

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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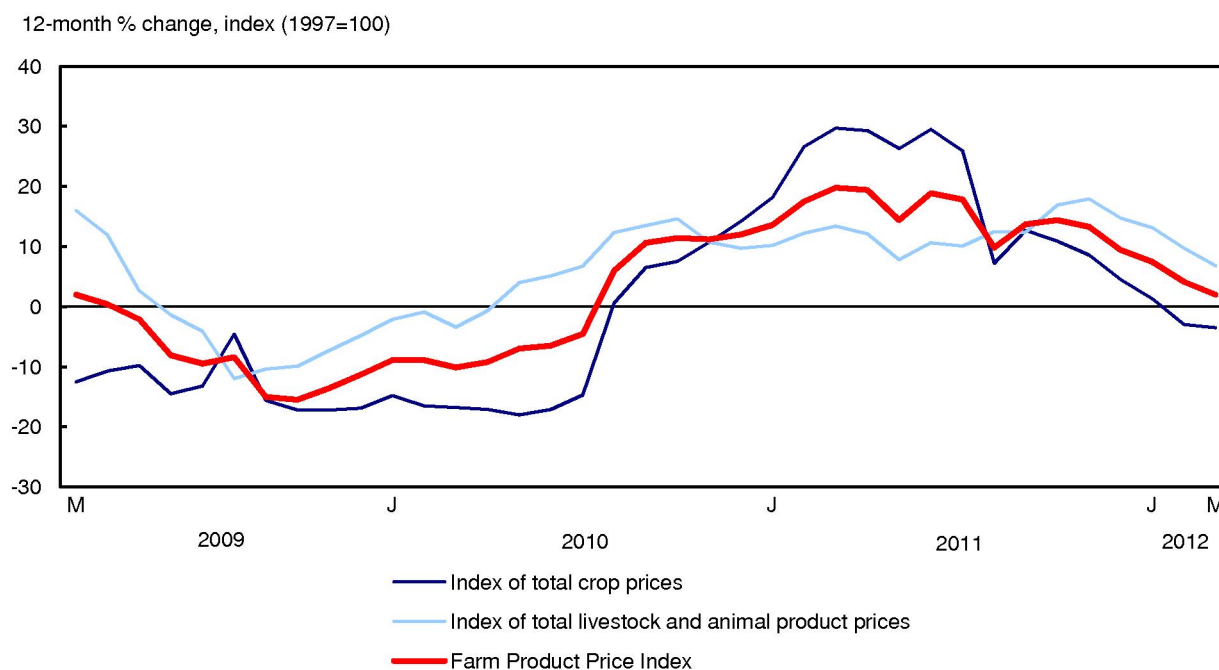


Releases

Farm Product Price Index, March 2012

Prices farmers received for their commodities in March rose 2.0% from March 2011, as the increase in overall livestock and animal product prices more than offset lower crop prices. The total index has trended upward since August 2010; however, there has been a continual slowdown of growth since October 2011.

Chart 1
The 12-month change in the Farm Product Price Index



The livestock and animal products index (+6.8%) continued its year-over-year growth that started in May 2010. Meanwhile, the crops index (-3.5%) declined for the second consecutive month, following a growth trend that started in August 2010.

Advances continued for all livestock commodities except dairy (-1.5%), with increases ranging from 3.4% for poultry to 13.4% for cattle and calves. Lower supplies of cattle and hogs in North America and higher input costs for supply-managed commodities supported the year-over-year growth trends.

The decline in the crops index was largely the result of a drop in the grains index (-10.7%), while fruit (-0.6%) also declined. This marked the fourth consecutive decline of the grains index, following a 17-month year-over-year growth trend. As harvest progresses in the southern hemisphere, at the beginning of April, the International Grains Council continued to forecast a record global 2011/2012 grain crop.

The decline in the total crops index was moderated by increases in the remaining crop commodities, ranging from 1.0% for vegetables to 13.1% for specialty crops. The specialty crop index continued its year-over-year growth trend that started in April 2011, as reduced Canadian and world supplies as well as a higher quality harvest for some crops were experienced.

On a monthly basis, the Farm Product Price Index increased slightly, up 0.2% in March compared with February. The increase was primarily the result of higher prices for crops (+1.2%), as the livestock and animal products index (-0.5%) declined.

Note to readers

The Farm Product Price Index (FPPI) will be released quarterly instead of monthly effective immediately. The next release of the FPPI will be on August 29.

The growth rate of the total 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.

Table 1
Farm Product Price Index

| | March 2011 ^r | February 2012 ^r | March 2012 ^P | February to March 2012 | March 2011 to March 2012 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | (1997=100) | | | % change | |
| Farm Product Price Index | 130.5 | 132.9 | 133.1 | 0.2 | 2.0 |
| Crops | 143.1 | 136.5 | 138.1 | 1.2 | -3.5 |
| Grains | 145.9 | 131.9 | 130.3 | -1.2 | -10.7 |
| Oilseeds | 143.0 | 140.9 | 145.9 | 3.5 | 2.0 |
| Specialty crops | 143.0 | 160.0 | 161.7 | 1.1 | 13.1 |
| Fruit | 123.3 | 124.0 | 122.5 | -1.2 | -0.6 |
| Vegetables | 128.5 | 129.6 | 129.8 | 0.2 | 1.0 |
| Potatoes | 177.6 | 188.3 | 195.9 | 4.0 | 10.3 |
| Livestock and animal products | 121.7 | 130.6 | 130.0 | -0.5 | 6.8 |
| Cattle and calves | 123.1 | 136.6 | 139.6 | 2.2 | 13.4 |
| Hogs | 87.4 | 94.2 | 94.0 | -0.2 | 7.6 |
| Poultry | 121.6 | 126.1 | 125.7 | -0.3 | 3.4 |
| Eggs | 118.9 | 130.1 | 130.4 | 0.2 | 9.7 |
| Dairy | 150.6 | 154.4 | 148.3 | -4.0 | -1.5 |

^r revised

^P preliminary

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The March 2012 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 12, no. 3 (21-007-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445), Agriculture Division.

Electric power statistics, March 2012

Data on electric power are now available for March.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 127-0002 and 127-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2151.

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).

Investment in non-residential building construction, first quarter 2012 (revised data)

Following the release of the "Canadian economic accounts" for the first quarter of 2012, revised data on investment in non-residential building for the first quarter are now available.

Note to readers

Data have also been revised for 2011.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 026-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5014.

More detailed data on investment in non-residential building construction are also available in [free tables](#) online. From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Summary tables*.

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

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Don Overton (613-951-1239), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

Residential construction investment, first quarter 2012

Data on residential construction investment are now available for the first quarter.

Note to readers

Data for 2011 have been revised.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 026-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5016.

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

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mariane Nozière Bien-Aimé
(613-951-7520), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

Financial information of universities and colleges, 2010/2011

The interim Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) report is now available for the 2010/2011 academic year and includes financial data for all CAUBO member institutions except those in Quebec. A full final report will be released as soon as the Quebec data become available. Aggregated data for degree-granting institutions that are not members of the CAUBO organization are expected to be released in July.

Note to readers

The Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) provides financial data on the major degree-granting institutions in Canada. The CAUBO data are an important part of the Statistics Canada's Financial Information of Universities and Colleges Survey.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3121.

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

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