

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, December 8, 2014

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Building permits, October 2014

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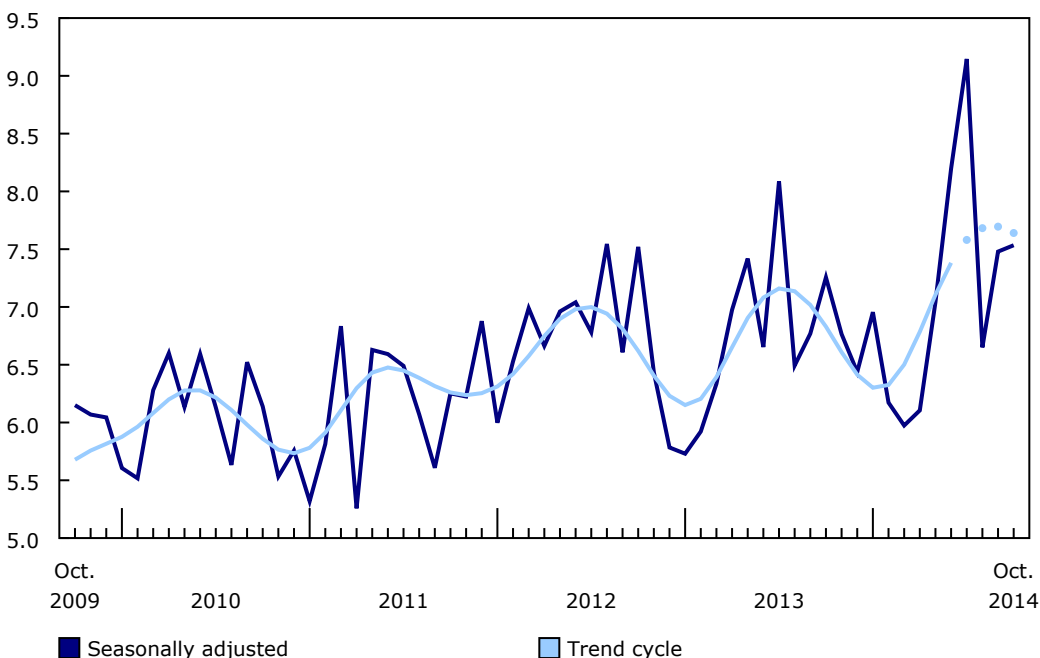
Releases

Building permits, October 2014

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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.

Source(s): CANSIM table [026-0010](#).

The value of non-residential building permits increased 2.4% from the previous month to \$3.1 billion in October. Gains were posted in five provinces, led by British Columbia, followed by Quebec, a distant second. Yukon also posted a noticeable increase in October. Ontario registered the largest decrease, following a notable increase in September.

In the residential sector, the value of permits edged down 0.4% to \$4.5 billion in October, following a 7.4% increase in September. Residential construction intentions fell in five provinces, with Quebec and Ontario accounting for most of the decline at the national level. Alberta and Nova Scotia posted the largest increases.

Non-residential sector: Higher construction intentions for industrial and institutional buildings

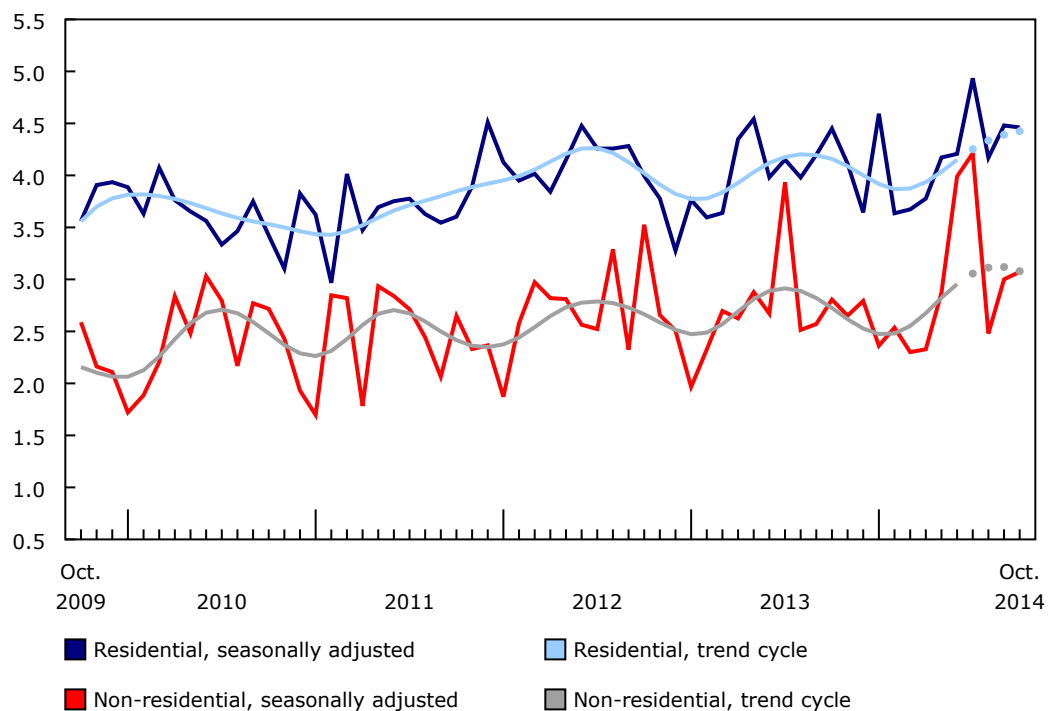
In October, construction intentions in the industrial component rose 34.4% to \$614 million, following a 4.4% increase in September. This increase was the result of higher construction intentions for utilities buildings and manufacturing plants. The advance was observed in five provinces, led by Ontario, followed by Saskatchewan. Manitoba registered the largest decrease.

The value of building permits in the institutional component was up 6.2% to \$909 million in October, following an 88.2% increase a month earlier. The October advance was the result of higher construction intentions for medical facilities in British Columbia as well as nursing homes and retirement residences in several provinces. Intentions rose in four provinces, led by British Columbia. In contrast, Ontario recorded the largest decrease, following a notable increase in the previous month.

In the commercial component, the value of permits fell 8.1% to \$1.5 billion in October, following a 6.2% advance the previous month. This was the lowest level since April of this year. The decline came from lower construction intentions in a variety of commercial buildings at the national level, including office buildings, recreational facilities, retail and wholesale outlets, retail complexes and service stations. Decreases were posted in four provinces, with Ontario posting the largest decline. British Columbia posted the biggest gain.

Chart 2
Residential and non-residential sectors

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.

Source(s): CANSIM table [026-0010](#).

Residential sector: Decline in construction intentions for multi-family dwellings

Canadian municipalities issued \$2.0 billion worth of building permits for multi-family dwellings in October, 0.9% less than in September. This decrease was largely the result of lower construction intentions in six provinces, with Quebec registering the largest decline. Nova Scotia posted the largest gain, followed by Alberta and Saskatchewan.

In October, the value of building permits for single-family dwellings was \$2.4 billion, the same level as in September. Gains were posted in six provinces, led by Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia, while Ontario registered the largest decrease.

At the national level, Canadian municipalities approved the construction of 18,354 new dwellings, down 0.6% from the previous month. The decline was attributable to a 0.9% decrease in the number of multi-family dwellings to 11,948 units and a 0.2% decline in the number of single-family dwellings to 6,406 units.

Provinces: Large increase in British Columbia

The total value of permits increased in four provinces in October, led by British Columbia, followed by Alberta and Saskatchewan.

British Columbia's gain was primarily attributable to higher construction intentions for institutional and commercial buildings. In Alberta, all components, except institutional buildings, were responsible for the increase, while in Saskatchewan, the advance was the result of higher construction intentions for multi-family dwellings and industrial buildings.

After posting a 38.0% gain in September, Ontario posted the largest decline in October. This decrease was due primarily to lower construction intentions for commercial and institutional buildings, following large increases in both components a month earlier. Manitoba was a distant second, with a decrease in construction intentions for non-residential buildings.

Higher construction intentions in most census metropolitan areas

In October, the total value of permits was up in 19 of the 34 census metropolitan areas, led by Vancouver, followed by Edmonton and Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo.

The gain in Vancouver was largely attributable to higher construction intentions for institutional and commercial buildings. In Edmonton, commercial buildings contributed the most to the increase, while in Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo, the advance came from multi-family dwellings.

Toronto had the largest decline, followed by Ottawa and Québec. Following the strong gain in September, the value of building permits issued in Toronto decreased as a result of lower construction intentions for commercial and institutional buildings. The decline in Ottawa was primarily the result of lower construction intentions for both multi-family and single-family dwellings, which had posted sharp gains the previous month. In Québec, the decrease came from multi-family dwellings and non-residential buildings.

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 [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 95% of the population. 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.

Building permits data are used as a leading indicator of activity in the construction industry.

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 for the previous month have been revised.

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

	October 2013	August 2014	September 2014 ^r	October 2014 ^p	September to October 2014	October 2013 to October 2014
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	7,256.3	6,650.3	7,479.3	7,533.9	0.7	3.8
Residential	4,450.0	4,170.0	4,479.6	4,461.3	-0.4	0.3
Single ¹	2,374.9	2,346.7	2,418.4	2,419.3	0.0	1.9
Multiple	2,075.2	1,823.4	2,061.2	2,042.0	-0.9	-1.6
Non-residential	2,806.2	2,480.3	2,999.6	3,072.7	2.4	9.5
Industrial	474.8	437.6	456.8	613.8	34.4	29.3
Commercial	1,822.7	1,587.7	1,686.8	1,549.7	-8.1	-15.0
Institutional	508.8	454.9	856.0	909.2	6.2	78.7
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	18,952	16,641	18,471	18,354	-0.6	-3.2
Single ¹	6,428	6,176	6,420	6,406	-0.2	-0.3
Multiple	12,524	10,465	12,051	11,948	-0.9	-4.6

^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.

Source(s): CANSIM table [026-0010](#).

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

	October 2013	August 2014	September 2014 ^r	October 2014 ^p	September to October 2014	October 2013 to October 2014
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	7,256.3	6,650.3	7,479.3	7,533.9	0.7	3.8
Residential	4,450.0	4,170.0	4,479.6	4,461.3	-0.4	0.3
Non-residential	2,806.2	2,480.3	2,999.6	3,072.7	2.4	9.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	87.5	119.7	92.6	92.3	-0.4	5.4
Residential	62.2	46.6	53.5	40.3	-24.7	-35.2
Non-residential	25.3	73.2	39.1	52.0	32.9	105.4
Prince Edward Island	15.6	16.2	17.9	14.9	-16.7	-4.6
Residential	9.6	8.3	12.1	11.8	-2.4	23.2
Non-residential	6.0	7.9	5.8	3.1	-46.5	-48.7
Nova Scotia	91.0	92.3	124.8	128.2	2.8	40.9
Residential	56.1	47.8	49.1	103.1	110.0	83.8
Non-residential	34.9	44.5	75.7	25.1	-66.8	-28.0
New Brunswick	82.4	80.7	94.3	68.0	-27.9	-17.5
Residential	43.8	34.3	42.7	32.0	-25.0	-26.9
Non-residential	38.6	46.3	51.6	36.0	-30.3	-6.8
Quebec	1,286.1	1,088.9	1,239.8	1,224.0	-1.3	-4.8
Residential	887.2	718.9	810.5	708.4	-12.6	-20.2
Non-residential	398.8	370.0	429.3	515.6	20.1	29.3
Ontario	2,655.4	2,211.0	3,051.0	2,436.5	-20.1	-8.2
Residential	1,565.2	1,351.3	1,606.0	1,515.9	-5.6	-3.1
Non-residential	1,090.3	859.7	1,445.0	920.6	-36.3	-15.6
Manitoba	275.8	220.7	225.6	189.5	-16.0	-31.3
Residential	138.6	129.0	119.4	133.8	12.1	-3.4
Non-residential	137.2	91.7	106.2	55.7	-47.6	-59.4
Saskatchewan	372.4	284.6	209.2	257.2	22.9	-30.9
Residential	171.0	194.3	128.7	164.9	28.1	-3.6
Non-residential	201.4	90.2	80.5	92.3	14.7	-54.2
Alberta	1,509.1	1,720.9	1,509.5	1,596.7	5.8	5.8
Residential	959.2	1,032.4	962.4	1,024.2	6.4	6.8
Non-residential	549.9	688.6	547.1	572.5	4.6	4.1
British Columbia	854.2	800.8	898.0	1,482.2	65.1	73.5
Residential	549.1	599.2	686.9	718.3	4.6	30.8
Non-residential	305.1	201.6	211.1	764.0	262.0	150.4
Yukon	10.9	9.5	11.7	41.0	251.5	277.0
Residential	2.1	4.4	5.6	6.5	17.1	213.2
Non-residential	8.8	5.1	6.1	34.5	466.0	292.2
Northwest Territories	10.9	4.7	4.3	3.2	-24.7	-70.2
Residential	1.1	3.2	2.2	1.9	-14.4	71.1
Non-residential	9.8	1.4	2.1	1.3	-35.8	-86.3
Nunavut	5.0	0.3	0.6	0.1	-81.4	-97.7
Residential	5.0	0.3	0.5	0.1	-78.5	-97.7
Non-residential	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	-97.8	...

^r revised

^p preliminary

... not applicable

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

Source(s): CANSIM tables [026-0006](#) and [026-0010](#).

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

	October 2013	August 2014	September 2014 ^r	October 2014 ^p	September to October 2014	October 2013 to October 2014
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	5,479.0	5,054.4	5,914.4	5,957.9	0.7	8.7
St. John's	56.1	90.2	67.3	66.4	-1.4	18.3
Halifax	39.3	44.9	81.8	82.2	0.5	109.0
Moncton	27.5	14.2	26.8	27.9	4.0	1.3
Saint John	11.5	8.9	6.7	8.4	25.6	-26.6
Saguenay	32.0	22.0	32.3	19.2	-40.4	-40.0
Québec	103.2	121.8	144.4	106.1	-26.5	2.8
Sherbrooke	34.1	23.6	35.9	42.3	17.6	23.9
Trois-Rivières	21.9	36.0	26.8	21.8	-18.6	-0.6
Montréal	675.8	547.6	660.0	663.0	0.5	-1.9
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	316.5	282.1	472.7	272.8	-42.3	-13.8
Gatineau part	53.2	47.3	34.5	53.6	55.4	0.7
Ottawa part	263.2	234.9	438.2	219.2	-50.0	-16.7
Kingston	15.0	12.5	25.7	14.8	-42.6	-1.4
Peterborough	16.3	22.8	21.9	20.1	-8.5	23.6
Oshawa	43.8	118.4	74.5	40.4	-45.7	-7.6
Toronto	1,382.1	928.2	1,693.0	1,226.0	-27.6	-11.3
Hamilton	127.1	104.7	102.4	106.2	3.7	-16.4
St. Catharines–Niagara	131.3	42.0	34.9	60.5	73.6	-53.9
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	59.4	85.9	52.5	129.5	146.8	117.9
Brantford	15.4	12.7	18.3	19.9	9.1	29.1
Guelph	10.7	46.5	49.1	55.4	12.7	418.1
London	69.2	94.0	62.1	70.9	14.2	2.5
Windsor	48.1	37.7	32.3	35.0	8.5	-27.2
Barrie	40.6	57.5	30.4	32.1	5.6	-21.0
Greater Sudbury	26.2	23.5	36.0	17.2	-52.4	-34.5
Thunder Bay	13.0	11.7	8.9	7.2	-18.5	-44.2
Winnipeg	186.3	154.6	166.4	133.3	-19.9	-28.4
Regina	72.0	84.6	53.3	75.4	41.5	4.7
Saskatoon	164.4	88.3	109.9	85.1	-22.5	-48.2
Calgary	610.6	804.4	595.6	606.5	1.8	-0.7
Edmonton	486.1	536.7	545.2	624.5	14.6	28.5
Kelowna	52.1	43.5	37.8	56.2	48.7	8.0
Abbotsford–Mission	6.3	16.4	9.0	6.5	-27.5	3.3
Vancouver	547.4	482.2	537.3	1,166.8	117.2	113.2
Victoria	38.0	54.3	63.2	58.2	-8.0	53.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise [census metropolitan areas](#).

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

Source(s): CANSIM table [026-0006](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [026-0001](#) to [026-0008](#) and [026-0010](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2802](#).

The October 2014 issue of *Building Permits* ([64-001-X](#)) will soon be available.

The November 2014 building permits data will be released on January 9, 2015.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mariane Bien-Aimé (613-951-7520), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

Machinery and Equipment Price Index, third quarter 2014

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) was unchanged in the third quarter compared with the previous quarter. The import component was up 0.1% over the period, while the domestic component increased 0.2%.

The Canadian dollar appreciated 0.1% against the US dollar in the third quarter compared with the second quarter. Variations in exchange rates can have a significant influence on the MEPI given the high weight of imported machinery and equipment in the index.

Among industries, an increase in transportation and warehousing (+0.2%) and, to a lesser extent, construction (+0.2%) was mainly offset by a decrease in finance, insurance and real estate (-0.1%) and, to a lesser extent, mines, quarries and oil wells (-0.1%).

Compared with the third quarter of 2013, the total MEPI increased 5.0%, with the import component rising 6.5% and the domestic component up 1.4%. The movement in the import component was partly influenced by the year-over-year depreciation of the Canadian dollar (-4.7%) against the US dollar.

Basket update (2010=100) and updated classifications

With the release of third quarter 2014 data, Statistics Canada converted the Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) series to 2010=100 as the base year. The relative importance of the basket items has been updated using the 2010 annual gross additions to capital for machinery and equipment purchases by industries in Canada.

Also, the MEPI (2010=100) adopted the commodity and industry classifications incorporated in the current input-output tables of the Canadian System of National Accounts (CSNA) for final demand expenditures by machinery and equipment categories. With the 2012 historical revision of the CSNA, the classifications incorporated in the input-output tables published by Statistics Canada have been updated.

The update of the classifications was triggered by the need to capture the evolving structure of the Canadian economy and to align the classifications to updated international classification systems (such as the North American Industry Classification System and the North American Product Classification System). As a result, the number of industry categories used for the MEPI (2010=100) increased from 60 to 66, while the number of commodity categories decreased from 106 to 56. For more information regarding the changes applied to the input-output tables, see the [Modernization of the Input-Output Tables](#) document.

The concordance information between the old CANSIM vectors and the new CANSIM vectors is available in [Concordance table between the old and new CANSIM vectors](#).

With the release of third quarter 2014 data, historical data for the MEPI, based on 2010=100, have also been revised.

The MEPI provides quarterly estimates of price changes for machinery and equipment purchased by industries in Canada.

Data are available at the Canada level only.

The contribution of a given sub-aggregate to the composite price change depends on both the price change exhibited by the sub-aggregate and on its importance in the basket, as measured by the weight.

With each release, data for the previous two quarters may have been revised. The index is not seasonally adjusted.

Table 1
Machinery and Equipment Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	Third quarter 2013	Second quarter 2014 ^r	Third quarter 2014 ^p	Second quarter to third quarter 2014	Third quarter 2013 to third quarter 2014
	%	(2010=100)			% change	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	100.00	103.1	108.3	108.3	0.0	5.0
Domestic	26.99	102.6	103.8	104.0	0.2	1.4
Imported	73.01	103.3	109.9	110.0	0.1	6.5
Crop and animal production	3.96	105.4	111.8	111.8	0.0	6.1
Forestry and logging	0.17	104.9	110.8	110.8	0.0	5.6
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.07	104.1	106.5	106.5	0.0	2.3
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	0.13	104.0	109.7	109.7	0.0	5.5
Mines, quarries and oil wells	12.00	106.6	111.4	111.3	-0.1	4.4
Utilities	5.04	103.6	108.6	108.6	0.0	4.8
Construction	6.20	105.9	111.0	111.2	0.2	5.0
All manufacturing	11.72	102.7	107.7	107.7	0.0	4.9
Trade	5.95	101.5	106.7	106.7	0.0	5.1
Transportation and warehousing	10.19	105.0	110.3	110.5	0.2	5.2
Finance, insurance and real estate	18.78	102.0	107.8	107.7	-0.1	5.6
Private education services, health care and social assistance	0.68	101.1	106.1	106.2	0.1	5.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	11.40	99.2	103.8	103.8	0.0	4.6
Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance	3.36	101.7	106.4	106.4	0.0	4.6
Public administration	9.84	103.0	108.1	108.2	0.1	5.0
Non-profit institutions serving households	0.51	100.7	105.9	106.0	0.1	5.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. The relative importance in the Machinery and Equipment Price Index represents shares of capital investment by industry for the year 2010. They are derived from the final demand matrix of the input-output table, compiled by the Canadian System of National Accounts.

Source(s): CANSIM table [327-0055](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [327-0054](#) and [327-0055](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2312](#).

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index for the fourth quarter of 2014 will be released on February 23, 2015.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Police-reported data on hate crime, 2012

On June 26, 2014, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics released 2012 data on police-reported hate crimes in Canada. Police-reported hate crimes refer to criminal incidents that, upon investigation by police, are determined to have been motivated by hate toward an identifiable group. The incident may target colour, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, language, sex, age, mental or physical disability, or other factors such as occupation or political beliefs.

To provide further information on the June 26 publication, new CANSIM tables are being released containing data previously available upon request only. The information presented in these tables is from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Available in CANSIM: tables [252-0091](#) to [252-0093](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [3302](#).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

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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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