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| MAY 1 1 1994 | |
| LIBRARY A | |
| decreased to 0.3%, its lowest rate | |
| NTS | |
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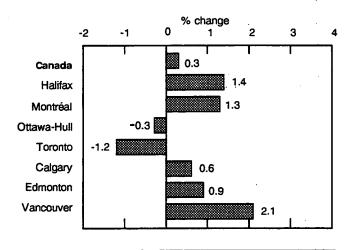
MAJOR RELEASE

New housing price index

March 1994

In March 1994, the index's 12-month rate of change decreased to 0.3%, its lowest rate of change since October 1992.

New housing price index March 1993 to March 1994



The new housing price index (1986 = 100) stood at 136.1 in March 1994, a slight 0.1% increase from February 1994.

Of the 20 cities surveyed, seven registered no monthly changes. The largest monthly increases were recorded for Winnipeg (+1.6%), Calgary (+0.6%) and Hamilton (+0.5%). A significant monthly decrease was registered for St. Catharines-Niagara (-0.8%), followed by Vancouver (-0.5%), St. John's (-0.4%) and Ottawa-Hull (-0.2%).

Generally, builders in cities where prices increased attributed the upward movement to higher material costs, particularly lumber. Builders in cities where prices decreased often cited competitive factors behind the lower prices. The estimated house-only index decreased 0.1%, but the estimated land-only index increased 0.1%.

The index of housing contractors' selling prices was up 0.3% from a year earlier. This movement was influenced by increases in Regina (+4.3%), Winnipeg (+2.8%), Sudbury-Thunder Bay (+2.2%), and Vancouver (+2.1%). These increases were partially offset, however, by decreases in the indexes for St. Catharines-Niagara (-6.0%), Kitchener-Waterloo (-2.8%), and Toronto (-1.2%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The first quarter 1994 issue of Construction price statistics (62-007, \$19/\$76) will be available in June. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Information and Current Analysis Unit, Prices Division.

New housing price indexes (1986 = 100)

| | March 1993 | February 1994 | March 1994 | March 1993 to March 1994 | February 1994 to March 1994 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | % change | |
| Canada total | 135.7 | 136.0 | 136.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| House only | 125.4 | 125.5 | 125.4 | _ | -0.1 |
| Land only | 167.6 | 169.1 | 169.3 | 1.0 | 0.1 |
| St. John's | 127.0 | 127.0 | 126.5 | -0.4 | -0.4 |
| Halifax | 113.4 | 115.0 | 115.0 | 1.4 | _ |
| Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton | 115.6 | 114.7 | 114.7 | -0.8 | - |
| Québec | 134.4 | 134.2 | 134.0 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Montréal | 134.8 | 136.2 | 136.5 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| Ottawa-Hull | 122.9 | 122.7 | 122.5 | -0.3 | -0.2 |
| Toronto | 137.8 | 136.0 | 136.2 | -1.2 | 0.1 |
| Hamilton | 127.8 | 126.6 | 127.2 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| St. Catharines-Niagara | 129.2 | 122.4 | 121.4 | -6.0 | -0.8 |
| Kitchener-Waterloo | 126.5 | 122.6 | 123.0 | -2.8 | 0.3 |
| London | 145.6 | 146.1 | 146.4 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Windsor | 127.4 | 126.4 | 126.4 | -0.8 | - |
| Sudbury-Thunder Bay | 133.3 | 136.2 | 136.2 | 2.2 | - |
| Winnipeg | 112.8 | 114.2 | 116.0 | 2.8 | 1.6 |
| Regina | 122.4 | 127.3 | 127.7 | 4.3 | 0.3 |
| Saskatoon | 111.3 | 112.6 | 112.6 | 1.2 | - |
| Calgary | 139.6 | 139.6 | 140.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Edmonton | 147.7 | 149.1 | 149.1 | 0.9 | - |
| Vancouver | 143.3 | 147.1 | 146.3 | 2.1 | -0.5 |
| Victoria | 130.7 | 132.0 | 132.0 | 1.0 | - |

⁻ Nil or zero.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raw materials price index early estimate April 1994

In April 1994, the raw materials price index is estimated to have increased 3.6% from March 1994. Except for the animal and vegetable products index (which remained unchanged) and the metals index (-0.7%), all other major components increased. Leading the increase was the mineral fuels index (+13.8%), followed by the wood index (+2.1%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels is estimated to have increased 0.5% in April.

This early estimate of April's raw materials price index is based on partial returns and other indicators. The regular index will be published at the end of this month.

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Information and Current Analysis Unit, Prices Division.

Deliveries of major grains

March 1994

Except for rye, March deliveries of major grains by prairie farmers increased from March 1993.

Deliveries of major grains

| | • | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | March 1993 | March 1994 |
| | thousa | nd tonnes |
| Total major grains | 2 858.7 | 3 847.7 |
| Wheat (excluding durum) | 1 796.7 | 2 188.1 |
| Durum wheat | 129.2 | 219.5 |
| Total wheat | 1 925.9 | 2 407.6 |
| Oats | 76.3 | 95.2 |
| Barley | 505.4 | 749.7 |
| Rve | 19.8 | 16.7 |
| Flaxseed | 24.9 | 39.3 |
| Canola | 306.9 | 539.2 |

Available on CANSIM: matrices 976-981.

The March 1994 issue of Cereals and oilseeds review (22-007, \$15/\$144) will be released in June. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Alain Y. Bertrand (613-951-3859) or Karen Gray (204-983-2856), Agriculture Division.

Electric storage batteries

March 1994

Manufacturers of electric storage batteries sold 153,394 automotive and heavy-duty commercial replacement batteries in March 1994, up 21.8% from 125,968 batteries in March 1993.

For January to March 1994, shipments totalled 495,910 batteries, up 43.5% from 345,681 batteries the previous year.

Sales data for other types of storage batteries are also available.

The March 1994 issue of Factory sales of electric storage batteries (43-005, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division.

Air carrier fare basis statistics

Third quarter 1993 (preliminary)

In the third quarter of 1993, 67.8% of all passengers on domestic scheduled services travelled on discount fares, down from 69.3% in the third quarter of 1992, and below the record third-quarter level of 71.2% reported in 1991.

Discount fares accounted for 73.2% of total domestic passenger-kilometres in the third quarter of 1993, down from 74.0% in the third quarter of 1992, and below the record third-quarter level of 76.6% reported in 1991.

The highest use of discount fares was on long-haul services in the southern domestic (deregulated) sector, where 74.1% of the passengers travelled on a discount fare. The lowest rate of use was in the northern domestic (regulated) sector, where 48.3% of the passengers travelled on a discount fare.

The average fare (all types) paid by passengers on all domestic city-pairs in the third quarter of 1993 was \$193, up 7.5% from \$179 in the third quarter of 1992 and up 6.9% from \$180 in the third quarter of 1991.

Preliminary estimates on fare-type utilization, according to data from the four Level I air carriers (AirBC, Air Canada, Canadian Airlines International Ltd. and Time Air) and from Inter-Canadien and Ontario Express (which were added to the fare basis survey in January 1993), are now available for the third quarter of 1993. These estimates will be published in the May 1994 issue of *Aviation statistics*

centre service bulletin (51-004, \$10/\$99). See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Lisa Di Piétro (819-997-6176) or Bradley Snider (819-997-1989), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.



PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Gross domestic product by industry, February 1994.

Catalogue number 15-001

(Canada: \$14/\$140; United States: US\$17/US\$170;

other countries: US\$20/US\$200).

Specified domestic electrical appliances, March 1994.

Catalogue number 43-003

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$7/US\$70; other

countries: US\$8/US\$80).

Oil pipeline transport, February 1994.

Catalogue number 55-001

(Canada: \$11/\$110; United States: US\$13/US\$130;

other countries: US\$15/US\$150).

Bullding permits, March 1994. Catalogue number 64-001

(Canada: \$24/\$240; United States: US\$29/US\$290;

other countries: US\$34/US\$340).

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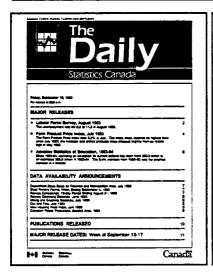
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