

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, May 20, 2011

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Consumer Price Index, April 2011	2
Consumer prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to April, matching the increase recorded in March. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.3% in April.	
Retail trade, March 2011	7
Retail sales were flat in March. After removing the effects of price changes, particularly higher food and gasoline prices, sales in volume terms decreased 0.8%.	
Apartment Building Construction Price Index, first quarter 2011	10
Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports, April 2011	11
Investment in new housing construction, March 2011 and 2010	11
Supply and disposition of crude oil and equivalent, October 2010	11
New products and studies	12
Release dates: May 24 to May 27, 2011	13



Releases

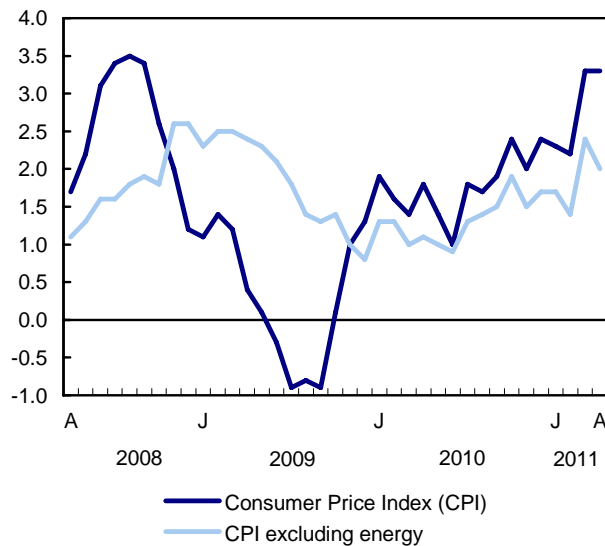
Consumer Price Index

April 2011

Consumer prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to April, matching the increase recorded in March. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.3% in April.

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

12-month % change



Energy prices advanced 17.1% during the 12 months to April, following a 12.8% increase in March. Gasoline prices increased 26.4%, bringing prices at the pump to a level 5.0% below the record high of July 2008. This increase followed an 18.9% gain in the 12 months to March.

Higher year-over-year prices were also recorded for electricity (+7.0%) and fuel oil (+32.4%). Conversely, prices for natural gas fell 4.8% in the 12 months to April.

Excluding energy, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.0% in the 12 months to April, following a 2.4% gain in March. Excluding gasoline, the CPI advanced 2.2% in the 12 months to April.

Note to readers

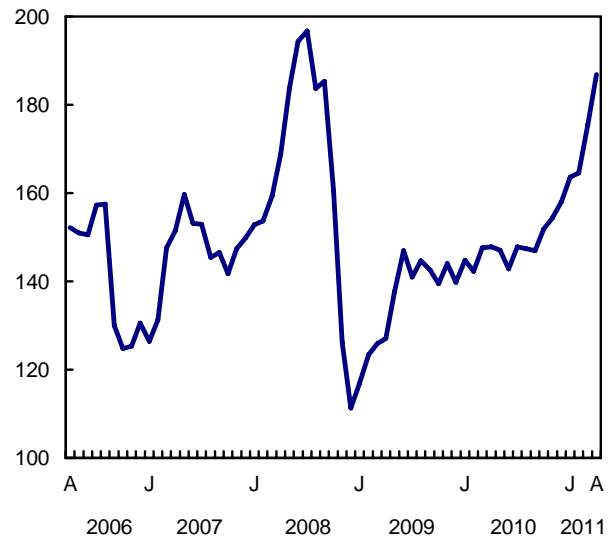
On June 29, 2011, with the release of the May Consumer Price Index (CPI), the basket of goods and services used in the calculation of the CPI will be updated. For more information, refer to "Consumer Price Index: A preview of the upcoming basket update," which was published in The Daily of May 4, 2011.

The special aggregate energy includes: electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and other fuels, gasoline, and fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles.

The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI'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.

The gasoline price index since April 2006

index (2002=100)



Prices for food purchased from stores rose 3.7% in the 12 months to April, matching the increase in March. Several food items, in particular meat and bakery products, posted faster year-over-year increases in April than they did in March. Prices for fresh vegetables also rose in April, but at a much slower pace than the month before.

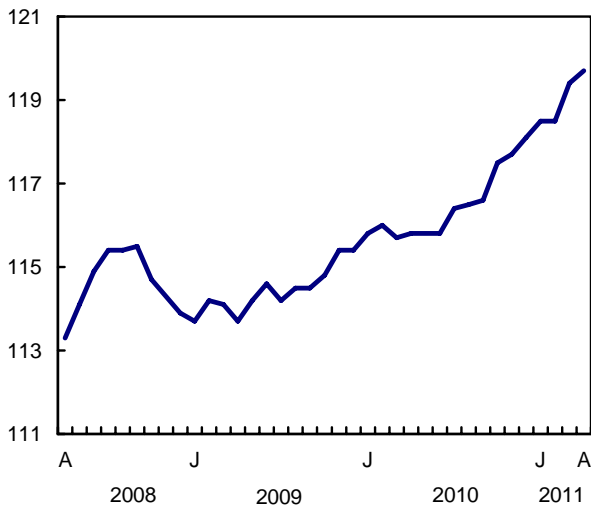
Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices rose 0.3% in April, after increasing 0.8% in March.

The transportation index, which includes gasoline, advanced 1.0% in April, following a 0.7% increase in March. The shelter index rose 0.5% in April, after increasing 0.1% in March.

Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index

index (2002=100)

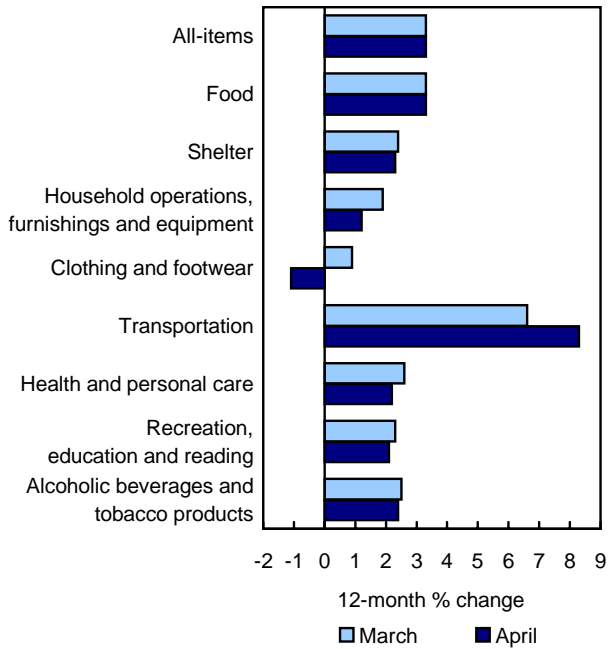


Seasonally adjusted, the food index was down 0.2% following a 1.6% advance in March. The clothing and footwear index posted a monthly decrease of 1.7% in April, while the household operations, furnishings and equipment index declined 0.7%.

12-month change: Transportation posts largest increase

On a year-over-year basis, prices increased in seven of the eight major components of the CPI in April. The only exception was clothing and footwear.

Prices increase in seven of eight major components



The cost of transportation increased 8.3% in the 12 months to April, the largest year-over-year gain since September 2005, when prices rose in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. The increase followed a 6.6% advance in March. In addition to paying more for gasoline, consumers paid more in passenger vehicle insurance premiums and for air transportation.

Food prices rose 3.3% in the 12 months to April, identical to the increase in March. Consumers paid more for meat (+5.5%), bakery products (+6.7%) and dairy products (+2.4%). Prices for fresh vegetables, which tend to be volatile, increased 4.3% in April, a much smaller increase than the 18.6% rise recorded in the 12 months ending in March. Prices for food purchased from restaurants rose 2.8%.

Shelter costs rose 2.3% in the 12 months to April. In addition to higher prices for electricity and fuel oil, homeowners' replacement cost increased 2.6%. However, mortgage interest cost, which measures the change in the interest portion of payments on outstanding mortgage debt, decreased 2.1%. Natural gas prices also fell.

Prices for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products rose 2.4% in April. Cigarette prices rose 5.6%. Prices for most tobacco products increased in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick following provincial budget measures.

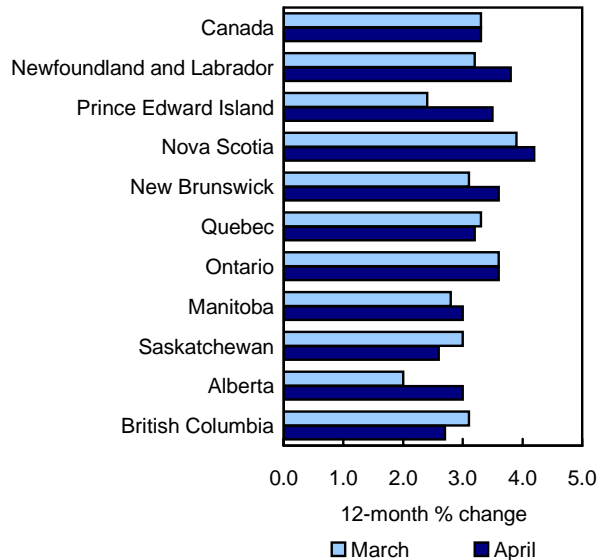
Clothing and footwear prices fell 1.1%, following a 0.9% increase in March. Consumers paid less for women's clothing and men's clothing. Prices for footwear also fell.

The provinces: Gasoline a major factor in every province

Consumer prices increased in every province in the 12 months to April. Large increases in gasoline prices were observed in every province, ranging from 19.5% in Prince Edward Island to 30.1% in Ontario.

For the fourth consecutive month, Nova Scotia recorded the largest year-over-year increase in consumer prices.

Nova Scotia records largest increase, year over year



In Ontario, consumer prices went up 3.6% in the 12 months to April, matching the rise in March. In addition to higher gasoline prices, passenger vehicle insurance premiums also increased, while prices for natural gas fell.

In Quebec, consumer prices increased 3.2% in April, following a 3.3% advance in March. Drivers in Quebec paid 27.2% more for gasoline. Prices for fuel oil and meat also rose.

Prices in British Columbia went up 2.7% in the 12 months to April, following a 3.1% increase in March. Gasoline prices increased 19.8%. Consumers in the province also paid more for food purchased from restaurants, but less for natural gas.

In Alberta, prices advanced 3.0% following a 2.0% increase in March. The faster increase in April was primarily the result of a 59.6% gain in electricity prices. The large year-over-year increase in electricity costs in the province is partly explained by the fact that electricity prices in April 2010 were among the lowest recorded since 2005. As well, the recent closing of two power generation plants resulted in a significant reduction of electricity supply. Alberta consumers also paid more for gasoline (+24.0%).

The Bank of Canada's core index

The Bank of Canada's core index advanced 1.6% in the 12 months to April, following a 1.7% rise in March.

The seasonally adjusted monthly core index increased 0.2% in April, after rising 0.5% in March.

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 April 2011 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 90, no. 4 (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 May will be released on June 29.

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), Consumer Prices Division.



Consumer Price Index and major components, Canada

	Relative importance ¹	April 2010	March 2011	April 2011	March to April 2011	April 2010 to April 2011
Not seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	100.00²	116.0	119.4	119.8	0.3	3.3
Food	17.04	122.8	127.2	126.9	-0.2	3.3
Shelter	26.62	122.4	124.6	125.2	0.5	2.3
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	108.5	110.4	109.8	-0.5	1.2
Clothing and footwear	5.36	94.1	94.4	93.1	-1.4	-1.1
Transportation	19.88	117.4	124.8	127.2	1.9	8.3
Health and personal care	4.73	114.8	116.4	117.3	0.8	2.2
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	102.9	104.9	105.1	0.2	2.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	131.8	134.8	135.0	0.1	2.4
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ³	82.71	115.3	117.0	117.2	0.2	1.6
All-items excluding energy	90.62	114.4	116.8	116.7	-0.1	2.0
Energy	9.38	136.0	151.7	159.2	4.9	17.1
Gasoline	4.92	147.8	175.5	186.8	6.4	26.4
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	112.5	114.4	114.4	0.0	1.7
Goods	48.78	109.4	113.0	113.7	0.6	3.9
Services	51.22	122.6	125.7	125.9	0.2	2.7

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).

2. Figures may not add to 100% as a result of 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/rates/price-indexes/cpi/).

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

	Relative importance ¹	April 2010	March 2011	April 2011	March to April 2011	April 2010 to April 2011
Not seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00²	116.0	119.4	119.8	0.3	3.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.27	117.0	120.9	121.5	0.5	3.8
Prince Edward Island	0.35	119.1	122.2	123.3	0.9	3.5
Nova Scotia	2.56	117.9	122.3	122.9	0.5	4.2
New Brunswick	1.97	115.8	119.4	120.0	0.5	3.6
Quebec	21.05	114.8	118.3	118.5	0.2	3.2
Ontario	41.22	115.7	119.4	119.9	0.4	3.6
Manitoba	3.06	114.8	117.9	118.3	0.3	3.0
Saskatchewan	2.64	118.5	121.4	121.6	0.2	2.6
Alberta	11.43	122.3	124.5	126.0	1.2	3.0
British Columbia	14.29	113.2	116.1	116.3	0.2	2.7
Whitehorse	0.06	113.6	117.0	117.3	0.3	3.3
Yellowknife	0.08	117.2	120.5	120.9	0.3	3.2
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	111.8	112.6	113.2	0.5	1.3

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).

2. Figures may not add to 100% as a result of rounding.

Consumer Price Index and major components

	Relative importance ¹	February 2011	March 2011	April 2011	February to March 2011	March to April 2011
Seasonally adjusted						
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	100.00²	118.5	119.4	119.7	0.8	0.3
Food	17.04	124.9	126.9	126.7	1.6	-0.2
Shelter	26.62	124.5	124.6	125.2	0.1	0.5
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.10	109.9	110.3	109.5	0.4	-0.7
Clothing and footwear	5.36	90.3	92.2	90.6	2.1	-1.7
Transportation	19.88	124.3	125.2	126.5	0.7	1.0
Health and personal care	4.73	116.4	116.9	117.2	0.4	0.3
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	105.2	105.6	105.6	0.4	0.0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	135.0	134.8	135.0	-0.1	0.1
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ³	82.71	116.3	116.9	117.1	0.5	0.2
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	114.1	114.3	114.3	0.2	0.0

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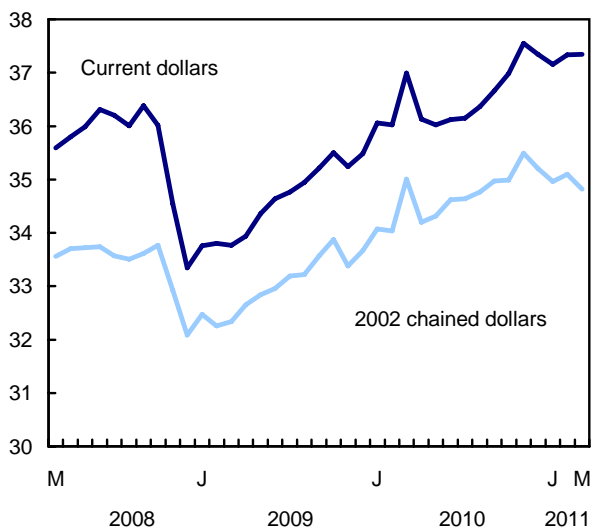
Retail trade

March 2011

Retail sales were flat in March, holding steady at \$37.3 billion. After removing the effects of price changes, particularly higher food and gasoline prices, retail sales in volume terms decreased 0.8%.

Retail sales flat in March

\$ billions



In current dollars, higher sales reported in four subsectors, representing 50% of total retail sales. However, these gains were offset by declines in the other seven subsectors.

The largest increase, in dollar terms, among the subsectors was registered at gasoline stations (+1.4%). This was the eighth increase in nine months. Sales at gasoline stations have been trending upward for the past two years. Since March 2009, the Consumer Price Index for gasoline has risen by nearly 40%.

Higher prices contributed to a 0.8% rise in sales at general merchandise stores in March. Other general merchandise stores led the gain, increasing 1.2%. Sales at department stores edged up 0.3%, following a 1.1% decline in February.

Sales at electronics and appliance stores (+2.1%) increased for a second consecutive month, following three months of declines. Sales at this store type have yet to return to pre-economic downturn levels.

After three consecutive monthly declines, sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers rose 0.3% in March. Sales increased 0.8% at new car dealers while the rest of the subsector showed declines.

Note to readers

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

Total retail sales by volume are measured by deflating values in current dollars of the various trade groups using consumer price indexes. This retail sales in chained dollars series (2002) is a chain Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year

Large decline at furniture stores

Furniture and home furnishings stores registered the largest decline in March, falling 2.2%. This reflects a 4.4% decrease at furniture stores, where sales have been trending down since early 2010. Sales at home furnishing stores rose 1.7%.

Clothing and clothing accessories retailers registered a 0.9% decline, with lower sales reported by all store types.

Sales at sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores fell for a fourth consecutive month, declining 1.9% in March.

Sales at food and beverage stores edged down 0.1%, largely as a result of lower sales at beer, wine and liquor stores (-1.6%). Sales at supermarkets and other grocery stores rose 0.3%, reflecting rising food prices.

Sales up in most provinces

Retail sales rose in seven provinces in March. The largest increase in dollar terms was in Quebec, where sales increased 0.5%, offsetting the loss in February.

All of the Atlantic provinces registered sales increases in March. Retailers in Nova Scotia (+2.4%) led the gains following two months of declines.

Ontario (-0.8%) recorded the largest sales decline in March. This was the third decrease in Ontario in four months.

It is possible to consult the tables of unadjusted data by industry and by province and territory from the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the Latest statistics page on our website.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2406 and 2408.

The March 2011 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X, free) will be available shortly.

Data on retail trade for April will be released on June 21.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-3549; toll-free 1-877-421-3067; retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca). For analytical information, or

to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jake W. Purdy (613-951-0984), Distributive Trades Division.

Retail 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	36,994	37,337	37,344	0.0	0.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	641	645	658	2.0	2.5
Prince Edward Island	151	150	157	4.4	3.9
Nova Scotia	1,070	1,046	1,071	2.4	0.1
New Brunswick	893	908	927	2.1	3.8
Quebec	8,690	8,387	8,432	0.5	-3.0
Ontario	13,038	13,352	13,246	-0.8	1.6
Manitoba	1,310	1,366	1,363	-0.3	4.0
Saskatchewan	1,253	1,312	1,316	0.3	5.0
Alberta	4,963	5,190	5,182	-0.1	4.4
British Columbia	4,850	4,840	4,851	0.2	0.0
Yukon	48	53	54	2.4	12.0
Northwest Territories	58	58	57	-2.0	-0.4
Nunavut	28	30	30	2.0	8.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to total as a result of rounding.

Retail 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 retail trade	36,994	37,337	37,344	0.0	0.9
Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers	28,856	29,361	29,344	-0.1	1.7
Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations	24,809	24,706	24,622	-0.3	-0.8
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	8,138	7,976	8,000	0.3	-1.7
New car dealers	6,479	6,411	6,464	0.8	-0.2
Used car dealers	477	496	490	-1.3	2.7
Other motor vehicle dealers	627	536	518	-3.4	-17.4
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	555	533	529	-0.8	-4.8
Furniture and home furnishing stores	1,259	1,254	1,226	-2.2	-2.6
Furniture stores	827	805	769	-4.4	-6.9
Home furnishings stores	432	450	457	1.7	5.9
Electronics and appliance stores	1,164	1,171	1,196	2.1	2.7
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	2,486	2,250	2,233	-0.8	-10.1
Food and beverage stores	8,553	8,705	8,695	-0.1	1.7
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,067	6,177	6,198	0.3	2.2
Convenience stores	561	574	570	-0.7	1.6
Specialty food stores	412	401	400	-0.3	-2.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,513	1,553	1,527	-1.6	1.0
Health and personal care stores	2,720	2,707	2,680	-1.0	-1.5
Gasoline stations	4,047	4,656	4,722	1.4	16.7
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	2,168	2,124	2,106	-0.9	-2.9
Clothing stores	1,690	1,659	1,648	-0.7	-2.5
Shoe stores	257	242	240	-0.8	-6.6
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	221	223	218	-2.3	-1.5
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	959	941	923	-1.9	-3.8
General merchandise stores	4,581	4,659	4,696	0.8	2.5
Department stores	x	2,178	2,185	0.3	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	2,481	2,511	1.2	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	920	895	867	-3.1	-5.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

Note: Figures may not add up to total as a result of rounding.



Apartment Building Construction Price Index

First quarter 2011

The composite price index for apartment building construction increased 1.2% in the first quarter compared with the previous quarter. This was the fourth consecutive quarterly increase in the composite index.

All seven of the census metropolitan areas (CMAs) surveyed reported quarterly increases, ranging from 0.6% to 1.8%. Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part (+1.8%) and Toronto (+1.7%) posted the largest increases, while Calgary (+0.6%) reported the smallest gain.

Year over year, the composite price index for apartment building construction was up 3.1% in the first quarter. Of the CMAs surveyed, Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part (+4.7%) reported the largest year-over-year increase, while Calgary (+1.2%) posted the smallest advance.

Note: This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted and the indexes published are subject to a one quarter revision period after dissemination of a given quarter's data.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0044.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2317 and 2330.

The first quarter 2011 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will be available in July.

The apartment building construction price indexes for the second quarter will be released on August 19.

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.

Apartment Building Construction Price Index¹

	Relative importance ²	First quarter 2010	Fourth quarter 2010	First quarter 2011	Fourth quarter 2010 to first quarter 2011	First quarter 2010 to first quarter 2011
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Composite index	100.0	134.3	136.8	138.5	1.2	3.1
Halifax	2.2	130.8	132.6	134.2	1.2	2.6
Montréal	26.8	132.7	135.2	136.8	1.2	3.1
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part	2.9	137.4	141.4	143.9	1.8	4.7
Toronto	40.8	135.5	137.2	139.6	1.7	3.0
Calgary	3.4	155.7	156.6	157.6	0.6	1.2
Edmonton	4.8	147.3	152.3	153.7	0.9	4.3
Vancouver	19.1	131.9	135.7	136.9	0.9	3.8

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

2. The relative importance is calculated using a price adjusted three-year average of the value of building permits for each CMA.

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

April 2011

Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 93 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 5.9% in April compared with the same month in 2010. These airports reported 462,118 movements in April compared with 490,868 movements in April 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 April 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), Transportation Division. ■

Investment in new housing construction

March 2011 and 2010 (annual revisions)

Data on the investment in new housing construction (including single dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, row housing, apartments and condominiums) are now available for March.

Note: Data have also been revised for 2010.

Available on CANSIM: table 026-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5155.

To order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087; bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Supply and disposition of crude oil and equivalent

October 2010

Data on the supply and disposition of crude oil and equivalent are now available for October.

Available on CANSIM: table 126-0001.

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. ■

New products and studies

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 Catalogue number **51-007-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

The Consumer Price Index, April 2011, Vol. 90, no. 4
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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

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The Daily, May 20, 2011

Release dates: May 24 to May 27, 2011

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Release date	Title	Reference period
25	Farm income	2009 and 2010
25	Characteristics of international overnight travellers	Fourth quarter 2010
26	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	First quarter 2011
26	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	March 2011
27	International travel account	First quarter 2011
