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Statistics Canada

June 23, 1993

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MAJOR RELEASE

● Building Permits, 1992

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The total value of building permits issued in Canada was \$27.0 billion in 1992, down 5.2% from \$28.5 billion in 1991. The decline in building activity for 1992 is totally attributable to a 16.9% decrease in the non-residential sector.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Motor Carriers of Freight Quarterly Survey – Large Carriers, First Quarter 1993

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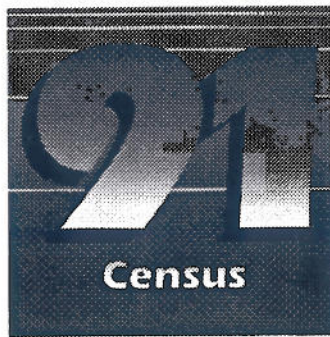
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, April 1993

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1991 Census
Catalogue
Second Edition
Reference



1991 Census Catalogue (Second Edition)

The second edition of *1991 Census Catalogue* is now available. The catalogue describes the products and services of the 1991 Census of Population, the 1991 Census of Agriculture, the Post-censal Surveys Program and the Employment Equity Data Program.

The catalogue contains details on the availability, price, medium (print or electronic), content and catalogue numbers of the products and services.

It also uses symbols, charts, maps, a glossary of geographic terms, and data quality notes to help users learn more about the census products and services that are available from Statistics Canada.

To order the second edition of *1991 Census Catalogue* (92-302E, \$15), contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



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MAJOR RELEASE

Building Permits

1992

The total value of building permits issued in Canada was \$27.0 billion in 1992, down 5.2% from \$28.5 billion in 1991. Even though construction activity has been declining since 1989, the decline has been smaller every year.

The decline in construction activity for 1992 is totally attributable to a 16.9% decrease (to \$9.8 billion) in the non-residential sector. Commercial and industrial projects contributed most to the non-residential sector's decrease (to 75.0%). The high vacancy rate in office space because of weakness in the commercial and industrial sectors – especially in Quebec and Ontario – contributed in large part to the poor performance of the non-residential construction sector. As for the residential sector, it posted a 3.2% increase, to \$17.2 billion.

The number of dwelling units authorized in 1992 grew by 1.5% to 169,000 units. The first annual growth in the last five years, the 1.5% increase was

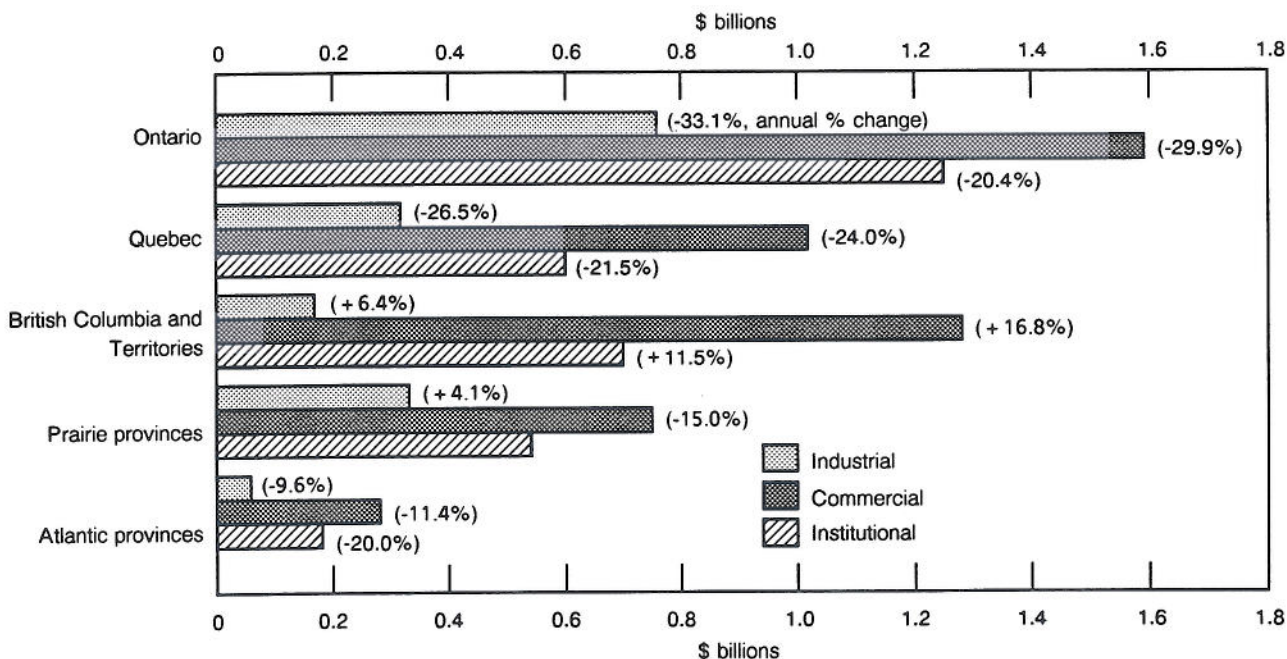
due entirely to the single-family dwelling sector (+4.4%). The multi-family dwelling sector reported a 1.9% decrease.

Provinces/Territories

The largest decreases in the total value of building permits in 1992 were in Ontario (-17.0%), Quebec (-16.0%) and Newfoundland (-11.8%). Particularly in these regions, high vacancy rates for apartments and office blocks, as well as deteriorating labour market conditions, had a negative effect on construction activity.

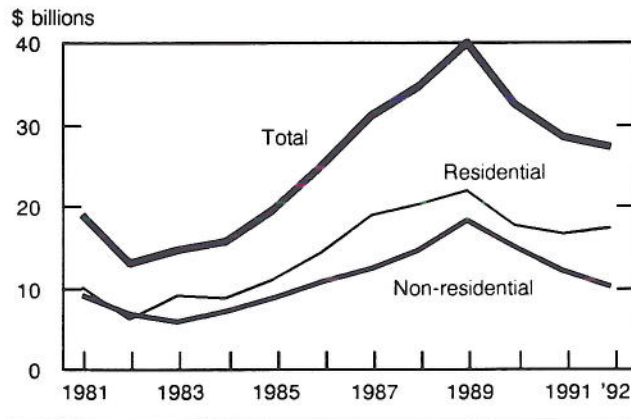
By contrast, the total value of building permits rose substantially in British Columbia (+21.9%), Alberta (+17.7%) and the Northwest Territories (+11.5%). The intensity of residential construction in British Columbia and the sustained level of sales of new dwellings in Alberta were supported by the lowest mortgage rates in 25 years, federal government programs, and – especially in British Columbia – the high number of immigrants.

Value and Annual Change of Non-residential Permits Issued by Region, 1992



Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

(in current dollars)



Metropolitan Areas

Metropolitan areas reported a 6.9% decrease in the total value of building permits, to \$18.4 billion. Despite a 19.3% decrease, the Toronto metropolitan

area (\$4.3 billion) again ranked first in construction intentions in 1992. The Vancouver metropolitan area reported a 20.4% increase in the total value of building permits, to \$3.6 billion; the Montreal metropolitan area reported a 20.9% decrease to \$2.4 billion.

In terms of the average value of residential projects per capita, the Vancouver metropolitan area (\$1,439) ranked first followed by the metropolitan areas of Calgary (\$1,034) and Hull (\$1,015).

In terms of the average value of non-residential projects per capita, the Vancouver metropolitan area (\$772) ranked first for the second year in a row, followed by the metropolitan areas of Thunder Bay (\$609) and Victoria (\$580).

The annual *Building Permits, 1992* (64-203, \$56) is scheduled for release the last week of June. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on statistics, contact Monique Lavigne (613-951-2583). For analytical information, contact Nathalie Léveillé (613-951-2025), Current Investment Indicators Section, Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Value of Residential and Non-residential Building Permits¹

	Residential			Non-residential			Total		
	1991	1992	1991 to 1992	1991	1992	1991 to 1992	1991	1992	1991 to 1992
	\$ millions	% change		\$ millions	% change		\$ millions	% change	
Canada	16,631.7	17,160.8	3.2	11,836.3	9,834.3	-16.9	28,468.0	26,995.1	-5.2
Newfoundland	160.0	160.6	0.4	115.0	81.8	-28.8	275.0	242.5	-11.8
Prince Edward Island	60.5	69.8	15.4	60.6	62.3	2.7	121.1	132.1	9.0
Nova Scotia	390.7	422.6	8.2	243.6	182.4	-25.1	634.3	604.9	-4.6
New Brunswick	219.7	255.5	16.3	194.2	198.2	2.1	413.9	453.7	9.6
Quebec	3,702.3	3,307.1	-10.7	2,539.3	1,938.1	-23.7	6,241.6	5,245.2	-16.0
Ontario	7,018.9	6,362.0	-9.4	4,978.9	3,601.0	-27.7	11,997.8	9,962.9	-17.0
Manitoba	251.6	307.1	22.1	309.6	234.2	-24.4	561.1	541.2	-3.5
Saskatchewan	90.8	155.2	70.9	236.7	167.8	-29.1	327.5	323.1	-1.3
Alberta	1,359.2	1,881.1	38.4	1,280.1	1,224.4	-4.3	2,639.3	3,105.6	17.7
British Columbia	3,328.2	4,173.1	25.4	1,803.3	2,082.5	15.5	5,131.5	6,255.5	21.9
Yukon	27.2	44.3	63.0	46.5	26.9	-42.0	73.7	71.2	-3.3
Northwest Territories	22.6	22.5	-0.8	28.5	34.6	21.3	51.2	57.1	11.5

¹ Numbers may not add due to rounding.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Motor Carriers of Freight Quarterly Survey – Large Carriers

First Quarter 1993

The Motor Carriers of Freight Quarterly Survey results, covering large for-hire trucking carriers with annual operating revenues of \$25 million or more, are now available for the first quarter of 1993. These carriers earn about one-third of the revenue of the entire for-hire trucking industry.

During the first quarter of 1993, 52 large carriers that earn \$25 million or more annually generated total operating revenues of \$748 million and spent \$752 million in operating expenses. As a result, the operating ratio for the first quarter was 1.00, a slight improvement from 1.01 in the first quarters of 1991 and 1992.

The 34 large general freight carriers recorded an operating ratio of 1.00, their best financial performance since the third quarter of 1990. By contrast, the 18 large specialized freight carriers posted a 1.01 operating ratio, their first operating loss since the fourth quarter of 1990.

Detailed data for the first quarter of 1993 will appear in the September 1993 issue of *Surface and Marine Transport Service Bulletin* (50-002, \$9.40/\$75).

For further information on this release, contact Dan Calof (613-951-2519, fax: 613-951-0579), Transportation Division. ■

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies

April 1993

Production of lumber in sawmills east of the Rockies increased by 14.4% to 2 330 248 cubic metres in April 1993, up from 2 037 718 cubic metres after revisions in April 1992.

Stocks on hand at the end of April 1993 totalled 3 112 552 cubic metres, up 7.5% from 2 895 525 cubic metres in April 1992.

Year-to-date production at the end of April 1993 totalled 8 800 084 cubic metres, up 13.4% from 7 761 192 cubic metres after revisions for the same period a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2) and 122 (series 2).

The April 1993 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies* (35-002, \$10/\$100) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns

April 1993

Restaurant, caterer and tavern receipts totalled \$1,605 million for April 1993, up 8.9% from \$1,474 million in April 1992.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 52.

The April 1993 issue of *Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns* (63-011, \$6.10/\$61) will be available in three weeks. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact William Birbeck (613-951-3506), Services, Science and Technology Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Logging Industry, 1990.

Catalogue number 25-201

(Canada: \$30; United States: US\$36;

Other Countries: US\$42).

The Sugar Situation, May 1993.

Catalogue number 32-013

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, May 1993.

Catalogue number 36-004

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Building Permits, April 1993.

Catalogue number 64-001

(Canada: \$22.10/\$221;

United States: US\$26.50/US\$265;

Other Countries: US\$30.90/US\$309).

Exports by Country, January-March 1993.

Catalogue number 65-003

(Canada: \$82.75/\$331;

United States: US\$99.25/US\$397;

Other Countries: US\$115.75/US\$463).

1991 Census Catalogue, Second Edition, 1991 Census.

Catalogue number 92-302E

(Canada: \$15; United States: US\$18;

Other Countries: US\$21).

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada: \$120.00 annually; United States: US\$144.00 annually; Other Countries: US\$168.00 annually

Published by the Communications Division
Statistics Canada, 10-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613-951-1187)
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