

The Daily

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Labour Force Survey, April 2014 2
Employment decreased by 29,000 in April, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.9% as the number of people participating in the labour market edged down. There has been little overall employment growth in Canada since August 2013.

The World Bank International Comparison Program for purchasing power: Overall ranking of countries, 2011 11
On April 30, 2014, the World Bank's International Comparison Program released an update for 2011, comparing the purchasing power in levels for 199 countries. In this ranking based on purchasing power parities, Canada placed 23rd for gross domestic product per capita and 11th for actual individual consumption per capita.

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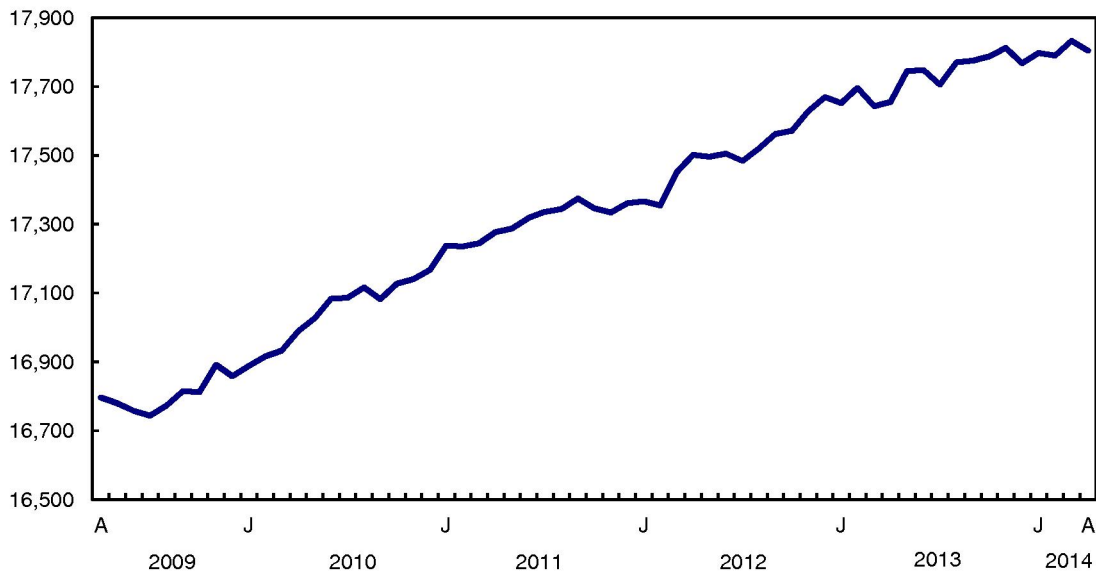
Labour Force Survey, April 2014

Employment decreased by 29,000 in April, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.9% as the number of people participating in the labour market edged down. There has been little overall employment growth in Canada since August 2013.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of people working rose by 0.8% or 149,000, evenly split between part-time and full-time work.

Chart 1 Employment

thousands



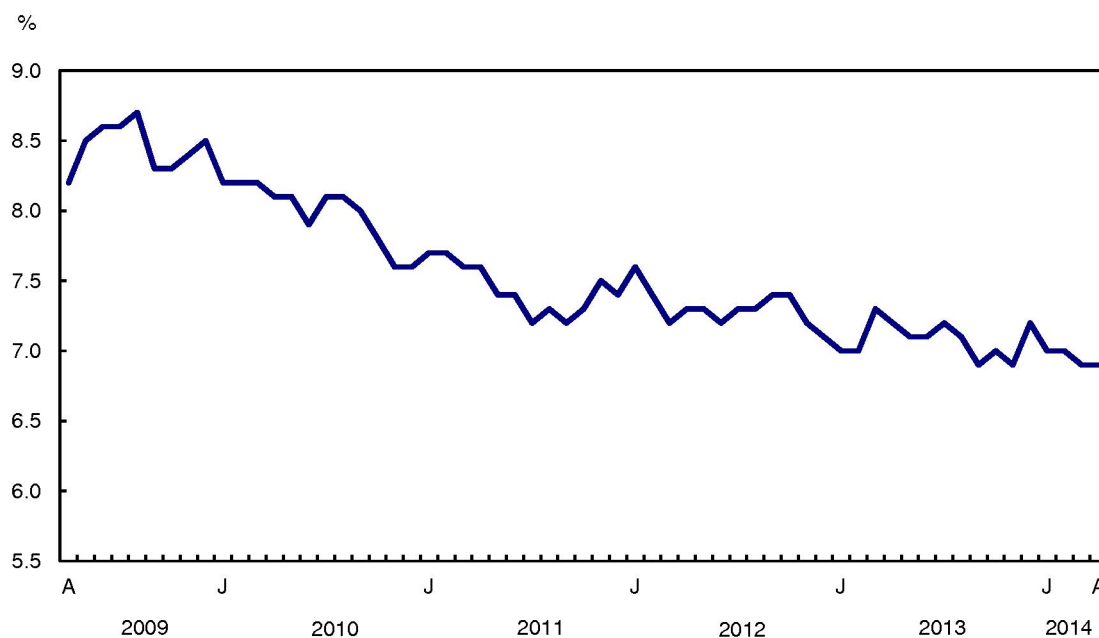
In April, employment was down in Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and in Prince Edward Island, while it increased in Saskatchewan.

Employment declined among women aged 25 to 54 and youths aged 15 to 24, while it increased among women 55 and over.

In April, there were fewer people working in accommodation and food services, as well as finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. At the same time, employment increased in business, building and other support services.

The number of hours worked fell 1.1% on a year-over-year basis, driven by a decline in April 2014 as Good Friday fell in the survey reference week and a number of workers took extra vacation time that week.

Chart 2
Unemployment rate



From April 2013 to April 2014, the participation rate fell from 66.5% to 66.1%, mainly the result of a decline in the participation rate of the population aged 25 to 54, the group most likely to participate in the labour market.

Adjusted to US concepts, the unemployment rate in Canada was 6.0% in April, down 0.2 percentage points from 12 months earlier. In the United States, the rate fell 1.2 percentage points over the same period to 6.3%.

Employment declines in Quebec and most of Atlantic Canada

In Quebec, employment fell by 32,000 in April. Despite this decline, the unemployment rate remained at 7.6% as fewer people participated in the labour market. Compared with a year earlier, employment in this province was virtually unchanged.

In April, there were 5,400 fewer people working in New Brunswick and the unemployment rate increased 0.8 percentage points to 10.5%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was little changed.

Employment in Newfoundland and Labrador declined by 3,300 in April, and the unemployment rate was 12.1%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in this province was virtually unchanged.

The number of people working in Prince Edward Island fell by 1,200 and the unemployment rate was 11.7%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was down 2,100 (-2.8%).

In Saskatchewan, there were 3,000 more people employed in April. At the same time, there were fewer people looking for work, pushing the unemployment rate down 1.1 percentage points to 3.4%. This was the lowest rate in the province since comparable data became available in 1976. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in Saskatchewan was up 8,300 (+1.5%).

In April, employment was little changed in Ontario and the unemployment rate was 7.4%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was up 74,000 (+1.1%), with most of the gains occurring at the beginning of the period.

Fewer women aged 25 to 54 and youths employed

In April, employment among women aged 25 to 54 fell by 29,000, bringing employment for this group to a level similar to that of April 2013. Among men in this age group, there was little change in employment in April compared with both the previous month and one year earlier.

Among youths aged 15 to 24, employment declined by 27,000 in April, but the unemployment rate was little changed at 13.4% as fewer youths participated in the labour market. Compared with 12 months earlier, youth employment was little changed.

Employment increased by 29,000 for people aged 55 and over, mostly women. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment among people in this age group rose by 139,000 (+4.2%). These gains were mainly the result of a 3.3% growth in the population of this age group.

Industry perspective

In April, there were 32,000 fewer people working in accommodation and food services, bringing employment in this industry down to a level similar to that of 12 months earlier.

Employment in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing fell by 19,000 in April. Employment in this industry was little changed compared with 12 months earlier.

Employment in business, building and other support services increased for the second consecutive month, up 26,000 in April, bringing employment gains in this industry to 38,000 (+5.5%) compared with 12 months earlier.

In April, there were 46,000 fewer people working as employees. On a year-over-year basis, the number of private sector employees increased by 1.7%, while the number of public sector employees edged down. Over the same period, self-employment was little changed.

Canada-United States comparison

Compared with 12 months earlier, the participation rate (adjusted to US concepts) fell in both Canada and the United States. In Canada, the participation rate declined by 0.4 percentage points to 66.1%, and in the United States, the rate fell by 0.6 percentage points to 62.8%.

In April, the unemployment rate in Canada (adjusted to US concepts) was down 0.2 percentage points to 6.0% compared with 12 months earlier. Over the same period, the rate in the United States fell 1.2 percentage points to 6.3%. The decrease in the US unemployment rate was driven by the decline in the participation rate. This was also true in Canada, but to a lesser extent.

In the 12 months to April, the employment rate in Canada (adjusted to US concepts) declined by 0.3 percentage points to 62.1%. This contrasts with the United States, where the employment rate increased 0.3 percentage points to 58.9% over the same period.

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for April 2014 are for the week of April 13 to 19.

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

This analysis focuses on differences between estimates that are statistically significant at the 68% confidence level.

The **employment rate** is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The rate for a particular group (for example, youths aged 15 to 24) is the number employed in that group as a percentage of the population for that group.

The **unemployment rate** is the number unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed).

The **participation rate** is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population. For more detailed information, see the *Guide to the Labour Force Survey (71-543-G)*.

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

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

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

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error ¹	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over							
Population	28,924.1	28,965.1	...	41.0	376.4	0.1	1.3
Labour force	19,158.6	19,133.0	29.1	-25.6	118.0	-0.1	0.6
Employment	17,833.2	17,804.3	28.9	-28.9	149.2	-0.2	0.8
Full-time	14,456.4	14,425.5	39.2	-30.9	70.0	-0.2	0.5
Part-time	3,376.8	3,378.8	36.1	2.0	79.2	0.1	2.4
Unemployment	1,325.4	1,328.6	24.9	3.2	-31.3	0.2	-2.3
Participation rate	66.2	66.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.9	6.9	0.1	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	61.7	61.5	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	18.9	19.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years							
Population	4,432.0	4,429.5	...	-2.5	-21.7	-0.1	-0.5
Labour force	2,838.5	2,802.8	17.2	-35.7	-31.0	-1.3	-1.1
Employment	2,453.2	2,426.1	15.8	-27.1	2.1	-1.1	0.1
Full-time	1,282.0	1,248.3	18.6	-33.7	-41.5	-2.6	-3.2
Part-time	1,171.2	1,177.8	19.7	6.6	43.6	0.6	3.8
Unemployment	385.3	376.7	14.6	-8.6	-33.1	-2.2	-8.1
Participation rate	64.0	63.3	0.4	-0.7	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.6	13.4	0.5	-0.2	-1.1	...	...
Employment rate	55.4	54.8	0.4	-0.6	0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	47.7	48.5	0.7	0.8	1.7	...	...
Men, 25 years and over							
Population	11,996.4	12,018.3	...	21.9	202.4	0.2	1.7
Labour force	8,650.4	8,661.0	15.1	10.6	91.4	0.1	1.1
Employment	8,123.0	8,128.1	16.4	5.1	84.0	0.1	1.0
Full-time	7,448.2	7,482.4	22.0	34.2	64.9	0.5	0.9
Part-time	674.7	645.6	18.0	-29.1	19.0	-4.3	3.0
Unemployment	527.5	532.9	14.5	5.4	7.5	1.0	1.4
Participation rate	72.1	72.1	0.1	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.7	67.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Part-time rate	8.3	7.9	0.2	-0.4	0.1	...	...
Women, 25 years and over							
Population	12,495.7	12,517.3	...	21.6	195.8	0.2	1.6
Labour force	7,669.6	7,669.2	16.6	-0.4	57.6	0.0	0.8
Employment	7,257.0	7,250.2	16.4	-6.8	63.3	-0.1	0.9
Full-time	5,726.2	5,694.8	25.7	-31.4	46.6	-0.5	0.8
Part-time	1,530.8	1,555.4	24.0	24.6	16.7	1.6	1.1
Unemployment	412.6	419.0	13.3	6.4	-5.6	1.6	-1.3
Participation rate	61.4	61.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.5	0.2	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.1	57.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	21.1	21.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	...	...

... not applicable

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

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Table 2
Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS¹) – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error ²	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker							
Employees	15,128.5	15,082.5	35.7	-46.0	143.1	-0.3	1.0
Self-employed	2,704.6	2,721.8	25.5	17.2	6.2	0.6	0.2
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,625.6	3,608.2	25.0	-17.4	-44.0	-0.5	-1.2
Private	11,502.9	11,474.3	37.9	-28.6	187.0	-0.2	1.7
All industries	17,833.2	17,804.3	28.9	-28.9	149.2	-0.2	0.8
Goods-producing sector	3,881.0	3,864.8	26.3	-16.2	2.7	-0.4	0.1
Agriculture	298.3	294.4	7.5	-3.9	-26.1	-1.3	-8.1
Natural resources ³	387.2	380.4	7.4	-6.8	22.8	-1.8	6.4
Utilities	160.7	155.4	5.4	-5.3	20.8	-3.3	15.5
Construction	1,300.2	1,300.8	17.7	0.6	-16.0	0.0	-1.2
Manufacturing	1,734.5	1,733.7	19.6	-0.8	1.1	0.0	0.1
Services-producing sector	13,952.2	13,939.6	34.4	-12.6	146.6	-0.1	1.1
Trade	2,694.3	2,706.6	24.5	12.3	22.4	0.5	0.8
Transportation and warehousing	895.4	900.5	14.2	5.1	46.8	0.6	5.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,129.4	1,110.0	16.8	-19.4	-11.7	-1.7	-1.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,373.6	1,363.8	18.6	-9.8	17.2	-0.7	1.3
Business, building and other support services	706.5	732.6	14.4	26.1	38.0	3.7	5.5
Educational services	1,281.1	1,274.1	16.2	-7.0	-15.9	-0.5	-1.2
Health care and social assistance	2,217.6	2,234.0	19.5	16.4	51.3	0.7	2.4
Information, culture and recreation	800.6	800.2	14.8	-0.4	19.3	0.0	2.5
Accommodation and food services	1,147.3	1,115.1	17.2	-32.2	-6.1	-2.8	-0.5
Other services	784.0	775.6	13.8	-8.4	28.3	-1.1	3.8
Public administration	922.4	927.2	13.0	4.8	-42.8	0.5	-4.4

1. North American Industry Classification System.

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

3. Also referred to as forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas.

Note(s): Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Table 3
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error ¹	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Population	429.1	428.7	...	-0.4	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2
Labour force	262.1	259.9	1.9	-2.2	-4.2	-0.8	-1.6
Employment	231.8	228.5	2.0	-3.3	-3.2	-1.4	-1.4
Full-time	197.3	193.2	2.4	-4.1	-5.0	-2.1	-2.5
Part-time	34.5	35.3	1.9	0.8	1.8	2.3	5.4
Unemployment	30.3	31.4	1.8	1.1	-1.0	3.6	-3.1
Participation rate	61.1	60.6	0.4	-0.5	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.6	12.1	0.6	0.5	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	54.0	53.3	0.5	-0.7	-0.6	...	...
Prince Edward Island							
Population	121.3	121.4	...	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.6
Labour force	83.9	82.6	0.6	-1.3	-2.0	-1.5	-2.4
Employment	74.1	72.9	0.7	-1.2	-2.1	-1.6	-2.8
Full-time	62.4	60.9	0.9	-1.5	-0.9	-2.4	-1.5
Part-time	11.7	12.0	0.7	0.3	-1.2	2.6	-9.1
Unemployment	9.9	9.7	0.7	-0.2	0.1	-2.0	1.0
Participation rate	69.2	68.0	0.5	-1.2	-2.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.8	11.7	0.8	-0.1	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	61.1	60.0	0.6	-1.1	-2.1	...	...
Nova Scotia							
Population	781.2	780.8	...	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.0
Labour force	492.9	492.3	2.6	-0.6	-9.2	-0.1	-1.8
Employment	447.3	448.4	2.6	1.1	-7.9	0.2	-1.7
Full-time	360.1	363.3	3.5	3.2	-9.3	0.9	-2.5
Part-time	87.2	85.1	3.2	-2.1	1.3	-2.4	1.6
Unemployment	45.6	43.9	2.4	-1.7	-1.3	-3.7	-2.9
Participation rate	63.1	63.1	0.3	0.0	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.3	8.9	0.5	-0.4	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	57.3	57.4	0.3	0.1	-1.0	...	...
New Brunswick							
Population	620.3	620.3	...	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1
Labour force	394.8	392.2	2.2	-2.6	1.3	-0.7	0.3
Employment	356.3	350.9	2.4	-5.4	2.6	-1.5	0.7
Full-time	296.3	295.7	3.0	-0.6	3.2	-0.2	1.1
Part-time	60.0	55.2	2.6	-4.8	-0.6	-8.0	-1.1
Unemployment	38.4	41.3	2.3	2.9	-1.2	7.6	-2.8
Participation rate	63.6	63.2	0.4	-0.4	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.7	10.5	0.6	0.8	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	57.4	56.6	0.4	-0.8	0.4	...	...
Quebec							
Population	6,724.1	6,730.2	...	6.1	50.0	0.1	0.7
Labour force	4,379.1	4,347.4	15.1	-31.7	-16.3	-0.7	-0.4
Employment	4,047.8	4,015.8	15.2	-32.0	-4.8	-0.8	-0.1
Full-time	3,266.1	3,243.2	20.0	-22.9	-17.5	-0.7	-0.5
Part-time	781.7	772.6	18.3	-9.1	12.7	-1.2	1.7
Unemployment	331.3	331.6	13.2	0.3	-11.5	0.1	-3.4
Participation rate	65.1	64.6	0.2	-0.5	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.6	0.3	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	60.2	59.7	0.2	-0.5	-0.5	...	...

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

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error ¹	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
Ontario							
Population	11,298.6	11,313.9	...	15.3	140.1	0.1	1.3
Labour force	7,449.7	7,475.5	19.8	25.8	62.1	0.3	0.8
Employment	6,902.3	6,919.9	19.0	17.6	73.5	0.3	1.1
Full-time	5,599.4	5,625.2	26.6	25.8	92.3	0.5	1.7
Part-time	1,302.9	1,294.7	24.6	-8.2	-18.8	-0.6	-1.4
Unemployment	547.4	555.6	17.2	8.2	-11.4	1.5	-2.0
Participation rate	65.9	66.1	0.2	0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.3	7.4	0.2	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.1	61.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Manitoba							
Population	982.1	983.6	...	1.5	12.5	0.2	1.3
Labour force	667.1	666.7	2.7	-0.4	1.0	-0.1	0.2
Employment	629.3	627.4	2.7	-1.9	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
Full-time	508.9	505.0	3.7	-3.9	0.6	-0.8	0.1
Part-time	120.5	122.3	3.5	1.8	-0.9	1.5	-0.7
Unemployment	37.8	39.4	2.1	1.6	1.3	4.2	3.4
Participation rate	67.9	67.8	0.3	-0.1	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	64.1	63.8	0.3	-0.3	-0.8	...	...
Saskatchewan							
Population	837.9	839.7	...	1.8	17.8	0.2	2.2
Labour force	584.4	580.7	2.5	-3.7	4.9	-0.6	0.9
Employment	558.3	561.3	2.6	3.0	8.3	0.5	1.5
Full-time	457.7	459.1	3.4	1.4	6.5	0.3	1.4
Part-time	100.6	102.2	3.1	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.8
Unemployment	26.1	19.5	1.8	-6.6	-3.3	-25.3	-14.5
Participation rate	69.7	69.2	0.3	-0.5	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.5	3.4	0.3	-1.1	-0.6	...	...
Employment rate	66.6	66.8	0.3	0.2	-0.5	...	...
Alberta							
Population	3,243.9	3,254.9	...	11.0	109.2	0.3	3.5
Labour force	2,377.7	2,370.7	9.3	-7.0	84.7	-0.3	3.7
Employment	2,261.2	2,258.3	9.9	-2.9	72.3	-0.1	3.3
Full-time	1,895.2	1,871.9	12.6	-23.3	10.4	-1.2	0.6
Part-time	366.0	386.4	11.2	20.4	62.0	5.6	19.1
Unemployment	116.5	112.4	7.1	-4.1	12.3	-3.5	12.3
Participation rate	73.3	72.8	0.3	-0.5	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.7	0.3	-0.2	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	69.7	69.4	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	...	...
British Columbia							
Population	3,885.6	3,891.6	...	6.0	46.9	0.2	1.2
Labour force	2,466.8	2,464.9	10.5	-1.9	-4.3	-0.1	-0.2
Employment	2,324.7	2,321.0	10.4	-3.7	10.9	-0.2	0.5
Full-time	1,813.0	1,808.0	14.6	-5.0	-10.2	-0.3	-0.6
Part-time	511.7	513.0	13.8	1.3	21.1	0.3	4.3
Unemployment	142.1	143.8	8.6	1.7	-15.3	1.2	-9.6
Participation rate	63.5	63.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.8	0.3	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Employment rate	59.8	59.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.5	...	...

... not applicable

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

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Available in CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0051, 282-0054, 282-0055, 282-0060 to 282-0063, 282-0069 to 282-0089, 282-0092 to 282-0095, 282-0100 to 282-0121 and 282-0200 to 282-0225.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-X), is now available online for the week ending April 19. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

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

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on June 6.

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

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The World Bank International Comparison Program for purchasing power: Overall ranking of countries, 2011

On April 30, 2014, the World Bank's International Comparison Program (ICP) released an update for 2011, comparing the purchasing power in levels for 199 countries. In this ranking based on purchasing power parities (PPPs), Canada placed 23rd for gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and 11th for actual individual consumption per capita. This second measurement is more representative of material well-being at the household level.

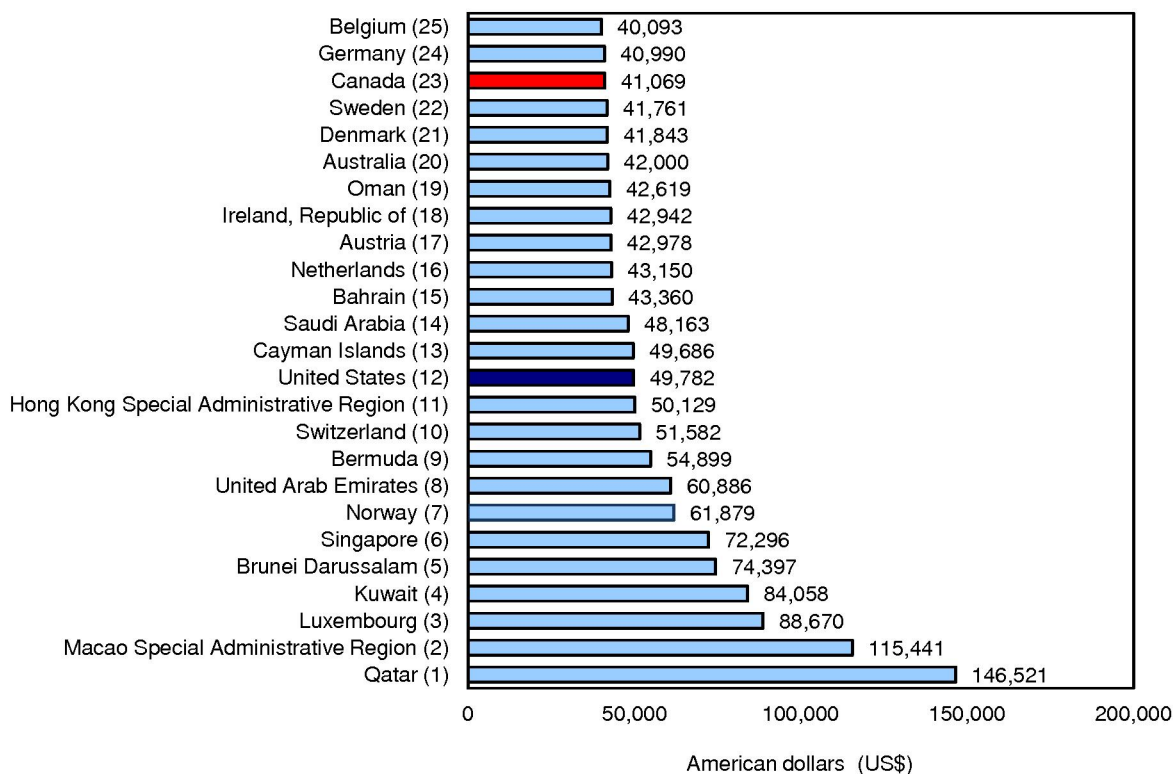
In terms of relative size, Canada ranks 15th among world economies

To measure the relative sizes of economies in levels and, thereby, create a worldwide ranking, PPPs were used rather than exchange rates, because the difference between the two measures is especially significant for low-income countries. By considering each country's GDP as a share of the total GDP of all countries included in the 2011 ICP, the top 10 economies are the United States (17.1%), China (14.9%), India (6.4%), Japan (4.8%), Germany (3.7%), the Russian Federation (3.5%), Brazil (3.1%), France (2.6%), the United Kingdom (2.4%) and Indonesia (2.3%) respectively. Canadian GDP, which ranked 15th, represents 1.6% of the total.

In terms of gross domestic product per capita, Canada ranks 23rd in the world

Ranking countries according to their GDP per capita (converted using PPPs) paints a more accurate picture of the relative size of each economy than does a ranking of countries based on exchange rates. PPPs make it possible to obtain conversion rates between currencies that eliminate price differences, leaving volumes only. That is why the PPP approach is preferred for determining the overall ranking of countries. When countries are ranked by GDP per capita (on the basis of PPPs), Canada ranks 23rd worldwide, while Qatar ranks 1st, followed by the Macao Special Administrative Region and Luxembourg. The United States ranks 12th. Between 15th place (Bahrain) and 25th place (Belgium), the average difference is only slightly over US\$3,000.

Chart 1
Gross domestic product per capita in US\$, based on power purchasing parities, by country ranking



As short-term exchange rates can fluctuate significantly, their use in converting GDP data can yield results that are much more volatile. This approach is, therefore, much too unstable for international comparisons. Using exchange rates, Canada would rank 11th worldwide, while Luxembourg would be 1st and the United States, 14th. The average difference between Austria, in 15th place, and the Cayman Islands, in 25th place, is approximately US\$10,000. This shows that exchange rate-based conversion is not a suitable measure for worldwide comparisons, because it tends to exaggerate relative differences between countries. Unlike PPPs, exchange rates do not generally reflect the relative purchasing power of currencies in their domestic market.

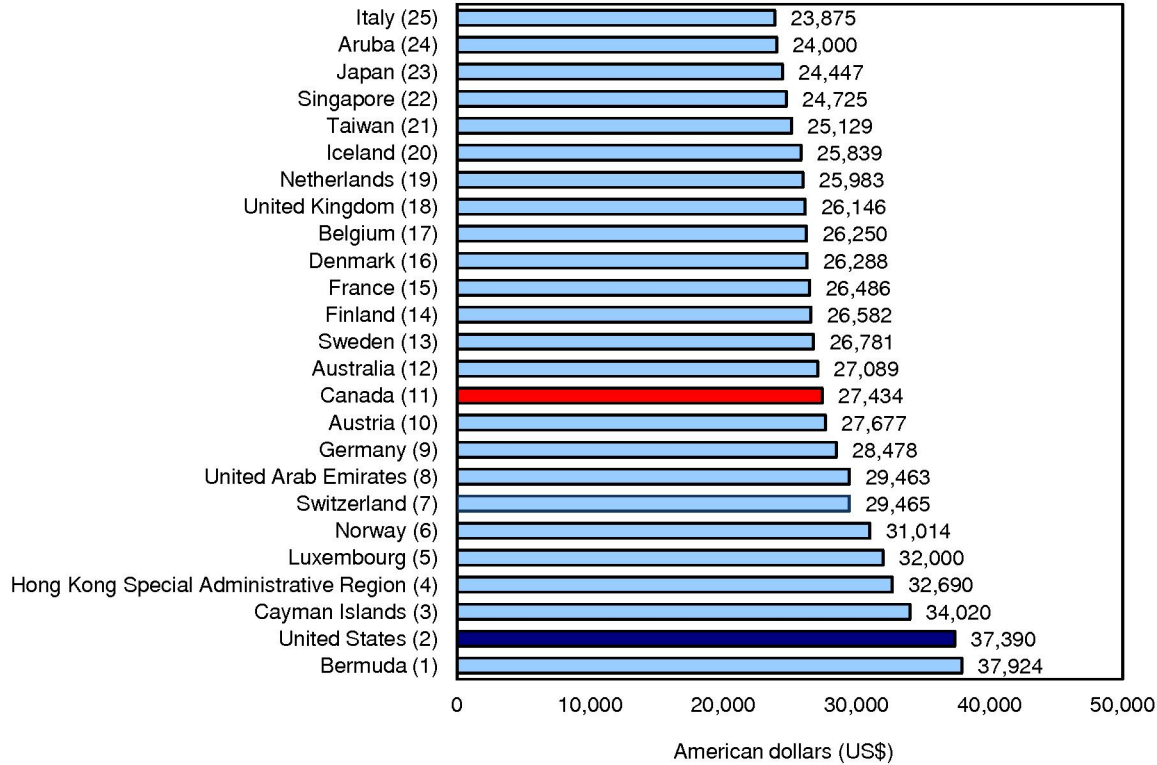
Comparing the two methods of converting GDP per capita into a common currency for the top 25 economies, only 4 countries in the ranking differ depending on the method used. When PPPs are used, the ranking includes Bahrain, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Oman and Saudi Arabia; however, these countries are replaced by Finland, France, Iceland and Japan when exchange rates are used.

In terms of actual individual consumption per capita, Canada ranks 11th worldwide

Final consumption expenditures of households are typically the largest component of GDP and are a more representative variable of material well-being at the household level. The actual individual consumption (AIC) indicator is also calculated by the ICP. It includes the goods and services consumed by households, regardless of whether they are produced or paid for by the households. To this are added the individual expenditures of governments and non-profit institutions serving households. In terms of AIC per capita, Canada ranks 11th in the world, while Bermuda leads the ranking, followed by the United States.

Chart 2

Actual individual consumption per capita in US\$, based on purchasing power parities, by country ranking



The ranking of the 25 countries differs significantly depending on which of the two measures of economic well-being (converted into a common currency using PPPs) is used. If the ranking of the top 25 countries by GDP per capita is compared with the ranking by AIC per capita, 8 countries are different. Those not in the ranking by GDP per capita include Finland, France, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Taiwan, Japan, Aruba and Italy. However, when the comparison is based on AIC per capita, these countries are included in the top 25. The countries they replace in the rankings are Qatar, the Special Administrative Region of Macao, Kuwait, Brunei Darussalam, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Ireland and Oman.

Comparing the shares of each GDP component for each country can help identify the underlying reason behind the nearly 30% change in countries observed between GDP per capita and AIC per capita approaches. The GDP components of the ICP are AIC expenditures, collective government consumption expenditures, gross fixed capital formation, changes in inventories and acquisitions, and the balance of exports and imports. For the 8 countries that do not figure among the top 25 economies worldwide based on AIC per capita, the share of the trade balance (exports minus imports) in the GDP based on PPPs is large, while for the other countries it is weaker. It represents at least 13.0% of the GDP of Saudi Arabia and, at most, 33.5% of the GDP of the Special Administrative Region of Macao. This means that a large share of those countries' GDP consists of savings invested in foreign markets. Moreover, 7 of the 8 countries are major petroleum producers.

As well, for these 8 countries, the average propensity to consume is 31.4%. However, for the 17 countries in common between the GDP per capita and AIC per capita approaches, the average propensity to consume is 60.1%.

Actual individual consumption per capita is more relevant for international comparison of well-being

To compare the material well-being of households, it is more suitable to examine the top 25 economies ranked by AIC. The average propensity to consume for these 25 countries is 63.1%, indicating that a large proportion of the GDP is devoted to household consumption. The top 25 countries in this list, which includes Canada and the United States, therefore, consume nearly twice the goods and services produced by their economies than do the group of 8 countries, most of which are among the top-ranked countries in the GDP per capita ranking.

In terms of the difference between the two rankings of the top 25 economies, the gap between 1st place and 25th place under the GDP per capita approach is about US\$105,000, while the difference is US\$21,000 under the AIC per capita approach.

For example, Qatar ranks first in terms of GDP per capita, at US\$146,521, while its AIC per capita is US\$20,552. Of Qatar's GDP, 14.0% is devoted to AIC expenditures and 30.1% is attributable to its net exports.

Note to readers

On April 30, 2014, the International Comparison Program (ICP) of the ICP Global Office, hosted by the World Bank, released an update of its 2011 database comparing the purchasing power in levels of 199 countries. In its previous release in 2005, the database covered 148 countries. To determine the overall ranking of the countries, two main indicators were used: gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and actual individual consumption (AIC) per capita.

The purpose of the ICP is to compare price and actual spending levels of GDP, including its components, using purchasing power parities (PPPs) between participating countries.

The program is the result of a statistical partnership established in 1968 by the Ford Foundation, the World Bank, the United Nations Statistics Division and the University of Pennsylvania International Comparisons Unit. Since then, the number of participating countries has steadily increased. Under the direction of the World Bank, the program is now coordinated by six regional agencies: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Commonwealth of Independent States, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Asia, and Eurostat-OECD.

Statistics Canada participates in the program through the multilateral PPP program of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) which, with Eurostat, has provided data for the 47 member countries.

The collection of price data for a fixed basket of goods and services for countries outside the jurisdiction of these two organizations is coordinated by the ICP. Price data for each country are then weighted by the final demand categories in their national accounts to produce PPPs for various categories of spending and for the entire GDP.

Using PPPs to convert GDPs expressed in national currency into a common currency provides a more accurate portrait of each country's economic well-being. The results of the 2011 round are based on the concepts of the 1993 System of National Accounts.

The 2011 round is the second, after that of 2005, to produce robust results that enable international comparisons to be made. However, the results cannot be compared directly between the two years, because of key methodological differences. World Bank analysts note also that users should exercise caution in interpreting the results, since PPPs are statistical estimates and consequently subject to sampling, measurement and classification errors. Therefore, small variations in estimated values between countries should be considered insignificant.

The "2011 ICP Final Report" will be published in summer 2014 and will include analyses and results that are more detailed regarding measures in volume and per capita terms, and the methodology and coverage of surveys for each country.

Definitions

Purchasing power parity (PPP): In its simplest form, a PPP is a ratio of the price of a good or service in one country in the national currency relative to the price of the same item in another country expressed in its currency. In other words, it represents a currency conversion rate that would equalize the purchasing power of the two currencies for the commodity in question. For example, a PPP of 0.90 means that 90 cents US purchases the same quantity of the specified good or service as CAN\$1; thus, the US dollar has greater purchasing power than its Canadian counterpart.

Actual individual consumption (AIC): AIC is the total value of final consumption expenditures of households and non-profit organizations serving households, and the individual consumption expenditures on goods and services of governments, such as education and health.

Table 1
Top 25 countries sorted by the actual individual consumption per capita and related variables

Country	Rank	Real gross domestic product (GDP)	Real (GDP)	Real actual individual consumption	Population	Shares of GDP components based on purchasing power parities	
						Actual individual consumption	Net exports
		billions US\$	US\$ per capita	US\$ per capita	thousands	%	%
Bermuda	1	3.6	54,899	37,924	64.7	69.1	-12.2
United States	2	15,533.8	49,782	37,390	312,036.0	75.1	-3.7
Cayman Islands	3	2.8	49,686	34,020	56.6	68.5	-4.9
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China	4	354.5	50,129	32,690	7,071.6	65.2	2.8
Luxembourg	5	46.1	88,670	32,000	519.4	36.1	38.3
Norway	6	306.5	61,879	31,014	4,953.0	50.1	21.2
Switzerland	7	405.9	51,582	29,465	7,869.4	57.1	16.9
United Arab Emirates	8	503.2	60,886	29,463	8,264.1	48.4	12.5
Germany	9	3,352.1	40,990	28,478	81,779.0	69.5	5.6
Austria	10	360.5	42,978	27,677	8,388.5	64.4	3.5
Canada	11	1,416.2	41,069	27,434	34,482.8	66.8	-1.6
Australia	12	956.0	42,000	27,089	22,761.2	64.5	2.0
Sweden	13	394.6	41,761	26,781	9,449.5	64.1	7.6
Finland	14	208.0	38,611	26,582	5,387.4	68.8	-0.9
France	15	2,369.6	36,391	26,486	65,114.7	72.8	-3.5
Denmark	16	233.0	41,843	26,288	5,569.0	62.8	7.5
Belgium	17	440.1	40,093	26,250	10,978.0	65.5	1.0
United Kingdom	18	2,201.4	35,091	26,146	62,735.0	74.5	-1.7
Netherlands	19	720.3	43,150	25,983	16,692.5	60.2	9.9
Iceland	20	12.2	38,226	25,839	319.0	67.6	9.6
Taiwan, China	21	907.1	39,059	25,129	23,224.9	64.3	3.4
Singapore	22	374.8	72,296	24,725	5,183.7	34.2	19.9
Japan	23	4,379.8	34,262	24,447	127,831.0	71.4	-1.2
Aruba	24	3.7	36,017	24,000	101.9	66.6	-11.0
Italy	25	2,056.7	33,870	23,875	60,723.6	70.5	-1.5

Note(s): All data in US dollars have been converted using PPPs.

Detailed results on the 2011 update of the International Comparison Program are available on the World Bank website (www.worldbank.org/data/icp).

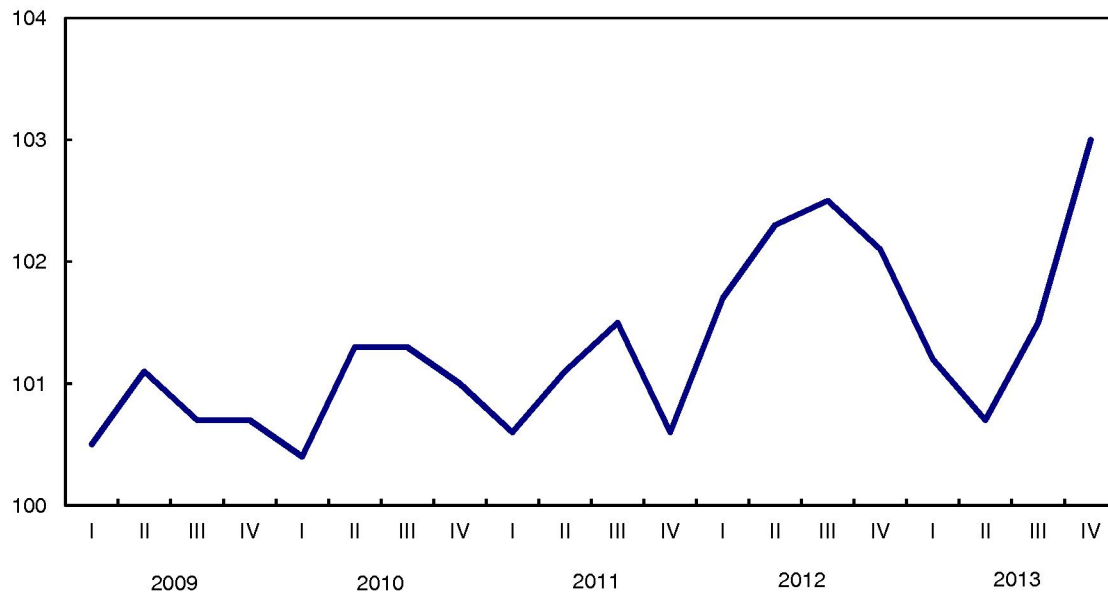
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Wholesale Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2013

The Wholesale Services Price Index (WSPI) rose 1.5% in the fourth quarter of 2013. This is the largest gain in the WSPI since the third quarter of 2008. Margin increases were registered by seven of the eight major wholesale sectors.

Chart 1
Wholesale Services Price Index

index (2008=100)



The increase in the WSPI was mainly attributable to margin gains posted by farm product wholesalers (+9.4%). The increase in the farm product sector was partly due to advances by wholesalers of oilseed and grain (+13.4%), resulting from decreases in the purchase price, which drove up the margin.

Wholesalers of petroleum products (+9.0%) and food, beverage and tobacco products (+2.5%) also contributed significantly to the fourth quarter gain of the WSPI. The advance by the petroleum product sector was mainly attributable to higher margins for gasoline and natural gas products.

To a lesser extent, margin increases by wholesalers of motor vehicle and parts (+1.0%) and personal and household goods (+0.7%) helped push the WSPI up in the fourth quarter. Margins for wholesalers in the machinery, equipment and supplies (+0.3%) and the miscellaneous sectors (+0.3%) were also up.

Conversely, margins for wholesalers of building material and supplies decreased (-0.2%).

The WSPI advanced 0.9% in the fourth quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 2012, the first year-over-year increase for 2013.

The year-over-year increase in the WSPI was primarily due to margin advances posted by the farm product sector (+24.5%), specifically by wholesalers of oilseed and grain products. Margin advances by the food, beverage and tobacco (+4.2%), the petroleum products (+2.7%) and the miscellaneous (+1.0%) sectors also contributed to the year-over-year increase.

The personal and household goods (+0.2%) and building material and supplies (+0.2%) sectors also posted gains.

The year-over-year advance of the WSPI was moderated by margin decreases for wholesalers of machinery, equipment and supplies (-3.6%) and motor vehicle and parts (-0.2%). This was the fourth consecutive quarter that machinery, equipment and supplies wholesalers posted a year-over-year decline. Variations in exchange rates can have a strong influence on the WSPI given the high composition of imported machinery and equipment in the index. Year over year, the Canadian dollar continued to depreciate, falling 5.6% against the US dollar.

Note to readers

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

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

Table 1
Wholesale Services Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	Fourth quarter 2012	Third quarter 2013 ^r	Fourth quarter 2013 ^p	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2013	Fourth quarter 2012 to fourth quarter 2013
	%	(2008=100)			% change	
Wholesale Services Price Index	100.00	102.1	101.5	103.0	1.5	0.9
Farm products	2.58	85.3	97.1	106.2	9.4	24.5
Petroleum products	4.94	77.8	73.3	79.9	9.0	2.7
Food, beverage and tobacco	14.90	112.9	114.7	117.6	2.5	4.2
Personal and household goods	16.60	101.2	100.7	101.4	0.7	0.2
Motor vehicles and parts	9.92	109.9	108.6	109.7	1.0	-0.2
Building material and supplies	13.88	93.6	94.0	93.8	-0.2	0.2
Machinery, equipment and supplies	21.67	106.1	102.0	102.3	0.3	-3.6
Miscellaneous	11.02	106.7	107.5	107.8	0.3	1.0

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5106.

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

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

Crude oil and natural gas: Supply and disposition, February 2014

February data on the supply and disposition of crude oil and equivalent as well as natural gas, and on the supply of natural gas liquids and sulphur products from processing plants are now available.

Note to readers

Data are subject to revision.

Available in CANSIM: tables 126-0001, 131-0001 and 131-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

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National and provincial-territorial input-output tables, 2007 and 2008 (revised)

The input-output tables for reference years 2007 and 2008 released today have been revised to align with estimates for 2009 forward. They incorporate important conceptual, classification, and statistical changes from previously published estimates introduced at the time of the 2012 comprehensive revision of the Canadian System of Macroeconomic Accounts. The back-casted tables for 2007 and 2008 were estimated at the Link 1997 aggregation level for both industries and commodities. They are aligned with gross domestic product estimates from the provincial economic accounts published in November 2013.

The main purpose of the back-casted tables is to provide continuity for analytical uses of the input-output tables. While sufficient for this purpose, the quality of the revised 2007 and 2008 tables is not equivalent to ongoing estimates generated via direct compilation, as approximate modelling techniques were applied in their re-estimation.

Available in CANSIM: tables 381-0024, 381-0025, 381-0028, 381-0029 and 386-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1401.

Data are available in the products *National Input-Output Tables* (15F0041X), *Provincial Input-Output Tables* (15F0042X), *Interprovincial Trade Flows (IPTF)* (15F0002X) from the *Browse by Key* resource module of our website under *Publications*.

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

To order data, or enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Andreas Trau (613-951-3466; trauand@statcan.gc.ca), Industry Accounts Division.

New products and studies

New products

Labour Force Information, April 13 to 19 2014
Catalogue number 71-001-X (HTML | PDF)

Labour Force Survey Microdata File, April 2014
Catalogue number 71M0001X (CD-ROM)

Release dates: May 12 to 16, 2014

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	March 2014
16	Canada's international transactions in securities	March 2014

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



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