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Releases

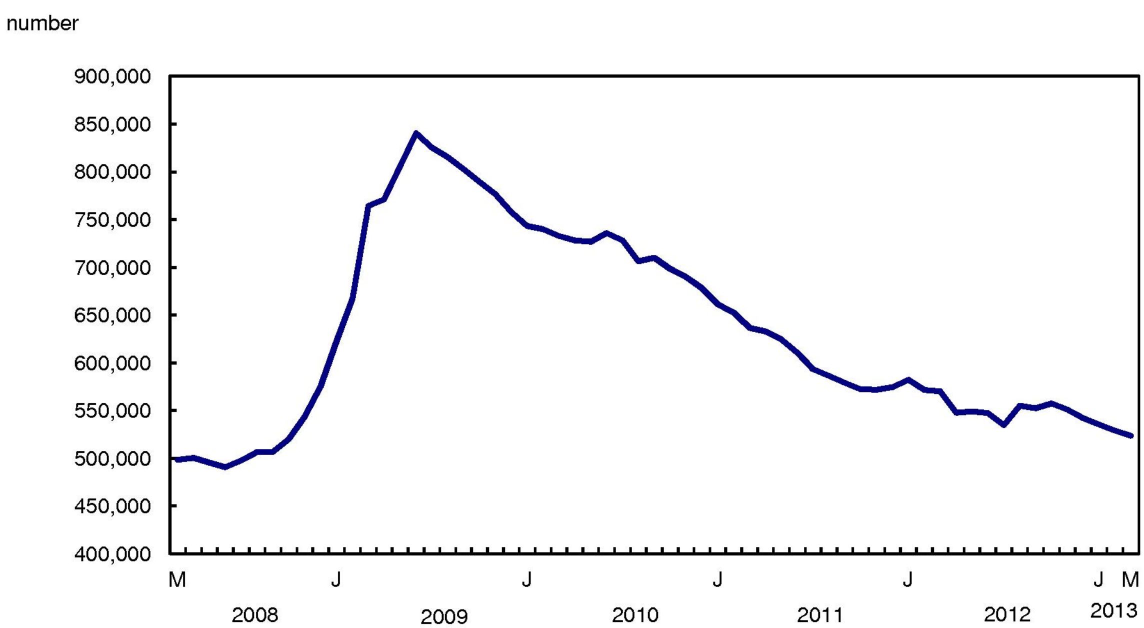
Releases

Employment Insurance, March 2013

The number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits continued to trend down for the fifth consecutive month in March, declining slightly by 1.0% (-5,200) to 523,700. Compared with a year earlier, the number of beneficiaries was down 8.1%.

All four Western provinces as well as Newfoundland and Labrador had fewer beneficiaries in March, while there was little change in the other provinces.

Chart 1
Number of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries continues to trend down



Highlights on the provinces and metropolitan areas

The number of regular EI beneficiaries in Saskatchewan fell 3.1% in March. This was the fourth consecutive monthly decrease for the province. Both Saskatoon (-3.8%) and Regina (-2.1%) had fewer beneficiaries than in the previous month.

In Alberta, the number of people receiving benefits fell for the fourth consecutive month, down 2.6% in March. In Calgary, the number of beneficiaries decreased for the third month in a row, down 2.5%. At the same time, there was little change in Edmonton.

The number of people receiving regular benefits in British Columbia declined 2.4% in March, continuing a seven-month downward trend. Of the four metropolitan areas in the province, three posted declines, with Abbotsford–Mission (-6.6%) recording the largest. The decline in Abbotsford–Mission was also the largest monthly percentage decline among all metropolitan areas in the country. Decreases also occurred in Vancouver (-1.8%) and Victoria (-1.3%). In Kelowna, the number of beneficiaries increased 1.9%, following a decline the previous month.

There were 2.1% fewer beneficiaries in Newfoundland and Labrador, the fourth consecutive monthly decline in the province. In the metropolitan area of St. John's, the number of beneficiaries decreased by 1.7%, continuing an eight-month downward trend.

In Manitoba, the number of people receiving regular benefits fell 1.4% in March, the fifth monthly decrease in a row. In Winnipeg, the number of beneficiaries was down 1.7%, the second consecutive monthly decline.

After four months of decline, the number of beneficiaries in Quebec was little changed in March. There was also little change in Montréal, where the number of people receiving benefits stood at 55,000.

The number of beneficiaries in Ontario was virtually unchanged from the previous month. In Toronto, 62,900 people received benefits in March, unchanged from February.

Compared with 12 months earlier, most metropolitan areas had fewer beneficiaries, with the declines ranging from 2.0% in Halifax to 20.7% in Abbotsford–Mission. At the same time, four metropolitan areas posted increases, ranging from 4.3% in Oshawa to 15.9% in Greater Sudbury. Regina was the only area where the number of beneficiaries was virtually unchanged.

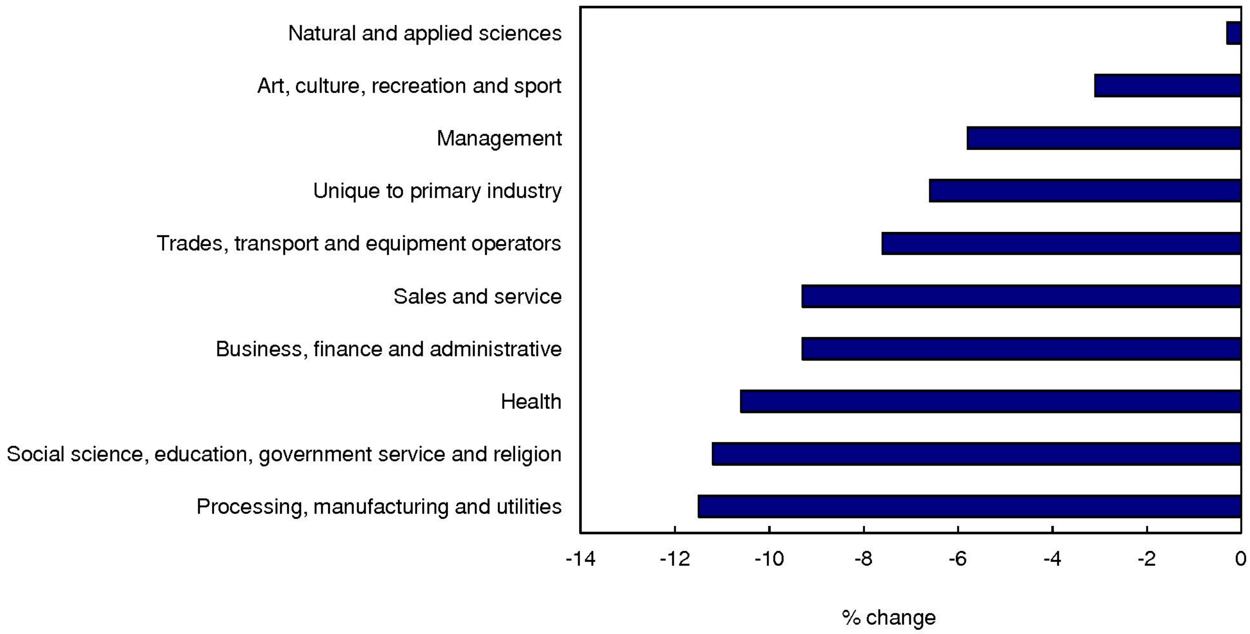
Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

In March, three major occupation groups posted notable declines in the number of beneficiaries compared with the previous month. The largest decrease came in art, culture, recreation and sport, where the number of people receiving regular benefits fell for the second consecutive month in March, down 2.3%.

Notable monthly declines also occurred in health occupations (-2.1%) and in occupations in social science, education, government service and religion (-1.9%). In both of these occupation groups, the decline in March was the fifth in a row. There was little or no change in the other occupation groups.

Compared with 12 months earlier, all occupation groups posted declines, with the exception of natural and applied science occupations where the number of beneficiaries was unchanged. These declines ranged from 3.1% in art, culture, recreation and sport to 11.5% in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities.

Chart 2
Number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, percentage change, March 2012 to March 2013



Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

The number of regular EI beneficiaries among women fell for the fifth consecutive month, down 1.6% in March, and was shared between women aged 15 to 24 (-2.2%) and those aged 25 to 54 (-1.7%). Among women 55 and over and men of all age groups, the number of beneficiaries was little changed from the previous month.

On a year-over-year basis, the slowest rate of decline continued to be among people 55 and over (-1.9%).

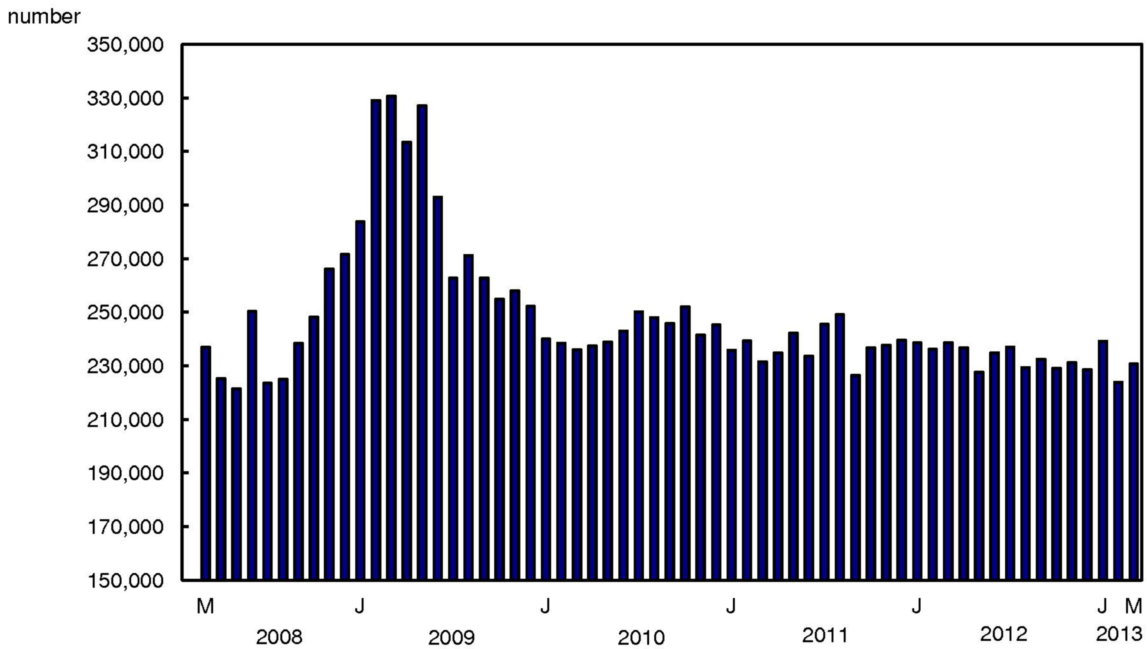
Claims increase in March

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

The number of initial and renewal claims rose by 6,800 (+3.0%) to 230,700 in March, partly offsetting the decline observed the previous month. Alberta (+12.6%) posted the largest percentage increase in claims in March, followed by New Brunswick (+4.1%).

Smaller percentage increases occurred in Nova Scotia (+3.5%), Quebec (+3.5%) and Ontario (+2.7%), while there was little or no change in the other provinces.

Chart 3
Employment Insurance claims increase in March



Note to readers

Regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits are available to eligible individuals who lose their jobs and who are available for and able to work, but can't find a job. The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people exhausting their regular benefits.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed people who do not qualify for benefits. Some unemployed people have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

New content and historical revision (released in March 2013)

Data on people who receive regular EI benefits are now available by detailed age and for 140 occupation groups. New seasonally adjusted data by sex, age, census metropolitan area, census agglomeration and occupation are also available. The definition of regular EI beneficiaries has been expanded to include those receiving regular benefits while participating in employment benefit programs, such as training. Furthermore, self-employed people receiving special benefits are now included in the special benefits category.

Geography boundaries have been updated from the 2001 to the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification (SGC), which mainly affects boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.

To preserve consistencies across time despite all of the above changes, all EI data series have been the subject of an historical revision going back to January 1997.

All data are available on CANSIM.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.

EI statistics are produced from administrative data sources provided by Service Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. Recent examples are the pilot project entitled "Working While on Claim," introduced on August 5, 2012, and the regulation on search for suitable employment, that came into effect on January 6, 2013.

The number of regular EI beneficiaries and the number of claims received for the current and previous month are subject to revision.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all people who received EI benefits from March 10 to 16. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with LFS data, which provide information on the total number of unemployed people.

Table 1
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by province and territory,[2] sex and age – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013^p	March 2013^p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
	number			change		% change	
Canada							
Both sexes	**570,090**	**528,920**	**523,700**	**-5,220**	**-46,390**	**-1.0**	**-8.1**
15 to 24 years	60,770	54,020	53,400	-620	-7,370	-1.1	-12.1
25 to 54 years	387,720	354,740	350,980	-3,760	-36,740	-1.1	-9.5
55 years and over	121,600	120,160	119,330	-830	-2,270	-0.7	-1.9
Men	**346,230**	**319,740**	**317,820**	**-1,920**	**-28,410**	**-0.6**	**-8.2**
15 to 24 years	44,140	39,070	38,780	-290	-5,360	-0.7	-12.1
25 to 54 years	227,290	206,870	205,660	-1,210	-21,630	-0.6	-9.5
55 years and over	74,800	73,800	73,370	-430	-1,430	-0.6	-1.9
Women	**223,860**	**209,170**	**205,880**	**-3,290**	**-17,980**	**-1.6**	**-8.0**
15 to 24 years	16,630	14,950	14,620	-330	-2,010	-2.2	-12.1
25 to 54 years	160,430	147,870	145,310	-2,560	-15,120	-1.7	-9.4
55 years and over	46,800	46,360	45,950	-410	-850	-0.9	-1.8
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	**34,690**	**31,420**	**30,770**	**-650**	**-3,920**	**-2.1**	**-11.3**
15 to 24 years	3,330	2,860	2,780	-80	-550	-2.8	-16.5
25 to 54 years	21,830	19,160	18,670	-490	-3,160	-2.6	-14.5
55 years and over	9,530	9,410	9,320	-90	-210	-1.0	-2.2
Men	**20,340**	**18,220**	**17,910**	**-310**	**-2,430**	**-1.7**	**-11.9**
Women	**14,350**	**13,190**	**12,860**	**-330**	**-1,490**	**-2.5**	**-10.4**
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	**8,870**	**8,080**	**8,040**	**-40**	**-830**	**-0.5**	**-9.4**
15 to 24 years	1,070	940	920	-20	-150	-2.1	-14.0
25 to 54 years	5,450	4,810	4,780	-30	-670	-0.6	-12.3
55 years and over	2,350	2,340	2,340	0	-10	0.0	-0.4
Men	**5,100**	**4,680**	**4,630**	**-50**	**-470**	**-1.1**	**-9.2**
Women	**3,770**	**3,400**	**3,410**	**10**	**-360**	**0.3**	**-9.5**
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	**31,990**	**29,130**	**28,910**	**-220**	**-3,080**	**-0.8**	**-9.6**
15 to 24 years	3,530	3,120	3,060	-60	-470	-1.9	-13.3
25 to 54 years	21,240	18,920	18,780	-140	-2,460	-0.7	-11.6
55 years and over	7,220	7,090	7,070	-20	-150	-0.3	-2.1
Men	**19,730**	**17,950**	**17,870**	**-80**	**-1,860**	**-0.4**	**-9.4**
Women	**12,260**	**11,180**	**11,040**	**-140**	**-1,220**	**-1.3**	**-10.0**
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	**35,660**	**33,710**	**33,580**	**-130**	**-2,080**	**-0.4**	**-5.8**
15 to 24 years	4,280	3,860	3,850	-10	-430	-0.3	-10.0
25 to 54 years	22,760	20,970	20,850	-120	-1,910	-0.6	-8.4
55 years and over	8,620	8,880	8,870	-10	250	-0.1	2.9
Men	**22,120**	**21,360**	**21,300**	**-60**	**-820**	**-0.3**	**-3.7**
Women	**13,530**	**12,360**	**12,290**	**-70**	**-1,240**	**-0.6**	**-9.2**
Quebec							
Both sexes	**169,130**	**155,520**	**154,190**	**-1,330**	**-14,940**	**-0.9**	**-8.8**
15 to 24 years	18,120	16,280	16,110	-170	-2,010	-1.0	-11.1
25 to 54 years	113,190	101,530	100,630	-900	-12,560	-0.9	-11.1
55 years and over	37,820	37,710	37,450	-260	-370	-0.7	-1.0
Men	**107,340**	**98,750**	**98,430**	**-320**	**-8,910**	**-0.3**	**-8.3**
Women	**61,790**	**56,760**	**55,760**	**-1,000**	**-6,030**	**-1.8**	**-9.8**

Table 1 - continued
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by province and territory,[2] sex and age – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013p	March 2013p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
Ontario							
Both sexes	**167,110**	**160,020**	**159,740**	**-280**	**-7,370**	**-0.2**	**-4.4**
15 to 24 years	16,130	14,480	14,550	70	-1,580	0.5	-9.8
25 to 54 years	119,170	113,480	113,120	-360	-6,050	-0.3	-5.1
55 years and over	31,810	32,060	32,070	10	260	0.0	0.8
Men	**97,440**	**91,990**	**92,590**	**600**	**-4,850**	**0.7**	**-5.0**
Women	**69,670**	**68,030**	**67,160**	**-870**	**-2,510**	**-1.3**	**-3.6**
Manitoba							
Both sexes	**14,640**	**13,290**	**13,100**	**-190**	**-1,540**	**-1.4**	**-10.5**
15 to 24 years	2,020	1,720	1,690	-30	-330	-1.7	-16.3
25 to 54 years	9,970	9,150	9,010	-140	-960	-1.5	-9.6
55 years and over	2,650	2,430	2,400	-30	-250	-1.2	-9.4
Men	**9,370**	**8,360**	**8,290**	**-70**	**-1,080**	**-0.8**	**-11.5**
Women	**5,270**	**4,940**	**4,820**	**-120**	**-450**	**-2.4**	**-8.5**
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	**11,540**	**10,740**	**10,410**	**-330**	**-1,130**	**-3.1**	**-9.8**
15 to 24 years	1,570	1,470	1,400	-70	-170	-4.8	-10.8
25 to 54 years	7,590	6,980	6,760	-220	-830	-3.2	-10.9
55 years and over	2,380	2,290	2,250	-40	-130	-1.7	-5.5
Men	**7,360**	**6,910**	**6,700**	**-210**	**-660**	**-3.0**	**-9.0**
Women	**4,180**	**3,830**	**3,710**	**-120**	**-470**	**-3.1**	**-11.2**
Alberta							
Both sexes	**30,910**	**28,670**	**27,920**	**-750**	**-2,990**	**-2.6**	**-9.7**
15 to 24 years	3,990	3,470	3,280	-190	-710	-5.5	-17.8
25 to 54 years	21,500	20,080	19,580	-500	-1,920	-2.5	-8.9
55 years and over	5,420	5,130	5,050	-80	-370	-1.6	-6.8
Men	**19,220**	**17,520**	**16,930**	**-590**	**-2,290**	**-3.4**	**-11.9**
Women	**11,690**	**11,160**	**10,980**	**-180**	**-710**	**-1.6**	**-6.1**
British Columbia							
Both sexes	**62,750**	**54,700**	**53,410**	**-1,290**	**-9,340**	**-2.4**	**-14.9**
15 to 24 years	6,420	5,450	5,360	-90	-1,060	-1.7	-16.5
25 to 54 years	42,990	37,070	36,220	-850	-6,770	-2.3	-15.7
55 years and over	13,340	12,180	11,830	-350	-1,510	-2.9	-11.3
Men	**36,430**	**31,730**	**30,930**	**-800**	**-5,500**	**-2.5**	**-15.1**
Women	**26,320**	**22,980**	**22,480**	**-500**	**-3,840**	**-2.2**	**-14.6**
Yukon							
Both sexes	**980**	**980**	**970**	**-10**	**-10**	**-1.0**	**-1.0**
15 to 24 years	100	100	100	0	0	0.0	0.0
25 to 54 years	650	650	650	0	0	0.0	0.0
55 years and over	230	230	220	-10	-10	-4.3	-4.3
Men	**620**	**610**	**610**	**0**	**-10**	**0.0**	**-1.6**
Women	**360**	**370**	**360**	**-10**	**0**	**-2.7**	**0.0**
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	**880**	**870**	**850**	**-20**	**-30**	**-2.3**	**-3.4**
15 to 24 years	100	90	90	0	-10	0.0	-10.0
25 to 54 years	650	650	630	-20	-20	-3.1	-3.1
55 years and over	130	130	140	10	10	7.7	7.7
Men	**560**	**570**	**550**	**-20**	**-10**	**-3.5**	**-1.8**
Women	**320**	**310**	**300**	**-10**	**-20**	**-3.2**	**-6.3**

Table 1
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by province and territory,[2] sex and age – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013^p	March 2013^p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
Nunavut							
Both sexes	**480**	**530**	**500**	**-30**	**20**	**-5.7**	**4.2**
15 to 24 years	50	50	50	0	0	0.0	0.0
25 to 54 years	390	420	390	-30	0	-7.1	0.0
55 years and over	50	60	60	0	10	0.0	20.0
Men	**330**	**380**	**350**	**-30**	**20**	**-7.9**	**6.1**
Women	**150**	**150**	**150**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**

p preliminary
1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.
2. 2006 Standard Geographical Classification.
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table: 276-0022.*

Table 2
Initial and renewal claims received, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013^p	March 2013^p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
	number			change		% change	
Canada	**238,620**	**223,870**	**230,670**	**6,800**	**-7,950**	**3.0**	**-3.3**
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,180	8,600	8,620	20	-560	0.2	-6.1
Prince Edward Island	2,540	2,390	2,390	0	-150	0.0	-5.9
Nova Scotia	10,080	9,150	9,470	320	-610	3.5	-6.1
New Brunswick	10,690	9,580	9,970	390	-720	4.1	-6.7
Quebec	71,360	67,270	69,630	2,360	-1,730	3.5	-2.4
Ontario	76,840	71,810	73,770	1,960	-3,070	2.7	-4.0
Manitoba	7,810	7,170	7,230	60	-580	0.8	-7.4
Saskatchewan	5,870	5,400	5,370	-30	-500	-0.6	-8.5
Alberta	17,070	16,100	18,130	2,030	1,060	12.6	6.2
British Columbia	26,270	25,350	25,250	-100	-1,020	-0.4	-3.9
Yukon	350	360	350	-10	0	-2.8	0.0
Northwest Territories	330	280	230	-50	-100	-17.9	-30.3
Nunavut	190	190	190	0	0	0.0	0.0

^p *preliminary*
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table: 276-0004.*

Table 3
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by census metropolitan area[2] – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013^p	March 2013^p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
	number			change		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
St. John's	4,260	3,540	3,480	-60	-780	-1.7	-18.3
Nova Scotia							
Halifax	5,420	5,270	5,310	40	-110	0.8	-2.0
New Brunswick							
Moncton	3,050	2,840	2,830	-10	-220	-0.4	-7.2
Saint John	2,690	2,930	2,850	-80	160	-2.7	5.9
Quebec							
Saguenay	4,060	3,850	3,750	-100	-310	-2.6	-7.6
Québec	10,540	9,560	9,530	-30	-1,010	-0.3	-9.6
Sherbrooke	3,640	3,220	3,240	20	-400	0.6	-11.0
Trois-Rivières	3,950	3,520	3,440	-80	-510	-2.3	-12.9
Montréal	58,010	55,020	54,970	-50	-3,040	-0.1	-5.2
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,910	3,550	3,660	110	-250	3.1	-6.4
Ontario							
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	7,680	7,200	7,340	140	-340	1.9	-4.4
Kingston	1,650	1,530	1,540	10	-110	0.7	-6.7
Peterborough	1,720	1,540	1,530	-10	-190	-0.6	-11.0
Oshawa	4,400	4,730	4,590	-140	190	-3.0	4.3
Toronto	64,550	62,870	62,900	30	-1,650	0.0	-2.6
Hamilton	7,550	7,380	7,360	-20	-190	-0.3	-2.5
St. Catharines–Niagara	6,740	6,410	6,420	10	-320	0.2	-4.7
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	5,890	5,620	5,700	80	-190	1.4	-3.2
Brantford	2,400	2,060	2,060	0	-340	0.0	-14.2
Guelph	1,410	1,340	1,300	-40	-110	-3.0	-7.8
London	6,570	5,930	5,880	-50	-690	-0.8	-10.5
Windsor	4,500	4,560	4,770	210	270	4.6	6.0
Barrie	2,750	2,570	2,560	-10	-190	-0.4	-6.9
Greater Sudbury	2,330	2,720	2,700	-20	370	-0.7	15.9
Thunder Bay	1,660	1,490	1,470	-20	-190	-1.3	-11.4
Manitoba							
Winnipeg	7,410	6,970	6,850	-120	-560	-1.7	-7.6
Saskatchewan							
Regina	1,380	1,420	1,390	-30	10	-2.1	0.7
Saskatoon	2,280	2,120	2,040	-80	-240	-3.8	-10.5
Alberta							
Calgary	9,480	9,340	9,110	-230	-370	-2.5	-3.9
Edmonton	10,250	9,540	9,450	-90	-800	-0.9	-7.8
British Columbia							
Kelowna	3,140	2,570	2,620	50	-520	1.9	-16.6
Abbotsford–Mission	3,580	3,040	2,840	-200	-740	-6.6	-20.7
Vancouver	25,460	22,770	22,370	-400	-3,090	-1.8	-12.1
Victoria	3,400	3,070	3,030	-40	-370	-1.3	-10.9

p preliminary
1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.
2. 2006 Standard Geographical Classification.
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table: 276-0031.*

Table 4
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by occupation,[2] Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013p	March 2013p	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
	number			change		% change	
All occupations	**570,090**	**528,920**	**523,700**	**-5,220**	**-46,390**	**-1.0**	**-8.1**
Management occupations	**33,020**	**31,300**	**31,110**	**-190**	**-1,910**	**-0.6**	**-5.8**
Senior management occupations	2,850	2,660	2,630	-30	-220	-1.1	-7.7
Other management occupations	30,170	28,640	28,480	-160	-1,690	-0.6	-5.6
Business, finance and administrative occupations	**74,100**	**67,690**	**67,180**	**-510**	**-6,920**	**-0.8**	**-9.3**
Professional occupations in business and finance	5,120	5,120	5,130	10	10	0.2	0.2
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	18,950	17,790	17,610	-180	-1,340	-1.0	-7.1
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	50,030	44,790	44,440	-350	-5,590	-0.8	-11.2
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	**27,460**	**27,370**	**27,390**	**20**	**-70**	**0.1**	**-0.3**
Health occupations	**8,890**	**8,120**	**7,950**	**-170**	**-940**	**-2.1**	**-10.6**
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	1,410	1,270	1,250	-20	-160	-1.6	-11.3
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	7,480	6,840	6,700	-140	-780	-2.0	-10.4
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	**30,790**	**27,860**	**27,330**	**-530**	**-3,460**	**-1.9**	**-11.2**
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	15,450	14,660	14,660	0	-790	0.0	-5.1
Teachers and professors	15,340	13,190	12,680	-510	-2,660	-3.9	-17.3
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	**10,700**	**10,610**	**10,370**	**-240**	**-330**	**-2.3**	**-3.1**

Table 4 - continued
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits[1] by occupation,[2] Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2012	February 2013[p]	March 2013[p]	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013	February to March 2013	March 2012 to March 2013
Sales and service occupations	**106,980**	**98,540**	**97,050**	**-1,490**	**-9,930**	**-1.5**	**-9.3**
Wholesale, technical, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	5,610	5,360	5,240	-120	-370	-2.2	-6.6
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	20,210	18,810	18,470	-340	-1,740	-1.8	-8.6
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	21,200	19,450	19,250	-200	-1,950	-1.0	-9.2
Occupations in protective services	6,190	5,410	5,380	-30	-810	-0.6	-13.1
Childcare and home support workers	16,530	15,850	15,520	-330	-1,010	-2.1	-6.1
Sales and service occupations (not elsewhere classified), including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	37,240	33,650	33,180	-470	-4,060	-1.4	-10.9
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	**179,980**	**167,720**	**166,390**	**-1,330**	**-13,590**	**-0.8**	**-7.6**
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	6,640	6,360	6,370	10	-270	0.2	-4.1
Construction trades	38,030	35,390	35,250	-140	-2,780	-0.4	-7.3
Other trades occupations	38,880	37,450	36,880	-570	-2,000	-1.5	-5.1
Transport and equipment operators	43,230	39,790	39,450	-340	-3,780	-0.9	-8.7
Trades helpers, construction and transportation labourers and related occupations	53,210	48,730	48,450	-280	-4,760	-0.6	-8.9
Occupations unique to primary industry	**41,260**	**38,630**	**38,530**	**-100**	**-2,730**	**-0.3**	**-6.6**
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	**56,720**	**50,890**	**50,190**	**-700**	**-6,530**	**-1.4**	**-11.5**
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	26,770	24,370	24,160	-210	-2,610	-0.9	-9.7
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	29,950	26,520	26,030	-490	-3,920	-1.8	-13.1

[p] *preliminary*
1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.
2. 2006 National Occupational Classification – Statistics.
Note(s): *Related CANSIM table: 276-0041.*

Available in CANSIM: tables 276-0003, 276-0004, 276-0011, 276-0020 to 276-0022, 276-0030 to 276-0032 and 276-0041.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*, choose *Subject,* then *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance for April will be released on June 20.

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 Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Farm cash receipts, first quarter 2013

Farm cash receipts for Canadian farmers totalled $15.4 billion during the first quarter, up 7.5% from the same period in 2012.

Farm cash receipts include market receipts from the sale of crops and livestock as well as program payments. Receipts increased in every province except Prince Edward Island (-4.3%) and British Columbia (-3.0%). Increases ranged from 0.7% in Quebec to 13.4% in Manitoba.

Market receipts from the sale of crops and livestock were up 7.9% from the first quarter of 2012 to $14.6 billion. Crop receipts rose 13.2% to $9.1 billion, while livestock receipts edged up 0.2% to $5.5 billion.

The $1.1 billion increase in crop receipts was mainly the result of a rise in wheat receipts and an increase in the liquidation of deferred grain receipts. Wheat receipts, excluding durum, were up $430 million (+52.5%) while durum receipts rose $102 million (+64.9%), primarily the result of higher prices and the timing of funds received by producers. As of August 1, 2012, Western producers have the option to market their wheat and barley on the open market.

Crop receipts increased in all provinces except Prince Edward Island (-12.8%), where potato prices and marketings were down.

Grain and oilseed prices, which were already at relatively high levels due to increased demand and concerns over tight supplies, rose further during the latter half of 2012 as the drought in the United States worsened. Dry conditions in Eastern Europe and Australia further supported crop prices.

On the livestock side, cattle and calf receipts were $1.7 billion in the first quarter, up 0.5% from the same period in 2012. A 40.1% increase in the number of animals exported internationally more than offset declines in the number of animals exported interprovincially and slaughtered, and the 3.6% drop in average prices.

Hog receipts declined $56 million to $956 million, the result of both declining prices (-5.1%) and marketings (-0.4%).

In the supply-managed sector (dairy, poultry and eggs), farm cash receipts rose 1.8% to $2.4 billion. Poultry prices drove receipts up 10.6%, while egg prices boosted receipts 7.5%. Dairy receipts fell 2.8%, as both marketings and prices declined.

Program payments amounted to $810 million in the first quarter, unchanged from the same period in 2012. Declines in AgriStability and AgriInvest payments were offset by an increase in crop insurance payments.

In addition to first quarter farm cash receipts data, annual farm cash receipts and farm operating expenses data for 2012 were also released today.

Farm cash receipts for 2012 were $53.7 billion, up 7.5% from 2011.

Receipts rose in every province except Prince Edward Island (-2.2%) and New Brunswick (-1.0%), where a drop in potato marketings resulted in declines.

Crop receipts climbed 12.4% to $29.3 billion, generally as a result of higher prices for grains and oilseeds. Soybean receipts rose 41.0% over 2011 levels as both marketings and prices increased. Substantial increases in wheat including durum (+22.9%) and canola (+7.3%), as well as a 70.7% rise in the liquidation of deferred grain receipts, also contributed to the rise.

Livestock receipts increased 2.6% to $21.0 billion. Cattle and calf receipts rose 3.7% to $6.6 billion, despite a 4.0% decline in the number of head marketed, as average prices were up 7.5%.

Increases in the supply-managed sector bolstered the rise in livestock receipts, with poultry (+5.3%), dairy (+1.7%) and egg (+9.2%) receipts all increasing. Hog receipts moderated the increase in livestock receipts with a 2.3% drop over 2011 levels.

Program payments for 2012 were down 1.0% from 2011 to $3.4 billion.

Higher feed and fertilizer prices pushed farm operating expenses (after rebates) up 5.9% to $40.5 billion in 2012. A return to more normal levels of seeded acres in Manitoba and Saskatchewan after flooding in 2011 also contributed to the increase.

Note to readers

Note that some of the increase in wheat and barley receipts for this crop year (August 2012 to July 2013) can be attributed to changes resulting from The Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act. Under the provisions of this act, Western producers now have the ability to market their wheat and barley (destined for export or domestic human consumption) on the open market, receiving payment at the time of delivery, or, voluntarily through the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB). Under the CWB pool system, producers receive a partial or an initial payment at the time of sale. As the marketing of the crop progresses, adjustment and final payments are made. This expansion of marketing options available to producers has resulted in a change in the timing of when some producers are paid. As farm cash receipts are estimated on a cash basis, that is, when payment is received, this change has an impact on the data.

All data are in current dollars. Farm cash receipts measure gross revenue for farm businesses. They do not represent their bottom line, as farmers have to pay their expenses and loans and cover depreciation.

Data on farm operating expenses and depreciation charges for 2012, as well as farm cash receipts, farm debt outstanding, value of farm capital, value per acre of farm land and buildings, and value per head of livestock, were also released today and are now available in CANSIM. These data are subject to revision.

As a result of the release of data from the 2011 Census of Agriculture on May 10, 2012, estimates of farm cash receipts, operating expenses, net income, capital value and other data contained in the Agriculture Economic Statistics series are being revised, where necessary. The complete set of revisions will be released on November 26, 2013.

Farm cash receipts data for the second and third quarters of 2013 will be released on November 26, 2013. Data on net farm income for 2012 will also be released on November 26, 2013.

Table 1
Farm cash receipts

	January to March 2011	January to March 2012	January to March 2013p	January-March 2011 to January-March 2012	January-March 2012 to January-March 2013
	millions of dollars			% change[1]	
Canada					
Total farm cash receipts	**12,322**	**14,339**	**15,412**	**16.4**	**7.5**
Total crops	**6,535**	**8,045**	**9,109**	**23.1**	**13.2**
Total wheat[2]	1,296	1,404	1,943	8.4	38.3
Wheat excluding durum[2]	1,048	1,086	1,526	3.7	40.5
Durum wheat[2]	248	318	416	28.1	30.9
Oats	116	102	127	-12.3	25.4
Barley[2]	168	210	257	25.2	22.4
Rye	10	7	11	-37.0	69.9
Flaxseed	45	57	66	27.4	16.2
Canola	1,597	2,187	2,229	36.9	1.9
Soybeans	339	497	551	46.3	10.9
Corn	565	566	613	0.2	8.2
Dry peas	210	182	223	-13.1	22.3
Mustard	19	13	16	-32.4	22.6
Sunflower	8	4	9	-52.5	127.3
Lentils	145	120	179	-17.3	48.6
Canary seed	30	21	23	-28.4	7.8
Chick peas	18	10	14	-45.6	42.6
Dry beans	23	24	37	4.6	57.5
Potatoes	280	283	279	1.2	-1.5
Greenhouse vegetables	69	68	69	-0.7	0.7
Field vegetables	141	146	146	4.0	-0.5
Tree fruits	40	44	49	9.8	12.2
Small fruits	11	13	16	16.8	29.3
Floriculture, nursery and sod	269	265	272	-1.3	2.7
Other crops	188	234	258	24.2	10.3
Deferments	-126	-252	-257	-99.4	-2.0
Liquidations	1,075	1,840	1,980	71.2	7.6
Total livestock	**4,956**	**5,484**	**5,493**	**10.7**	**0.2**
Cattle and calves	1,505	1,713	1,722	13.8	0.5
Hogs	922	1,012	956	9.7	-5.5
Dairy products	1,426	1,516	1,473	6.3	-2.8
Sheep and lambs	40	41	27	1.1	-33.3
Poultry and eggs	785	856	940	9.1	9.8
Other livestock products	277	346	375	25.2	8.3
Total payments	**831**	**810**	**810**	**-2.5**	**0.0**
Crop insurance	417	408	519	-2.2	27.2
AgriInvest	112	96	65	-14.1	-32.1
AgriStability	172	199	110	16.0	-44.6
Other payments	131	108	116	-17.8	7.8

p preliminary
1. Percent change calculated using thousands of dollars.
2. Includes Marketing Board payments.
Note(s): *Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.*

Table 2
Provincial farm cash receipts

	January to March 2011	January to March 2012	January to March 2013p	January-March 2011 to January-March 2012	January-March 2012 to January-March 2013
	millions of dollars			% change[1]	
Canada	**12,322**	**14,339**	**15,412**	**16.4**	**7.5**
Newfoundland and Labrador	35	43	44	23.0	1.9
Prince Edward Island	134	139	133	3.7	-4.3
Nova Scotia	168	204	224	21.3	9.9
New Brunswick	127	129	136	1.2	5.8
Quebec	1,748	1,747	1,759	-0.1	0.7
Ontario	2,252	2,563	2,634	13.8	2.8
Manitoba	1,413	1,585	1,798	12.2	13.4
Saskatchewan	3,169	3,832	4,276	20.9	11.6
Alberta	2,756	3,520	3,849	27.7	9.3
British Columbia	518	576	559	11.3	-3.0

p *preliminary*
1. *Percent change calculated using thousands of dollars.*
Note(s): *Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.*

Available in CANSIM: tables 002-0001 to 002-0003, 002-0005, 002-0007, 002-0008, 002-0012 and 003-0025.

Table 002-0001: Farm cash receipts, annual.

Table 002-0002: Farm cash receipts, quarterly.

Table 002-0003: Value per acre of farm land and buildings, at July 1.

Table 002-0005: Farm operating expenses and depreciation charges, annual.

Table 002-0007: Value of farm capital, at July 1.

Table 002-0008: Farm debt outstanding, classified by lender, annual.

Table 002-0012: Farm income in kind, by item, annual.

Table 003-0025: Value per head of livestock, at July 1.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3437, 3471 and 3472.

Additional data tables are available from the *Summary tables* module of our website.

The May 2013 issue of *Direct Payments to Agriculture Producers - Agriculture Economic Statistics*, Vol. 11, no. 2 (21-015-X), is now available online. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Agriculture*.

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

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Machinery and Equipment Price Index, first quarter 2013

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) rose 1.2% in the first quarter compared with the previous quarter. The import component was up 2.0% over this period, while the domestic component increased 0.1%.

All industries posted increases in prices of machinery and equipment purchased in the first quarter. The largest contributor to the total MEPI quarterly increase was manufacturing (+1.4%), with the transportation equipment manufacturing sub-component advancing 1.4% and the primary metal and fabricated metal product manufacturing sub-component up 1.5%. The second largest contributor to the total MEPI quarterly increase was finance, insurance and real estate (+0.9%).

On a commodity basis, most commodities posted price increases in the first quarter. Among these, other industry specific machinery (+1.5%) and construction machinery (+3.5%) contributed the most to the quarterly increase of the total MEPI.

The Canadian dollar depreciated 1.7% against the US dollar in the first quarter compared with the previous quarter. Variations in exchange rates can have a strong influence on the MEPI given the high weight that imported machinery and equipment have on the index.

Compared with the first quarter of 2012, the total MEPI increased 1.1%, with the import component up 2.0% and the domestic component down 0.1%. The movement in the import component was partly influenced by the year-over-year change in the Canadian dollar (-0.8%) against the US dollar.

Note to readers

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index provides quarterly estimates of price changes for machinery and equipment purchased by industries in Canada.

With each release, data for the previous four quarters may have been revised. The indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

Table 1
Machinery and Equipment Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance[1]	First quarter 2012[r]	Fourth quarter 2012[r]	First quarter 2013[p]	Fourth quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013	First quarter 2012 to first quarter 2013
	%	(1997=100)			% change	
Total Machinery and Equipment Price Index	**100.00**	**90.3**	**90.2**	**91.3**	**1.2**	**1.1**
Domestic	**32.03**	**109.4**	**109.2**	**109.3**	**0.1**	**-0.1**
Imported	**67.97**	**81.3**	**81.3**	**82.9**	**2.0**	**2.0**
Crop and animal production	4.07	104.5	104.9	106.3	1.3	1.7
Forestry and logging	0.27	102.5	103.8	106.1	2.2	3.5
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.08	115.2	115.3	116.9	1.4	1.5
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	0.10	102.8	102.9	104.1	1.2	1.3
Mines, quarries and oil wells	4.26	110.0	111.2	113.4	2.0	3.1
Utilities	3.55	99.1	98.8	100.4	1.6	1.3
Construction	3.54	98.7	99.2	101.4	2.2	2.7
All manufacturing	22.34	96.8	96.9	98.3	1.4	1.5
Trade	8.38	88.3	88.2	88.9	0.8	0.7
Transportation (excluding pipeline transportation)	7.66	105.7	106.2	107.7	1.4	1.9
Pipeline transportation	1.18	106.4	106.0	107.6	1.5	1.1
Warehousing and storage	0.26	110.2	111.3	112.5	1.1	2.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	19.90	81.4	81.1	81.8	0.9	0.5
Private education services	0.12	72.2	71.5	72.8	1.8	0.8
Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance	2.09	85.6	84.9	86.2	1.5	0.7
Other services (excluding public administration)	16.39	75.9	75.2	75.8	0.8	-0.1
Public administration	5.81	81.0	80.5	81.5	1.2	0.6

r revised

p preliminary

1. The relative importance in the Machinery and Equipment Price Index represents shares of capital investment by industry for the year 1997. They are derived from the final demand matrix of the input-output table, compiled by the Canadian System of National Accounts.

Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0041 and 327-0042.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.

The first quarter 2013 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in July.

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index for the second quarter will be released on August 22.

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).

Construction Union Wage Rate Index, April 2013

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was unchanged in April compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 2.5% compared with April 2012.

Note to readers

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 22 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. The indexes (2007=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

The wage rates and indexes are subject to a 30-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data. This is due to the length of time that can transpire between the expiration of a collective agreement and the ratification of a new collective agreement. The wage rates and indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0045.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

The first quarter 2013 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in July.

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index for May will be released on June 20.

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).

Large urban transit, March 2013

In March, total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit systems rose 4.7% from March 2012 to $290.4 million.

These 10 systems represent about 80% of total urban transit activity across the country.

Over the same period, ridership levels decreased 1.4% to 150.0 million passenger trips.

Available in CANSIM: table 408-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.

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).

Refined petroleum products, April 2013

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for April. Other selected data about these products are also available.

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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

Direct Payments to Agriculture Producers - Agriculture Economic Statistics, May 2013, Vol. 11, no. 2
Catalogue number 21-015-X (HTML | PDF)

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire, March 2013, Vol. 9, no. 3
Catalogue number 41-019-X (HTML | PDF)

Retail Trade, March 2013, Vol. 85, no. 3
Catalogue number 63-005-X (HTML | PDF)

Health Indicators, No. 2
Catalogue number 82-221-X (HTML)

Health Regions: Boundaries and Correspondence with Census Geography
Catalogue number 82-402-X (HTML)

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Catalogue 11-001-X.

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