

Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses

March 2013



In the news

[Survey of Household Spending, 2011](#)

Canadian households spent an average of \$55,151 on goods and services in 2011, up 2.7% from 2010. This was slightly below the rate of inflation of 2.9%, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).



[Trends in homeownership by age and household income, 1981 to 2006](#)

Recent analyses suggest that, increasingly, the tendency of Canadians over the last four decades has been to own rather than rent. These aggregate statistics, however, mask diverging trends across income classes. Rates of homeownership have fallen among young, lower-income households, but have risen for young, upper-income households.

The picture that emerges, therefore, is that of a generalized trend toward increased homeownership, but one in which gains in homeownership may be concentrated toward the upper end of the income distribution.

[Urban Productivity: Who Benefits from Agglomeration Economies?](#)

How do firms organize their activities, and compete in the market economy? Individual producers have to make a series of complex and interrelated choices regarding what to produce, how much to produce, what technology to employ, how to organize their operations, and where to locate.

About the *Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses*

Statistics Canada recognizes that business entrepreneurs have specific information needs. Its Business Outreach Program is dedicated to serving you through this free, monthly newsletter.

Benefits of subscribing

- Stay informed about the latest Statistics Canada releases important to business owners, managers, and entrepreneurs. The releases explain how to access related information.
- Learn about upcoming events and activities that will help you get the most from Statistics Canada data.

Subscribing is easy and free

To subscribe, go to www.statcan.gc.ca and click on "Stay connected" at the bottom of the page. Select [Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses](#) and follow the instructions.

An automatic alert will be emailed to you when new issues of the newsletter are available.

Help us spread the word

If you know a business or an organization that may benefit from what this newsletter has to offer, please pass it on or put them in contact with us.





[Amusement and Recreation, 2011](#)

Amusement parks and arcades saw growth as companies invested in new attractions. Operating revenue increased 11.6% to \$460.0 million, in 2011, from \$412.3 million, in 2010. Operating expenditures rose 5.9% to \$413.3 million in 2011, while salaries, wages, and benefits increased 10.8% to \$145.6 million. The operating profit margin increased from 5.3% in 2010 to 10.2%, in 2011.

[Recent releases from *The Daily*](#)

The Daily is Statistics Canada's official release bulletin. Recent releases include

- Consumer Price Index
- Canadian international merchandise trade
- Retail trade.

Video: [Communicating the Stories Behind the Data](#)

"Around the world, people use official statistics every day to make evidence-based decisions—about their lives, their businesses, their country."

Wayne R. Smith, Chief Statistician of Canada, talks about the many ways we communicate the stories behind the numbers.

More ways to stay connected



Questions or comments?

Please contact our communications staff in your region:

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Have you been asked to participate in a Statistics Canada survey?

Statistics Canada is able to provide accurate and timely statistical information, thanks to the ongoing co-operation of the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments, and institutions. If your business has been asked to participate in a Statistics Canada survey, please see our website for more information [on business surveys](#) or [for survey participants](#). We hope this information will help, and that we can count on your support.

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