

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, April 19, 2011**

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### **Consumer Price Index, March 2011**

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Consumer prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to March, the largest year-over-year increase since September 2008. This advance follows a 2.2% increase in the 12 months to February. The overall increase in March was broad based. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.8% from February to March.

### **Wholesale trade, February 2011**

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Wholesale sales fell 0.6% in February to \$46.9 billion, largely as a result of lower sales in the motor vehicle and parts and the miscellaneous subsectors. This decline followed six months of consecutive increases.

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## Releases

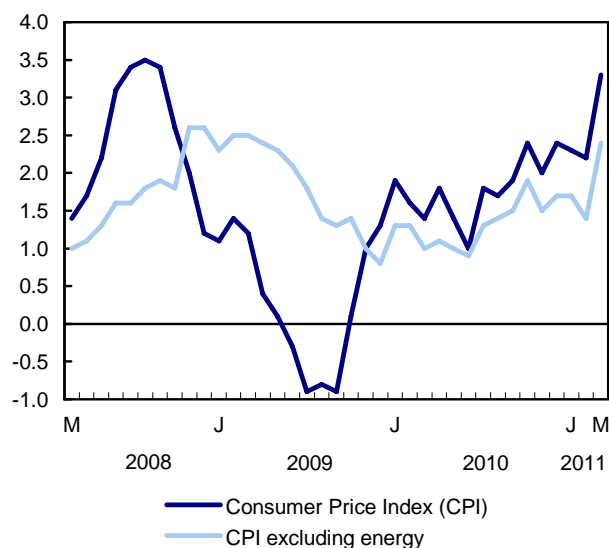
# Consumer Price Index

March 2011

Consumer prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to March, the largest year-over-year increase since September 2008. This advance follows a 2.2% increase in the 12 months to February.

### The 12-month change in the CPI and the CPI excluding energy

12-month % change



Energy prices increased 12.8% during the 12 months to March, following a 10.6% advance in February. Gasoline prices increased 18.9% in March, following a 15.7% gain in the 12 months to February. Prices for fuel oil and other fuels increased 31.3%, while electricity prices rose 4.3%.

Excluding energy, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.4% in the 12 months to March, following a 1.4% increase in February.

Prices for food purchased from stores rose 3.7% in March, the largest year-over-year advance since August 2009. This increase follows a 2.0% gain in February.

Other items that contributed significantly to the pickup in prices were travel services, clothing, and the purchase of passenger vehicles.

### Note to readers

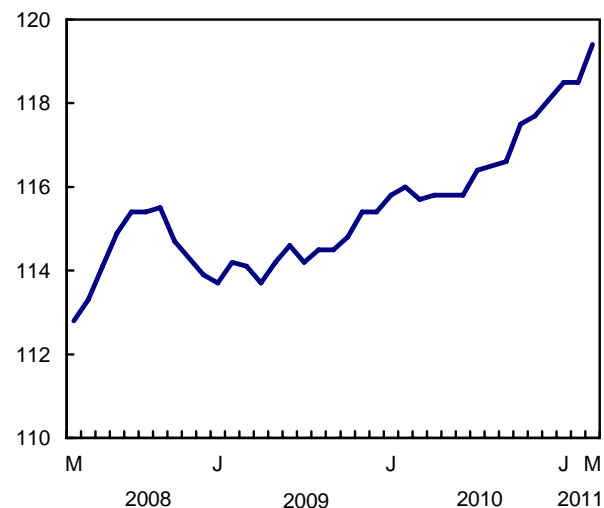
The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; heating oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

### Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI increases

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.8% from February to March, the largest increase since October 2010. The food index, which was up for the fourth consecutive month, rose 1.6% in March. The transportation index, which includes gasoline, advanced 0.6% in March, following a 0.3% increase in February and continuing its string of increases since July 2010.

## Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index posts largest increase since October 2010

index (2002=100)



Seasonally adjusted, the clothing and footwear index posted a monthly increase of 2.1% in March, after remaining unchanged in February. The recreation, education and reading index, which includes travel services, increased 0.5% in March, following a 0.2%

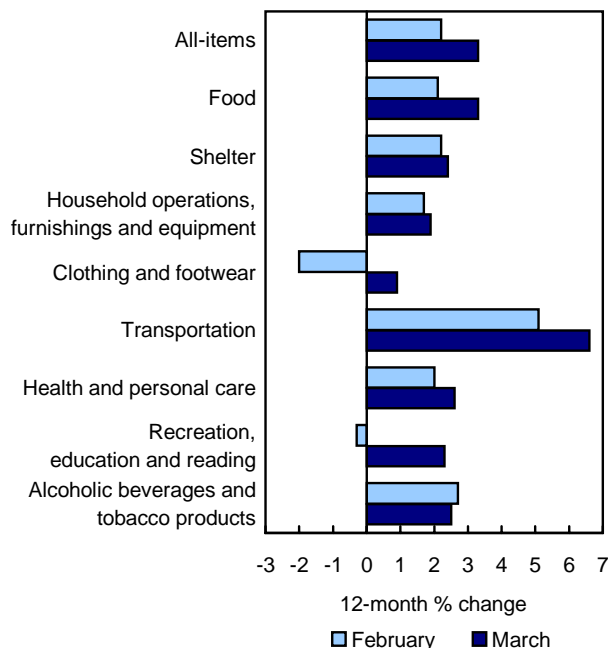
advance in February. This marks the seventh straight monthly increase for this index.

### 12-month change: Prices increase in all eight major components

On a year-over-year basis, prices increased in all major components of the CPI in March. Except for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, prices rose at a faster rate in March than in February.

The largest increase occurred in the transportation component, where prices rose 6.6% in the 12 months to March, after advancing 5.1% in February.

Prices increase in all eight major components



In addition to higher gasoline prices, consumers paid more for passenger vehicle insurance premiums and for air transportation. Prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles rose 0.2% in the 12 months to March, following a 0.9% decrease in February.

Food prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to March, following a 2.1% rise in February. Prices for fresh vegetables rose 18.6%, as bad weather in Mexico and

the southern United States reduced supply. The cost of meat rose 5.0% in March, as beef and pork prices increased. Higher prices were also recorded for bakery and cereal products as well as for dairy products.

Shelter costs rose 2.4% in March, after increasing 2.2% in February. In addition to higher prices for fuel oil and other fuels, as well as for electricity, homeowners' replacement cost increased 3.2% in the 12 months to March.

However, mortgage interest cost, which measures the change in the interest portion of payments on outstanding mortgage debt, and natural gas prices continued to decline.

The recreation, education and reading price index increased 2.3% in the 12 months to March, after decreasing 0.3% in February. The difference can be mainly explained by traveller accommodation prices, which increased 1.7% in March compared with the same month last year, after posting a 10.7% decline in February. The price decline in February was more the result of higher prices for hotel rooms in February 2010 during the Winter Olympics in Vancouver rather than recent price decreases.

Prices for household operations, furnishings and equipment advanced 1.9% between March 2010 and March 2011. Within this component, higher prices were recorded for child care and domestic services.

The health and personal care price index rose 2.6% in March, following a 2.0% increase in February. Consumers paid more for non-prescribed medicines, but less for prescribed medicines.

For alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, prices rose 2.5% in March with cigarette prices increasing 5.7%.

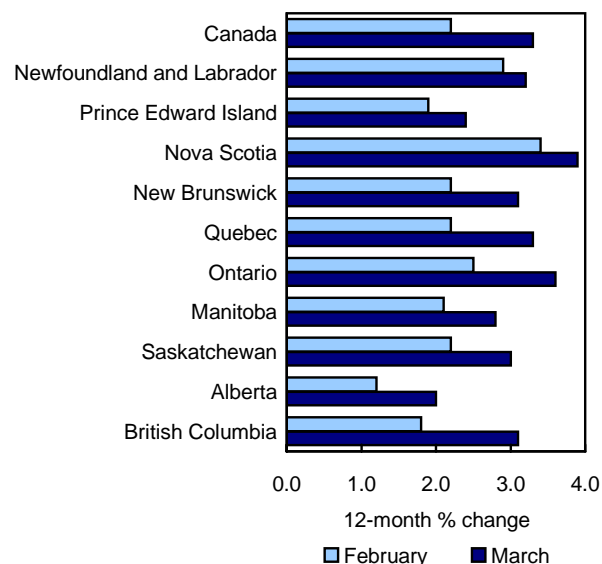
Prices for clothing and footwear rose 0.9% in the 12 months to March, the first year-over-year increase since November 2009. The advance follows a 2.0% decline in February. This year in March, fewer clothing items were on discount compared to the same month last year.

### The provinces

Consumer prices rose at a faster rate in every province in March compared with February, year over year. Gasoline continued to be a major factor contributing to the increase in consumer prices in all provinces.

In the 12 months to March, Nova Scotia (+3.9%) posted the largest increase in consumer prices.

#### Consumer prices increase at a faster rate in all provinces, year over year



In Ontario, consumer prices rose 3.6% in the 12 months to March, after advancing 2.5% in February. Gasoline prices in Ontario rose 20.4% in March, following an 18.3% increase in February. Prices for food purchased from stores increased 3.6% in March, after advancing 1.8% in February. Higher prices were observed for fresh vegetables as well as for bakery products.

Consumer prices in Quebec increased 3.3% in the 12 months to March, following a 2.2% advance in February. Prices for gasoline rose 18.5% in March. Consumers paid 4.6% more for food purchased from stores in March, after paying 1.7% more in February. Prices rose for fresh vegetables, meat and dairy products.

Prices in British Columbia went up 3.1% in the 12 months to March, following a 1.8% increase in February. Much of the difference can be attributed to traveller accommodation, where prices decreased at a much slower rate in March (-3.1%) than they did in February (-38.1%), from a year earlier.

Drivers in British Columbia paid 16.3% more for gasoline in March compared with the same month in 2010. This rise follows a 12.6% increase in February. Consumers also paid more for food purchased from restaurants and electricity.

#### The Bank of Canada's core index

The Bank of Canada's core index advanced 1.7% in the 12 months to March, following a 0.9% rise in February. The higher increase in March was mainly a result of larger price increases for travel services, clothing, and the purchase of passenger vehicles.

The seasonally adjusted monthly core index increased 0.5% in March, the largest increase since November 2008. The March increase follows a 0.1% decline in February.

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 March 2011 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 90, no. 3 (62-001-X, free), is now available from *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. A more detailed analysis of the CPI is available in this publication.

The Consumer Price Index for April will be released on May 20.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-2848; [cpd-info-dpc@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:cpd-info-dpc@statcan.gc.ca)), Consumer Prices Division.

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## Consumer Price Index and major components, Canada

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	March 2010	February 2011	March 2011	February to March 2011	March 2010 to March 2011
Not seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>118.1</b>	<b>119.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Food	17.04	123.1	125.3	127.2	1.5	3.3
Shelter	26.62	121.7	124.5	124.6	0.1	2.4
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	108.3	110.1	110.4	0.3	1.9
Clothing and footwear	5.36	93.6	89.4	94.4	5.6	0.9
Transportation	19.88	117.1	122.6	124.8	1.8	6.6
Health and personal care	4.73	113.5	116.0	116.4	0.3	2.6
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	102.5	103.8	104.9	1.1	2.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	131.5	135.0	134.8	-0.1	2.5
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
Core Consumer Price Index <sup>3</sup>	82.71	115.0	116.2	117.0	0.7	1.7
All-items excluding energy	90.62	114.1	115.8	116.8	0.9	2.4
Energy	9.38	134.5	146.3	151.7	3.7	12.8
Gasoline	4.92	147.6	164.6	175.5	6.6	18.9
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	112.1	113.7	114.4	0.6	2.1
Goods	48.78	109.0	110.8	113.0	2.0	3.7
Services	51.22	122.2	125.3	125.7	0.3	2.9

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](http://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, consult the Bank of Canada website ([www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm)).

## Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	March 2010	February 2011	March 2011	February to March 2011	March 2010 to March 2011
Not seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>118.1</b>	<b>119.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.27	117.1	119.7	120.9	1.0	3.2
Prince Edward Island	0.35	119.3	121.1	122.2	0.9	2.4
Nova Scotia	2.56	117.7	120.9	122.3	1.2	3.9
New Brunswick	1.97	115.8	118.2	119.4	1.0	3.1
Quebec	21.05	114.5	116.7	118.3	1.4	3.3
Ontario	41.22	115.3	118.0	119.4	1.2	3.6
Manitoba	3.06	114.7	117.0	117.9	0.8	2.8
Saskatchewan	2.64	117.9	120.3	121.4	0.9	3.0
Alberta	11.43	122.1	124.2	124.5	0.2	2.0
British Columbia	14.29	112.6	115.2	116.1	0.8	3.1
Whitehorse	0.06	113.4	115.9	117.0	0.9	3.2
Yellowknife	0.08	116.9	119.2	120.5	1.1	3.1
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	110.7	112.3	112.6	0.3	1.7

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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm)).

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## Consumer Price Index and major components

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	January 2011	February 2011	March 2011	January to February 2011	February to March 2011
Seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>118.5</b>	<b>118.5</b>	<b>119.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Food	17.04	124.6	124.9	126.9	0.2	1.6
Shelter	26.62	124.5	124.5	124.6	0.0	0.1
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	109.9	109.9	110.3	0.0	0.4
Clothing and footwear	5.36	90.3	90.3	92.2	0.0	2.1
Transportation	19.88	123.9	124.3	125.1	0.3	0.6
Health and personal care	4.73	116.0	116.4	116.8	0.3	0.3
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	105.0	105.2	105.7	0.2	0.5
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	135.2	135.0	134.8	-0.1	-0.1
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
Core Consumer Price Index <sup>3</sup>	82.71	116.4	116.3	116.9	-0.1	0.5
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	113.9	114.1	114.4	0.2	0.3

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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm)).

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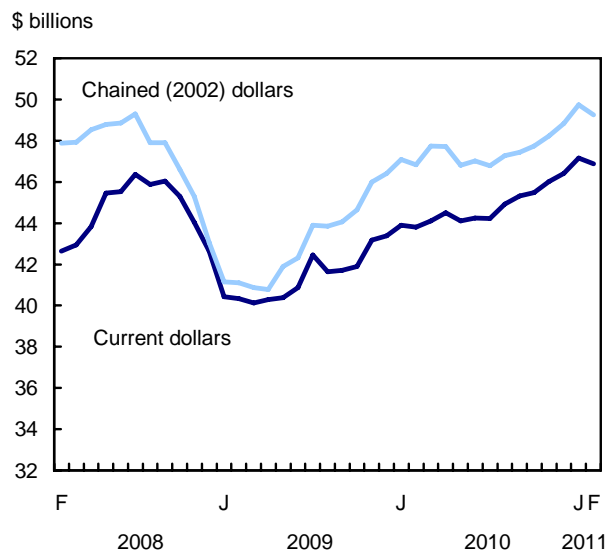
## Wholesale trade

February 2011

Wholesale sales fell 0.6% in February to \$46.9 billion, largely as a result of lower sales in the motor vehicle and parts and the miscellaneous subsectors. This decline followed six months of consecutive increases.

In volume terms, wholesale sales declined 1.0% in February.

### Wholesale sales down for the first time in seven months



Despite the decrease in February, wholesale sales were 16.8% higher than their most recent low in March 2009. Since then, wholesalers have increased in 18 of the past 23 months.

Declines were observed in four of the seven subsectors in February, representing approximately half of the total sales.

### Motor vehicle sales post the largest decrease

Sales in the motor vehicle and parts subsector fell 3.1% in February, owing to decreased sales in the motor vehicle industry. This industry registered a 4.3% decline, partially offsetting the strong growth in January. Sales in this industry have remained relatively stable since the end of 2009.

Sales in the miscellaneous subsector were down 3.5%, reflecting lower sales in all of its component industries. The agricultural supplies industry led the decline, with a 5.6% decrease in sales.

### Note to readers

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

Unadjusted monthly data were revised back to January 2009, while seasonally adjusted data were revised back to January 2006. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of respondent information, correction of information in the data provided, the replacement of estimated figures with actual values (once available), the reclassification of companies within, into and out of the wholesale trade industry and updates to seasonal factors.

Data in volume terms have also been revised back to January 2004.

Wholesale sales in volume terms 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.

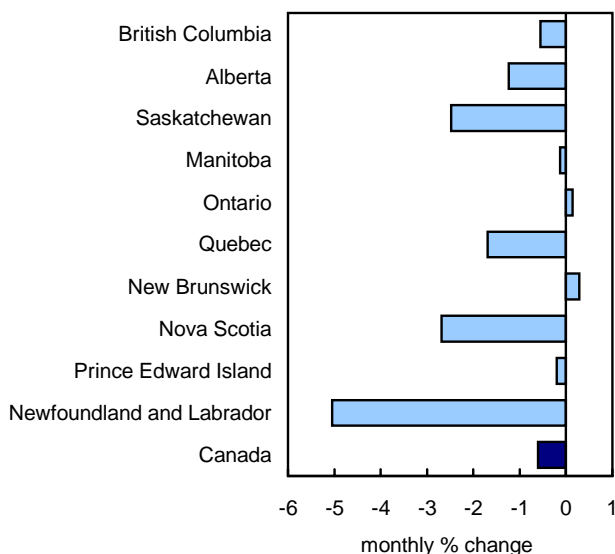
The other subsectors with lower sales included personal and household goods (-0.7%) and farm products (-3.2%).

These decreases were partially offset by a 2.0% sales increase in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector.

### Sales down in most provinces

Sales fell in eight provinces in February, while sales edged up in Ontario and New Brunswick.

### Wholesale sales down in most provinces



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Quebec wholesalers contributed the most to the decline, followed by wholesalers in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

In Quebec, sales were down for the first time in five months, falling 1.7%. This decrease was largely a result of lower sales in the miscellaneous subsector and in the personal and household goods subsector.

In Alberta, sales decreased for a second consecutive month. These declines followed a period of robust growth that began in late 2009, driven by strong sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector.

In Saskatchewan, the 2.5% decrease in February followed a strong sales increase in January.

### **Inventories up slightly**

Inventories rose 0.3% in February to \$54.3 billion. Wholesale inventories have been up since the start of 2010, after falling sharply in 2009.

In February, increases were reported by wholesalers in 14 of the 25 industries, led by the metal service centres industry (+3.3%) and the motor vehicle industry (+2.2%).

The inventory-to-sales ratio edged up from 1.15 in January to 1.16 in February. 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.

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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.**

The February 2011 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-X, free) will be available soon.

Wholesale trade data for March will be released on May 18.

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

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# Wholesale merchants' sales by industry

	February 2010	January 2011 <sup>r</sup>	February 2011 <sup>p</sup>	January to February 2011	February 2010 to February 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
<b>Total, wholesale sales</b>	<b>43,816</b>	<b>47,156</b>	<b>46,872</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers</b>	<b>36,528</b>	<b>39,175</b>	<b>39,137</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Farm product</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Food, beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>8,511</b>	<b>8,948</b>	<b>8,987</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Food	7,599	7,951	8,015	0.8	5.5
Beverage	416	492	460	-6.6	10.6
Cigarette and tobacco product	497	505	512	1.5	3.2
<b>Personal and household goods</b>	<b>7,066</b>	<b>7,021</b>	<b>6,969</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-1.4</b>
Textile, clothing and footwear	844	953	949	-0.4	12.4
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	743	741	692	-6.6	-6.9
Home furnishings	496	516	512	-0.7	3.4
Personal goods	858	776	768	-1.0	-10.4
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,470	3,369	3,379	0.3	-2.6
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	655	665	668	0.4	2.0
<b>Motor vehicle and parts</b>	<b>7,287</b>	<b>7,982</b>	<b>7,734</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Motor vehicle	5,734	6,076	5,812	-4.3	1.4
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,513	1,858	1,873	0.8	23.8
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	41	48	48	1.1	17.7
<b>Building material and supplies</b>	<b>6,113</b>	<b>6,542</b>	<b>6,557</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	1,874	2,066	2,101	1.7	12.1
Metal service centres	1,183	1,422	1,452	2.1	22.8
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	3,056	3,054	3,003	-1.7	-1.7
<b>Machinery, equipment and supplies</b>	<b>8,603</b>	<b>9,779</b>	<b>9,977</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	973	1,041	1,074	3.1	10.4
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	2,640	3,224	3,186	-1.2	20.7
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,789	3,203	3,248	1.4	16.5
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,201	2,310	2,470	6.9	12.2
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>5,710</b>	<b>6,343</b>	<b>6,123</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Recyclable material	645	822	758	-7.9	17.6
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	757	800	782	-2.2	3.3
Agricultural supplies	1,400	1,664	1,571	-5.6	12.2
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	955	1,107	1,099	-0.7	15.2
Other miscellaneous	1,953	1,950	1,913	-1.9	-2.1

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

## Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory

	February 2010	January 2011 <sup>r</sup>	February 2011 <sup>p</sup>	January to February 2011	February 2010 to February 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>43,816</b>	<b>47,156</b>	<b>46,872</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	280	326	310	-5.0	10.5
Prince Edward Island	41	46	46	-0.2	13.5
Nova Scotia	664	660	643	-2.7	-3.3
New Brunswick	481	497	498	0.3	3.6
Quebec	8,526	9,054	8,900	-1.7	4.4
Ontario	22,257	23,815	23,848	0.1	7.2
Manitoba	1,105	1,213	1,212	-0.1	9.7
Saskatchewan	1,472	1,693	1,651	-2.5	12.2
Alberta	4,924	5,555	5,486	-1.2	11.4
British Columbia	4,001	4,229	4,206	-0.5	5.1
Yukon	9	11	11	2.6	29.4
Northwest Territories	51	51	53	4.6	3.1
Nunavut	5	6	7	17.1	27.4

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

## Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry

	February 2010	January 2011 <sup>r</sup>	February 2011 <sup>p</sup>	January to February 2011	February 2010 to February 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
<b>Total, wholesale inventories</b>	<b>51,434</b>	<b>54,129</b>	<b>54,283</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Farm product	163	168	166	-1.7	1.6
Food	4,182	4,303	4,282	-0.5	2.4
Beverage	249	238	259	8.7	3.9
Cigarette and tobacco product	242	229	237	3.5	-2.4
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,506	1,801	1,845	2.4	22.5
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	718	785	776	-1.2	8.1
Home furnishings	963	1,044	1,046	0.1	8.5
Personal goods	1,450	1,284	1,230	-4.2	-15.2
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,134	4,143	4,073	-1.7	-1.5
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	625	620	628	1.3	0.5
Motor vehicle	3,550	3,471	3,549	2.2	0.0
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	2,943	3,063	3,109	1.5	5.7
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	72	76	75	-0.2	4.3
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,677	3,012	2,931	-2.7	9.5
Metal service centres	2,343	2,745	2,835	3.3	21.0
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,205	4,554	4,513	-0.9	7.3
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,060	3,260	3,182	-2.4	4.0
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	6,854	7,253	7,328	1.0	6.9
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,525	1,655	1,702	2.9	11.6
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,379	3,272	3,275	0.1	-3.1
Recyclable material	275	518	564	8.8	105.3
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	632	630	626	-0.6	-0.9
Agricultural supplies	2,475	2,596	2,614	0.7	5.6
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	920	954	949	-0.6	3.1
Other miscellaneous	2,291	2,455	2,491	1.5	8.7

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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



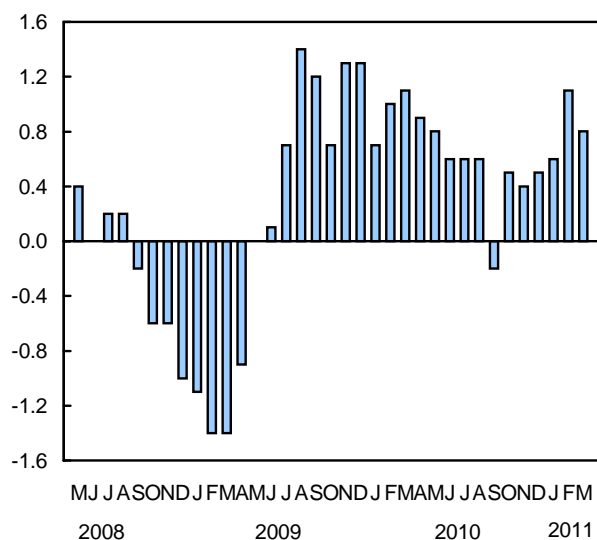
## Leading indicators

March 2011

The composite leading index rose 0.8% in March, after a 1.1% gain in February. Among the 10 components, 8 advanced in March, 1 less than in February.

### Composite leading indicator

smoothed % change



The stock market and the housing index posted the largest gains, with increases of 2.2% and 2.0% respectively. Furniture and appliance sales increased 0.6%, while sales of other durable goods rose 0.3%.

The ratio of manufacturing shipments to inventories rose for the second straight month, as shipments turned up while stocks fell. The average workweek at factories rose for the third month in a row. New orders for durable goods fell 0.6%, after a rebound in February.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the May 2011 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 24, no. 5 (11-010-X, free). For more information on the economy, consult the *Canadian Economic Observer*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162; [ceo@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:ceo@statcan.gc.ca)), Current Economic Analysis Group.

## Leading indicators

	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010	January 2011	February 2011	March 2011	Last month of data available % change
<b>Composite leading indicator (1992=100)</b>	<b>244.1</b>	<b>245.1</b>	<b>246.3</b>	<b>247.9</b>	<b>250.6</b>	<b>252.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Housing index (1992=100) <sup>1</sup>	117.7	120.0	121.6	123.4	125.6	128.1	2.0
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,991	2,979	2,974	2,963	2,959	2,954	-0.2
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	11,993	12,325	12,671	12,999	13,352	13,643	2.2
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>2</sup>	220,827	221,551	222,504	223,701	224,740	225,654	0.4
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) <sup>3</sup>	133.5	133.8	134.4	135.2	136.1	136.9	0.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>							
Average workweek (hours)	36.7	36.8	36.8	37.0	37.4	37.6	0.5
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	23,941	23,926	23,637	23,026	23,233	23,083	-0.6
Shipments/inventories of finished goods <sup>4</sup>	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.92	1.93	1.95	0.02 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Retail trade</b>							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	2,900	2,897	2,894	2,893	2,919	2,937	0.6
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	10,097	10,196	10,341	10,446	10,517	10,545	0.3
<b>Unsmoothed composite leading indicator</b>	<b>248.5</b>	<b>245.9</b>	<b>249.9</b>	<b>253.9</b>	<b>254.8</b>	<b>258.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>

1. Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).

2. Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

3. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.

4. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.

5. Difference from previous month.

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## Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

March 2011

Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 93 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 13.2% in March from March 2010. These airports reported 440,168 movements in March compared with 507,372 movements in March 2010.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.**

A data table with summary information on NAV CANADA Towers is available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

The March 2011 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)* (51-007-X, free) is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

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](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Air fare

Second quarter 2010

The average cost of air fares paid by passengers climbed across all fare type groups in the second quarter.

The average air fare (domestic and international combined) grew by 5.3% from \$222.90 during the second quarter of 2009 to \$234.80 in the same quarter of 2010.

The average domestic air fare (all types) paid by passengers was \$179.10 in the second quarter, up 4.9% from \$170.70 reported during the same quarter of 2009. During the same period, the total average international air fare increased by 2.1% to \$319.40.

Average domestic air fares increased in 9 of the 10 selected Canadian cities of enplanement in the second quarter from the same quarter in 2009. Toronto posted the highest average domestic air fare at \$199.60, followed by Ottawa (\$195.50), Montréal (\$190.60) and Vancouver (\$188.50). These four major cities of enplanement also reported average domestic air fares above the national average. During this

period, year-over-year fare increases ranged from 2.9% in Regina to 9.4% in Montréal, which posted the highest growth in average domestic air fares. Halifax remained relatively unchanged (-0.6%) from the second quarter of 2009, posting a domestic average air fare of \$168.20 in the second quarter of 2010.

**Note:** Average air fares are calculated for each flight stage. When the passenger boards the aircraft at one airport and departs the aircraft at another airport, this is considered a flight stage.

The Fare Basis Survey covers Air Canada, Jazz, Air Canada's Canadian regional code-share partners, Air Transat and WestJet.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0003, 401-0041 and 401-0042.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2708.**

Data tables are 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](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Legal aid

2009/2010

Data on resource and caseload statistics for legal aid in Canada are now available for 2009/2010. The data summarized in the tables are drawn from the Legal Aid Survey, which is conducted annually on a fiscal year basis (from April 1 to March 31).

**Available on CANSIM: tables 258-0001 to 258-0004.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3308.**

The annual report *Legal Aid in Canada: Resource and Caseload Statistics, 2009/2010* (85F0015X, free), is now available. From the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Crime and Justice*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (toll-free 1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

## New products and studies

**Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)**, March 2011  
Catalogue number **51-007-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

**The Consumer Price Index**, March 2011, Vol. 90, no. 3  
Catalogue number **62-001-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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**Canada's International Transactions in Securities**, February 2011, Vol. 77, no. 2  
Catalogue number **67-002-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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