

Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses

June 2014



In the news

[Greenhouse, sod and nursery industries, 2013](#)



Sales of greenhouse, nursery and sod products in Canada were nearly \$3.5 billion in 2013, up 5.6% from 2012. This gain was partly the result of a 16.1% increase in greenhouse vegetable and fruit sales, which accounted for 36.1% of all greenhouse, nursery and sod sales.

[Biannual Survey of Suppliers of Business Financing, second half 2013](#)

Debt outstanding



The total credit outstanding held by businesses in Canada increased for the third consecutive year in 2013. The largest borrowers, those with authorization levels of \$5 million or more, were mainly responsible for the increase.

Commercial suppliers of financing, including banks, credit unions and caisses populaires, finance companies and insurance companies, reported that their clients owed them approximately \$598.9 billion in the second half of 2013, up 2.8% from the first half of 2013.

Outstanding debt among the largest businesses, those with authorization levels of \$5 million or more, rose 3.3% to \$389.8 billion.

[Wholesale trade, March 2014](#)

Following two consecutive monthly gains, wholesale sales decreased 0.4% to \$50.5 billion in March. Lower sales were recorded in three of the seven subsectors, which together accounted for 51% of wholesale sales. The motor vehicle and parts subsector recorded the largest decline in March. Excluding this subsector, sales edged up 0.1% to \$42.3 billion. In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 0.2%.

[Retail trade, March 2014](#)

Following gains in January and February, retail sales edged down 0.1% in March to \$41.1 billion. Sales were lower at motor vehicle and parts dealers and clothing and clothing accessories stores.



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However, these declines were largely offset by gains at gasoline stations and food and beverage stores.

Other News

My Account has been redesigned to better meet users' needs and is now called My StatCan.

On June 2, the new My StatCan portal was launched and replaces My Account.

My StatCan is user-friendly and has a customizable dashboard, making it easier to access the Statistics Canada information you're looking for. The new features provide a more efficient email notification system and a one-stop registration for all online interactions with Statistics Canada such as the StatCan Blog, Chat with an expert and Question of the Month.

Existing My Account user registration information will remain the same in My StatCan. Once a user has logged in, they will be able to customize their new My StatCan home page and change their current account settings, if need be.

Visit the *Stay Connected* portal on the Statistics Canada website



No endorsement of any social media products or services is expressed or implied.

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 that are important to business owners, managers and entrepreneurs. The releases explain how to access related information.

Subscribe to our newsletter through the new My StatCan portal to learn about:

- the latest Statistics Canada releases important to business owners, managers and entrepreneurs
- upcoming events and activities that will help you get the most from Statistics Canada data

Subscribing is easy and free!

Go to www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/mystatcan

- You will need to **Login** or **Register**
- Once inside the My StatCan portal, click **Email notifications** in the top right menu
- Under the **Publications** tab, scroll down and click **Reference**, then add the Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses.



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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.

Questions or comments?

Please contact our communications staff in your region:

- Atlantic provinces: Sarah Cassidy, sarah.cassidy@statcan.gc.ca
- Quebec: Mandoline Royer, mandoline.royer@statcan.gc.ca
- Ontario: André Langdon, andre.langdon@statcan.gc.ca
- Prairie provinces, British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut:
Peter Liang, peter.liang@statcan.gc.ca

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