



UPDATE

In 1983 there were 8.7 million households in Canada, comprising 5.5 million owners and 3.2 million renters. A fairly recent development has been an increase in owners of registered condominiums, particularly in Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta.

Because of lower interest rates, better economic conditions, and federal and provincial housing programs, dwelling starts increased 29% to 162,645 in 1983 from the 1982 level of 125,860, the lowest since 1967. Throughout 1983, the pattern of housing activity was heavily influenced by a federal Canadian home-ownership stimulation plan (CHOSP) providing \$3,000 toward buying or building a new unit before January 1984.

At the provincial level in 1983 housing starts were higher everywhere except in Alberta. They were up by almost 200% in Manitoba, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

The overall volume of mortgage lending more than doubled. Total mortgages from approved lenders increased by 112.1% to \$26.3 billion in 1983 from \$12.4 billion in 1982.