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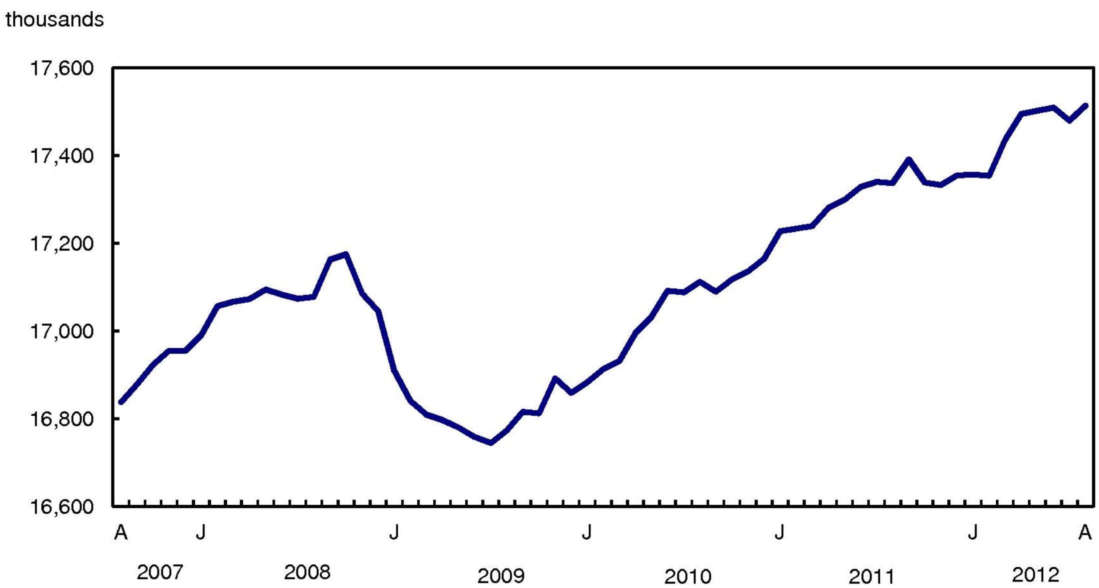
Releases

Releases

Labour Force Survey, August 2012

After a decline in July, employment rose by 34,000 in August, the result of an increase in part-time work. The unemployment rate held steady at 7.3%.

Chart 1
Employment



On a year-over-year basis, employment increased by 1.0% or 177,000, with most of the gains occurring in the spring of this year. Virtually all of the increase in the 12-month period was in full-time work. Over the same period, the total number of hours worked rose 0.7%.

Employment rose in Quebec, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, while it declined in Ontario and Prince Edward Island. There was little change in the other provinces.

In August, there was added employment in transportation and warehousing; professional, scientific and technical services; business, building and other support services as well as in natural resources. At the same time, there were fewer people employed in construction as well as information, culture and recreation.

Employment increased among employees and was little changed among the self-employed in August. On a year-over-year basis, public sector employment increased 1.9% and the number of private sector employees rose 1.0%, while self-employment was unchanged.

In August, there was an increase in employment among people aged 55 and over, while it fell among youths aged 15 to 24.

This summer, the average employment rate from May to August for students aged 15 to 24 was 47.9%, down from 49.1% last summer.

Chart 2
Unemployment rate

Provincial summary

Employment increased by 33,000 in Quebec, with gains in part-time work. This left overall employment in the province slightly above the level of 12 months earlier. At 7.6% in August, the unemployment rate was unchanged from the previous month.

In August, employment rose by 15,000 in British Columbia, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.3 percentage points to 6.7%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment increased 2.3%, above the national growth rate of 1.0%.

In Saskatchewan, employment increased by 4,600, bringing gains over the past 12 months to 3.6%, the highest growth rate of all provinces. The increase in employment in August pushed the unemployment rate down 0.6 percentage points to 4.4%, tied with Alberta for the lowest rate among all provinces.

Employment increased by 3,400 in Manitoba in August and the unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage points to 5.4%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment was up 0.9%.

The number of employed fell by 25,000 in Ontario, leaving employment similar to its level of August 2011. The unemployment rate in the province was 8.0% in August 2012.

Employment up in services

In August, employment increased by 37,000 in transportation and warehousing. Despite this increase, employment in the industry was similar to its level of 12 months earlier.

There were 20,000 more people working in professional, scientific and technical services in August, offsetting the decline in the previous month. On a year-over-year basis, employment was little changed in this industry.

Employment rose by 19,000 in business, building and other support services in August, the second increase in the past three months, bringing employment up 43,000 (+6.4%) over the past 12 months.

Employment increased by 8,800 in natural resources in August. Since August 2011, when employment in the industry was at its most recent low, employment has grown by 17.7%.

Construction employment decreased by 44,000 in August, bringing employment in this industry 2.4% below its level of a year earlier.

Employment declined by 17,000 in information, culture and recreation in August. With losses in four of the past five months, employment in the industry was down 3.2% from its level of August 2011.

More employed women and men aged 55 and over

Following a decline in July, employment among women aged 55 and over increased by 46,000 in August, bringing year-over-year gains to 97,000 (+7.1%). The unemployment rate for this group fell by 0.9 percentage points to 5.2% in August.

The number of employed men aged 55 and over rose by 16,000 in August, the first notable increase in four months. Their unemployment rate was little changed at 5.9%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment for this group has increased by 104,000 (+6.2%).

The robust year-over-year employment increase for both men and women aged 55 and over was in part the result of population aging.

Employment among those aged 25 to 54 was virtually unchanged in August. Employment growth for this group totalled 47,000 or up 0.4% over the previous 12 months.

Employment among youths fell by 22,000 in August, and was down by 72,000 (-2.9%) compared with 12 months earlier. The youth unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage points to 14.8% in August.

Summer labour market for students

From May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects labour market information about young people aged 15 to 24 who were attending school full time in March and intend to return to school full time in the fall. The published estimates are not seasonally adjusted; therefore, comparisons can only be made on a year-over-year basis.

Compared with last summer, employment rates were down for students of all age groups, and were among the lowest on record. Overall, the average employment rate from May to August for students aged 15 to 24 was 47.9%, down from last summer (49.1%), and the summer of 2009 (48.6%), when student employment was hard hit by the labour market downturn. In contrast, the rates in the summers of 2006 to 2008 averaged 54.1%.

The average unemployment rate over the summer for students aged 20 to 24 was 11.3%, while it was 18.1% for those aged 17 to 19 and 30.2% for students aged 15 to 16.

The average number of hours worked at all jobs during the summer of 2012 by students aged 15 to 24 was 24.2 hours per week, similar to the summer of 2011. Students worked slightly more hours this summer compared with the summer of 2009, when the average workweek was 23.4 hours.

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X, free).

The employment rate is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The rate for a particular group (for example, youth aged 15 to 24) is the number employed in that group as a percentage of the population for that group.

The unemployment rate is the number unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed).

The participation rate is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population. For more detailed information, see the Guide to the Labour Force Survey (71-543-G, free).

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.

Educational services

The LFS seasonal adjustment process removes typical seasonal patterns in the monthly data, according to trends established in previous years. While there have been larger movements in educational services employment in summer months in recent years, there has not been a consistent pattern in the magnitude or direction of these changes.

Table 1
Labour force characteristics by age and sex – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012
	thousands (except rates)		change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over						
Population	28,338.2	28,362.9	24.7	330.2	0.1	1.2
Labour force	18,856.4	18,886.9	30.5	185.0	0.2	1.0
Employment	17,479.3	17,513.6	34.3	176.6	0.2	1.0
Full-time	14,223.9	14,211.4	-12.5	172.2	-0.1	1.2
Part-time	3,255.5	3,302.2	46.7	4.3	1.4	0.1
Unemployment	1,377.0	1,373.3	-3.7	8.5	-0.3	0.6
Participation rate	66.5	66.6	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.3	7.3	0.0	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	61.7	61.7	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	18.6	18.9	0.3	-0.1	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years						
Population	4,458.2	4,458.1	-0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0
Labour force	2,831.9	2,822.5	-9.4	-59.4	-0.3	-2.1
Employment	2,427.9	2,405.7	-22.2	-72.2	-0.9	-2.9
Full-time	1,289.5	1,269.5	-20.0	-27.7	-1.6	-2.1
Part-time	1,138.4	1,136.2	-2.2	-44.6	-0.2	-3.8
Unemployment	404.1	416.8	12.7	12.9	3.1	3.2
Participation rate	63.5	63.3	-0.2	-1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	14.3	14.8	0.5	0.8	...	...
Employment rate	54.5	54.0	-0.5	-1.6	...	...
Part-time rate	46.9	47.2	0.3	-0.5	...	...
Men, 25 years and over						
Population	11,687.1	11,699.5	12.4	164.8	0.1	1.4
Labour force	8,503.5	8,512.9	9.4	131.6	0.1	1.6
Employment	7,963.2	7,979.1	15.9	124.7	0.2	1.6
Full-time	7,344.2	7,357.4	13.2	111.4	0.2	1.5
Part-time	619.0	621.7	2.7	13.3	0.4	2.2
Unemployment	540.3	533.8	-6.5	6.9	-1.2	1.3
Participation rate	72.8	72.8	0.0	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.3	-0.1	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	68.1	68.2	0.1	0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	7.8	7.8	0.0	0.1	...	...
Women, 25 years and over						
Population	12,192.8	12,205.3	12.5	164.9	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,521.0	7,551.5	30.5	112.8	0.4	1.5
Employment	7,088.3	7,128.9	40.6	124.2	0.6	1.8
Full-time	5,590.2	5,584.6	-5.6	88.6	-0.1	1.6
Part-time	1,498.0	1,544.3	46.3	35.6	3.1	2.4
Unemployment	432.7	422.6	-10.1	-11.4	-2.3	-2.6
Participation rate	61.7	61.9	0.2	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.6	-0.2	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	58.1	58.4	0.3	0.2	...	...
Part-time rate	21.1	21.7	0.6	0.2	...	...

... not applicable
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table 282-0087.*

Table 2
Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS[1]) – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,815.7	14,863.0	47.3	178.7	0.3	1.2
Self-employed	2,663.6	2,650.6	-13.0	-2.1	-0.5	-0.1
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,595.5	3,612.9	17.4	67.8	0.5	1.9
Private	11,220.2	11,250.1	29.9	110.9	0.3	1.0
All industries	**17,479.3**	**17,513.6**	**34.3**	**176.6**	**0.2**	**1.0**
Goods-producing sector	**3,892.6**	**3,856.2**	**-36.4**	**62.2**	**-0.9**	**1.6**
Agriculture	306.7	306.9	0.2	5.1	0.1	1.7
Natural resources[2]	364.9	373.7	8.8	56.3	2.4	17.7
Utilities	138.5	139.8	1.3	6.9	0.9	5.2
Construction	1,279.2	1,235.2	-44.0	-30.4	-3.4	-2.4
Manufacturing	1,803.3	1,800.6	-2.7	24.3	-0.1	1.4
Services-producing sector	**13,586.8**	**13,657.4**	**70.6**	**114.3**	**0.5**	**0.8**
Trade	2,606.4	2,619.5	13.1	-64.9	0.5	-2.4
Transportation and warehousing	836.4	873.5	37.1	19.7	4.4	2.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,107.7	1,104.3	-3.4	0.1	-0.3	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,274.2	1,294.2	20.0	-8.5	1.6	-0.7
Business, building and other support services	698.1	717.1	19.0	43.0	2.7	6.4
Educational services	1,308.8	1,312.0	3.2	106.1	0.2	8.8
Health care and social assistance	2,142.6	2,135.4	-7.2	28.5	-0.3	1.4
Information, culture and recreation	781.8	764.6	-17.2	-25.4	-2.2	-3.2
Accommodation and food services	1,095.4	1,097.9	2.5	-2.9	0.2	-0.3
Other services	794.5	800.7	6.2	43.6	0.8	5.8
Public administration	940.8	938.3	-2.5	-24.9	-0.3	-2.6

1. North American Industry Classification System.
2. Also referred to as forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas.
Note(s): *Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.*

Table 3
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012
	thousands (except rates)		change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	427.0	427.0	0.0	-1.5	0.0	-0.4
Labour force	260.5	262.4	1.9	5.0	0.7	1.9
Employment	227.2	228.9	1.7	6.9	0.7	3.1
Full-time	196.9	195.0	-1.9	10.0	-1.0	5.4
Part-time	30.3	33.9	3.6	-3.1	11.9	-8.4
Unemployment	33.3	33.4	0.1	-2.0	0.3	-5.6
Participation rate	61.0	61.5	0.5	1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.8	12.7	-0.1	-1.1	...	...
Employment rate	53.2	53.6	0.4	1.8	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	120.6	120.7	0.1	1.0	0.1	0.8
Labour force	82.0	81.8	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.4
Employment	73.6	72.2	-1.4	0.0	-1.9	0.0
Full-time	60.7	60.0	-0.7	-0.2	-1.2	-0.3
Part-time	12.8	12.2	-0.6	0.3	-4.7	2.5
Unemployment	8.4	9.6	1.2	0.3	14.3	3.2
Participation rate	68.0	67.8	-0.2	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.2	11.7	1.5	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	61.0	59.8	-1.2	-0.5	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	780.6	780.7	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.2
Labour force	503.0	506.0	3.0	7.5	0.6	1.5
Employment	455.5	456.8	1.3	1.3	0.3	0.3
Full-time	361.5	364.1	2.6	-4.5	0.7	-1.2
Part-time	94.1	92.7	-1.4	5.7	-1.5	6.6
Unemployment	47.5	49.2	1.7	6.3	3.6	14.7
Participation rate	64.4	64.8	0.4	0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.4	9.7	0.3	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.4	58.5	0.1	0.0	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	620.5	620.5	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.1
Labour force	392.9	392.6	-0.3	5.7	-0.1	1.5
Employment	353.7	351.9	-1.8	0.8	-0.5	0.2
Full-time	296.0	294.3	-1.7	1.4	-0.6	0.5
Part-time	57.8	57.7	-0.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.9
Unemployment	39.2	40.7	1.5	4.9	3.8	13.7
Participation rate	63.3	63.3	0.0	0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.0	10.4	0.4	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	57.0	56.7	-0.3	0.0	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,642.0	6,646.4	4.4	60.8	0.1	0.9
Labour force	4,281.4	4,318.4	37.0	28.8	0.9	0.7
Employment	3,956.8	3,989.3	32.5	24.5	0.8	0.6
Full-time	3,233.4	3,224.1	-9.3	6.5	-0.3	0.2
Part-time	723.3	765.2	41.9	18.0	5.8	2.4
Unemployment	324.6	329.1	4.5	4.3	1.4	1.3
Participation rate	64.5	65.0	0.5	-0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.6	0.0	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	59.6	60.0	0.4	-0.2	...	...
Ontario						
Population	11,080.4	11,090.7	10.3	146.9	0.1	1.3
Labour force	7,374.7	7,352.7	-22.0	60.3	-0.3	0.8
Employment	6,792.6	6,767.7	-24.9	24.3	-0.4	0.4
Full-time	5,508.5	5,493.5	-15.0	11.4	-0.3	0.2
Part-time	1,284.0	1,274.1	-9.9	12.7	-0.8	1.0
Unemployment	582.1	585.1	3.0	36.1	0.5	6.6
Participation rate	66.6	66.3	-0.3	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.9	8.0	0.1	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	61.3	61.0	-0.3	-0.6	...	...

Table 3 - continued
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2012	August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012	July to August 2012	August 2011 to August 2012
Manitoba						
Population	963.6	964.3	0.7	9.0	0.1	0.9
Labour force	662.9	664.3	1.4	5.8	0.2	0.9
Employment	625.0	628.4	3.4	5.3	0.5	0.9
Full-time	502.1	509.4	7.3	8.5	1.5	1.7
Part-time	122.9	118.9	-4.0	-3.2	-3.3	-2.6
Unemployment	37.9	35.9	-2.0	0.5	-5.3	1.4
Participation rate	68.8	68.9	0.1	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.4	-0.3	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	64.9	65.2	0.3	0.0	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	811.9	812.8	0.9	11.5	0.1	1.4
Labour force	565.9	567.2	1.3	19.1	0.2	3.5
Employment	537.4	542.0	4.6	18.6	0.9	3.6
Full-time	444.8	448.9	4.1	12.2	0.9	2.8
Part-time	92.6	93.1	0.5	6.4	0.5	7.4
Unemployment	28.5	25.2	-3.3	0.5	-11.6	2.0
Participation rate	69.7	69.8	0.1	1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.4	-0.6	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	66.2	66.7	0.5	1.4	...	...
Alberta						
Population	3,073.9	3,079.6	5.7	65.0	0.2	2.2
Labour force	2,253.0	2,253.2	0.2	17.8	0.0	0.8
Employment	2,150.0	2,153.9	3.9	43.3	0.2	2.1
Full-time	1,799.3	1,805.0	5.7	56.4	0.3	3.2
Part-time	350.6	348.9	-1.7	-13.2	-0.5	-3.6
Unemployment	103.0	99.3	-3.7	-25.5	-3.6	-20.4
Participation rate	73.3	73.2	-0.1	-1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.6	4.4	-0.2	-1.2	...	...
Employment rate	69.9	69.9	0.0	-0.1	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,817.7	3,820.2	2.5	35.1	0.1	0.9
Labour force	2,480.1	2,488.3	8.2	34.6	0.3	1.4
Employment	2,307.7	2,322.6	14.9	51.7	0.6	2.3
Full-time	1,820.7	1,817.0	-3.7	70.3	-0.2	4.0
Part-time	487.0	505.6	18.6	-18.6	3.8	-3.5
Unemployment	172.4	165.7	-6.7	-17.1	-3.9	-9.4
Participation rate	65.0	65.1	0.1	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.7	-0.3	-0.7	...	...
Employment rate	60.4	60.8	0.4	0.8	...	...

... not applicable
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table 282-0087.*

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0063, 282-0069 to 282-0095, 282-0100 to 282-0121 and 282-0200 to 282-0219.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-X, free), is now available online for the week ending August 18. From the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *Subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on October 5.

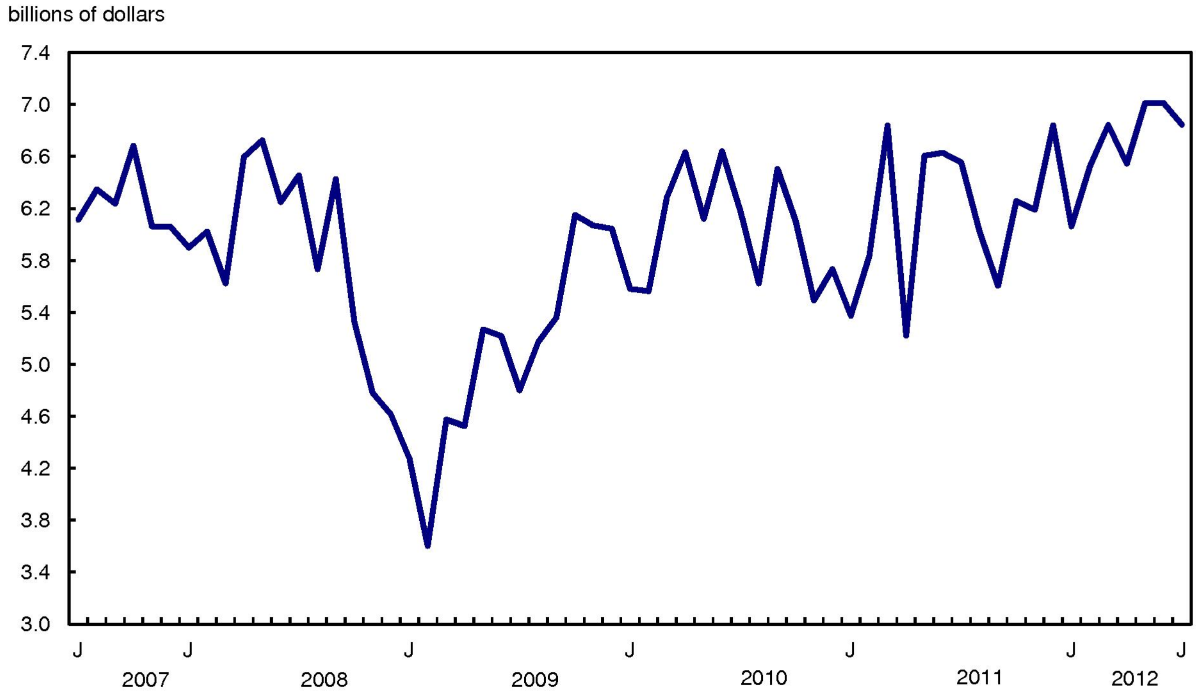
For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre
(toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca) or May Luong (613-951-6014; may.luong@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Building permits, July 2012

Municipalities issued building permits worth just over $6.8 billion in July, down 2.3% from June. This followed a month of relative stability between May and June. The main factor in the decline was lower construction intentions for both residential and non-residential buildings, particularly in Ontario.

Chart 1
Total value of permits



In the residential sector, the value of permits decreased 2.4% to $4.3 billion, following two consecutive monthly advances. The decline was attributable mainly to lower construction intentions in four provinces, led by Ontario, with Saskatchewan a distant second.

In the non-residential sector, the value of permits fell 2.1% to $2.5 billion after a 9.0% decrease in June. Non-residential permits declined in six provinces with Ontario and Saskatchewan accounting for most of the drop.

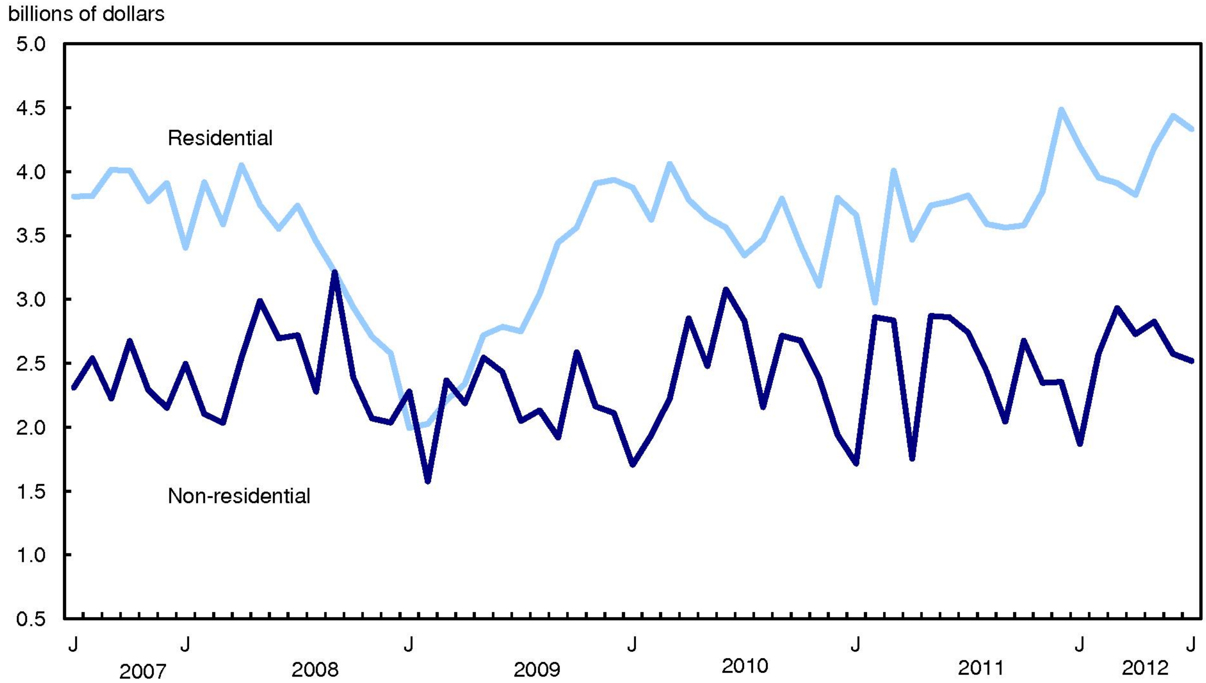
Residential sector: Construction intentions down for both multi-family and single-family dwellings

The value of permits for multi-family dwellings decreased 4.3% to $1.9 billion, following two consecutive monthly increases. Construction intentions were down in seven provinces, with Ontario posting the largest decline, followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta. The value of multi-family permits increased in British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Municipalities issued $2.5 billion worth of building permits for single-family dwellings in July, a 0.9% decline following two monthly advances. Most of the declines occurred in British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan. The value of permits for single-family houses rose in five provinces, including Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec.

Nationally, municipalities authorized construction of 19,139 new dwellings, down 4.9% from June. The decrease was attributable to both multi-family dwellings, which fell 6.8% to 11,846 units, and single-family dwellings, which declined 1.6% to 7,293 units.

Chart 2
Residential and non-residential sectors



Non-residential sector: Declines in the institutional and industrial components

In July, the value of permits for non-residential construction decreased for the second consecutive month. Declines in the institutional and industrial components more than offset gains in the commercial component.

In the institutional component, the value of permits fell 25.2% to $404 million, the second consecutive monthly decline and the lowest level since February 2012. The decrease was mainly the result of lower construction intentions for educational institutions in Ontario and British Columbia and government buildings in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The value of permits for industrial buildings decreased 3.7% to $462 million, following a 0.5% advance in June. The decline was mostly the result of lower construction intentions for manufacturing plants in Ontario, the value of which had increased the previous month.

In contrast, Alberta and Quebec recorded the largest increases. Alberta's gain came from manufacturing plants, utilities and transportation-related buildings. Quebec's advance was attributable to utilities and transportation-related buildings.

In the commercial component, the value of permits rose 6.4% to $1.7 billion, the fifth monthly increase since the beginning of the year. The advance was largely a result of higher construction intentions for a variety of commercial buildings. These included retail outlets and theatre and performing art centres in British Columbia, and recreational facilities in Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.

Provinces: Construction intentions down significantly in Ontario

In July, the total value of permits declined in six provinces, led by Ontario, followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta.

After two consecutive monthly gains, Ontario recorded the largest decrease, mainly as a result of lower construction intentions for multi-family dwellings, institutional and industrial buildings.

The decline in Saskatchewan, which was the second in a row, originated from residential, institutional and industrial buildings. Even so, the total value of permits in Saskatchewan was 10.3% higher than the monthly average in 2011. Alberta's drop was attributable to institutional and commercial buildings, as well as multi-family dwellings.

British Columbia posted the largest gain, a result of growth in the value of permits for commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings. The gain in Newfoundland and Labrador was mainly attributable to higher construction intentions for commercial buildings and single-family dwellings.

In Quebec, the value of permits for industrial and institutional buildings was behind the increase, while in New Brunswick, gains were reported in institutional and commercial buildings, and single-family dwellings.

Permits value down in most census metropolitan areas

The total value of permits fell in 24 of the 34 census metropolitan areas.

Toronto and Regina registered the largest decreases. In Toronto, the decline was primarily attributable to lower construction intentions for residential and institutional buildings. Regina's decrease originated from multi-family dwellings and institutional buildings.

The largest advance occurred in Vancouver and Montréal. In Vancouver, the gain was the result of growth in the value of permits for commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings. In Montréal, the advance was attributable to a large extent to multi-family dwellings and industrial buildings.

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 95% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity.

The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (for example, waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

For the purpose of this release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario/Quebec) is divided into two areas: Gatineau part and Ottawa part.

Revision

Data for the current reference month are subject to revision based on late responses. Data have been revised for the previous month.

Table 1
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2011	May 2012	June 2012[r]	July 2012[p]	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	**6,552.9**	**7,010.3**	**7,008.7**	**6,846.4**	**-2.3**	**4.5**
Residential	3,812.5	4,184.8	4,437.4	4,329.7	-2.4	13.6
Single[1]	2,284.0	2,348.8	2,491.6	2,468.4	-0.9	8.1
Multiple	1,528.5	1,836.0	1,945.8	1,861.3	-4.3	21.8
Non-residential	2,740.4	2,825.5	2,571.3	2,516.7	-2.1	-8.2
Industrial	358.3	477.4	479.9	462.1	-3.7	29.0
Commercial	1,653.2	1,387.7	1,551.1	1,650.6	6.4	-0.2
Institutional	728.9	960.4	540.3	404.0	-25.2	-44.6
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	**17,669**	**18,827**	**20,121**	**19,139**	**-4.9**	**8.3**
Single[1]	7,127	6,963	7,411	7,293	-1.6	2.3
Multiple	10,542	11,864	12,710	11,846	-6.8	12.4

r *revised*

p *preliminary*

1. *Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single-detached, mobile home and cottage.*

Note(s): *Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.*

Table 2
Value of building permits, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	July 2011	May 2012	June 2012[r]	July 2012[p]	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	**6,552.9**	**7,010.3**	**7,008.7**	**6,846.4**	**-2.3**	**4.5**
Residential	**3,812.5**	**4,184.8**	**4,437.4**	**4,329.7**	**-2.4**	**13.6**
Non-residential	**2,740.4**	**2,825.5**	**2,571.3**	**2,516.7**	**-2.1**	**-8.2**
Newfoundland and Labrador	96.2	87.1	69.4	110.2	58.6	14.5
Residential	63.1	62.6	56.8	59.9	5.5	-5.1
Non-residential	33.1	24.5	12.6	50.2	297.8	51.7
Prince Edward Island	25.9	30.9	31.0	20.6	-33.6	-20.4
Residential	11.4	13.5	12.5	14.0	12.6	23.4
Non-residential	14.5	17.4	18.6	6.6	-64.6	-54.7
Nova Scotia	174.5	134.6	167.7	161.6	-3.7	-7.4
Residential	85.7	97.4	92.5	96.8	4.6	13.0
Non-residential	88.8	37.2	75.2	64.8	-13.9	-27.0
New Brunswick	75.9	75.3	72.8	89.0	22.1	17.1
Residential	42.2	49.6	47.3	49.1	3.8	16.3
Non-residential	33.7	25.7	25.5	39.8	56.0	18.2
Quebec	1,324.3	1,316.8	1,330.7	1,361.5	2.3	2.8
Residential	883.1	833.8	868.7	863.4	-0.6	-2.2
Non-residential	441.2	482.9	461.9	498.1	7.8	12.9
Ontario	2,477.7	2,294.5	2,744.6	2,478.2	-9.7	0.0
Residential	1,370.1	1,455.1	1,736.4	1,595.4	-8.1	16.4
Non-residential	1,107.6	839.4	1,008.2	882.9	-12.4	-20.3
Manitoba	132.9	196.3	200.8	183.5	-8.6	38.1
Residential	85.4	94.4	122.4	126.6	3.5	48.2
Non-residential	47.5	101.9	78.4	56.9	-27.4	19.9
Saskatchewan	298.2	385.7	314.6	240.2	-23.6	-19.4
Residential	139.7	163.9	186.1	139.8	-24.9	0.1
Non-residential	158.5	221.8	128.4	100.4	-21.8	-36.6
Alberta	1,091.7	1,376.1	1,136.7	1,097.5	-3.4	0.5
Residential	627.4	738.2	650.7	636.6	-2.2	1.5
Non-residential	464.3	637.9	486.0	460.9	-5.2	-0.7
British Columbia	807.4	1,092.5	928.2	1,058.3	14.0	31.1
Residential	493.4	664.2	654.8	724.9	10.7	46.9
Non-residential	313.9	428.3	273.4	333.4	21.9	6.2
Yukon	36.1	9.0	7.8	18.1	132.5	-49.8
Residential	7.7	5.9	6.8	17.0	149.8	121.5
Non-residential	28.4	3.2	1.0	1.1	13.8	-96.0
Northwest Territories	3.3	2.1	1.2	5.0	304.9	52.5
Residential	0.8	1.7	1.0	3.9	304.2	376.5
Non-residential	2.5	0.4	0.3	1.1	307.4	-55.5
Nunavut	8.9	9.5	3.1	22.7	637.4	155.6
Residential	2.5	4.6	1.4	2.2	59.1	-11.2
Non-residential	6.4	4.9	1.7	20.5	…	219.7

[r] *revised*

[p] *preliminary*

… *not applicable*

Note(s): *Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.*

Table 3
Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area – Seasonally adjusted[1]

	July 2011	May 2012	June 2012[r]	July 2012[p]	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	**4,811.7**	**5,367.7**	**5,335.1**	**5,255.9**	**-1.5**	**9.2**
St. John's	64.9	56.7	45.3	82.3	81.7	26.8
Halifax	80.0	79.4	106.5	87.4	-17.9	9.3
Moncton	21.4	26.1	29.7	23.5	-21.0	9.8
Saint John	13.9	12.4	6.2	18.3	194.1	31.6
Saguenay	26.9	34.9	36.0	23.2	-35.5	-13.7
Québec	118.7	173.7	155.7	122.7	-21.2	3.4
Sherbrooke	32.3	34.1	33.5	48.6	44.9	50.4
Trois-Rivières	27.0	32.8	28.0	19.3	-31.3	-28.5
Montréal	714.0	645.9	647.5	732.4	13.1	2.6
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	225.9	261.3	217.2	248.7	14.5	10.1
Gatineau part	46.6	45.3	49.7	49.0	-1.3	5.3
Ottawa part	179.3	216.1	167.5	199.7	19.2	11.3
Kingston	44.1	25.8	23.9	20.4	-14.4	-53.7
Peterborough	16.8	17.9	17.6	9.0	-48.7	-46.3
Oshawa	53.8	78.0	77.0	44.6	-42.1	-17.2
Toronto	1,237.6	1,067.8	1,510.2	1,359.3	-10.0	9.8
Hamilton	113.7	110.6	123.6	85.7	-30.6	-24.6
St. Catharines–Niagara	48.1	65.8	33.8	53.2	57.2	10.4
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	142.1	81.5	82.2	68.2	-17.0	-52.0
Brantford	6.3	18.6	10.4	54.7	426.1	762.2
Guelph	16.1	37.6	25.5	11.8	-53.8	-27.1
London	86.7	117.4	112.3	105.5	-6.1	21.8
Windsor	31.1	33.8	77.0	60.3	-21.7	93.9
Barrie	42.7	22.8	19.6	24.7	26.1	-42.2
Greater Sudbury	28.4	28.0	22.0	20.0	-9.3	-29.6
Thunder Bay	13.0	22.1	18.7	10.6	-43.1	-18.1
Winnipeg	79.0	122.1	141.9	123.6	-12.9	56.5
Regina	73.9	71.8	116.8	70.2	-39.9	-5.0
Saskatoon	99.7	191.7	114.6	90.3	-21.1	-9.4
Calgary	372.4	519.9	396.2	393.8	-0.6	5.8
Edmonton	365.3	479.2	377.0	373.6	-0.9	2.3
Kelowna	23.3	21.9	27.4	25.7	-6.2	10.7
Abbotsford–Mission	14.3	12.0	18.6	14.9	-19.8	4.0
Vancouver	518.2	785.3	641.9	779.5	21.4	50.4
Victoria	60.2	78.5	41.4	49.9	20.6	-17.1

r revised

p preliminary

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

Note(s): Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The July 2012 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X, free) will soon be available.

The August building permits data will be released on October 5.

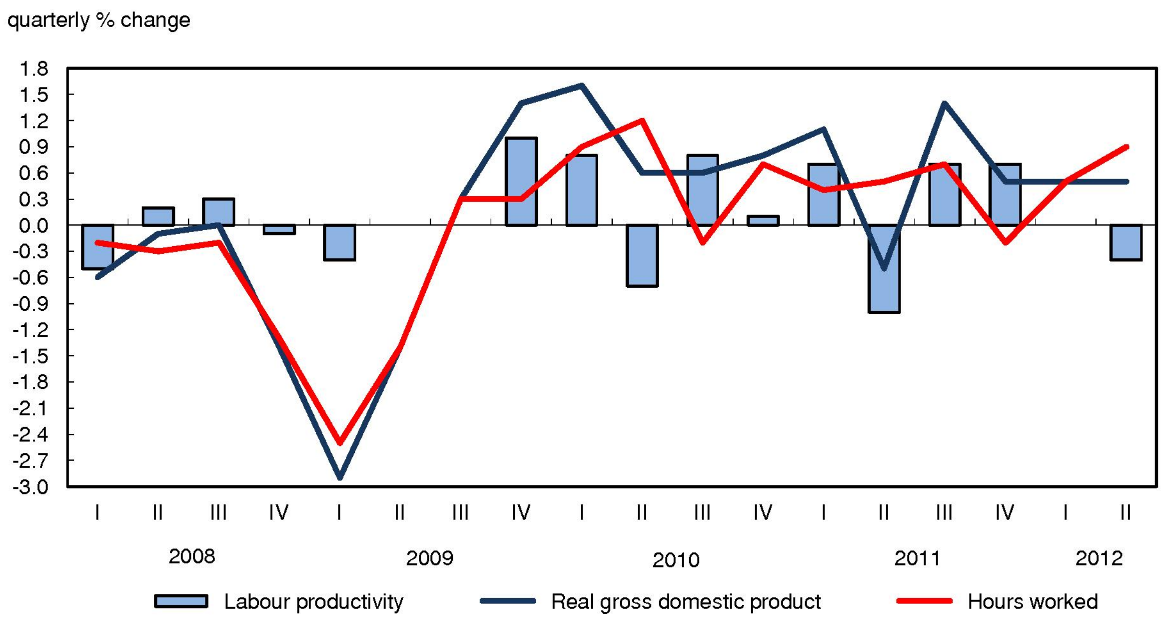
For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

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.

Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, second quarter 2012

The labour productivity of Canadian businesses fell 0.4% in the second quarter, after no change in the previous quarter. It was the first decline in a year.

Chart 1
Real output of Canadian businesses increases less than hours worked



In the second quarter, Canadian businesses maintained the same rate of growth in real output as in the previous two quarters while increasing hours worked.

The real gross domestic product of businesses rose 0.5% in the second quarter, echoing the results observed in the previous two quarters. In contrast to the situation in the first quarter, goods-producing businesses significantly outperformed services-producing businesses in output growth in the second quarter.

At the same time, hours worked in the business sector continued their upward trend, increasing 0.9% in the second quarter. Two-thirds of the industry sectors posted gains during the quarter. Hours worked in goods-producing businesses rose 1.4%, after remaining flat the previous quarter, while hours worked in the services-producing industries were up 0.7%. Construction and the finance and insurance sector were largely responsible for the overall increase.

Both goods-producing businesses and services-producing businesses experienced declines in productivity in the second quarter.

In the goods-producing businesses, productivity fell 0.5% in the second quarter, the first decrease in a year. Except for agriculture (+0.6%), the productivity of each goods-producing industry declined in the second quarter. The sector's largest decline was in mining and oil and gas extraction (-2.3%).

In the services-producing businesses, productivity decreased 0.4% in the second quarter, after edging down 0.1% the previous quarter. The largest contributors to the decline were the finance and insurance (-1.6%) sector and transportation and warehousing services (-1.7%).

In the United States, the productivity of American businesses grew by 0.6% in the second quarter, after falling 0.2% in the first quarter.

In Canadian businesses, labour costs per unit of production were up for a third consecutive quarter, rising 0.7% in the second quarter.

The increase in unit labour costs in the second quarter reflected the 0.3% rise in hourly compensation combined with lower productivity. In the first quarter, the quarterly growth rate of hourly compensation in Canada was 0.5%.

After one quarter of appreciation, the average 0.9% decline in the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the American currency in the second quarter pushed Canadian businesses' unit labour costs in US dollars down 0.2%. It was the third decrease in the past four quarters.

By comparison, American businesses' unit labour costs were up 0.3% in the second quarter, after increasing 1.5% in the first quarter.

Note to readers

With this release, data were revised back to the first quarter of 2012 at the aggregate level and to the first quarter of 2011 at the industry level.

The historical revision to the Canadian National Accounts is scheduled for release beginning in October. For more information, consult the National economic accounts website.

The term "productivity" in this release refers to labour productivity. For the purposes of this analysis, labour productivity and related variables cover the business sector only. Labour productivity is a measure of real gross domestic product (GDP) per hour worked. Unit labour cost is defined as the cost of workers' wages and benefits per unit of real GDP.

All the growth rates reported in this release are rounded to one decimal place. They are calculated with index numbers rounded to three decimal places, which are now available on CANSIM.

Table 1
Business sector: Labour productivity and related variables for Canada and the United States[1] – Seasonally adjusted

	Second quarter 2010	Third quarter 2010	Fourth quarter 2010	First quarter 2011	Second quarter 2011	Third quarter 2011	Fourth quarter 2011	First quarter 2012	Second quarter 2012
	% change from previous quarter								
Canada									
Labour productivity	-0.7	0.8	0.1	0.7	-1.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	-0.4
Real gross domestic product	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.1	-0.5	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Hours worked	1.2	-0.2	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.9
Hourly compensation	0.1	1.4	0.7	1.3	-0.0	-0.1	1.5	0.5	0.3
Unit labour cost	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.5	1.0	-0.7	0.8	0.4	0.7
Exchange rate[2]	1.2	-1.1	2.6	2.7	1.9	-1.3	-4.2	2.3	-0.9
Unit labour cost in US dollars	2.1	-0.5	3.3	3.3	2.9	-2.0	-3.5	2.6	-0.2
United States[3]									
Labour productivity	-0.1	0.8	0.4	-0.6	0.3	0.1	0.7	-0.2	0.6
Real gross domestic product	0.7	1.2	0.8	-0.1	0.7	0.4	1.3	0.7	0.6
Hours worked	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.0
Hourly compensation	0.6	0.5	0.1	2.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	1.4	0.9
Unit labour cost	0.8	-0.3	-0.3	2.8	-0.2	-0.2	-0.9	1.5	0.3

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Third quarter 2011	Fourth quarter 2011	First quarter 2012	Second quarter 2012
	% change from the previous year					% change from same quarter of previous year			
Canada									
Labour productivity	-0.3	-0.8	0.0	1.5	0.8	0.4	1.1	0.4	1.0
Real gross domestic product	1.9	-0.3	-4.5	3.4	2.6	2.8	2.5	1.9	2.9
Hours worked	2.1	0.5	-4.5	1.9	1.8	2.3	1.3	1.4	1.8
Hourly compensation	3.5	3.1	2.0	2.3	2.9	1.9	2.7	1.9	2.3
Unit labour cost	3.8	3.9	1.9	0.8	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.2
Exchange rate[2]	6.0	0.9	-6.7	10.3	4.1	6.0	-1.0	-1.5	-4.2
Unit labour cost in US dollars	10.1	4.7	-4.9	11.3	6.4	7.6	0.6	-0.0	-3.0
United States[3]									
Labour productivity	1.5	0.7	3.1	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.3
Real gross domestic product	2.0	-1.3	-4.3	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	3.1
Hours worked	0.5	-2.0	-7.2	-0.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.8
Hourly compensation	4.1	3.3	1.4	2.0	2.6	2.2	2.0	1.2	2.1
Unit labour cost	2.6	2.6	-1.6	-1.0	2.2	2.1	1.5	0.2	0.8

1. Calculations of growth rates are based on index numbers rounded to three decimal places.
2. The exchange rate corresponds to the Canadian dollar value expressed in US dollars.
3. US data are from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Productivity and costs: Second quarter 2012 published in NEWS, September 5.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 383-0008 and 383-0012.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5042.

Additional tables and links to other releases from the national accounts can be found in the second quarter 2012 issue of *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review*, Vol. 11, no. 2 (13-010-X, free), available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost data for the third quarter will be released on December 7. Meanwhile, revised estimates of labour productivity for the second quarter, to be released on October 12, include the historical revision to aggregate labour productivity and underlying series (gross domestic product, hours worked, hourly compensation, unit labour costs, etc.) from 1981 to 2012. These updates will be consistent with the historical revision to the Canadian National Accounts, to be released on October 1.

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).

Stocks of principal field crops, July 31, 2012

As of July 31, total stocks of wheat, barley and canola were down from the same date in 2011, while total stocks of oats increased.

Total wheat stocks decreased 18.1% to 5.9 million tonnes, mostly the result of a decline of 890 500 tonnes (-33.3%) in on-farm stocks. The largest decline in wheat stocks occurred in Alberta, where on-farm stocks fell from 1.4 million tonnes in 2011 to 730 000 tonnes in 2012. At the same time, commercial stocks declined by 9.1%, or 405 900 tonnes.

For canola, total stocks fell 64.1% to 787 700 tonnes, as of July 31. This was mostly the result of on-farm stocks, which were down 81.0% to 225 000 tonnes, the lowest level since 2004, when they hit 220 000 tonnes.

Total stocks of barley amounted to 1.2 million tonnes as of July 31, down by 219 200 tonnes or 15.2% from July 2011. On-farm barley stocks fell in all Prairie provinces, but the decline was most pronounced in Saskatchewan. Commercial stocks decreased 1.7% to 289 900 tonnes.

Total stocks of oats stood at 816 500 tonnes, up 6.2% from 2011. Commercial stocks increased 28.3% to 258 000 tonnes, while on-farm stocks fell 1.6% to 558 500 tonnes.

Note to readers

Data on stocks of principal field crops come from the July Farm Survey of about 15,000 Canadian farmers conducted from July 25 to August 1. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage. Data on commercial stocks of western major crops originate from the Canadian Grain Commission.

Commercial stocks of corn and soybeans are estimated by a Statistics Canada survey of grain elevators in Eastern Canada. These data will be available on October 4 with the "September Estimates of Production of Principal Field Crops" release. Data on commercial stocks of special crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of special crops.

National supply-disposition tables for the major grains and special crops are included in this report.

Table 1
Total stocks of principal field crops at July 31

	2010	2011	2012	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012
	thousands of tonnes			% change	
Total wheat	7 829	7 176	5 879	-8.3	-18.1
Wheat excluding durum	5 121	5 592	4 442	9.2	-20.6
Durum wheat	2 708	1 583	1 438	-41.5	-9.2
Barley	2 583	1 441	1 222	-44.2	-15.2
Oats	1 170	769	817	-34.3	6.2
Canola	2 688	2 198	788	-18.2	-64.1
Lentils	38	750	788	1,873.7	5.1
Dry field peas	900	535	276	-40.6	-48.4
Flaxseed	289	194	141	-32.9	-27.3
Mustard seed	80	125	88	56.3	-29.6
Rye	139	51	20	-63.3	-60.8
Canary seed	69	30	17	-56.5	-43.3
Chick peas	20	22	12	10.0	-45.5
Sunflower seed	42	29	6	-31.0	-79.3

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 001-0010, 001-0017 and 001-0040 to 001-0043.

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

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series:* "Stocks of principal field crops at July 31, 2012", Vol. 91, no. 6 (22-002-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. However, the *Field Crop Reporting Series (*22-002-X*)* will be discontinued after the current release. Data usually contained in these publications will continue to be available without charge on CANSIM.

September estimates of production of principal field crops will be released on October 4.

For more information, contact Statistic's Canada 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 Yves Gilbert (613-951-2577; yves.gilbert@statcan.gc.ca) or Heather Keehn (613-951-0730; heather.keehn@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

Deliveries of major grains, August 2010 to July 2011 (revised)

Revised data on major grain deliveries are now available from August 2010 to July 2011.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 001-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3403, 3404, 3443, 5046 and 5153.

For more information, to order data 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).

Industrial Water Survey, 2007 and 2009 (correction)

Please note that the releases "Industrial Water Survey, 2009" published on March 5, 2012 and "Industrial Water Survey, 2007" published on September 8, 2010 have been corrected. Revised data are now available in *The Daily* of March 5, 2012 and September 8, 2010 respectively.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5120.

For more information, contact Statistic's Canada 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 Murray Cameron (613-951-3740; murray.cameron@statcan.gc.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division.

New products and studies

New products

Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review, Third quarter 2012, Vol. 11, no. 3
Catalogue number 13-010-X (HTML, free)

Field Crop Reporting Series, Stocks of Principal Field Crops at July 31, 2012, Vol. 91, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Labour Force Information, August 12 to 18, 2012
Catalogue number 71-001-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Labour Force Survey Microdata File, August 2012
Catalogue number 71M0001X (CD-ROM, free)

Release dates: September 10 to 14, 2012

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
11	**Canadian international merchandise trade**	July 2012
12	**University tuition fees**	2012/2013
13	**Industrial capacity utilization rates**	Second quarter 2012
13	**New Housing Price Index**	July 2012
14	**Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**	July 2012

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