Catalogue no. 35-003-X

Vol. 65, no. 3

Service bulletin

Sawmills

March 2011

Highlights

- In March, monthly lumber production by sawmills increased 10.1% to 4,802.3 thousand cubic meters. Compared with the same month last year, lumber production increased 0.7%.
- In March, sawmills shipped 4,715.3 thousand cubic meters of lumber, an increase of 18.9% from February.

Statistical tables

Table 1

Production, shipments and stocks of lumber, 2011

	March			Year-to-date	
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments
	thousands of cubic meters				
Canada	**4,802.3**	**4,715.3**	**6,795.2**	**13,575.0**	**12,769.9**
British Columbia	2,467.4	2,528.2	2,848.5	7,117.7	6,736.7
Coast	265.1	308.5	284.8	806.4	782.0
Interior	2,202.4	2,219.7	2,563.7	6,311.3	5,954.7
Northern Interior	1,103.5	1,104.4	1,270.5	3,143.1	2,956.7
Central Interior	440.3	433.1	425.9	1,248.4	1,173.5
Southern Interior	658.5	682.2	867.4	1,919.8	1,824.5
Alberta	680.0	612.8	981.4	1,865.3	1,722.0
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Ontario	338.4	355.4	417.3	960.9	988.7
Quebec	1,044.1	947.8	2,217.0	2,829.2	2,544.6
New Brunswick	200.9	190.1	191.5	580.5	544.1
Nova Scotia	60.2	64.9	115.6	191.9	189.4
	percentage change 2010 to 2011				
Canada	**0.7**	**4.0**	**10.5**	**4.9**	**1.6**
British Columbia	6.6	12.2	17.9	6.8	1.9
Coast	7.5	35.6	13.6	24.7	28.4
Interior	6.5	9.5	18.4	4.9	-0.8
Northern Interior	-1.0	-0.3	15.8	-2.3	-7.8
Central Interior	3.9	10.9	11.1	2.8	-2.9
Southern Interior	24.2	29.2	26.5	20.9	15.1
Alberta	-3.7	-4.1	11.2	8.1	2.6
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Ontario	18.7	25.2	14.0	24.8	26.6
Quebec	-8.4	-9.9	4.6	-2.8	-4.6
New Brunswick	-10.2	-9.0	-1.1	-4.7	-9.8
Nova Scotia	-24.9	-12.4	-2.7	-10.2	1.3

Note(s): Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 2
Production and stocks of lumber, British Columbia, by species, 2011

	Standard Classification of Goods	March Production	Year-to-date production	March Stocks
	code	thousands of cubic meters		
British Columbia				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	68.1	207.3	97.1
Western Red Cedar	4407.10.71	115.5	315.9	215.4
Yellow Cedar	4407.10.72	10.1	28.4	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	100.2	343.5	93.8
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	x	x	x
Spruce, Pine and Fir	4407.10.31	2,170.9	6,215.8	2,442.0
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	x	x	x
Total softwoods	**...**	**2,467.4**	**7,117.7**	**2,848.5**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**2,467.4**	**7,117.7**	**2,848.5**
British Columbia Coast				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	41.4	102.5	21.5
Western red cedar	4407.10.71	x	x	x
Yellow cedar	4407.10.72	10.1	28.4	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	66.2	243.3	46.7
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	x	x	x
Spruce, pine and fir	4407.10.31	52.0	161.1	74.6
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	x	x	x
Total softwoods	**...**	**265.1**	**806.4**	**284.8**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**265.1**	**806.4**	**284.8**
British Columbia Interior				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	26.7	104.7	75.7
Western red cedar	4407.10.71	x	x	x
Yellow cedar	4407.10.72	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	33.9	100.2	47.1
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spruce, pine and fir	4407.10.31	2,118.9	6,054.7	2,367.4
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	x	x	x
Total softwoods	**...**	**2,202.4**	**6,311.3**	**2,563.7**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**2,202.4**	**6,311.3**	**2,563.7**
British Columbia Northern Interior				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western red cedar	4407.10.71	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yellow cedar	4407.10.72	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spruce, pine and fir	4407.10.31	1,103.5	3,143.1	1,270.5
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwoods	**...**	**1,103.5**	**3,143.1**	**1,270.5**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**1,103.5**	**3,143.1**	**1,270.5**
British Columbia Central Interior				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	1.1	6.6	2.3
Western red cedar	4407.10.71	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yellow cedar	4407.10.72	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spruce, pine and fir	4407.10.31	439.2	1,241.8	423.5
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwoods	**...**	**440.3**	**1,248.4**	**425.9**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**440.3**	**1,248.4**	**425.9**
British Columbia Southern Interior				
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	4407.10.32	25.6	98.1	73.3
Western red cedar	4407.10.71	x	x	x
Yellow cedar	4407.10.72	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western Hemlock & Amabilis Fir	4407.10.33	33.9	100.2	47.1
Sitka Spruce	4407.10.42	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spruce, pine and fir	4407.10.31	576.1	1,669.8	673.4
Other softwoods	4407.10.99	x	x	x
Total softwoods	**...**	**658.5**	**1,919.8**	**867.4**
Hardwood	4407.90	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (softwood and hardwood)	**...**	**658.5**	**1,919.8**	**867.4**

Note(s): Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 3
Production and stocks of lumber by province and species, 2011

	Spruce, pine and fir (SCG code 4407.10.31) [1]	Total softwood (SCG code 4407.10) [1]	Total hardwood (SCG code 4407.90) [1]	Total
	thousands of cubic meters			
March production				
Canada	**4,228.8**	**4,716.1**	**86.2**	**4,802.3**
British Columbia	2,170.9	2,467.4	0.0	2,467.4
Alberta	678.7	678.7	1.3	680.0
Saskatchewan	x	x	0.0	x
Manitoba	x	x	0.0	x
Ontario	316.6	318.7	19.7	338.4
Quebec	808.1	987.5	56.6	1,044.1
New Brunswick	185.7	192.4	8.5	200.9
Nova Scotia	57.5	60.1	0.1	60.2
Year-to-date production				
Canada	**11,955.8**	**13,337.2**	**237.8**	**13,575.0**
British Columbia	6,215.8	7,117.7	0.0	7,117.7
Alberta	1,861.8	1,861.8	3.5	1,865.3
Saskatchewan	x	x	0.0	x
Manitoba	x	x	0.0	x
Ontario	899.8	904.8	56.1	960.9
Quebec	2,226.5	2,675.9	153.3	2,829.2
New Brunswick	535.9	555.9	24.6	580.5
Nova Scotia	186.3	191.5	0.4	191.9
March stocks				
Canada	**5,814.3**	**6,764.4**	**30.8**	**6,795.2**
British Columbia	2,442.0	2,848.5	0.0	2,848.5
Alberta	981.2	981.2	0.2	981.4
Saskatchewan	x	x	0.0	x
Manitoba	x	x	0.0	x
Ontario	402.6	410.8	6.5	417.3
Quebec	1,680.5	2,195.0	22.1	2,217.0
New Brunswick	177.2	189.5	2.0	191.5
Nova Scotia	107.2	115.6	0.0	115.6

1. Standard Classification of Goods (SCG) code.
Note(s): Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 4
Revised data for production, shipments and stocks of lumber, 2010

	March			Year-to-date		
	Softwood (SCG code 4407.10) [1]	Hardwood (SCG code 4407.90) [1]	Total	Softwood (SCG code 4407.10) [1]	Hardwood (SCG code 4407.90) [1]	Total
	thousands of cubic meters					
Total production	**2,365.2**	**89.3**	**2,454.6**	**6,044.9**	**232.2**	**6,277.0**
Alberta	704.7	1.3	706.0	1,722.9	3.2	1,726.2
Saskatchewan	x	0.0	x	x	0.0	x
Manitoba	x	0.0	x	x	0.0	x
Ontario	268.6	16.6	285.2	725.3	44.9	770.2
Quebec	1,077.7	61.7	1,139.4	2,754.1	157.8	2,911.9
New Brunswick	214.2	9.5	223.7	583.5	25.8	609.3
Nova Scotia	80.0	0.2	80.1	213.3	0.4	213.7
Total shipments	**.**	**.**	**2,278.1**	**.**	**.**	**5,963.4**
Alberta	.	.	639.2	.	.	1,679.1
Saskatchewan	.	.	x	.	.	x
Manitoba	.	.	x	.	.	x
Ontario	.	.	283.8	.	.	781.0
Quebec	.	.	1,051.6	.	.	2,665.9
New Brunswick	.	.	208.9	.	.	603.0
Nova Scotia	.	.	74.2	.	.	186.9
Total stocks	**3,694.3**	**40.8**	**3,735.0**	**..**	**..**	**..**
Alberta	882.6	0.2	882.8	..	..	..
Saskatchewan	x	0.0	x	..	..	..
Manitoba	x	0.0	x	..	..	..
Ontario	357.4	8.7	366.2	..	..	..
Quebec	2,089.9	29.5	2,119.5	..	..	..
New Brunswick	191.5	2.3	193.7	..	..	..
Nova Scotia	118.8	0.0	118.8	..	..	..

1. Standard Classification of Goods (SCG) code.
Note(s): Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 5
Canadian lumber exports, 2011[1]

Province of origin	March				Year-to-date			
	Rail	Truck	Water	Total	Rail	Truck	Water	Total
	thousands of cubic meters							
Canada	**430.0**	**1,458.6**	**1,083.6**	**2,972.2**	**1,142.6**	**3,837.7**	**2,706.8**	**7,687.1**
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.5	1.4	0.0	1.9	1.1	4.3	0.0	5.4
Prince Edward Island	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
Nova Scotia	11.7	30.8	0.4	42.8	28.5	78.7	4.5	111.8
New Brunswick	50.8	111.4	0.9	163.1	135.7	308.5	2.1	446.3
Quebec	129.2	215.3	32.5	377.0	339.8	569.5	87.1	996.4
Ontario	34.6	92.8	3.7	131.0	87.9	214.5	9.6	312.0
Manitoba	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.9	1.5	0.4	0.0	2.0
Saskatchewan	1.3	3.4	0.0	4.7	7.2	5.8	0.0	13.0
Alberta	40.8	142.9	32.4	216.1	114.3	407.1	74.2	595.7
British Columbia	160.6	860.3	1,013.8	2,034.6	426.5	2,248.8	2,529.0	5,204.4
Yukon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Nunavut	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1. Canadian lumber exports by province of origin as reported by the International Division of Statistics Canada.
Note(s): Totals may not add due to small transactions with unclear mode of transportation which appear only in the totals.

Table 6
Production, shipments and stocks of pulp chips, 2011

	March			Year-to-date	
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments
	thousands of oven-dry metric tonnes				
Canada	**1,409.0**	**1,414.0**	**171.1**	**3,923.1**	**3,908.6**
British Columbia	545.0	558.5	52.7	1,590.9	1,588.1
Coast	60.1	63.7	7.9	180.0	183.0
Interior	484.9	494.8	44.8	1,411.0	1,405.1
Northern Interior	204.0	206.4	18.7	605.1	595.9
Central Interior	123.7	124.5	4.9	362.2	359.7
Southern Interior	157.2	163.9	21.1	443.7	449.5
Other provinces	864.0	855.5	118.5	2,332.2	2,320.5

Note(s): Totals may not add due to rounding.

Concepts, methodology and data quality

This publication presents the results of the Sawmills survey. This survey measures, on a monthly basis, quantities of lumber produced and shipped by sawmills in Canada classified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to 321111. The target population for this survey includes all sawmills in Canada excluding Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island as identified by the Annual Survey of Manufactures and Logging (ASML).

General methodology

This is a sample survey with a cross-sectional design.

The sample includes approximately 275 of the largest sawmills in Canada.

Data are collected each month from survey respondents using a mail-out / mail-back process. Data capture and preliminary editing are performed simultaneously to ensure validity of the data. Businesses from whom no response has been received or whose data may contain errors are followed-up by telephone or fax.

Missing data for the current month are imputed automatically by applying to the previous month's data, for the unit in question, the month-to-month change observed for the same period in the previous year. The only exceptions are the opening and closing stock values. Opening stocks are set equal to the value of the closing stocks from the previous month. Closing stocks are calculated by adding production quantities to opening stocks and then subtracting shipments and waste values. The option exists for the subject matter analyst to manually override these imputations with a better estimate based on pertinent knowledge about the industry or the business.

Final estimates of production, inventories and shipments by province are obtained by applying factors to the data collected in the monthly Sawmills survey. This process is called benchmarking. The benchmark factors are ratios of the total quantity of lumber produced by sawmills as measured by the ASML, to the total quantity of lumber produced by sawmills in the monthly Sawmills survey. These factors are calculated for each province, based on the latest ASML commodity data available.

Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data before they are released to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Direct disclosure could occur when the value in a tabulation cell is composed of a few respondents or when the cell is dominated by a few companies. Residual disclosure could occur when confidential information can be derived indirectly by piecing together information from different sources or data series.

Under normal circumstances, data are collected, captured, edited, tabulated and published within 6 to 8 weeks after the reference month.

Revisions

Once every year (normally in July), the monthly Sawmills series are revised. These revisions incorporate any data that may have been received after the close of the collection cycle during the previous reference year. In addition, the series are benchmarked to the most recent data from the ASML to correct for any under-coverage of sawmills activity in the monthly Sawmills survey.

Data Accuracy

Since monthly data for sawmills are benchmarked to the ASML data (census), the estimates are not subject to sampling errors. However, the results are still subject to the non-sampling errors associated with non-response, inaccurate reporting, and processing. Errors relating to non-response can be measured. All attempts are made to control inaccurate reporting and processing errors.

Moreover, survey results are analyzed to ensure comparability with patterns observed in the historical data series and the economic condition of the industry. Information available from other sources such as media, other government organizations and industry associations are also used in the validation process.

Non-response error

Some respondents may be unable to provide data for numerous reasons (i.e. fire, theft, strike, economic hardship, etc.), while others may be late in responding. To minimize non-response, delinquent respondents are followed up rigorously by phone or fax. Data for non-responding units are imputed using industry trend and other related information. Data are revised, usually once a year, at the same time as the new benchmark factors are produced to take into account questionnaires that have been received after the end of the monthly collection cycles since the previous revision.

Non-response error is calculated using the number of non-responses in the year divided by the number of total expected responses in the year for the units in the sample. The average non-response error for the Sawmills survey was estimated at 8% for 2005 (the last completed cycle).

This, however, is an imperfect indication of the extent of imputation since some portion of the data that goes into the calculation of the benchmark factors is also imputed.

Inaccurate response

Inaccuracy may result from poor questionnaire design or an inability on the part of respondents to provide the requested information or from misinterpretation of the survey questions. To reduce such errors the format and wording in the questionnaire are reviewed from time to time and modified based on feedback from survey respondents and data users. Respondents are also reminded of the importance of their contribution and of the accuracy of reported information.

Processing errors

These errors may occur at various stages in the processing of survey data such as data entry, verification, editing and tabulation. Data are examined for such errors using automated edits along with an analytical review by subject matter experts. Several checks are performed on the collected data to verify internal consistency and comparability over time.

Definitions

Production

Production refers to the quantity of products manufactured in Canada during a reference period including intermediate products. These products may be shipped or retained in inventory.

Shipments

Shipments refer to the quantity of manufactured goods that are shipped, during the reference period from the plant to customers, in domestic or export markets.

Exports

Shipments of goods destined for customers outside of Canada.

More detailed data are available from the Annual Survey of Manufactures and Logging, CANSIM Table 301-0006; and also from custom product 31C0023 (National and Provincial Principal Statistics from the Annual Survey of Manufactures and Logging). In addition, a service on Products Shipped by Canadian Manufacturers (31C0020) is available from the Dissemination and Frame Services section at 613-951-9497 (*manufact@statcan.gc.ca*).

Specific enquiries should be directed to: The Dissemination and Frame Services section, Manufacturing and Energy Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A OT6 (Telephone: 1-866-873-8789 or 613-951-9497; Fax line: 613-951-3877; Internet: *manufact@statcan.gc.ca*).

Release date: May 2011

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
p	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published
*	significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

To access this product

This product, Catalogue no. 35-003-X, is available free in electronic format. To obtain a single issue, visit our website at *www.statcan.gc.ca* and browse by "Key resource" > "Publications."

Frequency: Monthly / ISSN 1911-5970

For information on the wide range of data available from Statistics Canada, please call our national inquiries line at 1-800-263-1136.

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

Standards of service to the public

Statistics Canada is committed to serving its clients in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner. To this end, Statistics Canada has developed *standards of service* that its employees observe.

To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact Statistics Canada toll-free at 1-800-263-1136. The service standards are also published on *www.statcan.gc.ca* under "About us" > "The agency" > "Providing services to Canadians."

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.