

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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 Consumer prices rose 1.9% in the 12 months to January, following a 1.3% increase in December 2009. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, prices rose 0.4% from December to January.

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 Non-residents acquired \$11.2 billion of Canadian securities in December as purchases of Canadian bonds continued to dominate foreign inflows. Canadian investment in foreign securities, which was up in November after four months of divestments, slowed to \$663 million in December. Portfolio investment activity in 2009 was marked by unprecedented foreign acquisitions of Canadian securities to the tune of \$109.4 billion, predominantly bonds.

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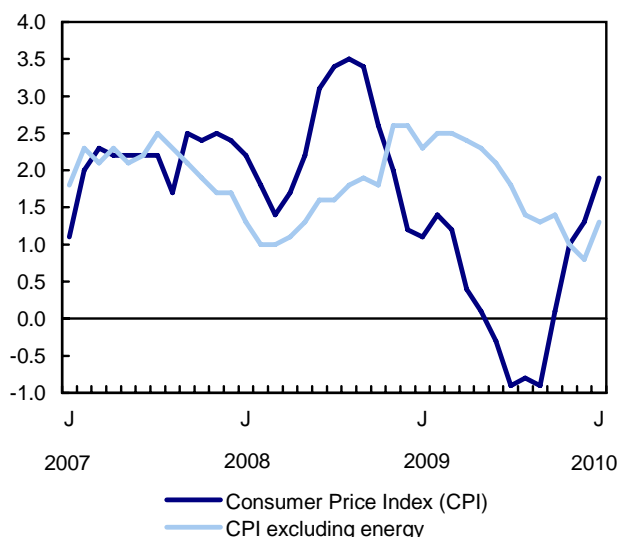
Consumer Price Index

January 2010

Consumer prices rose 1.9% in the 12 months to January, following a 1.3% increase in December 2009. January's increase was the largest since November 2008.

The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index and the CPI excluding energy

12-month % change

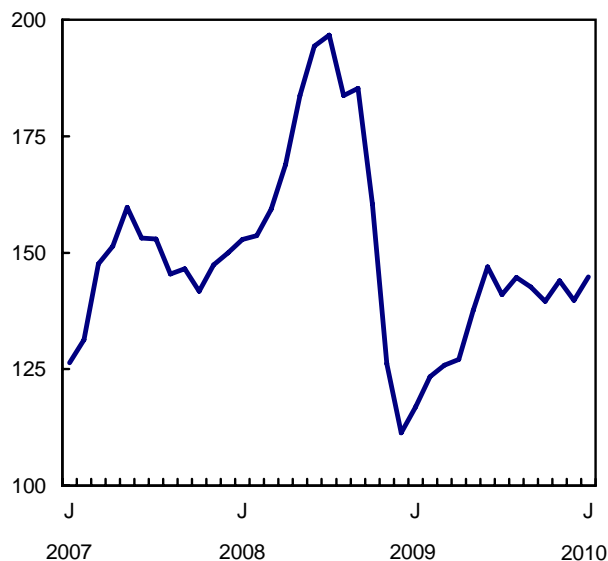


The increase in the all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) was due primarily to gasoline prices. In January, gasoline prices were 23.9% higher than they were in January 2009. This follows a 25.6% rise in the 12 months to December 2009.

Gasoline prices exerted upward pressure on the CPI for the third consecutive month, as a result of price volatility in the second half of 2008 and the first half of 2009. Prices at the pump have been relatively stable since July 2009.

Evolution of the gasoline price index since 2007

index (2002=100)



Overall, energy prices went up 8.2% between January 2009 and January 2010, following a 5.9% increase in the 12 months to December 2009.

Excluding energy, the CPI rose 1.3% in the 12 months to January, compared with a 0.8% increase in December.

As well, prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles exerted upward pressure on the CPI in January, after an extended period in which they were a significant source of downward pressure on the CPI.

Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI increases

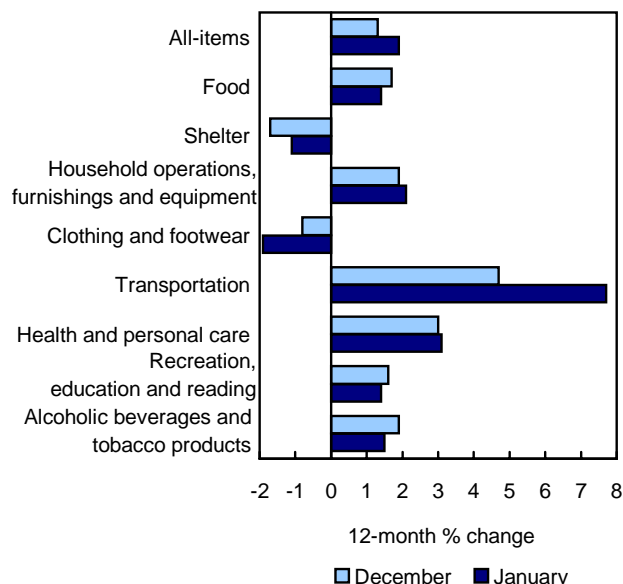
On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the CPI rose 0.4% from December to January, after remaining unchanged from November to December. January's increase was due mainly to a 1.5% increase in the transportation price index.

The seasonally adjusted monthly CPI has increased in six of the previous eight months.

12-month change: Six of the eight major components in the CPI post increases

In January, six of the eight major components of the CPI recorded price increases. The exceptions were shelter, and clothing and footwear.

Transportation continues to exert the most upward pressure on the Consumer Price Index



Prices in the transportation component exerted the strongest upward pressure on the all-items CPI, increasing 7.7% in the 12 months to January. This was the largest 12-month increase for this component since the 9.2% increase in September 2005.

In addition to higher prices at the pump, consumers paid 7.7% more for passenger vehicle insurance premiums. As well, prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles rose 3.1% in January, following a 3.3% decline in December. January's increase in passenger vehicle prices was the first 12-month rise since June 2007.

Food prices advanced 1.4%, following a 1.7% increase in December. January's rise was the smallest since April 2008.

Upward pressure on the food index came mainly from prices for food purchased from restaurants (+2.6%) and non-alcoholic beverages (+7.2%).

Other major contributors to the increase in food prices were all other food preparations and sugar and confectionery. On the other hand, prices fell for fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, and meat.

Prices in the household operations, furnishing and equipment component rose 2.1%. Upward pressure came from communications, other household goods and services, and child care and domestic services.

Broad-based price advances occurred in the health and personal care component (+3.1%).

Prices in the recreation, education and reading component increased 1.4% in the 12 months to January. Major contributors to the increase were tuition fees and cablevision and satellite services. In contrast, prices fell for home entertainment equipment, parts and services and computer equipment and supplies.

Shelter costs declined 1.1% during the 12-month period, mostly the result of declines in mortgage interest cost and natural gas prices.

The mortgage interest cost index, which measures the change in the interest portion of payments on outstanding mortgage debt, fell 5.5% in January, following a 4.9% decrease in December.

Upward pressure on the shelter component came from property taxes (+4.3%) and rent (+1.4%).

Prices for clothing and footwear dropped 1.9% on a year-over-year basis. The strongest downward pressure in this component came from prices for women's clothing (-6.8%) and children's clothing (-4.8%).

Provinces: Consumer prices up in all provinces

Consumer prices were up in all provinces in the 12 months to January. The most significant upward pressure on prices in all provinces came from higher gasoline prices.

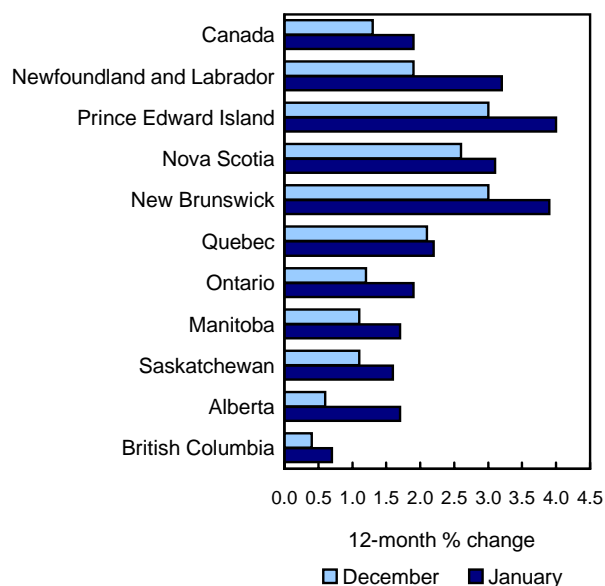
The largest year-over-year increases among provinces occurred in Atlantic Canada: Prince Edward Island (+4.0%), New Brunswick (+3.9%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+3.2%), and Nova Scotia (+3.1%).

Higher price rises in Atlantic Canada were primarily attributed to larger upward movements in gasoline prices. Gasoline price increases in Atlantic Canada ranged from 26.5% in Newfoundland and Labrador to 35.6% in New Brunswick.

As well, prices for fuel oil and other fuels advanced 9.7% between January 2009 and January 2010, the largest increase since October 2008.

These energy products are widely used in home heating in Atlantic Canada, while the rest of the country relies mostly on electricity and natural gas.

Atlantic provinces post the highest price increases



In Ontario, prices rose 1.9%. This was due primarily to higher prices for gasoline, passenger vehicle insurance, and the purchase of passenger vehicles. Downward pressure came from lower prices for natural gas.

In Alberta, consumer prices went up 1.7%. Major contributors to higher prices were the cost of gasoline and natural gas.

Prices in British Columbia rose 0.7%, with gasoline prices up 18.4%. At the same time, shelter costs fell 2.4%, more than twice the rate of the decline of 1.1% at the national level.

12-month change in the Bank of Canada's core index

The Bank of Canada's core index advanced 2.0% over the 12 months to January, following a 1.5% rise in December. The increase was due primarily to a rise in prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles in January.

The seasonally adjusted monthly core index went up 0.2% from December to January, after posting no change from November to December.

For a more detailed analysis, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0009, 326-0012, 326-0015 and 326-0020 to 326-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-X, free) from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

The January 2010 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 89, no. 1 (62-001-X, free), is now available from *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. A paper copy is also available (\$12/\$111). A more detailed analysis of the CPI is available in this publication. See *How to order products*.

The February Consumer Price Index will be released on March 19.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-2848; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Consumer Prices Division.

□

Consumer Price Index and major components, Canada (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	January 2009	December 2009	January 2010	December 2009 to January 2010	January 2009 to January 2010
Unadjusted						
					% change	
All-items	100.00²	113.0	114.8	115.1	0.3	1.9
Food	17.04	120.6	121.8	122.3	0.4	1.4
Shelter	26.62	123.1	121.3	121.8	0.4	-1.1
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	105.7	107.5	107.9	0.4	2.1
Clothing and footwear	5.36	91.8	90.6	90.1	-0.6	-1.9
Transportation	19.88	108.8	115.5	117.2	1.5	7.7
Health and personal care	4.73	110.4	113.2	113.8	0.5	3.1
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	99.7	102.8	101.1	-1.7	1.4
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	129.2	131.2	131.1	-0.1	1.5
All-items (1992=100)		134.5	136.6	137.0	0.3	1.9
Special aggregates						
Goods	48.78	106.2	107.6	108.4	0.7	2.1
Services	51.22	119.7	121.8	121.8	0.0	1.8
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	110.3	111.7	111.6	-0.1	1.2
Energy	9.38	123.8	130.3	133.9	2.8	8.2
Core CPI ³	82.71	112.2	114.3	114.4	0.1	2.0

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada, effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm).

2. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

3. The measure of Core Consumer Price Index (CPI) excludes from the All-items CPI the effect of changes in indirect taxes and eight of the most volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. For additional information on Core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm).

Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	January 2009	December 2009	January 2010	December 2009 to January 2010	January 2009 to January 2010
Unadjusted						
					% change	
Canada	100.00²	113.0	114.8	115.1	0.3	1.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.27	112.9	115.2	116.5	1.1	3.2
Prince Edward Island	0.35	114.1	118.1	118.7	0.5	4.0
Nova Scotia	2.56	113.4	116.3	116.9	0.5	3.1
New Brunswick	1.97	111.1	114.5	115.4	0.8	3.9
Québec	21.05	111.5	114.0	114.0	0.0	2.2
Ontario	41.22	112.4	114.1	114.5	0.4	1.9
Manitoba	3.06	112.4	114.2	114.3	0.1	1.7
Saskatchewan	2.64	115.7	117.1	117.5	0.3	1.6
Alberta	11.43	120.2	121.9	122.3	0.3	1.7
British Columbia	14.29	111.4	111.9	112.2	0.3	0.7
Whitehorse	0.06	113.0	113.4	113.9	0.4	0.8
Yellowknife	0.08	114.3	116.8	116.8	0.0	2.2
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	111.8	111.3	111.3	0.0	-0.4

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada, effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm).

2. Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Consumer Price Index and major components (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	November 2009	December 2009	January 2010	November to December 2009	December 2009 to January 2010
Seasonally adjusted						
					% change	
All-items	100.00²	115.5	115.5	116.0	0.0	0.4
Food	17.04	121.8	121.9	122.1	0.1	0.2
Shelter	26.62	121.3	121.3	121.8	0.0	0.4
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	108.7	107.8	108.2	-0.8	0.4
Clothing and footwear	5.36	93.9	92.6	92.4	-1.4	-0.2
Transportation	19.88	115.4	115.5	117.2	0.1	1.5
Health and personal care	4.73	113.3	113.4	114.0	0.1	0.5
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	103.7	103.7	103.6	0.0	-0.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	131.3	131.2	131.1	-0.1	-0.1
Special aggregates						
All-items excluding food	82.96	114.0	113.3	113.6	-0.6	0.3
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	111.9	111.8	112.2	-0.1	0.4
All-items excluding eight of the most volatile components	82.71	113.1	113.2	113.5	0.1	0.3
Core CPI ³	82.71	114.5	114.5	114.7	0.0	0.2

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada, effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm).
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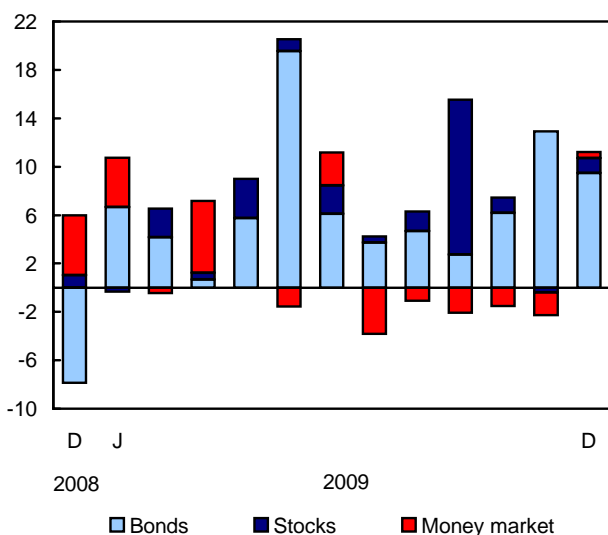
Canada's international transactions in securities

December 2009

Non-residents acquired \$11.2 billion of Canadian securities in December as purchases of Canadian bonds continued to dominate foreign inflows. Canadian investment in foreign securities, which was up in November after four months of divestments, slowed to \$663 million in December. Portfolio investment activity in 2009 was marked by unprecedented foreign acquisitions of Canadian securities to the tune of \$109.4 billion, predominantly bonds.

Foreign portfolio investment in Canadian securities

\$ billions



Sustained foreign investment in Canadian bonds throughout 2009

December sustained the trend for foreign investment in Canadian debt securities that was evident for most of the year. Non-residents added \$9.5 billion of Canadian bonds to their holdings in December. Foreign investment in federal bonds on secondary markets accounted for \$5.3 billion; the remainder was mainly acquisitions of new provincial government bonds denominated in foreign currencies.

Non-residents invested \$82.5 billion in Canadian bonds in 2009, almost equally split between net new issues and secondary market purchases. New issue activity abroad in the year was dominated by US dollar bonds of the provincial government and the corporate

Note to readers

All values in this release are net transactions unless otherwise stated.

The data series on international security transactions cover portfolio transactions in stocks, bonds and money market instruments for both Canadian and foreign issues.

Stocks include common and preferred equities, as well as warrants.

Debt securities include bonds and money market instruments.

Bonds have an original term to maturity of more than one year.

Money market instruments have an original term to maturity of one year or less.

Government of Canada paper includes treasury bills and US-dollar Canada bills.

sectors, as borrowing costs declined and the Canadian dollar appreciated against the US dollar.

Secondary market transactions also generated sizeable foreign inflows in 2009, especially for federal government securities. As a result, foreign holdings of federal bonds increased by nearly 70% in 2009, in contrast to the previous trend of declining foreign holdings observed since 2002.

Non-residents adjusted their holdings of Canadian short-term securities in December, replacing federal Treasury bills with paper issued by private corporations. In contrast to significant acquisitions of federal bonds, non-residents shed a considerable amount of federal paper in the second half of 2009. Over the year, the interest rate differential between long- and short-term benchmark debt securities has widened, favouring investment in long-term instruments.

New issues dominate foreign activity in Canadian equities

Non-residents added \$1.2 billion of Canadian shares to their portfolios in December. This was made up of \$1.9 billion of new portfolio shares, and a divestment in secondary markets. Canadian stock prices appreciated 2.6% in December.

Foreign investment in Canadian equities rebounded in 2009 in relation to activity in 2007 and 2008, to reach \$26.2 billion. Inflows in the year were almost equally split between new portfolio shares and secondary market acquisitions. The former reflected the strengthening of Canadian direct investment abroad, resulting in Canadian firms issuing new shares to non-resident portfolio investors of acquired foreign firms. The latter reflected the solid performance of the banking sector and a significant rebound in commodity prices.

Canadians move away from foreign debt securities

Canadian investors sold foreign debt instruments in December, disposing of \$801 million worth of foreign money market paper but adding \$337 million of foreign bonds.

December's divestment was in US government Treasury bills as resident investors removed \$1.3 billion from their holdings, offsetting the acquisitions in November. Nevertheless, Canadians added \$1.8 billion worth of US government Treasury bills over the course of the year. Most of the acquisitions in 2009 occurred over the first two months of the year, prior to the rebound in major global stock markets.

Canadian investment in foreign bonds was in non-US bonds in December, led by a renewed interest in maple bonds. Over the year, however, divestment of US government bonds and the further drying-up of the maple bond market resulted in a second year of reduced holdings of foreign bonds.

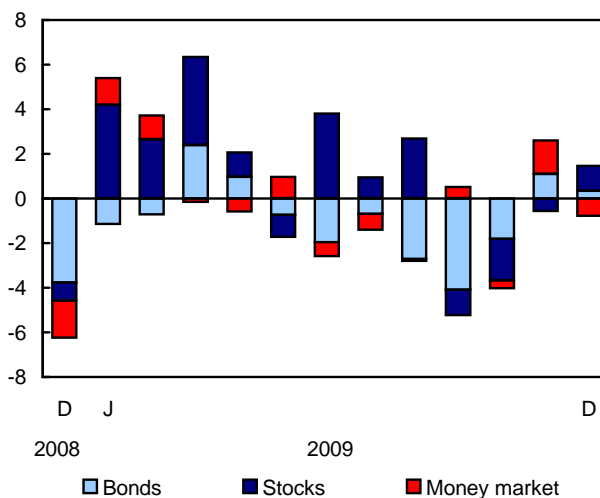
Canadian investment in foreign equities rebounds

Canadian investors added \$1.1 billion of foreign equities to their portfolios in December after three months of sales. December's investment was entirely channelled to US equities. US stock prices gained 1.8%, led by the banking and resources sectors.

Overall Canadian investment in foreign stocks bounced back in 2009, led by the pension funds sector. Although investment in foreign equities doubled from 2008, it remained well below the average level observed from 2005 to 2007 following the elimination of the foreign content limit for Canadian registered retirement plans.

Canadian portfolio investment in foreign securities¹

\$ billions



1. Reverse of balance of payments signs.

Available on CANSIM: tables 376-0018 to 376-0029, 376-0042, 376-0058 and 376-0063.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1535.

The December 2009 issue of *Canada's International Transactions in Securities* (67-002-X, free) will soon be available.

Data on Canada's international transactions in securities for January will be released on March 18.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-1855; infobalance@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yiling Zhang (613-951-2057; yiling.zhang@statcan.gc.ca), Balance of Payments Division.

□

Canada's international transactions in securities

	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009	2008	2009
	Cumulative transactions				
	\$ millions				
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	5,876	10,580	11,231	29,057	109,367
Bonds (net)	6,169	12,905	9,468	15,179	82,500
Outstanding	4,569	2,277	7,890	20,082	37,773
New issues	4,369	12,488	6,262	49,495	87,655
Retirements	-3,458	-1,762	-3,429	-54,580	-43,476
Change in interest payable ¹	689	-99	-1,255	182	548
Money market paper (net)	-1,570	-1,902	519	11,132	665
Government of Canada	-1,893	-2,383	-1,032	8,254	420
Other	323	481	1,550	2,877	244
Stocks (net)	1,277	-423	1,244	2,746	26,202
Outstanding	994	-771	-636	-2,385	13,411
Other transactions	282	348	1,880	5,131	12,791
Canadian investment in foreign securities	4,035	-2,029	-663	13,652	-8,667
Bonds (net)	1,813	-1,098	-337	16,354	9,030
Money market paper (net)	363	-1,514	801	5,212	-1,847
Stocks (net)	1,859	583	-1,126	-7,914	-15,850

1. Interest accrued less interest paid.

Note: A minus sign indicates an outflow of money from Canada, that is, a withdrawal of foreign investment from Canada or an increase in Canadian investment abroad.

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Construction Union Wage Rate Index

January 2010

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada remained unchanged in January compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 2.5% compared with January 2009.

Note: Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 22 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes on a 2007=100 time base are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0045.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

The fourth quarter 2009 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will be available in April.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-4550; toll-free 1-888-951-4550; fax: 613-951-3117; ppd-info-dpp@statcan.gc.ca), Producer Prices Division. ■

Primary iron and steel

December 2009

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The December 2009 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-X, free) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

February 1, 2010 (preliminary)

Data on stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Venturino (613-951-9278; sandra.venturino@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Architectural services

2008

Data on the architectural services industry are now available for 2008.

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2420.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Architectural Services*, 2008 (63-245-X free), will be available in May.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lorraine St-Jean (613-951-5000; lorraine.st-jean@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Civil aviation operating statistics

December 2009

Operational data on civil aviation are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: table 401-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5026.

A data table is also available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

New products and studies

Canadian Economic Observer, February 2010,
Vol. 23, no. 2
Catalogue number 11-010-X (Print, \$25/\$243)

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Study: Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series: "New Immigrants' Assessments of Their Life in Canada", no. 322
Catalogue number 11F0019M2010322 (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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People, Products and Services, Agriculture Division, 2010
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The Consumer Price Index, January 2010, Vol. 89, no. 1
Catalogue number 62-001-X (PDF, free; Print, \$12/\$111; HTML, free)

Wholesale Trade, December 2009, Vol. 72, no. 12
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Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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