

The Daily

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Releases

Pension plans in Canada, as of January 1, 2011

Membership in registered pension plans (RPPs) in Canada amounted to 6,065,750 in 2010, an increase of 42,000 or 0.7% from 2009. Membership increased in public sector plans, but declined in private sector plans.

Membership in public sector pension plans rose 1.8% to 3,140,970, while the number of members in private sector plans declined 0.5% to 2,924,790.

As a result, the public sector accounted for 52% of total membership in RPPs, up from 46% a decade earlier. In the early 1980s, membership in the private sector represented almost 60% of total members.

Women accounted for three-quarters of the increase in RPP membership. In 2010, they represented 62% of membership in the public sector and 37% in the private sector.

On an industry basis, membership rose in public administration (+38,650), educational services and health care (+17,410) and finance, insurance and real estate (+8,410). The biggest decline occurred in the manufacturing sector, where membership fell by 21,480 in 2010, following a drop of 62,000 the year before.

As of January 1, 2011, there were 19,463 registered pension plans in Canada, up 1.8% from the same date the year before. As in past years, increases came mainly from plans with only one member.

Participation of women continues upward trend

The participation of women in RPPs continued its long-term upward trend in 2010. Their membership increased 1.0% to 3,028,730, breaking the three-million mark for the first time. Among men, it rose 0.4% to 3,037,020.

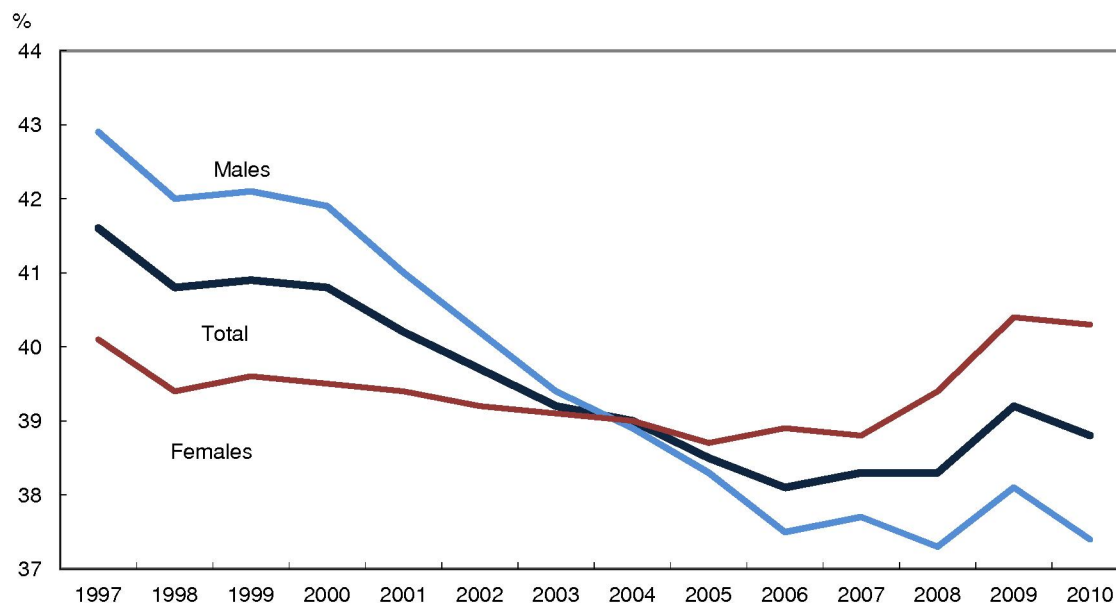
In 2010, men accounted for 50.1% of total membership, while the percentage of women rose to 49.9%, a record level. In the early 1970s, men accounted for almost 75% of total membership in RPPs.

The pension coverage rate, that is, the proportion of all employees covered by an RPP, was 38.8% in 2010, down from 39.2% the year before.

The pension coverage rate for women remained at 40.3%, while the rate for men was slightly lower, at 37.4%. The rate for women was higher because of the high proportion of women employed in the public sector, where most female employees (88.8%) were covered by a pension plan.

In the private sector, the proportion of employees covered by an RPP continued a downward trend. In 2010, the coverage rate was 24.4%, down from 24.8% the previous year.

Chart 1
Percentage of employees covered by a registered pension plan



Defined benefit plans remain the most important plan type

In 2010, more than 4,484,000 employees were in a defined benefit pension plan, down 1.0% from 2009. They accounted for 74% of employees with an RPP, compared with more than 84% a decade earlier.

Membership in defined contribution plans, the other most frequent type, increased 0.8% or 7,360 to 969,210. These plans accounted for 16% of all RPP membership. Nearly 85% of members in defined contribution plans were in the private sector.

Hybrid plans continued their upward trend. In 2010, more than 612,530 employees belonged to these plans, up 15% from 2009. To reduce the cost of their pension plans, a number of employers closed the defined benefit component to new employees and added a defined contribution component. Existing employees have the option to remain members of the defined benefit component. In 2010, these hybrid plans accounted for about 10% of total pension plan membership.

Employer and employee contributions have increased

In 2010, total employer and employee contributions to RPPs increased to a record high of \$54.2 billion. Employer contributions for unfunded liabilities accounted for \$10.8 billion of the total, down from the high of \$12.6 billion in 2009. When payments for unfunded liabilities are excluded, employers contributed 63% and employees, 37%.

The market value of assets in RPPs totalled \$1.2 trillion in 2010, up 10.6% from the previous year. Employer pension plans have recovered all losses experienced during the recent economic downturn. Assets declined 12% in 2008.

On a solvency basis, close to 3,550 RPPs reported actuarial information for the three-year period ending January 1, 2011. Over 84% of these RPPs were underfunded, compared with 81% of the RPPs that reported in the three-year period ending January 1, 2010. The median solvency funded ratio (the ratio of the market value of plan assets to liabilities) was estimated at 85% for the period ending January 1, 2011.

Note to readers

Registered pension plans (RPPs) are established by employers or unions for employees. These data come from the Pension Plans in Canada Survey as of January 1, 2011.

A defined benefit plan defines the benefits to be paid according to a formula stipulated in the plan text. The employer's contributions are not predetermined, but are a function of the cost of providing the promised pension.

A defined contribution plan specifies the contributions made by the employer, as well as by the employee if the plan is contributory. Pension benefits paid are a function of accumulated contributions and investment returns.

A hybrid plan is a RPP with two components, a defined benefit component and a defined contribution component.

Membership is defined as active members of the pension plan currently making contributions to the pension plan or for whom contributions are being made.

A plan has a solvency deficiency when its assets divided by its liabilities (values determined as if the plan had terminated) is less than 1.

In the data received for 2010, one of the registered pension plans was reclassified. As a result, there is a small shift in the number of members in the public and private sectors in 2009. Data for the public and private sectors for 2009 have been revised.

Table 1
Registered pension plan membership, by sector and type of plan

	2009 ¹ (number)	2010 (number)	2009 to 2010 (net change)	2009 to 2010 (% change)
All sectors: Total	6,023,741	6,065,751	42,010	0.7
Males	3,025,544	3,037,017	11,473	0.4
Females	2,998,197	3,028,734	30,537	1.0
Defined benefit plans	4,529,059	4,484,011	-45,048	-1.0
Males	2,162,425	2,124,889	-37,536	-1.7
Females	2,366,634	2,359,122	-7,512	-0.3
Defined contribution plans	961,845	969,207	7,362	0.8
Males	564,082	570,199	6,117	1.1
Females	397,763	399,008	1,245	0.3
Hybrid plans ²	532,837	612,533	79,696	15.0
Males	299,037	341,929	42,892	14.3
Females	233,800	270,604	36,804	15.7
Public sector	3,084,211	3,140,965	56,754	1.8
Males	1,166,954	1,188,948	21,994	1.9
Females	1,917,257	1,952,017	34,760	1.8
Defined benefit plans	2,898,969	2,953,976	55,007	1.9
Males	1,087,751	1,110,650	22,899	2.1
Females	1,811,218	1,843,326	32,108	1.8
Defined contribution plans	143,364	151,562	8,198	5.7
Males	56,404	61,593	5,189	9.2
Females	86,960	89,969	3,009	3.5
Hybrid plans ²	41,878	35,427	-6,451	-15.4
Males	22,799	16,705	-6,094	-26.7
Females	19,079	18,722	-357	-1.9
Private sector	2,939,530	2,924,786	-14,744	-0.5
Males	1,858,590	1,848,069	-10,521	-0.6
Females	1,080,940	1,076,717	-4,223	-0.4
Defined benefit plans	1,630,090	1,530,035	-100,055	-6.1
Males	1,074,674	1,014,239	-60,435	-5.6
Females	555,416	515,796	-39,620	-7.1
Defined contribution plans	818,481	817,645	-836	-0.1
Males	507,678	508,606	928	0.2
Females	310,803	309,039	-1,764	-0.6
Hybrid plans ²	490,959	577,106	86,147	17.5
Males	276,238	325,224	48,986	17.7
Females	214,721	251,882	37,161	17.3

1. Data for the public and private sectors for 2009 have been revised.

2. Included in this category are registered pension plans having a defined benefits and defined contribution components.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 280-0016.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 280-0008 to 280-0014 and 280-0016 to 280-0027.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2609.

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; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Tourism satellite account: Human resource module, 2011

The number of jobs in tourism industries, including both employee jobs and jobs from self-employment, rose 1.9% to 1.7 million in 2011. These jobs represented 9.4% of the 17.6 million jobs in Canada.

The growth in the number of jobs in tourism outpaced the 1.6% increase in total jobs in the economy during the year.

All tourism industries gained jobs in 2011, led by air transportation (+4.1%) and travel services (+2.9%). The number of jobs rose 2.0% in both food and beverage services and in transportation industries other than air. Accommodation (+1.7%) and recreation and entertainment (1.4%) recorded increases.

The food and beverage services industry was the largest employer in the sector, accounting for 54% of all jobs in tourism industries.

The average workweek in the tourism sector was 28.8 hours. In food and beverage services, the workweek was shorter (26.8 hours), reflecting a higher proportion of part-time jobs in this industry.

The largest occupational group—food counter attendants and kitchen helpers as well as related occupations—accounted for 17% of employee jobs in the tourism sector. Jobs in this occupation paid an average hourly wage of \$12.21.

Women working in tourism accounted for 55% of employee jobs in the sector. They accounted for 73% of jobs in the travel services industry, 60% in the food and beverage services industry and 59% in accommodation industries. Women held 29% of jobs in transportation industries.

In 2011, two tourism industry groups had a notably older workforce. Workers aged 45 and older accounted for 63% of employee jobs in transportation industries other than air (which includes rail, water, bus, taxis and car rentals) and 45% in air transportation.

Note to readers

The Human Resource Module of the Tourism Satellite Account is funded through a partnership agreement with the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council. Its aim is to provide timely and reliable statistics on the human resource dimension of tourism. This update includes revised data for 1997 to 2010 and new data for reference year 2011.

The Human Resource Module provides the total hours worked, compensation and jobs in tourism industries, including jobs that are attributable to demand from both tourists and non-tourists. This is different from the data for tourism jobs in the National Tourism Indicators and the Tourism Satellite Account, which include only those jobs that are directly attributable to demand from tourists. These variables are aggregated into five industry groups: transportation (air transportation and other transportation industries), accommodation, food and beverage services, recreation and entertainment, and travel services.

Employee jobs are defined as jobs for which the employer must complete a Canada Revenue Agency T4 form. Jobs in which workers are paid by tips or commissions are also included.

Jobs from self-employment include jobs performed by working owners of unincorporated enterprises, and members of their households who work without a wage or salary (i.e., unpaid family workers).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1910.

The paper "Human resource module of the tourism satellite account, 2011" is now available as part of the *Income and Expenditure Accounts Technical Series* (13-604-M2012070, free). From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact an information officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Computer and peripherals price indexes, April 2012

Prices for commercial computers were unchanged from March to April, while consumer computer prices decreased 0.2%. In the case of computer peripherals, monitor prices decreased 0.5% while printer prices were up 0.2%.

Year over year, prices declined for both commercial computers (-7.9%) and consumer computers (-6.1%). Also, monitor prices decreased 1.8% and printer prices were down 8.7%.

Note to readers

In June 2012, the computer and peripherals price indexes will be published on the base of 2011=100.

The new indexes will appear in CANSIM with the publication of data for the May 2012 reference month. The new series will appear in new CANSIM tables with new vectors. The old indexes, based on 2007=100, will be terminated with the data for the April 2012 reference month.

The computer and peripherals price indexes are monthly series measuring changes over time in the price of computers and computer peripherals sold to governments, businesses and consumers. This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted, and the indexes published are subject to a six-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 331-0007 and 331-0008.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.

The computer and peripherals price indexes for May will be released on June 29.

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; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Commercial Software Price Index, April 2012

The Commercial Software Price Index (CSPI) was unchanged in April compared with the previous month.

Year over year, the CSPI increased 1.3%.

Note to readers

In June 2012, the commercial software price index will be published on the base of 2011=100.

The new index will appear in CANSIM with the publication of data for the May 2012 reference month. The new series will appear in a new CANSIM table with new vectors. The old index, based on 2007=100, will be terminated with the data for the April 2012 reference month.

The Commercial Software Price Index is a monthly series measuring the change in the purchase price of pre-packaged software typically bought by businesses and governments. This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted, and the indexes published are subject to a six-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data.

This index is available at the Canada level only.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 331-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5068.

The Commercial Software Price Index for May will be released on June 29.

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; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Production and disposition of tobacco products, April 2012

Canadian manufacturers produced 1.7 billion cigarettes in April, down 14.9% from March. The total number of cigarettes sold decreased 17.2% to 1.5 billion and closing inventories increased 3.6% to 2.6 billion cigarettes.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The April 2012 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 41, no. 4 (32-022-X, free) 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 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; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Cereals and oilseeds review, March 2012

Data from the March issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* are now available. March's issue contains an overview of April's market conditions.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3401, 3403, 3404, 3443, 3464, 3476 and 5046.

The March 2012 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review*, Vol. 35, no. 3 (22-007-X, free), 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 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; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

Canadian Economic Observer, May 2012, Vol. 25, no. 5
Catalogue number 11-010-X (free online; Print, \$25/\$243)

Income and Expenditure Accounts Technical Series: "Human Resource Module of the Tourism Satellite Account, 2011", No. 70
Catalogue number 13-604-M2012070 (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Cereals and Oilseeds Review, March 2012, Vol. 35, no. 3
Catalogue number 22-007-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, April 2012, Vol. 41, no. 4
Catalogue number 32-022-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Release dates: May 28 to June 1, 2012

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
28	Adult criminal court statistics	2010/2011
28	Youth court statistics	2010/2011
29	2011 Census: Age and sex	
30	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	April 2012
30	International travel account	First quarter 2012
31	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	March 2012
31	Canada's balance of international payments	First quarter 2012
1	Gross domestic product by income and by expenditure	First quarter 2012
1	Gross domestic product by industry	March 2012

See also the release dates for major economic indicators for the rest of the year.



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