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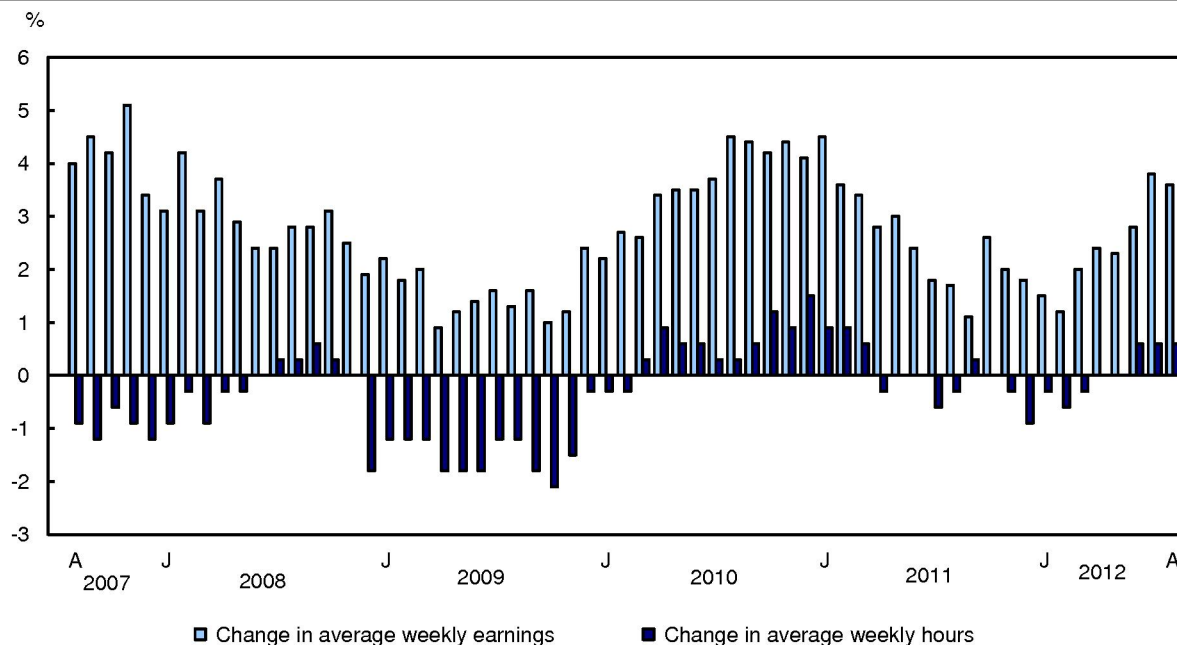
Releases

Payroll employment, earnings and hours, August 2012

In August, average weekly earnings of non-farm payroll employees were \$907.19, up 0.4% from the previous month. On a year-over-year basis, earnings increased 3.6%.

Chart 1

Year-over-year change in average weekly hours and average weekly earnings



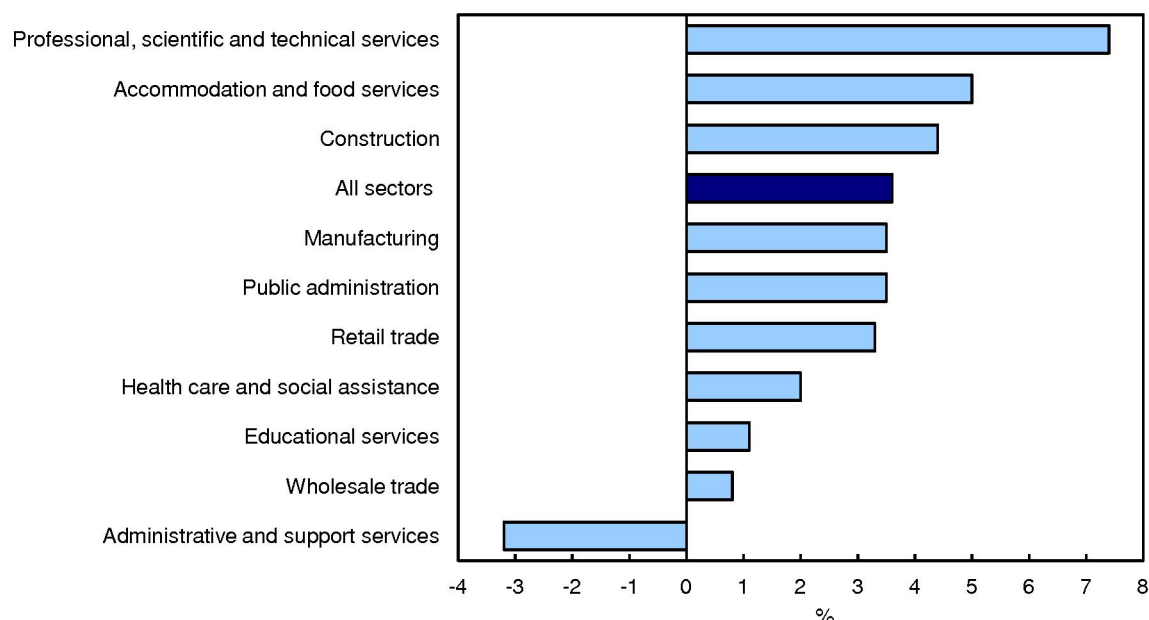
The 3.6% earnings' increase during the 12 months to August reflects a number of factors, including wage growth, changes in the composition of employment by industry, occupation and level of job experience, as well as average hours worked per week. In August, non-farm payroll employees worked an average of 33.1 hours per week, up from 33.0 the month before and 32.9 in August 2011.

Average weekly earnings by sector

Year-over-year growth in average weekly earnings outpaced the national average of 3.6% in three of the largest industrial sectors: professional, scientific and technical services; accommodation and food services; and construction. Earnings in administrative and support services declined between August 2011 and August 2012.

Chart 2

Year-over-year change in average weekly earnings in the 10 largest sectors, August 2011 to August 2012



Weekly earnings in professional, scientific and technical services rose 7.4% to \$1,273.60, with gains in almost all industries within the sector.

Weekly earnings in accommodation and food services increased 5.0% to \$374.54 in the 12 months to August. Growth was most notable in special food services, limited-service eating places and traveller accommodation. Payroll earnings in this sector were the lowest among all sectors, partly because it had the lowest weekly hours.

In construction, weekly earnings rose 4.4% to \$1,144.43, with notable growth in non-residential building construction; highway, street and bridge construction; and building finishing contracting.

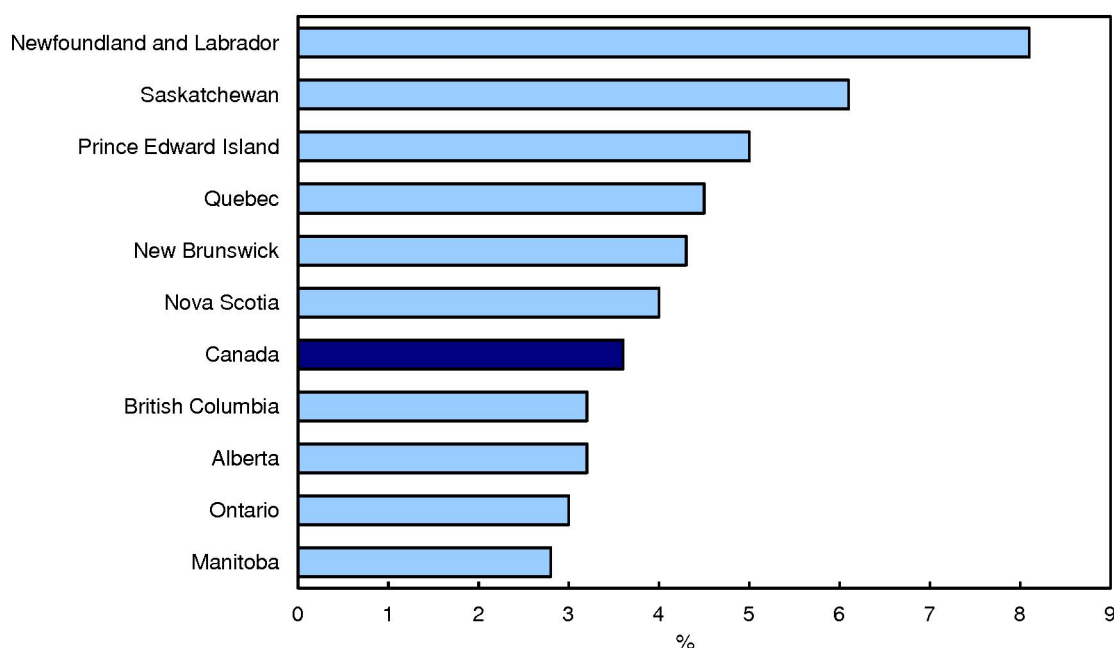
Average weekly earnings in administrative and support services declined 3.2% to \$724.03, mostly in employment services.

Average weekly earnings up in every province

Average weekly earnings of non-farm payroll employees increased in every province in the 12 months to August. Growth was notably above the national average in Newfoundland and Labrador and Saskatchewan.

Chart 3

Year-over-year growth in average weekly earnings by province, August 2011 to August 2012



In Newfoundland and Labrador, average weekly earnings were \$942.31 in August, up 8.1% from 12 months earlier. This was the third consecutive year-over-year increase above 6%. Weekly earnings in the province are among the highest in the country.

In Saskatchewan, average weekly earnings increased 6.1% in the 12 months to August, to \$938.57, and were also among the highest in the country. Earnings in the province have been higher than the national average since August 2011.

Average weekly earnings in Prince Edward Island were \$761.13 in August, up 5.0% compared with 12 months earlier. Year-over-year increases in earnings for this province have been at or above the national average since the start of 2012.

In Quebec, average weekly earnings amounted to \$829.55 in August, up 4.5% from 12 months earlier.

Average weekly earnings remained the highest of all provinces in Alberta, at \$1,084.26 in August. On a year-over-year basis, earnings increased 3.2% in the province, just under the national average.

Weekly earnings in Ontario grew 3.0% to \$919.05, the fourth-highest earnings level in Canada. Year-over-year growth in Ontario has been below the national average since October 2010.

Non-farm payroll employment by sector

Total non-farm payroll employment rose by 45,500 between July and August, the sixth consecutive monthly increase.

In August, payroll employment increased in most sectors, including educational services; public administration; manufacturing; health care and social assistance; and mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction.

On a year-over-year basis, payroll employment rose by 316,000 (+2.1%), with most of these gains occurring since February 2012 (+285,100).

Among all sectors, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction continued to post the highest 12-month growth rate in payroll employment, at 10.7% in August. It was followed by construction (+5.3%); accommodation and food services (+3.2%); professional, scientific and technical services (+2.7%); and transportation and warehousing (+2.7%).

Note to readers

The Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) is a business census of non-farm payroll employees. Its key objective is to provide a monthly portrait of the level of earnings, the number of jobs and hours worked by detailed industry at the national, provincial and territorial level.

Statistics Canada also produces employment estimates from its monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). The LFS is a household survey, the main objective of which is to divide the working-age population into three mutually exclusive groups: the employed (including the self-employed), unemployed and not in the labour force. This survey is the official source for the unemployment rate and collects data on the socio-demographic characteristics of all those in the labour market.

As a result of conceptual and methodological differences, estimates of changes from SEPH and LFS do differ from time to time. However, the trends in the data are quite similar.

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Non-farm payroll employment data are for all hourly and salaried employees, as well as the "other employees" category, which includes piece-rate and commission-only employees.

Average weekly hours data are for hourly and salaried employees only and exclude businesses that could not be classified to a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code.

All earnings data include overtime pay and exclude businesses that could not be classified to a NAICS code. Earnings data are based on gross payroll before source deductions.

Average weekly earnings are derived by dividing total weekly earnings by the number of employees.

With each release, data for the current reference month are subject to revision. Data have been revised for the previous month. Users are encouraged to request and use the most up-to-date data for each month.

Data on the education sector

Changes in payroll employment in education during the summer months can be affected by changes in payment schedules and school-year calendars. Month-to-month changes in payroll employment should therefore be interpreted with caution, and more attention given to long-term trends.

Table 1
Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees – Seasonally adjusted

	August 2011	July 2012 ^r	August 2012 ^p	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012
	current dollars			% change	
Sector aggregate¹	875.62	903.64	907.19	0.4	3.6
Forestry, logging and support	928.62	963.35	967.97	0.5	4.2
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	1,763.29	1,881.24	1,900.31	1.0	7.8
Utilities	1,712.29	1,679.76	1,646.13	-2.0	-3.9
Construction	1,096.43	1,135.26	1,144.43	0.8	4.4
Manufacturing	973.37	1,003.16	1,007.47	0.4	3.5
Wholesale trade	1,057.39	1,038.29	1,065.48	2.6	0.8
Retail trade	514.30	530.11	531.16	0.2	3.3
Transportation and warehousing	928.99	947.58	970.47	2.4	4.5
Information and cultural industries	1,079.95	1,146.70	1,165.02	1.6	7.9
Finance and insurance	1,030.50	1,112.83	1,090.41	-2.0	5.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	834.49	853.53	882.08	3.3	5.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,185.64	1,263.89	1,273.60	0.8	7.4
Management of companies and enterprises	1,192.01	1,248.87	1,211.41	-3.0	1.6
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	747.66	734.88	724.03	-1.5	-3.2
Educational services	992.28	1,013.97	1,003.56	-1.0	1.1
Health care and social assistance	793.88	817.03	809.44	-0.9	2.0
Arts, entertainment and recreation	532.18	560.20	567.96	1.4	6.7
Accommodation and food services	356.59	374.79	374.54	-0.1	5.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	699.35	722.87	732.67	1.4	4.8
Public administration	1,119.88	1,163.40	1,158.78	-0.4	3.5
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	871.68	936.58	942.31	0.6	8.1
Prince Edward Island	724.59	756.76	761.13	0.6	5.0
Nova Scotia	768.44	790.51	798.92	1.1	4.0
New Brunswick	789.37	814.88	823.36	1.0	4.3
Quebec	793.83	821.19	829.55	1.0	4.5
Ontario	892.31	917.37	919.05	0.2	3.0
Manitoba	815.36	832.97	838.12	0.6	2.8
Saskatchewan	884.98	927.80	938.57	1.2	6.1
Alberta	1,050.93	1,088.99	1,084.26	-0.4	3.2
British Columbia	843.64	873.86	870.85	-0.3	3.2
Yukon	982.08	987.06	998.49	1.2	1.7
Northwest Territories	1,270.35	1,302.91	1,297.76	-0.4	2.2
Nunavut	934.82	955.97	984.49	3.0	5.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Sector breakdown is based on the North American Industry Classification System.

Table 2
Number of employees – Seasonally adjusted

	December 2011	August 2011	July 2012 ^r	August 2012 ^p	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012	December 2011 to August 2012
	thousands				% change		
Sector aggregate¹	15,053.3	15,003.6	15,274.2	15,319.7	0.3	2.1	1.8
Forestry, logging and support	40.4	39.9	39.6	38.5	-2.7	-3.5	-4.6
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	212.3	204.7	222.3	226.6	1.9	10.7	6.7
Utilities	124.6	124.0	122.4	122.3	-0.1	-1.4	-1.8
Construction	865.3	845.2	891.7	889.7	-0.2	5.3	2.8
Manufacturing	1,488.3	1,483.6	1,491.0	1,496.7	0.4	0.9	0.6
Wholesale trade	746.2	746.7	756.8	758.7	0.2	1.6	1.7
Retail trade	1,847.9	1,845.6	1,871.9	1,875.9	0.2	1.6	1.5
Transportation and warehousing	695.0	684.9	702.5	703.1	0.1	2.7	1.2
Information and cultural industries	327.8	325.3	330.6	333.6	0.9	2.6	1.8
Finance and insurance	687.7	686.2	696.8	699.0	0.3	1.9	1.7
Real estate and rental and leasing	241.8	244.4	247.4	249.0	0.6	1.9	2.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	787.9	783.0	805.3	804.3	-0.1	2.7	2.1
Management of companies and enterprises	105.2	103.2	113.4	113.7	0.2	10.2	8.0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	749.0	744.8	759.5	762.7	0.4	2.4	1.8
Educational services	1,147.3	1,164.4	1,171.7	1,189.5	1.5	2.2	3.7
Health care and social assistance	1,664.7	1,659.0	1,683.6	1,688.9	0.3	1.8	1.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	249.6	247.7	249.4	249.6	0.1	0.8	0.0
Accommodation and food services	1,099.9	1,086.5	1,118.4	1,121.0	0.2	3.2	1.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	518.8	517.9	520.7	522.2	0.3	0.8	0.7
Public administration	1,054.6	1,056.2	1,039.6	1,046.0	0.6	-1.0	-0.8
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	207.4	205.1	210.8	211.6	0.4	3.1	2.0
Prince Edward Island	64.2	63.9	65.3	64.0	-2.1	0.0	-0.4
Nova Scotia	402.3	404.9	399.6	403.4	0.9	-0.4	0.3
New Brunswick	316.9	317.5	313.7	315.1	0.4	-0.8	-0.6
Quebec	3,440.2	3,420.1	3,472.0	3,481.3	0.3	1.8	1.2
Ontario	5,745.8	5,752.0	5,826.7	5,839.5	0.2	1.5	1.6
Manitoba	566.5	565.2	575.4	579.1	0.6	2.5	2.2
Saskatchewan	459.8	454.7	470.9	470.8	0.0	3.6	2.4
Alberta	1,855.8	1,829.4	1,921.5	1,932.3	0.6	5.6	4.1
British Columbia	1,934.1	1,930.0	1,956.7	1,960.9	0.2	1.6	1.4
Yukon	20.4	20.6	21.4	21.6	0.8	4.7	5.8
Northwest Territories	27.9	28.5	28.8	28.7	-0.3	0.7	2.8
Nunavut	11.9	11.6	11.4	11.4	-0.1	-1.6	-4.8

^r revised^p preliminary

1. Sector breakdown is based on the North American Industry Classification System.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0039 and 281-0041 to 281-0049.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

A [data table](#) is available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will soon be available in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours*, Vol. 90, no. 8 (72-002-X, free).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for September will be released on November 28.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720; jeannine.usalcas@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Study: Canada's net foreign debt at market value, 1990 to 2012

Canada's net international investment position, referred to as net foreign debt, amounted to \$241.6 billion at market value in the second quarter of 2012, representing roughly 13.5% of national income. Net foreign debt is the difference between Canada's international assets and liabilities.

This picture of Canada's financial dealings with the world is an improvement from the mid-1990s, when net foreign debt amounted to \$297 billion and accounted for about 44% of national income.

This study assessed Canada's international investment position using new market value estimates of Canada's financial assets and liabilities with the world. These new estimates came from recent historical revisions to the Canadian System of National Accounts.

The revisions yielded improved estimates of Canada's financial assets and liabilities, particularly estimates for direct investment that are reported in market values for the first time. Direct investments are international investments in which the investor has a 10% or greater share of outstanding equity.

Using the market value estimates, the role of stock market price increases on the value of Canada's net foreign debt can be illustrated. Market value estimates can change rapidly as economic conditions change, with revaluations raising or lowering the value of foreign direct investment across economic cycles.

This study shows the effect of changes in stock market prices during and after the high-tech boom, as well as the impact of stock price increases and declines through the 2000s.

For example, during the global financial crisis, the new market value estimates show a decline of around 25% in the value of direct investment assets and liabilities in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the previous quarter.

The market value estimates of portfolio investment, which consist of debt or share holdings in which the investor holds less than 10% of the equity in corporations, also fluctuated when significant stock market movements occurred.

This was mostly due to variation in Canadian portfolio investment abroad, which comprises a larger share of equity holdings than foreign portfolio investment in Canada.

Note to readers

This article in the Economic Insights series presents new market value estimates on Canada's international investment position derived from the historical revisions to the Canadian System of National Accounts.

It is one of a series of Economic Insights articles designed to emphasize key aspects of the new National Accounts data and their utility for analysis of the Canadian economy.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 376-0142.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1537.

The study "Canada's Net Foreign Debt at Market Value," part of the *Economic Insights* series (11-626-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Similar studies from the Economic Analysis Division are available online (www.statcan.gc.ca/economicanalysis).

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ryan Macdonald (613-951-5687) or Lydia Couture (613-951-5394), Economic Analysis Division.

Construction Union Wage Rate Index, September 2012

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was unchanged in September compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 2.6% compared with September 2011.

Note to readers

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 22 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. The indexes (2007=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

The wage rates and indexes are subject to a 30-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data. This is due to the length of time that can transpire between the expiration of a collective agreement and the ratification of a new collective agreement. The wage rates and indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0045.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

The second quarter 2012 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X, free) will soon be available.

The construction union wage rate indexes for October will be released on November 22.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Oilseed crushing statistics, September 2012

Oilseed processors crushed 631 585 tonnes of canola in September. Oil production totalled 270 501 tonnes while meal production amounted to 372 296 tonnes.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 001-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3404.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Refined petroleum products, September 2012

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

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

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 us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

The Research Data Centres Information and Technical Bulletin, Fall 2012, Vol. 5, no. 1
Catalogue number 12-002-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire, August 2012, Vol. 8, no. 8
Catalogue number 41-019-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Retail Trade, August 2012, Vol. 84, no. 8
Catalogue number 63-005-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

New studies

Economic Insights: "Canada's Net Foreign Debt at Market Value", No. 18
Catalogue number 11-626-X2012018 (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Analyzing Census microdata in an RDC: What weight to use?
The Research Data Centres Information and Technical Bulletin



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

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