

The Daily

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Releases

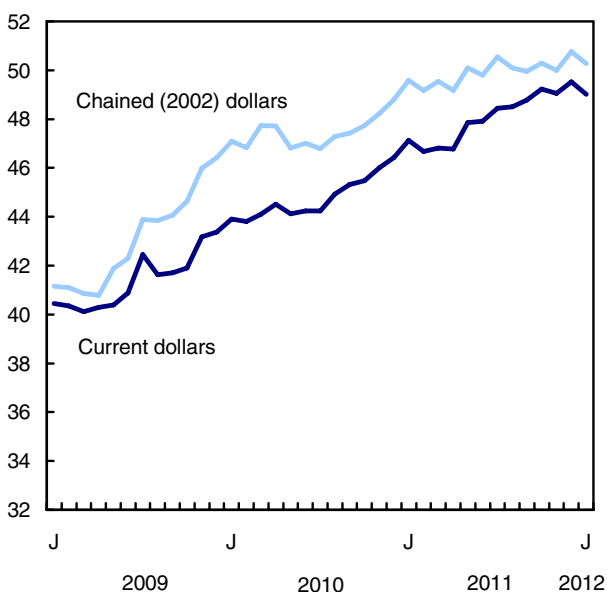
Wholesale trade

January 2012

Wholesale sales declined 1.0% to \$49.0 billion in January, largely because of lower sales in the motor vehicles and parts subsector and the miscellaneous subsector.

Wholesale sales decrease in January

billions of dollars



January's decrease in sales was the second in three months. The declines followed an upward trend that began in May 2011.

In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 1.0% in January.

Widespread decline in wholesale sales

In January, six of the seven subsectors, representing almost all wholesale sales, posted decreases.

The declines in the motor vehicles and parts subsector and the miscellaneous subsector accounted for more than three-quarters of the decrease at the national level.

Note to readers

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

Wholesale sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using import and industry product price indexes. Since many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar can have an important influence on the prices of goods bought and sold by wholesalers.

The wholesale sales series in chained (2002) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

Sales in the motor vehicles and parts subsector fell 3.0% in January, as a result of lower sales in the motor vehicle industry and the new motor vehicle parts and accessories industry. The decline did not completely offset the advance observed in December. The subsector's sales have remained relatively stable since the end of 2010.

Sales of miscellaneous wholesalers declined 2.5%, reflecting lower sales in the majority of its components. The leading contributor was the agricultural supplies industry, where sales were down 6.3%.

Weak global demand for fertilizers was reflected in prices. International merchandise trade data for January show a 32% decrease in the value of exports of fertilizers and fertilizer materials.

Sales of building materials and supplies fell for the second time in three months, down 0.7% in January. The decrease was mainly the result of lower sales in the lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies industry.

Sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector declined 0.4%, largely as a result of weak sales in the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry (-1.5%).

Sales lower in six provinces

In January, wholesale sales declined in six provinces. Most of the decreases were in central and western Canada.

Ontario wholesalers reported the largest decline in dollar terms, followed by wholesalers in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Ontario had a 1.2% decrease in wholesale sales in January, which nearly offset December's gain (+1.6%). The decline was primarily the result of lower sales in the motor vehicles and parts subsector.

In Saskatchewan (-7.2%), weaker sales in the agricultural supplies industry, which accounts for about 35% of the province's wholesale sales, were responsible for much of the decrease. The decline in January, the third consecutive decline, coincided with a decrease in Canadian exports of fertilizers and fertilizer materials.

Manitoba wholesalers posted a 6.0% decline in January. Alberta wholesalers (+0.8%) had the only increase in the western provinces.

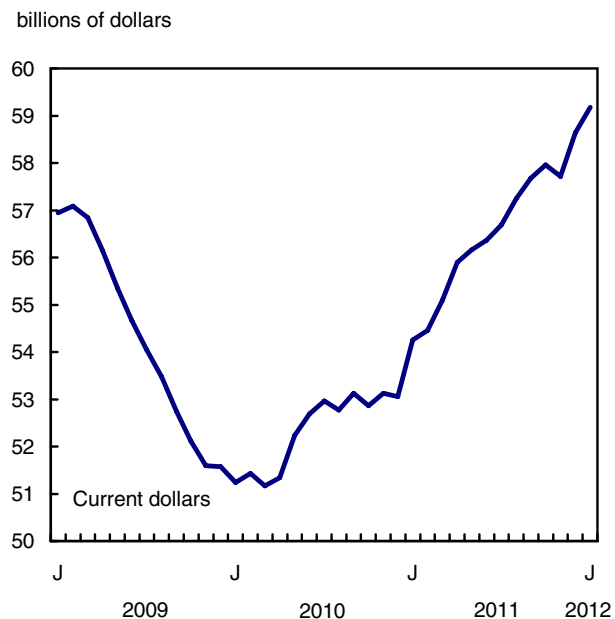
In Quebec, sales declined 0.5% after advancing 1.4% in December.

Sales were up in the Atlantic provinces, except in Nova Scotia (-0.5%).

Inventories continue to rise

Inventories increased 0.9% to \$59.2 billion in January. It was the 12th month of inventory growth in Canada since the beginning of 2011.

Inventories increase in January



Inventories were up in 10 of the 25 industries in January. Wholesalers in the construction, forestry, mining and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry (+4.1%) and the personal goods industry (+14.4%) had the largest inventory increases in dollar terms.

The inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.18 in December to 1.21 in January.

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.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 081-0011 to 081-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

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

Wholesale trade data for February will be released on April 23.

To obtain data, or for more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.gc.ca). 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.

□

Wholesale merchants' sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2011	December 2011 ^r	January 2012 ^p	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	47,135	49,534	49,016	-1.0	4.0
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	39,128	41,135	40,868	-0.7	4.4
Farm product	541	598	610	1.9	12.6
Food, beverage and tobacco	8,935	9,485	9,463	-0.2	5.9
Food	7,942	8,494	8,450	-0.5	6.4
Beverage	492	478	499	4.5	1.4
Cigarette and tobacco product	501	514	514	0.1	2.5
Personal and household goods	7,009	7,169	7,159	-0.1	2.2
Textile, clothing and footwear	939	946	964	1.9	2.6
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	744	773	734	-5.0	-1.3
Home furnishings	514	535	519	-2.9	1.0
Personal goods	776	707	771	8.9	-0.7
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,373	3,539	3,508	-0.9	4.0
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	662	669	664	-0.8	0.4
Motor vehicle and parts	8,007	8,399	8,148	-3.0	1.8
Motor vehicle	6,110	6,339	6,198	-2.2	1.4
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,849	2,014	1,904	-5.5	3.0
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	48	46	45	-1.6	-5.7
Building material and supplies	6,532	6,665	6,621	-0.7	1.4
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,066	2,092	2,090	-0.1	1.2
Metal service centres	1,429	1,596	1,634	2.4	14.3
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	3,037	2,977	2,897	-2.7	-4.6
Machinery, equipment and supplies	9,779	10,691	10,653	-0.4	8.9
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,042	1,165	1,174	0.7	12.6
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	3,224	3,737	3,722	-0.4	15.4
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	3,179	3,378	3,328	-1.5	4.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,334	2,411	2,429	0.7	4.1
Miscellaneous	6,332	6,526	6,362	-2.5	0.5
Recyclable material	823	879	891	1.3	8.3
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	796	843	835	-0.9	5.0
Agricultural supplies	1,655	1,612	1,511	-6.3	-8.7
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,108	1,260	1,231	-2.3	11.0
Other miscellaneous	1,950	1,932	1,894	-2.0	-2.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2011	December 2011 ^r	January 2012 ^p	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	47,135	49,534	49,016	-1.0	4.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	328	338	346	2.5	5.7
Prince Edward Island	45	49	50	2.5	11.1
Nova Scotia	660	703	699	-0.5	6.0
New Brunswick	496	498	501	0.6	1.0
Quebec	9,069	9,379	9,337	-0.5	3.0
Ontario	23,806	24,630	24,336	-1.2	2.2
Manitoba	1,210	1,359	1,278	-6.0	5.6
Saskatchewan	1,697	1,800	1,670	-7.2	-1.6
Alberta	5,535	6,366	6,418	0.8	15.9
British Columbia	4,220	4,340	4,302	-0.9	1.9
Yukon	11	12	13	6.2	15.3
Northwest Territories	51	51	58	12.8	13.3
Nunavut	6	8	8	-1.0	40.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2011	December 2011 ^r	January 2012 ^p	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	54,253	58,638	59,175	0.9	9.1
Farm product	172	202	207	2.7	20.3
Food	4,314	4,806	4,829	0.5	11.9
Beverage	238	281	271	-3.6	13.7
Cigarette and tobacco product	227	223	216	-3.1	-5.0
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,801	1,918	1,902	-0.8	5.7
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	782	739	737	-0.2	-5.8
Home furnishings	1,038	1,038	1,024	-1.4	-1.4
Personal goods	1,284	1,363	1,559	14.4	21.4
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,156	4,494	4,486	-0.2	7.9
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	620	690	713	3.4	15.1
Motor vehicle	3,470	3,678	3,675	-0.1	5.9
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,066	3,421	3,431	0.3	11.9
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	76	95	93	-2.0	21.5
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,012	3,070	3,047	-0.7	1.2
Metal service centres	2,745	3,022	3,065	1.4	11.7
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,556	4,433	4,396	-0.8	-3.5
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,291	3,451	3,374	-2.2	2.5
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	7,291	8,559	8,910	4.1	22.2
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,690	1,883	1,957	3.9	15.8
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,270	3,206	3,266	1.9	-0.1
Recyclable material	518	580	534	-8.0	2.9
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	632	767	759	-1.0	20.1
Agricultural supplies	2,608	3,137	3,113	-0.8	19.4
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	951	1,060	1,021	-3.7	7.4
Other miscellaneous	2,445	2,524	2,590	2.6	5.9

^r revised

^p preliminary

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



Cement

January 2012

Data on cement are now available for January.

Note: Data for December 2011 have been revised.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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. ■

Sound recording and music publishing

2010

Data on the sound recording and music publishing industry are now available for 2010.

The 2010 edition of *Service Bulletin: Sound Recording and Music Publishing*, which contains industry highlights along with financial data including revenues, expenses and operating profit margins, is now available.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 361-0005 and 361-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3115.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Sound Recording and Music Publishing*, 2010 (87F0008X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lucie Cloutier (613-951-1634; lucie.cloutier@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Public postsecondary enrolments

2009/2010

Data on public postsecondary enrolments for the academic year 2009/2010 are now available. Both university and college enrolments are included in this release.

Note: Levels of enrolment presented are not meant to represent a complete enumeration of students at public postsecondary institutions during the academic year as this count excludes students enrolled in apprenticeship programs. The count represents the number of programs where students were taking courses up to December 1, 2009, and thus represents a snapshot of enrolments on this date. Data for a few postsecondary institutions are not available as part of this release.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 477-0019.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5017.

Summary tables are also available from the *Analysts and researchers* module of our website.

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-4441; educationstats@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division. ■

Public postsecondary graduates 2009

Data for students receiving qualifications from public postsecondary institutions for 2009 are now available. Both university and college students receiving qualifications are included in this release.

Note: Levels of graduates presented are not meant to represent a complete enumeration of graduates from postsecondary institutions during the academic year as this count excludes students graduating from apprenticeship programs. Data for some institutions are not available as part of this release.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 477-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5017.

Summary tables are also available from the *Analysts and researchers* module of our website.

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-4441; educationstats@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division. ■

Public Service Employee Survey 2008

The public-use microdata file for the 2008 Public Service Employee Survey is now available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4438.

Public-use microdata for the *Public Service Employee Survey*, 2008 (71M0016X, free), is now available in CD-ROM format.

To obtain a copy, for more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; fax: 613-951-4527; ssd@statcan.gc.ca), Special Surveys Division. ■

New products and studies

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire,
January 2012, Vol. 8, no. 1
Catalogue number 41-019-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canada's International Transactions in Securities,
January 2012, Vol. 78, no. 1
Catalogue number 67-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Public Service Employee Survey, 2008
Catalogue number 71M0016X (CD-ROM, free)

Sound Recording and Music Publishing, 2010
Catalogue number 87F0008X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.



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