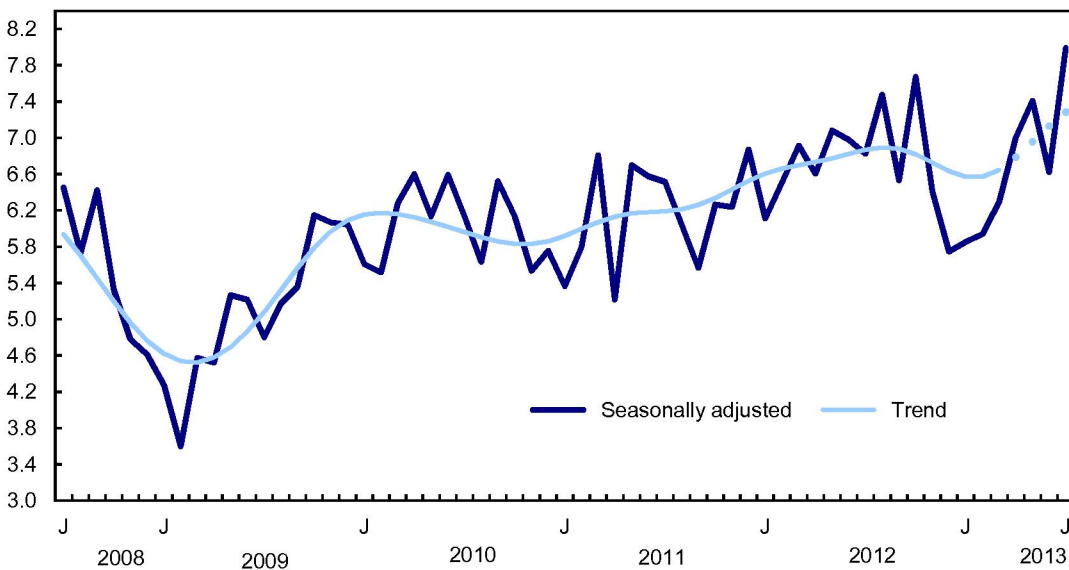
Building permits, July 2013

Contractors took out building permits worth \$8.0 billion in July, up 20.7% from June. The total value of building permits continued to trend upward on the strength of six gains in seven months.

The increase in July came mainly from higher construction intentions for commercial buildings in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec.

Chart 1
Total value of permits

billions of dollars



Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the three previous months. See Note to readers.

In the non-residential sector, the total value of building permits rose 45.5% to \$3.9 billion in July. Ontario, Quebec and Alberta accounted for most of the increase. Decreases were recorded in four provinces, led by New Brunswick.

Following a 12.8% decline in June, the total value of permits in the residential sector increased 4.1% to \$4.1 billion in July. The value of residential building permits was up in five provinces, led largely by Quebec, followed by Alberta and Ontario. British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia accounted for most of the declines in July.

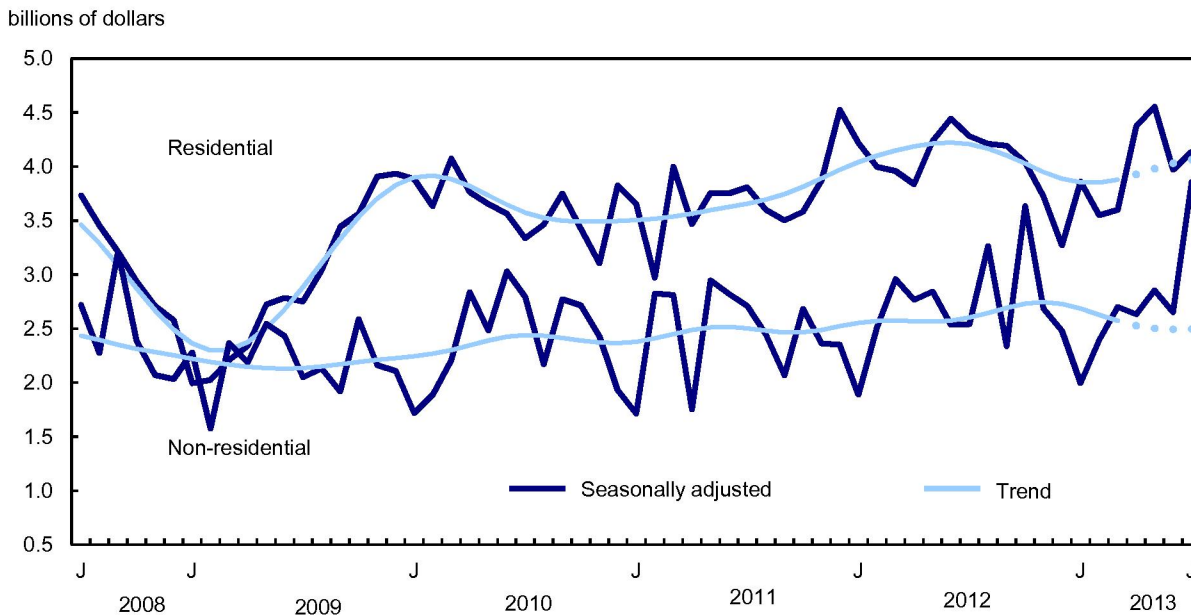
Non-residential sector: Significant increase in the commercial component

Canadian municipalities issued \$2.6 billion worth of commercial building permits in July, up 89.2% from June. This increase was the result of higher construction intentions for a variety of commercial buildings, including office buildings, retail complexes and recreational facilities. Gains were posted in seven provinces, led by Ontario, Alberta and Quebec. In contrast, British Columbia and New Brunswick posted the largest declines.

After decreasing 27.9% in June, the total value of industrial building permits rose 11.6% to \$505 million in July. Although gains were posted in eight provinces, these failed to offset June's decline. The increase was mainly the result of higher construction intentions for utilities buildings in Alberta and Quebec and for manufacturing plants in British Columbia and Ontario.

In the institutional component, the value of permits fell 6.5% to \$791 million in July. This was the third decrease in four months. The value of institutional building permits was down in four provinces. Alberta and Quebec accounted for much of the decrease as a result of lower construction intentions for medical facilities and educational institutions.

Chart 2
Residential and non-residential sectors



Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the three previous months. See Note to readers.

Residential sector: Construction intentions up for both single-family and multi-family dwellings

Construction intentions for single-family dwellings rose 4.1% in July to \$2.2 billion. The increase in July failed to offset the decline in June. Higher construction intentions were posted in six provinces, with Ontario and Quebec accounting for most of the national advance.

Building permits for multi-family dwellings rose 4.2% to \$1.9 billion in July. The gain in July was the fourth increase in five months. Higher construction intentions for apartments and apartments-condominium projects in Quebec and Alberta contributed to the gain in July. Decreases were registered in five provinces, with British Columbia posting the largest decline, followed by Nova Scotia, a distant second.

Canadian municipalities authorized the construction of 17,504 new dwellings, 0.7% less than in June. The decrease was attributable to multi-family dwellings, which fell 3.0% to 11,193 units. Single-family dwellings increased 3.7% to 6,311 units.

Provinces: Large gains in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta

The value of permits was up in six provinces in July, led by Ontario, Quebec and Alberta.

The largest increase occurred in Ontario and was mainly a result of higher construction intentions for commercial buildings, single-family dwellings and industrial buildings. In Quebec, the monthly gain was attributable to commercial buildings, residential dwellings and, to a lesser extent, industrial buildings.

In Alberta, the rise originated largely from higher construction intentions for commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings.

The largest drop occurred in British Columbia, as a result of a decline in multi-family dwellings and commercial building intentions. In Saskatchewan, industrial construction intentions largely contributed to the decrease.

Significant increases in construction intentions in Toronto, Calgary and Montréal

The total value of permits was down in half of Canada's 34 census metropolitan areas.

In July, the largest gains in the total value of permits were in Toronto, Calgary and Montréal. In Toronto, the increase was principally attributable to commercial buildings. Higher construction intentions for commercial buildings and, to a much lesser extent, institutional buildings explained the gain in Calgary. In Montréal, commercial buildings and, to a lesser degree, residential dwellings were behind the increase.

On the other hand, the total value of permits decreased in Vancouver, followed by Hamilton and London. In Vancouver, commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings were responsible for the decline, while in Hamilton institutional buildings were behind the decrease. In London, lower construction intentions for multi-family dwellings accounted for the decline.

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see *Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends*.

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 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 for the entire population.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (for example, waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

For the purpose of this release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario/Quebec) is divided into two areas: Gatineau part and Ottawa part.

Revision

Data for the current reference month are subject to revision based on late responses. Data have been revised for the previous month.

The trend-cycle estimates have been added to the charts as a complement to the seasonally adjusted series. Both the seasonally adjusted and the trend-cycle estimates are subject to revision as additional observations become available. These revisions could be large and even lead to a reversal of movement, especially at the end of the series. The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart.

Table 1
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	May 2013	June 2013 ^r	July 2013 ^p	June to July 2013	July 2012 to July 2013
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	6,821.9	7,411.3	6,623.1	7,993.2	20.7	17.2
Residential	4,282.4	4,554.9	3,971.0	4,135.2	4.1	-3.4
Single ¹	2,454.9	2,325.0	2,153.7	2,241.7	4.1	-8.7
Multiple	1,827.4	2,230.0	1,817.4	1,893.5	4.2	3.6
Non-residential	2,539.6	2,856.4	2,652.1	3,858.0	45.5	51.9
Industrial	510.7	627.1	452.2	504.8	11.6	-1.2
Commercial	1,621.7	1,514.4	1,353.8	2,562.0	89.2	58.0
Institutional	407.1	714.9	846.1	791.1	-6.5	94.3
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	19,088	20,114	17,623	17,504	-0.7	-8.3
Single ¹	7,241	6,378	6,088	6,311	3.7	-12.8
Multiple	11,847	13,736	11,535	11,193	-3.0	-5.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single-detached, mobile home and cottage.

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Table 2
Value of building permits, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	May 2013	June 2013 ^r	July 2013 ^p	June to July 2013	July 2012 to July 2013
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	6,821.9	7,411.3	6,623.1	7,993.2	20.7	17.2
Residential	4,282.4	4,554.9	3,971.0	4,135.2	4.1	-3.4
Non-residential	2,539.6	2,856.4	2,652.1	3,858.0	45.5	51.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	118.2	85.5	78.5	74.5	-5.0	-36.9
Residential	60.5	60.4	58.9	56.4	-4.3	-6.8
Non-residential	57.7	25.1	19.6	18.2	-7.3	-68.5
Prince Edward Island	21.2	40.3	13.2	20.7	56.4	-2.3
Residential	14.6	13.3	10.8	10.0	-7.5	-31.9
Non-residential	6.6	26.9	2.5	10.7	334.1	63.4
Nova Scotia	162.7	147.0	107.5	122.7	14.1	-24.6
Residential	97.7	107.3	63.4	54.2	-14.6	-44.6
Non-residential	64.9	39.7	44.1	68.6	55.5	5.6
New Brunswick	92.3	57.6	105.7	77.8	-26.4	-15.7
Residential	48.2	40.1	32.9	41.2	25.3	-14.5
Non-residential	44.1	17.5	72.8	36.6	-49.7	-17.0
Quebec	1,308.2	1,506.9	1,043.8	1,392.1	33.4	6.4
Residential	829.0	808.7	663.6	782.7	18.0	-5.6
Non-residential	479.2	698.3	380.2	609.4	60.3	27.2
Ontario	2,492.2	2,770.8	2,471.3	3,251.0	31.5	30.4
Residential	1,588.4	1,809.4	1,521.8	1,556.2	2.3	-2.0
Non-residential	903.8	961.4	949.5	1,694.7	78.5	87.5
Manitoba	185.0	264.4	217.4	297.6	36.9	60.9
Residential	123.9	124.9	110.0	133.4	21.3	7.7
Non-residential	61.1	139.5	107.4	164.2	52.9	169.0
Saskatchewan	247.0	283.9	307.6	273.4	-11.1	10.7
Residential	143.2	143.7	161.9	149.7	-7.5	4.6
Non-residential	103.9	140.2	145.7	123.6	-15.1	19.0
Alberta	1,088.9	1,408.6	1,372.6	1,634.5	19.1	50.1
Residential	630.6	845.8	763.2	818.8	7.3	29.8
Non-residential	458.3	562.8	609.4	815.7	33.9	78.0
British Columbia	1,060.1	819.5	889.0	816.2	-8.2	-23.0
Residential	723.5	588.9	574.0	520.6	-9.3	-28.0
Non-residential	336.6	230.6	315.0	295.6	-6.2	-12.2
Yukon	18.2	13.7	4.4	4.7	7.1	-73.9
Residential	17.0	4.8	3.3	2.7	-19.2	-84.1
Non-residential	1.1	8.9	1.1	2.0	88.6	81.6
Northwest Territories	4.6	9.5	7.6	11.5	51.0	147.3
Residential	3.5	4.1	7.2	3.8	-47.4	7.2
Non-residential	1.1	5.5	0.4	7.7	1,830.7	596.0
Nunavut	23.4	3.5	4.5	16.3	261.5	-30.1
Residential	2.2	3.5	0.0	5.4	...	142.8
Non-residential	21.2	0.0	4.5	10.9	142.4	-48.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

... not applicable

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Table 3
Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area – Seasonally adjusted¹

	July 2012	May 2013	June 2013 ^r	July 2013 ^p	June to July 2013	July 2012 to July 2013
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	5,207.6	5,633.9	5,025.6	6,308.4	25.5	21.1
St. John's	79.8	45.4	46.5	48.6	4.5	-39.1
Halifax	87.6	103.1	47.6	62.1	30.4	-29.1
Moncton	23.4	19.5	53.3	22.0	-58.7	-5.7
Saint John	16.1	9.3	8.3	13.9	68.2	-13.1
Saguenay	24.2	35.4	30.4	25.1	-17.2	3.6
Québec	121.6	204.1	101.8	162.9	60.0	33.9
Sherbrooke	44.9	35.2	25.6	23.3	-8.9	-48.0
Trois-Rivières	19.9	26.1	20.5	27.1	32.4	35.9
Montréal	684.6	807.5	536.8	739.7	37.8	8.0
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	248.9	282.7	200.7	292.1	45.6	17.4
Gatineau part	50.1	56.2	20.8	57.0	174.3	13.7
Ottawa part	198.8	226.6	179.9	235.1	30.7	18.3
Kingston	20.6	16.1	31.2	22.0	-29.3	7.1
Peterborough	9.2	17.4	23.7	13.0	-45.3	41.4
Oshawa	44.3	42.9	93.2	92.2	-1.1	108.3
Toronto	1,365.4	1,425.7	1,120.1	1,948.3	73.9	42.7
Hamilton	83.3	101.8	155.5	80.7	-48.1	-3.0
St. Catharines–Niagara	52.9	145.6	49.9	86.9	74.1	64.2
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	67.6	120.8	95.9	80.1	-16.5	18.6
Brantford	55.1	11.6	48.2	12.2	-74.6	-77.8
Guelph	11.4	67.0	26.1	39.1	50.0	243.7
London	105.3	84.0	133.3	83.3	-37.5	-20.9
Windsor	65.2	45.3	28.4	27.6	-2.9	-57.7
Barrie	24.9	23.4	34.3	22.6	-33.9	-9.0
Greater Sudbury	20.9	52.8	23.2	77.9	236.0	273.2
Thunder Bay	11.8	22.8	84.3	39.6	-53.0	234.7
Winnipeg	121.4	179.5	152.1	212.2	39.5	74.8
Regina	74.2	71.7	71.1	56.6	-20.4	-23.7
Saskatoon	92.4	108.9	127.8	124.3	-2.7	34.5
Calgary	390.3	461.3	539.0	843.9	56.6	116.2
Edmonton	370.8	434.8	402.3	451.8	12.3	21.8
Kelowna	25.8	28.0	23.5	38.7	65.1	49.9
Abbotsford–Mission	14.8	19.5	13.8	12.0	-12.7	-19.0
Vancouver	780.4	558.2	628.6	467.3	-25.7	-40.1
Victoria	48.6	26.5	48.9	59.2	21.2	21.9

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Available in CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The July 2013 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X) will soon be available.

Building permits data for August will be released on October 7.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jeremie Bennett (613-951-0793), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

Study: Manufacturing: The year 2012 in review

Canadian manufacturing sales increased at a slower rate in 2012 compared with previous years. In 2012, sales rose 3.5% to \$593.8 billion, a smaller advance than in 2010 and 2011. Constant dollar sales rose 3.0% in 2012, indicating an increase in volumes.

Motor vehicles and parts account for most of the gain

Higher sales of motor vehicles accounted for two-fifths of the total sales gain in 2012. Sales in the industry rose 17.6% to \$53.9 billion. Greater consumer demand in the United States, as indicated by higher retail sales, was one important factor behind the gain. The American market is particularly important for Canadian motor vehicle manufacturers as the vast majority of production in the industry is exported to the United States.

Sales of motor vehicles parts rose 23.5% to \$25.0 billion in 2012. Despite the gain, sales remained well below the \$31.6 billion pre-downturn peak posted in 2004. Sales in 2011 were affected by supply disruptions in the months following the tsunami in Japan in March of that year. Some manufacturers reported difficulty filling orders.

In the petroleum and coal products industry, sales rose 7.5% to \$85.3 billion in 2012. The advance was primarily driven by higher volumes of product sold, as prices rose 1.6%. This contrasts with 2011, when the 16.6% increase in sales was driven entirely by higher prices.

In the primary metals industry, sales were down 4.8% to \$46.3 billion, largely as a result of lower prices. In the paper industry, sales fell 6.7% to \$24.2 billion, the eighth decline in 10 years. The decrease reflected lower volumes of product sold. Computer and electronic product sales were down 10.9% in 2012, continuing a decline that began in 2001.

Ontario leads the sales gains

Over two-thirds of the national sales gain was concentrated in Ontario. Sales were up 5.3% to \$272.2 billion in the province, largely as a result of higher sales of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts. As a result of this increase, Ontario's share of total Canadian manufacturing rose from 45.0% to 45.8%.

Manufacturing sales rose 3.4% in Alberta as a result of gains in the fabricated metal product, petroleum and coal products as well as the wood product industries. Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador also saw substantial gains, with sales rising 14.0% and 30.5% respectively.

Inventories and unfilled orders advance

Manufacturing inventories and unfilled orders both increased over the course of 2012. In December 2012, total inventories stood at \$66.2 billion, up 1.2% from a year earlier. Total inventories are composed of raw materials, goods-in-process and finished products. The gain in total inventories was caused by higher goods-in-process and finished products. Raw materials on hand decreased in 2012, offsetting the gains in the other two stages of fabrication.

Unfilled orders rose 7.1% to \$68.9 billion in 2012, following a 23.0% gain in 2011. In both years the aerospace product and parts industry was mainly responsible for the advance in total manufacturing unfilled orders. Aerospace unfilled orders rose 68.9% between December 2010 and December 2012 to \$35.0 billion. As a result, the share of aerospace unfilled orders rose to slightly more than half of total manufacturing unfilled orders by the end of 2012.

Foreign direct investment, capital expenditures and employment rise

Foreign direct investment rose 6.1% to \$181.6 billion in 2012, led by gains in the petroleum and coal products industry. Capital expenditures in the manufacturing sector were also up in 2012, with 16 of 20 industries reporting gains. Total capital expenditures in 2012 were \$20.4 billion, while employment rose 0.4% to 1.5 million workers. Despite this increase, the share of manufacturing employment out of total employment in the Canadian economy declined from 9.9% to 9.8% as other economic sectors posted larger gains compared with manufacturing.

Profits and the trade balance decline

Operating profits for the manufacturing sector declined 14.6% to \$49.5 billion in 2012, a result that contrasts with the gain in overall manufacturing sales. This was the first drop since the 2009 recession. The trade deficit for manufactured goods also continued to widen in 2012. Although manufacturing exports rose 3.0%, imports advanced 4.4%, causing the deficit to rise to \$100.4 billion from \$92.5 billion in 2011.

Overview

Most indicators describing the manufacturing sector showed positive growth in 2012. Sales, in particular, continued to advance, though at a slower rate than in 2010 and 2011. However, profits decreased while the trade deficit for manufactured goods rose. Overall, manufacturing presented a mixed picture in 2012.

For more information, please use the link below to access the full report on the manufacturing sector in 2012.

The analytical article "*Manufacturing: The Year 2012 in Review*" is now available as part of the *Analysis in Brief*, no. 91 (11-621-M), series. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website choose *Publications*.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Michael Schimpf (613-951-9832; michael.schimpf@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

Crude oil and natural gas production, June 2013

Provincial crude oil and marketable natural gas production data are now available for June.

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

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).

Travel Survey of Residents of Canada, third quarter 2012

Data on domestic travel from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada are now available for the third quarter of 2012.

Note to readers

The Travel Survey of Residents of Canada underwent a redesign in 2011. The survey scope is more inclusive and allows more trips to be collected. Moreover, its new design makes it easier to report trips. These changes are increasing the survey estimates from previous years. This creates a break in the domestic tourism series.

A more exhaustive document explaining the [differences between the redesigned 2011 Travel Survey of Residents of Canada and the 2010 survey](#) is available on our website.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

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 products and studies

New products

Industry Price Indexes, July 2013, Vol. 39, no. 7
Catalogue number 62-011-X (HTML | PDF)

New studies

Analysis in Brief: "Manufacturing: The Year 2012 in Review", No. 91
Catalogue number 11-621-M2013091 (HTML | PDF)



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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