

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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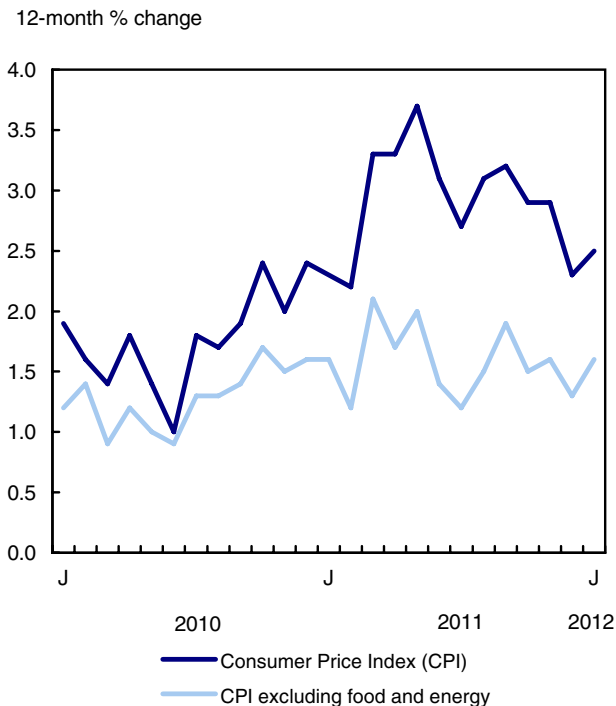
Releases

Consumer Price Index

January 2012

Consumer prices rose 2.5% in the 12 months to January, led by increases for food and energy. The January rise followed a 2.3% increase in December.

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



Food prices rose 4.2% on a year-over-year basis in January following a 4.4% increase in December. In

Note to readers

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 Consumer Price Index's (CPI's) most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel 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.

Statistics Canada is moving to one release time, 8:30 a.m., for all data releases in The Daily. This will mean a change in the release time for the CPI, which is currently 7:00 a.m. This change will be implemented with the release of CPI data on April 20, 2012.

January, consumers paid 4.9% more for food purchased from stores and 2.8% more for food purchased from restaurants compared with January 2011.

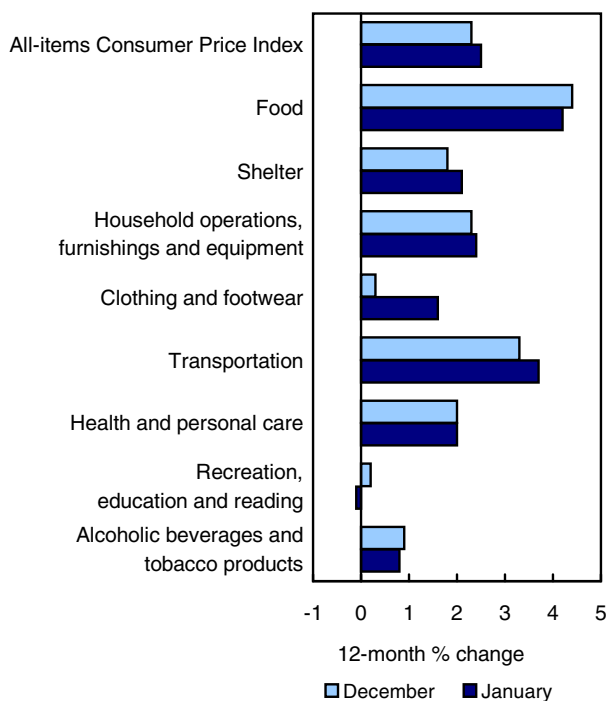
The cost of energy advanced 6.5% in the 12 months to January, after rising 6.0% in December. Gasoline prices increased 6.8% in January. The electricity index rose 7.3%, with notable increases recorded in Alberta and Nova Scotia. Prices for fuel oil went up 17.1% while natural gas prices fell 0.7%.

Excluding food and energy, consumer prices increased 1.6% in the 12 months to January after rising 1.3% in December. The 0.3 percentage point difference was led by higher prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles.

12-month change: Prices up in seven of the eight major components

On a year-over-year basis, prices rose in seven of the eight major components in January, the exception being recreation, education and reading. Transportation and food continued to post the largest increases.

Transportation and food continue to post largest price increases



The cost of transportation went up 3.7% in the 12 months to January, after gaining 3.3% in December. In addition to gasoline, prices increased for passenger vehicle insurance premiums (+3.4%) and for the purchase of passenger vehicles (+1.4%). Prices for air transportation also went up.

Food prices rose 4.2% on a year-over-year basis in January led by increases for food purchased from stores. Consumers paid more for meat (+6.5%), bread (+9.9%) and fresh vegetables (+8.3%).

Shelter costs went up 2.1% in the 12 months to January, following a 1.8% increase posted in December. In addition to electricity and fuel oil, consumers also paid more in homeowners' replacement costs. Conversely, mortgage interest cost decreased 0.4% in January after falling 0.7% the month before.

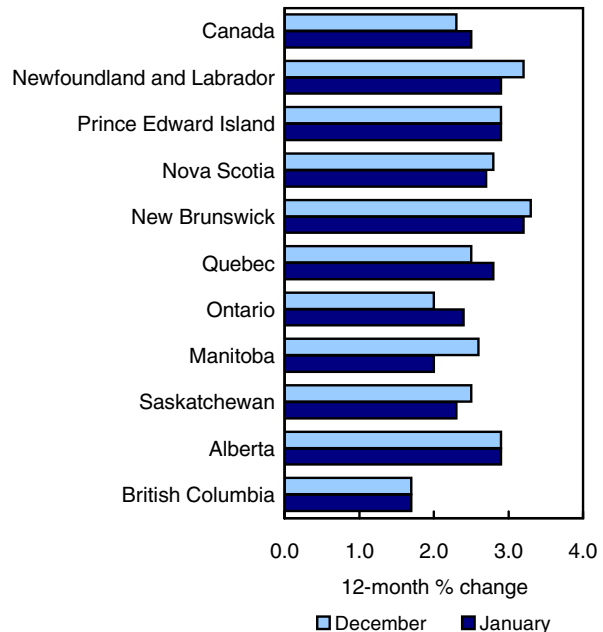
On a year-over-year basis, prices for recreation, education and reading declined 0.1% in January as consumers paid less for video equipment and travel tours.

Provinces: Prices up in all provinces

Consumer prices rose in every province in the 12 months to January. New Brunswick (+3.2%)

posted the largest increase while British Columbia (+1.7%) recorded the smallest gain.

Prices rise in every province



Prices in Quebec rose 2.8% on a year-over-year basis in January, after increasing 2.5% in December. Gasoline prices went up 11.4% following a 9.9% gain in December. Quebec consumers also paid more for food purchased from restaurants and for fuel oil. In January, prices in Quebec were affected by a one percentage point increase in the provincial sales tax.

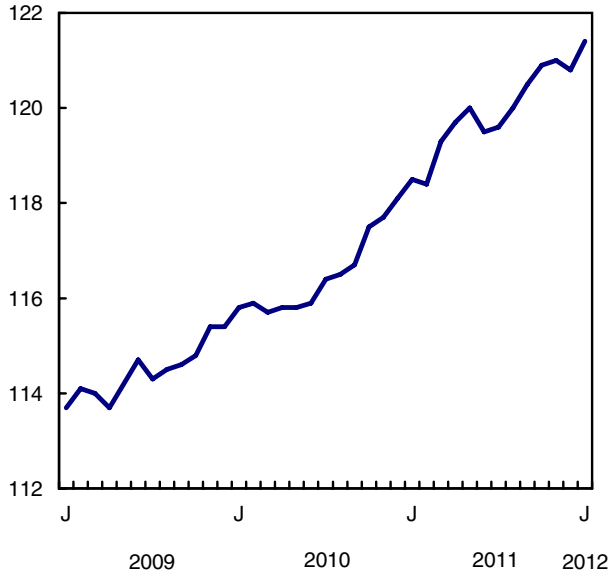
In Alberta, prices increased 2.9% in the 12 months to January, matching the rise in December. The province continued to experience notable price increases for electricity. Conversely, of all the provinces, Alberta posted the smallest year-over-year gain for gasoline (+0.4%) in January. Passenger vehicle insurance premiums also went up.

Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index increases

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices increased 0.5% from December to January after decreasing 0.2% from November to December. The transportation index rose 1.3% in January following a 1.2% decline the month before.

Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index advances

index (2002=100)



The shelter index rose 0.2% after rising 0.4% in December. The indexes for food, household operations, furnishings and equipment, and alcoholic beverages and tobacco products also rose in January.

Bank of Canada's core index

The Bank of Canada's core index rose 2.1% in the 12 months to January, after increasing 1.9%

in December. Notable increases were recorded for electricity, food purchased from restaurants and homeowners' replacement costs.

The seasonally adjusted monthly core index rose 0.3% in January after falling 0.1% in December.

For a more detailed analysis, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*.

Available without charge in 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 Consumer Price Index (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 January 2012 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 91, no. 1 (62-001-X, free), is now available from the *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 February will be released on March 23.

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) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636), Communications Division.

□

Consumer Price Index and major components, Canada – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	100.00²	117.8	120.2	120.7	0.4	2.5
Food	15.99	124.9	129.3	130.2	0.7	4.2
Shelter	27.49	124.5	126.8	127.1	0.2	2.1
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.55	109.6	111.8	112.2	0.4	2.4
Clothing and footwear	5.31	87.9	89.1	89.3	0.2	1.6
Transportation	20.60	122.8	125.2	127.4	1.8	3.7
Health and personal care	4.95	115.8	118.1	118.1	0.0	2.0
Recreation, education and reading	11.20	102.7	104.1	102.6	-1.4	-0.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.91	135.2	135.8	136.3	0.4	0.8
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ³	82.15	116.0	118.2	118.4	0.2	2.1
All-items CPI excluding energy	89.92	115.5	117.5	117.9	0.3	2.1
Energy ⁴	10.08	146.0	152.7	155.5	1.8	6.5
Gasoline	5.80	163.6	170.0	174.7	2.8	6.8
All-items CPI excluding food and energy	73.93	113.4	115.0	115.2	0.2	1.6
Goods	47.80	110.5	112.6	113.6	0.9	2.8
Services	52.20	125.0	127.7	127.8	0.1	2.2

1. 2009 CPI basket weights at April 2011 prices, Canada, effective May 2011. 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 Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel 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. For additional information on the core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/price-indexes/cpi).
4. The special aggregate "Energy" includes electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles.

Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00²	117.8	120.2	120.7	0.4	2.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.29	119.0	121.9	122.5	0.5	2.9
Prince Edward Island	0.35	120.1	123.4	123.6	0.2	2.9
Nova Scotia	2.56	120.4	122.7	123.7	0.8	2.7
New Brunswick	2.06	117.2	120.4	121.0	0.5	3.2
Quebec	21.21	116.4	118.7	119.7	0.8	2.8
Ontario	39.85	117.8	120.3	120.6	0.2	2.4
Manitoba	3.16	116.6	118.6	118.9	0.3	2.0
Saskatchewan	2.90	120.1	122.4	122.9	0.4	2.3
Alberta	11.97	123.5	126.5	127.1	0.5	2.9
British Columbia	14.47	114.8	116.5	116.8	0.3	1.7
Whitehorse	0.08	115.9	118.8	118.8	0.0	2.5
Yellowknife	0.07	119.3	123.4	124.1	0.6	4.0
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	112.5	114.2	114.2	0.0	1.5

1. 2009 Consumer Price Index basket weights at April 2011 prices, effective May 2011. 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 – Seasonally adjusted¹

	Relative importance ²	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	November to December 2011	December to January 2012
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	100.00³	121.0	120.8	121.4	-0.2	0.5
Food	15.99	129.5	129.7	130.1	0.2	0.3
Shelter	27.49	126.3	126.8	127.1	0.4	0.2
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.55	112.1	112.1	112.4	0.0	0.3
Clothing and footwear	5.31	91.9	91.8	92.0	-0.1	0.2
Transportation	20.60	128.5	127.0	128.6	-1.2	1.3
Health and personal care	4.95	117.7	118.3	118.3	0.5	0.0
Recreation, education and reading	11.20	105.0	105.0	105.0	0.0	0.0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.91	135.8	135.8	136.3	0.0	0.4
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ⁴	82.15	118.6	118.5	118.8	-0.1	0.3
All-items CPI excluding food and energy ⁵	73.93	115.4	115.3	115.7	-0.1	0.3

1. Each month, the previous month's seasonally adjusted index is subject to revision. On an annual basis, the seasonally adjusted values for the last three years are revised with the January data release. Since these revisions can lead to changes in both the levels and movements of the indexes, users employing the CPI for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes.
2. 2009 CPI basket weights at April 2011 prices, Canada, effective May 2011. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/index-eng.htm).
3. Figures may not add to 100% as a result of rounding.
4. The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel 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. For additional information on the core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/price-indexes/cpi).
5. The special aggregate "Energy" includes electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles.



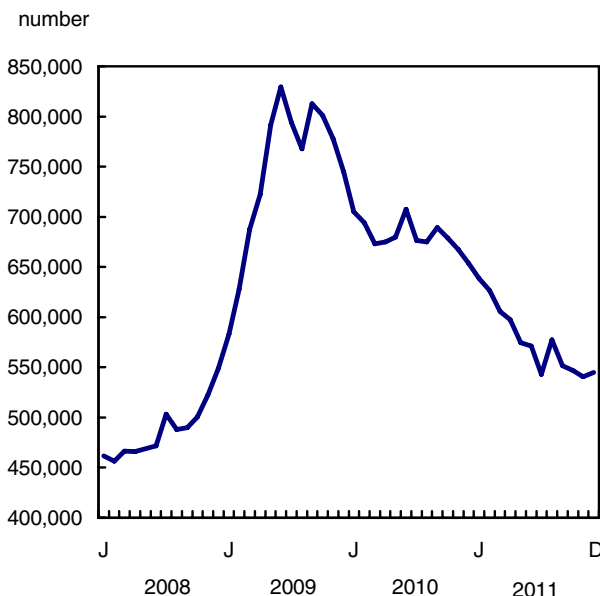
Employment Insurance

December 2011

The number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits edged up 4,200 (+0.8%) to 544,700 in December. The number of beneficiaries remained relatively stable during the final quarter of the year, but was down 109,400 (-16.7%) compared with 12 months earlier.

There were more people receiving benefits in six provinces, with the largest percentage increases occurring in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario. The largest decline was observed in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries relatively stable in the fourth quarter



Number of Employment Insurance claims unchanged in December

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Nationally, the number of initial and renewal claims was essentially unchanged, at 238,000 in December. Provincially, the number of claims declined 4.8% in Saskatchewan and 1.8% in Quebec. In Newfoundland and Labrador, claims rose 2.7%, while in Alberta, they increased 1.9%. There were no notable changes in the other provinces.

Note to readers

The change in the number of regular Employment Insurance (EI) beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people exhausting their regular benefits.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified.

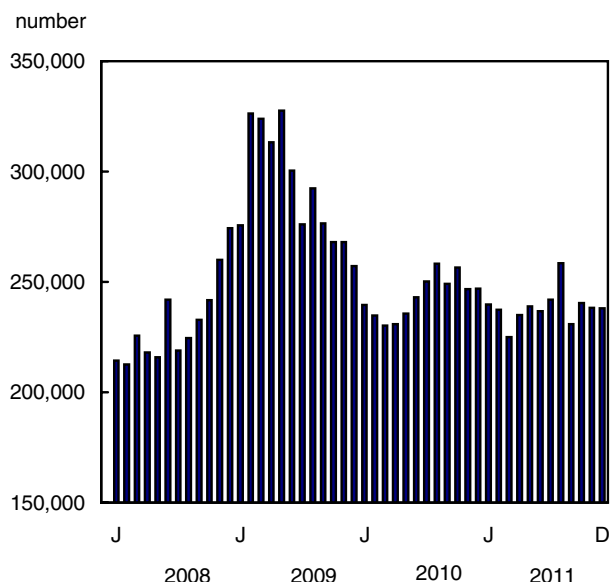
EI statistics are produced from administrative data sources provided by Service Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for November and December are preliminary. In this release, large centres correspond to those with a population of 10,000 or more.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all people who received EI benefits from December 4 to 10. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with data coming from the LFS, which provides information on the total number of unemployed people.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed people who do not qualify for benefits. Some unemployed people have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

Number of claims unchanged in December



Provincial summary

The number of people receiving regular EI benefits in December rose in six provinces, with the largest percentage increases occurring in Manitoba (+3.7%), Saskatchewan (+3.6%) and Ontario (+2.6%). At the same time, the number of beneficiaries in Newfoundland and Labrador fell 2.1%, the third consecutive monthly decline in the province.

Sub-provincial and demographic overview

EI data by sub-provincial region, sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and are therefore compared on a year-over-year basis.

Year-over-year declines continue in most large centres

Between December 2010 and December 2011, the number of people receiving EI regular benefits declined in 131 of the 143 large centres (see map). Large centres are those with a population of 10,000 or more.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the number of beneficiaries was down in four of the five large centres. In St. John's, the number of people receiving benefits fell 16.0%, continuing a series of year-over-year declines that began almost two years earlier.

In Prince Edward Island, both large centres had fewer beneficiaries in December. The biggest percentage decline was in Charlottetown, where the number of beneficiaries fell 14.2%.

In Nova Scotia, all five large centres had fewer beneficiaries in the 12 months to December. The largest percentage decline occurred in Halifax, where the number of people receiving benefits fell 14.1% to 4,900, continuing the downward trend that began in spring 2010.

In New Brunswick, two of the six large centres had fewer beneficiaries in December compared with 12 months earlier. The number of people receiving benefits fell 13.8% in Moncton and 10.6% in Saint John. There was little change in the four other large centres in the province.

In Quebec, the number of beneficiaries declined in 29 of the 33 large centres, with the largest percentage decreases in Rouyn-Noranda, Amos, Montréal and Québec. In Montréal, the number of people receiving benefits fell 19.1% to 52,800, extending a series of declines that began in spring 2010. In the census metropolitan area of Québec, the number of beneficiaries declined 17.4% in the 12 months to December.

Of the 41 large centres in Ontario, 38 had fewer beneficiaries in December compared with 12 months earlier. The largest percentage decreases occurred in Hamilton, Stratford, Windsor, Chatham-Kent, Guelph and Toronto. In Toronto, the number of beneficiaries fell 25.6% to 53,700, extending the series of year-over-year monthly declines that started in spring 2010.

In Manitoba, the number of people receiving regular benefits was down in all four large centres in the 12 months to December. In Winnipeg, the number of beneficiaries fell 15.4% to 6,400, the 16th consecutive month of year-over-year declines.

In Saskatchewan, all eight large centres recorded year-over-year declines in the number of beneficiaries, the largest occurring in Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Regina. In Saskatoon, 1,800 people received benefits, down 19.0%, extending a year-long series of declines. In Regina, the number of beneficiaries fell 13.5% to 1,300, continuing a series of declines that began in summer 2010.

In Alberta, all 12 large centres had fewer beneficiaries in December than 12 months earlier. The largest percentage decreases occurred in Grande Prairie, Cold Lake, Lethbridge and Calgary. In Calgary, 8,100 people received benefits in December, down 38.2% from 12 months earlier, the fastest pace of decline among all census metropolitan areas. In Edmonton, the number of beneficiaries was 9,200, down 33.8%.

In British Columbia, the number of beneficiaries fell in all 25 large centres, with the largest percentage declines in Fort St. John, Powell River, Dawson Creek, Vernon and Vancouver. In Vancouver, 24,400 people received benefits in December, down 25.2% from 12 months earlier. In Victoria, the number of beneficiaries was 3,000, down 23.5%.

Demographic groups

In December, 337,500 men received regular benefits, down 16.0% from December 2010. The number of beneficiaries fell 16.2% among men under 25 years of age and 17.2% among those aged 25 to 54. For men aged 55 and over, the number receiving benefits declined 12.2%.

In December, 211,600 women received benefits, down 15.9% from 12 months earlier. Among those under 25, the number of beneficiaries fell 18.4%, while for those aged 25 to 54, it declined 16.7%. For women aged 55 and over, the decline was 12.1%, similar to the rate of decrease for their male counterparts.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0004, 276-0006, 276-0009 and 276-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*, choose *Subject* then *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance (EI) for January will be released on March 22.

A set of maps, *Employment Insurance Statistics Maps*, December 2011 (73-002-X, free), is now available

online. The maps show percent changes in the number of people receiving regular EI benefits for all census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations in Canada. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca), Communications Division.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lahouaria Yssaad (613-951-0627), Labour Statistics Division.

Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	November 2011 ^P	December 2011 ^P	November to December 2011	December to December 2011	November to December 2011	December to December 2011
	number		change in number		% change	
Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits						
Canada	540,490	544,720	4,230	-109,350	0.8	-16.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	35,950	35,200	-750	-1,670	-2.1	-4.5
Prince Edward Island	8,280	8,170	-110	-330	-1.3	-3.9
Nova Scotia	31,550	31,350	-200	-1,700	-0.6	-5.1
New Brunswick	33,560	33,160	-400	-150	-1.2	-0.5
Quebec	160,300	161,610	1,310	-23,720	0.8	-12.8
Ontario	157,470	161,630	4,160	-43,260	2.6	-21.1
Manitoba	12,410	12,870	460	-2,150	3.7	-14.3
Saskatchewan	9,700	10,050	350	-2,230	3.6	-18.2
Alberta	28,890	29,370	480	-16,760	1.7	-36.3
British Columbia	59,670	60,530	860	-17,530	1.4	-22.5
Yukon	910	940	30	-30	3.3	-3.1
Northwest Territories	870	880	10	-70	1.1	-7.4
Nunavut	490	490	0	-50	0.0	-9.3
Initial and renewal claims received						
Canada	238,300	238,030	-270	-8,920	-0.1	-3.6
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,940	9,180	240	0	2.7	0.0
Prince Edward Island	2,480	2,530	50	10	2.0	0.4
Nova Scotia	10,060	10,200	140	340	1.4	3.4
New Brunswick	10,280	10,120	-160	330	-1.6	3.4
Quebec	70,530	69,280	-1,250	-3,890	-1.8	-5.3
Ontario	75,130	74,530	-600	-5,940	-0.8	-7.4
Manitoba	7,680	7,730	50	30	0.7	0.4
Saskatchewan	6,090	5,800	-290	50	-4.8	0.9
Alberta	18,480	18,830	350	-1,500	1.9	-7.4
British Columbia	28,190	27,930	-260	-590	-0.9	-2.1
Yukon	380	360	-20	40	-5.3	12.5
Northwest Territories	310	300	-10	-20	-3.2	-6.3
Nunavut	190	170	-20	-50	-10.5	-22.7

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, and province and territory – Not seasonally adjusted

	December 2010	December 2011 ^P	December 2010 to December 2011	December 2010 to December 2011
	number		change in number	% change
Canada				
Both sexes	653,330	549,090	-104,240	-16.0
Under 25 years	65,580	54,560	-11,020	-16.8
25 to 54 years	447,290	371,160	-76,130	-17.0
55 years and over	140,450	123,370	-17,080	-12.2
Men	401,810	337,540	-64,270	-16.0
Under 25 years	47,060	39,440	-7,620	-16.2
25 to 54 years	267,010	221,050	-45,960	-17.2
55 years and over	87,730	77,050	-10,680	-12.2
Women	251,520	211,550	-39,970	-15.9
Under 25 years	18,520	15,120	-3,400	-18.4
25 to 54 years	180,280	150,110	-30,170	-16.7
55 years and over	52,720	46,320	-6,400	-12.1
Newfoundland and Labrador				
Both sexes	38,710	36,460	-2,250	-5.8
Under 25 years	3,420	2,950	-470	-13.7
25 to 54 years	25,290	23,210	-2,080	-8.2
55 years and over	10,010	10,310	300	3.0
Men	23,040	21,130	-1,910	-8.3
Women	15,670	15,330	-340	-2.2
Prince Edward Island				
Both sexes	10,170	9,570	-600	-5.9
Under 25 years	980	900	-80	-8.2
25 to 54 years	6,430	5,860	-570	-8.9
55 years and over	2,760	2,820	60	2.2
Men	5,980	5,560	-420	-7.0
Women	4,200	4,010	-190	-4.5
Nova Scotia				
Both sexes	32,680	30,790	-1,890	-5.8
Under 25 years	3,490	3,220	-270	-7.7
25 to 54 years	21,880	20,310	-1,570	-7.2
55 years and over	7,320	7,260	-60	-0.8
Men	19,570	18,360	-1,210	-6.2
Women	13,110	12,430	-680	-5.2
New Brunswick				
Both sexes	35,300	34,340	-960	-2.7
Under 25 years	3,090	3,050	-40	-1.3
25 to 54 years	23,300	22,440	-860	-3.7
55 years and over	8,910	8,850	-60	-0.7
Men	23,000	22,090	-910	-4.0
Women	12,300	12,250	-50	-0.4
Quebec				
Both sexes	190,880	168,610	-22,270	-11.7
Under 25 years	20,150	17,750	-2,400	-11.9
25 to 54 years	128,520	112,340	-16,180	-12.6
55 years and over	42,210	38,530	-3,680	-8.7
Men	120,640	108,060	-12,580	-10.4
Women	70,230	60,550	-9,680	-13.8
Ontario				
Both sexes	190,310	150,400	-39,910	-21.0
Under 25 years	17,810	14,730	-3,080	-17.3
25 to 54 years	135,420	106,360	-29,060	-21.5
55 years and over	37,090	29,320	-7,770	-20.9
Men	114,500	90,160	-24,340	-21.3
Women	75,810	60,240	-15,570	-20.5

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, and province and territory – Not seasonally adjusted

	December 2010	December 2011 ^P	December 2010 to December 2011	December 2010 to December 2011
	number		change in number	% change
Manitoba				
Both sexes	15,520	13,650	-1,870	-12.0
Under 25 years	2,050	1,920	-130	-6.3
25 to 54 years	10,420	9,050	-1,370	-13.1
55 years and over	3,060	2,680	-380	-12.4
Men	10,730	9,500	-1,230	-11.5
Women	4,800	4,150	-650	-13.5
Saskatchewan				
Both sexes	12,790	10,700	-2,090	-16.3
Under 25 years	1,430	1,120	-310	-21.7
25 to 54 years	8,590	7,000	-1,590	-18.5
55 years and over	2,770	2,580	-190	-6.9
Men	8,670	7,360	-1,310	-15.1
Women	4,110	3,340	-770	-18.7
Alberta				
Both sexes	44,070	28,940	-15,130	-34.3
Under 25 years	4,510	2,620	-1,890	-41.9
25 to 54 years	30,840	20,180	-10,660	-34.6
55 years and over	8,720	6,150	-2,570	-29.5
Men	27,000	17,480	-9,520	-35.3
Women	17,070	11,450	-5,620	-32.9
British Columbia				
Both sexes	79,910	62,880	-17,030	-21.3
Under 25 years	8,400	6,090	-2,310	-27.5
25 to 54 years	54,400	42,390	-12,010	-22.1
55 years and over	17,100	14,400	-2,700	-15.8
Men	46,790	36,080	-10,710	-22.9
Women	33,120	26,800	-6,320	-19.1
Yukon				
Both sexes	1,220	1,180	-40	-3.3
Under 25 years	110	100	-10	-9.1
25 to 54 years	820	790	-30	-3.7
55 years and over	290	290	0	0.0
Men	740	740	0	0.0
Women	490	430	-60	-12.2
Northwest Territories				
Both sexes	1,040	960	-80	-7.7
Under 25 years	90	90	0	0.0
25 to 54 years	800	730	-70	-8.8
55 years and over	150	140	-10	-6.7
Men	700	640	-60	-8.6
Women	330	320	-10	-3.0
Nunavut				
Both sexes	540	480	-60	-11.1
Under 25 years	60	50	-10	-16.7
25 to 54 years	430	390	-40	-9.3
55 years and over	40	40	0	0.0
Men	350	340	-10	-2.9
Women	190	140	-50	-26.3

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by census metropolitan area¹ – Not seasonally adjusted

	December 2010	December 2011 ^P	December 2010 to December 2011	December 2010 to December 2011
	number		change in number	% change
Newfoundland and Labrador				
St. John's	4,630	3,890	-740	-16.0
Nova Scotia				
Halifax	5,660	4,860	-800	-14.1
New Brunswick				
Saint John	2,550	2,280	-270	-10.6
Quebec				
Saguenay	4,250	3,880	-370	-8.7
Québec	11,660	9,630	-2,030	-17.4
Sherbrooke	3,210	2,680	-530	-16.5
Trois-Rivières	4,100	3,700	-400	-9.8
Montréal	65,230	52,800	-12,430	-19.1
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,500	3,100	-400	-11.4
Ontario				
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	7,420	6,410	-1,010	-13.6
Kingston	1,650	1,440	-210	-12.7
Oshawa	5,000	4,110	-890	-17.8
Toronto	72,100	53,660	-18,440	-25.6
Hamilton	9,270	5,970	-3,300	-35.6
St. Catharines–Niagara	8,420	6,950	-1,470	-17.5
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	6,150	4,950	-1,200	-19.5
London	7,110	5,610	-1,500	-21.1
Windsor	5,670	3,950	-1,720	-30.3
Greater Sudbury	2,690	2,070	-620	-23.0
Thunder Bay	1,800	1,400	-400	-22.2
Manitoba				
Winnipeg	7,590	6,420	-1,170	-15.4
Saskatchewan				
Regina	1,480	1,280	-200	-13.5
Saskatoon	2,260	1,830	-430	-19.0
Alberta				
Calgary	13,070	8,080	-4,990	-38.2
Edmonton	13,960	9,240	-4,720	-33.8
British Columbia				
Abbotsford–Mission	4,330	4,030	-300	-6.9
Vancouver	32,560	24,360	-8,200	-25.2
Victoria	3,920	3,000	-920	-23.5

^P preliminary

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

Note: The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.



Leading indicators

January 2012

The composite leading index increased 0.7% in January, following an identical gain in the previous month. This was the seventh consecutive increase in the index. The increase was concentrated in manufacturing, housing and services employment, and was offset by declines in durable goods sales and equity prices.

Out of the three manufacturing components, two increased. The ratio of shipments to inventories rose for the third straight month as sales strengthened and inventories were depleted, while the average workweek lengthened for the fourth month in a row. However, new orders for durable goods edged down after two monthly gains. Housing, money supply, and services employment components also increased. This was the 10th monthly increase in services employment.

Furniture and appliance sales fell; their fifth straight decline. Spending on other durable goods also declined

after posting gains since May. The US leading indicator decreased for a second month in a row, while the equity prices were down for the eighth consecutive month.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the March 2012 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 25, no. 3 (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

	August 2011	September 2011	October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	255.9	256.3	256.8	258.9	260.8	262.5	0.7
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	128.3	130.6	132.6	132.9	134.0	135.3	1.0
Business and personal services employment ('000)	3,013	3,029	3,038	3,051	3,063	3,074	0.4
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	13,353	12,889	12,578	12,359	12,161	12,097	-0.5
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	228,219	230,162	232,746	234,545	236,616	239,711	1.3
U.S. Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	140.3	140.4	140.3	140.3	140.2	140.1	-0.1
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	36.7	36.7	36.9	37.2	37.6	37.7	0.3
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	27,421	27,196	25,574	26,515	26,792	26,760	-0.1
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.92	1.91	1.90	1.92	1.93	1.96	0.03 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	3,017	3,008	3,001	2,981	2,947	2,931	-0.5
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	10,581	10,684	10,753	10,832	10,904	10,887	-0.2
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	258.6	257.0	260.9	263.5	263.9	267.0	1.2

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.

Apartment Building Construction Price Index

Fourth quarter 2011

The composite price index for apartment building construction increased 0.4% in the fourth quarter compared with the previous quarter. The quarterly change was mainly a result of continued strength in this sector of the residential construction market.

All of the seven census metropolitan areas (CMAs) surveyed reported quarterly increases varying from 0.1% to 0.9%. Edmonton and Calgary (both +0.9%) posted the largest increases.

Year over year, the composite price index for apartment building construction was up 3.7%. Of the CMAs surveyed, Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part (+4.4%) recorded the largest year-over-year increase, while Halifax (+3.2%) recorded the smallest gain.

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 without charge in CANSIM: table 327-0044.

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

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

The apartment building construction price indexes for the first quarter of 2012 will be released on May 18.

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) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636), Communications Division.

Apartment Building Construction Price Index¹ – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ²	Fourth quarter 2010	Third quarter 2011	Fourth quarter 2011	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2011	Fourth quarter 2010 to fourth quarter 2011
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Composite index	100.0	136.8	141.4	141.9	0.4	3.7
Halifax	2.2	132.6	136.2	136.8	0.4	3.2
Montréal	26.8	135.2	139.5	139.7	0.1	3.3
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part	2.9	141.4	147.4	147.6	0.1	4.4
Toronto	40.8	137.2	142.6	143.0	0.3	4.2
Calgary	3.4	156.6	160.9	162.3	0.9	3.6
Edmonton	4.8	152.3	157.0	158.4	0.9	4.0
Vancouver	19.1	135.7	139.6	140.6	0.7	3.6

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.

Fruit and vegetable production 2011

Sales of fruits and vegetables by Canadian farmers were up 7.1% in 2011 from 2010 to \$1.5 billion.

Fruit growers reported that sales increased 14.3% to \$753 million, while vegetable sales rose 0.9% to \$780 million.

Most of the 14.3% increase in 2011 fruit sales was a result of blueberry sales, up 36.4%, and cranberry sales, up 25.7%. Increased production was the main factor for increased sales in blueberries and cranberries.

Farmers in Ontario and Quebec accounted for more than 80% of vegetable sales. The vast majority of fruit sales came from British Columbia (37.7%), Ontario (27.0%) and Quebec (23.1%).

Farmers planted 534,024 acres in fruits and vegetables in 2011, a 1.5% decline from 2010. Vegetable area fell 6.1% to 234,942 acres, mainly because of weather conditions. The largest contributors to the decrease in vegetable area were sweet corn, with 10.2% fewer acres, and beans, with 15.5% fewer

acres. Farmers planted 299,082 acres in fruits, up 2.4%. Blueberry plantings were mainly responsible for the increased fruit area.

Production of fruits rose 9.5% while vegetable production declined 2.5%. Three crops accounted for most of the increased production in fruits: blueberries, apples and cranberries. The main vegetables contributing to the decrease in production were tomatoes, which fell 4.4%, and cucumbers and gherkins, which decreased 23.4%.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 001-0009 and 001-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3407 and 3411.

The February 2012 issue of *Fruit and Vegetable Production*, Vol. 80, no. 2 (22-003-X, free), which is published twice a year in June and February, 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 Lorie Shinder (613-951-0524; lorie.shinder@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

October, November and December 2011

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for October and November.

Preliminary data on exports and closing inventories, held in Canada; tanks: crude oil and condensate are available for December upon request.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2148 and 2191.

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; energ@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

Exporter and Importer Register Databases 2010

Data from the Exporter Register Database are now available for 1996 to 2010. The database provides information on exporters by industry groupings, exporter size, province or territory of residence, country of destination and employment size.

Data from the Importer Register Database are also now available for 2002 to 2010. The database provides information on importers by industry groupings, importer size, province or territory of residence, country of origin and employment size.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5124.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, or to order custom tabulation requests, contact Lili Mei (613-951-5047) or Client Services (toll-free 1-800-294-5583; trade@statcan.gc.ca), International Trade Division. ■

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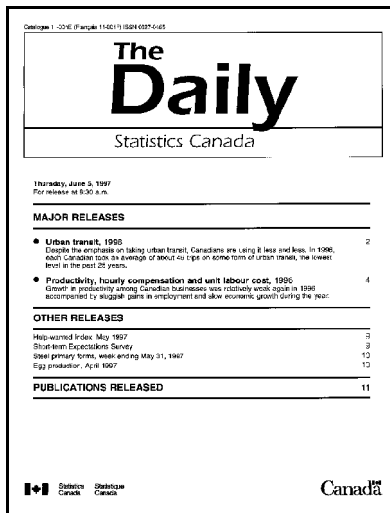
Fruit and Vegetable Production, February 2012,
Vol. 80, no. 2
Catalogue number 22-003-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

The Consumer Price Index, January 2012, Vol. 91,
no. 1
Catalogue number 62-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canada's International Transactions in Securities,
December 2011, Vol. 77, no. 12
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December 2011
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Release dates: February 20 to 24, 2012

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
20	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 2011
21	Retail trade	December 2011
21	Wholesale trade	December 2011
23	Quarterly Financial Statistics for Enterprises	Fourth quarter 2011
23	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	December 2011