

The Daily

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Health Reports

May 2011 online edition

The May 2011 online issue of *Health Reports*, released today, contains two articles.

The article, "Associations between household food insecurity and health outcomes in the Aboriginal population (excluding reserves)," explores whether household food insecurity (HFI) was a specific correlate of health in the Aboriginal population. Data from the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey were used to examine the relationship between HFI and self-reported health, well-being and health behaviours among adult Aboriginal respondents.

The article, "Psychometric properties, factorial structure, and measurement invariance of the English and French versions of the Medical Outcomes Study social support scale," examines the internal consistency of the English and French versions of the Medical Outcomes Study social support scale, a 19-item survey that measures four dimensions of functional support. Data are from the household component of the longitudinal National Population Health Survey.

The May 2011 online issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 22, no. 2 (82-003-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For information about *Health Reports*, contact Janice Felman (613-951-6446; janice.felman@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division.



Releases

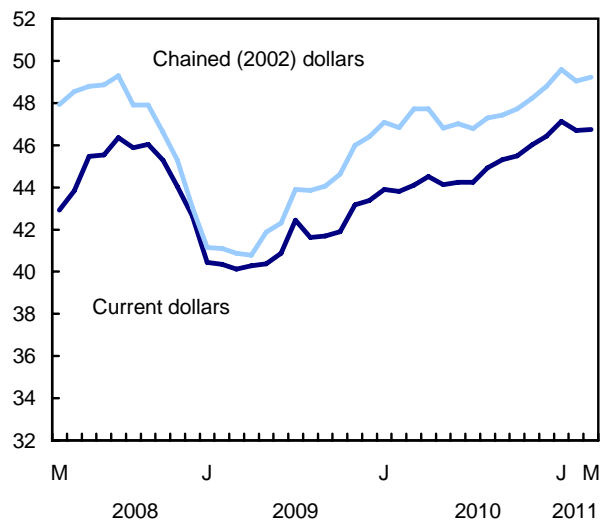
Wholesale trade

March 2011

Wholesale sales edged up 0.1% to \$46.8 billion in March, following a 0.9% decline in February.

Wholesale sales edge up in March

\$ billions



Gains in the miscellaneous and the motor vehicle and parts subsectors in March were offset by declines in the machinery, equipment and supplies and the food, beverages and tobacco subsectors, amongst others.

In volume terms, wholesale sales rose 0.4% in March.

The results in March were mixed, with three of the seven subsectors reporting higher sales.

The miscellaneous subsector (+2.3%) posted the largest increase, following a 3.4% decline in February. Most of the industries in this subsector registered gains in March.

Sales in the motor vehicle and parts subsector rose 0.6%. The 2.6% increase in the motor vehicle industry was almost cancelled out by the steep decline in the new motor vehicle parts and accessories industry (-5.8%). Wholesalers in this industry sell mainly to retailers and dealers.

Sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector were down 0.6%, mainly because of weaker

Note to readers

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

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 in the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry (-3.0%).

Wholesale sales of food, beverages and tobacco fell 0.4%, the second consecutive decline.

Sales up in half of the provinces

Wholesale sales were up in five provinces in March.

Wholesalers in Alberta contributed the most to the increase, followed by wholesalers in Saskatchewan. On the other hand, decreases were concentrated in Ontario and Quebec.

In Alberta, wholesale sales increased 1.9% to \$5.6 billion in March. This increase was mainly a result of higher sales in the construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry.

In Saskatchewan, wholesale sales rose 5.9% in March, reflecting higher sales in the agricultural supplies industry.

Wholesale sales fell for a second consecutive month in Ontario and Quebec. Ontario, which accounts for more than 50% of all wholesale sales, registered a 0.4% decline in March, while sales in Quebec decreased 0.6%.

Inventory levels up

Inventories rose 0.8% in March to \$54.9 billion, a third consecutive increase. Since December, inventories have climbed 3.5%, following a relatively stable period in the second half of 2010.

In March, increases were reported by wholesalers in 16 of the 25 industries, led by the construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry (+3.6%) and the pharmaceutical and pharmacy supplies industry (+2.9%).

The inventory-to-sales ratio remained unchanged at 1.17, which is comparable to the level observed throughout 2010.

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

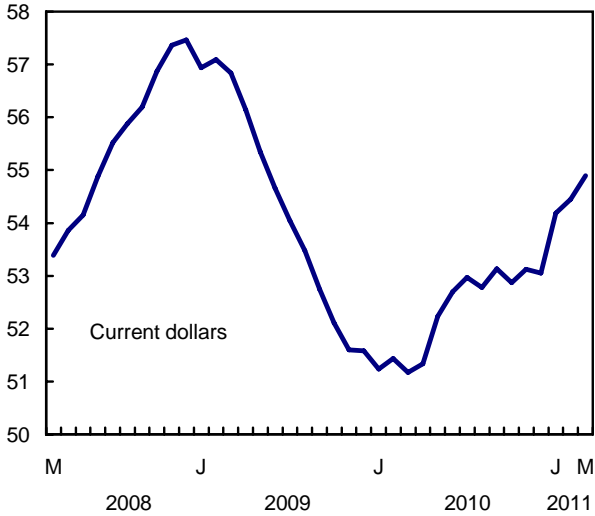
Wholesale trade data for April will be released on June 17.

To obtain data, or for more 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 (613-951-0608; karim.elhassani@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Inventories increase for the third consecutive month

\$ billions



Wholesale merchants' sales by industry

	March 2010	February 2011 ^r	March 2011 ^p	February to March 2011	March 2010 to March 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	44,102	46,701	46,752	0.1	6.0
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	36,749	38,902	38,908	0.0	5.9
Farm product	536	536	537	0.2	0.2
Food, beverages and tobacco	8,527	8,917	8,880	-0.4	4.1
Food	7,594	7,948	7,910	-0.5	4.2
Beverage	412	463	470	1.5	14.1
Cigarette and tobacco product	521	507	500	-1.3	-4.0
Personal and household goods	6,923	6,918	6,883	-0.5	-0.6
Textile, clothing and footwear	779	911	890	-2.3	14.3
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	764	675	696	3.2	-8.9
Home furnishings	490	503	514	2.3	4.9
Personal goods	832	758	740	-2.4	-11.0
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,401	3,413	3,394	-0.6	-0.2
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	656	658	648	-1.6	-1.3
Motor vehicle and parts	7,353	7,799	7,844	0.6	6.7
Motor vehicle	5,726	5,884	6,036	2.6	5.4
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,582	1,866	1,757	-5.8	11.1
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	45	49	50	2.5	11.6
Building material and supplies	6,132	6,573	6,570	-0.0	7.1
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	1,910	2,101	2,071	-1.4	8.5
Metal service centres	1,178	1,476	1,505	1.9	27.7
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	3,044	2,995	2,994	-0.0	-1.6
Machinery, equipment and supplies	8,827	9,823	9,765	-0.6	10.6
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	979	1,087	1,119	3.0	14.3
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	2,635	3,186	3,219	1.0	22.2
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,904	3,110	3,016	-3.0	3.9
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,309	2,440	2,410	-1.2	4.4
Miscellaneous	5,804	6,135	6,273	2.3	8.1
Recyclable material	651	775	812	4.8	24.7
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	756	777	783	0.8	3.6
Agricultural supplies	1,433	1,575	1,603	1.8	11.9
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	973	1,099	1,090	-0.9	12.0
Other miscellaneous	1,992	1,910	1,986	4.0	-0.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory

	March 2010	February 2011 ^r	March 2011 ^p	February to March 2011	March 2010 to March 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Canada	44,102	46,701	46,752	0.1	6.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	294	313	327	4.6	11.1
Prince Edward Island	42	45	45	0.7	7.8
Nova Scotia	676	646	657	1.8	-2.8
New Brunswick	487	500	490	-2.0	0.7
Quebec	8,537	8,892	8,839	-0.6	3.5
Ontario	22,235	23,630	23,539	-0.4	5.9
Manitoba	1,180	1,214	1,192	-1.9	1.0
Saskatchewan	1,573	1,678	1,777	5.9	13.0
Alberta	4,991	5,526	5,632	1.9	12.9
British Columbia	4,024	4,187	4,186	-0.0	4.0
Yukon	10	11	10	-8.2	2.1
Northwest Territories	48	52	51	-2.2	5.5
Nunavut	5	7	7	-5.9	32.9

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry

	March 2010	February 2011 ^r	March 2011 ^p	February to March 2011	March 2010 to March 2011
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	51,172	54,452	54,894	0.8	7.3
Farm product	163	174	181	4.3	11.0
Food	4,078	4,250	4,332	1.9	6.2
Beverage	239	258	247	-4.1	3.7
Cigarette and tobacco product	240	243	265	9.3	10.5
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,482	1,837	1,844	0.4	24.4
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	765	769	779	1.4	1.9
Home furnishings	940	1,033	1,043	0.9	11.0
Personal goods	1,424	1,280	1,247	-2.6	-12.4
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,093	4,122	4,241	2.9	3.6
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	606	616	629	2.0	3.7
Motor vehicle	3,546	3,489	3,433	-1.6	-3.2
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	2,945	3,175	3,172	-0.1	7.7
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	72	77	80	3.5	10.6
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,649	2,898	3,013	4.0	13.7
Metal service centres	2,411	2,850	2,829	-0.7	17.3
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,243	4,537	4,548	0.2	7.2
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,089	3,122	3,084	-1.2	-0.1
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	6,905	7,452	7,723	3.6	11.9
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,511	1,747	1,838	5.2	21.6
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,246	3,209	3,166	-1.3	-2.5
Recyclable material	314	547	570	4.3	81.5
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	631	630	649	3.2	3.0
Agricultural supplies	2,518	2,619	2,650	1.2	5.2
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	812	960	914	-4.8	12.5
Other miscellaneous	2,252	2,559	2,417	-5.6	7.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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



Leading indicators

April 2011

The composite leading index rose 0.8% in April, after a 0.6% gain in March. Overall, 8 of the 10 components increased in April, 2 more than the month before.

All three manufacturing components advanced, versus only one the month before. New orders rebounded 0.5%. The average workweek lengthened for the third time in four months. The ratio of shipments to inventories rose, led by stronger sales. Much of the gains in manufacturing reflected stronger exports, and the leading indicator for the United States (+0.7%) posted another solid increase.

The components related to household demand in Canada were mixed. The housing index (-0.4%) posted its first decline in six months, as starts slowed while sales increased. Furniture and appliance sales rose 0.4%, but sales of other durable goods fell 0.2%.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the June 2011 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 24, no. 6 (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), Current Economic Analysis Group.

Leading indicators

	November 2010	December 2010	January 2011	February 2011	March 2011	April 2011	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	245.2	246.3	247.7	249.9	251.3	253.2	0.8
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	120.0	121.6	123.4	125.6	128.1	127.6	-0.4
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,979	2,974	2,964	2,959	2,955	2,967	0.4
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	12,325	12,671	12,999	13,352	13,643	13,841	1.5
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	221,551	222,504	223,701	224,740	225,642	226,748	0.5
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	133.8	134.4	135.2	136.0	136.9	137.9	0.7
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	36.8	36.8	37.0	37.2	37.2	37.3	0.3
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	23,926	23,636	23,031	23,329	23,207	23,320	0.5
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.94	1.93	1.93	1.94	1.95	1.97	0.02 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	2,896	2,888	2,882	2,890	2,893	2,904	0.4
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	10,197	10,305	10,358	10,394	10,385	10,362	-0.2
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	246.0	249.6	253.2	252.0	255.8	255.3	-0.2

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.

Travel between Canada and other countries

March 2011

Travel by Canadian residents to the United States and other countries increased in March compared with February. Travel to Canada by residents of overseas countries also increased while travel by US residents declined.

Canadian residents took 4.0 million trips to the United States in March, edging up 0.1% from February.

Same-day car travel to the United States increased 0.4% from February to 2.3 million trips. At the same time, overall overnight travel by Canadians to the United States was down 0.4%. The number of overnight car trips to the United States declined 2.0% in March while overnight plane travel increased 2.4%. Canadian residents took 602,000 overnight plane trips to the United States in March, the highest level on record.

Canadian residents took 739,000 overnight trips to overseas countries, up 0.8% from February.

Travel by United States residents to Canada declined 1.6% to 1.6 million trips in March. Although overnight travel by US residents to Canada was down 1.2% in March compared with February, overnight plane travel was up 4.2%.

Overnight car travel was down 3.6% to 525,000 trips while same-day car travel by US residents to Canada decreased 2.4% to 545,000 trips. These are the lowest levels recorded since record-keeping began in 1972.

During March, the Canadian dollar rose 1.1% to an average monthly value of \$US 1.02, the highest level since November 2007. The average price of gasoline in the United States increased 10.9% from February to March to \$3.56 per gallon, the highest level since September 2008.

Overseas residents took 353,000 overnight trips to Canada in March, up 2.9% from February.

In March, 8 of Canada's top 12 overseas markets recorded increases. Travel by residents of Mexico rose 19.2%, the largest advance among the top overseas markets. The largest decrease was in travel by residents of Japan, down 25.9% in March from February, in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami of March 11.

Note: Monthly data are seasonally adjusted.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The March 2011 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 27, no. 3 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For general 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

	March 2010 ^r	February 2011 ^r	March 2011 ^P	February to March 2011
Seasonally adjusted				
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	4,362	4,780	4,788	0.2
To the United States	3,666	4,046	4,049	0.1
To other countries	696	734	739	0.8
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,994	2,291	2,301	0.4
Total trips, one or more nights	2,329	2,448	2,446	-0.0
United States ³	1,633	1,714	1,707	-0.4
Car	994	1,032	1,011	-2.0
Plane	544	587	602	2.4
Other modes of transportation	95	95	95	-0.3
Other countries ⁴	696	734	739	0.8
Travel to Canada²	2,054	1,937	1,922	-0.8
From the United States	1,683	1,586	1,561	-1.6
From other countries	372	351	361	3.0
Same-day car trips from the United States	614	558	545	-2.4
Total trips, one or more nights	1,336	1,286	1,285	-0.1
United States ³	974	943	931	-1.2
Car	578	545	525	-3.6
Plane	285	284	296	4.2
Other modes of transportation	112	114	110	-3.5
Other countries ⁴	361	343	353	2.9
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	60	57	58	2.1
France	36	38	40	5.1
Germany	30	23	26	13.1
Australia	21	19	20	4.4
China	16	17	17	-1.6
Japan	20	19	14	-25.9
South Korea	14	13	12	-9.5
Mexico	9	10	12	19.2
Hong Kong	10	9	10	16.4
India	11	11	10	-4.3
Netherlands	8	9	10	3.3
Italy	10	8	8	10.8

^r revised

^P preliminary

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.

Crude oil and natural gas production

March 2011 (preliminary)

Provincial crude oil and marketable natural gas production data are now available for March.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

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

Refined petroleum products

March 2011 (preliminary)

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for March. Other selected data about these products are also available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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

New products and studies

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Canada's International Transactions in Securities, March 2011, Vol. 77, no. 3
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 2008 2
The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) increased sharply to \$5.5 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several export commodities combined with a lower trade deficit in the financial account. Foreign direct investment flows into Canada almost tripled from the equivalent period of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.

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2006 Census profiles

With the release of the final and complete release components, the complete cumulative profiles is now available for census divisions, census subdivisions, dissemination areas, forward sortation areas, designated places, urban areas, and census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with census subdivisions. To obtain these profiles in electronic format (costs vary by different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

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