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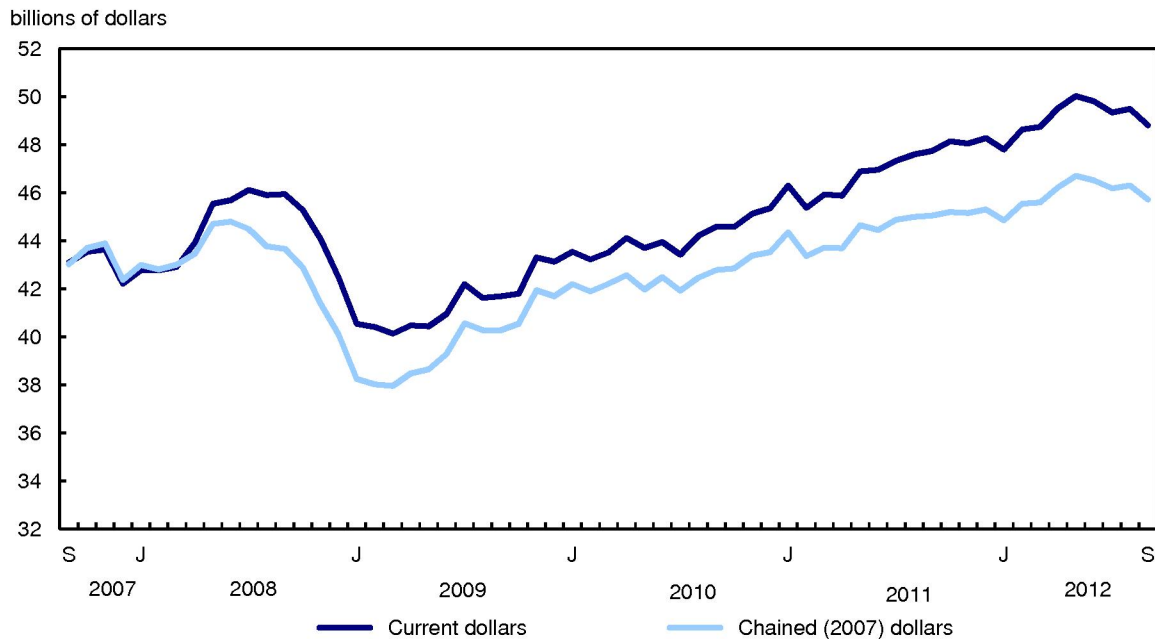
Releases

Wholesale trade, September 2012

Wholesale sales fell 1.4% to \$48.8 billion in September, the third decline in four months. Sales were lower in every subsector.

In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 1.3% in September.

Chart 1
Wholesale sales decrease in September



Sales lower in all subsectors

The motor vehicle and parts subsector was by far the largest contributor in dollar terms to September's decline, followed by the personal and household goods subsector and the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector. These three subsectors accounted for more than 85% of the decrease.

Sales in the motor vehicle and parts subsector were down for a third straight month, posting a 4.0% decline. This trend coincides with a decrease in imports of motor vehicles and parts during the same period.

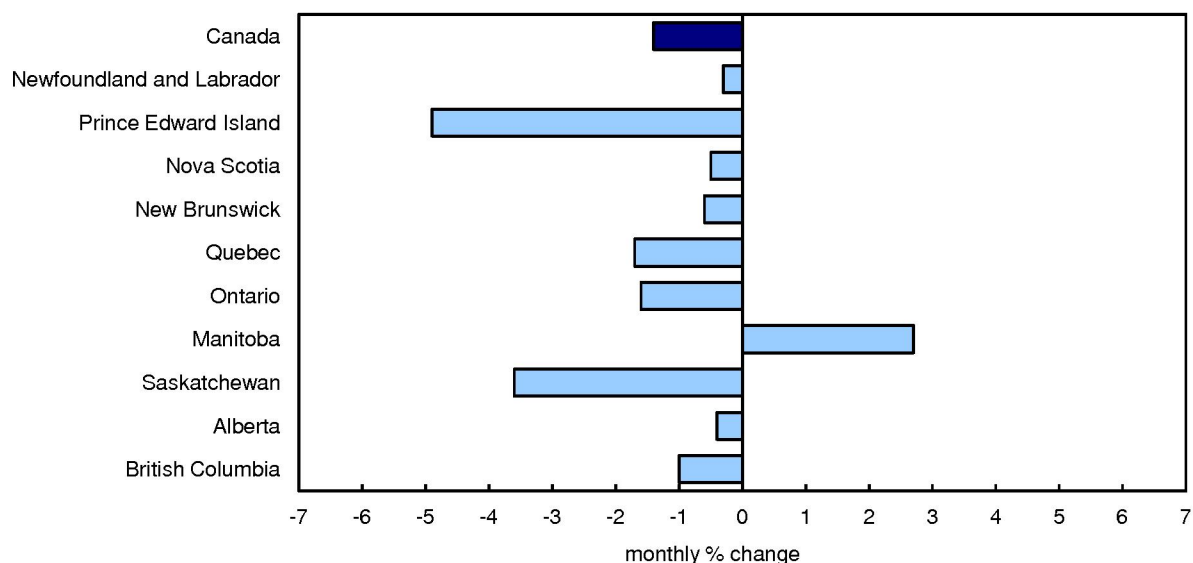
The second largest decline was observed in the personal and household goods subsector. Sales fell 2.0%, largely as a result of a 3.3% decrease in the pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies industry.

The machinery, equipment and supplies subsector decreased 1.0%, its second decline in three months. All four industries in this subsector reported lower sales in September.

Lower sales in most provinces

Sales declined in nine provinces in September.

Chart 2
Wholesale sales down in most provinces in September



The decrease was concentrated in Ontario and Quebec. Wholesale sales in these two provinces have been on a downward trend since mid-2012. These declines have almost entirely offset the increases seen at the beginning of the year in Ontario and half of the gains observed in Quebec.

Sales in Ontario fell 1.6% in September. This result was in part due to lower sales in the motor vehicle industry, which accounts for nearly 20% of the province's total wholesale sales.

In Quebec, sales were down 1.7% after rising slightly in August.

In Saskatchewan, sales decreased 3.6%, the fourth consecutive monthly decline.

Manitoba was the only province to post an increase. Sales were up 2.7% in September, the second straight advance.

Inventory levels down

Inventories were down 0.4% to \$61.4 billion in September, the first decrease in 10 months.

The decline was primarily due to lower inventories in the motor vehicle industry (-7.2%), overshadowing the higher inventories reported by 15 of 25 industries in September.

The slight decline in inventories compared with the decrease in sales translated into an increase in the inventory-to-sales ratio from 1.25 in August to 1.26 in September.

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.

Note to readers

All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Total wholesale sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using relevant price indexes. The wholesale sales series in chained (2007) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2007 as the reference year.

Data for total wholesale sales in volume, including the chain Fisher volume index, have been revised from January 2004 onward to reflect methodological enhancements. In addition, the reference year has changed from 2002 to 2007 for these volume data. For more information, see [Sales in volume for Wholesale Trade](#).

The former CANSIM table 081-0013 has been replaced by CANSIM table 081-0015. Revised data dating back to January 2004 are now available in this new CANSIM table.

Table 1
Wholesale merchants' sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	September 2011	August 2012 ^r	September 2012 ^p	August to September 2012	September 2011 to September 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	47,733	49,476	48,801	-1.4	2.2
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	40,251	41,110	40,771	-0.8	1.3
Farm product	633	552	519	-6.0	-18.0
Food, beverage and tobacco	9,182	9,531	9,500	-0.3	3.5
Food	8,200	8,541	8,533	-0.1	4.1
Beverage	461	479	471	-1.7	2.2
Cigarette and tobacco product	521	511	496	-3.0	-4.8
Personal and household goods	7,056	6,967	6,828	-2.0	-3.2
Textile, clothing and footwear	953	949	925	-2.6	-3.0
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	759	688	704	2.3	-7.2
Home furnishings	417	473	478	1.0	14.6
Personal goods	757	736	712	-3.2	-5.9
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,517	3,478	3,363	-3.3	-4.4
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	654	644	647	0.4	-1.1
Motor vehicle and parts	7,482	8,367	8,030	-4.0	7.3
Motor vehicle	5,637	6,375	6,071	-4.8	7.7
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,799	1,943	1,909	-1.7	6.1
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	47	48	50	2.9	7.0
Building material and supplies	6,482	6,860	6,839	-0.3	5.5
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,098	2,147	2,122	-1.1	1.2
Metal service centres	1,406	1,577	1,574	-0.2	11.9
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,978	3,136	3,143	0.2	5.6
Machinery, equipment and supplies	10,068	10,933	10,823	-1.0	7.5
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,201	1,243	1,231	-0.9	2.5
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	3,621	3,754	3,728	-0.7	3.0
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,829	3,336	3,312	-0.7	17.1
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,418	2,600	2,552	-1.8	5.6
Miscellaneous	6,829	6,265	6,262	-0.1	-8.3
Recyclable material	871	678	712	5.0	-18.3
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	930	860	873	1.5	-6.1
Agricultural supplies	1,725	1,625	1,528	-5.9	-11.4
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,194	1,173	1,181	0.7	-1.1
Other miscellaneous	2,109	1,929	1,968	2.0	-6.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.

Table 2
Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	September 2011	August 2012 ^r	September 2012 ^p	August to September 2012	September 2011 to September 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	47,733	49,476	48,801	-1.4	2.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	329	333	332	-0.3	0.9
Prince Edward Island	48	47	45	-4.9	-6.9
Nova Scotia	673	724	720	-0.5	7.0
New Brunswick	478	486	483	-0.6	1.2
Quebec	9,098	9,545	9,380	-1.7	3.1
Ontario	23,465	24,017	23,625	-1.6	0.7
Manitoba	1,279	1,306	1,342	2.7	4.9
Saskatchewan	1,852	1,821	1,755	-3.6	-5.2
Alberta	6,049	6,523	6,496	-0.4	7.4
British Columbia	4,398	4,595	4,550	-1.0	3.5
Yukon	11	14	12	-12.0	4.1
Northwest Territories	48	60	54	-9.8	11.7
Nunavut	5	6	7	13.5	49.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Table 3
Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	September 2011	August 2012 ^r	September 2012 ^p	August to September 2012	September 2011 to September 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	56,774	61,655	61,423	-0.4	8.2
Farm product	182	155	170	9.7	-6.8
Food	4,688	4,990	5,021	0.6	7.1
Beverage	276	307	315	2.6	13.9
Cigarette and tobacco product	222	226	230	1.7	3.6
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,936	1,856	1,868	0.6	-3.5
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	768	738	718	-2.8	-6.5
Home furnishings	945	987	995	0.8	5.3
Personal goods	1,366	1,535	1,565	2.0	14.5
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,244	4,794	4,707	-1.8	10.9
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	697	716	710	-0.8	1.9
Motor vehicle	3,706	4,771	4,428	-7.2	19.5
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,229	3,807	3,853	1.2	19.3
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	89	114	111	-3.0	23.7
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,149	3,148	3,122	-0.8	-0.9
Metal service centres	3,016	3,325	3,314	-0.3	9.9
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,581	4,829	4,830	0.0	5.4
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,286	3,639	3,737	2.7	13.7
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	8,124	9,200	9,262	0.7	14.0
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,465	1,613	1,627	0.9	11.1
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,336	3,465	3,382	-2.4	1.4
Recyclable material	631	586	606	3.4	-4.0
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	750	723	707	-2.2	-5.6
Agricultural supplies	2,648	2,633	2,644	0.4	-0.1
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	921	1,128	1,159	2.8	25.9
Other miscellaneous	2,518	2,369	2,342	-1.2	-7.0

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 081-0011, 081-0012 and 081-0015.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The September 2012 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-X, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade data for October will be released on December 19.

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

For analytical information, or 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.

Travel between Canada and other countries, September 2012

Canadian travel to destinations abroad increased across the board in September, while travel to Canada from abroad declined.

In total, Canadian residents took 5.6 million trips to the United States and overseas countries combined, up 2.9% from August.

Overnight travel accounted for almost half of this total, totalling 2.8 million trips, the highest figure since record-keeping began in 1972.

Canadian residents took 4.8 million trips to the United States, up 3.1% from August, as both overnight travel and same-day car travel increased.

Overnight car travel to the United States rose 3.6%, while overnight trips by plane increased 0.9%.

Canadian residents made 2.8 million same-day car trips to the United States in September, a 3.5% increase.

Travel from Canada to overseas countries continued its upward trend, rising 2.0% to 809,000 trips.

In the opposite direction, total travel to Canada fell 0.9% to 2.1 million trips in September.

American residents made 1.7 million trips to Canada in September, down 0.9%, while overseas residents made 372,000 trips, also down 0.9%.

The number of overnight car trips from the United States was down 2.1%, the largest decrease among overnight travel. Same-day car travel from the United States declined 0.7% to 621,000 trips.

Among the top 12 overseas markets, 6 recorded decreases in travel to Canada in September. The largest percentage decreases were in travel from China (-8.3%) and Switzerland (-6.7%).

Travel from Italy and Australia recorded the strongest gains at 8.5% and 5.0% respectively

Note to readers

Monthly data are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	September 2011 ^r	August 2012 ^r	September 2012 ^p	August to September 2012
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	5,221	5,411	5,569	2.9
To the United States	4,438	4,617	4,759	3.1
To other countries	782	793	809	2.0
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,610	2,670	2,762	3.5
Total trips, one or more nights	2,572	2,695	2,761	2.5
United States ³	1,790	1,901	1,951	2.6
Car	1,052	1,152	1,194	3.6
Plane	639	643	648	0.9
Other modes of transportation	99	106	109	2.8
Other countries ⁴	782	793	809	2.0
Travel to Canada²	2,111	2,100	2,081	-0.9
From the United States	1,729	1,725	1,709	-0.9
From other countries	382	375	372	-0.9
Same-day car trips from the United States	666	626	621	-0.7
Total trips, one or more nights	1,349	1,356	1,342	-1.0
United States ³	976	994	985	-0.9
Car	574	585	573	-2.1
Plane	290	298	295	-0.8
Other modes of transportation	111	111	116	4.9
Other countries ⁴	373	362	358	-1.2
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	58	55	53	-2.4
France	39	37	36	-0.2
Germany	27	26	26	0.5
Australia	22	23	24	5.0
China	21	26	24	-8.3
Japan	19	20	20	-2.5
India	12	12	13	0.9
South Korea	13	12	12	0.9
Mexico	12	12	12	-2.2
Hong Kong	10	11	11	0.8
Switzerland	10	10	9	-6.7
Italy	9	8	9	8.5

^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. Data for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and data 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.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The September 2012 issue of *International Travel: Advance Information*, Vol. 28, no. 9 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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 Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division.

Job vacancies, three-month average ending in August 2012

In August, there were 270,000 job vacancies among Canadian businesses, an increase of 22,000 from August 2011. For every job vacancy, there were 5.2 unemployed people, down from 5.8 in August 2011.

The decline in the ratio of unemployment to job vacancies was almost all the result of the increase in job vacancies.

The national job vacancy rate was 1.8% in the three-month period ending in August, up slightly from 1.7% a year earlier.

Note to readers

All data are based on three-month moving averages. For example, the data for August are based on an average of the data for June, July and August.

Data on job vacancies are not seasonally adjusted and should only be compared on a year-over-year basis. Given this is a new data series, trends are not yet available; therefore, data should be interpreted with caution.

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.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Job vacancy data tables are not currently available on CANSIM, but can be obtained free of charge at 1-800-263-1136 (infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

The next job vacancies release, for September, will be on December 12.

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 Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118; jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Civil aviation operating statistics, September 2012

Operational data on civil aviation are now available for September.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 401-0001 and 401-0043.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5026.

A [data table](#) is also 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 us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Electricity supply and disposition, 2011

Data from the annual Electricity Supply and Disposition Survey are now available for 2011.

The survey provides data on the amount of electricity generated, interprovincial movements of electricity, imports, exports and sales to final consumers.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2194.

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).

Electric power thermal generating station fuel consumption, 2011

Data from the annual Electric Power Thermal Generating Station Fuel Consumption Survey are now available for 2011.

The survey provides data on the amount of fuel consumed by thermal generating plants, the cost of the fuel consumed for electric power generation and the amount of electricity generated from these fuels.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2196.

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).

Canada's international trade in services, 2011

Detailed data on international trade in services from 1981 to 2011 are now available.

Data by country, geographical and economic areas for commercial services, travel, transportation and government services are available from 1990 to 2010.

Note to readers

Trade in services covers transactions in travel, transportation, a range of business and professional services referred to as commercial services, and government services.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 376-0031 to 376-0033 and 376-0036.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1536.

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 Denis Caron (613-951-1861; denis.caron@statcan.gc.ca), Balance of Payments Division.

New products and studies

New products

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