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Releases

Releases

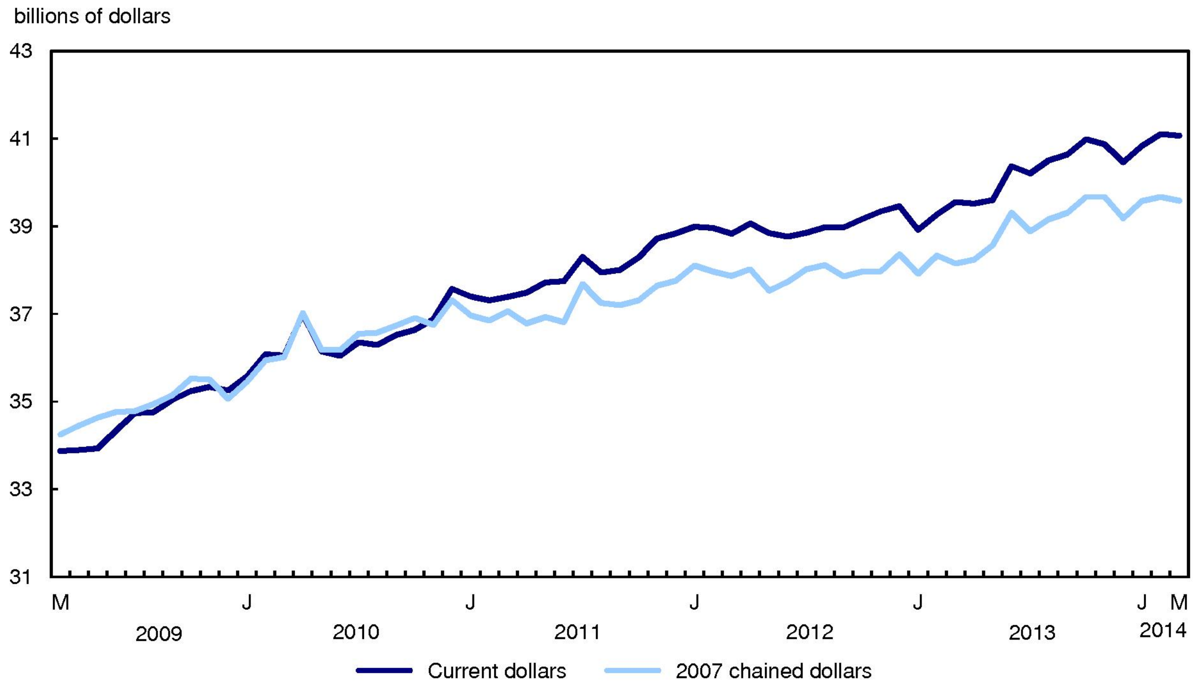
Retail trade, March 2014

Following gains in January and February, retail sales edged down 0.1% in March to $41.1 billion. Sales were lower at motor vehicle and parts dealers and clothing and clothing accessories stores. However, these declines were largely offset by gains at gasoline stations and food and beverage stores.

Sales declined in 7 of 11 subsectors representing 59% of retail trade.

In volume terms, retail sales decreased 0.2%.

Chart 1
Retail sales decrease in March



Lower sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers

Among all subsectors, motor vehicle and parts dealers contributed the most in dollar terms to the decrease in March, with sales declining 0.7%. Sales were down at new car dealers (-0.6%), other motor vehicle dealers (-3.7%) and automotive parts, accessories and tire stores (-2.2%). Higher receipts were reported at used car dealers (+3.1%), where sales have been trending up since mid-2013.

Retail sales at clothing and clothing accessories stores (-1.4%) decreased for the third time in four months. After increasing in February in all store types within the subsector, sales fell at clothing stores (-1.4%) and shoe stores (-5.3%), which more than offset the 2.1% advance at jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores.

Lower sales were reported at miscellaneous store retailers (-2.0%).

Following a 1.2% gain in February, general merchandise store sales edged down 0.3% as both department stores (-0.4%) and other general merchandise stores (-0.3%) posted lower sales.

Higher receipts were recorded at gasoline stations (+0.8%) for a fifth consecutive month.

Sales at food and beverage stores rose 0.4% on the strength of supermarkets and other grocery stores (+0.4%). Higher sales at beer, wine and liquor stores (+0.4%) and convenience stores (+0.9%) also contributed to the increase.

Sales at electronics and appliance stores (+1.7%) advanced for the third consecutive month.

Furniture and home furnishing stores posted a 1.2% increase as home furnishings stores sales (+2.7%) rose for the third consecutive month. The growth in March at home furnishings stores came mainly from sales of items such as housewares, beddings and home decorations.

Sales decrease in five provinces

Retail sales were down in five provinces in March. Higher sales in the western provinces were offset by lower sales in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

Ontario (-0.6%) reported the largest decrease in dollar terms, following two months of advances.

In Quebec (-0.8%), sales declined for the third time in four months, largely as a result of lower sales at new car dealers.

Lower sales were posted in New Brunswick (-4.1%). The decline in March was principally attributable to lower sales at new car dealers, following an increase in February.

Retail sales in Alberta (+1.1%) advanced for the third consecutive month. The advance in March occurred on the strength of higher sales at new and used car dealers.

British Columbia reported a 1.1% increase from higher sales at building, material and garden equipment and supplies dealers.

It is possible to consult tables of unadjusted data by industry and by province and territory in the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the *Latest statistics* page on our website.

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 "Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends."

Total retail sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using consumer price indexes. The retail sales series in chained (2007) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2007 as the reference year. For more information, see Calculation of Volume of Retail Trade Sales.

At the end of each calendar year, seasonally adjusted monthly figures are revised to equal the sum of the unadjusted estimates. With this release, unadjusted and seasonally adjusted monthly data were revised back to January 2004. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of respondent information, correction of information in the data provided, the replacement of estimated figures with actual values (once available), the re-classification of companies within, into and out of the retail trade industry and updates to seasonal factors, including trading day weights. Data in volume terms have also been revised back to January 2004.

Table 1
Retail sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2013	February 2014[r]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	**39,513**	**41,105**	**41,065**	**-0.1**	**3.9**
Newfoundland and Labrador	706	712	719	0.9	1.8
Prince Edward Island	158	164	159	-2.8	1.0
Nova Scotia	1,106	1,143	1,130	-1.2	2.2
New Brunswick	915	956	917	-4.1	0.2
Quebec	8,719	8,957	8,888	-0.8	1.9
Ontario	13,805	14,200	14,110	-0.6	2.2
Manitoba	1,423	1,460	1,481	1.4	4.1
Saskatchewan	1,462	1,578	1,595	1.1	9.1
Alberta	5,912	6,495	6,566	1.1	11.1
British Columbia	5,162	5,291	5,349	1.1	3.6
Yukon	55	55	55	1.1	1.1
Northwest Territories	60	65	67	4.0	11.9
Nunavut	30	29	29	-0.1	-4.1

[r] *revised*

[p] *preliminary*

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

Table 2
Retail sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2013	February 2014[r]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total retail trade (current dollars)	**39,513**	**41,105**	**41,065**	**-0.1**	**3.9**
Total retail trade (2007 chained dollars)	**38,235**	**39,670**	**39,583**	**-0.2**	**3.5**
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers	**30,518**	**31,637**	**31,662**	**0.1**	**3.7**
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations	**25,536**	**26,227**	**26,208**	**-0.1**	**2.6**
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	**8,995**	**9,468**	**9,403**	**-0.7**	**4.5**
New car dealers	7,272	7,649	7,604	-0.6	4.6
Used car dealers	510	553	570	3.1	11.8
Other motor vehicle dealers	609	618	595	-3.7	-2.4
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	604	648	634	-2.2	4.8
Furniture and home furnishings stores	**1,280**	**1,252**	**1,267**	**1.2**	**-1.0**
Furniture stores	814	778	779	0.2	-4.2
Home furnishings stores	466	475	488	2.7	4.6
Electronics and appliance stores	**1,220**	**1,216**	**1,236**	**1.7**	**1.4**
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	**2,271**	**2,249**	**2,241**	**-0.4**	**-1.4**
Food and beverage stores	**8,958**	**9,050**	**9,083**	**0.4**	**1.4**
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,331	6,333	6,357	0.4	0.4
Convenience stores	543	555	560	0.9	3.0
Specialty food stores	463	499	495	-0.7	7.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,622	1,663	1,671	0.4	3.0
Health and personal care stores	**2,833**	**3,103**	**3,092**	**-0.4**	**9.1**
Gasoline stations	**4,981**	**5,410**	**5,454**	**0.8**	**9.5**
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	**2,250**	**2,273**	**2,240**	**-1.4**	**-0.4**
Clothing stores	1,762	1,771	1,747	-1.4	-0.8
Shoe stores	257	255	242	-5.3	-6.0
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	231	246	251	2.1	8.7
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	**868**	**909**	**908**	**-0.1**	**4.6**
General merchandise stores	**4,898**	**5,208**	**5,193**	**-0.3**	**6.0**
Department stores	2,195	2,270	2,262	-0.4	3.0
Other general merchandise stores	2,703	2,938	2,931	-0.3	8.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	957	967	948	-2.0	-1.0

r revised

p preliminary

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

Available in CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2406 and 2408.

The March 2014 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for April will be released on June 20.

For more information, or to order data, 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 Kimberley Evans (613-951-0502; kimberley.evans@statcan.gc.ca), Retail and Service Industries Division.

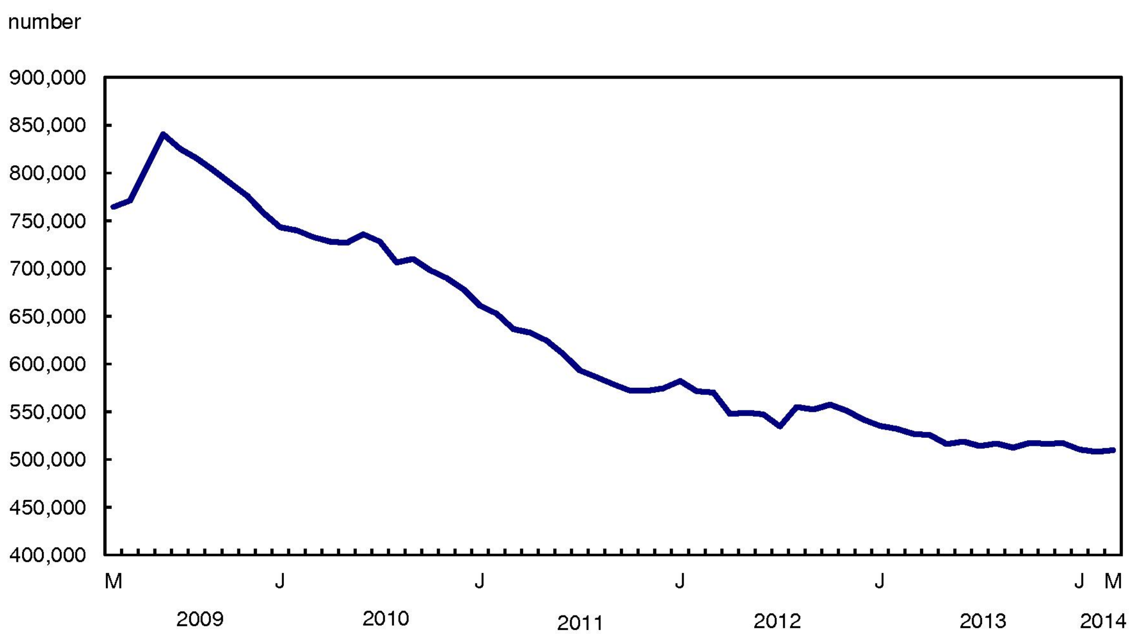
Employment Insurance, March 2014

In March, 509,800 people received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, little changed from February. The number of beneficiaries has been relatively stable since May 2013, following a long-term downward trend that began in the summer of 2009.

The number of people receiving benefits in March was down in Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, while it increased in Quebec. There was little change in the other provinces.

The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people no longer receiving regular benefits.

Chart 1
The number of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries is little changed since May 2013



Provincial and metropolitan area overview

In Prince Edward Island, the number of people receiving regular EI benefits fell for the fourth consecutive month, down 1.8% in March.

The number of beneficiaries in British Columbia decreased by 1.7%, the third consecutive monthly decline. All four metropolitan areas in the province posted declines in March, notably Kelowna and Abbotsford–Mission.

New Brunswick (-1.2%) had slightly fewer beneficiaries in March. There was a notable decrease in Saint John (-4.5%), which marked the fourth consecutive monthly decline for this metropolitan area.

Saskatchewan (-1.2%) also posted a slight decrease in March, but there was little or no change in the metropolitan areas of Saskatoon and Regina.

The number of beneficiaries was up 1.9% in Quebec. Except for Gatineau, where there was little change, all metropolitan areas in the province posted increases, most notably Sherbrooke (+10.3%).

In Ontario, the number of beneficiaries was little changed. However, there were increases in several metropolitan areas, especially Oshawa (+4.3%), Guelph (+3.3%), Peterborough (+2.7%) and Greater Sudbury (+2.3%). In Toronto, the number of beneficiaries totalled 59,300—a level that has been relatively stable since the autumn of 2013.

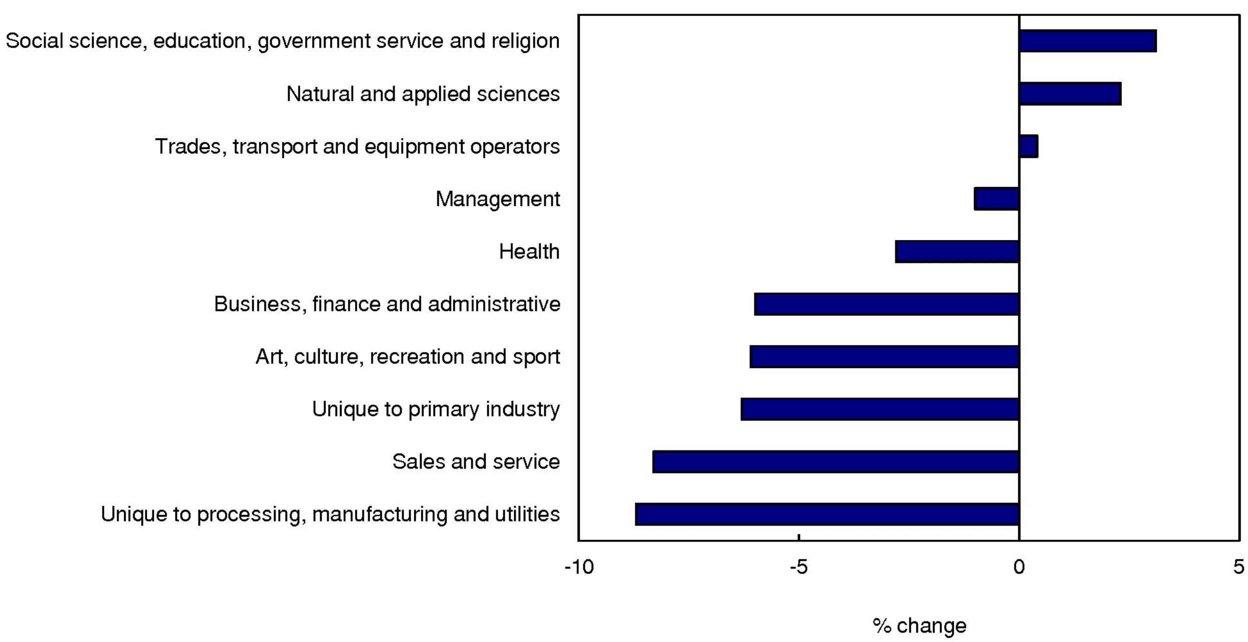
There was also little change in the number of people receiving benefits in Nova Scotia in March. Halifax, however, posted an increase of 2.0%, continuing an upward trend that began in the autumn of 2013.

Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

The number of beneficiaries increased in 2 of the 10 major occupation groups between February and March, namely social science, education, government service and religion (+3.1%), as well as natural and applied sciences (+1.5%). There was little change in the other occupation groups.

Between March 2013 and March 2014, fewer people received benefits in seven of the major occupational groups, with declines ranging from 1.0% in management occupations to 8.7% in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities. Over the same period, the number of beneficiaries increased by 3.1% in social science, education, government service and religion, and by 2.3% in natural and applied sciences.

Chart 2
Number of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, percentage change, March 2013 to March 2014



Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

In March, the number of men aged 15 to 24 who received benefits increased by 1.7%, following declines over the previous four months. At the same time, the number of women aged 15 to 24 receiving benefits fell slightly (-1.2%). There was little change for men and women 25 and over.

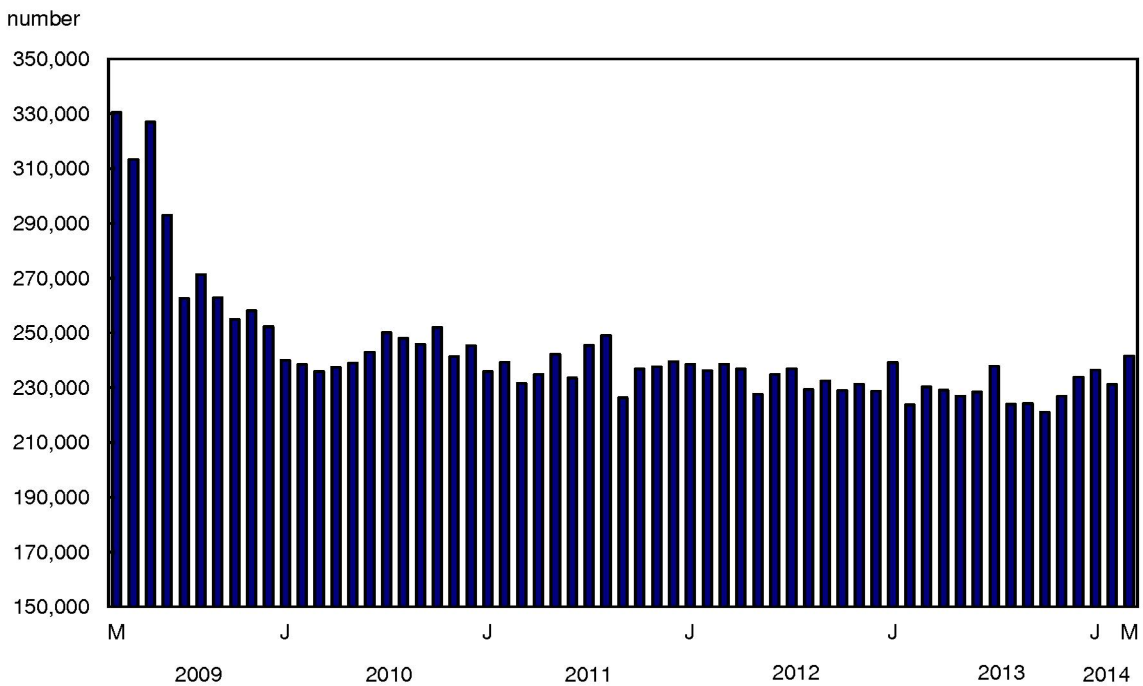
On a year-over-year basis, the number of women aged 15 to 24 and 25 to 54 who receive benefits continued to fall at a faster rate than men in the same age groups. Over the period, the number of beneficiaries among men aged 55 and over increased by 2.1%, while it was little changed for women in the same age group.

More Employment Insurance claims in March

The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

In March, the number of initial and renewal claims rose by 4.5%, the fourth increase in five months.

Chart 3
More Employment Insurance claims in March



The number of claims rose in five provinces in March, with the largest increases in Ontario (+12.9%) and Alberta (+12.0%).

In March, four provinces had fewer claims, most notably Manitoba (-9.3%), Nova Scotia (-4.1%) and New Brunswick (-2.9%).

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 cannot find a job. 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.

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.

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 Employment and Social Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures.

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 9 to 15. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS). However, initial and renewal claims data are for the entire month.

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 2013	February 2014p	March 2014p	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	number			change		% change	
Canada							
Both sexes	**526,890**	**507,970**	**509,760**	**1,790**	**-17,130**	**0.4**	**-3.3**
15 to 24 years	54,010	49,060	49,510	450	-4,500	0.9	-8.3
25 to 54 years	353,990	339,000	340,240	1,240	-13,750	0.4	-3.9
55 years and over	118,880	119,920	120,010	90	1,130	0.1	1.0
Men	**319,900**	**313,280**	**315,410**	**2,130**	**-4,490**	**0.7**	**-1.4**
15 to 24 years	39,370	36,120	36,730	610	-2,640	1.7	-6.7
25 to 54 years	207,380	202,560	204,000	1,440	-3,380	0.7	-1.6
55 years and over	73,150	74,600	74,680	80	1,530	0.1	2.1
Women	**206,980**	**194,690**	**194,340**	**-350**	**-12,640**	**-0.2**	**-6.1**
15 to 24 years	14,640	12,930	12,780	-150	-1,860	-1.2	-12.7
25 to 54 years	146,610	136,430	136,240	-190	-10,370	-0.1	-7.1
55 years and over	45,730	45,320	45,330	10	-400	0.0	-0.9
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	**30,990**	**32,190**	**32,020**	**-170**	**1,030**	**-0.5**	**3.3**
15 to 24 years	2,800	2,820	2,770	-50	-30	-1.8	-1.1
25 to 54 years	18,870	19,430	19,280	-150	410	-0.8	2.2
55 years and over	9,320	9,940	9,970	30	650	0.3	7.0
Men	**17,980**	**19,240**	**19,190**	**-50**	**1,210**	**-0.3**	**6.7**
Women	**13,010**	**12,950**	**12,840**	**-110**	**-170**	**-0.8**	**-1.3**
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	**7,950**	**7,390**	**7,260**	**-130**	**-690**	**-1.8**	**-8.7**
15 to 24 years	920	860	820	-40	-100	-4.7	-10.9
25 to 54 years	4,750	4,330	4,290	-40	-460	-0.9	-9.7
55 years and over	2,280	2,200	2,150	-50	-130	-2.3	-5.7
Men	**4,640**	**4,360**	**4,310**	**-50**	**-330**	**-1.1**	**-7.1**
Women	**3,310**	**3,030**	**2,940**	**-90**	**-370**	**-3.0**	**-11.2**
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	**28,500**	**26,440**	**26,270**	**-170**	**-2,230**	**-0.6**	**-7.8**
15 to 24 years	3,030	2,600	2,550	-50	-480	-1.9	-15.8
25 to 54 years	18,550	17,000	16,880	-120	-1,670	-0.7	-9.0
55 years and over	6,930	6,840	6,840	0	-90	0.0	-1.3
Men	**17,670**	**16,760**	**16,630**	**-130**	**-1,040**	**-0.8**	**-5.9**
Women	**10,830**	**9,680**	**9,640**	**-40**	**-1,190**	**-0.4**	**-11.0**
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	**33,680**	**32,060**	**31,660**	**-400**	**-2,020**	**-1.2**	**-6.0**
15 to 24 years	3,890	3,530	3,490	-40	-400	-1.1	-10.3
25 to 54 years	20,950	19,640	19,390	-250	-1,560	-1.3	-7.4
55 years and over	8,840	8,890	8,780	-110	-60	-1.2	-0.7
Men	**21,360**	**20,380**	**20,090**	**-290**	**-1,270**	**-1.4**	**-5.9**
Women	**12,320**	**11,680**	**11,560**	**-120**	**-760**	**-1.0**	**-6.2**
Quebec							
Both sexes	**154,220**	**146,470**	**149,200**	**2,730**	**-5,020**	**1.9**	**-3.3**
15 to 24 years	16,210	14,270	14,910	640	-1,300	4.5	-8.0
25 to 54 years	101,060	96,120	98,010	1,890	-3,050	2.0	-3.0
55 years and over	36,950	36,080	36,270	190	-680	0.5	-1.8
Men	**98,340**	**94,410**	**97,000**	**2,590**	**-1,340**	**2.7**	**-1.4**
Women	**55,880**	**52,060**	**52,200**	**140**	**-3,680**	**0.3**	**-6.6**
Ontario							
Both sexes	**161,280**	**153,080**	**153,800**	**720**	**-7,480**	**0.5**	**-4.6**
15 to 24 years	14,780	12,880	13,020	140	-1,760	1.1	-11.9
25 to 54 years	114,310	107,560	107,970	410	-6,340	0.4	-5.5
55 years and over	32,180	32,640	32,810	170	630	0.5	2.0
Men	**93,690**	**91,050**	**91,380**	**330**	**-2,310**	**0.4**	**-2.5**
Women	**67,590**	**62,040**	**62,430**	**390**	**-5,160**	**0.6**	**-7.6**

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

	March 2013	February 2014[p]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
Manitoba							
Both sexes	**13,650**	**13,070**	**12,990**	**-80**	**-660**	**-0.6**	**-4.8**
15 to 24 years	1,770	1,780	1,790	10	20	0.6	1.1
25 to 54 years	9,370	8,870	8,800	-70	-570	-0.8	-6.1
55 years and over	2,510	2,420	2,400	-20	-110	-0.8	-4.4
Men	**8,650**	**8,380**	**8,330**	**-50**	**-320**	**-0.6**	**-3.7**
Women	**5,010**	**4,690**	**4,660**	**-30**	**-350**	**-0.6**	**-7.0**
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	**10,570**	**10,770**	**10,640**	**-130**	**70**	**-1.2**	**0.7**
15 to 24 years	1,420	1,440	1,420	-20	0	-1.4	0.0
25 to 54 years	6,850	7,070	7,010	-60	160	-0.8	2.3
55 years and over	2,300	2,250	2,200	-50	-100	-2.2	-4.3
Men	**6,840**	**7,050**	**7,010**	**-40**	**170**	**-0.6**	**2.5**
Women	**3,730**	**3,720**	**3,620**	**-100**	**-110**	**-2.7**	**-2.9**
Alberta							
Both sexes	**28,630**	**29,610**	**29,740**	**130**	**1,110**	**0.4**	**3.9**
15 to 24 years	3,400	3,450	3,400	-50	0	-1.4	0.0
25 to 54 years	20,060	20,630	20,740	110	680	0.5	3.4
55 years and over	5,170	5,530	5,600	70	430	1.3	8.3
Men	**17,410**	**18,040**	**18,260**	**220**	**850**	**1.2**	**4.9**
Women	**11,220**	**11,560**	**11,490**	**-70**	**270**	**-0.6**	**2.4**
British Columbia							
Both sexes	**53,680**	**51,850**	**50,980**	**-870**	**-2,700**	**-1.7**	**-5.0**
15 to 24 years	5,400	4,850	4,800	-50	-600	-1.0	-11.1
25 to 54 years	36,550	34,830	34,180	-650	-2,370	-1.9	-6.5
55 years and over	11,730	12,170	12,000	-170	270	-1.4	2.3
Men	**31,020**	**30,490**	**30,100**	**-390**	**-920**	**-1.3**	**-3.0**
Women	**22,670**	**21,360**	**20,880**	**-480**	**-1,790**	**-2.2**	**-7.9**
Yukon							
Both sexes	**980**	**930**	**930**	**0**	**-50**	**0.0**	**-5.1**
15 to 24 years	110	110	110	0	0	0.0	0.0
25 to 54 years	660	600	590	-10	-70	-1.7	-10.6
55 years and over	220	230	220	-10	0	-4.3	0.0
Men	**620**	**610**	**600**	**-10**	**-20**	**-1.6**	**-3.2**
Women	**360**	**330**	**330**	**0**	**-30**	**0.0**	**-8.3**
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	**850**	**770**	**770**	**0**	**-80**	**0.0**	**-9.4**
15 to 24 years	90	70	60	-10	-30	-14.3	-33.3
25 to 54 years	630	570	570	0	-60	0.0	-9.5
55 years and over	140	130	130	0	-10	0.0	-7.1
Men	**550**	**480**	**480**	**0**	**-70**	**0.0**	**-12.7**
Women	**300**	**290**	**290**	**0**	**-10**	**0.0**	**-3.3**
Nunavut							
Both sexes	**510**	**480**	**490**	**10**	**-20**	**2.1**	**-3.9**
15 to 24 years	50	40	40	0	-10	0.0	-20.0
25 to 54 years	400	390	400	10	0	2.6	0.0
55 years and over	60	50	50	0	-10	0.0	-16.7
Men	**350**	**310**	**330**	**20**	**-20**	**6.5**	**-5.7**
Women	**150**	**160**	**160**	**0**	**10**	**0.0**	**6.7**

[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 2013	February 2014[p]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	number			change		% change	
Canada	**230,320**	**231,230**	**241,580**	**10,350**	**11,260**	**4.5**	**4.9**
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,660	9,000	8,900	-100	240	-1.1	2.8
Prince Edward Island	2,380	2,300	2,330	30	-50	1.3	-2.1
Nova Scotia	9,490	9,440	9,050	-390	-440	-4.1	-4.6
New Brunswick	9,960	9,630	9,350	-280	-610	-2.9	-6.1
Quebec	69,230	69,160	68,830	-330	-400	-0.5	-0.6
Ontario	73,280	73,650	83,130	9,480	9,850	12.9	13.4
Manitoba	7,280	7,730	7,010	-720	-270	-9.3	-3.7
Saskatchewan	5,450	5,790	6,020	230	570	4.0	10.5
Alberta	18,380	17,670	19,790	2,120	1,410	12.0	7.7
British Columbia	25,370	26,000	26,330	330	960	1.3	3.8
Yukon	350	320	310	-10	-40	-3.1	-11.4
Northwest Territories	240	270	270	0	30	0.0	12.5
Nunavut	190	190	200	10	10	5.3	5.3

[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 2013	February 2014[p]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	number			change		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
St. John's	3,540	3,870	3,870	0	330	0.0	9.3
Nova Scotia							
Halifax	5,210	4,990	5,090	100	-120	2.0	-2.3
New Brunswick							
Moncton	2,860	2,900	2,890	-10	30	-0.3	1.0
Saint John	2,870	2,230	2,130	-100	-740	-4.5	-25.8
Quebec							
Saguenay	3,750	3,890	3,970	80	220	2.1	5.9
Québec	9,430	9,280	9,460	180	30	1.9	0.3
Sherbrooke	3,260	2,910	3,210	300	-50	10.3	-1.5
Trois-Rivières	3,380	3,010	3,050	40	-330	1.3	-9.8
Montréal	55,410	52,610	53,760	1,150	-1,650	2.2	-3.0
Ottawa–Gatineau, Quebec part	3,670	3,380	3,410	30	-260	0.9	-7.1
Ontario							
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part	7,470	7,060	7,080	20	-390	0.3	-5.2
Kingston	1,580	1,670	1,660	-10	80	-0.6	5.1
Peterborough	1,530	1,500	1,540	40	10	2.7	0.7
Oshawa	4,610	4,220	4,400	180	-210	4.3	-4.6
Toronto	63,390	59,450	59,340	-110	-4,050	-0.2	-6.4
Hamilton	7,380	7,170	7,180	10	-200	0.1	-2.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	6,490	5,740	5,850	110	-640	1.9	-9.9
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	5,700	5,590	5,680	90	-20	1.6	-0.4
Brantford	2,090	1,950	1,960	10	-130	0.5	-6.2
Guelph	1,300	1,230	1,270	40	-30	3.3	-2.3
London	5,890	5,840	5,830	-10	-60	-0.2	-1.0
Windsor	4,750	4,090	4,120	30	-630	0.7	-13.3
Barrie	2,570	2,510	2,500	-10	-70	-0.4	-2.7
Greater Sudbury	2,740	2,610	2,670	60	-70	2.3	-2.6
Thunder Bay	1,510	1,780	1,810	30	300	1.7	19.9
Manitoba							
Winnipeg	7,150	6,920	6,890	-30	-260	-0.4	-3.6
Saskatchewan							
Regina	1,420	1,410	1,410	0	-10	0.0	-0.7
Saskatoon	2,070	2,110	2,100	-10	30	-0.5	1.4
Alberta							
Calgary	9,430	9,650	9,710	60	280	0.6	3.0
Edmonton	9,580	10,260	10,350	90	770	0.9	8.0
British Columbia							
Kelowna	2,600	2,460	2,320	-140	-280	-5.7	-10.8
Abbotsford–Mission	2,800	2,860	2,770	-90	-30	-3.1	-1.1
Vancouver	22,620	21,730	21,310	-420	-1,310	-1.9	-5.8
Victoria	3,070	2,810	2,770	-40	-300	-1.4	-9.8

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 2013	February 2014[p]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
	number			change		% change	
All occupations	**526,890**	**507,970**	**509,760**	**1,790**	**-17,130**	**0.4**	**-3.3**
Management occupations	**31,360**	**31,270**	**31,040**	**-230**	**-320**	**-0.7**	**-1.0**
Senior management occupations	2,670	2,790	2,770	-20	100	-0.7	3.7
Other management occupations	28,690	28,480	28,270	-210	-420	-0.7	-1.5
Business, finance and administrative occupations	**67,650**	**63,170**	**63,580**	**410**	**-4,070**	**0.6**	**-6.0**
Professional occupations in business and finance	5,160	5,040	5,030	-10	-130	-0.2	-2.5
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	17,710	17,010	16,980	-30	-730	-0.2	-4.1
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	44,770	41,120	41,570	450	-3,200	1.1	-7.1
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	**27,730**	**27,940**	**28,360**	**420**	**630**	**1.5**	**2.3**
Health occupations	**8,000**	**7,750**	**7,780**	**30**	**-220**	**0.4**	**-2.8**
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	1,270	1,260	1,290	30	20	2.4	1.6
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	6,730	6,490	6,490	0	-240	0.0	-3.6
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	**27,010**	**27,020**	**27,850**	**830**	**840**	**3.1**	**3.1**
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	14,520	14,670	15,120	450	600	3.1	4.1
Teachers and professors	12,500	12,360	12,730	370	230	3.0	1.8
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	**10,440**	**9,730**	**9,800**	**70**	**-640**	**0.7**	**-6.1**
Sales and service occupations	**97,730**	**89,910**	**89,640**	**-270**	**-8,090**	**-0.3**	**-8.3**
Wholesale, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	5,330	5,020	4,980	-40	-350	-0.8	-6.6
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	18,690	17,030	16,740	-290	-1,950	-1.7	-10.4
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	19,230	17,490	17,440	-50	-1,790	-0.3	-9.3
Occupations in protective services	5,480	4,880	4,800	-80	-680	-1.6	-12.4
Childcare and home support workers	15,590	14,880	15,050	170	-540	1.1	-3.5
Sales and service occupations (not elsewhere classified), including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	33,410	30,620	30,640	20	-2,770	0.1	-8.3
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	**167,830**	**167,800**	**168,510**	**710**	**680**	**0.4**	**0.4**
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	6,420	6,520	6,560	40	140	0.6	2.2
Construction trades	35,460	35,800	36,030	230	570	0.6	1.6
Other trades occupations	37,370	38,570	38,640	70	1,270	0.2	3.4
Transport and equipment operators	39,770	38,720	38,970	250	-800	0.6	-2.0
Trades helpers, construction and transportation labourers and related occupations	48,810	48,200	48,310	110	-500	0.2	-1.0

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

	March 2013	February 2014[p]	March 2014[p]	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014	February to March 2014	March 2013 to March 2014
Occupations unique to primary industry	**38,430**	**36,310**	**36,000**	**-310**	**-2,430**	**-0.9**	**-6.3**
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	**50,500**	**45,900**	**46,100**	**200**	**-4,400**	**0.4**	**-8.7**
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	24,280	21,860	22,240	380	-2,040	1.7	-8.4
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	26,220	24,040	23,860	-180	-2,360	-0.7	-9.0

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 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, 276-0040 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 19.

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

Machinery and Equipment Price Index, first quarter 2014

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) rose 3.5% in the first quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 2013. The import component was up 5.5% over the period, while the domestic component increased 0.2%.

The Canadian dollar depreciated 4.9% against the US dollar in the first quarter compared with the previous quarter. Variations in exchange rates can have a significant influence on the MEPI given the high weight that imported machinery and equipment have on the index.

All industries posted increases in the prices of machinery and equipment purchased in the first quarter. The largest contributor to the total MEPI quarterly increase was manufacturing (+4.0%), with the transportation equipment manufacturing sub-component rising 4.0% and the primary metal and fabricated metal product manufacturing sub-component up 3.9%. The second largest contributor to the total MEPI quarterly increase was the finance, insurance and real estate industry (+3.2%).

Most commodities posted price increases in the first quarter. Among them, other industry specific machinery (+5.2%), and automobiles, excluding passenger vans (+4.4%) contributed the most to the quarterly increase of the total MEPI.

Compared with the first quarter of 2013, the total MEPI increased 6.4%, with the import component rising 10.6% 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 (-8.6%) against the US dollar.

Upcoming changes: Basket update (2010=100) and updated classifications

Statistics Canada is undertaking two important initiatives for the Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) program and changes will be reflected in the MEPI at the end of 2014.

With the release of third quarter 2014 data, the MEPI series will be converted from a base year of 1997=100 to 2010=100. The relative importance of the basket items will be updated using the 2010 annual gross additions to capital for machinery and equipment purchases by industries in Canada.

Also, the MEPI (2010=100) will adopt the commodity and industry classifications incorporated in the current input-output tables of the Canadian System of National Accounts (CSNA) for final demand expenditures by machinery and equipment categories. With the 2012 historical revision of the CSNA, the classifications incorporated in the input-output tables published by Statistics Canada have been updated. The update of the classifications was triggered by the need to capture the evolving structure of the Canadian economy and to align the classifications to updated international classification systems (such as the North American Industry Classification System and the North American Product Classification System). As a result, the number of industry categories used for the MEPI (2010=100) will increase from 60 to 66, while the number of commodity categories will decrease from 106 to 56. For more information regarding the changes applied to the input-output tables, see the Modernization of the Input-Output Tables document.

Concordance information between the old CANSIM vectors and the new CANSIM vectors will be available prior to the MEPI (2010=100) release. For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

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

The contribution of a given sub-aggregate to the composite price change depends on both the price change exhibited by the sub-aggregate and its importance in the basket, as measured by the weight.

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

Table 1
Machinery and Equipment Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance[1]	First quarter 2013[r]	Fourth quarter 2013[r]	First quarter 2014[p]	Fourth quarter 2013 to first quarter 2014	First quarter 2013 to first quarter 2014
	%	(1997=100)			% change	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	**100.00**	**91.9**	**94.5**	**97.8**	**3.5**	**6.4**
Domestic	**32.00**	**110.8**	**110.5**	**110.7**	**0.2**	**-0.1**
Imported	**68.00**	**83.0**	**87.0**	**91.8**	**5.5**	**10.6**
Crop and animal production	4.07	106.4	110.9	116.3	4.9	9.3
Forestry and logging	0.27	106.1	109.3	114.2	4.5	7.6
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.08	116.4	118.9	121.6	2.3	4.5
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	0.10	104.9	108.6	113.1	4.1	7.8
Mines, quarries and oil wells	4.26	113.5	117.2	122.1	4.2	7.6
Utilities	3.55	100.7	104.6	108.8	4.0	8.0
Construction	3.54	101.5	105.5	110.1	4.4	8.5
All manufacturing	22.34	98.8	102.0	106.1	4.0	7.4
Trade	8.38	89.8	91.0	93.2	2.4	3.8
Transportation (excluding pipeline transportation)	7.66	107.8	110.7	114.9	3.8	6.6
Pipeline transportation	1.18	108.0	111.4	115.6	3.8	7.0
Warehousing and storage	0.26	113.2	115.6	119.1	3.0	5.2
Finance, insurance and real estate	19.90	82.3	84.3	87.0	3.2	5.7
Private education services	0.12	73.2	75.5	78.5	4.0	7.2
Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance	2.09	87.2	89.1	91.9	3.1	5.4
Other services (excluding public administration)	16.39	76.6	78.3	80.5	2.8	5.1
Public administration	5.81	82.8	85.5	88.0	2.9	6.3

r revised

p preliminary

1. The relative importance in the Machinery and Equipment Price Index represents shares of capital investment by industry for 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.

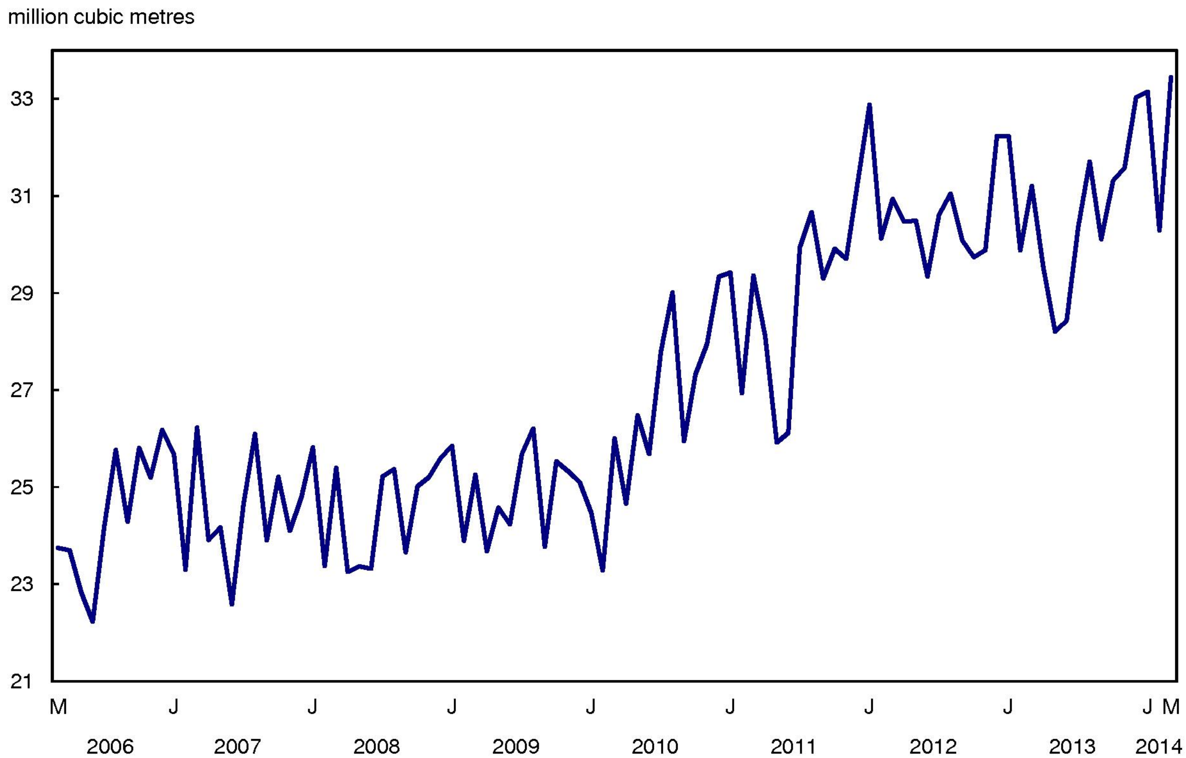
The Machinery and Equipment Price Index for the second quarter will be released on August 21.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

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

Canadian pipelines received a total of 33.4 million cubic metres of crude oil and pentanes plus, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products in March, up 7.2% from March 2013.

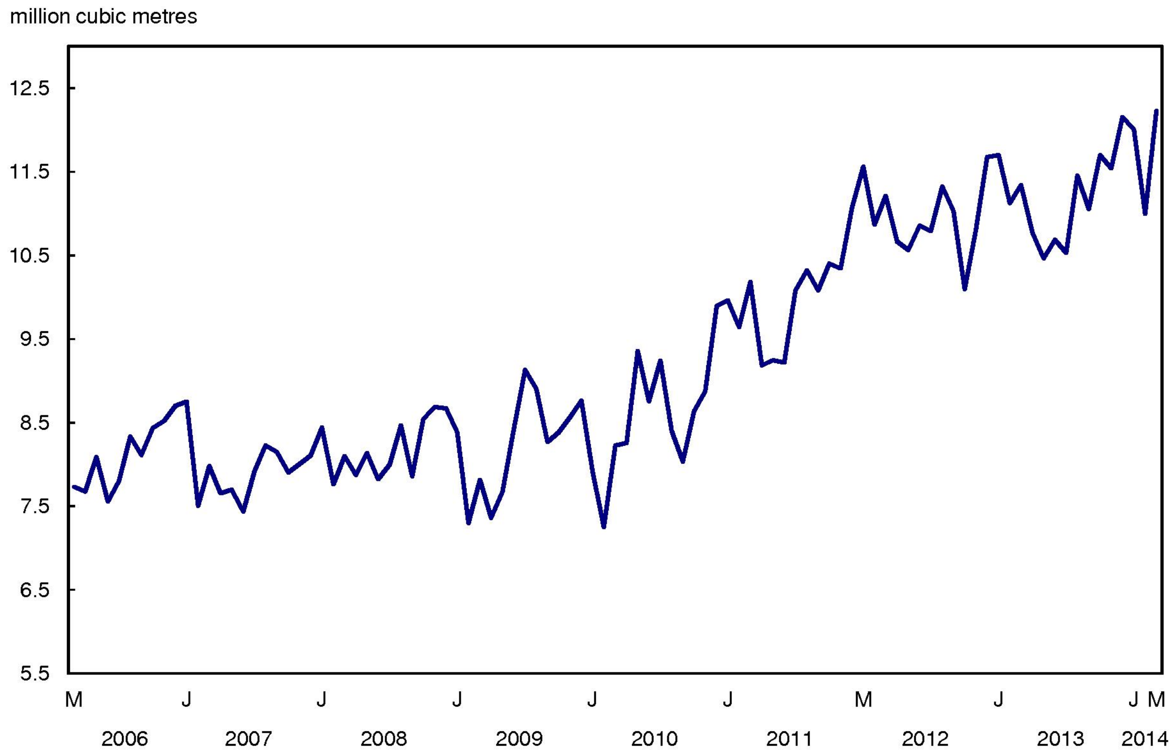
Chart 1
Canadian pipelines total receipts of crude oil and pentanes plus, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products



Receipts from fields reached 9.1 million cubic metres in March, up 5.9% compared with the same month in 2013. Imports by Canadian pipelines were 1.1 million cubic metres, up 12.6% from 1.0 million cubic metres in March 2013.

Canadian pipelines delivered 33.3 million cubic metres in March, a 6.5% increase from March 2013. Direct exports by pipeline to the United States amounted to 12.2 million cubic metres. Another 2.1 million cubic metres were delivered to other facilities for export purposes, such as ports and rail intermodal facilities.

Chart 2
Canadian pipelines total direct exports of crude oil and pentanes plus, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products



Available in CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2148 and 2191.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Construction Union Wage Rate Index, April 2014

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada rose by 0.1% in April compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 1.6% in the 12 months to April.

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.

Reporting problems with the data for Winnipeg have been resolved. Starting in January 2012, wage rates for Winnipeg are used to calculate the indexes, which were previously based on wage rates in similar regions.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index for May will be released on June 26.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Large urban transit, March 2014

In March, total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit systems rose 1.9% from the same month in 2013 to $296.0 million.

Over the same period, ridership levels fell 0.1% to 151.8 million passenger trips.

Note to readers

Data in this monthly release are not seasonally adjusted.

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; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Investment in new housing construction, March 2014

Data on investment in new housing construction (including single dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, row housing, apartments and condominiums) are now available for March.

Note to readers

Data from January 2013 to February 2014 have been revised.

Available in CANSIM: table 026-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5155.

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 Mariane Nozière Bien-Aimé (613-951-7520; mariane.bien-aime@statcan.gc.ca), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

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