

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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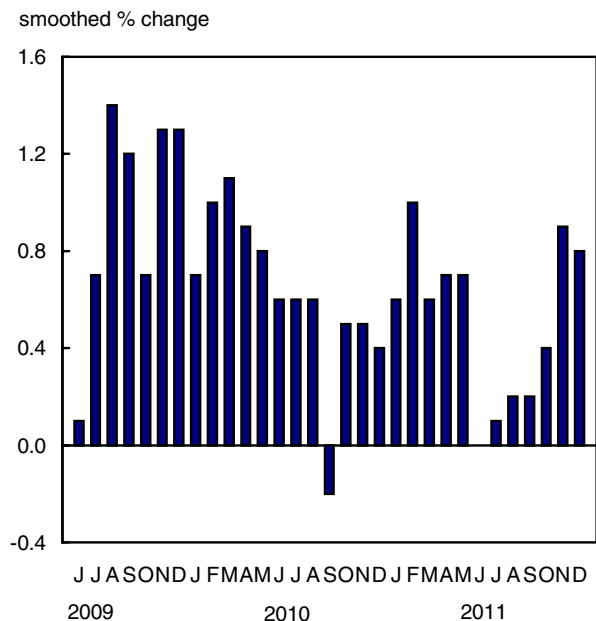


Leading indicators

December 2011

The composite leading index increased 0.8% in December, following a 0.9% gain the previous month. The increase was broad-based with 8 of the 10 components rising.

Composite leading indicator



Manufacturing increased across the board for the second consecutive month, with autos providing a substantial boost, and retail sales of durable goods increased for a sixth straight month. Housing, services employment, and money supply growth also contributed positively to the increase, while the US leading indicator rose again on the strength of financial indicators, building permits and consumer confidence in the United States.

In contrast, the stock market continued to decline, its seventh consecutive monthly decrease. Furniture sales were also down.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the February 2012 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 25, no. 2 (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 Diana Wyman (613-951-4886; ceo@statcan.gc.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.

□

Leading indicators

	July 2011	August 2011	September 2011	October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	255.5	256.0	256.6	257.5	259.9	262.1	0.8
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	128.6	128.3	130.6	132.6	132.9	134.0	0.8
Business and personal services employment ('000)	3,007	3,013	3,029	3,039	3,052	3,064	0.4
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	13,625	13,353	12,889	12,578	12,359	12,161	-1.6
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	227,432	228,219	230,162	232,793	234,592	236,288	0.7
U.S. Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	139.9	140.4	140.8	141.3	141.9	142.6	0.5
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	36.8	36.7	36.7	36.9	37.2	37.5	0.8
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	26,497	27,421	27,195	25,592	26,592	26,868	1.0
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.95	1.92	1.91	1.90	1.91	1.93	0.02 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	2,987	3,017	3,008	3,003	2,986	2,952	-1.1
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	10,407	10,581	10,684	10,750	10,819	10,891	0.7
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	254.4	258.8	258.2	262.9	265.1	265.4	0.1

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.

Farm Product Price Index

November 2011

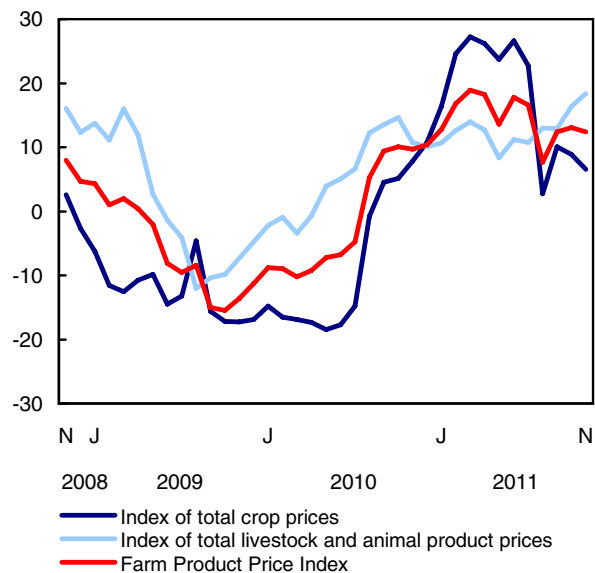
Prices farmers received for their commodities in November rose 12.4% from November 2010, as overall livestock and animal product prices and crops prices continued to advance, a trend that started in August 2010.

Compared with the same month in 2010, the livestock and animal products index (+18.4%) and the crops index (+6.5%) both increased in November.

Relative to November 2010, advances were recorded in all livestock commodities, ranging from 5.6% for dairy to 35.1% for hogs.

The 12-month change in the Farm Product Price Index

12-month % change



The hogs index (+35.1%) and the cattle and calves index (+20.2%) sustained their year-over-year growth trend that started in spring 2010. Lower on-farm inventories of cattle and hogs in North America and higher feed grain costs have contributed to their higher prices.

All three supply-managed commodities also continued their year-over-year growth trend that started in July 2010 for dairy, November 2010 for eggs and January 2011 for poultry. Higher feed costs drove the increase.

On the crops side, all commodities rose except for vegetables (-3.0%). Specialty crops (+31.1%) recorded the largest year-over-year increase for the third consecutive month.

The oilseeds (+11.0%) and grains (+0.4%) indexes maintained their year-over-year growth trend that started in September 2010. However, since June 2011, their rate of increase has been at a continually slower rate. In November, the International Grains Council forecast continued to show an increase in total world grain production for 2012.

On a monthly basis, the November index decreased 0.8% as both the crops index (-1.4%) and the livestock and animal products index (-0.5%) fell.

Note: The growth rate of the total Farm Product Price Index (FPPI) is derived from a weighted average of the component indices using a different set of weights in consecutive months; it is not a weighted average of the growth rates of its crop and livestock components. Given this, the growth rate of the composite FPPI can lie outside the growth rate of these components.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The November 2011 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 11, no. 11 (21-007-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to order data, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; gail-ann.breese@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

Farm Product Price Index

	November 2010 ^r	October 2011 ^r	November 2011 ^p	November 2010 to November 2011	October to November 2011
	(1997=100)			% change	
Farm Product Price Index	115.3	130.7	129.6	12.4	-0.8
Crops	124.2	134.2	132.3	6.5	-1.4
Grains	126.7	131.0	127.2	0.4	-2.9
Oilseeds	123.1	134.7	136.7	11.0	1.5
Specialty crops	132.6	184.6	173.8	31.1	-5.9
Fruit	101.5	124.6	130.7	28.8	4.9
Vegetables	128.0	122.0	124.2	-3.0	1.8
Potatoes	164.9	182.8	179.9	9.1	-1.6
Livestock and animal products	109.5	130.3	129.6	18.4	-0.5
Cattle and calves	108.1	128.8	129.9	20.2	0.9
Hogs	69.6	98.5	94.0	35.1	-4.6
Poultry	112.5	132.9	133.2	18.4	0.2
Eggs	117.7	127.5	129.4	9.9	1.5
Dairy	147.6	154.4	155.8	5.6	0.9

^r revised

^p preliminary

Study: Profile of seniors' transportation habits

2009

In 2009, 3.25 million people aged 65 and over, or three-quarters of all seniors, had a driver's licence. Of that number, about 200,000 were aged 85 and over.

Self-reported survey data show that the majority of seniors, even those of more advanced ages, travel mostly by car.

There was a substantial gap between men and women with respect to having a driver's licence, particularly in those aged 85 and over. In 2009, 67% of men aged 85 and over living in private households had a driver's licence, compared with 26% of women.

In every province, a majority of men aged 85 and over had a driver's licence. The highest proportions were in New Brunswick (81%), and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (both 77%). The proportion of women aged 85 and over with a driver's licence varied from 14% in Quebec to 44% in Saskatchewan.

In 2009, more than two-thirds (68%) of seniors aged 65 to 74 reported that their main form of transportation was driving their own vehicle. Less than 6% used public transit and 3% walked or used a bicycle.

Among seniors aged 85 and over, 56% of men and 18% of women reported that their main form of transportation was driving their own vehicle.

Self-reported health status data were used to rank seniors according to various levels of functional capacity. The ranking showed that the vast majority of seniors who had a driver's licence had good or very good visual and auditory capacities and cognitive abilities.

For example, among seniors who were classified as having very good hearing capacity, 76%, or approximately 2.8 million, had a driver's licence.

However, of seniors who reported having the most serious hearing problems, 53%, or 26,400, had a driver's licence. Of those, 25,000 had driven a vehicle in the month prior to the survey.

More than 3 million seniors who had a driver's licence had very good or good visual capacity. Among seniors who did not see well enough to read the newspaper or to recognize a friend on the other side of the street, even with glasses, 19%, or 13,600, had a licence. About half of this group had driven a vehicle in the previous month.

In 2009, 28% of people aged 65 and over who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or some other form of dementia, roughly 20,000 people, had a driver's licence. Of these seniors, 14,600 had driven in the month preceding the survey.

Seniors whose main form of transportation was driving their car were the most likely to have participated in a social activity during the week prior to the survey. Nearly three-quarters (73%) of this group did so, compared with 53% of those who were mainly passengers and did not have a licence and 46% of those who used accessible transit or taxis.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5146.

This study used data from the healthy aging component of the 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey. It focused on 16,369 respondents aged 65 and over living in private households, who represented more than 4.3 million seniors.

The article "Profile of seniors' transportation habits" is now available in the January 2012 online issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 93 (11-008-X, free), available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca), Communications Division. ■

Survey of Industrial Processes: Gasoline evaporation from retail outlets

2009

In 2009, roughly 58.3 million litres of liquid gasoline evaporated from 11,200 retail gasoline outlets across Canada. This is equivalent to the evaporation of the contents of one full tanker truck every eight hours.

Of all evaporative losses, two-thirds (about 37.3 million litres) resulted from the operation of gasoline storage tanks and other operational activities. The remaining third was the result of refuelling vehicles and boats.

Of the gasoline lost because of operational activities, 88% was lost during the refilling of gasoline storage tanks and the remaining 12% was the result of leaks and spills.

Note: The Survey of Industrial Processes (SIP) was a pilot survey conducted to assess the feasibility of collecting data on operational activities and engineering processes of small and medium enterprises across Canada. For the 2009 reference period, the survey covered retail gasoline outlets, including marinas with gas docks, across Canada. Data from the SIP were used in mathematical models to calculate losses of gasoline because of evaporation from retail gasoline outlets.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5163.

The report "Gasoline evaporative losses from retail gasoline outlets across Canada, 2009", part of the *Environment Accounts and Statistics Analytical and Technical Paper Series* (16-001-M2012015, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-0297; environ@statcan.gc.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

December 2011

Canadian manufacturers produced 1.6 billion cigarettes in December, down 17.5% from the previous month. The total number of cigarettes sold increased 2.3% to 1.8 billion and closing inventories decreased 8.4% to 2.5 billion cigarettes.

Note: This survey collects data on the production of tobacco products in Canada by Canadian manufacturers and the disposition or sales of this production. It does not collect data on imported tobacco products. Therefore, sales information in this release is not a proxy for domestic consumption of tobacco products.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The December 2011 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 40, no. 12 (32-022-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact 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 Social Trends, Summer 2012, no. 93
Catalogue number 11-008-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Study: Environment Accounts and Statistics Analytical and Technical Paper Series: "Gasoline Evaporative Losses from Retail Gasoline Outlets Across Canada, 2009", no. 15
Catalogue number 16-001-M2012015 (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Farm Product Price Index, November 2011, Vol. 11, no. 11
Catalogue number 21-007-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, December 2011, Vol. 40, no. 12
Catalogue number 32-022-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Wholesale Trade, November 2011, Vol. 74, no. 11
Catalogue number 63-008-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Previous 11-001-XIE-1000-1000-1000)

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 29, 2008
Released at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time

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 exported commodities compared with a lower level of imports. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada showed a slight increase from the negative value of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.

Payroll employment, earnings and hours, March 2008 7
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2006 Census profiles
Within the releases of the income and earnings release components, the complete cumulative profile 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 (links vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.




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