

The Daily

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Study: Living apart together

About 1.9 million Canadians, or just over 7% of the population aged 20 and over, said that they were in a couple relationship with someone in 2011, but lived at separate addresses. This proportion was down slightly from 8% in 2001.

These relationships, often referred to as "non-cohabiting" couples, or "living apart together" (LAT) couples, are increasingly tracked by statistical agencies around the world to get a better sense of the living arrangements of couples.

LAT couples were mostly concentrated among young adults as 31% of individuals aged 20 to 24 and 17% of those aged 25 to 29 were in a LAT relationship.

On the other hand, just over 2% of older Canadians aged 60 and over were in a LAT couple. However, the proportion of older individuals in this situation was up slightly from 2001.

About 14.3 million people aged 20 and over, or 55% of the population, were married and living under the same roof. Another 3.2 million were in a common-law relationship, and 6.4 million reported that they did not have a partner.

Reasons for LAT relationships

About 42% of adults aged 20 and over reported they were in a LAT couple because they were constrained by "circumstances." Others (39%) suggested they were in it by "choice."

A quarter of those in a LAT couple who were constrained by circumstances reported financial circumstances as the major factor, while another quarter mentioned studies-related circumstances.

The proportion citing work-related circumstances was 15%, but rose to 32% among those aged 40 to 49.

Adults for whom the relationship was a matter of choice were asked to specify the main reason they had opted for it. Nearly half (48%) said they were "not yet ready for living together," while 28% cited the desire to "keep independence."

Older individuals, however, were more likely to be in a LAT couple by choice. Of all individuals aged 60 and over who were in a LAT couple, 37% said they had chosen this type of relationship to maintain independence.

Relationships mostly transitional, but not in all cases

Individuals in a LAT couple were also queried about their intentions to move in with their partner in the foreseeable future.

More than 80% of young adults in a LAT couple aged 20 to 29 said they wanted to live together at some point. This shows that LAT relationships are generally transitional at this age.

However, less than 30% of people aged 60 and over in a LAT couple intended to move in with their partner, indicating that older individuals are more predisposed to remain in this kind of relationship over the long-term.

In fact, 42% of older Canadians in a LAT couple reported that they did not intend to move in with their partner and that they were in it by choice.

Most LAT relationships are relatively recent

Among adults, two in three reported they had been in a LAT couple for less than three years.

However, 9 in 10 people in a LAT couple were seriously involved enough that most or all of their closest family and friends knew about it.

Living apart did not always mean long distances. In 2011, 20% of people in a LAT couple lived at least a one-hour drive from their partner, 34% lived between a 30- and 60-minute drive away, and 45% of LAT couples lived in the same neighbourhood.

People aged 60 and over had a greater tendency to live in the same neighbourhood as their LAT partner.

Note to readers

The profile of this group was prepared using data derived from the 2011 and 2001 General Social Survey on the family, which included a series of detailed questions on marital issues like current marital status and marital history.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4501.

The article "Living apart together" is now available online in the March 2013 edition of *Insights on Canadian Society* (75-006-X), from the *Browse by key resource module* of our website under *Publications*.

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

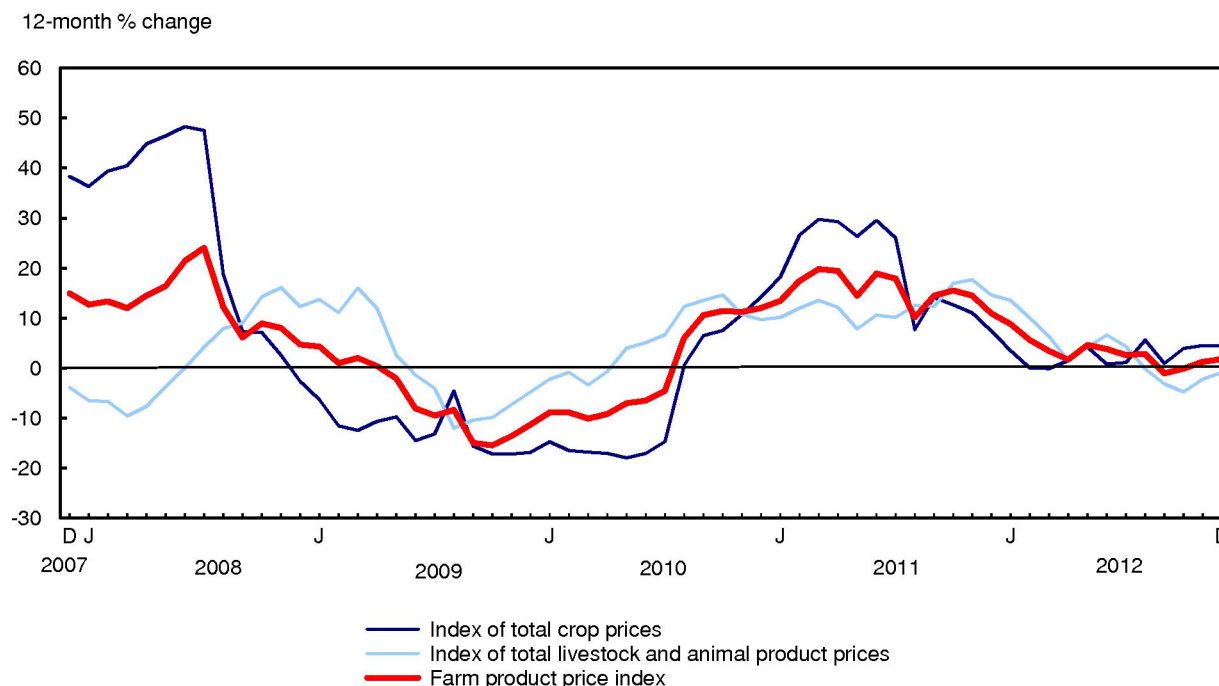
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For more information on *Insights on Canadian Society*, contact Sébastien LaRochelle-Côté (613-951-0803; sebastien.larochelle-cote@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Farm Product Price Index, December 2012

The Farm Product Price Index (FPPI) rose 1.8% in December compared with December 2011, the second consecutive increase, following declines in September and October. Prior to that, the FPPI had observed year-over-year increases starting in August 2010, most of which had been double digit. An increase in the crops index more than offset the decrease in the overall livestock and animal products index.

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



The crops index rose 4.4% in December compared with December 2011, largely the result of the higher oilseed index (+13.9%), which continued a growth trend that had started in September 2010. Oilseed prices have been supported by growing demand and concerns over tight supplies. Canola continued its record crush rate, with just over 3 million tonnes crushed during the first part of the 2012/2013 crop year. The final 2012 canola production was estimated to be 7.8% below the 2011 production level. In the United States, soybean production—that country's largest oilseed crop—was also below for the 2012 crop compared with the previous year's production.

Grains (+1.5%) and vegetables (+2.5%) made more modest contributions, while declines in specialty crops, fruits and potatoes tempered the crops index increase.

The livestock and animal products index fell 0.9% in December compared with December 2011. This was its fifth consecutive year-over-year decline, which followed a growth trend that had started in May 2010.

Declines in the hogs index (-10.4%) and the cattle and calves index (-0.6%) were responsible for the decrease in the livestock and animal products index. This was the fifth consecutive decline for the hogs index. In 2012, hog inventories in both Canada (July 1) and the United States (September 1) had reached their highest levels since 2008.

Moderating the decrease were gains in the supply-managed commodities: poultry (+9.7%), eggs (+6.7%) and dairy (+1.2%).

Compared with November, the December FPPI declined 0.2% as a decrease in the crops index more than offset the increase in the livestock and animal products index.

Note to readers

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.

Table 1
Farm Product Price Index

	December 2011 ^r	November 2012 ^r	December 2012 ^P	November to December 2012	December 2011 to December 2012
	(1997=100)			% change	
Farm Product Price Index	132.8	135.5	135.2	-0.2	1.8
Crops	140.8	147.8	147.0	-0.5	4.4
Grains	145.7	149.2	147.9	-0.9	1.5
Oilseeds	137.0	152.7	156.0	2.2	13.9
Specialty crops	154.4	161.8	152.6	-5.7	-1.2
Fruit	130.8	142.0	129.2	-9.0	-1.2
Vegetables	129.5	135.5	132.7	-2.1	2.5
Potatoes	177.6	176.5	173.9	-1.5	-2.1
Livestock and animal products	127.4	126.0	126.2	0.2	-0.9
Cattle and calves	129.6	128.3	128.8	0.4	-0.6
Hogs	92.1	81.5	82.5	1.2	-10.4
Poultry	130.4	143.0	143.0	0.0	9.7
Eggs	130.9	138.8	139.7	0.6	6.7
Dairy	154.7	154.1	156.5	1.6	1.2

^r revised

^P preliminary

Available in CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The December 2012 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 12, no. 9 (21-007-X), is now available from the *Browse by 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).

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, March 2013

Data on Canadian Foreign Post Indexes are now available for March.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2322.

The March 2013 issue of *Canadian Foreign Post Indexes* (62-013-X) is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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 Claudio Perez (613-951-1733; claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca), Consumer Prices Division.

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation, January 2013

Data on mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation are now available for January.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

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).

Asphalt roofing, January 2013

Data on asphalt roofing are now available for January.

Available in CANSIM: table 303-0052.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2123.

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).

Civil aviation operating and financial statistics, 2011

Operational and financial data on civil aviation are now available for 2011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2713.

Civil aviation data are now available in the service bulletin *Aviation*, 2011, Vol. 45, no. 3 (51-004-X), from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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New products and studies

New products

Farm Product Price Index, December 2012, Vol. 12, no. 9
Catalogue number 21-007-X (HTML | PDF)

Aviation: "Civil Aviation, Annual Operating and Financial Statistics, Canadian Air Carriers, Levels I to III", 2011, Vol. 45, no. 3
Catalogue number 51-004-X2013002 (HTML | PDF)

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, March 2013
Catalogue number 62-013-X (HTML)

Insights on Canadian Society
Catalogue number 75-006-X (HTML | PDF)

New studies

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