

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Wholesale sales increased for a fifth consecutive month in December, rising by 0.8% to \$45.9 billion. Overall, six of the seven subsectors reported gains, representing almost all of wholesale sales.

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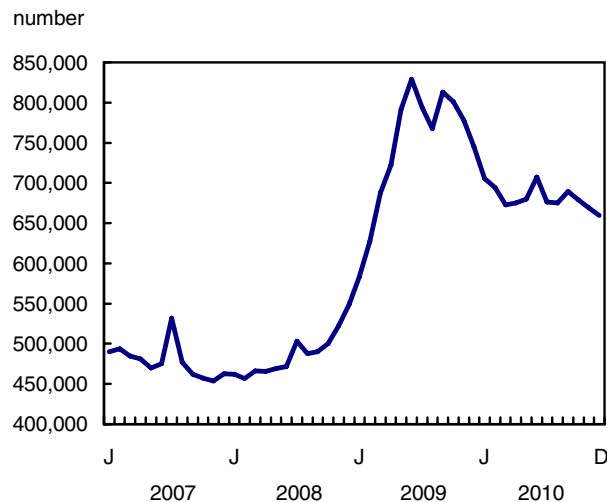
Releases

Employment Insurance

December 2010

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The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries down slightly from September to December



Employment Insurance claims little changed

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. In December, 249,000 initial and renewal claims were received, a modest increase of 970 (+0.4%) from the previous month.

In Quebec, the number of claims increased by 3,500 (+4.9%) in December, offsetting much of the decline in November. In Ontario, the number of claims rose by 970 (+1.2%), the third consecutive monthly increase.

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified.

Each month, Statistics Canada provides analysis of the current labour market situation, using Employment Insurance (EI) statistics and other sources. Earlier this month, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) provided a picture of overall labour market conditions, including unemployment, total employment and those affected by changes in the labour market.

In this release, Statistics Canada provides additional sub-provincial detail through the EI statistics. Details by industry will follow with data from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours.

EI statistics are produced from an administrative data source from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for November and December 2010 are preliminary. In this release, large centres correspond to those with a population of 10,000 or more.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received EI benefits from December 5 to 11. This period coincides with the reference week of the LFS.

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with data coming from the LFS, which provides information on the total number of unemployed people.

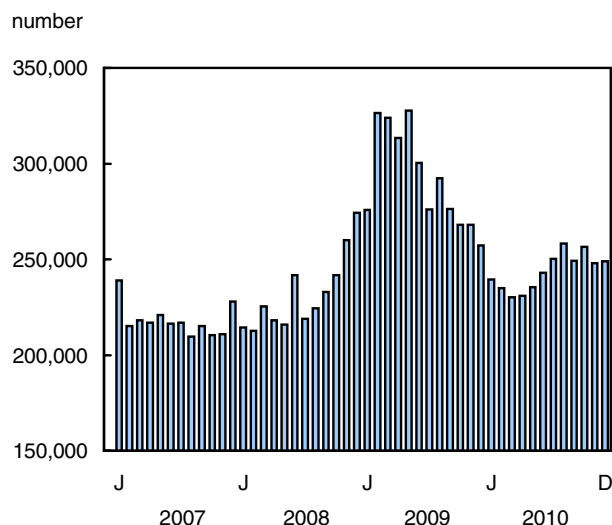
There are always a certain proportion of unemployed people who do not qualify for benefits. Some unemployed people have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people exhausting their regular benefits.

In all other provinces, fewer people filed a claim in December or no change was noted. Decreases in claims were most pronounced in Saskatchewan (-8.1%) and New Brunswick (-5.6%).

There has been little overall change in the number of claims since July 2010. Claims provide an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Number of Employment Insurance claims relatively stable since July



Beneficiaries down in all provinces

The number of regular beneficiaries declined in every province in December. This was the third consecutive monthly decrease for 9 of the 10 provinces, Nova Scotia being the exception.

The most notable declines in December were in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Nova Scotia. In Ontario, the number of beneficiaries decreased by 3,600 (-1.7%) to 206,800. In Quebec, it fell by 2,100 (-1.1%) to 186,000, while in British Columbia, it declined by 1,500 (-1.8%) to 78,900.

In Nova Scotia, the number of people receiving benefits decreased by 1,100 (-3.2%) to 33,200 in December, more than offsetting the increase in November.

Sub-provincial and demographic overview

Employment Insurance data by sub-provincial region, sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and are therefore compared on a year-over-year basis.

Continued year-over-year declines in most large centres

Between December 2009 and December 2010, the number of regular beneficiaries fell by 87,100 (-11.8%) at the national level, with declines in 117 of the 143 large centres (see map). The number of large centres reporting year-over-year declines has been relatively

stable over the past nine months. Large centres are those with a population of 10,000 or more.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the number of beneficiaries declined in all five large centres. The fastest rate of decline occurred in Labrador City, which registered fewer beneficiaries in all 12 months of 2010 on a year-over-year basis. In St. John's, the number of beneficiaries fell by 730 to 4,600, the largest of nine consecutive months of year-over-year declines.

In Quebec, the number of regular beneficiaries fell in 27 of the 33 large centres between December 2009 and December 2010. The fastest declines occurred in Lachute, Granby, Saint-Georges, Saguenay, La Tuque, and Sorel-Tracy. Montréal recorded 6,100 fewer beneficiaries, the 10th consecutive month of year-over-year declines. The number of beneficiaries was little changed in the census metropolitan area of Québec.

In Ontario, most large centres posted declines, most notably Greater Sudbury, Guelph, Belleville, Tillsonburg, and Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo. In Toronto, the number fell by 16,600 to 71,300, the 10th consecutive month of year-over-year declines.

In Alberta, all 12 large centres had fewer beneficiaries in December compared with December 2009. The pace of decline was fastest in Brooks, Camrose, Red Deer, Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat and Calgary. The number of beneficiaries fell year-over-year for the ninth consecutive month in both Calgary and Edmonton. In Calgary, the number fell by 6,700 to 13,000, while in Edmonton, it declined by 3,500 to 13,900.

In British Columbia, most large centres had fewer beneficiaries in December than a year earlier. The rate of decline was most pronounced in Fort St. John, Port Alberni, Campbell River and Prince George. In Vancouver, 32,400 people received regular benefits in December, down 3,700 from a year earlier. The number of beneficiaries fell by 600 to 3,900 in Victoria.

Demographic groups

Faster decline in the number of beneficiaries among men than women

Between December 2009 and December 2010, the number of male EI regular beneficiaries fell by 14.9% to 398,800, the 10th consecutive month of year-over-year declines. The pace of decline was fastest among men under 25 years of age (-19.1%) and those aged 25 to 54 (-17.5%). The decline among men aged 55 and over was much slower (-2.7%).

Over this year-long period, the number of female beneficiaries decreased by 6.5% to 250,100, the seventh

consecutive month of year-over-year declines. The most prominent decline was among women under 25 years of age (-15.6%), followed by an 8.5% decline for those aged 25 to 54. In contrast, there was a 5.4% increase among women aged 55 and over.

Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*, choose *Subject* then *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance for January will be released on March 24.

A set of maps, *Employment Insurance Statistics Maps*, December 2010 (73-002-X, free), is now available online. The maps show percent changes in the number of people receiving regular EI benefits for all census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations in Canada. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Dominique Pérusse (613-951-4064), Labour Statistics Division.

Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory

	November 2010 ^P	December 2010 ^P	November to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010	November to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Seasonally adjusted						
	number		change in number		% change	
Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits						
Canada	669,060	659,660	-9,400	-85,260	-1.4	-11.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	37,760	36,840	-920	-3,030	-2.4	-7.6
Prince Edward Island	8,770	8,540	-230	-80	-2.6	-0.9
Nova Scotia	34,280	33,200	-1,080	-240	-3.2	-0.7
New Brunswick	34,410	33,550	-860	-1,320	-2.5	-3.8
Quebec	188,120	186,030	-2,090	-10,980	-1.1	-5.6
Ontario	210,400	206,800	-3,600	-41,200	-1.7	-16.6
Manitoba	15,760	15,200	-560	-1,320	-3.6	-8.0
Saskatchewan	12,920	12,600	-320	-630	-2.5	-4.8
Alberta	47,120	46,780	-340	-20,270	-0.7	-30.2
British Columbia	80,380	78,930	-1,450	-8,450	-1.8	-9.7
Yukon	970	960	-10	-90	-1.0	-8.6
Northwest Territories	940	960	20	20	2.1	2.1
Nunavut	530	520	-10	10	-1.9	2.0
Initial and renewal claims received						
Canada	248,000	248,970	970	-8,200	0.4	-3.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,050	9,050	0	-190	0.0	-2.1
Prince Edward Island	2,520	2,440	-80	-140	-3.2	-5.4
Nova Scotia	10,220	9,830	-390	-310	-3.8	-3.1
New Brunswick	10,370	9,790	-580	-430	-5.6	-4.2
Quebec	69,930	73,390	3,460	-2,970	4.9	-3.9
Ontario	81,610	82,580	970	950	1.2	1.2
Manitoba	7,920	7,690	-230	-970	-2.9	-11.2
Saskatchewan	6,270	5,760	-510	-740	-8.1	-11.4
Alberta	21,080	20,550	-530	-3,580	-2.5	-14.8
British Columbia	29,330	28,610	-720	-2,120	-2.5	-6.9
Yukon	320	320	0	0	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	360	330	-30	0	-8.3	0.0
Nunavut	210	220	10	20	4.8	10.0

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, province and territory

	December 2009	December 2010 ^P	December 2009 to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Canada				
Both sexes	736,020	648,960	-87,060	-11.8
Under 25 years	78,660	64,350	-14,310	-18.2
25 to 54 years	517,520	444,520	-73,000	-14.1
55 years and over	139,850	140,090	240	0.2
Men	468,590	398,830	-69,760	-14.9
Under 25 years	57,110	46,180	-10,930	-19.1
25 to 54 years	321,550	265,190	-56,360	-17.5
55 years and over	89,930	87,460	-2,470	-2.7
Women	267,430	250,130	-17,300	-6.5
Under 25 years	21,540	18,170	-3,370	-15.6
25 to 54 years	195,970	179,330	-16,640	-8.5
55 years and over	49,920	52,630	2,710	5.4
Newfoundland and Labrador				
Both sexes	42,330	38,710	-3,620	-8.6
Under 25 years	3,970	3,400	-570	-14.4
25 to 54 years	28,670	25,310	-3,360	-11.7
55 years and over	9,690	10,000	310	3.2
Men	25,490	23,030	-2,460	-9.7
Women	16,840	15,680	-1,160	-6.9
Prince Edward Island				
Both sexes	10,490	10,170	-320	-3.1
Under 25 years	1,020	970	-50	-4.9
25 to 54 years	6,800	6,440	-360	-5.3
55 years and over	2,680	2,770	90	3.4
Men	6,220	5,980	-240	-3.9
Women	4,270	4,200	-70	-1.6
Nova Scotia				
Both sexes	33,100	32,670	-430	-1.3
Under 25 years	3,570	3,450	-120	-3.4
25 to 54 years	22,640	21,870	-770	-3.4
55 years and over	6,900	7,340	440	6.4
Men	20,010	19,560	-450	-2.2
Women	13,100	13,110	10	0.1
New Brunswick				
Both sexes	37,170	35,310	-1,860	-5.0
Under 25 years	3,230	3,060	-170	-5.3
25 to 54 years	25,460	23,310	-2,150	-8.4
55 years and over	8,470	8,930	460	5.4
Men	24,060	22,970	-1,090	-4.5
Women	13,110	12,330	-780	-5.9
Quebec				
Both sexes	202,410	189,870	-12,540	-6.2
Under 25 years	22,560	19,840	-2,720	-12.1
25 to 54 years	139,360	127,850	-11,510	-8.3
55 years and over	40,490	42,180	1,690	4.2
Men	130,570	119,970	-10,600	-8.1
Women	71,840	69,900	-1,940	-2.7
Ontario				
Both sexes	226,510	188,190	-38,320	-16.9
Under 25 years	22,320	17,290	-5,030	-22.5
25 to 54 years	165,270	134,050	-31,220	-18.9
55 years and over	38,930	36,860	-2,070	-5.3
Men	142,050	113,130	-28,920	-20.4
Women	84,460	75,060	-9,400	-11.1

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, province and territory

	December 2009	December 2010 ^P	December 2009 to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Manitoba				
Both sexes	16,930	15,390	-1,540	-9.1
Under 25 years	2,290	2,010	-280	-12.2
25 to 54 years	11,640	10,350	-1,290	-11.1
55 years and over	3,010	3,040	30	1.0
Men	12,120	10,620	-1,500	-12.4
Women	4,820	4,770	-50	-1.0
Saskatchewan				
Both sexes	13,670	12,680	-990	-7.2
Under 25 years	1,670	1,400	-270	-16.2
25 to 54 years	9,280	8,530	-750	-8.1
55 years and over	2,710	2,750	40	1.5
Men	9,830	8,580	-1,250	-12.7
Women	3,830	4,090	260	6.8
Alberta				
Both sexes	60,890	43,650	-17,240	-28.3
Under 25 years	7,260	4,410	-2,850	-39.3
25 to 54 years	43,900	30,550	-13,350	-30.4
55 years and over	9,730	8,690	-1,040	-10.7
Men	40,380	26,720	-13,660	-33.8
Women	20,510	16,940	-3,570	-17.4
British Columbia				
Both sexes	89,420	79,370	-10,050	-11.2
Under 25 years	10,470	8,260	-2,210	-21.1
25 to 54 years	62,230	54,070	-8,160	-13.1
55 years and over	16,720	17,040	320	1.9
Men	55,800	46,410	-9,390	-16.8
Women	33,620	32,960	-660	-2.0
Yukon				
Both sexes	1,340	1,210	-130	-9.7
Under 25 years	130	110	-20	-15.4
25 to 54 years	900	820	-80	-8.9
55 years and over	300	290	-10	-3.3
Men	880	730	-150	-17.0
Women	450	480	30	6.7
Northwest Territories				
Both sexes	1,020	1,040	20	2.0
Under 25 years	110	90	-20	-18.2
25 to 54 years	770	800	30	3.9
55 years and over	150	150	0	0.0
Men	710	710	0	0.0
Women	320	330	10	3.1
Nunavut				
Both sexes	530	520	-10	-1.9
Under 25 years	60	60	0	0.0
25 to 54 years	420	420	0	0.0
55 years and over	50	40	-10	-20.0
Men	390	340	-50	-12.8
Women	130	180	50	38.5

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by census metropolitan areas¹

	December 2009	December 2010 ^P	December 2009 to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Newfoundland and Labrador				
St. John's	5,350	4,620	-730	-13.6
Nova Scotia				
Halifax	6,020	5,650	-370	-6.1
New Brunswick				
Saint John	2,550	2,550	0	0.0
Quebec				
Saguenay	5,020	4,230	-790	-15.7
Québec	11,510	11,580	70	0.6
Sherbrooke	3,420	3,200	-220	-6.4
Trois-Rivières	3,980	4,080	100	2.5
Montréal	70,990	64,880	-6,110	-8.6
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,410	3,470	60	1.8
Ontario				
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	7,840	7,310	-530	-6.8
Kingston	1,770	1,640	-130	-7.3
Oshawa	6,370	4,980	-1,390	-21.8
Toronto	87,910	71,330	-16,580	-18.9
Hamilton	10,930	9,120	-1,810	-16.6
St. Catharines–Niagara	9,950	8,320	-1,630	-16.4
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	8,780	6,080	-2,700	-30.8
London	8,020	7,020	-1,000	-12.5
Windsor	6,610	5,630	-980	-14.8
Greater Sudbury	4,690	2,660	-2,030	-43.3
Thunder Bay	2,480	1,760	-720	-29.0
Manitoba				
Winnipeg	8,740	7,560	-1,180	-13.5
Saskatchewan				
Regina	1,770	1,470	-300	-16.9
Saskatoon	2,300	2,240	-60	-2.6
Alberta				
Calgary	19,680	12,990	-6,690	-34.0
Edmonton	17,340	13,860	-3,480	-20.1
British Columbia				
Abbotsford–Mission	4,590	4,310	-280	-6.1
Vancouver	36,070	32,400	-3,670	-10.2
Victoria	4,480	3,900	-580	-12.9

^P preliminary

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.



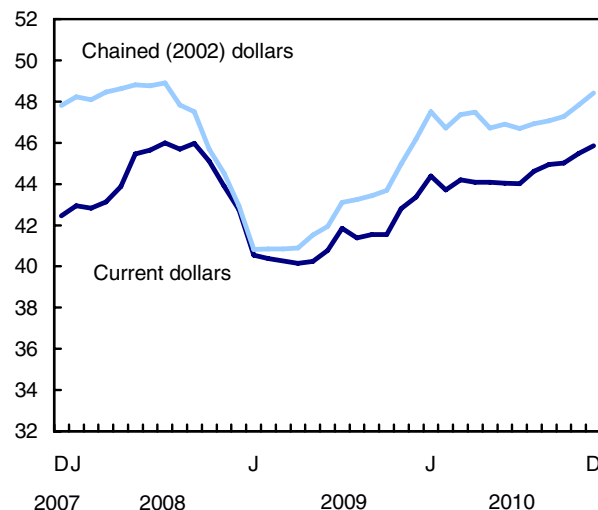
Wholesale trade

December 2010

Wholesale sales increased for a fifth consecutive month in December, rising by 0.8% to \$45.9 billion. Overall, six of the seven subsectors reported gains, representing almost all of wholesale sales.

Wholesale sales increase for the fifth consecutive month

\$ billions



In volume terms, wholesale sales were up 1.2% in December.

Nearly half of December's gain came from the machinery, equipment and supplies, and the motor vehicle and parts subsectors.

The machinery, equipment and supplies subsector accounted for more than one-third of the rise in wholesale sales in December. Sales for this subsector increased 1.3% to \$9.9 billion. This was the eighth monthly increase in 2010 for this subsector.

Sales for the motor vehicle and parts subsector rose by 1.2%, largely reflecting higher sales by wholesalers of new motor vehicle parts and accessories.

The personal and household goods subsector advanced by 0.8% in December, after falling by 1.3% in November.

The sales of food, beverages and tobacco products rose by 0.6%. Sales in this subsector have been strong throughout most of 2010.

The farm products subsector (-6.0%) was the only subsector that saw a drop in sales in December, representing less than 2% of wholesale sales.

Note to readers

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

All annual comparisons in this release use the sum of unadjusted monthly estimates. With the release of data in April, seasonally adjusted monthly figures for 2010 will be revised to equal the sum of the unadjusted estimates.

Wholesale 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 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.

Sales up in most provinces

Sales rose in seven provinces in December, while wholesalers in Quebec, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island recorded lower sales.

Wholesale sales in Ontario rose by 1.0% to \$23.3 billion in December. This growth was mainly a result of higher sales in the motor vehicle and parts subsector and the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector.

Saskatchewan posted the highest provincial growth rate in December. Sales in the province rose by 5.5%, largely as a result of increased sales in the agricultural supplies industry. This was the fifth sales increase in Saskatchewan in six months.

In Quebec, wholesale sales edged down 0.2% in December, following a 2.9% advance in November.

Inventories down

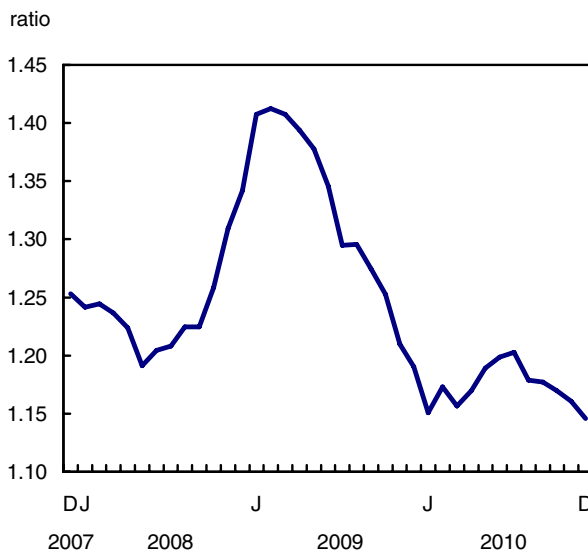
Inventories fell by 0.5% in December to \$52.5 billion. Overall, 14 of the 25 industries registered lower inventories.

The largest decrease was in the inventories of the construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies (-2.8%). This decrease was offset by an inventory gain of 7.1% by motor vehicle wholesalers.

The decline in wholesalers' inventories, combined with increased sales, led to a decrease in the inventory-to-sales ratio, which fell from 1.16 in November to 1.15 in December.

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 edges down in December



Wholesale sales bounce back 2010

After declining in 2009, as a result of the global economic downturn caused by the financial crisis,

wholesale sales increased by 8.0% from 2009 to over \$530 billion in 2010.

The seven component subsectors in wholesale trade registered increases in 2010. The motor vehicle and parts subsector was responsible for most of the gains in 2010, followed by wholesalers of the building materials and supplies subsector.

Wholesale sales increased in all provinces and territories in 2010.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

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

Wholesale trade data for January will be released on March 17.

To obtain data, or general information, contact Client Services (613-951-3549; toll-free 1-877-421-3067; wholesaleinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karim El hassani at 613-951-0608 (karim.elhassani@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Wholesale merchants' sales by industry

	December 2009	November 2010 ^r	December 2010 ^p	November to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	43,350	45,477	45,852	0.8	5.8
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	35,901	38,104	38,393	0.8	6.9
Farm product	504	598	562	-6.0	11.6
Food, beverage and tobacco	8,204	8,683	8,735	0.6	6.5
Food	7,279	7,731	7,784	0.7	6.9
Beverage	422	460	450	-2.1	6.6
Cigarette and tobacco product	502	491	500	1.8	-0.4
Personal and household goods	7,111	6,868	6,920	0.8	-2.7
Textile, clothing and footwear	905	902	930	3.2	2.8
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	732	786	762	-3.1	4.0
Home furnishings	496	523	505	-3.5	1.8
Personal goods	950	739	760	2.8	-19.9
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,335	3,231	3,317	2.7	-0.5
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	F	686	645	-5.9	F
Motor vehicle and parts	7,449	7,373	7,459	1.2	0.1
Motor vehicle	5,913	5,572	5,599	0.5	-5.3
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,495	1,751	1,808	3.2	21.0
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	49	53	6.6	F
Building material and supplies	5,871	6,270	6,316	0.7	7.6
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	1,916	2,047	2,006	-2.0	4.7
Metal service centres	1,058	1,357	1,441	6.2	36.3
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,897	2,866	2,869	0.1	-1.0
Machinery, equipment and supplies	8,566	9,796	9,923	1.3	15.8
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	953	1,059	1,053	-0.6	10.4
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	2,531	3,182	3,257	2.4	28.7
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,749	3,153	3,290	4.3	19.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,333	2,403	2,324	-3.3	-0.4
Miscellaneous	5,647	5,889	5,936	0.8	5.1
Recyclable material	721	643	668	3.9	-7.4
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	666	700	719	2.6	7.8
Agricultural supplies	1,302	1,538	1,652	7.4	26.9
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	953	1,148	1,138	-0.8	19.5
Other miscellaneous	2,005	1,861	1,759	-5.5	-12.2

^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

	December 2009	November 2010 ^r	December 2010 ^p	November to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Canada	43,350	45,477	45,852	0.8	5.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	279	297	304	2.4	9.0
Prince Edward Island	36	46	45	-2.6	22.7
Nova Scotia	597	631	637	0.9	6.7
New Brunswick	464	487	492	1.0	5.9
Quebec	8,301	8,540	8,525	-0.2	2.7
Ontario	22,628	23,076	23,301	1.0	3.0
Manitoba	1,096	1,205	1,205	-0.1	9.9
Saskatchewan	1,326	1,572	1,659	5.5	25.1
Alberta	4,608	5,499	5,545	0.8	20.3
British Columbia	3,950	4,051	4,067	0.4	3.0
Yukon	11	11	10	-4.1	-3.5
Northwest Territories	48	54	53	-2.6	10.5
Nunavut	5	6	9	55.8	86.0

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry

	December 2009	November 2010 ^r	December 2010 ^p	November to December 2010	December 2009 to December 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	51,612	52,782	52,545	-0.5	1.8
Farm product	154	162	174	7.7	13.1
Food	4,206	4,247	4,209	-0.9	0.1
Beverage	237	236	233	-1.3	-1.9
Cigarette and tobacco product	248	239	246	2.9	-0.9
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,543	1,801	1,778	-1.2	15.2
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	688	811	787	-3.0	14.4
Home furnishings	918	1,023	1,020	-0.3	11.2
Personal goods	1,503	1,247	1,272	2.0	-15.4
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,178	4,181	4,140	-1.0	-0.9
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	619	642	628	-2.2	1.5
Motor vehicle	3,516	3,123	3,345	7.1	-4.9
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,013	3,091	3,015	-2.5	0.1
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	72	72	0.2	F
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,753	2,949	2,981	1.1	8.3
Metal service centres	2,326	2,693	2,652	-1.5	14.0
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,005	4,494	4,451	-1.0	11.1
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,045	3,155	3,173	0.6	4.2
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	7,159	7,267	7,062	-2.8	-1.3
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,539	1,610	1,532	-4.9	-0.5
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,220	3,117	3,174	1.8	-1.4
Recyclable material	366	352	339	-3.7	-7.4
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	602	608	610	0.4	1.5
Agricultural supplies	2,381	2,429	2,390	-1.6	0.4
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,038	971	989	1.8	-4.8
Other miscellaneous	2,280	2,261	2,272	0.5	-0.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

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

Livestock estimates

As of January 1, 2011

As of January 1, 2011, cattle inventories on Canadian farms had declined to their lowest level for the month of January since 1995. At the same time, inventories of hogs and sheep were up slightly on a year-over-year basis.

Canadian farmers had just under 12.5 million cattle on their farms as of January 1, down 3.4% from the same date a year earlier. The cattle herd has declined steadily since the peak in 2005.

Hog producers reported 11.9 million hogs, up 0.6% and the first increase on a year-over-year basis since April 1, 2006. The number of sheep rose 1.0% to 813,600 head.

Cattle inventories fell despite an improvement in prices during the year. The inventory of beef cows fell 2.7%, continuing a downward trend that started in January 2006. This more than offset an increase in inventories of beef replacement heifers. The increase in replacement heifers indicated producers were replenishing the herd with younger cows.

Farmers reported a 0.6% year-over-year increase in the dairy cow herd to meet milk production quotas that have risen slightly over the last several months.

About 96,430 farms reported cattle and calves as of January 1, 2011, down 2.9% from the same date in 2010 and a 5.3% decline from the same date in 2009. Since 2004, beef producers have accounted for more than 84% of the number of cattle farm operations in Canada.

In 2010, cattle and calf slaughter rose 0.9% from 2009 to 3.7 million head, despite the loss of slaughter plant capacity in Saskatchewan. About 1.1 million head of cattle and calves were exported in 2010, up 4.7% from 2009 but down 30.1% from 2008.

As of January 1, 2011, there were 6,985 hog farms in Canada, down 5.6% from the same date in 2010. These farms reported 1.3 million sows and gilts, down 1.1% from the same date a year earlier and a 5.5% decline from the same date two years earlier. Sow inventories in 2010 have not been at this level since 1999.

Domestic hog slaughter totalled 21.3 million head in 2010, a 2.4% drop from 2009. The hog slaughter in the fourth quarter of 2010 was down 2.4% from the same quarter in 2009.

Canada exported 5.7 million hogs in 2010, down 10.1% from 2009. This was a 38.8% decline from 2008, and a 42.9% drop from the peak in 2007.

Stronger sheep prices in 2010 were an incentive for sheep producers to retain more animals in the breeding herd and cut down on market lambs. The number of ewes (+1.1%) and replacement lambs (+7.6%) were up compared with January 2010, while the inventory of market lambs fell 1.7%.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0004, 003-0026, 003-0028, 003-0030 to 003-0032 and 003-0083 to 003-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3460.

The reports *Cattle Statistics*, 2011, Vol. 10, no. 1 (23-012-X, free), *Hog Statistics*, fourth quarter 2010, Vol. 10, no. 1 (23-010-X, free), and *Sheep Statistics*, 2011, Vol. 10, no. 1 (23-011-X, free), are now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects* then *Agriculture*.

For general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Plourde (613-951-8716, robert.plourde@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

□

Cattle inventories

	January 1, 2010 ^r	July 1, 2010 ^r	January 1, 2011	July 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011	January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	12,905.0	13,975.0	12,460.0	-10.8	-3.4
East	3,331.0	3,409.0	3,250.0	-4.7	-2.4
Atlantic	255.1	243.1	245.0	0.8	-4.0
Quebec	1,310.0	1,360.0	1,280.0	-5.9	-2.3
Ontario	1,765.9	1,805.9	1,725.0	-4.5	-2.3
West	9,574.0	10,566.0	9,210.0	-12.8	-3.8
Manitoba	1,220.0	1,350.0	1,160.0	-14.1	-4.9
Saskatchewan	2,645.0	3,055.0	2,580.0	-15.5	-2.5
Alberta	5,190.0	5,505.0	4,950.0	-10.1	-4.6
British Columbia	519.0	656.0	520.0	-20.7	0.2

^r revised

Hog inventories

	January 1, 2010	October 1, 2010 ^r	January 1, 2011	October 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011	January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	11,835.0	11,885.0	11,910.0	0.2	0.6
East	6,920.0	6,917.0	6,930.0	0.2	0.1
Atlantic	129.2	132.0	134.5	1.9	4.1
Quebec	3,920.0	3,935.0	3,900.0	-0.9	-0.5
Ontario	2,870.8	2,850.0	2,895.5	1.6	0.9
West	4,915.0	4,968.0	4,980.0	0.2	1.3
Manitoba	2,530.0	2,620.0	2,620.0	0.0	3.6
Saskatchewan	780.0	770.0	790.0	2.6	1.3
Alberta	1,505.0	1,500.0	1,490.0	-0.7	-1.0
British Columbia	100.0	78.0	80.0	2.6	-20.0

^r revised

Sheep inventories

	January 1, 2010 ^r	July 1, 2010 ^r	January 1, 2011	July 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011	January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2011
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	805.5	1,047.1	813.6	-22.3	1.0
East	487.0	633.6	493.4	-22.1	1.3
Atlantic	30.0	43.6	35.4	-18.8	18.0
Quebec	238.5	274.5	226.0	-17.7	-5.2
Ontario	218.5	315.5	232.0	-26.5	6.2
West	318.5	413.5	320.2	-22.6	0.5
Manitoba	59.0	65.0	53.0	-18.5	-10.2
Saskatchewan	87.5	114.0	90.0	-21.1	2.9
Alberta	127.0	179.0	132.7	-25.9	4.5
British Columbia	45.0	55.5	44.5	-19.8	-1.1

^r revised

Travel between Canada and other countries December 2010

Canadian residents took 4.8 million trips abroad in December, up 2.3% from November. The majority of these trips (4.1 million) were to the United States, up 3.3% in December.

Same day car travel by Canadian residents to the United States increased 6.7% from November to 2.3 million trips in December. This was the highest figure since November 2007.

At the same time, overnight car travel by Canadian residents to the United States declined 2.6% to 1.0 million trips. Overnight travel by plane rose 1.1% from November to 592,000 trips in December.

While the Canadian dollar averaged 99.2 US cents in December, it ended the month above parity at US \$1.01.

Canadian residents took 760,000 overnight trips to overseas countries in December, down 2.5% compared with November.

Overall, travel to Canada declined 1.2% to 2.0 million trips.

Travel from the United States declined 1.6% to 1.7 million trips in December. Overnight plane travel by American residents posted the largest decline, down 6.8% compared with November. Same-day car travel also fell in December, as US residents took 600,000 trips to Canada during the month, down 0.6% from November.

Overseas residents took 359,000 overnight trips to Canada in December, up 0.6% compared with November. Among the top 12 overseas markets, 7 recorded increases. The number of trips by residents of India (+16.6%) and Japan (+14.4%) recorded the largest increases in December. In contrast, travel from the United Kingdom was down 7.4% and travel from the Netherlands fell by 7.7%.

Note: Monthly data are seasonally adjusted.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The December 2010 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 26, no. 12 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division.

□

Travel between Canada and other countries

	December 2009 ^r	November 2010 ^r	December 2010 ^p	November to December 2010
Seasonally adjusted				
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	4,270	4,718	4,828	2.3
To the United States	3,564	3,938	4,068	3.3
To other countries	707	779	760	-2.5
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,949	2,164	2,310	6.7
Total trips, one or more nights	2,288	2,513	2,475	-1.5
United States ³	1,581	1,733	1,714	-1.1
Car	947	1,054	1,026	-2.6
Plane	547	585	592	1.1
Other modes of transportation	87	94	97	2.8
Other countries ⁴	707	779	760	-2.5
Travel to Canada²	2,015	2,046	2,021	-1.2
From the United States	1,670	1,680	1,654	-1.6
From other countries	345	366	368	0.6
Same-day car trips from the United States	623	604	600	-0.6
Total trips, one or more nights	1,304	1,355	1,330	-1.9
United States ³	967	998	971	-2.8
Car	576	580	570	-1.7
Plane	282	306	285	-6.8
Other modes of transportation	109	112	116	2.8
Other countries ⁴	336	357	359	0.6
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	61	62	57	-7.4
France	34	37	37	-1.4
Germany	26	26	26	0.0
Australia	17	20	22	8.2
Japan	19	17	20	14.4
China	14	16	17	5.6
South Korea	12	14	15	0.4
India	10	11	13	16.6
Mexico	9	11	11	5.8
Hong Kong	10	11	11	-1.1
Netherlands	9	9	8	-7.7
Italy	7	8	8	0.6

^p preliminary

^r revised

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

January 2011

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada increased by 0.1% in January compared with December. The composite index increased by 1.7% compared with January 2010.

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 2010 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will be available in April.

The construction union wage rate indexes for February will be released on March 17.

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

Primary iron and steel

December 2010

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for December. Revised data on primary iron for November are also available.

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

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

The December 2010 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. ■

Steel pipe and tubing

December 2010

Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.

The December 2010 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. ■

New products and studies

Canadian Economic Observer, February 2011,
Vol. 24, no. 2
Catalogue number 11-010-X (Print, \$25/\$243)

Hog Statistics, Fourth quarter 2010, Vol. 10, no. 1
Catalogue number 23-010-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Sheep Statistics, 2011, Vol. 10, no. 1
Catalogue number 23-011-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Cattle Statistics, 2011, Vol. 10, no. 1
Catalogue number 23-012-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

International Travel: Advance Information,
December 2010, Vol. 26, no. 12
Catalogue number 66-001-P (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canada's International Transactions in Securities,
December 2010, Vol. 76, no. 12
Catalogue number 67-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Employment Insurance Statistics Maps,
December 2010
Catalogue number 73-002-X (HTML, free)

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
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The Daily	
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Thursday, June 3, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
● Urban transit, 1996 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
● Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was modestly weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4
OTHER RELEASES	
Help-wanted index, May 1997	3
Short-term Expectations Survey	2
Steel primary forms, steel ending May 31, 1997	12
Uggg producer, Apr. 1997	12
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