

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## Releases

### Canadian portfolio investment abroad, 2011

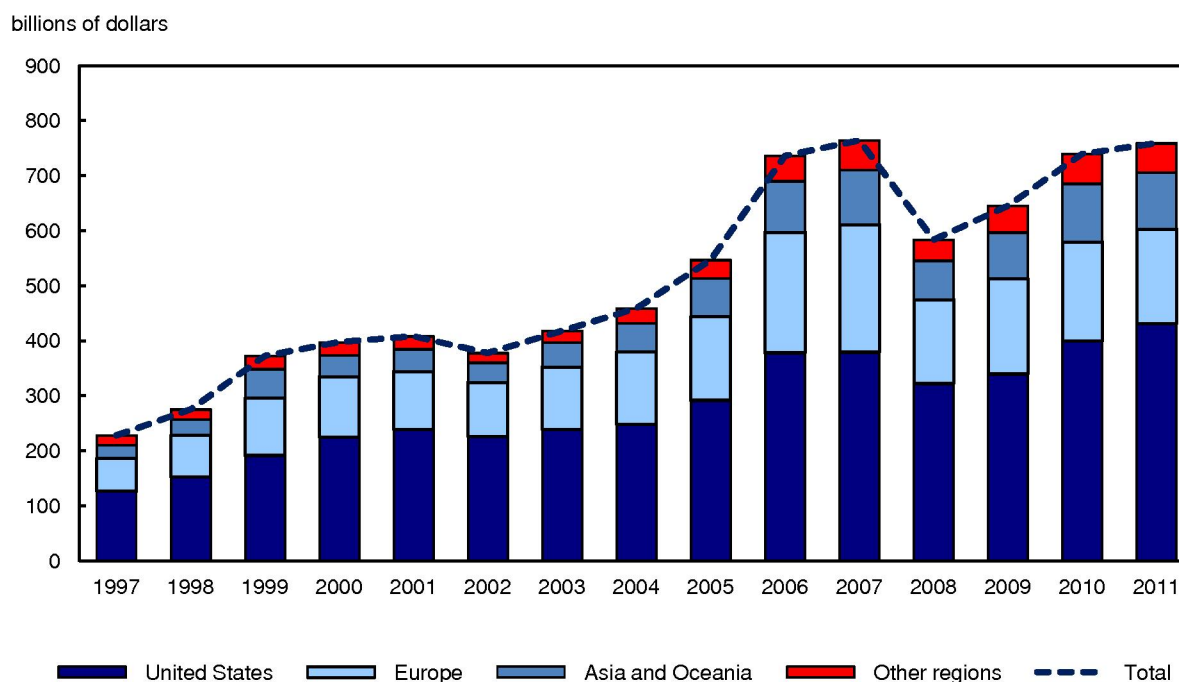
Canadian holdings of foreign securities increased 2.6% to \$759.0 billion at the end of 2011, following a 14.6% gain in 2010. Net purchases of foreign securities combined with a generally depreciating Canadian dollar contributed to the growth in 2011, which was moderated by declines in most major global stock markets.

Foreign equities increased 2.3% to \$590.7 billion by year-end 2011, accounting for over three-quarters of Canadian holdings of foreign securities. This share was similar to 2010, but much lower than the 90% exposure to foreign stock markets 10 years ago. Foreign debt securities held by Canadian investors increased 3.6% to \$168.2 billion.

Canadian portfolio investment abroad extended to 95 countries in 2011. The top five investment destinations accounted for 75% of all holdings of foreign securities. These were the United States, United Kingdom, Japan, France and Australia, the latter replacing Germany as the fifth-ranked destination for Canadian investment.

The United States continued to be the top investment destination for Canadian portfolio investors, rising from 54% in 2010 to 57% in 2011. This was led by a 10% increase in holdings of US equities. US stock prices remained stable in 2011 while stock markets in other G7 countries posted losses.

**Chart 1**  
**Canadian holdings of foreign securities, by major geographic area**



European securities accounted for 23% (\$172.0 billion) of Canada's foreign portfolio assets in 2011, down from a peak of 30% in 2007. The value of Canadian investment in all major European countries was lower, except for the United Kingdom, as holdings advanced 6.0% in 2011 to \$62.1 billion. Canadian portfolio assets in Italy and Greece were down significantly, against the backdrop of ongoing uncertainty in European credit markets.

The third most important region for Canadian portfolio investment abroad was Asia and Oceania. Holdings of securities from this region fell 2.6% to \$102.8 billion in 2011, after having led the growth in 2010. The value of portfolio investment in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and India posted the strongest declines. This was moderated by increased holdings of securities in Hong Kong, Singapore and China. New investments and a lower Canadian dollar value more than offset stock market declines in these three countries.

### Note to readers

**Canadian Portfolio Investment Abroad** is an annual survey of Canadian investors of securities which is used to generate a detailed geographical breakdown for holdings of foreign securities and serves to benchmark estimates in the International Accounts. Foreign securities cover equity and debt instruments issued by non-residents. Securities denominated in foreign currency are converted to Canadian dollars at year-end. The survey collects information on Canadian holdings of foreign securities at year-end, at market value and broken down by country of issuer. In this context, portfolio investment can be seen as investment undertaken primarily for the sake of investment income or capital gains. This investment excludes cross-border direct investment and reserve assets which are other components of the international accounts.

**Table 1**  
**Market value of Canadian portfolio investment abroad at year-end**

	2009	2010	2011	2010	2011
	millions of dollars			% change	
<b>Geography, total</b>	<b>645,272</b>	<b>739,542</b>	<b>758,957</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>
America	380,940	446,027	477,007	17.1	6.9
United States	339,739	399,969	430,999	17.7	7.8
Cayman Islands	12,401	11,533	12,470	-7.0	8.1
Brazil	12,667	14,153	11,966	11.7	-15.5
Bermuda	8,097	10,199	9,943	26.0	-2.5
Mexico	3,563	3,541	4,766	-0.6	34.6
All other countries in America	4,473	6,632	6,863	48.3	3.5
Europe	173,010	180,084	172,025	4.1	-4.5
United Kingdom	53,242	58,597	62,131	10.1	6.0
France	25,063	23,389	23,031	-6.7	-1.5
Germany	21,836	19,714	18,550	-9.7	-5.9
Switzerland	16,866	18,663	15,989	10.7	-14.3
Netherlands	10,996	15,512	11,318	41.1	-27.0
All other countries in Europe	45,008	44,210	41,005	-1.8	-7.2
Asia and Oceania	83,761	105,479	102,752	25.9	-2.6
Japan	30,832	40,029	36,891	29.8	-7.8
Australia	14,279	19,106	19,473	33.8	1.9
South Korea	7,573	9,197	8,680	21.4	-5.6
Hong Kong	6,313	7,344	8,044	16.3	9.5
China	5,854	6,057	6,287	3.5	3.8
All other countries in Asia and Oceania	18,909	23,746	23,378	25.6	-1.6
All other countries	7,561	7,953	7,173	5.2	-9.8
<b>Type of securities, total</b>	<b>645,272</b>	<b>739,542</b>	<b>758,957</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>
Equity and investment fund shares	502,501	577,229	590,747	14.9	2.3
Debt securities	142,772	162,313	168,210	13.7	3.6

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

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**Available in CANSIM: table 376-0064.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1537.**

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

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## **2011 National Household Survey announcement: Aboriginal Peoples, Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity**

On Wednesday, May 8, 2013, Statistics Canada will release the first results from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS).

The release focuses on Aboriginal peoples, and immigration and ethnocultural diversity. It also features two analytical reports.

The first report will provide a profile of the total Aboriginal population, and each of the Aboriginal groups: First Nations people, Métis and Inuit. The report will examine where Aboriginal people live and their age structure as well as the living arrangements of Aboriginal children.

The second report will examine the size and geographic distribution of foreign-born people in Canada and particularly of those who arrived between 2006 and 2011, as well as their countries of birth, and knowledge of official and non-official languages. This report will also present data on the ethnocultural origins, visible minority status and religious affiliation of the Canadian population.

Three companion reports will also be available. They will analyze the linguistic characteristics of Aboriginal peoples, the demographic characteristics of individuals who are second-generation Canadians, and the characteristics of immigrants who hold Canadian citizenship.

Various products and services will be found on the [2011 National Household Survey \(NHS\)](#) website. For example, the "Data products" category will offer a wide range of data for standard geographic areas, available in the NHS Data Tables and NHS Profile.

The "Reference products" category will include the *National Household Survey User Guide*. This product will provide information on the methodology of the NHS in terms of collection, processing, evaluation and data quality.

Specific information on the quality of NHS data on Aboriginal peoples, immigration, citizenship, place of birth, language, ethnic origin, visible minorities and religion as well as explanations of concepts, classifications, questions and comparability with other data sources will be found in the series of reference guides for the topics being released.

Other reference materials will include the *National Household Survey Dictionary* which provides definitions of NHS concepts, universes and variables.

All reports and the various products pertaining to the release will be available on our website at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time on May 8.

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](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

## New products and studies

### New studies

**Economic Insights: "Recent Developments in the Canadian Economy: Spring 2013", No. 23**  
Catalogue number 11-626-X2013023 (HTML | PDF)



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

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