

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, March 22, 2012

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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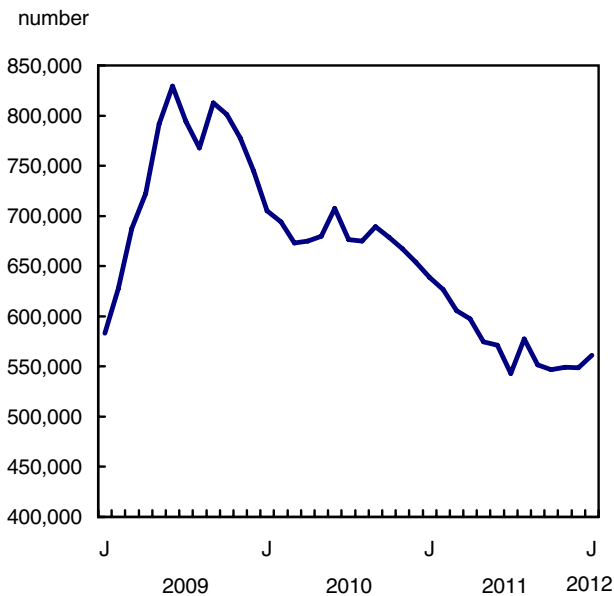
Employment Insurance

January 2012

In January, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits increased by 12,400 (+2.3%) to 561,100. This increase returned the number of beneficiaries to roughly the same level as in June 2011.

The number of beneficiaries rose in eight provinces, with the largest percentage increase occurring in Quebec.

Number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries up in January



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 December and January 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 January 8 to 14. 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.

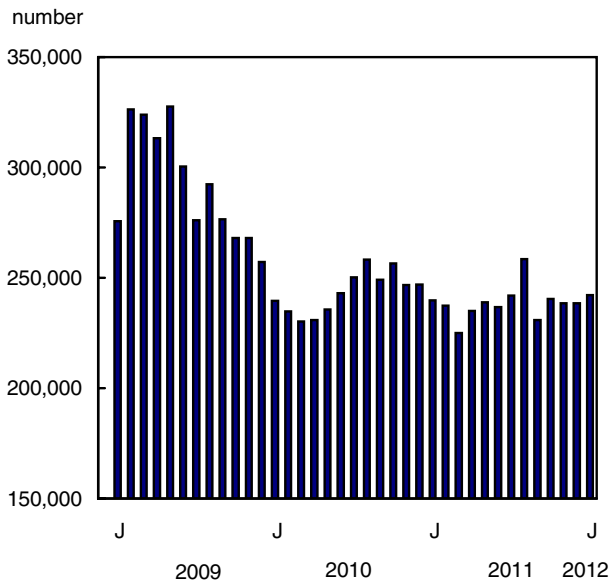
Number of Employment Insurance claims rise slightly in January

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 rose by 3,700 (+1.6%) to 242,300 in January.

Provincially, the number of claims increased 4.4% in Quebec, 3.9% in Ontario and 2.8% in New Brunswick. Claims fell 7.8% in Alberta, 3.2% in British Columbia, 1.4% in Manitoba and 1.4% in Nova Scotia. There was little change in the remaining three provinces.

Number of Employment Insurance claims edges up in January



More beneficiaries in most provinces

The number of people receiving regular EI benefits in January rose in eight provinces, with the largest percentage increase occurring in Quebec (+5.3%).

There were also notable percentage increases in Manitoba (+1.7%) and Ontario (+1.5%). At the same time, the number of beneficiaries edged down in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador.

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.

Most large centres continue to post year-over-year declines

Of the 143 large centres, 122 posted declines in the number of beneficiaries between January 2011 and January 2012 (see map). Large centres are those with a population of 10,000 or more.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the number of beneficiaries decreased in all five large centres. In St. John's, the number of people receiving benefits fell 12.8% to 5,000, continuing a series of year-over-year declines that began nearly two years earlier.

In Prince Edward Island, both large centres had fewer beneficiaries in January. The biggest percentage decline was in Charlottetown, where the number of beneficiaries fell 15.6%.

In Nova Scotia, all five large centres had fewer beneficiaries in the 12 months to January. The largest percentage decline occurred in Halifax, where the number of people receiving benefits fell 14.6% to 6,000. This continued a downward trend that began in the spring of 2010.

In New Brunswick, two of the six large centres had fewer beneficiaries compared with 12 months earlier. The number of people receiving benefits fell 11.5% in Moncton and 7.8% in Saint John. At the same time, there were 7.8% more beneficiaries in Fredericton. There was little or no change in the three other large centres of the province.

In Quebec, the number of beneficiaries declined in 24 of the 33 large centres in the 12 months to January, with the largest percentage decreases in Rouyn-Noranda, Amos, Montréal and Shawinigan. In Montréal, the number of people receiving benefits fell 12.0% to 70,500, extending a series of declines that began nearly two years earlier. In Thetford Mines, the number of beneficiaries rose 13.1%.

Of the 41 large centres in Ontario, 35 had fewer beneficiaries in the 12 months to January. The largest percentage decreases occurred in Hamilton, Guelph, Chatham-Kent, Stratford and Timmins. In Toronto, the number of beneficiaries fell 20.3% to 64,900, continuing the trend of year-over-year monthly declines that started in the spring of 2010.

In Manitoba, the number of people receiving regular benefits was down in all four large centres in the 12 months to January. In Winnipeg, the number of beneficiaries fell 9.9% to 7,900, the 17th consecutive month of year-over-year declines.

In Saskatchewan, all eight large centres continued to post year-over-year declines in the number of beneficiaries, the largest occurring in Moose Jaw and Saskatoon. In Saskatoon, 2,200 people received benefits, down 19.5%, continuing the downward trend that began just over one year earlier. In Regina, the number of beneficiaries fell 10.9% to 1,600, continuing a series of declines that began in the summer of 2010.

In Alberta, all 12 large centres had fewer beneficiaries in January compared with 12 months earlier. The largest percentage decreases occurred in Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Cold Lake, Red Deer, Calgary and Edmonton. In Calgary, 9,700 people received benefits, down 34.1%, and in Edmonton, 10,600 people received benefits, down 31.3%. For the third consecutive month, Calgary and Edmonton posted the highest year-over-year declines among all census metropolitan areas.

In British Columbia, the number of beneficiaries fell in 24 of the 25 large centres, with the largest percentage declines in Fort St. John, Powell River and Squamish. In Vancouver, 27,300 people received benefits in January, down 22.2% from 12 months earlier. In Victoria, the number of beneficiaries was down 20.0% to 3,600.

Demographic groups

In January, 466,800 men received regular benefits, down 9.8% from January 2011. The number of beneficiaries fell at roughly the same pace for men under 25 (-10.0%) and men aged 25 to 54 (-10.7%). Among men aged 55 and over, the number declined 6.9%.

A total of 233,400 women received regular benefits in January, down 13.4% from 12 months earlier. This was the first time in just over two years that the percentage decline was larger for women than for men.

Among women under 25, the number of beneficiaries fell 15.8%, while for those aged 25 to 54, it decreased 14.2%. For women aged 55 and over, the decline was 9.5%.

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 February will be released on April 19.

A set of maps, *Employment Insurance Statistics Maps*, January 2012 (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 Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Labour Statistics Division.

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Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	December 2011 ^P	January 2012 ^P	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012	December 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	number		change in number		% change	
Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits						
Canada	548,660	561,060	12,400	-77,450	2.3	-12.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	35,140	34,920	-220	-2,000	-0.6	-5.4
Prince Edward Island	8,180	8,230	50	-250	0.6	-2.9
Nova Scotia	31,280	31,070	-210	-1,570	-0.7	-4.8
New Brunswick	33,170	33,340	170	-700	0.5	-2.1
Quebec	163,550	172,190	8,640	-11,310	5.3	-6.2
Ontario	161,160	163,570	2,410	-29,040	1.5	-15.1
Manitoba	12,980	13,200	220	-1,400	1.7	-9.6
Saskatchewan	10,090	10,130	40	-1,610	0.4	-13.7
Alberta	29,320	29,410	90	-14,710	0.3	-33.3
British Columbia	60,550	60,810	260	-14,640	0.4	-19.4
Yukon	940	960	20	-20	2.1	-2.0
Northwest Territories	880	890	10	-50	1.1	-5.3
Nunavut	480	460	-20	-90	-4.2	-16.4
Initial and renewal claims received						
Canada	238,550	242,270	3,720	2,520	1.6	1.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,170	9,130	-40	-450	-0.4	-4.7
Prince Edward Island	2,520	2,540	20	-70	0.8	-2.7
Nova Scotia	10,210	10,070	-140	-220	-1.4	-2.1
New Brunswick	10,140	10,420	280	-420	2.8	-3.9
Quebec	69,610	72,680	3,070	1,400	4.4	2.0
Ontario	74,950	77,880	2,930	6,040	3.9	8.4
Manitoba	7,750	7,640	-110	-610	-1.4	-7.4
Saskatchewan	5,770	5,780	10	-40	0.2	-0.7
Alberta	18,530	17,090	-1,440	-2,410	-7.8	-12.4
British Columbia	27,730	26,830	-900	-2,100	-3.2	-7.3
Yukon	350	310	-40	-30	-11.4	-8.8
Northwest Territories	300	280	-20	-70	-6.7	-20.0
Nunavut	170	170	0	-60	0.0	-26.1

^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

	January 2011	January 2012 ^P	January 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	number		change in number	% change
Canada				
Both sexes	787,050	700,170	-86,880	-11.0
Under 25 years	84,810	75,150	-9,660	-11.4
25 to 54 years	537,820	473,400	-64,420	-12.0
55 years and over	164,420	151,620	-12,800	-7.8
Men	517,680	466,780	-50,900	-9.8
Under 25 years	64,810	58,300	-6,510	-10.0
25 to 54 years	344,670	307,720	-36,950	-10.7
55 years and over	108,210	100,770	-7,440	-6.9
Women	269,370	233,390	-35,980	-13.4
Under 25 years	20,000	16,850	-3,150	-15.8
25 to 54 years	193,160	165,690	-27,470	-14.2
55 years and over	56,210	50,860	-5,350	-9.5
Newfoundland and Labrador				
Both sexes	45,950	43,060	-2,890	-6.3
Under 25 years	4,050	3,530	-520	-12.8
25 to 54 years	30,110	27,510	-2,600	-8.6
55 years and over	11,790	12,020	230	2.0
Men	28,710	26,590	-2,120	-7.4
Women	17,240	16,470	-770	-4.5
Prince Edward Island				
Both sexes	11,670	11,190	-480	-4.1
Under 25 years	1,140	1,050	-90	-7.9
25 to 54 years	7,370	6,850	-520	-7.1
55 years and over	3,170	3,300	130	4.1
Men	7,140	6,710	-430	-6.0
Women	4,530	4,490	-40	-0.9
Nova Scotia				
Both sexes	40,070	37,910	-2,160	-5.4
Under 25 years	4,420	4,050	-370	-8.4
25 to 54 years	26,740	24,920	-1,820	-6.8
55 years and over	8,910	8,940	30	0.3
Men	25,670	24,340	-1,330	-5.2
Women	14,400	13,570	-830	-5.8
New Brunswick				
Both sexes	43,850	42,710	-1,140	-2.6
Under 25 years	4,110	3,910	-200	-4.9
25 to 54 years	28,850	27,760	-1,090	-3.8
55 years and over	10,890	11,040	150	1.4
Men	29,370	28,510	-860	-2.9
Women	14,480	14,190	-290	-2.0
Quebec				
Both sexes	245,110	232,650	-12,460	-5.1
Under 25 years	28,020	26,960	-1,060	-3.8
25 to 54 years	165,120	155,490	-9,630	-5.8
55 years and over	51,970	50,190	-1,780	-3.4
Men	167,710	163,300	-4,410	-2.6
Women	77,400	69,350	-8,050	-10.4
Ontario				
Both sexes	227,130	194,790	-32,340	-14.2
Under 25 years	23,320	20,780	-2,540	-10.9
25 to 54 years	161,140	137,690	-23,450	-14.6
55 years and over	42,680	36,330	-6,350	-14.9
Men	147,900	128,780	-19,120	-12.9
Women	79,230	66,010	-13,220	-16.7

^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

	January 2011	January 2012 ^P	January 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	number		change in number	% change
Manitoba				
Both sexes	18,140	16,720	-1,420	-7.8
Under 25 years	2,560	2,390	-170	-6.6
25 to 54 years	12,060	11,070	-990	-8.2
55 years and over	3,520	3,260	-260	-7.4
Men	13,080	12,240	-840	-6.4
Women	5,060	4,480	-580	-11.5
Saskatchewan				
Both sexes	14,570	12,630	-1,940	-13.3
Under 25 years	1,820	1,460	-360	-19.8
25 to 54 years	9,560	8,080	-1,480	-15.5
55 years and over	3,190	3,090	-100	-3.1
Men	10,410	9,160	-1,250	-12.0
Women	4,160	3,470	-690	-16.6
Alberta				
Both sexes	48,850	33,450	-15,400	-31.5
Under 25 years	5,340	3,370	-1,970	-36.9
25 to 54 years	34,010	23,150	-10,860	-31.9
55 years and over	9,500	6,920	-2,580	-27.2
Men	31,580	21,720	-9,860	-31.2
Women	17,280	11,730	-5,550	-32.1
British Columbia				
Both sexes	88,440	72,060	-16,380	-18.5
Under 25 years	9,700	7,350	-2,350	-24.2
25 to 54 years	60,460	48,710	-11,750	-19.4
55 years and over	18,280	16,010	-2,270	-12.4
Men	53,950	43,450	-10,500	-19.5
Women	34,480	28,610	-5,870	-17.0
Yukon				
Both sexes	1,340	1,330	-10	-0.7
Under 25 years	130	140	10	7.7
25 to 54 years	910	880	-30	-3.3
55 years and over	310	310	0	0.0
Men	860	880	20	2.3
Women	480	440	-40	-8.3
Northwest Territories				
Both sexes	1,090	1,020	-70	-6.4
Under 25 years	110	110	0	0.0
25 to 54 years	820	770	-50	-6.1
55 years and over	150	150	0	0.0
Men	740	680	-60	-8.1
Women	350	340	-10	-2.9
Nunavut				
Both sexes	620	510	-110	-17.7
Under 25 years	80	60	-20	-25.0
25 to 54 years	500	410	-90	-18.0
55 years and over	50	40	-10	-20.0
Men	440	380	-60	-13.6
Women	180	130	-50	-27.8

^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

	January 2011	January 2012 ^p	January 2011 to January 2012	January 2011 to January 2012
	number		change in number	% change
Newfoundland and Labrador				
St. John's	5,760	5,020	-740	-12.8
Nova Scotia				
Halifax	7,010	5,990	-1,020	-14.6
New Brunswick				
Saint John	3,330	3,070	-260	-7.8
Quebec				
Saguenay	5,650	5,540	-110	-1.9
Québec	15,900	14,950	-950	-6.0
Sherbrooke	4,210	4,060	-150	-3.6
Trois-Rivières	5,340	5,060	-280	-5.2
Montréal	80,190	70,540	-9,650	-12.0
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	4,920	4,800	-120	-2.4
Ontario				
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	8,760	8,110	-650	-7.4
Kingston	2,120	1,990	-130	-6.1
Oshawa	5,700	5,130	-570	-10.0
Toronto	81,470	64,910	-16,560	-20.3
Hamilton	11,180	8,050	-3,130	-28.0
St. Catharines–Niagara	10,210	8,830	-1,380	-13.5
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	7,500	6,280	-1,220	-16.3
London	7,990	7,120	-870	-10.9
Windsor	6,690	6,900	210	3.1
Greater Sudbury	3,180	2,650	-530	-16.7
Thunder Bay	2,250	2,020	-230	-10.2
Manitoba				
Winnipeg	8,810	7,940	-870	-9.9
Saskatchewan				
Regina	1,740	1,550	-190	-10.9
Saskatoon	2,670	2,150	-520	-19.5
Alberta				
Calgary	14,720	9,700	-5,020	-34.1
Edmonton	15,440	10,600	-4,840	-31.3
British Columbia				
Abbotsford–Mission	4,670	4,400	-270	-5.8
Vancouver	35,030	27,250	-7,780	-22.2
Victoria	4,450	3,560	-890	-20.0

^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.



Retail trade

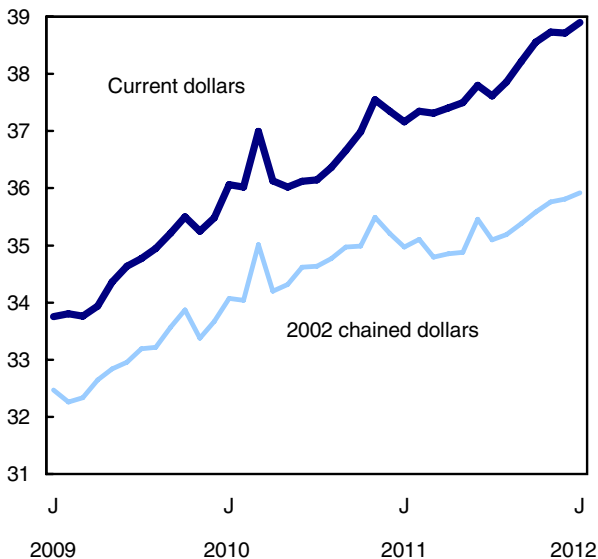
January 2012

Retail sales rose 0.5% to \$38.9 billion in January, a fifth increase in six months. Excluding sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers, retail sales declined 0.5%.

In volume terms, sales grew 0.3%, a sixth consecutive month of growth.

Retail sales increase in January

billions of dollars



Gains were reported in 5 of 11 subsectors, representing 52% of total retail sales.

Sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers rose 3.7%. New car dealers (+4.6%) led the increase, posting their highest monthly growth rate in three years. Higher sales of lower-cost passenger cars were the main contributor to this increase. Gains were also reported at used car dealers (+2.8%) and automotive parts, accessories and tire stores (+1.8%).

General merchandise store sales rose 1.7% in January, more than offsetting a decline in December. After four consecutive monthly declines, sales at department stores increased 2.1%. Sales at other general merchandise stores (+1.4%) rose for a third straight month.

Clothing and clothing accessories stores increased 0.6%, a third increase in four months. Higher sales at shoe stores led the gain, rising 4.2%.

Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (-5.2%) accounted for the largest sales

Note to readers

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

Total retail sales by volume are measured by deflating values in current dollars of the various trade groups using consumer price indexes. This retail sales in chained dollars series (2002) is a chain Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

decline in dollar terms in January, offsetting a 4.0% increase in December.

Sales at food and beverage stores decreased 0.9% in January, mainly reflecting lower sales at supermarkets and other grocery stores.

Electronics and appliance stores registered a sales decline of 3.4%, down for a third month in a row.

Sales at gasoline stations (-0.1%) were down for the second consecutive month.

Ontario leads sales gains

Retail sales rose in six provinces in January.

The largest contributor to the gain was Ontario (+1.5%), where sales rose for a third consecutive month. Higher sales of new motor vehicles were the main reason for this gain.

Sales in Alberta (+0.6%) and British Columbia (+0.3%) increased after declining in December.

Following five consecutive monthly gains, retail sales in Quebec declined 0.7% in January.

Sales in Nova Scotia decreased 1.5% in January after increasing in December.

It is possible to consult the tables of unadjusted data by industry and by province and territory from the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the *Latest statistics* page on our website.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2406 and 2408.

The January 2012 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X, free) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for February will be released on April 24.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jake W. Purdy (613-951-0984), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Retail 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	37,163	38,718	38,899	0.5	4.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	643	669	671	0.4	4.4
Prince Edward Island	148	164	166	1.3	12.2
Nova Scotia	1,058	1,119	1,103	-1.5	4.2
New Brunswick	908	941	953	1.3	4.9
Quebec	8,421	8,691	8,629	-0.7	2.5
Ontario	13,237	13,553	13,756	1.5	3.9
Manitoba	1,334	1,413	1,399	-0.9	4.9
Saskatchewan	1,309	1,394	1,394	-0.1	6.4
Alberta	5,149	5,598	5,632	0.6	9.4
British Columbia	4,815	5,032	5,047	0.3	4.8
Yukon	52	56	56	0.4	7.7
Northwest Territories	59	58	59	2.8	1.1
Nunavut	29	31	33	7.6	13.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Retail 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 retail trade	37,163	38,718	38,899	0.5	4.7
Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers	29,094	30,030	29,889	-0.5	2.7
Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations	24,516	25,202	25,067	-0.5	2.2
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	8,069	8,689	9,010	3.7	11.7
New car dealers	6,486	7,003	7,321	4.6	12.9
Used car dealers	486	511	526	2.8	8.2
Other motor vehicle dealers	554	610	588	-3.6	6.2
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	544	565	575	1.8	5.8
Furniture and home furnishing stores	1,252	1,295	1,296	0.1	3.6
Furniture stores	791	800	825	3.1	4.3
Home furnishings stores	461	494	472	-4.6	2.3
Electronics and appliance stores	1,159	1,123	1,085	-3.4	-6.4
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	2,222	2,365	2,242	-5.2	0.9
Food and beverage stores	8,651	8,855	8,772	-0.9	1.4
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,142	6,238	6,182	-0.9	0.7
Convenience stores	570	552	570	3.2	0.0
Specialty food stores	408	468	440	-6.0	7.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,532	1,597	1,580	-1.1	3.1
Health and personal care stores	2,688	2,714	2,737	0.9	1.8
Gasoline stations	4,578	4,828	4,821	-0.1	5.3
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	2,073	2,201	2,215	0.6	6.9
Clothing stores	1,609	1,717	1,720	0.2	6.9
Shoe stores	241	238	248	4.2	2.6
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	223	246	247	0.6	11.1
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	941	965	964	-0.1	2.5
General merchandise stores	4,647	4,773	4,853	1.7	4.4
Department stores	2,206	2,202	2,247	2.1	1.9
Other general merchandise stores	2,441	2,571	2,606	1.4	6.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	884	912	903	-1.0	2.1

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

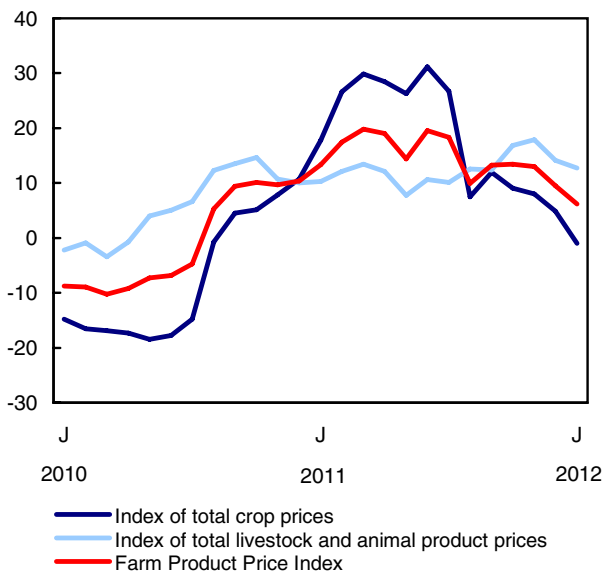
Farm Product Price Index

January 2012

Prices farmers received for their commodities in January rose 6.2% from January 2011, as the increase in overall livestock and animal product prices more than offset lower crops prices. The total index has trended upward since August 2010, with increases ranging from 5.3% to 19.9%.

The 12-month change in the Farm Product Price Index

12-month % change, index (1997=100)



Compared with the same month in 2011, the livestock and animal products index continued to advance (+12.8%) while the crops index (-1.0%) declined for the first time since August 2010.

Advances were recorded in all livestock commodities, ranging from 3.8% for dairy to 20.9% for cattle and calves.

Low on-farm inventories of cattle and hogs in North America and higher feed grain costs have supported the year-over-year growth trends. Despite slight

increases in total Canadian cattle and hog inventories on January 1, 2012, cattle inventories were the second lowest in 17 years, while hog inventories were at their third lowest in 15 years.

The crops index recorded the first year-over-year decrease since August 2010, largely the result of a decline in the grains index (-9.9%). This marks the second consecutive decline for the grains index, which had started its year-over-year growth trend in September 2010. The International Grains Council increased its forecast for a record global 2011/2012 grain crop.

The decline in the total crops index was moderated by increases in the oilseeds index (+2.1%) and the specialty crops index (+41.6%). For specialty crops, reduced Canadian and world supplies as well as a higher quality harvest for some crops were experienced.

On a monthly basis, the January index increased 0.8% following three consecutive monthly declines. The livestock and animal products index (+0.5%) and the crops index (+0.6%) rose.

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

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The January 2012 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 12, no. 1 (21-007-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to order data, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mark Fakhri (613-951-3906; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division.

□

Farm Product Price Index

	January 2011 ^r	December 2011 ^r	January 2012 ^p	January 2011 to January 2012	December 2011 to January 2012
	(1997=100)			% change	
Farm Product Price Index	122.6	129.2	130.2	6.2	0.8
Crops	135.4	133.3	134.1	-1.0	0.6
Grains	141.0	124.1	127.0	-9.9	2.3
Oilseeds	135.5	136.8	138.3	2.1	1.1
Specialty crops	118.1	154.5	167.2	41.6	8.2
Fruit	120.3	130.6	125.0	3.9	-4.3
Vegetables	129.2	129.5	127.4	-1.4	-1.6
Potatoes	176.0	181.8	182.0	3.4	0.1
Livestock and animal products	113.5	127.4	128.0	12.8	0.5
Cattle and calves	111.0	130.2	134.2	20.9	3.1
Hogs	78.8	91.6	90.6	15.0	-1.1
Poultry	116.9	130.4	129.4	10.7	-0.8
Eggs	113.5	130.8	130.3	14.8	-0.4
Dairy	146.7	154.6	152.3	3.8	-1.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

February 2012

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was unchanged in February compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 2.0% compared with February 2011.

Note: 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.

This release presents indexes that are not seasonally adjusted. The union wage rates and indexes published are subject to a 30-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

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

The construction union wage rate indexes for March will be released on April 26.

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. ■

Large urban transit

January 2012 (preliminary)

Total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit properties rose 4.5% from January 2011 to \$248.7 million in January.

These 10 companies represent about 80% of total urban transit activity across the country.

Over the same period, ridership levels rose 1.2% to 130.3 million passenger trips.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 408-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.

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. ■

Civil aviation operating statistics

January 2012

Operational data on civil aviation are now available for January.

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 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. ■

Film, television and video production

2010

Data on the film, television and video production industry are now available for 2010.

The 2010 edition of *Service Bulletin: Film, Television and Video Production*, which contains industry highlights along with financial data including revenues, expenses and operating profit margins, is now available.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 361-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2413.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Film, Television and Video Production, 2010* (87-010-X, 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. ■

New products and studies

Farm Product Price Index, January 2012, Vol. 12,
no. 1
Catalogue number 21-007-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Employment Insurance Statistics Maps,
January 2012
Catalogue number 73-002-X (HTML, free)

Film, Television and Video Production, 2010
Catalogue number 87-010-X (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.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada,
10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access or subscribe to *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our website at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>.

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