

Newsletter for Small and Medium-sized Businesses

October 2013



In the news

[Manufacturing: The Year 2012 in Review](#)



Canadian manufacturing activity expanded at a slower pace in 2012 compared with previous years. In 2012, Canadian manufacturing sales were \$593.8 billion, up 3.5% from sales posted in 2011.

Fourteen of 21 industries posted higher sales in 2012, with transportation equipment, petroleum and coal products, and fabricated metal products leading the way. Nevertheless, manufacturing sales, both in current and constant dollar terms, remain below their pre-recession peaks. The gains in 2012 were partly offset by declines in the primary metal, paper, and computer and electronic product industries.

Annual manufacturing sales increased in seven provinces in 2012, though over two-thirds of the national gain was concentrated in Ontario. Higher sales in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Newfoundland and Labrador also contributed substantially to the national rise.

Other indicators also suggest that the recovery in manufacturing is continuing. By December 2012, manufacturing inventories had edged up 1.2% compared with the level in December 2011. The small gain over the course of 2012 contrasts with the 8.6% rise during 2011 and the 3.4% gain in 2010. Unfilled orders advanced 7.1% in 2012, reflecting substantial gains in the aerospace product and parts industry. Capital expenditures and foreign direct investment also posted gains in 2012, though operating profits were down compared to 2011. Employment in the sector did rise in 2012, though the increase lagged behind the gains in employment for the economy a whole. Finally, the trade deficit for manufactured goods widened further in 2012.

What are functional foods and natural health products?



Results from the 2011 Functional Foods and Natural Health Products Survey

Currently, there is no universally accepted definition for functional food and natural health products. Definitions vary across countries and evolve over time reflecting the perspectives of different regulatory bodies, advances in scientific knowledge and changing market demand for products. The definitions used in the 2011 Functional Foods and Natural Health Products Survey were developed by Health Canada, one of two federal regulators of these products.

Functional foods are similar in appearance to, or may be, a conventional food, consumed as part of a usual diet, which is demonstrated to have physiological benefits or to reduce the risk of chronic disease beyond basic nutritional functions.

For the purpose of the survey, the definition of functional food is specific to products that have been actively enhanced with bioactive ingredients during production. Examples of such products include milk, meat and eggs with increased levels of omega-3 fatty acids, yogurts with probiotics and fruit juice with calcium.

A bioactive ingredient is a substance that is demonstrated or purported to have a favourable effect on health. In the context of food, bioactive ingredients include nutrients (e.g. vitamins and mineral nutrients) and non-nutrients (e.g. lycopene, live microbes) that may be inherent in or added to food.

Natural health products are products made from natural sources, are sold in dosage form and are designed to maintain or promote health, to restore or correct human health function, or to diagnose, treat or prevent disease. Examples include vitamins and minerals, herbal remedies, homeopathic medicines, traditional medicines such as Chinese medicine, probiotics, and other products like amino acids and essential fatty acids.

Summary

The results from the 2011 Functional Foods and Natural Health Products (FFNHP) Survey indicate that 750 establishments were active in the area of functional foods and natural health products and generated a total of \$11.3 billion in FFNHP revenue. Total FFNHP exports amounted to almost \$1.7 billion while imports totaled almost \$337 million. Over 16,000 individuals made up the FFNHP labour force. The extensive product market for FFNHP had available 32,266 individual product lines being sold both inside Canada and abroad. Total spending on FFNHP research and development amounted to \$238 million with over 4,500 products in development.

Functional food and natural health products remains an emerging activity that continues to grow within establishments focused on the enhancement and value added processing and extraction of food and bioactive ingredients. These establishments develop and create new products and services aimed at improving the quality of health of Canadians and help reduce their health risk.



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[Inter-provincial Employees in Canada](#)



Every year, workers leave their employers in search of better job opportunities, and employers adjust the size of their workforce in response to numerous economic factors. As part of this labour adjustment process, some individuals and their families move to a different location within the same province/territory. Others move permanently to other provinces/territories. A third group—inter-provincial employees—maintains a permanent residence in a given province/territory while working in a different province/territory. Although inter-provincial employees have played an increasingly important role in Canada in recent years, relatively little is known about them. Using novel administrative data, new research fills this gap and documents for the first time the number, origin, and destination of inter-provincial employees throughout much of the 2000s.

The article published in the [Economic Insights](#) series presents new evidence on inter-provincial paid employment in Canada. It provides detailed information by province of residence and province of work. This article supplements the research paper [Inter-provincial employees in Alberta](#), by Christine Laporte, Yuqian Lu, and Grant Schellenberg.

[Retail trade, July 2013](#)



Retail sales rose 0.6% in July to \$40.3 billion, led by higher sales at gasoline stations. Sales have been trending upwards since the beginning of 2013. Gains were reported in 8 of the 11 subsectors, representing 52% of total retail trade.

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

The Daily is Statistics Canada's official release bulletin, the Agency's first line of communication with the media and the public. *The Daily* issues news releases on current social and economic conditions and announces new products. It provides a comprehensive one-stop overview of new information available from Statistics Canada.

Release times

The Daily is released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time each working day. It has been published since 1932 and posted on the Statistics Canada website since June 1995.

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Other News

Statistics Canada presentation and panel discussion on health in Toronto



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

This year, on the occasion of the first [International Year of Statistics](#) (IYS), Statistics Canada is joining together with other Canadian and international statistical organizations to mark the contribution that statistics make to the success and progress of our societies.

One of the activities Statistics Canada is organizing is a series of presentations and panel discussions in different Canadian cities.

Following two successful events in Montreal and Edmonton, **Wayne R. Smith**, Chief Statistician of Canada, is coming to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on **November 15** to provide a statistical portrait of health in Canada. His presentation, **Health care and Canada's aging demographic**, will be followed by a panel discussion with experts, which will contribute to the broader understanding of health issues across the country.

We are inviting those who are interested in this event to register by contacting Erin Kennedy at erin.kennedy@statcan.gc.ca.

Spaces are limited so register today!

[National Seniors Day... by the numbers](#)



National Seniors Day is an occasion for all Canadians to appreciate and celebrate seniors.

Here are some selected facts related to the demographic, socio-economic and health portrait of seniors (persons aged 65 and over) in Canada.

Find out more about National Seniors Day at www.seniors.gc.ca.

Fall brings excitement, new challenges and better results

Fall can be a time of excitement, new beginnings and new challenges—and not just for kids.

As an entrepreneur, you may be considering new challenges, or maybe you just want to make your company run better. Whatever your situation, you need access to high-quality and reliable information for your business. Statistics Canada has extensive free data from the 2011 Census, plus an analysis tool to help you make sense of it.

You'll find detailed information on

- population and dwelling counts
- age and sex of residents
- families, households and marital status



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- structural characteristics of dwellings—single-detached houses, row houses, apartments in high-rise buildings
- languages

These data are available at the national, provincial and municipal levels. You can even access the Census profile by postal code.

To find census data on your market, try our [tutorial for businesses](#): it will show you how to find census data at the geographic level you want and manipulate it to fit your needs. And the tutorial only scratches the surface; discover more information that can benefit your business on [Statistics Canada's census page](#).

So, if you're considering new challenges—opening a new business or expanding an existing one in a new market—you'll find solid information.

Just as in school, asking questions is the best way to learn more, so ask away—we're always here to help. Simply contact our information agents by email at infostats@statcan.gc.ca or by telephone at 1-800-263-1136, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in all Canadian time zones.

Webinar-Beyond 20/20

Many data tables on the Statistics Canada website are available in Beyond 20/20 format. This software is particularly useful in handling tables with multiple levels of data, enabling the data users to rearrange variables to suit their needs.

In these sessions, attendees will learn how to create customized data tables.

There is no cost for participating, however, registration is required. To sign up, click on the following links:

Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Time: 1:00 pm, Pacific Time

Link: [Beyond 20/20](#)

OR

Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013

Time: 10:00 pm, Pacific Time

Link: [Beyond 20/20](#)

Once your request is approved, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting.

Other webinars

The above session is offered in English only. Stay tuned for upcoming sessions in French.



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More ways to stay connected



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

[Monthly Survey of Manufacturing](#)

Have you enjoyed reading the article [Manufacturing: The Year 2012 in Review](#) featured in this newsletter? One of the data sources for this article is Statistics Canada's Monthly Survey of Manufacturing.

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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ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES

Statistics Canada recognized 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.

Learn about upcoming events and activities that will help you get the most from Statistics Canada data.

Subscribing is easy and free

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