Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, May 22, 2015

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Release dates: May 25 to 29, 2015	18
New products and studies	17
Canadian Survey on Disability, 2012	16
Refined petroleum products, April 2015	15
Large urban transit, March 2015	14
Study: Global production arrangements in Canada, 2009 and 2012	13
Retail trade, March 2015 Retail sales rose for the second consecutive month in March, advancing 0.7% to \$42.5 billion. Despite these increases, retail sales remained below their historical peak recorded in November 2014. Sales in March were up in 7 of 11 subsectors, representing 71% of retail trade.	
Consumer Price Index, April 2015 The Consumer Price Index rose 0.8% in the 12 months to April, after increasing 1.2% in March. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the Consumer Price Index decreased 0.1% in April, following a 0.3% rise in March.	

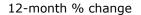
Releases

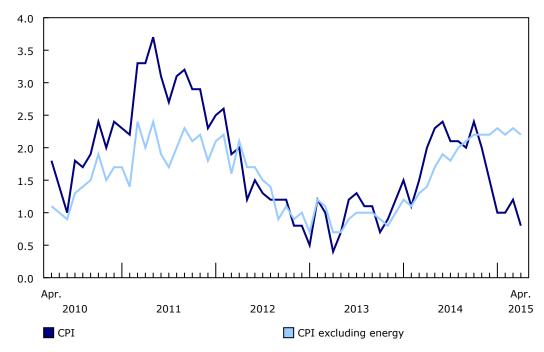
Consumer Price Index, April 2015

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.8% in the 12 months to April, after increasing 1.2% in March. The increase in April was the smallest since October 2013.

The smaller year-over-year increase in the CPI in April compared with March was mostly attributable to lower energy prices. Excluding energy, the CPI increased 2.2% on a year-over-year basis in April, following a 2.3% increase the previous month.

Chart 1
The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the CPI excluding energy





Source(s): CANSIM table 326-0020.

Lower energy prices moderate the increase in the Consumer Price Index

The energy index decreased 13.5% in the 12 months to April, following a 10.4% year-over-year decline in March.

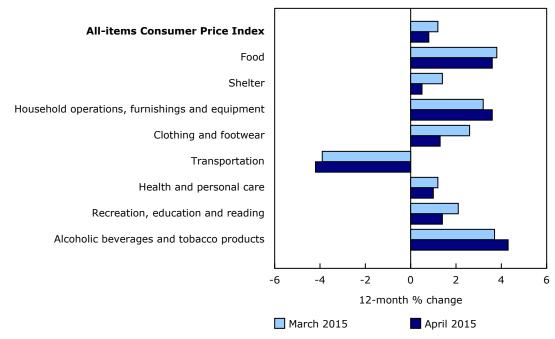
The natural gas index was down 14.6% on a year-over-year basis in April, following a 0.4% increase the previous month. This deceleration was primarily attributable to a price decline in Ontario.

Gasoline prices were down 21.0% in April compared with the same month a year earlier, after registering a 19.2% year-over-year decline in March. In addition, fuel oil prices decreased 20.0% year over year in April, following a 15.2% decline in March.

12-month change in the major components

Prices rose in seven of the eight major components on a year-over-year basis in April. The rise in the CPI was led by higher prices for food. The shelter index, which includes natural gas and fuel oil, also increased in the 12 months to April, although at a slower pace than in March. The transportation index was the only major component to post a decline.

Chart 2
Prices increase in seven of eight major components



Source(s): CANSIM table 326-0020.

Consumers paid 3.6% more for food in April compared with the same month a year earlier. Prices for food purchased from stores were up 4.0% on a year-over-year basis, led by an 11.2% increase in meat prices. A 4.3% rise in prices for fresh vegetables also contributed to the increase in food prices. Prices for food purchased from restaurants rose 2.7% year over year in April.

The shelter index posted a 0.5% year-over-year gain in April, following a 1.4% rise the previous month. The increase in April was the lowest since March 2010. The smaller increase in April compared with the previous month was mainly attributable to the decline in the natural gas index. In addition, the mortgage interest cost index was down 0.9% in the 12 months to April, following a 0.7% decrease the previous month.

The transportation index declined 4.2% on a year-over-year basis in April, following a 3.9% decrease in March. For the sixth consecutive month, the year-over-year decrease in the transportation index was mainly attributable to lower gasoline prices. Prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles increased 1.4% year over year in April, following a 1.8% rise the previous month.

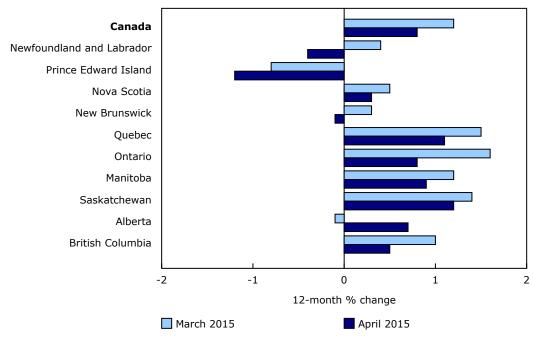
Prices for clothing and footwear increased 1.3% in the 12 months to April, after recording a 2.6% gain the previous month. The indexes for women's and men's clothing posted smaller year-over-year increases in April than in March.

12-month change in the provinces

Consumer prices rose in seven provinces in the 12 months to April, with Saskatchewan posting the largest increase. Conversely, three of the Atlantic provinces registered year-over-year declines.

Every province recorded a year-over-year decrease in its energy index.

Chart 3 Consumer prices rise in seven provinces



Source(s): CANSIM table 326-0020.

In Ontario (+0.8%) and British Columbia (+0.5%), the year-over-year consumer price increases in April were half as large as those recorded in March. In both provinces, natural gas prices declined on a year-over-year basis in April, after posting gains in March. Natural gas prices in Ontario declined 16.4% in the 12 months to April, while they decreased 18.1% in British Columbia.

Alberta's CPI increased 0.7% on a year-over-year basis in April, after decreasing 0.1% in March. In Alberta, where natural gas prices tend to be volatile, natural gas prices declined 16.2% in the 12 months to April. This followed a 42.4% year-over-year decrease in March.

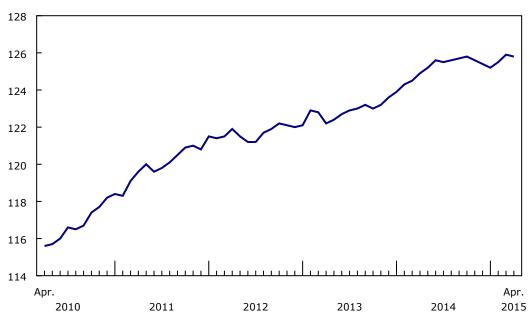
Consumer prices declined in Prince Edward Island (-1.2%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-0.4%) and New Brunswick (-0.1%) in the 12 months to April. In all the Atlantic provinces, prices for fuel oil, which is used extensively for home heating in the region, posted larger year-over-year declines in April than in the previous month. The effect of the decline in fuel oil prices was greatest in Prince Edward Island, where the basket weight of fuel oil is 10 times greater than at the national level.

Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index decreases

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the CPI decreased 0.1% in April, following a 0.3% rise in March.

Chart 4 Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index





Source(s): CANSIM table 326-0022.

Of the eight major components, four decreased and four increased on a seasonally adjusted monthly basis in April. The largest decline was recorded by the recreation, education and reading index, which fell 0.6%. The seasonally adjusted index for clothing and footwear (-0.3%) also declined.

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the index for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products rose 0.5% in April, while the food index increased 0.3%.

Bank of Canada's core index

The Bank of Canada's core index increased 2.3% in the 12 months to April, after rising 2.4% in March.

The seasonally adjusted core index was unchanged on a monthly basis in April, following a 0.4% increase in March.

Note to readers

The special aggregate "energy" includes electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles.

A seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movements have been eliminated. Users employing Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes. For information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions.

The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

Table 1 Consumer Price Index, major components and special aggregates, Canada - Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	April 2014	March 2015	April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	%	((2002=100)		% change	
All-items	100.00 ²	125.2	126.3	126.2	-0.1	0.8
Food	16.41	134.6	139.5	139.4	-0.1	3.6
Shelter	26.80	132.4	133.3	133.1	-0.2	0.5
Household operations, furnishings						
and equipment	13.14	115.5	119.4	119.7	0.3	3.6
Clothing and footwear	6.08	95.0	96.4	96.2	-0.2	1.3
Transportation	19.10	132.2	126.6	126.6	0.0	-4.2
Health and personal care	4.73	118.9	119.5	120.1	0.5	1.0
Recreation, education and reading	10.89	106.2	108.7	107.7	-0.9	1.4
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco						
products	2.86	145.1	150.7	151.4	0.5	4.3
Special aggregates						
Bank of Canada's core index ³	85.39	122.7	125.4	125.5	0.1	2.3
All-items excluding energy	92.21	121.6	124.3	124.3	0.0	2.2
Energy ⁴	7.79	171.2	149.8	148.1	-1.1	-13.5
Gasoline	3.84	193.2	152.8	152.6	-0.1	-21.0
All-items excluding food and energy	75.80	118.8	121.0	121.0	0.0	1.9
Goods	46.68	117.5	117.0	116.7	-0.3	-0.7
Services	53.32	132.9	135.6	135.6	0.0	2.0

^{1. 2013} Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2014 prices, Canada, effective with the January 2015 CPI.

Table 2 Consumer Price Index for the provinces and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Igaluit - Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance ¹	April 2014	March 2015	April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	%	(2002=100)		% cha	ange	
Canada	100.00 ²	125.2	126.3	126.2	-0.1	0.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.38	128.8	128.9	128.3	-0.5	-0.4
Prince Edward Island	0.34	130.5	129.8	128.9	-0.7	-1.2
Nova Scotia	2.47	129.1	129.6	129.5	-0.1	0.3
New Brunswick	1.87	125.0	125.5	124.9	-0.5	-0.1
Quebec	21.60	123.4	124.7	124.7	0.0	1.1
Ontario	38.94	125.9	127.1	126.9	-0.2	0.8
Manitoba	3.15	125.4	126.6	126.5	-0.1	0.9
Saskatchewan	3.01	128.9	130.5	130.5	0.0	1.2
Alberta	13.20	132.2	133.0	133.1	0.1	0.7
British Columbia	13.85	119.0	119.8	119.6	-0.2	0.5
Whitehorse	0.08	124.4	123.0	123.5	0.4	-0.7
Yellowknife	0.08	127.7	129.4	129.8	0.3	1.6
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	117.7	119.1	120.0	0.8	2.0

^{1. 2013} Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2014 prices, effective with the January 2015 CPI.

^{2.} Figures may not add up to 100% as a result of rounding.

^{3.} The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components. For additional information on the core index, consult the Bank of Canada's website.

^{4.} The special aggregate "energy" includes electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles. Source(s): CANSIM tables 326-0020 and 326-0031.

^{2.} Figures may not add up to 100% as a result of rounding. Source(s): CANSIM tables 326-0020 and 326-0031.

Table 3
Consumer Price Index, major components and special aggregates – Seasonally adjusted¹

	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	February to March 2015	March to April 2015	
	(2002=100)			% change		
All-items	125.5	125.9	125.8	0.3	-0.1	
Food	138.8	139.1	139.5	0.2	0.3	
Shelter	133.1	133.3	133.1	0.2	-0.2	
Household operations, furnishings and						
equipment	118.7	119.0	119.5	0.3	0.4	
Clothing and footwear	94.2	94.2	93.9	0.0	-0.3	
Transportation	124.8	125.6	125.4	0.6	-0.2	
Health and personal care	120.0	119.8	119.9	-0.2	0.1	
Recreation, education and reading	108.9	109.3	108.6	0.4	-0.6	
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco						
products	150.3	150.7	151.4	0.3	0.5	
Special aggregates						
Bank of Canada's core index ²	124.7	125.2	125.2	0.4	0.0	
All-items excluding food and energy ³	120.3	120.7	120.8	0.3	0.1	

A seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movements have been eliminated. Each month, the previous month's seasonally adjusted index is subject to revision. On an annual basis, the seasonally adjusted values for the last three years are revised with the January data release. Users employing Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes. For more information on the availability and uses of seasonally adjusted CPI data, please see the Definitions, data sources and methods section of survey 2301.

Available in CANSIM: tables 326-0009, 326-0012, 326-0020 and 326-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

For a more detailed report, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*. The April 2015 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 94, no. 4 (62-001-X), is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

More information about the concepts and use of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is available in *The Canadian Consumer Price Index Reference Paper* (62-553-X).

For information on the history of the CPI in Canada, consult the publication *Exploring the first century of Canada's Consumer Price Index* (62-604-X).

A video providing an overview of the CPI is available on Statistics Canada's YouTube channel.

The CPI for May will be released on June 19.

^{2.} The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components. For additional information on the core index, please consult the Bank of Canada's website.

^{3.} The special aggregate "energy" includes electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles. **Source(s):** CANSIM table **326-0022**.

Retail trade, March 2015

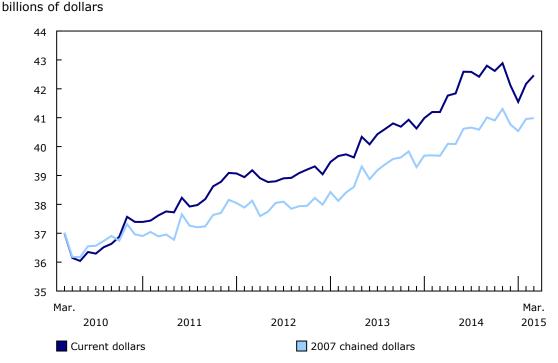
Retail sales rose for the second consecutive month in March, advancing 0.7% to \$42.5 billion. Despite these increases, retail sales remained below their historical peak recorded in November 2014. Sales in March were up in 7 of 11 subsectors, representing 71% of retail trade.

Higher sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers and food and beverage stores led the gain. Excluding sales in these two subsectors, retail sales edged up 0.1%.

In volume terms, retail sales increased 0.1%.

Chart 1
Retail sales increase in March





Source(s): CANSIM tables 080-0020 and 080-0024.

Motor vehicle and parts dealers advance

The largest gain in dollar terms across all subsectors was a 1.5% increase at motor vehicle and parts dealers, due mostly to higher sales at new car dealers (+1.8%). Higher sales at used car dealers (+2.1%) more than offset lower sales at other motor vehicle dealers (-1.7%). Sales at used car dealers have been trending upwards since late 2014. Sales at automotive parts, accessories and tire stores were relatively unchanged from February.

Gains were reported at all store types within the food and beverage stores (+1.3%) subsector. Beer, wine and liquor store sales (+4.7%) rose for the fourth time in five months. Sales at supermarkets and other grocery stores (+0.5%) advanced for the first time in 2015. Convenience store sales (+1.2%) more than offset the decline in February. Sales at specialty food stores (+0.8%) rose for the second month in a row.

Sales at clothing and clothing accessories stores (+2.4%) rose for the third consecutive month in March. Higher sales were reported at clothing stores (+1.6%), shoe stores (+6.4%) and jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores (+4.1%). This was the sixth increase in seven months at jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores.

Health and personal care stores (+1.7%) and building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers (+1.6%) reported higher sales for the fourth month in a row.

Following a gain in February, sales at general merchandise stores decreased 2.4% in March. Sales were down at both other general merchandise stores (-2.5%) and department stores (-2.3%).

Sales at gasoline stations declined 0.5% in March, the eighth decrease in nine months.

Sales up in six provinces

Retail sales rose in six provinces in March. Ontario (+1.5%) reported the largest increase in dollar terms, largely as a result of higher sales at new car dealers.

Sales in Quebec were up 1.0%, with gains reported across most store types.

Retail sales in Alberta (+1.1%) advanced for the second consecutive month after registering declines the previous four months. Modest gains were observed across most store types.

After increasing 5.3% in February, retail sales in British Columbia fell 1.7% in March. Lower sales were reported at new car dealers and department stores.

Newfoundland and Labrador (-2.0%) posted lower sales for the fourth consecutive month.

Receipts in Nova Scotia (-0.7%) decreased for the eighth consecutive month, falling to their lowest level since July 2012.

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 information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions.

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.

Table 1 Retail sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2014	February 2015 ^r	March 2015 ^p	February to March 2015	March 2014 to March 2015
	mi	llions of dollars		% cha	nge
Canada	41,196	42,169	42,466	0.7	3.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	731	728	714	-2.0	-2.3
Prince Edward Island	161	163	162	-0.5	1.0
Nova Scotia	1,143	1,098	1,091	-0.7	-4.5
New Brunswick	924	947	950	0.3	2.8
Quebec	8,853	8,961	9,050	1.0	2.2
Ontario	14,224	14,833	15,061	1.5	5.9
Manitoba	1,489	1,493	1,522	1.9	2.2
Saskatchewan	1,615	1,534	1,545	0.7	-4.4
Alberta	6,524	6,347	6,413	1.1	-1.7
British Columbia	5,383	5,911	5,809	-1.7	7.9
Yukon	56	54	54	-1.1	-4.6
Northwest Territories	64	70	67	-4.6	4.9
Nunavut	29	31	30	-1.9	2.2

P preliminary

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

Source(s): CANSIM table 080-0020.

Table 2 Retail sales by industry - Seasonally adjusted

	March 2014	February 2015 ^r	March 2015 ^p	February to March 2015	March 2014 to March 2015
	millions of dollars		% change		
Total retail trade (current dollars)	41,196	42,169	42,466	0.7	3.1
Total retail trade (2007 chained dollars)	39,682	40,953	40,986	0.1	3.3
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers	31,696	32,073	32,223	0.5	1.7
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations	26,204	27,517	27,688	0.6	5.7
Motor vehicle and parts dealers New car dealers Used car dealers Other motor vehicle dealers Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	9,499 7,735 542 587 636	10,096 8,171 584 659 681	10,243 8,317 597 648 682	1.5 1.8 2.1 -1.7 0.0	7.8 7.5 10.2 10.4 7.2
Furniture and home furnishings stores Furniture stores Home furnishings stores	1,308 817 491	1,337 823 513	1,364 849 514	2.0 3.2 0.2	4.3 3.9 4.9
Electronics and appliance stores	1,223	1,278	1,275	-0.2	4.2
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	2,233	2,439	2,479	1.6	11.0
Food and beverage stores Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores Convenience stores Specialty food stores Beer, wine and liquor stores	9,107 6,395 560 498 1,654	9,378 6,555 586 505 1,732	9,501 6,586 594 508 1,813	1.3 0.5 1.2 0.8 4.7	4.3 3.0 6.1 2.2 9.6
Health and personal care stores	3,030	3,127	3,181	1.7	5.0
Gasoline stations	5,492	4,556	4,535	-0.5	-17.4
Clothing and clothing accessories stores Clothing stores Shoe stores Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	2,225 1,738 242 244	2,388 1,873 261 254	2,446 1,903 278 265	2.4 1.6 6.4 4.1	9.9 9.5 14.5 8.3
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	922	978	973	-0.5	5.6
General merchandise stores Department stores Other general merchandise stores	5,209 2,250 2,959	5,616 2,358 3,258	5,479 2,303 3,176	-2.4 -2.3 -2.5	5.2 2.3 7.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	948	976	990	1.5	4.5

r revised
p preliminary

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

Source(s): CANSIM tables 080-0020 and 080-0024.

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

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

The March 2015 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for April will be released on June 19.

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 Jason Aston (613-951-0746; jason.aston@statcan.gc.ca), Retail and Service Industries Division.

Study: Global production arrangements in Canada, 2009 and 2012

The increased pace of globalization has brought about many structural changes in both the Canadian and world economies. One important change has been the increased prevalence of global value chains, which see the production processes of a given enterprise spread across many countries. In this study, results of the 2009 and 2012 Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy were used to analyze the prevalence of various global production arrangements in Canada.

Merchanting sales, which occur when a company purchases and subsequently sells a good abroad without it ever entering the company's resident economy, represented 2.0% of total economy wide sales in 2012 and 1.9% of those in 2009. Factoryless goods production, which occurs when a company outsources its entire production process abroad, but maintains ownership of the product's intellectual property, accounted for 1.5% of profits and 0.4% of assets in the total economy in 2012.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5171.

The *System of macroeconomic accounts* module, accessible from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website, features an up-to-date portrait of national and provincial economies and their structure.

The article "Global Production Arrangements in Canada – Initial Evidence from the Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy" is now available as part of the *Income and Expenditure Accounts Technical Series* (13-604-M) from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Large urban transit, March 2015

In March, total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit systems rose 3.8% from the same month in 2014 to \$311.6 million.

Over the same period, ridership increased 0.6% to 153.1 million passenger trips.

Note to readers

This survey collects operating revenue (excluding subsidies) and passenger trip data from 10 urban transit companies across Canada. These companies represent approximately 80% of urban transit activity revenue across Canada.

Data aggregations are available for Canada.

The aggregations in this release are not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: table 408-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.

Refined petroleum products, April 2015

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

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

Canadian Survey on Disability, 2012

Data from the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability on the income characteristics of Canadians with disabilities are now available in CANSIM.

Note to readers

The Canadian Survey on Disability is a national survey of Canadians aged 15 and over whose everyday activities are limited because of a long-term condition or health-related problem.

Available in CANSIM: tables 115-0014 to 115-0023.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3251.

New products and studies

New products

Income and Expenditure Accounts Technical Series: "Global Production Arrangements in Canada – Initial Evidence from the Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy", No. 78
Catalogue number 13-604-M2015078 (HTML | PDF)

The Consumer Price Index, April 2015, Vol. 94, no. 4 Catalogue number **62-001-X** (HTML | PDF)

Release dates: May 25 to 29, 2015

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
26	Capital and Repair Expenditures Survey	2013 (actual)
28	Canada's balance of international payments	First quarter 2015
28	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	First quarter 2015
28	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	April 2015
29	Canadian economic accounts	First quarter 2015 and March 2015
29	Gross domestic product by industry	March 2015
29	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	March 2015

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



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access or subscribe to *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our website at http://www.statcan.gc.ca.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2015. All rights reserved. Use of this publication is governed by the Statistics Canada Open Licence Agreement:

http://www.statcan.gc.ca/reference/copyright-droit-auteur-eng.htm