

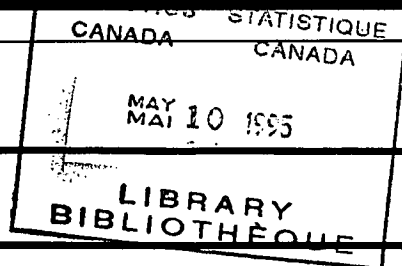


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Farm input price index, first quarter 1995**
Prices of farm inputs increased 2.2% in the first quarter as the farm input price index rose to 120.3. In other words, farmers had to pay on average \$20.30 more for inputs in the first quarter of 1995 than during 1986 (the base year of the index).

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MAJOR RELEASES

Farm input price index

First quarter 1995 (preliminary)

Prices of farm inputs increased 2.2% in the first quarter as the farm input price index rose to 120.3. In other words, farmers had to pay on average \$20.30 more for inputs in the first quarter of 1995 than during 1986 (the base year of the index). Prices rose for almost all input groups; the exception was hired farm labour. The most significant increases were for the cost of interest and inputs to crop production. The year-over-year change in the total index was +3.8%.

The interest index was 11.0% higher in the first quarter, mainly due to a sizable jump in the non-mortgage group, which rose more than 15%. The main factor was a rise in the non-mortgage interest rate. The non-mortgage index was over 40% higher than a year earlier, pushing the overall cost of borrowing up almost 30%.

Crop production inputs were on average 3.4% higher, mainly due to a 7% rise in fertilizer prices. According to press releases, Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union closed a number of their fertilizer plants, reducing global supplies. Their trading

partners, including China, have raised their demand for fertilizer, which has translated into higher prices world wide. In the first quarter of 1995, fertilizer was over 18% more expensive than in the first quarter of 1994.

West of Ontario, prices were up 2.9%. East of Manitoba, the quarterly price increase was just 1.6%. Western farmers faced larger increases in seed, fertilizer and grain feed prices. An apparent increase in farm wages occurred in the West; in the East, farm wages were down. This movement in farm wages was seasonal. A year-over-year comparison is more revealing: on an annual basis, farm wages in the western provinces still rose faster.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 550-582 (level 7) and 2050-2063.

The first quarter 1995 issue of *Farm input price indexes* (62-004, \$20/\$80) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-3350), Prices Division. ☐

Farm input price indexes
 (1986=100)

	First quarter 1994	Fourth quarter 1994	First quarter 1995	First quarter 1994 to First quarter 1995	Fourth quarter 1994 to First quarter 1995
	% change				
Canada					
Total farm input	115.9	117.7	120.3	3.8	2.2
Building and fencing	128.3	128.4	129.5	0.9	0.9
Machinery and motor vehicles	120.2	126.2	128.0	6.5	1.4
Crop production	105.7	110.2	113.9	7.8	3.4
Animal production	118.5	111.2	113.1	-4.6	1.7
Supplies and services	121.6	123.8	124.3	2.2	0.4
Hired farm labour	134.2	139.0	137.9	2.8	-0.8
Property taxes ¹	132.6	132.6	135.2	2.0	2.0
Interest	88.7	102.3	113.6	28.1	11.0
Farm rent ¹	110.2	110.2	111.2	0.9	0.9
Eastern Canada					
Total farm input	121.3	121.2	123.1	1.5	1.6
Building and fencing	133.8	133.8	135.0	0.9	0.9
Machinery and motor vehicles	125.5	130.4	133.0	6.0	2.0
Crop production	113.6	117.2	118.8	4.6	1.4
Animal production	117.6	107.6	109.6	-6.8	1.9
Supplies and services	130.2	131.4	132.0	1.4	0.5
Hired farm labour	141.5	150.5	143.7	1.6	-4.5
Property taxes ¹	145.8	145.8	148.8	2.1	2.1
Interest	93.0	109.1	122.2	31.4	12.0
Farm rent ¹	145.0	145.0	146.9	1.3	1.3
Western Canada					
Total farm input	111.7	115.0	118.3	5.9	2.9
Building and fencing	122.1	122.2	123.4	1.1	1.0
Machinery and motor vehicles	117.5	124.0	125.3	6.6	1.0
Crop production	101.7	107.0	111.9	10.0	4.6
Animal production	119.8	116.0	117.8	-1.7	1.6
Supplies and services	112.9	116.2	116.5	3.2	0.3
Hired farm labour	125.1	124.7	130.5	4.3	4.7
Property taxes ¹	129.1	129.1	131.6	1.9	1.9
Interest	86.1	98.1	108.3	25.8	10.4
Farm rent ¹	98.4	98.4	99.1	0.7	0.7

¹ This index is calculated on an annual basis only.

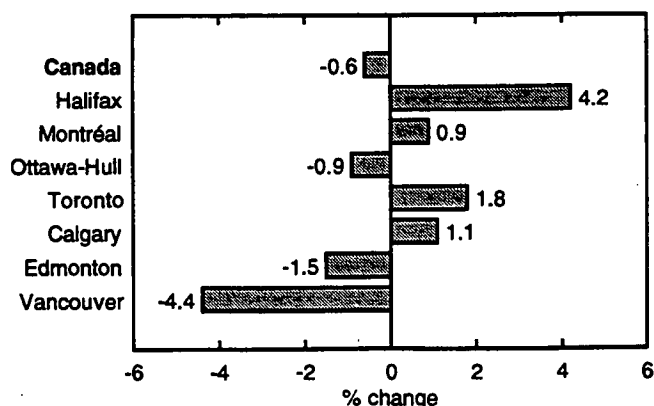
OTHER RELEASES

New housing price index

March 1995

In March, the new housing price index (1986=100) decreased 0.6% from March 1994. This was the ninth consecutive month with a negative annual change.

New housing price indexes
March 1994 to March 1995



The index decreased 0.1% to 135.3 between February and March 1995.

In 5 of the 21 cities surveyed, contractors reported stable or offsetting new home prices. This resulted in no monthly changes in their indexes. In the 10 cities with monthly increases, the largest were for Edmonton (+1.5%), Regina (+0.9%) and Saskatoon (+0.6%). No other monthly increase was larger than 0.3%. Of the six monthly decreases, the largest were for Vancouver (-1.0%) and Hamilton (-0.7%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The first quarter 1995 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), Client Services Unit, Prices Division.

New housing price indexes

(1986=100)

	March 1995	March 1994 to March 1995	February 1995 to March 1995
		% change	
Canada total	135.3	-0.6	-0.1
House only	125.0	-0.3	-0.1
Land only	168.4	-0.5	-0.1
St. John's	128.3	1.4	-
Halifax	119.8	4.2	0.2
Charlottetown	117.6	NA	-
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	115.2	0.4	-0.3
Québec	135.1	0.8	0.1
Montréal	137.7	0.9	-
Ottawa-Hull	121.4	-0.9	-0.3
Toronto	138.7	1.8	0.3
Hamilton	126.3	-0.7	-0.7
St. Catharines-Niagara	120.3	-0.9	-0.3
Kitchener-Waterloo	122.3	-0.6	0.2
London	143.2	-2.2	-
Windsor	128.8	1.9	-
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	137.7	1.1	0.1
Winnipeg	117.6	1.4	0.3
Regina	131.9	3.3	0.9
Saskatoon	112.8	0.2	0.6
Calgary	142.0	1.1	0.3
Edmonton	146.9	-1.5	1.5
Vancouver	139.8	-4.4	-1.0
Victoria	122.3	-7.3	-0.4

- Nil or zero.

Raw materials price index, early estimate
April 1995

April's raw materials price index (RMPI) is estimated to have risen 0.4% compared with March 1995. Increases occurred in the mineral fuels (+4.7%) and wood (+0.4%) indexes. These were moderated by declines in the vegetable and animal products (-2.1%) and metals (-1.7%) indexes. The RMPI excluding mineral fuels decreased 1.2%.

This early estimate of April's 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), Client Services Unit, Prices Division.

Oil pipeline transport

February 1995

Net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons totalled 10 107 797 cubic metres in February, up 3.0% from February 1994. Year-to-date receipts at the end of February 1995 totalled 21 469 159 cubic metres, up 4.8% over the same period in 1994. Net receipts of liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products rose 0.3% from February 1994, to 5 834 182 cubic metres. Year-to-date receipts reached 12 355 376 cubic metres, a 0.5% gain over 1994.

Pipeline exports of crude oil increased 1.3% from February 1994, to 4 300 860 cubic metres. Also, pipeline imports increased to 779 874 cubic metres, up 2.3% from February 1994. Year-to-date exports at the end of February 1994 (9 471 027 cubic metres) were up 7.5% from 1994, whereas year-to-date imports (1 602 538 cubic metres) decreased 3.1%. Canadian crude has found a ready market in the United States, where indigenous production has been declining in recent years. In addition, the low Canadian dollar has made Canadian crude more competitive in the U.S. market.

February deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries totalled 4 885 397 cubic metres,

a 0.5% decrease from 1994. February deliveries of liquid petroleum gases and refined petroleum products increased 13.3% to 566 194 cubic metres. Year-to-date deliveries of crude oil to refineries reached 10 477 987 cubic metres, up 0.5% from the same period in 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 181.

The February 1995 issue of *Oil pipeline transport* (55-001, \$11/\$110) will be available tomorrow. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gérard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Egg production

March 1995

Egg production estimates for March 1995 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

For further information on this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-2860), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Shipments of fuel burning heating products,

quarter ended March 1995

Catalogue number 25-002

(Canada: \$8/\$24; United States: US\$9/US\$29; other countries: US\$11/US\$34).

Specified domestic electrical appliances, March 1995

Catalogue number 43-003

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

Electric power statistics, 1993

Catalogue number 57-202

(Canada: \$29; United States: US\$35; other countries: US\$41).

New motor vehicle sales, January 1995

Catalogue number 63-007

(Canada: \$16/\$160; United States: US\$20/US\$192; other countries: US\$23/US\$224).

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