

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 3, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Building permits, September 1994** 2  
After two quarters of growth, the value of building permits issued by municipalities fell 5.4% in the third quarter of 1994.
- **Help-wanted index, October 1994** 5  
The job outlook for Canadians continued to improve in October. The index, compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 metropolitan areas, advanced 2% to 99 between September and October.

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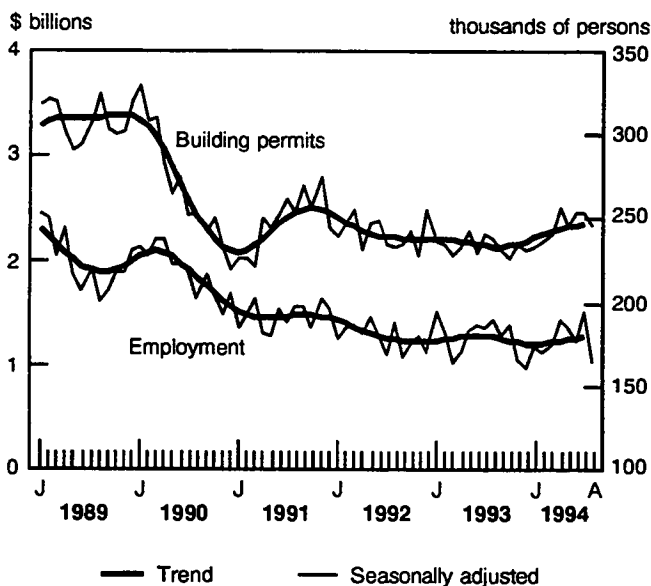
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Building permits

September 1994

After two quarters of growth, the value of building permits issued by municipalities fell 5.4% in the third quarter of 1994. Combined with recent declines in housing starts, this could foreshadow further drops in construction employment over the next few months.

#### Total building permits value and employment in construction<sup>1</sup>, Canada



<sup>1</sup> Labour force survey excluding machinery and equipment and engineering projects.

Permits, which are an early indicator of construction activity, fell to \$6,851 million in the third quarter, from \$7,246 million in the second quarter. Ontario was the only province to post a third-quarter gain.

In September municipalities issued permits valued at \$2,112 million, down 7.7% following a 6.6% drop in August. One factor was a civic workers' strike in Vancouver, which halted permit activity in the city for the entire month. Vancouver has accounted for an average of almost 4% of the total value of permits this year.

#### Note to users

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

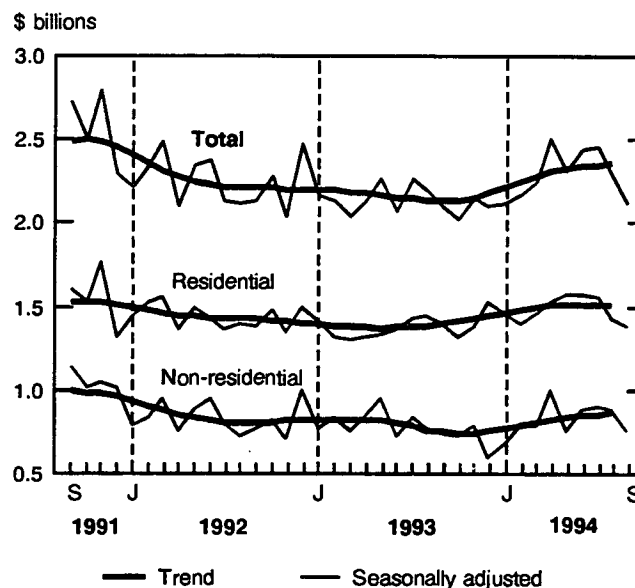
The building and demolitions permits monthly survey covers 2,400 municipalities that represent 93% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities that represent the other 7% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g. waterworks, sewers, culverts, etc.) and land.

The annual rate is a monthly figure that has been seasonally adjusted and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels.

Non-residential permits recorded the largest monthly drop (-15.4%) in September; this compares with -2.9% for residential permits.

#### Value of building permits issued



## Non-residential construction intentions nosedive

The September value of non-residential permits plunged 15.4% to \$740 million from August, as declines in institutional (-41.6%) and commercial (-13.4%) construction intentions more than offset a gain in planned industrial (+31.0%) construction.

The value of the non-residential permits for the third quarter of 1994 was down 3.9% to \$2,509 million from the previous quarter. The decline was due mainly to significant decreases posted by the commercial and institutional components in September.

Despite the third quarter's decline, the value of non-residential intentions was 8.9% higher than in the third quarter of 1993. This reflected overall improved conditions for business as shown by a second-quarter gain in profits and by a jump in capacity utilization to 81.7%.

## Housing construction intentions are weakening

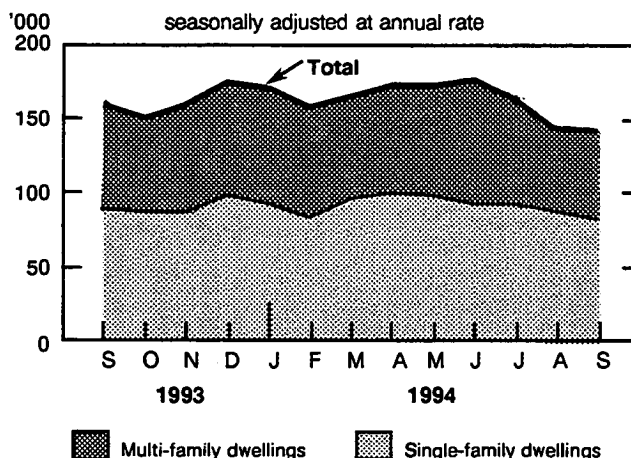
For a third consecutive month the value for residential projects declined (-2.9% to \$1,372 million), reflecting the sluggish resale market of existing homes, which continued to slide in September in all provinces. The decrease in September was attributable to a 6.2% drop in single-family housing permits, which offset a 6.3% increase in multi-family dwelling intentions that came entirely from Ontario builders.

The value of residential permits fell 6.3% in the third quarter of 1994 to \$4,342 million, due to a drop in multi-family (-11.0%) and single-family (-4.3%) dwelling intentions. However, compared to the same quarter last year, the value of residential intentions increased 2.5%.

The monthly average residential value for 1994 (\$1,475 million) outpaced the previous four year's average, but it remained far below the peak average recorded in 1989 (\$1,809 million).

In terms of number of dwelling units, the annualized number issued in September reached 141,000 units, down 1.7% from August. September's level—the lowest recorded this year—signals further contraction in the residential construction sector for the fourth quarter of 1994. The latest housing intentions numbers tend to support Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's housing affordability index, which fell from 41% early this year to 27% in June (the index measures the percentage of renters who could buy a home).

## Dwelling units



## Ontario posts a third-quarter gain

Ontario alone posted a third-quarter gain in total construction (+6.2% to \$2,649 million), continuing a pattern of uninterrupted growth this year.

For the first nine months of 1994, the value of all permits was on the rise in all regions compared to the same period in 1993. Ontario's 9.9% advance—reflected in both the residential and non-residential sectors—contributed most to the total increase. During the same period, residential and non-residential construction intentions in the Atlantic region contributed equally to the region's 8.1% increase over last year. Noteworthy was the growth in the value of industrial projects, which reached \$65 million, more than double that of last year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.**

The September 1994 issue of *Building permits* (64-001, \$24/\$240) will be released on November 10th. See "How to order publications".

The October building permits estimate will be released on December 5th.

For further information on statistics, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689). For further analytical information, contact Nathalie Léveillé (613-951-2025), Current Investment Indicators Section, Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

### Value of building permits

Regions and types of construction	September 1993	June 1994	July 1994	August 1994	September 1994	September 1993 to September 1994	August 1994 to September 1994
	seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions				% change		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>2,451</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-7.7</b>
Residential	1,383	1,565	1,556	1,414	1,372	-0.7	-2.9
Non-residential	718	878	895	874	740	3.0	-15.4
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>12.1</b>
Residential	77	81	80	74	74	-3.8	0.0
Non-residential	36	42	39	40	54	51.1	34.6
<b>Quebec</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>-13.4</b>
Residential	235	290	289	263	234	-0.6	-10.9
Non-residential	161	237	208	220	183	13.9	-16.5
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Residential	497	539	563	550	583	17.3	5.9
Non-residential	252	262	333	314	306	21.5	-2.8
<b>Prairies</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>-9.6</b>
Residential	198	206	187	167	164	-16.8	-1.3
Non-residential	91	158	164	131	105	15.2	-20.1
<b>British Columbia<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>555</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>-26.2</b>	<b>-22.6</b>
Residential	376	450	437	360	317	-15.6	-11.9
Non-residential	179	179	150	169	92	-48.4	-45.4

<sup>1</sup> Building permits issued for the Yukon and the Northwest Territories are included in the British Columbia region.

**Note: data may not add to totals due to rounding.**

Customer: "Herald" Magazine, 1400 Lakeshore Blvd. West, #100

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, September 10, 1982

Our address is 520 St. A.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- o **Laboral Force Survey, August 1982**  
The unemployment rate was 6.3 in 1982 in August 1982. 2
- o **Formal Product Prices Index, July 1982**  
The Formal Product Prices Index rose 0.3% in July. The index remains unchanged as high price items since July 1981; the headline and detailed producer price indexes edged up more points in July 1982.
- o **Administrative Data on Immigration, 1982-84**  
Since 1974, according to an unpublished 60-point delivery file report from 1982-84, there is an annual increase of 10,000-15,000. This figure compares from 1980-81 with a similar period for a similar period. 6

## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department Store Sales for November and December 1981  
 Retail Prices: Home, Home, Dining, September 1, 1982  
 Consumer Confidence: 19th Party Period Ending August 1, 1982  
 Monthly Consumer Confidence: July 1982  
 Housing and Consumer Confidence: July 1982  
 Oil and Gas: July 1982  
 Gas and Consumer Confidence: July 1982  
 Consumer Price Index: Monthly, Annual 1982

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**MAJOR RELEASE DATES: Week of September 13-17**

Statistics Canada  
 Ottawa, Ontario  
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**Statistics Canada's official release bulletin**

**Catalogue 11-001E. (Canada: \$175; United States: US\$210; other countries: US\$245.)**

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

To receive *The Daily* from the Internet, send an E-mail message to [listproc@statcan.ca](mailto:listproc@statcan.ca). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

**Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103)**

Head of Official Release: Jacques Lefebvre (613-951-1088)

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## Help-wanted index

October 1994

The job outlook for Canadians continued to improve in October. The seasonally adjusted help-wanted index for Canada (1991 = 100) increased 2% to 99. Since the trough of 85 in September 1993, the index has gained 16%. The increases signal further improvement in the labour market and accompany rising levels of employment and decreases in the unemployment rate.

### Advances in all regions except British Columbia

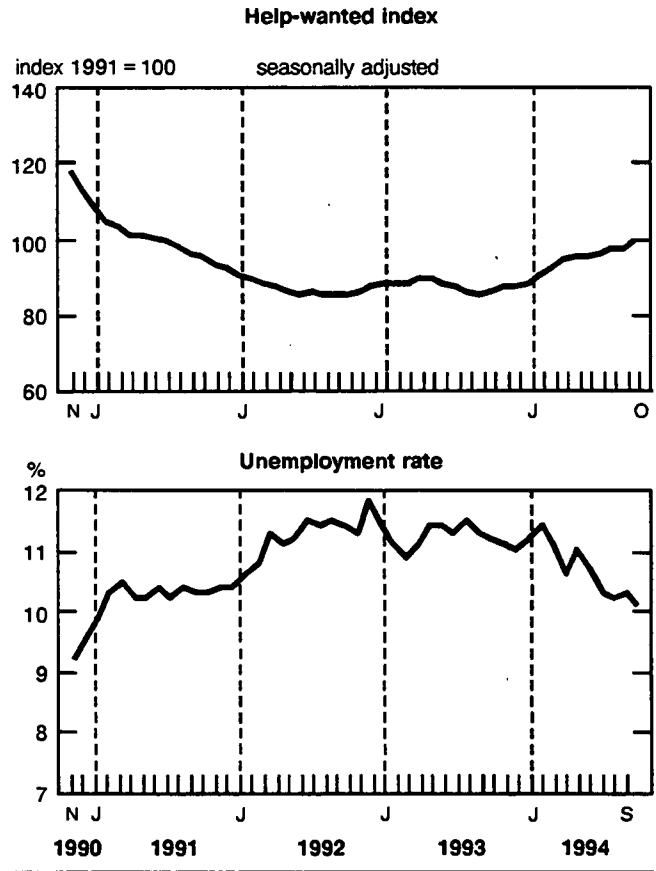
Between September and October 1994, the strongest increase occurred in the Atlantic provinces (+3%). In Quebec, Ontario and the Prairie provinces the index advanced 2%. In British Columbia a gain observed in Vancouver (+1%) was offset by a decrease in the index in Victoria (-4%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8-10).

Help-wanted indexes for metropolitan areas surveyed and trend-cycle estimates are available on request.

For further information on this release, contact André Picard (613-951-4045) or Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087).

In October, the index is continuing its upward trend that started a year ago



## Help-wanted index

(1991 = 100)

	October 1993	August 1994	September 1994	October 1994	October 1993 to October 1994	September 1994 to October 1994
seasonally adjusted						
					% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>
Atlantic provinces	85	95	96	99	16	3
Quebec	92	99	99	101	10	2
Ontario	85	100	101	103	21	2
Prairies provinces	84	94	96	98	17	2
British Columbia	82	85	84	83	1	-1

## OTHER RELEASES

### Steel primary forms

Week ending October 29, 1994 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 29, 1994 totalled 287 718 tonnes, up 6.1% from the week-earlier 271 289 tonnes and up 11.3% from the year-earlier 258 611 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 11 383 268 tonnes, a 3.9% decrease from 11 842 122 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

### Cement

September 1994

Manufacturers shipped 1 233 613 tonnes of cement in September 1994, up 3.5% from 1 192 243 tonnes in September 1993 and up 2.4% from 1 264 189 tonnes in July 1994.

For January to September 1994, shipments totalled 7 786 316 tonnes, up 12.2% from 6 939 845 shipped tonnes during the same period in 1993.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 (series 1.1 and 1.2) and 122 (series 35).**

The September 1994 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

### Footwear statistics

Third quarter 1994

Manufacturers produced 5,992,332 pairs of footwear in the third quarter of 1994, a 6.7% increase from 5,614,868<sup>r</sup> (revised) pairs a year earlier.

Year-to-date production for January to September 1994 totalled 17,557,460 pairs of footwear, up 5.2% from 16,691,336<sup>r</sup> pairs produced during the same period in 1993.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 8.**

The third quarter 1994 issue of *Footwear statistics* (33-002, \$6/\$24) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Don Grant (613-951-5998), Industry Division. ■

### International air passenger origin and destination

1992

The 1992 data on scheduled international air passenger origin and destination are now available.

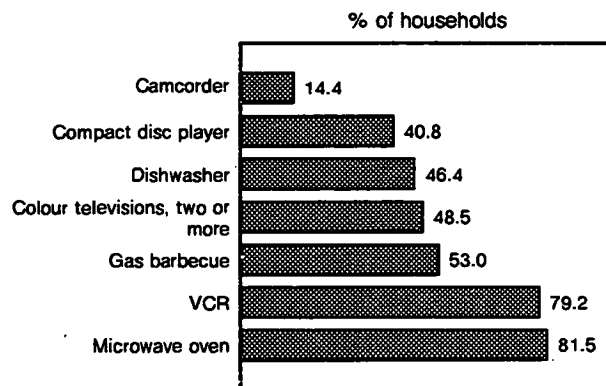
For further information on this release, contact Lisa Di Piéto (819-997-6176), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

### Correction: Household facilities and equipment

1994

The second chart that appeared in this release in yesterday's issue was incorrect because it listed camcorders twice in the labels. The correct version of that chart is shown below.

### Cocooning and consumerism in 1994: many households have leisure and time-saving equipment



## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Production and inventories of process cheese and instant skim milk powder, September 1994.**

**Catalogue number 32-024**

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

**Leather and allied products industries, 1992.**

**Catalogue number 33-251**

(Canada: \$38; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

**Primary metal industries, 1992.**

**Catalogue number 41-250**

(Canada: \$38; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

**Asphalt roofing, September 1994.**

**Catalogue number 45-001**

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

**Aviation service bulletin, October 1994,**  
vol. 26, no. 10.

**Catalogue number 51-004**

(Canada: \$10/\$99; United States: US\$12/US\$119; other countries: US\$14/US\$139).

**Canada's international transactions in securities,**  
August 1994.

**Catalogue number 67-002**

(Canada: \$17/\$170; United States: US\$21/US\$204; other countries: US\$24/US\$238).

**Labour force information, For the week ended**  
October 15, 1994.

**Catalogue number 71-001P**

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120; other countries: US\$14/US\$140).

**Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, November 4th.**

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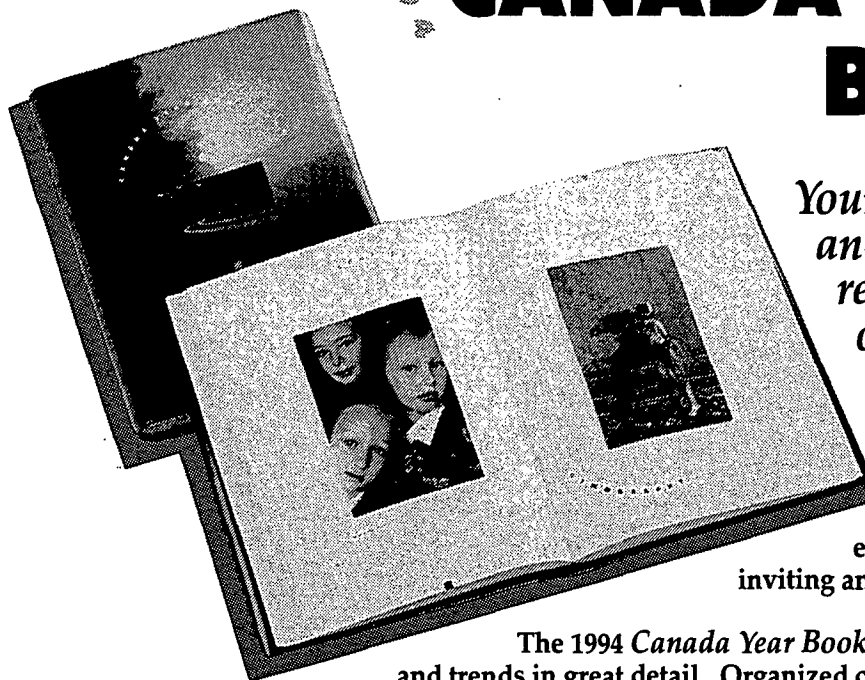
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