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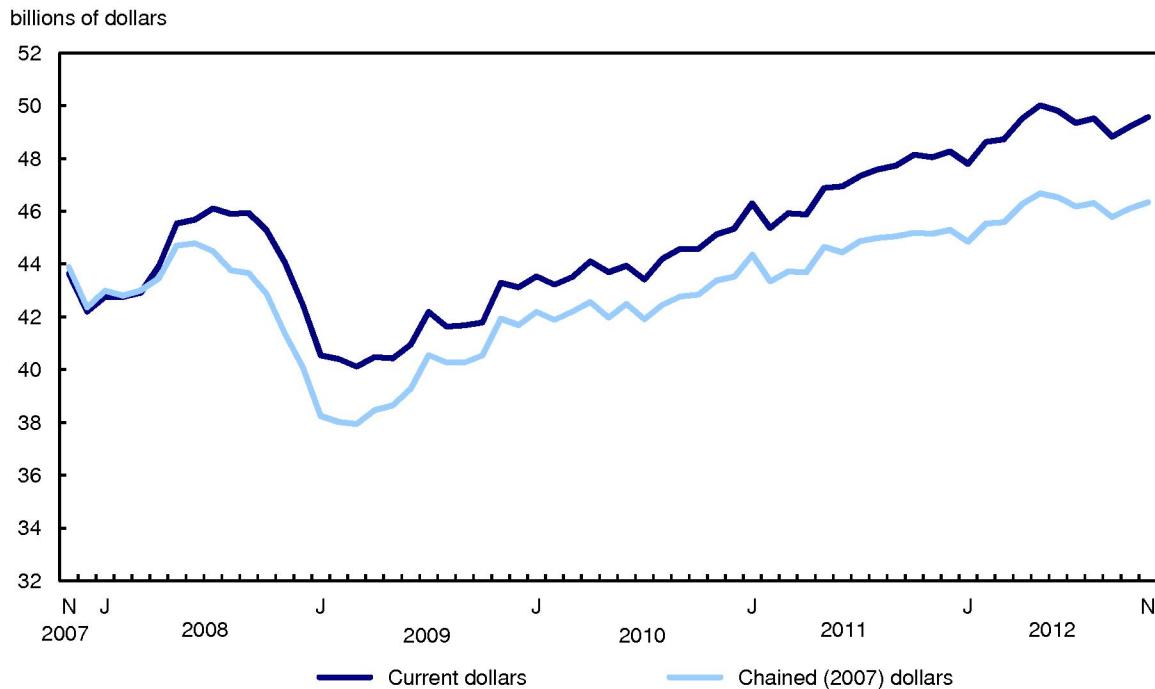
Releases

Wholesale trade, November 2012

Wholesale sales rose 0.7% in November to \$49.6 billion. The increase was largely a result of higher sales in the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry.

In volume terms, wholesale sales were up 0.5%.

Chart 1
Wholesale sales increase in November



Computer and communications equipment and supplies post the largest gain

In November, five of the seven subsectors, accounting for about two-thirds of wholesale sales, reported increases.

The largest advance in dollar terms was in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector, which grew by 1.8%. This result was primarily because of higher sales in the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry, which rose 6.3%. This coincided with a sharp gain in imports of communications and audio and video equipment, which were 14.2% higher in November than in October, according to international merchandise trade data.

The motor vehicle and parts subsector recorded its second consecutive increase. Sales were up 1.5% as a result of an advance in the motor vehicle industry (+1.7%), which was responsible for about 90% of the subsector's growth.

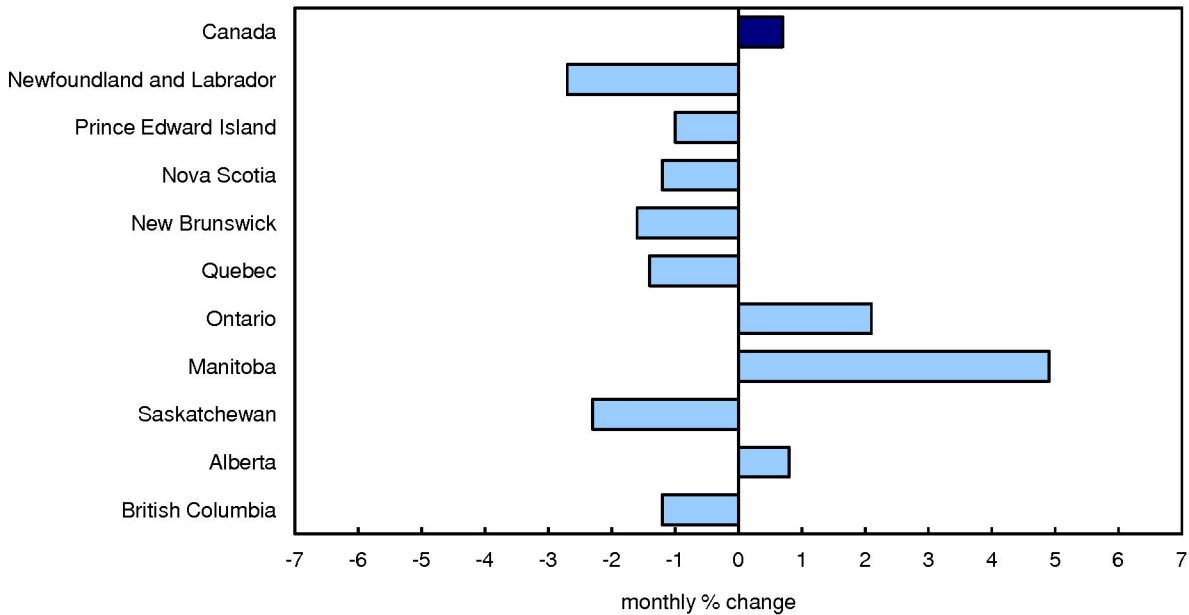
Sales in the building material and supplies subsector increased by 0.7% in November, on the strength of higher sales in the lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies industry.

Declines were observed in the personal and household goods subsector (-0.6%) and the food, beverage and tobacco subsector (-0.4%).

Sales growth concentrated almost entirely in Ontario

In November, most of the national increase came from Ontario, where wholesalers reported the largest gain since July 2011. Wholesale sales were up in three provinces in November: Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta.

Chart 2
Wholesale sales up in three provinces in November



Ontario posted a 2.1% increase in sales, its first advance in three months. Wholesalers in the province benefited from higher sales in the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry and the motor vehicle industry.

In Manitoba, sales grew 4.9% in November, after falling 1.5% in October. It was the province's third increase in four months.

Sales were up 0.8% in Alberta, its second straight gain. Several industries contributed to the November result, notably the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry.

Quebec (-1.4%) posted the largest decline in dollar terms in November.

Inventories down

Wholesalers' inventories fell 0.4% in November to \$61.2 billion, the second decrease in three months. Inventories were down in 16 of the 25 industries.

The largest inventory declines in dollar terms were in the construction, forestry, mining and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry (-1.9%) and the motor vehicle industry (-2.4%).

The inventory-to-sales ratio fell from 1.25 in October to 1.24 in November.

The inventory-to-sales ratio is a measure of the time in months required to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at their current level.

Note to readers

All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Total wholesale sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using relevant price indexes. The wholesale sales series in chained (2007) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2007 as the reference year. For more information, see [Sales in Volume for Wholesale Trade](#).

Table 1
Wholesale merchants' sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	November 2011	October 2012 ^r	November 2012 ^P	October to November 2012	November 2011 to November 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale sales (current dollars)	48,042	49,206	49,565	0.7	3.2
Total, wholesale sales (2007 chained dollars)	45,150	46,100	46,338	0.5	2.6
Total (current dollars), excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	40,593	40,987	41,226	0.6	1.6
Farm product	693	571	597	4.6	-13.8
Food, beverage and tobacco	9,263	9,529	9,489	-0.4	2.4
Food	8,302	8,550	8,516	-0.4	2.6
Beverage	472	472	467	-1.1	-1.1
Cigarette and tobacco product	489	507	506	-0.2	3.4
Personal and household goods	7,093	6,921	6,881	-0.6	-3.0
Textile, clothing and footwear	919	945	934	-1.1	1.7
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	766	695	674	-3.0	-12.0
Home furnishings	451	474	463	-2.3	2.7
Personal goods	762	713	684	-4.0	-10.2
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,521	3,508	3,482	-0.8	-1.1
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	674	587	644	9.7	-4.5
Motor vehicle and parts	7,449	8,219	8,338	1.5	11.9
Motor vehicle	5,512	6,154	6,259	1.7	13.6
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,890	2,012	2,024	0.6	7.1
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	48	53	55	4.8	15.6
Building material and supplies	6,557	6,863	6,911	0.7	5.4
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,084	2,142	2,116	-1.2	1.5
Metal service centres	1,473	1,550	1,574	1.6	6.9
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,999	3,171	3,221	1.6	7.4
Machinery, equipment and supplies	10,387	10,904	11,104	1.8	6.9
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,196	1,296	1,288	-0.6	7.7
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	3,761	3,711	3,693	-0.5	-1.8
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	3,028	3,371	3,584	6.3	18.4
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,402	2,525	2,539	0.6	5.7
Miscellaneous	6,600	6,200	6,244	0.7	-5.4
Recyclable material	901	648	672	3.8	-25.4
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	918	860	872	1.4	-5.0
Agricultural supplies	1,609	1,623	1,531	-5.6	-4.8
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,224	1,207	1,223	1.4	-0.1
Other miscellaneous	1,948	1,862	1,945	4.4	-0.2

^r revised

^P preliminary

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.

Table 2
Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	November 2011	October 2012 ^r	November 2012 ^p	October to November 2012	November 2011 to November 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	48,042	49,206	49,565	0.7	3.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	331	347	338	-2.7	2.2
Prince Edward Island	50	48	48	-1.0	-4.2
Nova Scotia	685	727	718	-1.2	4.8
New Brunswick	489	495	487	-1.6	-0.4
Quebec	9,082	9,603	9,465	-1.4	4.2
Ontario	23,344	23,560	24,061	2.1	3.1
Manitoba	1,303	1,328	1,393	4.9	6.9
Saskatchewan	1,903	1,803	1,761	-2.3	-7.4
Alberta	6,309	6,563	6,618	0.8	4.9
British Columbia	4,474	4,645	4,589	-1.2	2.6
Yukon	14	13	12	-10.6	-16.5
Northwest Territories	53	57	57	0.1	6.3
Nunavut	6	16	19	15.1	225.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Table 3
Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	November 2011	October 2012 ^r	November 2012 ^p	October to November 2012	November 2011 to November 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	56,900	61,490	61,215	-0.4	7.6
Farm product	206	177	171	-3.4	-17.0
Food	4,853	5,043	5,085	0.8	4.8
Beverage	277	327	316	-3.4	14.0
Cigarette and tobacco product	216	238	229	-3.8	6.1
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,906	1,848	1,827	-1.1	-4.2
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	704	692	715	3.3	1.6
Home furnishings	933	958	957	-0.1	2.6
Personal goods	1,320	1,469	1,439	-2.0	9.0
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,305	4,736	4,722	-0.3	9.7
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	670	668	659	-1.3	-1.5
Motor vehicle	3,644	4,446	4,342	-2.4	19.1
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,150	3,796	3,756	-1.1	19.2
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	95	107	110	3.1	16.7
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,029	3,148	3,164	0.5	4.5
Metal service centres	2,980	3,221	3,302	2.5	10.8
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,518	4,832	4,815	-0.3	6.6
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,363	3,726	3,813	2.3	13.4
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	8,249	9,461	9,285	-1.9	12.6
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,486	1,696	1,702	0.3	14.5
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,272	3,330	3,371	1.2	3.0
Recyclable material	656	562	555	-1.2	-15.4
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	759	709	711	0.3	-6.4
Agricultural supplies	2,815	2,745	2,666	-2.9	-5.3
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	962	1,113	1,077	-3.3	11.9
Other miscellaneous	2,533	2,443	2,426	-0.7	-4.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 081-0011, 081-0012 and 081-0015.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

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

Wholesale trade data for December will be released on February 19.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karim El hassani (613-951-0608; karim.elhassani@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Travel between Canada and other countries, November 2012

Travel to Canada fell 0.6% to 2.1 million trips in November, as a decline in trips from the United States more than offset an increase from overseas countries.

Nearly 1.7 million visitors came to Canada from the United States, down 1.0% from October. At the same time, the number of visitors from overseas nations rose 1.1% to 387,000.

Travel of one or more nights from the United States declined 1.9% to 963,000 trips. Travel by plane was down 4.8% while travel by car fell 1.0%. On the other hand, same-day car trips to Canada increased 0.4% to 622,000 trips.

In November, 8 of the top 12 overseas markets to Canada posted increases in travel to Canada. The United Kingdom remained the top overseas market, followed by France and Germany. Travel from the United Kingdom to Canada fell 6.5% in November to 51,700 trips, while travel from France increased 1.8% to 39,500 trips and travel from Germany declined 0.5% to 26,200.

In the opposite direction, Canadian residents took 5.5 million trips abroad in November, up 0.3% from October. Most of these trips, 4.7 million, were to the United States, a 0.3% increase.

Travel of one or more nights to the United States fell 0.6% to 1.9 million trips in November. Travel by plane decreased 1.3% to 637,000 trips, while travel by car remained unchanged at 1.2 million trips. Same-day car trips by Canadians to the United States increased 1.1% to 2.7 million trips.

Canadians took 809,000 trips to overseas countries in November, up 0.2% from October and the highest figure since record keeping began in 1972.

Note to readers

Monthly data are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	November 2011 ^r	October 2012 ^r	November 2012 ^P	October to November 2012
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	5,271	5,448	5,463	0.3
To the United States	4,480	4,640	4,654	0.3
To other countries	791	808	809	0.2
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,638	2,677	2,706	1.1
Total trips, one or more nights	2,595	2,729	2,720	-0.4
United States ³	1,804	1,922	1,910	-0.6
Car	1,078	1,167	1,166	0.0
Plane	621	646	637	-1.3
Other modes of transportation	104	109	107	-2.4
Other countries ⁴	791	808	809	0.2
Travel to Canada²	2,122	2,084	2,072	-0.6
From the United States	1,738	1,702	1,685	-1.0
From other countries	384	382	387	1.1
Same-day car trips from the United States	659	619	622	0.4
Total trips, one or more nights	1,338	1,351	1,337	-1.0
United States ³	963	982	963	-1.9
Car	567	576	570	-1.0
Plane	282	291	277	-4.8
Other modes of transportation	114	115	116	1.4
Other countries ⁴	375	369	373	1.1
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	57	55	52	-6.5
France	39	39	39	1.8
Germany	29	26	26	-0.5
China	22	25	25	-2.4
Australia	20	23	23	0.2
Japan	18	20	21	5.0
South Korea	13	15	14	-8.5
Mexico	13	12	13	4.8
India	13	12	12	1.3
Brazil	7	7	11	53.5
Hong Kong	10	10	10	6.4
Switzerland	9	9	10	11.9

^r revised

^P preliminary

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Data for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and data for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The November 2012 issue of *International Travel: Advance Information*, Vol. 28, no. 11 (66-001-P, 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 us (toll free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Investment in new housing construction, November 2012

Data on the investment in new housing construction (including single dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, row housing, apartments and condominiums) are now available for November.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 026-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5155.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 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.

North American Product Classification System (NAPCS) Canada 2012

The [North American Product Classification System \(NAPCS\) Canada 2012](#) structure is now available. It is the recommended standard for classifying goods and services.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Canadian Community Health Survey: Income imputation, 2005 to 2010

Imputed income variables are now available for the Canadian Community Health Survey – Annual Component, 2005 to 2010 reference years. The 2011 reference year data was the first year of data in which imputed income variables were produced and included in the microdata file. These imputed data are now available for reference years 2005 (cycle 3.1) to 2010 including the combined data files for 2007-2008 and 2009-2010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3226.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

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