

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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### Labour Force Survey, April 2013

Following a decline the previous month, employment was little changed in April and the unemployment rate remained at 7.2%.

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## Releases

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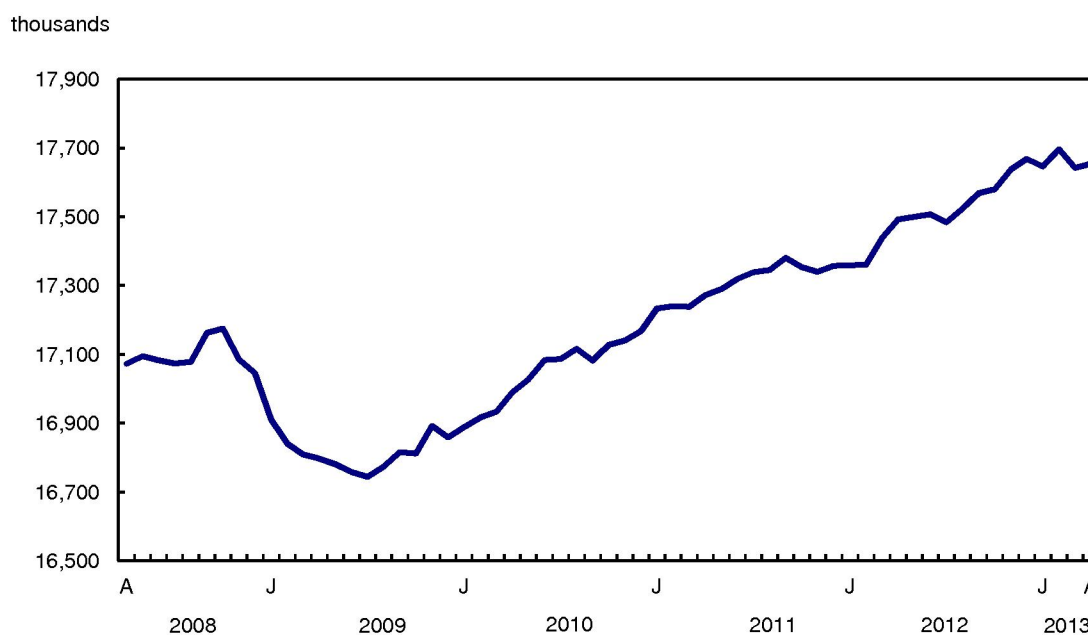
### Labour Force Survey, April 2013

Following a decline the previous month, employment was little changed in April and the unemployment rate remained at 7.2%.

Compared with 12 months earlier, employment increased 0.9% or 163,000, all in full time. The total number of hours worked rose by 1.5% over the same period.

#### Chart 1 Employment

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Provincially, employment grew in Alberta, while it fell in Manitoba, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador.

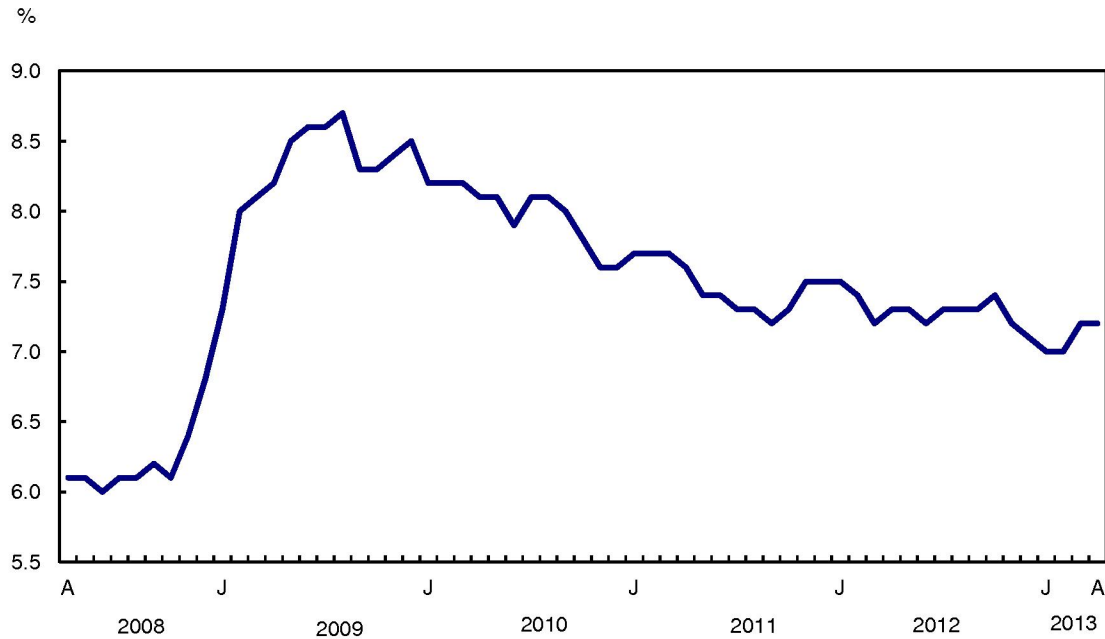
In April, there were employment gains in manufacturing and public administration. These gains were offset by losses in transportation and warehousing; "other services"; and business, building and other support services.

There were 34,000 more people working in the public sector in April, while there was little change in the number of private sector employees and the self-employed.

Over the previous 12 months, public sector employment increased 2.6% or 94,000, while growth in self-employment was 2.2% (+59,000), the bulk of which was in the first quarter of 2013. The number of private sector employees was little changed compared with 12 months earlier, as gains in the second half of 2012 were offset by losses in 2013.

Employment in April increased among people aged 25 to 54 and declined among youths. For people aged 55 and over, employment was little changed.

**Chart 2**  
**Unemployment rate**



### Employment up in Alberta

Employment in Alberta increased by 15,000 in April, offsetting the loss in the previous month and pushing the unemployment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 4.4%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in Alberta grew by 1.9%.

In Manitoba, employment declined by 11,000 in April, pushing the unemployment rate up 0.8 percentage points to 5.8%. With this decline, employment returned to a level similar to that of 12 months earlier.

Employment in New Brunswick fell by 3,200 and the unemployment rate was 10.9%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in the province was little changed.

Following three months of little change, employment in Newfoundland and Labrador declined by 3,000 in April and the unemployment rate was 12.4%. This decline brought employment back to its level of 12 months earlier.

Employment in Ontario was little changed in April, and the unemployment rate remained at 7.7%. On a year-over-year basis, employment growth in this province was 1.0%, with the bulk of the gains in the fall of 2012.

Following a decline in March, employment in Quebec was little changed in April and the unemployment rate was 7.8%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in the province rose 1.1%, with most of the growth from August to November 2012.

### Industry perspective

Employment in manufacturing increased by 21,000 in April, the first monthly gain following a downward trend that began in June 2012. Employment in this industry was down 2.9% or 52,000 from 12 months earlier.

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In April, the number of employees in public administration grew by 13,000. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in this industry was up 2.6% or 25,000, all in provincial and local public administration.

There were 21,000 fewer people working in transportation and warehousing, bringing employment in this industry back to its level of 12 months earlier.

Employment in "other services", such as repair and maintenance or personal and household services, continued its year-long downward trend, declining by 19,000 in April. On a year-over-year basis, total employment has fallen by 7.3% in this industry.

The number of workers in business, building and other support services decreased by 16,000 in April, bringing employment back to a level similar to that of 12 months earlier.

### **Employment increases among people aged 25 to 54**

In April, there were 31,000 more people aged 25 to 54 working, mostly men. With this gain, the unemployment rate for this age group fell 0.3 percentage points to 5.8%. On a year-over-year basis, total employment gains were 69,000 (+0.6%).

Among youths aged 15 to 24, employment declined by 19,000 in April, and the unemployment rate was 14.5%. Compared with 12 months earlier, youth employment was little changed.

Employment among people aged 55 and over was little changed in April. However, with more people in this age group searching for work, the unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 6.1%. Over the 12 months to April, employment for this group was up 111,000 (+3.5%), primarily a result of population ageing.

#### **Note to readers**

*The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling variability. As a result, monthly estimates will show more variability than trends observed over longer time periods. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries also have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Estimates quality" section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X).*

*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).*

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

*Each year, the LFS revises its estimates for the previous three years, using the latest seasonal factors.*

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

	March 2013	April 2013	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
<b>Both sexes, 15 years and over</b>							
Population	28,551.2	28,588.7	...	37.5	346.7	0.1	1.2
Labour force	19,016.6	19,016.1	29.1	-0.5	150.7	0.0	0.8
Employment	17,641.9	17,654.4	28.7	12.5	162.5	0.1	0.9
Full-time	14,319.0	14,355.0	38.2	36.0	183.9	0.3	1.3
Part-time	3,323.0	3,299.4	35.1	-23.6	-21.5	-0.7	-0.6
Unemployment	1,374.7	1,361.7	25.2	-13.0	-11.7	-0.9	-0.9
Participation rate	66.6	66.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.2	7.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	61.8	61.8	0.1	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	18.8	18.7	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	...	...
<b>Youths, 15 to 24 years</b>							
Population	4,452.5	4,451.2	...	-1.3	-6.0	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	2,851.2	2,839.5	17.2	-11.7	-4.9	-0.4	-0.2
Employment	2,446.9	2,428.1	15.9	-18.8	-18.2	-0.8	-0.7
Full-time	1,285.7	1,292.0	18.5	6.3	2.0	0.5	0.2
Part-time	1,161.1	1,136.2	19.4	-24.9	-20.1	-2.1	-1.7
Unemployment	404.4	411.4	15.1	7.0	13.2	1.7	3.3
Participation rate	64.0	63.8	0.4	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	14.2	14.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	55.0	54.5	0.4	-0.5	-0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	47.5	46.8	0.7	-0.7	-0.5	...	...
<b>Men, 25 years and over</b>							
Population	11,796.8	11,815.9	...	19.1	176.8	0.2	1.5
Labour force	8,549.5	8,567.0	15.1	17.5	72.8	0.2	0.9
Employment	8,024.7	8,042.6	16.3	17.9	88.6	0.2	1.1
Full-time	7,414.7	7,416.7	21.6	2.0	72.3	0.0	1.0
Part-time	609.9	625.9	17.4	16.0	16.4	2.6	2.7
Unemployment	524.8	524.4	14.7	-0.4	-15.8	-0.1	-2.9
Participation rate	72.5	72.5	0.1	0.0	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.1	0.2	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	68.0	68.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Part-time rate	7.6	7.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	...	...
<b>Women, 25 years and over</b>							
Population	12,302.0	12,321.5	...	19.5	175.8	0.2	1.4
Labour force	7,615.9	7,609.6	16.5	-6.3	82.9	-0.1	1.1
Employment	7,170.4	7,183.7	16.4	13.3	92.0	0.2	1.3
Full-time	5,618.5	5,646.4	25.0	27.9	109.8	0.5	2.0
Part-time	1,551.9	1,537.4	23.6	-14.5	-17.7	-0.9	-1.1
Unemployment	445.5	425.9	13.4	-19.6	-9.1	-4.4	-2.1
Participation rate	61.9	61.8	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.6	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	58.3	58.3	0.1	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	21.6	21.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.5	...	...

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)* for further explanations.

... not applicable

**Note(s):** Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

**Table 2**  
**Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS<sup>1</sup>) – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2013	April 2013	Standard error <sup>2</sup>	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
<b>Class of worker</b>							
Employees	14,915.7	14,929.9	35.7	14.2	103.6	0.1	0.7
Self-employed	2,726.2	2,724.5	25.5	-1.7	58.9	-0.1	2.2
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,623.2	3,657.4	25.0	34.2	93.5	0.9	2.6
Private	11,292.5	11,272.5	37.9	-20.0	10.0	-0.2	0.1
<b>All industries</b>	<b>17,641.9</b>	<b>17,654.4</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>162.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	<b>3,824.5</b>	<b>3,849.0</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>-60.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
Agriculture	322.2	320.9	7.2	-1.3	9.7	-0.4	3.1
Natural resources <sup>3</sup>	356.7	357.5	7.3	0.8	-24.3	0.2	-6.4
Utilities	129.6	133.6	4.9	4.0	-4.1	3.1	-3.0
Construction	1,300.1	1,300.6	17.1	0.5	9.8	0.0	0.8
Manufacturing	1,715.8	1,736.4	19.9	20.6	-51.8	1.2	-2.9
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	<b>13,817.4</b>	<b>13,805.4</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>-12.0</b>	<b>223.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Trade	2,701.1	2,685.3	23.6	-15.8	72.6	-0.6	2.8
Transportation and warehousing	873.5	852.8	14.1	-20.7	-0.8	-2.4	-0.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,110.9	1,123.7	16.0	12.8	39.0	1.2	3.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,337.0	1,348.0	18.4	11.0	40.4	0.8	3.1
Business, building and other support services	707.3	691.6	14.3	-15.7	12.6	-2.2	1.9
Educational services	1,289.6	1,290.6	17.2	1.0	31.8	0.1	2.5
Health care and social assistance	2,169.0	2,187.2	19.3	18.2	76.5	0.8	3.6
Information, culture and recreation	785.2	785.3	14.5	0.1	-27.6	0.0	-3.4
Accommodation and food services	1,118.4	1,121.1	16.8	2.7	12.9	0.2	1.2
Other services	764.7	746.0	13.8	-18.7	-59.1	-2.4	-7.3
Public administration	960.7	973.9	12.6	13.2	25.0	1.4	2.6

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

3. 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**

	March 2013	April 2013	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
Population	429.4	429.5	...	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.4
Labour force	268.0	265.0	2.0	-3.0	0.8	-1.1	0.3
Employment	235.1	232.1	2.1	-3.0	0.4	-1.3	0.2
Full-time	202.2	198.8	2.4	-3.4	-2.5	-1.7	-1.2
Part-time	32.9	33.3	1.9	0.4	3.0	1.2	9.9
Unemployment	32.9	32.9	1.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.2
Participation rate	62.4	61.7	0.5	-0.7	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.3	12.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	54.8	54.0	0.5	-0.8	-0.1	...	...
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
Population	120.6	120.7	...	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Labour force	85.4	85.2	0.6	-0.2	2.9	-0.2	3.5
Employment	75.0	75.3	0.7	0.3	2.2	0.4	3.0
Full-time	62.0	62.2	0.8	0.2	2.1	0.3	3.5
Part-time	13.0	13.1	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.8
Unemployment	10.3	9.9	0.7	-0.4	0.7	-3.9	7.6
Participation rate	70.8	70.6	0.5	-0.2	2.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.1	11.6	0.8	-0.5	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	62.2	62.4	0.5	0.2	1.7	...	...
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
Population	781.0	781.1	...	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.1
Labour force	503.4	501.7	2.6	-1.7	1.9	-0.3	0.4
Employment	455.8	456.2	2.8	0.4	2.1	0.1	0.5
Full-time	368.4	372.0	3.6	3.6	2.7	1.0	0.7
Part-time	87.4	84.3	3.2	-3.1	-0.5	-3.5	-0.6
Unemployment	47.6	45.4	2.4	-2.2	-0.3	-4.6	-0.7
Participation rate	64.5	64.2	0.3	-0.3	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.0	0.5	-0.5	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.4	58.4	0.4	0.0	0.2	...	...
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
Population	619.8	619.9	...	0.1	-0.5	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	392.6	390.7	2.2	-1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.0
Employment	351.2	348.0	2.3	-3.2	-4.4	-0.9	-1.2
Full-time	294.9	292.3	2.8	-2.6	-6.5	-0.9	-2.2
Part-time	56.4	55.7	2.3	-0.7	2.1	-1.2	3.9
Unemployment	41.3	42.7	2.2	1.4	4.5	3.4	11.8
Participation rate	63.3	63.0	0.4	-0.3	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.5	10.9	0.5	0.4	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	56.7	56.1	0.4	-0.6	-0.7	...	...
<b>Quebec</b>							
Population	6,674.7	6,680.2	...	5.5	56.1	0.1	0.8
Labour force	4,354.2	4,363.4	15.0	9.2	41.7	0.2	1.0
Employment	4,019.8	4,022.5	15.3	2.7	43.6	0.1	1.1
Full-time	3,268.2	3,265.0	20.0	-3.2	65.1	-0.1	2.0
Part-time	751.6	757.5	18.1	5.9	-21.5	0.8	-2.8
Unemployment	334.4	340.9	13.5	6.5	-1.8	1.9	-0.5
Participation rate	65.2	65.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.7	7.8	0.3	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	60.2	60.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	...	...

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

	March 2013	April 2013	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013	March to April 2013	April 2012 to April 2013
<b>Ontario</b>							
Population	11,159.5	11,173.8	...	14.3	131.9	0.1	1.2
Labour force	7,410.2	7,414.6	20.0	4.4	63.3	0.1	0.9
Employment	6,840.9	6,844.7	19.3	3.8	70.7	0.1	1.0
Full-time	5,508.3	5,525.9	25.6	17.6	23.1	0.3	0.4
Part-time	1,332.6	1,318.8	23.6	-13.8	47.6	-1.0	3.7
Unemployment	569.3	569.9	17.6	0.6	-7.4	0.1	-1.3
Participation rate	66.4	66.4	0.2	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.7	7.7	0.2	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.3	61.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	...	...
<b>Manitoba</b>							
Population	969.8	971.1	...	1.3	9.4	0.1	1.0
Labour force	672.3	666.2	2.6	-6.1	1.1	-0.9	0.2
Employment	638.8	627.7	2.7	-11.1	-2.0	-1.7	-0.3
Full-time	511.1	503.7	3.6	-7.4	-3.7	-1.4	-0.7
Part-time	127.7	124.0	3.5	-3.7	1.8	-2.9	1.5
Unemployment	33.5	38.5	2.2	5.0	3.1	14.9	8.8
Participation rate	69.3	68.6	0.3	-0.7	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.0	5.8	0.3	0.8	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	65.9	64.6	0.3	-1.3	-0.9	...	...
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
Population	820.6	821.9	...	1.3	14.2	0.2	1.8
Labour force	577.3	576.4	2.5	-0.9	12.0	-0.2	2.1
Employment	554.7	553.2	2.6	-1.5	16.4	-0.3	3.1
Full-time	458.1	453.9	3.3	-4.2	10.1	-0.9	2.3
Part-time	96.6	99.2	3.1	2.6	6.3	2.7	6.8
Unemployment	22.6	23.2	1.9	0.6	-4.5	2.7	-16.2
Participation rate	70.4	70.1	0.3	-0.3	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	3.9	4.0	0.3	0.1	-0.9	...	...
Employment rate	67.6	67.3	0.3	-0.3	0.8	...	...
<b>Alberta</b>							
Population	3,135.3	3,145.7	...	10.4	95.2	0.3	3.1
Labour force	2,277.5	2,282.1	8.7	4.6	30.1	0.2	1.3
Employment	2,167.9	2,182.7	8.9	14.8	40.1	0.7	1.9
Full-time	1,843.4	1,862.4	11.8	19.0	83.0	1.0	4.7
Part-time	324.5	320.3	10.9	-4.2	-42.9	-1.3	-11.8
Unemployment	109.6	99.4	6.8	-10.2	-10.0	-9.3	-9.1
Participation rate	72.6	72.5	0.3	-0.1	-1.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.8	4.4	0.3	-0.4	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	69.1	69.4	0.3	0.3	-0.8	...	...
<b>British Columbia</b>							
Population	3,840.5	3,844.7	...	4.2	37.5	0.1	1.0
Labour force	2,475.7	2,471.0	10.7	-4.7	-3.1	-0.2	-0.1
Employment	2,302.6	2,312.1	10.3	9.5	-6.6	0.4	-0.3
Full-time	1,802.4	1,818.9	14.5	16.5	10.8	0.9	0.6
Part-time	500.2	493.2	13.6	-7.0	-17.4	-1.4	-3.4
Unemployment	173.1	158.8	8.6	-14.3	3.4	-8.3	2.2
Participation rate	64.5	64.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.4	0.3	-0.6	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	60.0	60.1	0.3	0.1	-0.8	...	...

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

... not applicable

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087.



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Available in CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0051, 282-0054, 282-0055, 282-0060 to 282-0063, 282-0069 to 282-0089, 282-0092 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), is now available online for the week ending April 20. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

[Data tables](#) are also now available online. From the *Browse by subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on June 7.

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

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

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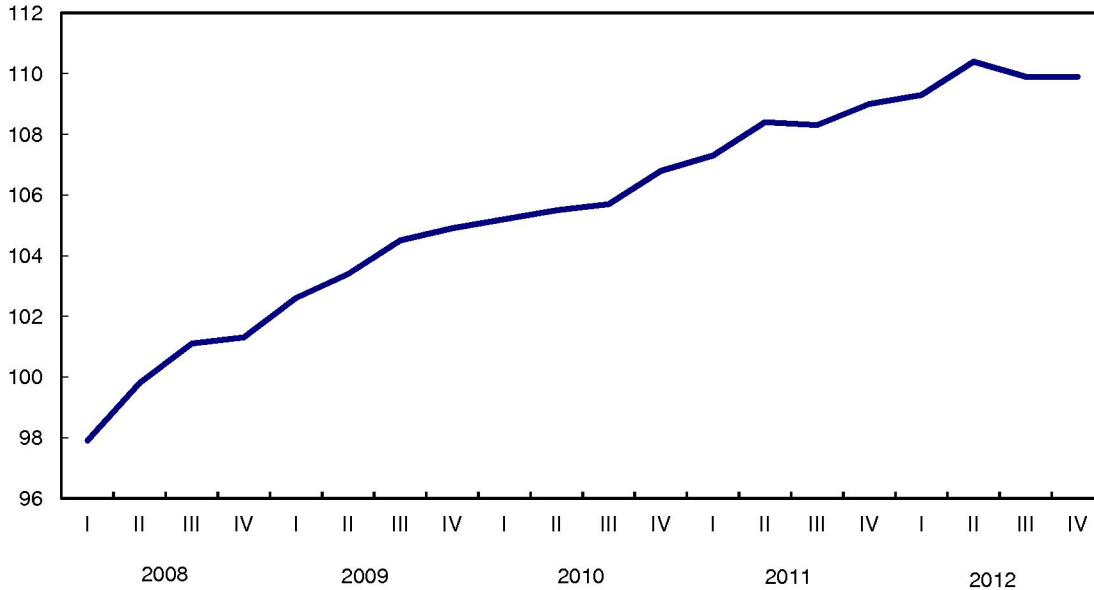
## Retail Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2012

The Retail Services Price Index (RSPI) was unchanged in the fourth quarter compared with the third quarter. Of the 10 retail sectors for which data are published, 6 were up and 4 were down.

**Chart 1**  
**Retail Services Price Index**

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index (2008=100)



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Health and personal care stores (+2.3%) posted the largest margin increase in the fourth quarter, followed by electronics and appliance stores (+2.1%). This was the first quarterly advance posted by electronics and appliance store retailers since the third quarter of 2011.

Other retail sectors recording gains were building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (+1.1%), sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores (+1.0%), food and beverage stores (+0.4%) and furniture and home furnishings stores (+0.1%).

The largest margin decline was registered by general merchandise stores (-2.9%). Retail margins for gasoline stations (-0.7%), clothing and clothing accessories stores (-0.4%) and miscellaneous store retailers (-0.2%) also moved downward in the fourth quarter.

Year over year, the RSPI was up 0.8%, marking the smallest year-over-year margin gain since the series began. This increase in the fourth quarter of 2012 coincides with the lowest increase in retail sales since the third quarter of 2009 recorded by the Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey.

Margins for health and personal care stores (+4.3%) advanced, contributing to the year-over-year increase. Other sectors that recorded gains and contributed to the increase were building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (+2.4%), miscellaneous store retailers (+2.2%), food and beverage stores (+1.3%) and general merchandise stores (+0.8%).

A margin decrease by electronics and appliance stores (-5.4%) moderated the year-over-year increase in the RSPI. This decrease was the ninth consecutive decline recorded by this sector.

Declining margins registered by clothing and clothing accessories stores (-1.3%), gasoline stations (-0.8%), furniture and home furnishings stores (-0.3%) and sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores (-0.1%) also partly offset the advance of the RSPI. Furniture and home furnishings stores posted margin decreases in all four quarters of 2012.

### Note to readers

The Retail Services Price Index (RSPI) represents the change in the price of the retail service. The price of the retail service is defined as the margin price which is the difference between the average purchase price and the average selling price of the retail product being priced. The RSPI is not a retail selling price index.

With each release, data for the previous quarter may have been revised. The series are also subject to an annual revision with the release of second quarter data of the following reference year. The indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

**Table 1**  
**Retail Services Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted**

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	Fourth quarter 2011	Third quarter 2012 <sup>r</sup>	Fourth quarter 2012 <sup>p</sup>	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2012	Fourth quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012
	%	(2008=100)			% change	
<b>Retail Services Price Index</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>109.0</b>	<b>109.9</b>	<b>109.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Motor vehicle and parts dealers <sup>2</sup>	1.53	..	..	..	..	..
Furniture and home furnishings stores	3.33	103.4	103.0	103.1	0.1	-0.3
Electronics and appliance stores	3.42	86.6	80.2	81.9	2.1	-5.4
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	5.97	114.9	116.4	117.7	1.1	2.4
Food and beverage stores	21.81	114.4	115.4	115.9	0.4	1.3
Health and personal care stores	6.68	110.0	112.1	114.7	2.3	4.3
Gasoline stations	11.52	103.1	103.0	102.3	-0.7	-0.8
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	5.24	100.7	99.8	99.4	-0.4	-1.3
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	2.48	101.7	100.6	101.6	1.0	-0.1
General merchandise stores	11.47	114.0	118.3	114.9	-2.9	0.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	2.56	109.1	111.7	111.5	-0.2	2.2

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

.. not available for a specific reference period

1. The relative importance is based on the weight that each three-digit code of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) contributes to the overall Retail Services Price Index. The total does not equal 100 as automobile dealers (NAICS 4411), other motor vehicle dealers (NAICS 4412) and non-store retailers (NAICS 454) were not surveyed.

2. Automobile dealers (NAICS 4411) and other motor vehicle dealers (NAICS 4412) have not been surveyed and therefore data are not available at this time.

**Available in CANSIM: tables 332-0003 and 332-0007.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5135.**

The Retail Services Price Index for first quarter will be released in August.

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)).

## Wholesale Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2012

The Wholesale Services Price Index (WSPI) fell 0.4% in the fourth quarter, following a 0.2% advance in the third quarter.

The decline of the WSPI was largely a result of margin decreases by wholesalers of farm products (-8.4%) and machinery, equipment and supplies (-1.3%). Miscellaneous wholesalers (-1.2%) and food, beverage and tobacco wholesalers (-1.0%) also contributed to the decrease of the WSPI in the fourth quarter.

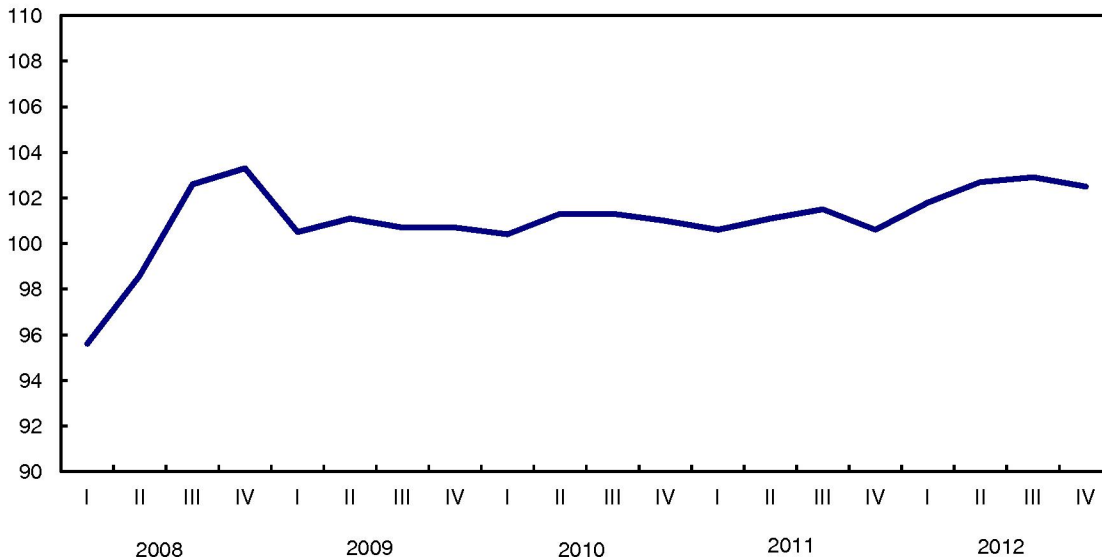
Margin increases by wholesalers of petroleum products (+6.7%) and building material and supplies (+1.2%) moderated the downward movement of the WSPI in the fourth quarter. The margin advance by building materials and supplies wholesalers was the second increase posted by this sector in 10 quarters.

Year over year, the WSPI posted its fourth consecutive quarter of year-over-year increases (+1.9%), with five of the eight wholesale sectors registering margin advances. The largest year-over-year margin increases were registered by wholesalers of farm products (+18.1%) and petroleum products (+13.3%). Other wholesale sectors that contributed to the upward year-over-year movement of the WSPI included motor vehicle and parts (+3.2%), food, beverage and tobacco (+3.0%) and machinery, equipment and supplies (+2.7%). Continuing year-over-year increases in commodity prices for wheat, canola and soybeans may have contributed to the margin advances posted by the farm products sector.

Margins for wholesalers of building materials and supplies (-1.1%) continued to decline, marking the ninth consecutive quarter of year-over-year decreases. Miscellaneous wholesalers (-3.3%) also reported decreasing margins in the fourth quarter.

**Chart 1**  
**Wholesale Services Price Index**

index (2008=100)



**Note to readers**

The Wholesale Services Price Index (WSPi) represents the change in the price of the wholesale service. The price of the wholesale service is defined as the margin price, which is the difference between the average purchase price and the average selling price of the wholesale product being priced. The WSPi is not a wholesale selling price index.

With each release, data for the previous quarter may have been revised. The series are also subject to an annual revision with the release of second quarter data of the following reference year. The indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

**Table 1  
Wholesale Services Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted**

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	Fourth quarter 2011	Third quarter 2012 <sup>r</sup>	Fourth quarter 2012 <sup>p</sup>	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2012	Fourth quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012
	%	(2008=100)			% change	
<b>Wholesale Services Price Index</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Farm products	2.58	80.3	103.5	94.8	-8.4	18.1
Petroleum products	4.94	69.9	74.2	79.2	6.7	13.3
Food, beverage and tobacco	14.90	110.0	114.5	113.3	-1.0	3.0
Personal and household goods	16.60	101.7	101.4	101.5	0.1	-0.2
Motor vehicles and parts	9.92	106.8	110.1	110.2	0.1	3.2
Building material and supplies	13.88	94.6	92.5	93.6	1.2	-1.1
Machinery, equipment and supplies	21.67	102.7	106.9	105.5	-1.3	2.7
Miscellaneous	11.02	110.4	108.1	106.8	-1.2	-3.3

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

1. The relative importance is based on the weight that each three-digit code of the North American Industry Classification System contributes to the overall Wholesale Services Price Index. The total does not equal 100 as the Wholesale Agents and Brokers group was not surveyed and data are imputed.

**Available in CANSIM: tables 332-0006 and 332-0008.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5106.**

The Wholesale Services Prices Index for the first quarter will be released in August.

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).

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## **New products and studies**

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### **New products**

**Labour Force Information**, April 14 to 20, 2013  
Catalogue number 71-001-X (HTML | PDF)

**Labour Force Survey Microdata File**, April 2013  
Catalogue number 71M001X (CD-ROM)

**Employment Insurance Coverage Survey - Public Use Microdata File**, 2011  
Catalogue number 89M0025X (CD-ROM)

## Release dates: May 13 to 17, 2013

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
14	<b>New motor vehicle sales</b>	March 2013
15	<b>Monthly Survey of Manufacturing</b>	March 2013
15	<b>Health Reports</b>	May 2013
16	<b>Canada's international transactions in securities</b>	March 2013
17	<b>Consumer Price Index</b>	April 2013
17	<b>Wholesale trade</b>	March 2013
17	<b>Travel between Canada and other countries</b>	March 2013

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



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