Catalogue no. 35-003-X

Vol. 70, no. 3

Service bulletin

Sawmills

March 2016

Highlights

Lumber production by sawmills increased 5.9% from February to 5,958.0 thousand cubic metres in March. Compared with March 2015, lumber production rose 5.3%.

Sawmills shipped 5,787.8 thousand cubic metres of lumber in March, up 3.9% from February. Shipments rose 5.5% compared to March 2015.

Statistical tables

Table 1
Production, shipments and stocks of lumber, 2016

	March			Year-to-date	
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments
	thousands of cubic meters				
Canada	**5,958.0**	**5,787.8**	**7,441.8**	**17,112.6**	**16,663.1**
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	84.1	139.6	x	247.5
New Brunswick	294.5	312.3	288.8	844.7	914.7
Quebec	1,406.5	1,262.1	2,504.7	4,064.5	3,726.3
Ontario	x	427.9	538.6	x	1,181.3
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Saskatchewan	80.4	x	156.3	x	x
Alberta	856.4	804.8	950.3	2,374.8	2,298.9
British Columbia	x	2,808.4	2,836.0	x	8,077.6
Coast	x	335.1	320.1	x	866.3
Interior	2,458.3	2,473.3	2,515.9	7,141.5	7,211.3
Northern interior [1]	1,345.0	1,342.6	1,324.4	3,890.9	3,873.4
Southern interior	1,113.3	1,130.7	1,191.6	3,250.4	3,337.9

1. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 2
Production and shipments of lumber, March 2016

	Production of lumber by species and SCG [1]					Total shipments
	Spruce, pine and fir *[4407.10.31]*	Total softwood, not including spruce, pine and fir [2]	Total softwood *[4407.10]*	Total hardwood *[4407.9]*	Total softwood and hardwood	
	thousands of cubic meters					
Canada	**5,144.7**	**652.1**	**5,796.8**	**161.2**	**5,958.0**	**5,787.8**
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	0.0	x	0.0	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	0.0	x	0.0	x	x
Nova Scotia	88.3	x	x	0.0	x	84.1
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	294.5	312.3
Quebec	x	x	1,291.6	114.9	1,406.5	1,262.1
Ontario	349.7	F	376.8	x	x	427.9
Manitoba	x	x	x	0.0	x	x
Saskatchewan	80.4	0.0	80.4	0.0	80.4	x
Alberta	856.4	0.0	856.4	0.0	856.4	804.8
British Columbia	2,205.3	593.2	2,798.4	x	x	2,808.4
Coast	x	x	340.1	x	x	335.1
Interior	x	x	2,458.3	0.0	2,458.3	2,473.3
Northern interior [3]	1,345.0	0.0	1,345.0	0.0	1,345.0	1,342.6
Southern interior	x	x	1,113.3	0.0	1,113.3	1,130.7

1. Standard Classification of Goods (SCG).
2. This combines Standard Classification of Goods (SCG) codes 4407.10 excluding code 4407.10.31
3. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 3
Year-to-date, Production and shipments of lumber, March 2016

	Production of lumber by species and SCG [1]					Total shipments
	Spruce, pine and fir *[4407.10.31]*	Total softwood, not including spruce, pine and fir [2]	Total softwood *[4407.10]*	Total hardwood *[4407.9]*	Total softwood and hardwood	
	thousands of cubic meters					
Canada	**15,056.9**	**1,621.1**	**16,678.0**	**434.7**	**17,112.6**	**16,663.1**
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	0.0	x	0.0	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	0.0	x	0.0	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	x	0.0	x	247.5
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	844.7	914.7
Quebec	x	x	3,770.0	294.5	4,064.5	3,726.3
Ontario	1,031.0	F	1,102.3	x	x	1,181.3
Manitoba	x	x	x	0.0	x	x
Saskatchewan	x	0.0	x	0.0	x	x
Alberta	2,374.8	0.0	2,374.8	0.0	2,374.8	2,298.9
British Columbia	6,643.1	1,456.1	8,099.1	x	x	8,077.6
Coast	x	x	957.7	x	x	866.3
Interior	x	x	7,141.5	0.0	7,141.5	7,211.3
Northern interior [3]	3,890.9	0.0	3,890.9	0.0	3,890.9	3,873.4
Southern interior	x	x	3,250.4	0.0	3,250.4	3,337.9

1. Standard Classification of Goods (SCG).
2. This combines Standard Classification of Goods (SCG) codes 4407.10 excluding code 4407.10.31
3. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 4
Production of lumber by species, British Columbia, March 2016

	Standard Classification of Goods	British Columbia	Coast	Interior	Northern interior [1]	Southern interior
	code	thousands of cubic meters				
Species						
Spruce, pine and fir	*[4407.10.31]*	2,205.3	x	x	1,345.0	x
Douglas fir and western larch	*[4407.10.32]*	231.1	47.7	183.4	0.0	183.4
Western hemlock and amabilis fir	*[4407.10.33]*	186.2	x	x	0.0	x
Sitka spruce	*[4407.10.42]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western red cedar	*[4407.10.71]*	x	x	36.7	0.0	36.7
Yellow cedar	*[4407.10.72]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Softwood, not elsewhere specified	*[4407.10.99]*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwoods	**...**	**2,798.4**	**340.1**	**2,458.3**	**1,345.0**	**1,113.3**
Hardwood	*[4407.9]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwood and hardwood	**...**	**x**	**x**	**2,458.3**	**1,345.0**	**1,113.3**

1. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 5
Production of lumber by species, British Columbia, 2016 Year to Date

	Standard Classification of Goods	British Columbia	Coast	Interior	Northern interior [1]	Southern interior
	code	thousands of cubic meters				
Species						
Spruce, pine and fir	*[4407.10.31]*	6,643.1	x	x	3,890.9	x
Douglas fir and western larch	*[4407.10.32]*	537.2	145.0	392.2	0.0	392.2
Western hemlock and amabilis fir	*[4407.10.33]*	x	x	x	0.0	x
Sitka spruce	*[4407.10.42]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western red cedar	*[4407.10.71]*	x	x	x	0.0	x
Yellow cedar	*[4407.10.72]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Softwood, not elsewhere specified	*[4407.10.99]*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwoods	**...**	**8,099.1**	**957.7**	**7,141.5**	**3,890.9**	**3,250.4**
Hardwood	*[4407.9]*	x	x	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwood and hardwood	**...**	**x**	**x**	**7,141.5**	**3,890.9**	**3,250.4**

1. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 6
Stocks of lumber by species, British Columbia, March 2016

	Standard Classification of Goods	British Columbia	Coast	Interior	Northern interior [1]	Southern interior
	code	thousands of cubic meters				
Species						
Spruce, pine and fir	*[4407.10.31]*	2,220.0	x	x	1,324.4	x
Douglas fir and western larch	*[4407.10.32]*	243.9	47.5	196.5	0.0	196.5
Western hemlock and amabilis fir	*[4407.10.33]*	151.0	x	x	0.0	x
Sitka spruce	*[4407.10.42]*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Western red cedar	*[4407.10.71]*	218.5	148.2	70.3	0.0	70.3
Yellow cedar	*[4407.10.72]*	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Softwood, not elsewhere specified	*[4407.10.99]*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwoods	**...**	**2,836.0**	**320.1**	**2,515.9**	**1,324.4**	**1,191.6**
Hardwood	*[4407.9]*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total softwood and hardwood	**...**	**2,836.0**	**320.1**	**2,515.9**	**1,324.4**	**1,191.6**

1. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 7
Stocks of lumber by species, March 2016

	Spruce, pine and fir *[4407.10.31]*	Total softwood, not including spruce, pine and fir [1]	Total softwood *[4407.10]*	Total hardwood *[4407.9]*	Total softwood and hardwood
	thousands of cubic meters				
Canada	**6,540.1**	**750.7**	**7,290.8**	**F**	**7,441.8**
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	0.0	x	0.0	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	139.6	0.0	139.6
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	288.8
Quebec	x	x	2,368.5	F	2,504.7
Ontario	467.1	F	526.8	11.7	538.6
Manitoba	x	x	x	0.0	x
Saskatchewan	156.3	0.0	156.3	0.0	156.3
Alberta	950.3	0.0	950.3	0.0	950.3
British Columbia	2,220.0	616.0	2,836.0	0.0	2,836.0
Coast	x	x	320.1	0.0	320.1
Interior	x	x	2,515.9	0.0	2,515.9
Northern interior [2]	1,324.4	0.0	1,324.4	0.0	1,324.4
Southern interior	x	x	1,191.6	0.0	1,191.6

1. This combines Standard Classification of Goods (SCG) codes 4407.10 excluding code 4407.10.31
2. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0064.

Table 8
Production, shipments and stocks of pulp chips, 2016

	March			Year-to-date	
	Production	Shipments	Stocks	Production	Shipments
	thousands of oven-dry metric tonnes				
Canada	**1,548.7**	**1,576.8**	**193.6**	**4,522.8**	**4,534.3**
British Columbia	617.0	639.5	36.6	1,860.7	1,893.0
Coast	118.8	135.7	22.9	359.5	381.3
Interior	498.2	503.8	13.6	1,501.3	1,511.7
Northern interior [1]	263.8	263.1	3.9	793.5	793.9
Southern interior	234.4	240.8	9.8	707.8	717.9
Other provinces	931.8	937.3	157.1	2,662.0	2,641.3

1. Northern interior includes: the northern interior of British Columbia and the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 303-0065.

Table 9
Canadian Lumber Exports, 2016[1]

	March				Year-to-date			
	Rail	Truck	Water	Total	Rail	Truck	Water	Total
	thousands of cubic meters							
Canada	**830.6**	**2,429.7**	**965.0**	**4,225.3**	**2,484.5**	**6,671.2**	**2,647.8**	**11,803.4**
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.9	2.0	0.0	2.9	2.1	4.5	0.0	6.7
Prince Edward Island	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nova Scotia	14.5	25.1	1.9	41.5	54.8	72.0	2.6	129.4
New Brunswick	55.4	173.8	0.2	229.5	190.1	465.7	0.8	656.5
Quebec	225.9	375.6	15.2	616.7	658.6	1,284.1	48.3	1,991.0
Ontario	55.3	194.9	4.5	254.7	158.8	575.9	17.7	752.3
Manitoba	4.2	1.2	0.1	5.5	13.6	1.5	0.1	15.2
Saskatchewan	26.0	19.8	0.0	45.8	74.4	36.2	0.0	110.7
Alberta	53.3	169.8	15.0	238.1	175.2	504.9	38.7	718.8
British Columbia	395.1	1,467.3	928.2	2,790.6	1,156.8	3,726.4	2,539.7	7,422.9
Yukon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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 Trade, Accounts and Statistics 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.

Concepts, methodology and data quality

This survey measures, on a monthly basis, the quantities of lumber that are produced and shipped by Canadian manufacturers. The target population for this survey includes all sawmills in Canada classified to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 321111.

General Methodology

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

The frame used for sampling purposes is the Statistics Canada Business Register. The survey population includes all sawmills establishments above certain thresholds that vary by province and by reference year.

Data are collected each month from survey respondents using a mail-out / mail-back process as well as electronic questionnaire. 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, email or fax. To estimate the contribution of units below sampling thresholds, the system derives ratios from Goods and Services Tax (GST) files using a statistical model. The model accounts for the difference between units above the threshold and those below the threshold as well as the time lag between the reference period of the survey and the reference period of the GST file.

Missing data for the current month are imputed automatically using a number of statistical techniques that use survey data collected during the current cycle as well as auxiliary information sources. These auxiliary sources include survey data from a previous cycle (historical), donor questionnaires and administrative data. Opening stocks are set equal to the value of the closing stocks from the previous month. Closing stocks are calculated by adding production to opening stocks and then subtracting shipments and waste values. The option exists for the subject matter analyst to manually override these imputations with better estimates based on pertinent knowledge about the industry or the business.

As part of the estimation process, survey data are weighted and combined with administrative data to produce final industry estimates.

Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published 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 may 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 may occur when confidential information can be derived indirectly by piecing together information from different sources or data series.

Under normal circumstance, data are collected, captured, edited, tabulated and published within 6-8 weeks after the end of the reference month.

Revisions

Monthly, preliminary estimates are provided for the reference month and revised estimates, based on late responses, are provided for the previous month.

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.

The revised estimates are published in CANSIM.

Data accuracy

While considerable efforts have been taken to ensure high standards throughout all stages of collection and processing, the resulting estimates are inevitably subject to a certain degree of non-sampling error. Non-sampling error is not related to sampling and may occur for various reasons including 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. Totals may not add up to the sum of components due to rounding.

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, email or fax. Data for non-responding units are imputed using industry trend and other related information. Data are revised based on the revision policy for questionnaires that are received after the end of the monthly collection cycles.

Non-response error is calculated using the number of non-responses divided by the number of total expected responses for the units in the sample.

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. In addition, data on Products Shipped by Canadian Manufacturers (31C0020) are available by contacting us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 1-514-283-8300; *STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca*).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; *STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca*).

Release date: June 2016

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, *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 "Contact us" > "Standards of service to the public."

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.