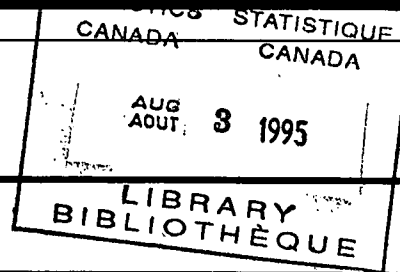




The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, August 2, 1995
For release at 8:30 a.m.



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Compared with three months earlier, manufacturers were somewhat less pessimistic in July about production prospects. But they were also much more concerned about unfilled orders.
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The crime rate in Canada dropped 5% in 1994, the third straight annual decrease. All major categories of violent and property crimes contributed to this drop. The decline was felt in most regions and in most major cities. Overall, the youth crime rate also dropped for a third straight year.
- **Homicide statistics, 1994** 9
The homicide rate decreased in 1994 for a third straight year, reaching a 25-year low. Despite annual fluctuations, the rate has been gradually decreasing over the last 20 years after increasing sharply during the 1960s and early 1970s.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Quarterly business conditions survey, manufacturing industries July 1995

Manufacturers were somewhat less pessimistic about production prospects in the July 1995 survey than they were three months earlier. Although their concern about the level of inventories was still high, it did not increase from April 1995. However, there was a big jump in the level of concern about the backlog of unfilled orders, and prospects for increased employment remained dim.

After a disappointing first half—by May, manufacturing GDP was 1.1% lower than its most recent peak in January—there were some indications that the balance of the year may hold more promise.

An overall decrease in interest rates, a housing market showing signs of a turnaround, and a modest increase in retail trade may bode well for many manufacturing sectors.

However, uncertainty remains about the extent to which the U.S. economy will continue to drive Canada's export-led recovery of last year. Despite an encouraging decline in U.S. interest rates and mounting evidence that the U.S. economy may have achieved a soft landing, the possibility that sluggish growth in the United States might continue into the third quarter of this year has not been dispelled.

Manufacturers somewhat less negative about production prospects

The balance of manufacturers' opinions about production prospects over the next three months was up 5 points from -11 in April 1995 to -6 in July. Although the balance was still negative, this was the first improvement in manufacturers' production expectations since July 1994.

Corresponding data on manufacturing output (as measured by GDP) increased 1.2% in May after three consecutive decreases (-0.3% in February, -0.7% in March and -1.4% in April).

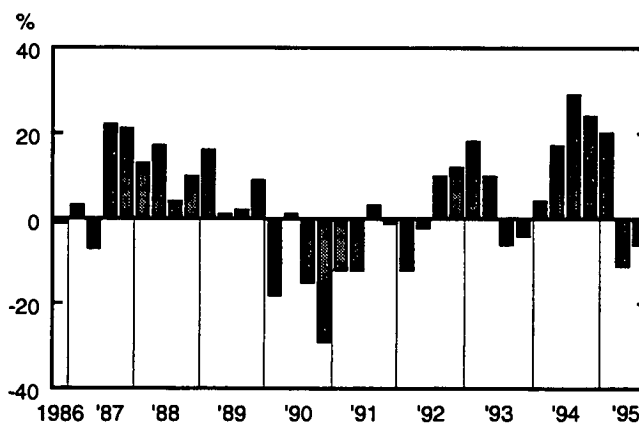
(The -6 balance of opinion in July was arrived at by subtracting the pessimistic 28% of manufacturers that expected production to be "lower" over the next three months from the optimistic 22% that expected production to be "higher".)

Note to readers

The Business Conditions Survey is conducted in January, April, July and October. Most responses are recorded in the first two weeks of these months. Results are based on replies from about 5,000 manufacturers and are weighted by a manufacturer's shipments or employment. Consequently, larger manufacturers have a correspondingly larger impact on the results than smaller manufacturers.

Except for the data on production difficulties, data in this release are seasonally adjusted.

Balance of opinion on expected volume of production Next three months vs last three months



No change in the concern about inventories

Though high, the level of concern about inventories was unchanged from April's -15 balance. This followed increases of from 5 to 6 points in the level of concern in the January and April 1995 surveys.

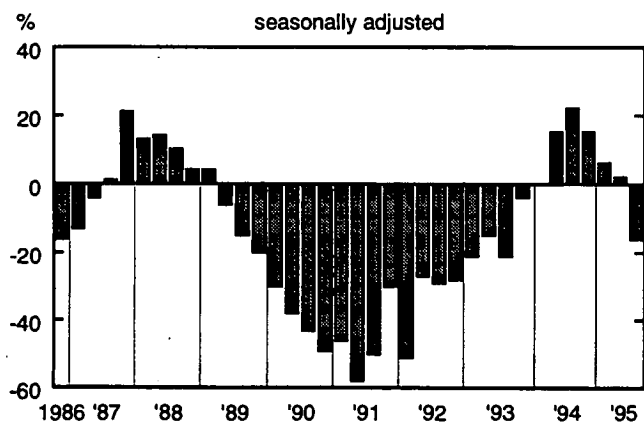
The Business Conditions Survey's picture of the inventory situation is supported by corresponding data from the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing. Inventories were rising rapidly during February, March and April while shipments were declining. In May 1995, the inventories-to-shipments ratio improved as inventories continued to increase, but at a slower rate, while shipments increased for the first time in four months.

Greater concern about backlog of unfilled orders

The balance of manufacturers' opinions about the backlog of unfilled orders dropped 18 points to -16, the fourth decrease in a row.

The corresponding Monthly Survey of Manufacturing data showed a decrease in May 1995, following diminishing increases in March and April.

Balance of opinion on backlog of unfilled orders



Prospects remained dim for growth in manufacturing employment

Employment prospects decreased 4 points to a balance of -5, the third quarterly decrease in a row. Before these decreases, employment prospects improved for five consecutive quarters.

Less concern about shortages of raw materials and working capital

Concern about shortages of raw materials as a production difficulty was down 2 percentage points, from close to a record level in April to 5% in the July survey.

Three percent of the manufacturers were having difficulties with a shortage of working capital, down from 5% in the April survey.

A shortage of skilled labour remained a production difficulty for 4% of manufacturers for the fifth quarter in a row.

About 80 manufacturers wrote that a shortage of orders was a production difficulty in both the April and July surveys. This was double the level in the October 1994 survey.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2843-2845.

For further information on this release, contact Claude Robillard (613-951-3507), Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section, Industry Division. □

Business conditions survey, manufacturing industries

	July 1994	October 1994	January 1995	April 1995	July 1995
seasonally adjusted					
Volume of production during next three months compared with last three months will be:					
about the same	47	48	42	61	50
higher	41	38	39	14	22
lower	12	14	19	25	28
Balance	29	24	20	-11	-6
Orders received are:					
about the same	56	57	61	63	53
rising	38	38	30	20	19
declining	6	5	9	17	28
Balance	32	33	21	3	-9
Present backlog of unfilled orders is:					
about normal	64	65	56	72	52
higher than normal	29	25	25	15	16
lower than normal	7	10	19	13	32
Balance	22	15	6	2	-16
Finished-product inventory on hand is:					
about right	83	84	80	73	77
too low	7	6	5	6	4
too high ¹	10	10	15	21	19
Balance	-3	-4	-10	-15	-15
Employment during the next three months will:					
change little	68	74	75	71	69
increase	17	16	14	14	13
decrease	15	10	11	15	18
Balance	2	6	3	-1	-5
unadjusted					
Sources of production difficulties					
Working capital shortage	3	3	2	5	3
Skilled labour shortage	4	4	4	4	4
Unskilled labour shortage	0	0	0	0	0
Raw material shortage	6	6	6	7	5
Other difficulties	2	2	3	2	3
No difficulties	84	84	84	83	85

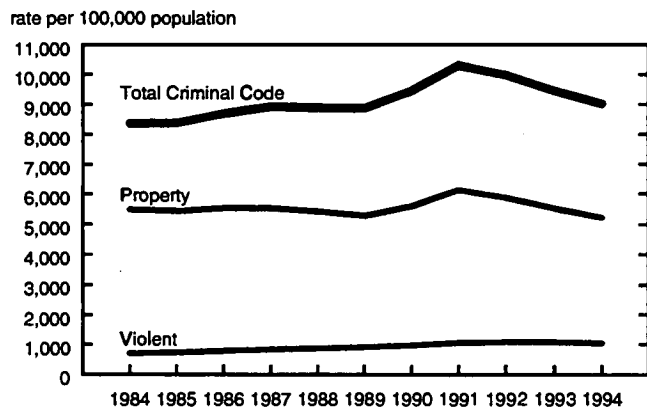
¹ No evident seasonality.

Crime statistics

1994

The crime rate in Canada dropped 5% in 1994, the third straight annual decrease. All major categories of violent and property crimes contributed to this drop. The decline was felt in most regions and in most major cities. Overall, the youth crime rate also dropped for a third straight year.

Crime rates



In total, police reported 2.92 million Criminal Code and other federal statute incidents. Over half were property-related, while just over 1 in 10 were violent. The remainder included offences such as mischief, impaired driving, drug offences, arson and prostitution.

Violent crime dropped for second year in a row

Canadians regard fluctuations in the violent crime rate as an important barometer of public safety. The violent crime rate dropped 3% in 1994, the largest drop since data collection began in 1962. This decline and the slight decline in 1993 followed 15 years of annual increases in the violent crime rate.

Minor assaults accounted for 6 in 10 violent crimes. Such assaults decreased slightly in 1994, while all other more serious violent crimes showed larger decreases. The homicide rate dropped 6% in 1994. The 596 reported homicides resulted in a rate of 2.04 homicides per 100,000 population—the lowest in 25 years. The rates dropped for attempted murder (-8%), serious

Note to readers

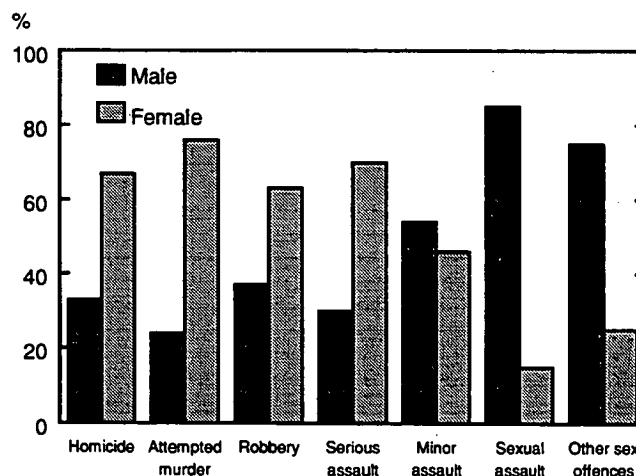
In this text, the term crime rate refers to total police-reported Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic. Also, for incidents involving multiple offences, only the most serious offence in the incident is counted.

The figures in the tables reflect actual incidents, while the figures in the text refer to the actual number of persons charged.

assault (-4%), sexual assault (-10%), other sexual offences (-10%), robbery (-5%), and abduction (-7%).

Based on a one-third sample of criminal incidents, it was found that: 4 in 10 violent incidents involved a weapon (8% involved firearms and 10% knives); 7 in 10 victims of violent crime knew their assailant; and, men and women were at equal risk of being victims of violent crime. Women were much more likely to be victims of sexual offences and somewhat more likely to be victims of minor assault. Men were much more likely to be victims of homicide, attempted murder, serious assault and robbery.

Victims of violent crime by sex, 1994



Third straight decline in property crimes

The property crime rate dropped 6% in 1994, the third consecutive decline. The rate of minor thefts (under \$1,000), which account for almost half of property crime, dropped 7%. The rate of thefts over \$1,000 declined slightly. Breaking and entering, considered the most serious property crime, dropped 6%.

In recent years, motor vehicle theft has been the only property crime on the rise, showing a 61% increase in the rate from 1988 to 1993. Although the national motor vehicle theft rate levelled off in 1994 (+1%), different patterns were evident across the country. Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario reported large increases, whereas Alberta, Newfoundland and Quebec reported large decreases. Youths aged 12 to 17 accounted for almost half the persons accused of this crime.

Third straight drop in youth crime

Youths aged 12 to 17 made up 22% of all persons charged with crimes in 1994. The crime rate for youths declined 6%, the third straight annual decline. The youth property crime rate dropped 9%, while the youth violent crime rate dropped less than 1%. From 1986 to 1993, youth violent crime had been increasing at an average annual rate of 12%.

Most youth crimes (58%) are property crimes, compared with 38% for adults. Although violent crime accounted for a smaller proportion of youths charged (18%) than adults charged (30%), youth violent crime has been increasing at a faster pace than adult violent crime. Since 1986, the youth violent crime rate has increased 124%, compared with a 40% rise for adults.

Impaired driving and prostitution down, cannabis incidents up

The rate of persons charged with impaired driving dropped 6% in 1994, the eleventh straight annual decline. While this downward trend may reflect the success of campaigns against drinking and drunk driving, these numbers are also directly affected by levels of police enforcement.

The rate of prostitution incidents dropped 35% in 1994. However, this may be more attributable to changes in police enforcement practices than to an actual drop in incidents of this crime.

The rate of drug incidents was up 5% in 1994, largely due to an 11% increase in cannabis incidents.

All other drug incidents saw a rate decrease, including a 3% drop in cocaine incidents. The rate of cocaine incidents had tripled between 1984 and 1993.

Lower crime rates in the East

The historical pattern of lower crime rates in the East than in the West continued in 1994. All provinces and territories followed the national trend of a decline in the crime rate in 1994—except for Manitoba, where the rate remained unchanged. Substantial decreases were experienced in Alberta (-12%) and Prince Edward Island (-13%).

Crime dropped in most major cities

Most major cities reported a drop in their overall crime rates in 1994. Both Edmonton (-19%) and Calgary (-14%) reported large decreases for the third straight year. Since 1991, the crime rate has dropped 40% in Edmonton and 30% in Calgary. This decline can be attributed to a number of factors, including a commitment to community-based policing initiatives in these two cities.

Canada's two largest cities also reported lower crime rates in 1994: both Toronto and Montréal were down 7%. In Toronto, decreases were reported in both the violent crime rate (-6%) and the property crime rate (-9%). Montréal's violent crime rate remained unchanged, while the property crime rate decreased 9%. The Montréal metropolitan area reported 30 fewer homicides in 1994 than in 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2200.

"Canadian crime statistics, 1994" appears in the vol. 15, no. 12 *Juristat* (85-002, \$10/\$90), which is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on these data, as well as data on the new offence of criminal harassment (stalking), contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023, toll-free in Canada: 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. □

Police-reported incidents, by most serious offence

	1994		1993 to 1994	Youths aged 12 to 17 as a % of total persons charged
	number	rate ¹	% change in rate	
Violent crime	303,398	1,037.3	-3.2	15
Homicide	596	2.0	-6.4	11
Attempted murder	918	3.1	-7.7	15
Assaults	236,364	808.1	-1.9	13
Sexual assaults	31,690	108.3	-9.8	15
Other sexual offences	3,812	13.0	-9.6	16
Abduction	1,130	3.9	-7.1	6
Robbery	28,888	98.8	-4.6	31
Property crime	1,524,931	5,213.8	-5.6	30
Break and enter	387,877	1,326.2	-5.6	40
Motor vehicle theft	159,663	545.9	0.8	45
Theft over \$1,000	116,295	397.6	-2.3	20
Theft \$1,000 and under	727,364	2,486.9	-7.0	31
Having stolen goods	30,522	104.4	-2.0	30
Fraud	103,210	352.9	-9.7	7
Other Criminal Code crimes	804,501	2,750.6	-3.7	18
Mischief	396,596	1,356.0	-5.6	30
Prostitution	5,588	19.1	-35.1	3
Arson	13,565	46.4	7.6	39
Offensive weapons	18,919	64.7	0.7	23
Other	369,833	1,264.5	-1.4	15
Total Criminal Code excluding traffic crimes	2,632,830	9,001.7	-4.8	22
Impaired driving	106,979	365.8	-10.0	..
Other Criminal Code traffic crimes	78,662	268.9	-3.0	..
Drugs	60,594	207.2	5.5	11
Other federal statutes	40,492	138.4	-17.0	22
Total federal statutes	2,919,557	9,982.0	-4.9	..

¹ Rates are calculated based on 100,000 population.

.. Figures not available.

Crime rates for selected cities

	Violent crime		Property crime		Total Criminal Code	
	1994	1993 to 1994	1994	1993 to 1994	1994	1993 to 1994
	rate	% change in rate	rate	% change in rate	rate	% change in rate
Halifax	1,762	2.0	7,761	-13.0	13,739	-9.3
Montréal	1,359	-0.1	6,703	-9.4	10,278	-7.4
Ottawa	1,524	-14.8	9,859	-2.0	16,019	-4.5
Toronto	1,252	-6.4	5,515	-8.5	9,579	-7.0
Winnipeg	1,371	1.8	7,877	3.7	12,254	0.7
Regina	1,091	-1.1	9,333	3.3	13,643	0.2
Calgary	858	3.1	6,271	-14.7	8,871	-13.7
Edmonton	1,097	-20.7	6,618	-17.8	10,223	-19.0
Vancouver	1,636	-4.8	13,440	4.5	19,260	1.4

Note: Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

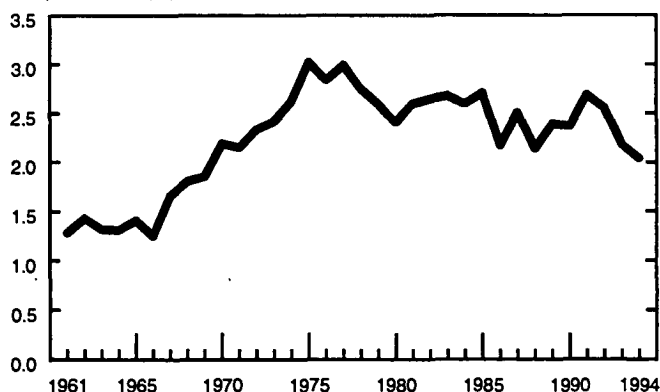
Homicide statistics

1994

The homicide rate decreased in 1994 for a third straight year, reaching a 25-year low. Despite annual fluctuations, the rate has been gradually decreasing over the last 20 years after increasing sharply during the 1960s and early 1970s. The 1994 rate of 2.04 homicides per 100,000 population was 6% lower than in 1993, and 32% lower than the peak in 1975.

Homicide rates

rate per 100,000 population*



* As of 1971, population estimates were adjusted to reflect new methods of calculation.

There were 596 homicides reported in 1994, 34 fewer than in 1993. This decrease was due primarily to a large decline in the Montréal metropolitan area (30 fewer homicides than in 1993). As a result, the province of Quebec reported its lowest homicide rate since 1968. Among the other provinces, only New Brunswick and Alberta reported an increase in their 1994 rate. Alberta's rate was still below average for that province; its 1993 rate was unusually low.

Historically, homicide rates have generally increased from east to west. This trend continued in 1994, with British Columbia recording the highest provincial rate for a third consecutive year, and Newfoundland the lowest for a second consecutive year.

Homicide by province and territory

	1994		1993	
	homicides	rate ¹	homicides	rate ^{1,r}
Canada	596	2.04	630	2.18
Newfoundland	4	0.69	7	1.20
Prince Edward Island	1	0.74	2	1.50
Nova Scotia	19	2.03	19	2.04
New Brunswick	15	1.98	11	1.46
Quebec	126	1.73	159	2.20
Ontario	192	1.76	193	1.78
Manitoba	29	2.56	31	2.75
Saskatchewan	24	2.36	30	2.96
Alberta	66	2.43	49	1.82
British Columbia	113	3.08	122	3.41
Yukon	3	9.97	0	0.00
Northwest Territories	4	6.22	7	11.04

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using updated post-censal estimates.

^r Revised figures.

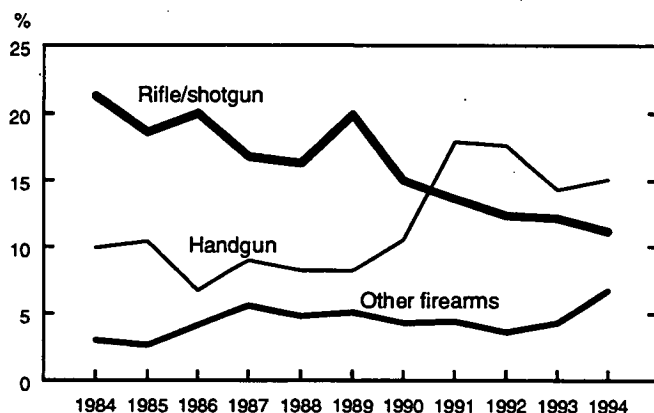
Crime, particularly homicide, is often considered to be an urban phenomenon. In 1994, 63% of all homicides occurred in one of Canada's 25 census metropolitan areas (CMAs). In the same year, these 25 CMAs comprised 61% of the population, meaning that major urban areas were only slightly over-represented in terms of homicide occurrences, consistent with previous years.

Among the nine CMAs with populations of 500,000 and over, Vancouver, Edmonton and Winnipeg reported the highest rates. Both Vancouver and Edmonton had fewer homicides in 1994 than in 1993. Québec and Ottawa-Hull reported the lowest rates.

Shootings again accounted for one-third of all homicides

Over the past 15 years, shootings have consistently accounted for about one-third of all homicides with a known cause of death. This trend continued in 1994: 90 homicides were committed with a handgun, 66 with a rifle or shotgun, 26 with a sawed-off rifle or sawed-off shotgun, and 14 with a fully automatic firearm.

Firearm homicides as a percentage of all homicides



Handguns accounted for 15% of all homicides, up slightly from 1993 but down from 18% in both 1991 and 1992. Other common methods included stabbing (26%), beating (18%), strangulation or suffocation (14%), fire or burns (3%), and poisoning (2%).

Causes of death in homicides 1994

	Percentage of all homicides
Shootings	32.9
Handguns	15.1
Rifles/shotguns	11.1
Sawed-off rifles/shotguns	4.4
Fully automatic firearms	2.3
Stabbings	25.8
Beatings	17.8
Strangulation/suffocation	13.9
Fire/burns	2.9
Poisoning	1.8
Other	3.9
Unknown	1.0
Total	100.0

Almost 9 in 10 victims knew their killers

In 1994, 80% of homicide incidents were solved by police, consistent with previous years. For those incidents where an accused was identified, 18% of the victims were killed by a spouse or ex-spouse, 10% by

a parent, 12% by another family member, 46% by an acquaintance, and 13% by a stranger (1% unknown).

The proportion of homicides committed by strangers has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years, ranging from 12% to 18%. The number of spousal homicides in 1994 (85) was fewer than in both 1993 (87) and 1992 (105). Spousal homicides continued to account for about 1 in 6 solved homicides.

Infants at greatest risk

The age of greatest risk of being a victim of homicide in 1994 was the first year of life. Of the 27 victims under one year of age, 11 were killed by their father, 9 by their mother, 3 by another family member, and 1 by an acquaintance of the family (the accused was unknown for the other 3 victims).

During the last 10 years, an average of 20 children under the age of one have been killed each year. Although children under one year of age were also at greatest risk in 1993, this pattern does not hold true for all years.

Homicides committed by youths increased

In 1994, 57 youths aged 12 to 17 were accused of committing homicide, compared with 35 in 1993 and 58 in 1992. Youths represented 11% of all accused persons in 1994, the largest proportion in 10 years. Youths accounted for an average of 8% of all homicide suspects during the last 10 years.

One in ten homicides drug-related

According to police, there was evidence of drug trafficking or the settling of drug-related accounts in 1 in 10 homicides in 1994, consistent with previous years.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2198-2199.

"Homicide in Canada, 1994" appears in the vol. 15, no. 11 *Juristat* (85-002, \$10/\$90), which is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023, toll-free in Canada: 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. □

Homicide by census metropolitan area (500,000+ population)

	1994			1993		
	population (¹ 000)	homicides	homicide rate ¹	population (¹ 000)	homicides	homicide rate ^{1, r}
Toronto	4,281.9	85	1.99	4,189.3	71	1.69
Montréal	3,322.4	75	2.26	3,275.6	105	3.21
Vancouver	1,774.7	48	2.70	1,737.5	63	3.63
Ottawa-Hull	1,010.3	17	1.68	996.5	16	1.61
Ontario	759.5	12	1.58	751.7	12	1.60
Quebec	250.8	5	1.99	244.8	4	1.63
Edmonton	888.5	24	2.70	881.0	27	3.06
Calgary	814.5	18	2.21	800.7	10	1.25
Québec	683.8	11	1.61	682.9	13	1.90
Winnipeg	680.5	18	2.65	674.3	17	2.52
Hamilton	636.9	13	2.04	632.6	8	1.26
Total	14,093.5	309	2.19	13,870.4	330	2.38

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

^r Revised figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Non-residential building construction price indexes

Second quarter 1995

Reflecting a generally weak construction market, the non-residential building construction price index for the second quarter of 1995 moved up only slightly to 128.2, a 0.3% increase over the first quarter of 1995 and a 3.1% increase over the second quarter of 1994.

Vancouver registered the highest change from the first quarter of 1995 (+0.5%), followed closely by Halifax, Ottawa and Edmonton (all +0.4%), and then by Montréal and Toronto (both +0.3%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2042-2043.

The second quarter 1995 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007, \$23/\$76) will be available in September. 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. ■

Cement

June 1995

Manufacturers shipped 1 217 376 tonnes of cement in June, down 1.1% from 1 230 464 tonnes (revised) in June 1994, but up 15.7% from 1 051 912 tonnes in May 1995.

For January to June 1995, shipments totalled 4 507 194 tonnes, up 8.7% from 4 146 469 tonnes (revised) during the same period in 1994.

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

The June 1995 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Juristat: Homicide in Canada, 1994. Vol. 15, no. 11
Catalogue number 85-002
(Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108;
other countries: US\$14/US\$126).

Juristat: Canadian crime statistics, 1994. Vol. 15,
no. 12
Catalogue number 85-002
(Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108;
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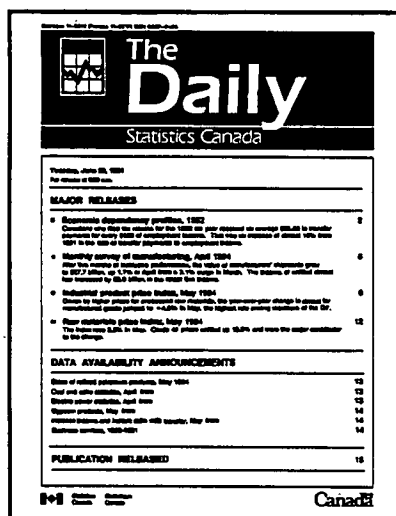
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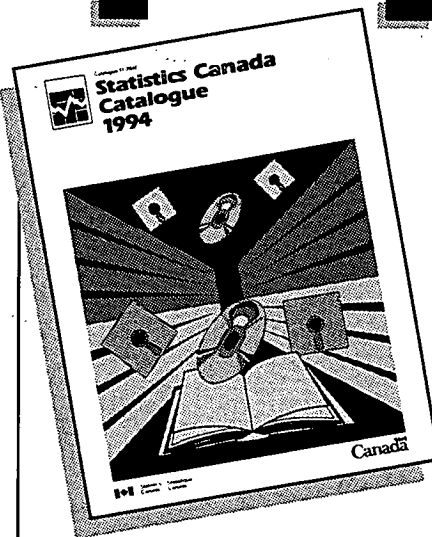
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