# The Daily

# Statistics Canada

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Industrial product and raw materials price indexes, March 2014  The Industrial Product Price Index rose 0.4% in March, mainly because of higher prices for meat, fish and dairy products. The Raw Materials Price Index increased 0.6%, led by animals and animal products.	
Gross domestic product by industry, February 2014 Real gross domestic product grew 0.2% in February. The output of goods-producing industries rose 0.5%, led by increases in mining and oil and gas extraction as well as manufacturing, while services industries edged up 0.1%.	

#### Releases

# Gross domestic product by industry, February 2014

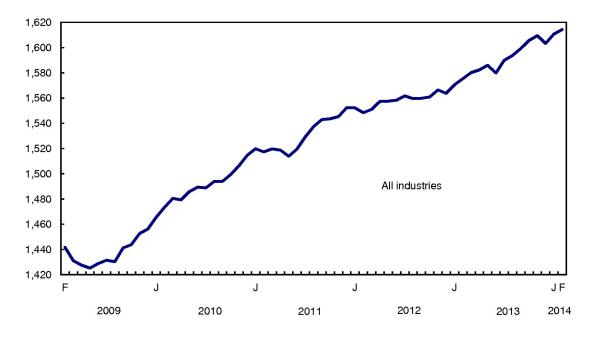
Real gross domestic product grew 0.2% in February.

The output of goods-producing industries rose 0.5%, led by increases in mining and oil and gas extraction as well as manufacturing. Utilities also advanced, while construction was unchanged. In contrast, the agriculture and forestry sector declined.

The output of service industries edged up 0.1% in February. Increases in wholesale trade, retail trade, accommodation and food services as well as the public sector (education, health and public administration combined) were mostly offset by declines in arts and entertainment, professional services and the finance and insurance sector.

Chart 1
Real gross domestic product grows in February

billions of chained (2007) dollars

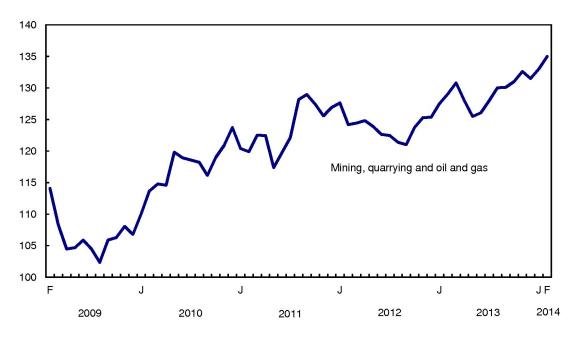


#### The mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction sector increases

Mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction increased 1.5% in February. Mining and quarrying (excluding oil and gas extraction) rose 4.8%, primarily as a result of increased copper and nickel mining. Oil and gas extraction grew 0.7%, mainly as a result of higher natural gas production. Support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction were up 0.2%.

Chart 2
The mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction sector increases in February

gross domestic product in billions of chained (2007) dollars



#### Manufacturing output rises

Manufacturing output rose 0.6% in February, after increasing 1.6% in January. Durable-goods manufacturing grew 0.7%, led by transportation equipment. There were also gains in primary metals and non-metallic mineral products. In contrast, manufacturing of computer and electronic products as well as machinery declined.

Non-durable goods manufacturing rose 0.4% in February. Increases were recorded in chemical, petroleum and coal products and paper manufacturing. These gains were partly offset by declines in the manufacturing of food, textile, clothing and leather products as well as plastic and rubber products.

#### Wholesale and retail trade grow

Wholesale trade grew 0.6% in February, as almost all major industrial subgroups increased. Gains were notable in wholesaling of farm products, machinery, equipment and supplies and building materials and supplies.

Retail trade rose 0.2% in February as a result of notable gains at health and personal care stores and, to a lesser extent, at general merchandise stores (which includes department stores). Lower activity at motor vehicles and parts dealers partly offset these increases.

#### The arts and entertainment sector decreases

The arts and entertainment sector declined 5.0% in February, in large part because of the participation of National Hockey League players in the Sochi Winter Olympics and the resulting two-week-plus hiatus in games played in Canada.

#### Construction is unchanged

Construction was unchanged in February. A gain in engineering construction was offset by declines in residential building construction and, to a lesser extent, in repair works. Non-residential building construction was unchanged in February.

After declining for two consecutive months, the output of real estate agents and brokers increased 0.3% in February, as activity in the home resale market rose.

#### Other industries

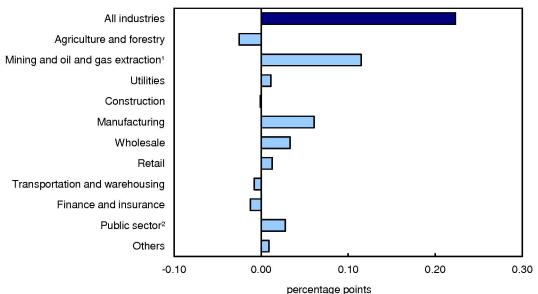
The agriculture and forestry sector declined 1.5% in February, mainly as a result of lower crop production.

Utilities grew 0.5% in February, after falling 0.7% in January. Natural gas distribution rose in February while the electric power generation, transmission and distribution industry also advanced.

The finance and insurance sector declined 0.2% February. A decline in banking services more than offset gains in insurance and financial investment services.

The public sector edged up 0.1%, as a result of gains in health, education and public administration services.

Chart 3
Main industrial sectors' contribution to the percent change in gross domestic product,
February 2014



- 1. Includes quarrying.
- 2. Education, health and public administration.

#### Note to readers

The monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry data at basic prices are chained volume estimates with 2007 as the reference year. This means that the data for each industry and each aggregate are obtained from a chained volume index multiplied by the industry's value added in 2007. The monthly data are benchmarked to annually chained Fisher volume indexes of GDP obtained from the constant-price input-output tables up to the latest input-output tables year (2010).

For the period starting with January 2011, the data are derived by chaining a fixed-weight Laspeyres volume index to the prior period. The fixed weights are 2010 industry prices.

This approach makes the monthly GDP by industry data more comparable with the expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly.

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

#### Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2013.

For more information about monthly national GDP by industry, see the System of macroeconomic accounts module on our website.

Table 1 Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained (2007) dollars – Seasonally adjusted

	September 2013 <sup>r</sup>	October 2013r	November 2013 <sup>r</sup>	December 2013 <sup>r</sup>	January 2014 <sup>r</sup>	February 2014 <sup>p</sup>	February 2014 <sup>p</sup>	February 2013 to February 2014
			month-to-moi	nth % change			millions of dollars <sup>1</sup>	% change
All industries	0.3	0.4	0.2	-0.4	0.5	0.2	1,614,274	2.5
Goods-producing								
industries	0.4	0.7	0.1	-0.7	0.9	0.5	486,836	2.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing								
and hunting	-0.4	-0.6	-0.8	-1.1	-1.8	-1.5	27,341	4.7
Mining, quarrying and oil								
and gas extraction	0.1	0.7	1.2	-0.9	1.2	1.5	135,005	4.6
Utilities	1.5	-0.4	1.7	0.9	-0.7	0.5	40,537	4.0
Construction	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.8	0.7	-0.0	112,915	-0.9
Manufacturing	1.0	1.8	-0.9	-0.8	1.6	0.6	170,781	2.7
Services-producing								
industries	0.3	0.3	0.3	-0.3	0.3	0.1	1,128,554	2.5
Wholesale trade	0.1	0.2	0.3	-1.5	0.6	0.6	87,202	2.5
Retail trade	1.0	0.1	0.9	-1.9	1.0	0.2	88,082	4.3
Transportation and							•	
warehousing	1.2	1.0	0.5	-0.5	0.1	-0.2	66,806	2.8
Information and cultural		_			_	-	,	_
industries	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	53,059	0.8
Finance and insurance	0.0	0.4	0.7	-0.1	0.7	-0.2	108,830	3.5
Real estate, and rental and	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.2	100,000	0.0
leasing	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.0	0.4	203,709	3.0
Professional, scientific and	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	200,700	0.0
technical services	0.5	0.1	-0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	83,812	1.0
Management of companies	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	00,012	1.0
and enterprises	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	12,362	5.9
Administrative and support,	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	12,502	0.0
waste management and								
remediation services	0.3	0.5	-0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	41,006	1.9
Educational services	0.5	0.5	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.1	86,245	1.8
Health care and social	0.5	0.5	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.2	00,240	1.0
assistance	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	110,402	2.2
	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	110,402	2.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.8	-0.3	1.1	0.6	-2.7	-5.0	10,880	-1.9
Accommodation and food	0.0	-0.3	1.1	0.0	-2.1	-5.0	10,000	-1.9
	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.0	4.4	0.4	22 24 4	2.2
services	-0.5	0.1	0.3	-1.0	1.4	0.4	33,314	2.2
Other services (except	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.0	00.000	0.4
public administration)	0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.2	0.7	0.0	32,223	2.4
Public administration	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	111,009	2.0
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	0.7	1.1	0.2	-0.6	1.2	0.9	351,447	3.6
Non-durable manufacturing							•	
industries	0.5	3.0	-1.5	-0.7	1.4	0.4	71,038	2.6
Durable manufacturing			_	-			,	
industries	1.4	0.9	-0.5	-0.8	1.8	0.7	99,977	2.8
Information and	•••	0.0	0.5	0.0		· · ·	-0,0	2.0
communication								
technologies industries	0.8	0.2	0.6	-0.9	0.4	-0.2	69.424	0.4
Energy sector	0.0	0.2	1.6	-0.4	1.0	0.6	160,138	5.1
Public sector	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	307,696	2.0
i dollo sociol	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	001,000	2.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>r</sup> revised

p preliminary1. At annual rates.

Available in CANSIM: table 379-0031.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1301.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for March will be released on May 30.

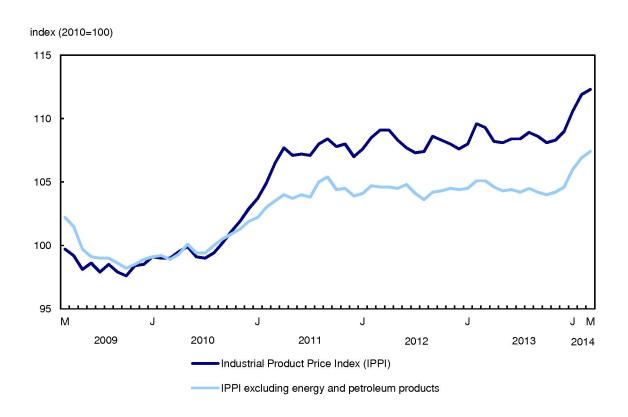
For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Allan Tomas (613-951-9277), Industry Accounts Division.

# Industrial product and raw materials price indexes, March 2014

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) rose 0.4% in March, mainly because of higher prices for meat, fish and dairy products. The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) increased 0.6%, led by animals and animal products.

Chart 1
Prices for industrial goods increase



#### **Industrial Product Price Index, monthly change**

The IPPI grew 0.4% in March, after rising 1.2% in February. It was the fifth consecutive monthly increase. Of the 21 major commodity groups, 17 were up, 2 were down, and 2 were unchanged.

The growth of the IPPI was mainly attributable to higher prices for meat, fish and dairy products (+3.0%). Fresh and frozen pork (+14.6%) was the main reason for the increase in this commodity group. This was the largest gain for fresh and frozen pork since May 2008, primarily because of higher prices for hogs.

Chemicals and chemical products (-1.1%) declined for the first time since October 2013, led by lower prices for petrochemicals (-8.6%). Prices for ammonia and chemical fertilizers (+6.7%) rose, moderating the decline for chemicals and chemical products.

Fruit, vegetables, feed and other food products (+0.9%) also contributed to the increase in the IPPI, pushed upward by higher prices for intermediate food products (+3.2%) and other animal feed (+0.6%). This was the largest increase for the fruit, vegetables, feed and other food products group since August 2012.

To a lesser extent, primary non-ferrous metal products (+0.9%) and motorized and recreational vehicles (+0.4%) also exerted upward pressure on the IPPI.

Higher prices for unwrought precious metals and precious metal alloys (+2.6%) and lower prices for unwrought copper and copper alloys (-6.2%) offset the increase in primary non-ferrous metal products.

The gain in motorized and recreational vehicles product group (+0.4%) was led by higher prices for passenger cars and light trucks (+0.4%) as well as aircraft (+0.9%). The advance of the motorized and recreational vehicles index was closely linked to the depreciation of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar.

Some Canadian producers who export their products report their prices in US dollars. Consequently, the 0.5% decrease in the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar may have had the effect of increasing the IPPI. Without the measurable effect of the exchange rate, the index would have risen 0.2% instead of 0.4%.

#### **Industrial Product Price Index, 12-month change**

The IPPI increased 2.7% during the 12-month period ending in March, after rising 2.1% in February.

Compared with March 2013, the growth of the IPPI was mainly attributable to energy and petroleum products (+5.1%), specifically diesel fuel (+9.6%), light fuel oils (+9.6%) and motor gasoline (+3.0%). The IPPI excluding energy and petroleum products rose 2.2% on a year-over-year basis.

Motorized and recreational vehicles (+4.9%) also contributed to the year-over-year increase in the IPPI, as a result of higher prices for passenger cars and light trucks (+5.8%) and aircraft (+10.1%). On a year-over-year basis, prices for motorized and recreational vehicles have been on an upward trend since July 2013.

Compared with March 2013, meat, fish and dairy products rose 7.3%, mainly because of higher prices for fresh and frozen pork (+42.5%).

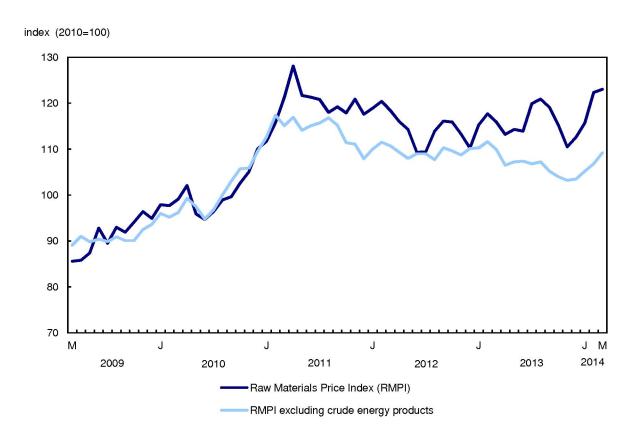
To a lesser extent, chemical and chemical products (+5.6%) also contributed to the year-over-year increase in the IPPI, mostly as a result of higher prices for petrochemicals (+7.5%), ammonia and chemical fertilizers (+13.6%) as well as plastic resins (+9.1%).

The growth of the IPPI over the 12-month period was moderated mainly by lower prices for primary non-ferrous metal products (-5.0%), specifically unwrought precious metals and precious metal alloys (-12.2%). On a year-over-year basis, primary non-ferrous metal products have been declining since December 2011.

#### Raw Materials Price Index, monthly change

The RMPI rose 0.6% in March, after advancing 5.7% in February. It was the fourth consecutive monthly increase. Of the six major commodity groups, three were up, two were down and one was unchanged.

**Chart 2 Prices for raw materials rise** 



The advance of the RMPI was largely attributable to animals and animal products (+5.8%), which have been rising since January 2014. Live animals (+10.1%), particularly hogs (+24.3%), were responsible for the increase in the animals and animal products group. The rise of hog prices in March was partly due to the porcine epidemic diarrhea virus.

To a lesser extent, crop products (+4.5%) also contributed to the advance of the RMPI, posting the largest gain since July 2012. The increase in this commodity group was led by other crop products (+3.8%), wheat (+10.2%) and canola (+11.7%).

Conversely, the growth of the RMPI was moderated primarily by crude energy products (-0.9%), which were down for the first time since November 2013. Lower prices for conventional crude oil (-1.1%) were largely responsible for the decline in this commodity group. The RMPI excluding crude energy products rose 2.2% in March.

The increase in the RMPI was also moderated by metal ores, concentrates and scrap (-1.4%), which posted the largest decline since July 2013.

#### Raw Materials Price Index, 12-month change

The RMPI increased 6.1% in the 12-month period ending in March, after rising 3.9% in February.

Compared with March 2013, the advance of the RMPI was mainly a result of higher prices for crude energy products (+12.5%), primarily conventional crude oil (+12.3%). On a year-over-year basis, the RMPI excluding crude energy products was down 0.6%.

To a more modest extent, animals and animal products (+13.4%) also exerted upward pressure on the RMPI, as a result of higher prices for live animals (+24.5%), particularly hogs (+49.8%).

Compared with the same month a year earlier, the increase in the RMPI was moderated largely by prices for metal ores, concentrates and scrap (-9.6%), which have been declining since January 2013.

The growth of the RMPI over the 12-month period was also moderated by crop products (-6.5%), which posted a ninth consecutive year-over-year decline. Other crop products, particularly grains (except wheat), as well as canola were largely responsible for the decrease in this commodity group.

#### Note to readers

For vectors that have a concordance, Industrial Product Price Index historical data (prior to January 2010) based on the new basket (2010=100) and the North American Product Classification System (NAPCS) are now available on CANSIM.

The concordance between the old CANSIM vectors and the new CANSIM vectors is available at the following link: Concordance table between PCG and NAPCS vectors.

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

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale and retail costs.

Canadian producers export many goods. They often indicate their prices in foreign currencies, especially in US dollars, which are then converted into Canadian dollars. In particular, this is the case for motor vehicles, pulp, paper and wood products. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its US counterpart affects the IPPI. However, the conversion into Canadian dollars only reflects how respondents provide their prices. This is not a measure that takes the full effect of exchange rates into account.

The conversion of prices received in US dollars is based on the average monthly exchange rate (noon spot rate) established by the Bank of Canada, and it is available on CANSIM in table 176-0064 (series v37426). Monthly and annual variations in the exchange rate, as described in the release, are calculated according to the indirect quotation of the exchange rate (for example, CAN\$1 = US\$X).

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of those prices are set on the world market. However, as few prices are denominated in foreign currencies, their conversion into Canadian dollars has only a minor effect on the calculation of the RMPI.

Table 1 Industrial Product Price Index - Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	March 2013	February 2014 <sup>r</sup>	March 2014 <sup>p</sup>	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	%		(2010=100)		% ch	ange
Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)	100.00	109.3	111.9	112.3	0.4	2.7
IPPI excluding energy and petroleum products	86.40	105.1	106.9	107.4	0.5	2.2
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.21	106.1	110.5	113.8	3.0	7.3
Fruit, vegetables, feed and other food products	7.53	113.0	111.4	112.4	0.9	-0.5
Beverages (except juices)	1.92	105.0	104.5	104.7	0.2	-0.3
Tobacco products	0.25	113.8	118.0	118.1	0.1	3.8
Textile and leather products	0.57	103.6	106.2	106.4	0.2	2.7
Clothing, footwear and accessories	0.51	101.3	102.4	102.4	0.0	1.1
Chemicals and chemical products	8.46	109.8	117.3	116.0	-1.1	5.6
Plastic and rubber products	2.79	103.9	106.2	106.6	0.4	2.6
Lumber and other wood products	2.27	111.2	104.1	104.2	0.1	-6.3
Pulp and paper products	4.09	100.5	102.7	103.0	0.3	2.5
Energy and petroleum products	13.60	136.5	143.3	143.5	0.1	5.1
Primary ferrous metal products	3.32	97.8	104.2	104.6	0.4	7.0
Primary non-ferrous metal products	8.03	110.3	103.9	104.8	0.9	-5.0
Fabricated metal products and construction						
materials	3.17	99.8	102.3	102.9	0.6	3.1
Motorized and recreational vehicles	17.23	100.8	105.3	105.7	0.4	4.9
Machinery and equipment	5.73	103.6	104.7	104.7	0.0	1.1
Electrical, electronic, audiovisual and						
telecommunication products	4.69	101.8	102.9	103.0	0.1	1.2
Furniture and fixtures	1.49	101.7	102.0	102.2	0.2	0.5
Cement, glass, and other non-metallic mineral						
products	2.34	103.7	105.4	104.9	-0.5	1.2
Packaging materials and containers	2.38	103.4	106.4	106.8	0.4	3.3
Miscellaneous products	2.41	109.6	108.1	108.6	0.5	-0.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>r</sup> revised

Table 2 Raw Materials Price Index - Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	March 2013	February 2014 <sup>r</sup>	March 2014 <sup>p</sup>	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	%		(2010=100)		% ch	ange
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	100.00	115.9	122.3	123.0	0.6	6.1
RMPI excluding crude energy products	51.83	109.9	106.8	109.2	2.2	-0.6
Crude energy products	48.17	122.4	139.0	137.7	-0.9	12.5
Crop products	8.68	133.0	119.0	124.4	4.5	-6.5
Animals and animal products	15.51	112.1	120.1	127.1	5.8	13.4
Non-metallic minerals	1.85	106.8	106.4	106.6	0.2	-0.2
Logs, pulpwood, natural rubber and other						
forestry products	2.84	100.6	110.8	110.8	0.0	10.1
Metal ores, concentrates and scrap	22.96	101.1	92.7	91.4	-1.4	-9.6

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 1. The relative importance is based on the annual 2010 values of production.

<sup>1.</sup> The relative importance is based on the annual 2010 values of raw material inputs into production.

#### Available in CANSIM: tables 329-0074 to 329-0077 and 330-0008.

Table 329-0074: Industrial Product Price Index, by major commodity aggregations.

Table 329-0075: Industrial Product Price Index, by commodity.

Table 329-0076: Industrial Product Price Index, for selected groups, by region.

Table 329-0077: Industrial Product Price Index, by North American Industry Classification System.

Table 330-0008: Raw Materials Price Index, by commodity.

#### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2306 and 2318.

The industrial product and raw materials price indexes for April will be released on May 30.

# Food services and drinking places, February 2014

Sales for the food services and drinking places industry increased 0.2% to \$4.7 billion in February. At the same time, prices for food purchased from restaurants rose 0.2%.

In February, three of the four industry sectors posted higher sales. Sales in the limited-service restaurant sector rose 0.4%. Sales in the special food services sector, which includes food service contractors, caterers and mobile food services, increased 0.5%. The full-service restaurant sector was up 0.1%. Sales in the drinking places sector declined 0.2%.

Following gains in every province in January, seven provinces reported higher sales in February.

In dollar terms, Ontario (+0.4%), Quebec (+0.2%) and Nova Scotia (+1.8%) reported the largest increases.

Manitoba reported the largest decline (-1.7%), partly as a result of lower sales in the special food services sector.

British Columbia (-0.2%) posted its first decline in five months in February.

Sales in Saskatchewan were down 0.1% following a 1.3% gain in January.

#### Note to readers

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

Table 1 Food services and drinking places - Seasonally adjusted

	February 2013	November 2013 <sup>r</sup>	December 2013 <sup>r</sup>	January 2014 <sup>r</sup>	February 2014 <sup>p</sup>	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014
		tho	usands of dollar	s		change	e %
Total, food services sales	4,479,534	4,669,923	4,609,004	4,667,117	4,677,666	0.2	4.4
Full-service restaurants	1,930,939	2,016,923	2,002,568	2,011,966	2,013,287	0.1	4.3
Limited-service eating places	1,965,339	2,066,778	2,028,127	2,075,582	2,083,243	0.4	6.0
Special food services	384,050	391,178	386,853	387,984	389,964	0.5	1.5
Drinking places	199,206	195,045	191,456	191,585	191,172	-0.2	-4.0
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	66,451	70,858	68,483	70,232	70,420	0.3	6.0
Prince Edward Island	16,505	17,739	17,668	18,205	18,473	1.5	11.9
Nova Scotia	110,173	110,505	106,724	110,802	112,757	1.8	2.3
New Brunswick	82,226	82,386	79,895	82,612	83,548	1.1	1.6
Quebec	887,168	891,258	865,283	887,135	889,237	0.2	0.2
Ontario	1,690,995	1,780,634	1,766,906	1,777,237	1,784,550	0.4	5.5
Manitoba	126,787	139,770	137,590	138,622	136,284	-1.7	7.5
Saskatchewan	141,430	150,442	142,968	144,862	144,741	-0.1	2.3
Alberta	669,565	699,446	692,789	700,487	702,124	0.2	4.9
British Columbia	674,592	713,114	717,117	723,194	721,765	-0.2	7.0
Yukon	5,188	5,289	5,362	5,703	F	F	F
Northwest Territories	7,252	7,202	6,964	6,998	F	F	F
Nunavut	1,202	1,282	1,257	1,026	F	F	F

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>r</sup> revised

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

Available in CANSIM: table 355-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

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

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Xinye Yang (613-951-1743; xinye.yang@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division.

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# Railway carloadings, February 2014

The Canadian railway industry carried 24.1 million tonnes of freight in February, down 5.6% from the same month last year. The decrease in shipment activity was tied to a drop in domestic loadings, which were affected by harsh winter weather.

Domestic rail freight originating in Canada and destined within Canada and other parts of the world decreased 6.7% to 21.1 million tonnes. These shipments are composed of non-intermodal freight (that is, cargo moved via box cars or loaded in bulk) and intermodal freight (that is, cargo moved via containers and trailers on flat cars).

Non-intermodal freight decreased 8.3% to 232,000 carloads. The amount of freight loaded into these cars totalled 18.6 million tonnes, down 8.2%. Among the commodity groups that posted the largest declines in shipments were coal (down 485 000 tonnes), potash (down 384 000 tonnes), other refined petroleum and coal products (down 146 000 tonnes) and lumber (down 124 000 tonnes).

The drop in non-intermodal loadings occurred despite strong increases in a number of commodity groups during the month. These included fuel oils and crude petroleum (up 194 000 tonnes), wheat (up 164 000 tonnes) and other chemical products and preparations (up 150 000 tonnes).

Intermodal loadings rose 3.1% to 157,000 units in February. From a tonnage perspective, traffic advanced 6.7% to 2.5 million tonnes. The increase was a result of gains in both containerized cargo shipments and trailers loaded on to flat cars.

Rail traffic received from the United States rose 3.1% to 3.0 million tonnes in February. The gain was tied to higher containerized cargo shipments.

#### Note to readers

Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted.

For non-intermodal traffic, rail carriers report the number of cars and tonnes by commodity of revenue-generating freight that they have loaded in Canada.

For intermodal freight, the carriers report the number of units and tonnes for containers on flat cars and trailers on flat cars, with no commodity data.

Available in CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

# Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, March 2014

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) increased 1.5% in March compared with February. The courier portion rose 1.8% while the local messenger component increased 0.3%.

On a year-over-year basis, the CMSPI increased 3.9% in March.

#### Note to readers

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index is a monthly price index measuring the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

Data for the current month and the previous six months of the series are subject to revision. The indexes are not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index for April will be released on May 30.

# Traveller Accommodation Services Price Index, first quarter 2014

The Traveller Accommodation Services Price Index (TASPI) decreased 0.8% in the first quarter from the previous quarter. The leisure clients (-0.9%) and the business clients (-0.7%) components both posted declines.

Year over year, the TASPI rose 0.3% in the first quarter compared with the same quarter of 2013.

#### Note to readers

The Traveller Accommodation Services Price Index (TASPI) measures the monthly price movement for the accommodation services. This index reflects changes in room rates for overnight or short stays with no meals or other services provided and excluding all indirect taxes.

Separate index aggregations are available for Canada, the provinces and the territories by major client group.

Since the release of April 30, 2013, the index reference period for the TASPI has been rebased to January 2012 (2012/01=100). Accordingly, the entire data series has been updated to reflect the new index reference period.

The index is not subject to revision and not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: table 326-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2336.

The Traveller Accommodation Services Price Index for the second quarter will be released on July 31.

# New products and studies

There are no new products today.

# Release dates: May 2014

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
 5	Stocks of principal field crops	March 31, 2014
6	Canadian international merchandise trade	March 2014
7	Building permits	March 2014
8	New Housing Price Index	March 2014
9	Labour Force Survey	April 2014
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	March 2014
16	Canada's international transactions in securities	March 2014
20	Wholesale trade	March 2014
20	Travel between Canada and other countries	March 2014
22	Employment Insurance	March 2014
22	Retail trade	March 2014
23	Consumer Price Index	April 2014
27	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	First quarter 2014
29	Canada's balance of international payments	First quarter 2014
29	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	March 2014
30	Canadian economic accounts	First quarter 2014 and March 2014
30	Gross domestic product by industry	March 2014
30	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	April 2014

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



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