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Wholesale trade, August 2014 2

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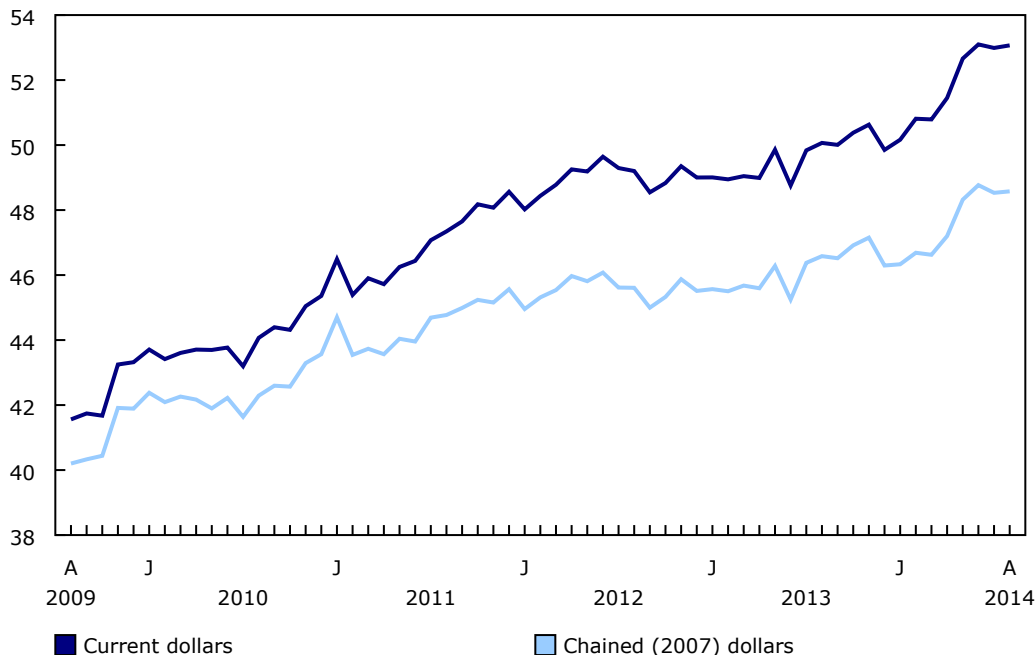
Wholesale trade, August 2014

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In volume terms, wholesale sales edged up 0.1%.

Chart 1 Wholesale sales edge up in August

billions of dollars



Higher sales in three subsectors

The machinery, equipment and supplies subsector recorded the largest gain in August, rising 3.6% to a record high \$11.3 billion, on the strength of gains in all industries. The largest contributor was the computer and communications equipment and supplies industry (+5.7%), which rose for the fourth time in five months. Following declines in the two previous months, sales rose in both the construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry (+2.7%) as well as the farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment industry (+5.1%).

Sales in the miscellaneous subsector rose 1.2% to \$6.7 billion. The other miscellaneous industry (+7.4%), which includes wholesalers of logs, wood chips, minerals, ores and precious metals, reached its highest level since October 2011, more than offsetting a second consecutive decline in the agricultural supplies industry (-6.3%), which fell to its lowest level in nine months.

The motor vehicle and parts subsector declined 3.7% to \$9.2 billion, offsetting most of the 4.5% increase recorded in July. Year to date unadjusted sales for this subsector are 5.4% higher compared with the same period last year. All industries contributed to the decrease in August, led by the motor vehicle industry (-4.2%). Exports, imports, and manufacturing sales of motor vehicles also declined in August.

Sales up in four provinces

Sales increased in four provinces in August, which together represented 67% of total wholesale sales in Canada. Ontario accounted for much of the gain.

Sales in Ontario increased for a fifth consecutive month, rising 0.5% to \$26.0 billion in August, despite a decline in the motor vehicle and parts subsector. One of the main contributors to the increase in August was the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, sales increased 10.6% to \$422 million. Sales in this province tend to be more volatile than in other provinces.

Sales rose 1.1% to \$2.0 billion in Saskatchewan, following a 6.3% decline in July. The machinery, equipment and supplies subsector was a large contributor to the gain.

Following three consecutive monthly gains, sales decreased 0.5% to \$9.6 billion in Quebec. The personal and household goods subsector led the decline.

Sales in British Columbia fell 0.6% to \$5.1 billion, a third consecutive decline. The food, beverage and tobacco subsector was the largest contributor to the decrease.

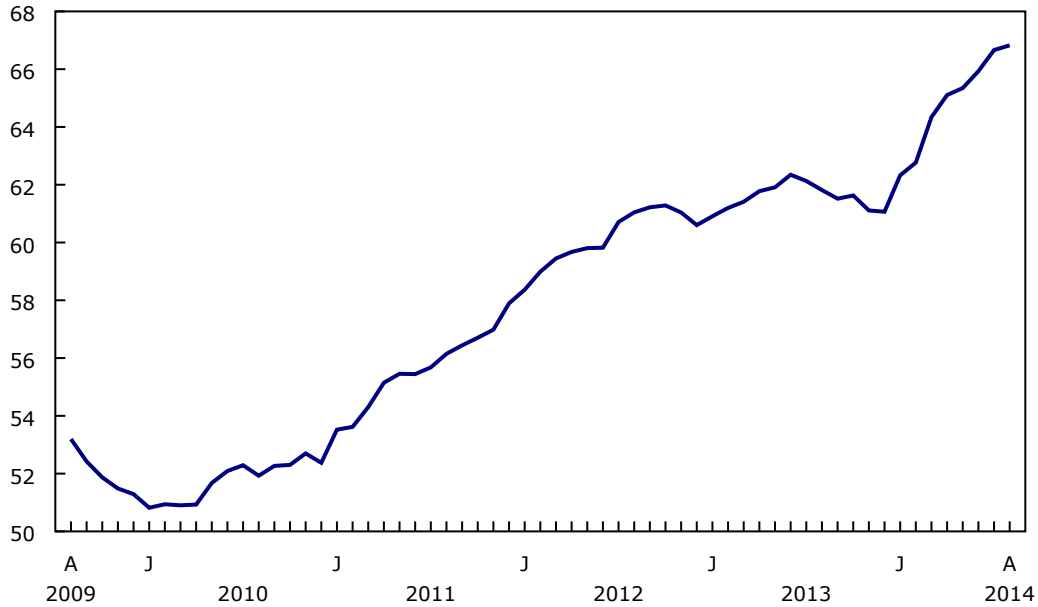
For the second time in three months, sales decreased in New Brunswick (-1.7%), Nova Scotia (-0.9%) and Prince Edward Island (-4.2%). Lower sales in the food, beverage and tobacco subsector led the declines in all three provinces.

Inventories continue to increase in August

Inventories increased for an eighth consecutive month in August, edging up 0.2% to \$66.8 billion, the highest level on record. Five of the seven subsectors, which represent 69% of wholesale inventories, recorded gains.

Chart 2
Wholesale inventories edge up in August

billions of dollars



In dollar terms, the largest gain was in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector (+0.8%), a seventh increase in eight months. Inventories grew for a seventh consecutive month in the miscellaneous subsector (+1.1%), while inventories in the food, beverage and tobacco subsector (+0.4%) rose for a sixth consecutive month.

Inventories declined in the motor vehicle and parts subsector (-1.3%), following two consecutive monthly gains.

The inventory-to-sales ratio remained at 1.26 in August. 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 data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

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](#).

The Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey covers all industries within the wholesale sector as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), with the exception of oilseed and grain merchant wholesalers (NAICS 41112), petroleum and petroleum products merchant wholesalers (NAICS 412) and business-to-business electronic markets, and agents and brokers (NAICS 419).

Table 1
Wholesale merchants' sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	August 2013	July 2014 ^r	August 2014 ^p	July to August 2014	August 2013 to August 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale sales (current dollars)	50,066	52,988	53,068	0.2	6.0
Total, wholesale sales (2007 chained dollars)	46,582	48,531	48,576	0.1	4.3
Total wholesale sales (current dollars), excluding motor vehicle and parts	41,442	43,451	43,881	1.0	5.9
Farm product	556	694	685	-1.4	23.2
Food, beverage and tobacco	9,783	10,259	10,293	0.3	5.2
Food	8,785	9,246	9,293	0.5	5.8
Beverage	495	494	492	-0.5	-0.7
Cigarette and tobacco product	503	519	508	-2.1	0.9
Personal and household goods	7,227	7,338	7,275	-0.9	0.7
Textile, clothing and footwear	980	917	898	-2.1	-8.5
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	738	761	756	-0.7	2.5
Home furnishings	473	491	479	-2.5	1.4
Personal goods	718	695	719	3.5	0.2
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,614	3,800	3,745	-1.4	3.6
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	704	672	677	0.7	-3.9
Motor vehicle and parts	8,624	9,537	9,188	-3.7	6.5
Motor vehicle	6,519	7,224	6,921	-4.2	6.2
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	2,052	2,256	2,213	-1.9	7.8
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	53	57	54	-5.5	1.9
Building material and supplies	6,986	7,603	7,600	0.0	8.8
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,161	2,341	2,356	0.7	9.1
Metal service centres	1,559	1,747	1,753	0.3	12.4
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	3,266	3,515	3,491	-0.7	6.9
Machinery, equipment and supplies	10,763	10,948	11,338	3.6	5.3
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,289	1,255	1,320	5.1	2.4
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	3,667	3,811	3,912	2.7	6.7
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	3,250	3,353	3,544	5.7	9.1
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,557	2,529	2,562	1.3	0.2
Miscellaneous	6,127	6,608	6,690	1.2	9.2
Recyclable material	620	833	866	4.0	39.6
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	895	872	907	4.0	1.3
Agricultural supplies	1,592	1,840	1,724	-6.3	8.3
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,165	1,202	1,196	-0.5	2.6
Other miscellaneous	1,855	1,861	1,998	7.4	7.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

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

	August 2013	July 2014 ^r	August 2014 ^P	July to August 2014	August 2013 to August 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	50,066	52,988	53,068	0.2	6.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	370	382	422	10.6	14.1
Prince Edward Island	52	58	56	-4.2	8.1
Nova Scotia	689	756	749	-0.9	8.8
New Brunswick	507	526	517	-1.7	2.0
Quebec	9,455	9,620	9,571	-0.5	1.2
Ontario	24,224	25,852	25,977	0.5	7.2
Manitoba	1,350	1,480	1,450	-2.0	7.4
Saskatchewan	1,821	1,996	2,018	1.1	10.8
Alberta	6,594	7,140	7,147	0.1	8.4
British Columbia	4,892	5,113	5,084	-0.6	3.9
Yukon	12	11	11	6.5	-1.7
Northwest Territories	55	50	59	16.7	5.9
Nunavut	45	5	8	57.3	-83.0

^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

	August 2013	July 2014 ^r	August 2014 ^p	July to August 2014	August 2013 to August 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	61,816	66,661	66,825	0.2	8.1
Farm product	F	F	F	F	F
Food, beverage and tobacco	5,535	6,110	6,136	0.4	10.9
Food	4,966	5,508	5,532	0.4	11.4
Beverage	340	359	360	0.4	5.9
Cigarette and tobacco product	228	243	243	0.1	6.4
Personal and household goods	10,750	11,546	11,558	0.1	7.5
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,973	2,059	2,083	1.1	5.6
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	747	721	748	3.8	0.2
Home furnishings	1,070	1,183	1,175	-0.7	9.9
Personal goods	1,426	1,354	1,345	-0.7	-5.6
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,817	5,502	5,474	-0.5	13.6
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	718	726	732	0.9	1.9
Motor vehicle and parts	8,466	9,057	8,942	-1.3	5.6
Motor vehicle	4,526	4,939	4,718	-4.5	4.2
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,825	4,007	4,112	2.6	7.5
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	115	111	112	0.8	-2.9
Building material and supplies	11,180	11,830	11,822	-0.1	5.7
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,984	3,157	3,152	-0.1	5.6
Metal service centres	3,346	3,559	3,590	0.9	7.3
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,850	5,114	5,079	-0.7	4.7
Machinery, equipment and supplies	17,871	19,247	19,392	0.8	8.5
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,981	4,230	4,269	0.9	7.3
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	9,046	9,781	9,768	-0.1	8.0
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,568	1,739	1,751	0.7	11.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,277	3,497	3,604	3.1	10.0
Miscellaneous	7,782	8,620	8,718	1.1	12.0
Recyclable material	525	548	563	2.7	7.2
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	685	715	721	0.8	5.3
Agricultural supplies	3,047	3,736	3,810	2.0	25.0
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,004	1,187	1,172	-1.3	16.7
Other miscellaneous	2,521	2,433	2,452	0.7	-2.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

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

Available in CANSIM: tables [081-0011](#), [081-0012](#) and [081-0015](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2401](#).

The August 2014 issue of *Wholesale Trade* ([63-008-X](#)) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade data for September will be released on November 20.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

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Travel between Canada and other countries, August 2014

Travel to Canada decreased 0.1% in August compared with July, led by a decrease in trips from the United States.

US residents made 1.7 million trips to Canada, down 0.9% from July. This was primarily attributable to a 1.6% decline in overnight trips.

Overseas residents made 457,000 trips to Canada in August, up 2.9% from July and the highest level since record keeping began in 1972.

Among the major overseas tourism markets, Brazil contributed the most to this growth (up 3,100 trips from a month earlier), followed by the United Kingdom (+2,400) and China (+1,900). Most other major overseas tourism markets also recorded increases in travel to Canada compared with July. Two notable exceptions were Japan (-0.9%) and India (-9.7%).

August also saw China replacing France as Canada's second largest source of overseas visitors with a 4.6% increase to a record 43,000 trips.

In the other direction, trips made by Canadian residents to the United States rose 1.1% in August to 4.5 million trips. A 2.7% increase in overnight trips accounted for much of the growth, rising to 1.9 million trips. Overnight trips by car (+2.3%) and by plane (+2.2%) also contributed to this increase.

Canadian residents made 885,000 trips to overseas countries in August, down 0.3% from a record high in July.

Note to readers

Monthly data are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	August 2013 ^r	July 2014 ^r	August 2014 ^p	July to August 2014
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	5,459	5,297	5,343	0.9
To the United States	4,656	4,409	4,458	1.1
To other countries	803	888	885	-0.3
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,676	2,519	2,520	0.0
Total trips, one or more nights	2,742	2,739	2,785	1.7
United States ³	1,939	1,851	1,900	2.7
Car	1,147	1,092	1,117	2.3
Plane	674	669	684	2.2
Other modes of transportation	118	89	99	11.1
Other countries ⁴	803	888	885	-0.3
Travel to Canada²	2,113	2,137	2,135	-0.1
From the United States	1,707	1,692	1,677	-0.9
From other countries	407	445	457	2.9
Same-day car trips from the United States	602	588	590	0.4
Total trips, one or more nights	1,395	1,439	1,436	-0.2
United States ³	1,001	1,011	995	-1.6
Car	569	566	557	-1.6
Plane	324	349	341	-2.3
Other modes of transportation	108	96	97	1.5
Other countries ⁴	394	428	440	2.9
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	57	60	63	4.0
China	34	41	43	4.6
France	39	43	43	-0.0
Germany	27	28	30	6.1
Australia	25	25	26	2.5
Japan	21	25	24	-0.9
India	13	18	16	-9.7
Mexico	13	15	15	4.4
South Korea	13	15	15	1.5
Hong Kong	12	11	12	0.1
Italy	8	10	11	9.1
Brazil	8	7	11	41.7

^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 of transportation.

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

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Available in CANSIM: tables [427-0001 to 427-0006](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5005](#).

The August 2014 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 30, no. 8 ([66-001-P](#)), is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey, second quarter 2014

Retail sales increased 5.2% from the same quarter a year earlier to \$132.9 billion in the second quarter, the largest year-over-year growth since the first quarter of 2012. Higher sales were reported in all 10 major commodity groups.

Sales of motor vehicles, parts and services rose 5.1%, the fifth consecutive quarterly increase. Sales of new trucks, vans, minivans and sport utility vehicles (+7.6%) were the largest contributor to the gain. According to the New Motor Vehicles Sales Survey, the number of trucks sold was up 7.3% from the second quarter of 2013. Sales also grew for used vehicles (+6.8%) and automotive parts and accessories (+2.8%).

Sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives grew 12.3% year over year in the second quarter, while consumer prices for gasoline increased 6.1% over the same period.

Receipts for food and beverages rose 3.9%. Most of the increase came from sales of food (+4.4%), led by price-induced gains for fresh fruits and vegetables (+8.4%) and fresh meat and poultry (+8.6%). Sales of candy, confectionary and snack foods increased 7.1% year over year, as Easter shifted to the second quarter in 2014. Food and beverage stores saw their share of sales for food fall from 78.4% in the second quarter of 2013 to 77.5% in the second quarter of 2014, mainly to the benefit of general merchandisers.

Sales of clothing, footwear and accessories rose 4.7%. This increase came mostly from clothing and accessories (+4.5%), led by women's clothing and accessories (+5.7%) and girls', boys' and infants' clothing and accessories (+9.4%). Most of the growth was attributable to a higher volume of sales. Footwear sales grew 6.5%, the second largest increase in nearly two years, led by gains in non-athletic footwear.

Sporting and leisure goods were up 7.1% in the second quarter. A 15.5% increase in the sales of toys, games and hobby supplies accounted for most of the growth. Sales of this commodity can be affected by the timing of new product releases.

Sales of hardware, lawn and garden products grew 2.3%, reflecting higher sales of lawn and garden products (+3.8%) as well as hardware and home renovation products (+1.5%).

Furniture, home furnishings and electronics sales rose 1.8%, the largest year-over-year increase since early 2011. This increase was led by commodities associated with home buying and renovation, such as floor coverings and tiles (+7.2%) and indoor furniture (+3.0%). Tempering the gains were lower sales of home electronics, computers and cameras (-3.4%), the commodity group's 10th consecutive decline.

Note to readers

The Retail Commodity Survey collects data on national level retail sales by commodity, from a subsample of businesses in the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

Quarterly data have not been adjusted for seasonality. For example, no adjustment has been made for Easter, which occurred in the first quarter of 2013 but took place in the second quarter of 2014. All percentage changes are year over year.

Table 1
Sales by commodity, all retail stores – Seasonally unadjusted

	Second quarter 2013 ^r	First quarter 2014 ^r	Second quarter 2014 ^p	Second quarter 2013 to second quarter 2014
	millions of dollars			% change
Commodity, total	126,417	106,885	132,939	5.2
Food and beverages	28,299	26,173	29,387	3.8
Health and personal care products	10,735	10,734	11,325	5.5
Clothing, footwear and accessories	9,246	7,255	9,677	4.7
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	8,822	8,204	8,977	1.8
Motor vehicles, parts and services	30,156	22,406	31,703	5.1
Automotive fuels, oils and additives	13,978	14,451	15,694	12.3
Housewares	2,098	2,018	2,188	4.3
Hardware, lawn and garden products	9,843	5,025	10,066	2.3
Sporting and leisure goods	3,081	2,599	3,300	7.1
All other goods and services	10,159	8,020	10,621	4.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Available in CANSIM: table [080-0022](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2008](#).

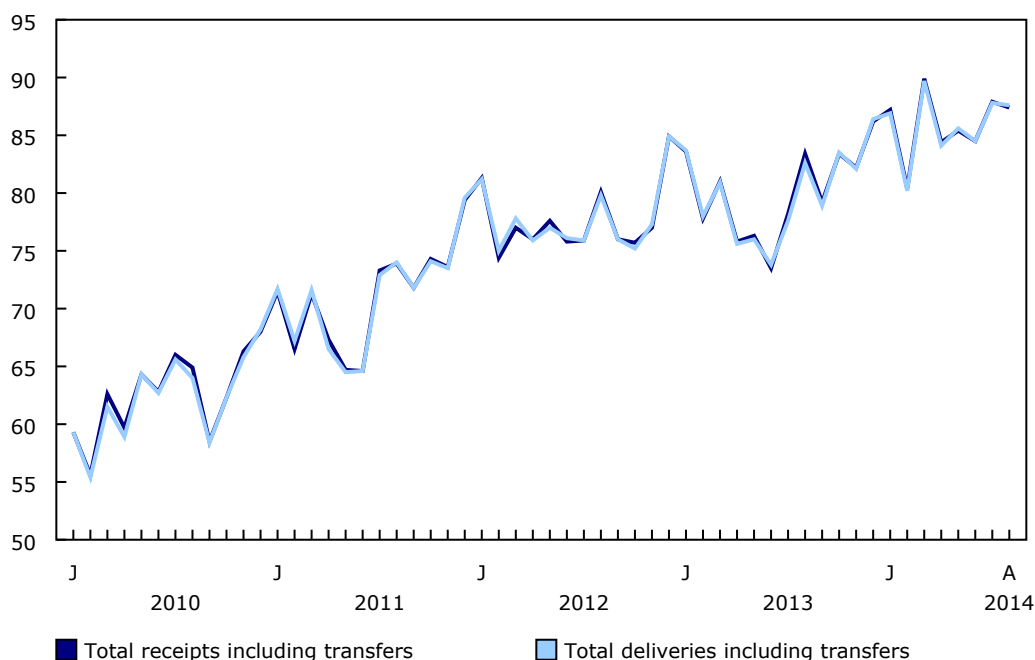
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Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products, August 2014

Canadian pipelines received 87.4 million cubic metres of crude oil and condensates, and other liquefied petroleum products in August, up 4.8% from the same month in 2013. Deliveries increased 6.1% to 87.6 million cubic metres.

Chart 1
Total receipts and deliveries, including transfers, of crude oil and condensates, and other liquefied petroleum products

millions of cubic metres



Receipts from processing plants increase

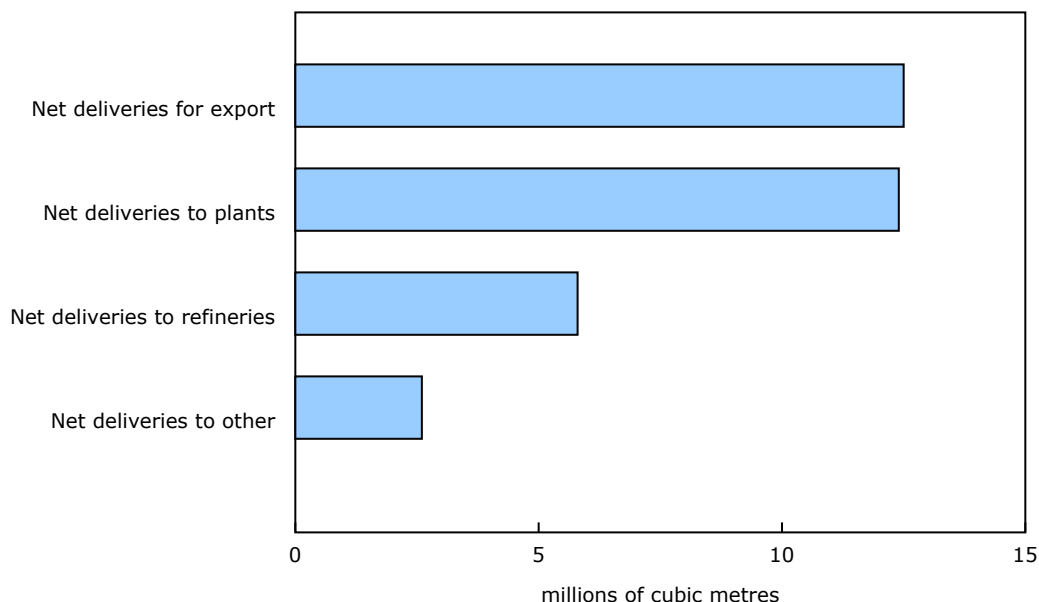
Receipts from processing plants increased by 13.5% in August to 17.9 million cubic metres. The receipts from refineries and bulk plants rose 1.6% to 4.7 million cubic metres.

Receipts from fields increased 0.3% from August 2013 to 8.5 million cubic metres. Imports and receipts from other sources both decreased by 25.2%, as imports fell to 1.1 million cubic metres and receipts from other sources were down to 1.0 million cubic metres. The remaining 54.2 million cubic metres were in transfers from lines and provinces.

Deliveries to rail and other facilities grow

Deliveries to other destinations, such as rail terminals and ports, posted the largest percentage increase among all types of net deliveries. These deliveries grew by 37.9% to 2.6 million cubic metres. Exports by pipelines increased by 9.5% to 12.5 million cubic metres in August. Net deliveries to plants rose 6.9% to 12.4 million cubic metres in August. Meanwhile, deliveries to refineries fell 5.1% to 5.8 million cubic metres. The remaining 54.3 million cubic metres delivered were in transfers to lines and provinces.

Chart 2
Net deliveries of crude oil and condensates, and other liquefied petroleum products, by destination



Total product in inventories rose 0.5% from the same month last year to 18.2 million cubic metres at the end of August. The increase was mainly in inventories of Canadian product held in the United States, which rose 6.0% from August 2013 to 4.6 million cubic metres. Inventories held in Canada, in turn, decreased 1.2% to 13.7 million cubic metres.

Note to readers

This report covers the monthly activities of all pipelines in Canada receiving and delivering crude oils, liquefied petroleum gases (propane, butane and ethane) and refined petroleum products. These data are required for integration into the input-output sector of the Canadian System of National Accounts. Data are also intended for use by survey respondents, industry associations, industry analysts and the general public.

Oil pipelines total receipts includes receipts of products from fields, processing plants, refineries, imports, other sources, and transfers from provinces and other pipelines. Total deliveries include deliveries to refineries, plants, exports, other destinations, transfers to other provinces and other pipelines, inventory changes, and line losses and adjustments. Net receipts and net deliveries exclude transfers, inventory changes, and line losses and adjustments.

The difference between total receipts and deliveries is in inventory changes and line losses and adjustments applied to total deliveries.

Available in CANSIM: tables [133-0001](#) to [133-0005](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers [2148](#) and [2191](#).

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Natural gas sales, August 2014

Natural gas sales totalled 4 970 million cubic metres in August, up 2.3% from August 2013.

The volumes of sales to the industrial (+1.1%), commercial (+7.6%) and residential (+11.2%) sectors were up compared with the same month a year earlier.

Total sales in August were 0.6% lower compared with July 2014.

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Table 1
Natural gas sales

	August 2013	July 2014	August 2014 ^P	July to August 2014	August 2013 to August 2014
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
Total sales	4 856 349	5 002 183	4 970 106	-0.6	2.3
Residential ¹	378 240	400 705	420 483	4.9	11.2
Commercial ²	319 616	314 305	343 918	9.4	7.6
Industrial ³ and direct sales ⁴	4 158 493	4 287 173	4 205 705	-1.9	1.1

^P preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2149](#).

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New products and studies

New products

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