

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Wholesale trade, February 2010	2
Wholesale sales fell 1.2% in February, following increases the previous three months. Lower sales in the motor vehicle and parts, and the machinery, equipment and supplies subsectors were major contributors to the decline.	
Stocks of frozen eggs, poultry meats and edible dried egg products, April 1, 2010	7
Engineering services industry, 2008	7
Government expenditures on culture, 2007/2008	7

New products and studies 8

Health Reports

April 2010

The April 2010 online edition of *Health Reports* contains two articles.

"Waiting time for medical specialist consultations in Canada, 2007" examines associations between patient- and provider-related factors and the length of time patients wait to consult a specialist about a new illness or condition. For more information, contact Gisèle Carrière (604-666-5907; gisele.carriere@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division, Statistics Canada.

"Weight gain during pregnancy: Adherence to Health Canada's guidelines" describes Canadian women's adherence to Health Canada's 1999 gestational weight guidelines, by selected socio-demographic and maternity characteristics of the mother. For more information, contact Media Relations (613-957-2983), Health Canada.

The April 2010 online edition of *Health Reports*, Vol. 21, no. 2 (82-003-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information about Health Reports, contact Christine Wright (613-951-1765; christine.wright@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division.



Releases

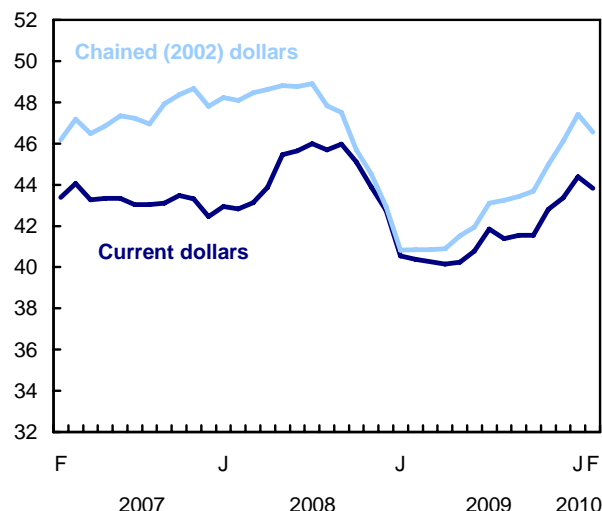
Wholesale trade

February 2010

Wholesale sales fell 1.2% in February, following increases the previous three months. Lower sales in the motor vehicle and parts, and the machinery, equipment and supplies subsectors were major contributors to the decline.

Wholesale sales down for the first time in four months

\$ billions



In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 1.8% in February.

In February, four of the seven wholesale subsectors, accounting for two-thirds of total sales, declined.

The largest decrease came in the motor vehicle and parts subsector, which fell 4.4% in February. The motor vehicle industry, which accounts for close to 80% of the subsector, declined 5.3%. This was the first decrease in this industry since August 2009.

The machinery, equipment and supplies subsector declined 2.8%, posting its first decrease in six months. The four industries that comprise this subsector were all down, with the largest drop recorded by the other machinery, equipment and supplies industry (-5.7%).

Note to readers

All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted.

Wholesale trade sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using import and industry product price indexes. Since many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar can have an important influence on the prices of the goods bought and sold by wholesalers.

The wholesale sales series in chained (2002) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

Data published this month are based on an updated sample. The new level of estimates has led to a time series revision back to January 2004. These revisions also incorporate 2009 annual revisions as well as some other historical revisions.

In addition, the presentation of results makes direct use of the North American Industry Classification System instead of its trade group variant (see concordance table).

The old tables 081-0007 to 081-0010 were replaced by CANSIM tables 081-0011 to 081-0013. Data for February 2010 as well as data from January 2004 are now available in these new CANSIM tables. In order to allow users to adapt to these new series, access to the new CANSIM tables will be free until June 30, 2010.

The largest increase in dollar terms was in the building material and supplies subsector (+1.5%), which saw increases in all three of its component industries. This subsector continued an upward trend that began in mid 2009.

Three provinces account for most of the sales decrease

After posting increases in January, wholesalers in Ontario and Quebec both reported lower sales in February. Ontario, which accounts for about half of Canada's total wholesale sales, saw a decrease of 1.7%. Lower sales in the motor vehicle and parts subsector was a contributing factor to this drop. In Quebec, sales fell 2.4% in February, declining for the first time since September 2009.

In British Columbia, sales fell 4.3% in February, the first decline in five months.

Sales rose 5.5% in Saskatchewan, helped by higher sales of agricultural supplies. Since October 2009, wholesale sales in this province have risen by just over 35% to reach their highest levels since January 2009.

Inventories rise slightly

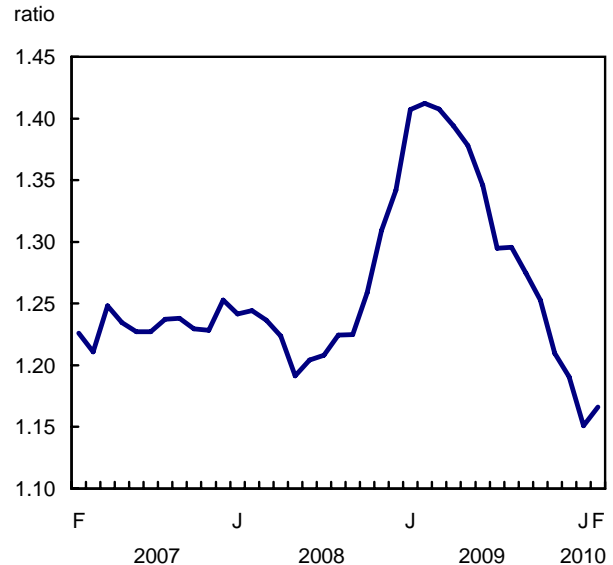
Wholesale inventories edged up 0.1% in February, the first increase since November 2008.

Overall, 12 of the 25 wholesale industries reported higher inventory levels. The largest increases in dollar terms were reported in the chemical (except agricultural) and allied product, home entertainment equipment and household appliance, and other machinery, equipment and supplies industries. Lower inventories were seen in the construction, forestry, mining and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies, personal goods, and new motor vehicle parts and accessories industries.

The decrease in sales, combined with the slight increase in inventories, translated into a rise in the inventory-to-sales ratio from 1.15 in January to 1.17 in February. This was the first increase in the ratio since August 2009.

The inventory-to-sales ratio is a measure of the time in months required to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at their current level.

The inventory-to-sales ratio increases in February



Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0011 to 081-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The February 2010 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-X, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade data for March will be released on May 19.

To obtain data or general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Steve Chadder (613-951-0303; steve.chadder@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Wholesale merchants' sales by industry

	February 2009 ^r	January 2010 ^r	February 2010 ^p	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	40,389	44,376	43,834	-1.2	8.5
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	35,097	36,615	36,415	-0.5	3.8
Farm product	491	507	529	4.2	7.7
Food, beverage and tobacco	7,978	8,283	8,348	0.8	4.6
Food	7,101	7,374	7,431	0.8	4.6
Beverage	389	410	418	2.1	7.5
Cigarette and tobacco product	488	500	499	-0.2	2.2
Personal and household goods	6,823	7,217	7,109	-1.5	4.2
Textile, clothing and footwear	817	883	860	-2.6	5.2
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	709	725	702	-3.2	-1.0
Home furnishings	443	507	514	1.3	16.0
Personal goods	913	939	868	-7.6	-5.0
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,311	3,471	3,481	0.3	5.1
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	F	692	685	-1.0	F
Motor vehicle and parts	5,293	7,761	7,419	-4.4	40.2
Motor vehicle	3,713	6,208	5,882	-5.3	58.4
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,538	1,513	1,497	-1.0	-2.7
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	40	41	0.9	F
Building material and supplies	5,687	6,127	6,218	1.5	9.3
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	1,838	1,964	1,973	0.5	7.4
Metal service centres	1,262	1,203	1,213	0.8	-3.9
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,587	2,960	3,031	2.4	17.2
Machinery, equipment and supplies	8,990	8,710	8,462	-2.8	-5.9
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,205	945	918	-2.9	-23.8
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	2,776	2,672	2,594	-2.9	-6.5
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,577	2,739	2,730	-0.3	5.9
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,433	2,354	2,221	-5.7	-8.7
Miscellaneous	5,127	5,770	5,749	-0.4	12.1
Recyclable material	434	675	676	0.2	55.7
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	660	744	710	-4.6	7.7
Agricultural supplies	1,396	1,353	1,400	3.5	0.3
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,005	948	942	-0.6	-6.3
Other miscellaneous	1,633	2,051	2,021	-1.5	23.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory

	February 2009 ^r	January 2010 ^r	February 2010 ^p	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Canada	40,389	44,376	43,834	-1.2	8.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	271	283	284	0.1	4.8
Prince Edward Island	35	38	40	2.7	14.1
Nova Scotia	568	605	625	3.3	9.9
New Brunswick	441	480	482	0.3	9.2
Quebec	8,096	8,531	8,327	-2.4	2.8
Ontario	19,442	22,917	22,525	-1.7	15.9
Manitoba	1,155	1,091	1,083	-0.7	-6.2
Saskatchewan	1,454	1,510	1,593	5.5	9.5
Alberta	5,004	4,699	4,833	2.8	-3.4
British Columbia	3,841	4,155	3,977	-4.3	3.5
Yukon	12	12	10	-12.2	-16.6
Northwest Territories	50	49	51	3.7	2.5
Nunavut	20	6	5	-8.9	-74.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry

	February 2009 ^r	January 2010 ^r	February 2010 ^p	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Inventories	57,042	51,078	51,120	0.1	-10.4
Farm product	158	157	150	-4.7	-5.1
Food	4,405	4,232	4,247	0.4	-3.6
Beverage	251	247	261	5.7	4.0
Cigarette and tobacco product	241	246	244	-1.1	1.1
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,940	1,502	1,491	-0.7	-23.1
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	892	660	746	13.1	-16.3
Home furnishings	1,010	944	961	1.8	-4.8
Personal goods	1,670	1,478	1,406	-4.9	-15.8
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,075	4,062	4,122	1.5	1.2
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	620	614	635	3.4	2.5
Motor vehicle	3,694	3,658	3,602	-1.5	-2.5
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,202	2,996	2,937	-2.0	-8.3
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	77	75	-2.6	F
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,128	2,693	2,667	-1.0	-14.7
Metal service centres	3,077	2,319	2,332	0.6	-24.2
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,273	4,145	4,198	1.3	-1.8
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,155	2,980	2,972	-0.3	-5.8
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	8,337	6,897	6,737	-2.3	-19.2
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,653	1,465	1,521	3.8	-8.0
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,709	3,231	3,293	1.9	-11.2
Recyclable material	316	323	300	-7.1	-5.0
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	718	595	591	-0.8	-17.7
Agricultural supplies	2,827	2,360	2,311	-2.1	-18.3
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,240	959	1,067	11.3	-13.9
Other miscellaneous	2,375	2,238	2,254	0.7	-5.1

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Stocks of frozen eggs, poultry meats and edible dried egg products

April 1, 2010 (preliminary)

Data on stocks of frozen eggs, poultry meats and edible dried egg products in storage as of April 1 are now available.

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. ■

Engineering services industry 2008

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

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2439.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Engineering Services*, 2008 (63-258-X, free), will be available in June.

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 Veronica Utovac (613-951-0813; veronica.utovac@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Government expenditures on culture

2007/2008

Data on government expenditures on culture are now available for the 2007/2008 fiscal year.

Available on CANSIM: table 505-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3116 and 3117.

Detailed and summary data tables for government expenditures on culture, by function and province or territory are now available in the publication *Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables*, 2007/2008 (87F0001X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-767-5611; 613-951-2320; fax 613-951-2307; culture@statcan.gc.ca), Demography Division. ■

New products and studies

Study: Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics: Research Papers: "The High Education / Low Income Paradox: College and University Graduates with Low Earnings, Ontario, 2006", no. 81

Catalogue number 81-595-M2010081 (PDF, free ; HTML, free)

Health Reports, Vol. 21, no. 2

Catalogue number 82-003-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables, 2007/2008

Catalogue number 87F0001X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

How to order products

To order by phone, please refer to:

- The title
- The catalogue number
- The volume number
- The issue number
- Your credit card number.

From Canada and the United States, call:

From other countries, call:

To fax your order, call:

1-800-267-6677

1-613-951-2800

1-877-287-4369

To order by mail, write to: Statistics Canada, Finance, 6th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 5% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet, write to: infostats@statcan.gc.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.gc.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to lstproc@statcan.gc.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2010. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy—or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.