

The Daily

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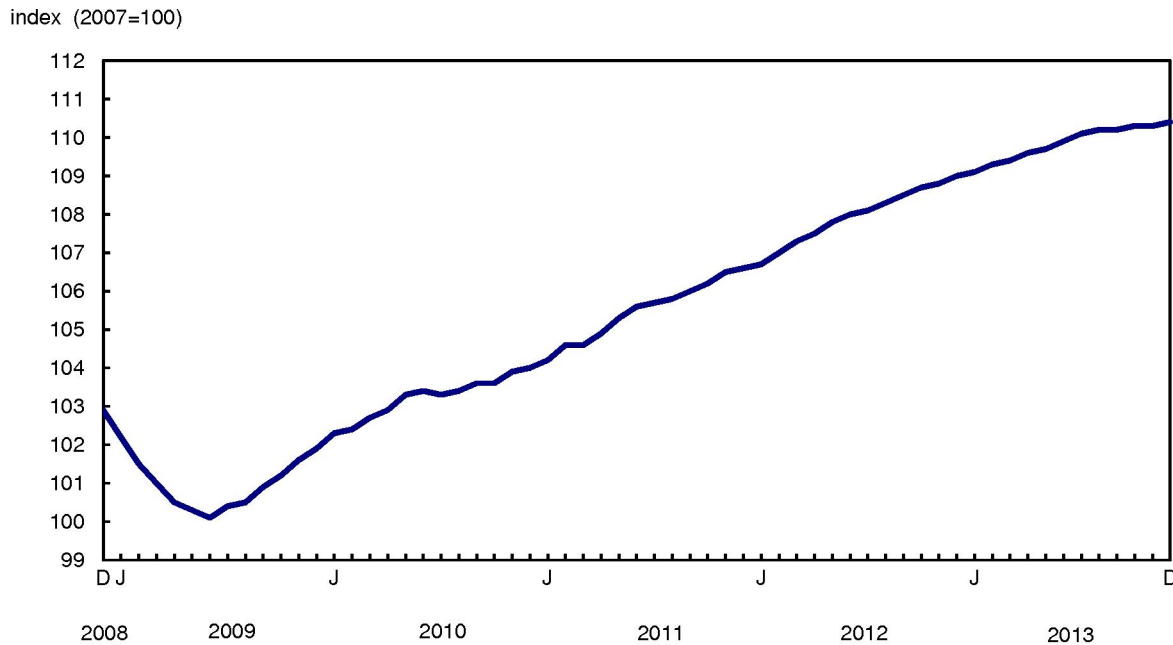


Releases

New Housing Price Index, December 2013

The New Housing Price Index (NHPI) rose 0.1% in December, following no change in November. Monthly price movements have fluctuated between 0.0% and 0.2% since June 2012.

Chart 1
New Housing Price Index



The combined metropolitan region of Toronto and Oshawa (+0.2%) was the top contributor to the December advance, following four consecutive months of little or no change. Builders indicated that market conditions were the primary reason for the price gain — the largest in the region since July.

Prices also rose 0.2% in St. Catharines–Niagara, where builders reported higher material and labour costs. New home prices advanced 0.1% in Ottawa–Gatineau, the first monthly increase in that region following seven consecutive months of unchanged or declining prices.

Monthly prices were down 0.3% in Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo, following little or no change since August 2012. The decrease, the largest since May 2010, was mainly due to some builders offering free upgrade packages to generate sales.

Prices for new homes also declined in Windsor (-0.2%), as well as in Halifax, London and Vancouver (all down 0.1%). Builders in all four regions cited lower negotiated selling prices as the main reason for the December price decreases. This was the first monthly price decline in London since October 2010.

Prices were unchanged in 11 of the 21 metropolitan regions surveyed in December.

On a year-over-year basis, the NHPI rose 1.3% in the 12 months to December, following a 1.4% increase in November. This marked the fifth consecutive month of slowing growth.

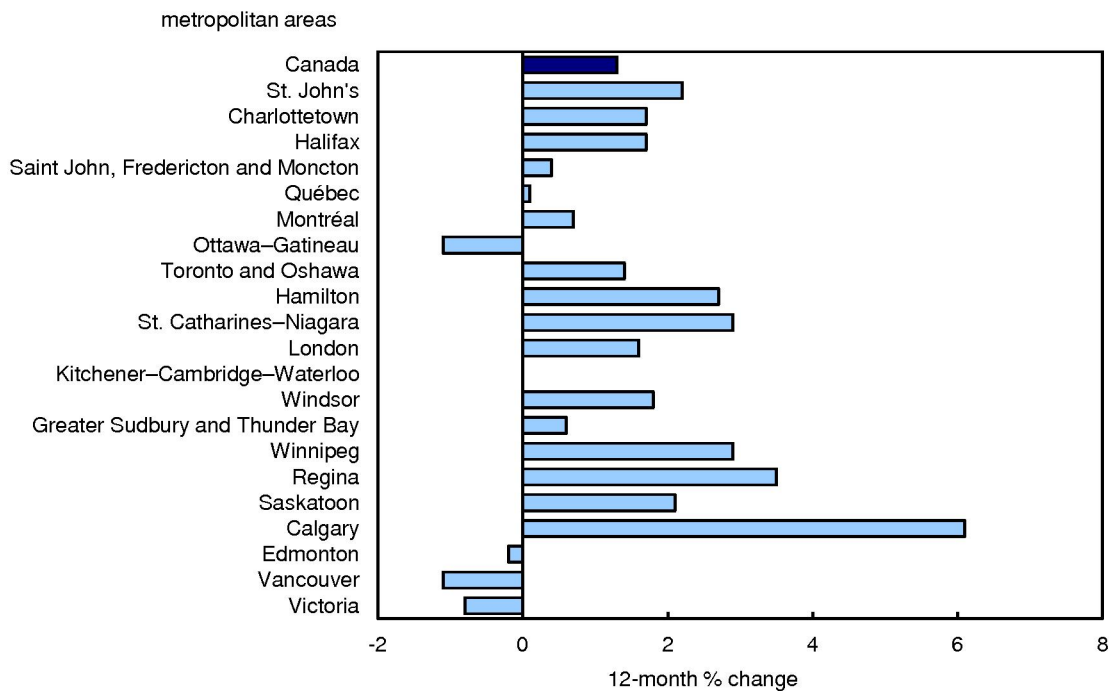
The two main contributors to the annual advance were Calgary (+6.1%), and the combined metropolitan region of Toronto and Oshawa, where the year-over-year-increase in contractors' selling prices was 1.4% for the second month in a row.

In Regina, where the pace of annual increase has been accelerating over the last few months, new housing prices were up 3.5% in December compared with the same month in 2012.

Other significant year-over-year increases occurred in St. Catharines–Niagara and Winnipeg (both up 2.9%). This marked the smallest annual price gain in Winnipeg since January 2010, as the pace of growth in new home prices has been slowing since August.

Among the 21 metropolitan areas surveyed, 4 posted 12-month price declines in December: Ottawa–Gatineau and Vancouver (both down 1.1%), Victoria (-0.8%) and Edmonton (-0.2%). This was the first annual decrease in Edmonton since May 2010.

Chart 2
Calgary posts the largest year-over-year price increase



Year in review: A regional perspective

In 2013, the annual average increase in new housing prices was 1.8%, down from 2.4% in 2012. This was the smallest advance since 1999, when average new home prices rose 0.9%.

The Atlantic region (+1.7%), Quebec (+1.0%), Ontario (+2.1%), as well as the Prairies (+2.9%) all posted increases in 2013, while British Columbia (-1.0%) recorded a third consecutive annual decrease.

In the Atlantic region, price increases were attributable to higher material and labour costs, market conditions and land prices. Halifax recorded an average annual price gain of 2.5% over 2012, followed closely by St. John's (+1.8%). Prices in Charlottetown rose 0.5%, while the region of Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton saw prices edge up 0.3% in 2013.

In Quebec, where average increases in 2013 were almost identical in Québec (+1.1%) and Montréal (+1.0%), market conditions were cited as the primary reason for higher prices.

St Catharine's–Niagara (+3.1%) had the largest annual average price movement in Ontario, followed by the combined metropolitan region of Toronto and Oshawa as well as Hamilton (both up 2.5%). Builders reported that market conditions drove prices upwards in all three cities. Ottawa–Gatineau had the smallest average annual price increase in Ontario, with prices rising 0.3% in 2013. Land development costs were the primary reason for the modest increase in Ottawa–Gatineau.

In the Prairie region, Calgary's annual average prices rose 5.3% in 2013, the largest gain in six years. Winnipeg (+4.9%) also saw a significant annual price increase in 2013. Builders in both cities cited higher material and labour costs as well as a higher land prices as the primary factors contributing to price increases.

In British Columbia, average annual prices fell 1.3% in Victoria and 1.1% in Vancouver, as builders reported having to lower list prices to complete sales throughout 2013. This marked the sixth consecutive annual decrease for Victoria and the third for Vancouver.

Note to readers

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.

The index is not subject to revision and is not seasonally adjusted.

Table 1
New Housing Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted¹

	Relative importance ²	December 2012	November 2013	December 2013	November to December 2013	December 2012 to December 2013
	%	(2007=100)			% change	
Canada total	100.0	109.0	110.3	110.4	0.1	1.3
House only	...	109.6	111.1	111.2	0.1	1.5
Land only	...	107.2	108.2	108.2	0.0	0.9
St. John's	1.83	147.7	150.9	150.9	0.0	2.2
Charlottetown	0.22	101.7	103.4	103.4	0.0	1.7
Halifax	1.21	115.7	117.8	117.7	-0.1	1.7
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton ³	0.52	108.0	108.4	108.4	0.0	0.4
Québec	2.70	122.6	122.7	122.7	0.0	0.1
Montréal	9.60	116.2	117.0	117.0	0.0	0.7
Ottawa–Gatineau	4.97	116.8	115.4	115.5	0.1	-1.1
Toronto and Oshawa ³	27.21	118.7	120.1	120.4	0.2	1.4
Hamilton	3.25	106.9	109.8	109.8	0.0	2.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	1.01	107.8	110.7	110.9	0.2	2.9
London	1.69	110.7	112.6	112.5	-0.1	1.6
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	2.02	111.2	111.5	111.2	-0.3	0.0
Windsor	0.67	98.6	100.6	100.4	-0.2	1.8
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay ³	0.63	107.6	108.2	108.2	0.0	0.6
Winnipeg	2.39	132.6	136.4	136.5	0.1	2.9
Regina	1.12	154.5	159.9	159.9	0.0	3.5
Saskatoon	2.20	119.2	121.7	121.7	0.0	2.1
Calgary	11.55	98.5	104.4	104.5	0.1	6.1
Edmonton	12.78	91.1	90.9	90.9	0.0	-0.2
Vancouver	11.23	97.6	96.6	96.5	-0.1	-1.1
Victoria	1.22	84.8	84.1	84.1	0.0	-0.8

... not applicable

1. Values have been rounded.

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

3. In order 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(s): View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.

Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0046 and 327-0050.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.

The New Housing Price Index for January will be released on March 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; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Victim Services Survey, 2011/2012

Between April 1, 2011, and March 31, 2012, 760 victim service providers reporting to the Victim Services Survey helped almost 460,000 victims of crime. The survey looked at services provided to both those directly victimized (primary victims) and persons affected by the victimization of another (secondary victims, such as family members of homicide victims).

A variety of organizations offered services to victims in Canada in 2011/2012, with police-based services (36%) being the most common, followed by community-based services (24%). In addition, services were provided by sexual assault centres (14%), courts (10%), Victim Crisis and Referral providers in Ontario (7%) and system-based services in other provinces (7%).

The vast majority of victim service providers offered protection (92%) and crisis (90%) services, as well as information to assist victims with the courts and justice system (89%) and support their participation in the system (90%). Almost two-thirds of providers (64%) offered medical-related assistance and over half provided shelter-related services (59%) or assistance with compensation (56%).

Service providers were asked for information on the characteristics of victims seeking services on a specific snapshot day, May 24, 2012. On this day, 696 victim service providers reported that they served over 10,000 clients. Most of these were women (78%), and, overall, the majority of clients (80%) were victims of violence. Of all the victims served on that day, 49% had previously received services from the same victim service provider.

Among all females assisted, over 8 in 10 (84%) were victims of a violent offence. Almost one-third (30%) of female clients who received services were victims of sexual assault, while half of female clients were victims of other violent offences. About 6 in 10 female clients (61%) were victims of a violent offence by a spouse, ex-spouse, intimate partner or other family member.

On snapshot day, 7 out of 10 male clients served by victim service providers were victims of a violent offence, with 15% having received services for sexual assault. One-third of males (33%) helped that day were victims of a violent offence by a spouse, ex-spouse, intimate partner or other family member. Male victims were notably more likely than females to be victims of non-violent offences (such as theft or destruction of property) or violent offences (non-sexual) involving someone other than a family member.

Male victims assisted by victim service providers on snapshot day were more frequently under age 18. For respondents able to report the age and sex of clients, 27% of male victims served were under age 18 compared with 17% of female victims.

Note to readers

Data are collected through the Victim Services Survey, which is funded by the Department of Justice Canada's Policy Centre for Victim Issues and has been conducted every two years since 2003/2004. The survey was developed in consultation with federal, provincial and territorial ministries responsible for justice and victim services, as well as a number of victim service providers from across Canada. Its objective is to provide a profile of victim service providers, information on the types of services offered and an overview of the clients who use them through a snapshot of clients on a given day. In addition, the survey collects standardized information from criminal injuries compensation and other financial benefit programs regarding applications for compensation and awards to victims of crime. Because of changes made to the survey over time, comparisons to previous cycles should not be made.

System-based providers offer a model of service delivery for victims of crime that is independent from police, courts and Crown attorneys and assist victims throughout their contact with the criminal justice system.

Available in CANSIM: tables 256-0018 to 256-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5035.

The *Juristat* article "Victim services in Canada, 2011/2012" (85-002-X), is now available. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Crime and justice*, and *Juristat*.

The biennial report *Victim Services in Canada: National, Provincial and Territorial Fact Sheets, 2011/2012* will be made available at a later date.

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).

Cement, December 2013

Data on cement are now available for December. Revised data are also available for November.

Available in CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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Victim services in Canada, 2011/2012

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