

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## Releases

### Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, April 2015

Manufacturing sales fell 2.1% to \$49.8 billion in April, the third decline in four months. Sales were 7.3% lower than their post-recession peak of \$53.7 billion in July 2014. The decline in April reflected lower sales of food, aerospace products and parts, and petroleum and coal products.

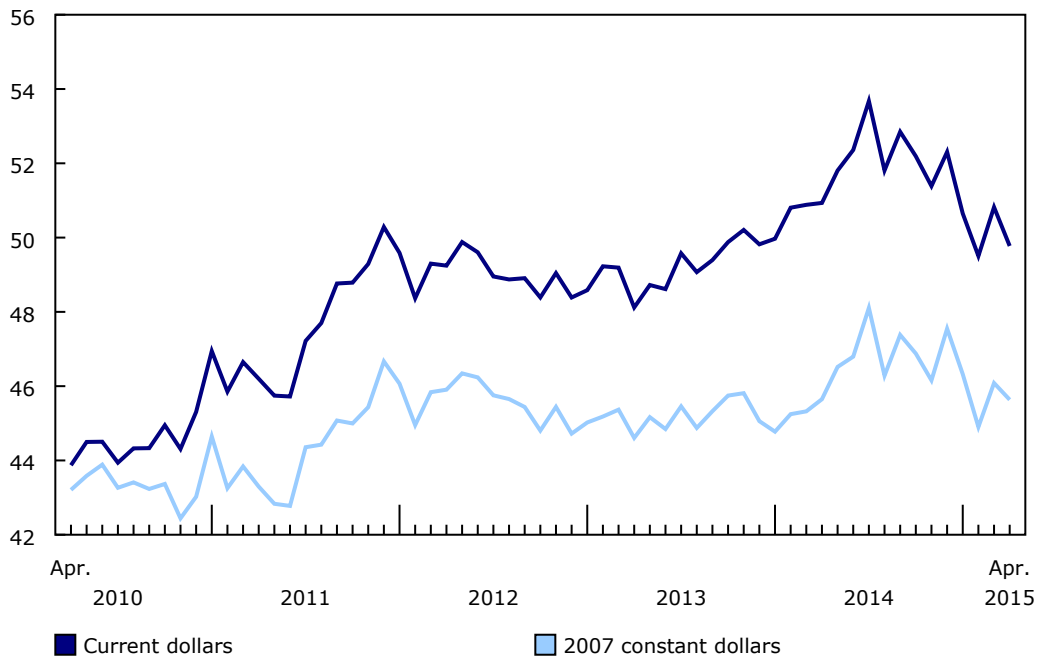
While sales fell in 8 of 21 industries, these industries account for nearly two-thirds of total Canadian manufacturing. Constant dollar sales fell 1.0%, indicating that a lower volume of goods was sold in April.

#### Food sales and aerospace production fall

Sales of food dropped 5.7% in April, the largest monthly decline since August 2013, when sales fell 6.7%. The decrease followed a 3.4% gain in sales in March. Sales were lower across the industry as unadjusted sales declined in all nine food manufacturing sub-industries. The largest declines occurred in the dairy product and meat product sub-industries.

**Chart 1**  
**Manufacturing sales decline**

billions of dollars



**Note(s):** Data are seasonally adjusted.  
**Source(s):** CANSIM tables [304-0014](#) and [377-0009](#).

Production in the aerospace industry fell 17.8% in April after rising 40.1% in March. The decrease reflected the appreciation of the Canadian dollar in April that reduced the value of sales and inventories in the industry. Because of the volatile nature of aerospace production, examining production levels over three-month periods provides better insight into the industry. Production for the three months ending in April was \$4.7 billion, down 13.7% from the three months ending in January, and the lowest level since the three months ending in June 2014.

Sales of petroleum and coal products declined 2.7% in April, following two months of gains. Lower prices and volumes contributed to the decrease. The lower sales in April reflected shutdowns in the industry for turnarounds to summer fuels that generated a larger than usual drop in sales.

Partially offsetting the declines were increases in a majority of industries, including chemicals, computer and electronic products, and plastics and rubber products.

### **Sales down in every province except Manitoba**

Sales fell in every province except Manitoba in April, with nearly two-thirds of the national sales decline attributable to Quebec.

Sales in Quebec were down 5.4% to \$11.7 billion, the largest monthly decline in the province in two years. Sales in April were 8.9% lower than their post-recession peak of \$12.9 billion in September 2014. This was the second time in three months that provincial sales fell by more than 5%. The largest declines occurred in the aerospace and food industries.

In Alberta, sales were down 1.7%, reflecting lower sales by machinery and petroleum and coal product manufacturers. Machinery sales in the province have fallen for four months and were at their lowest level since December 2012. The decline in the petroleum and coal product industry was linked to partial shutdowns at refineries for turnarounds to summer fuels. The partial shutdowns reduced sales in the industry more than in other years.

Ontario manufacturing sales were down 0.4% in April, the third decline in four months. Over those four months, sales have fallen 4.2%. Sales in Ontario have been trending downward since the beginning of 2015 and were 6.1% lower in April than their post-recession peak posted in July 2014. Lower sales of food and motor vehicles were the largest contributors to the decline.

Manitoba was the lone province to report an increase in April, with sales up 3.0%. This was the third gain in five months in the province. The increase reflected higher sales of transportation equipment.

### **Inventories rise**

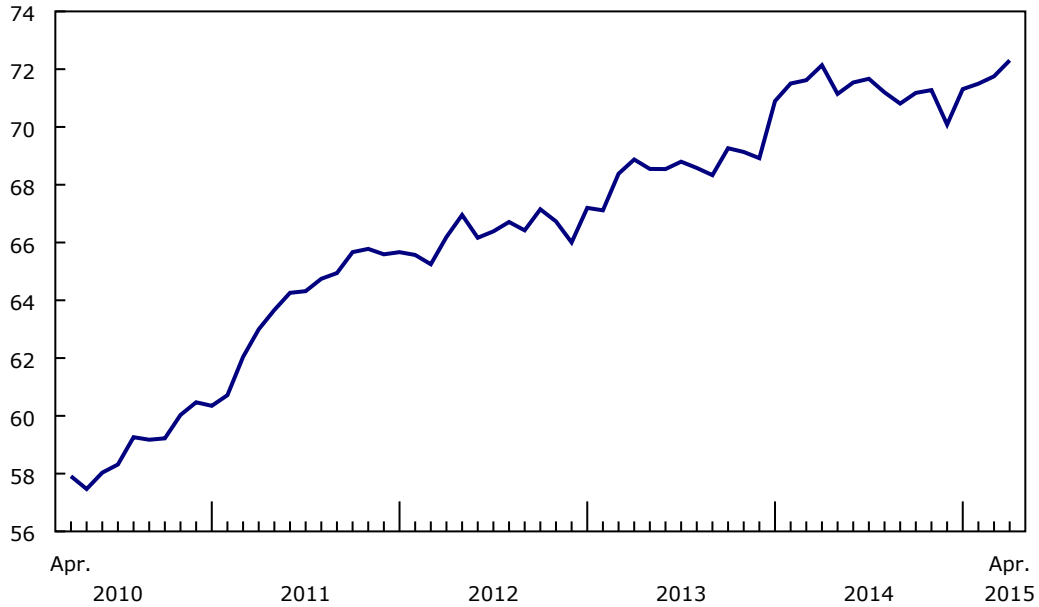
Inventories rose for the fourth consecutive month, up 0.8% to \$72.3 billion in April, the highest level on record since the series began in 1992. Higher petroleum and coal product inventories were partially offset by lower inventories in the transportation equipment and food industries.

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**Chart 2**  
**Inventories rise**

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billions of dollars



**Note(s):** Data are seasonally adjusted.  
**Source(s):** CANSIM table [304-0014](#).

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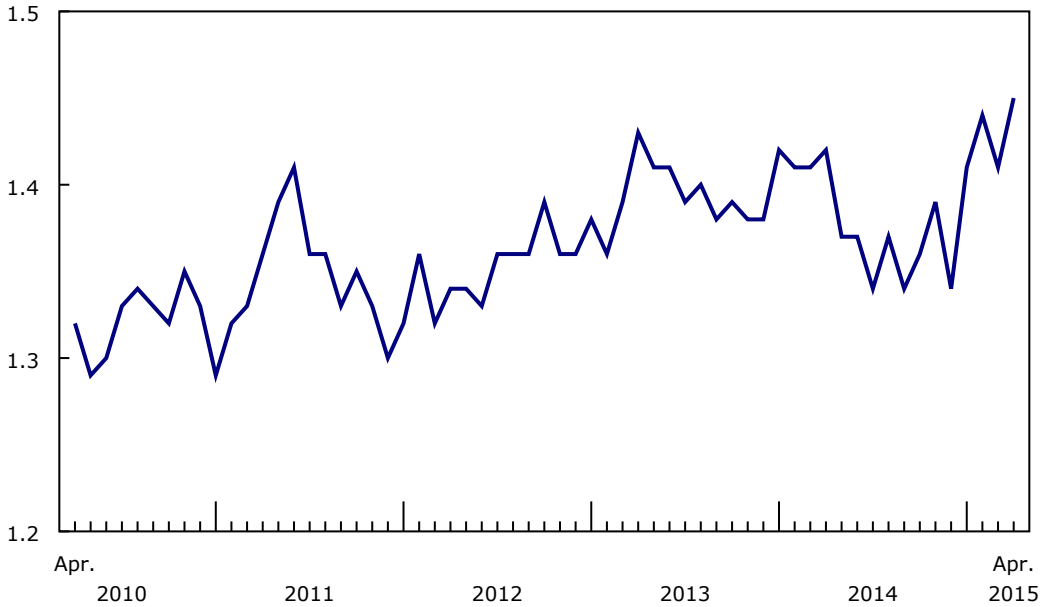
The inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.41 in March to 1.45 in April. The inventory-to-sales ratio measures the time, in months, that it would take to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at the current rate.

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**Chart 3**  
**The inventory-to-sales ratio rises**

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ratio



**Note(s):** Data are seasonally adjusted.  
**Source(s):** CANSIM table [304-0014](#).

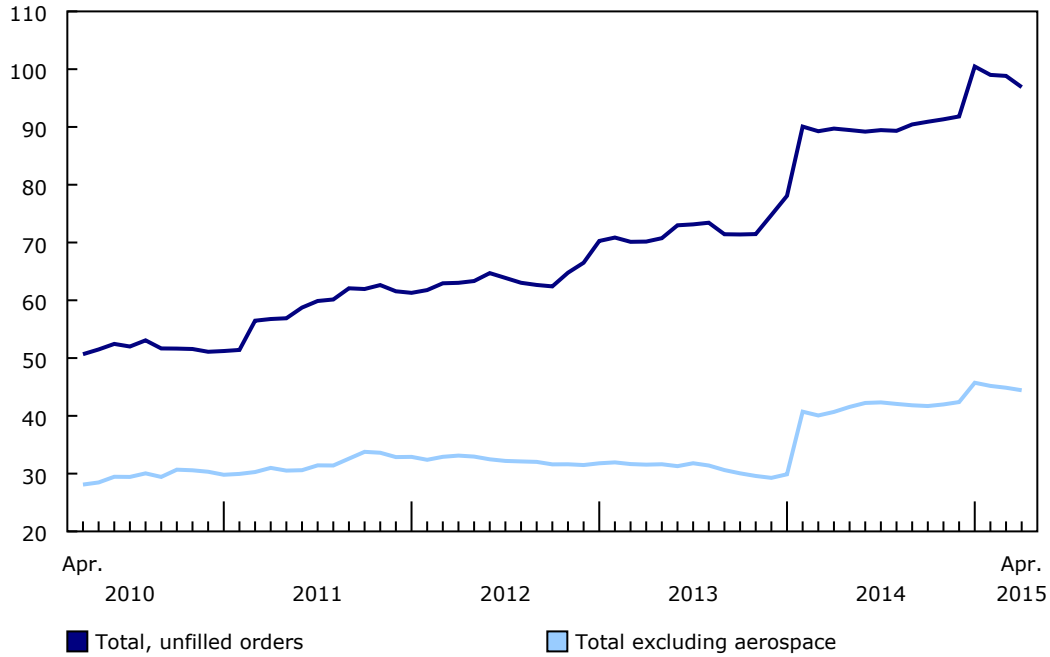
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### Lower unfilled orders

The value of unfilled orders fell 2.0% in April, largely as a result of lower unfilled orders in the aerospace industry. The vast majority of unfilled orders in the industry are held in US dollars. From the end of March to the end of April, the value of the Canadian dollar appreciated 4.4%, thereby reducing the Canadian-dollar value of the orders held in US dollars. Also contributing to the decline in total unfilled orders were the machinery, other transportation equipment and fabricated metal product industries.

**Chart 4**  
**Unfilled orders decline**

billions of dollars



**Note(s):** Data are seasonally adjusted.  
**Source(s):** CANSIM tables [304-0014](#).

New orders fell 5.6% in April, reflecting declines in the transportation equipment industry, particularly the aerospace product and parts sub-industry. The higher value of the Canadian dollar was the primary factor in the decline.

## Note to readers

Monthly data in this release are seasonally adjusted and are expressed in current dollars unless otherwise specified. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

**Non-durable goods industries** include food, beverage and tobacco products, textile mills, textile product mills, clothing, leather and allied products, paper, printing and related support activities, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, and plastics and rubber products.

**Durable goods industries** include wood products, non-metallic mineral products, primary metal, fabricated metal products, machinery, computer and electronic products, electrical equipment, appliances and components, transportation equipment, furniture and related products and miscellaneous manufacturing.

### Production-based industries

For the aerospace industry and shipbuilding industries, the value of production is used instead of sales of goods manufactured. This value is calculated by adjusting monthly sales of goods manufactured by the monthly change in inventories of goods in process and finished products manufactured. Production is used due to the extended period of time that it normally takes to manufacture products in those industries.

**Unfilled orders** are a stock of orders that will contribute to future sales assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

**New orders** are those received whether sold in the current month or not. New orders are measured as the sum of sales for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders from the previous month to the current month.

### Manufacturers reporting in US dollars

Some Canadian manufacturers report sales, inventories and unfilled orders in US dollars. These data are then converted to Canadian dollars as part of the data production cycle.

For sales, based on the assumption that they occur throughout the month, the average monthly exchange rate for the reference month (noon spot rate) established by the Bank of Canada is used for the conversion. The monthly average exchange rate is available in CANSIM table 176-0064.

Inventories and unfilled orders are reported at the end of the reference period. For most respondents, the noon spot exchange rate on the last working day of the month is used for the conversion of these variables. Some manufacturers choose to report their data as of a day other than the last day of the month. In those instances the noon spot exchange rate of the day selected by the respondent is used. The noon spot exchange rate is available in CANSIM table 176-0067. Note that because of exchange rate fluctuations, the monthly average exchange rate can differ substantially from the exchange rate on the last working day of the month.

### Revision policy

Each month the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing releases preliminary estimates for the reference month and revised estimates for the three previous months. Revisions are made to reflect new information provided by respondents, and updates to administrative data. Once a year, a revision project is undertaken to revise multiple years of data. During annual revisions, changes are made to the seasonal adjustment parameters.

**Table 1**  
**Manufacturing: Principal statistics – Seasonally adjusted**

	April 2014	March 2015 <sup>r</sup>	April 2015 <sup>P</sup>	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	millions of dollars			% change <sup>1</sup>	
Manufacturing sales (current dollars)	50,933	50,819	49,774	-2.1	-2.3
Manufacturing sales (2007 constant dollars)	45,649	46,084	45,635	-1.0	-0.0
Manufacturing sales (current dollars) excluding motor vehicles, parts and accessories	44,267	43,795	42,862	-2.1	-3.2
Inventories	72,137	71,753	72,304	0.8	0.2
Unfilled orders	89,718	98,835	96,894	-2.0	8.0
New orders	51,391	50,645	47,833	-5.6	-6.9
Inventory-to-sales ratio <sup>2</sup>	1.42	1.41	1.45	...	...

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

... not applicable

1. Percent change calculated at thousands of dollars for current dollars, and millions of dollars for constant dollars.

2. The inventory-to-sales ratio measures the time, in months, that it would take to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at the current rate.

Source(s): CANSIM tables [304-0014](#) and [377-0009](#).

**Table 2**  
**Manufacturing sales: Industry aggregates – Seasonally adjusted**

	April 2014	March 2015 <sup>r</sup>	April 2015 <sup>P</sup>	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	millions of dollars			% change <sup>1</sup>	
Food manufacturing	7,969	8,293	7,819	-5.7	-1.9
Beverage and tobacco product	1,000	1,024	1,030	0.6	3.0
Textile mills	122	133	130	-2.5	6.3
Textile product mills	142	144	155	8.0	9.0
Clothing manufacturing	206	190	218	14.6	5.7
Leather and allied product	41	38	39	2.0	-4.7
Wood product	2,032	2,131	2,118	-0.6	4.2
Paper manufacturing	2,191	2,202	2,208	0.3	0.8
Printing and related support activities	748	745	751	0.8	0.4
Petroleum and coal product	6,842	5,290	5,146	-2.7	-24.8
Chemical	4,104	4,015	4,064	1.2	-1.0
Plastics and rubber products	2,130	2,229	2,267	1.7	6.4
Non-metallic mineral product	1,064	1,062	1,067	0.4	0.3
Primary metal	3,813	3,862	3,810	-1.3	-0.1
Fabricated metal product	2,832	2,789	2,790	0.0	-1.5
Machinery	2,852	2,920	2,841	-2.7	-0.4
Computer and electronic product	1,096	1,150	1,191	3.6	8.7
Electrical equipment, appliance and component	843	810	821	1.4	-2.6
Transportation equipment	9,022	9,801	9,360	-4.5	3.7
Motor vehicle	4,455	4,731	4,614	-2.5	3.6
Motor vehicle body and trailer	311	321	327	1.9	5.2
Motor vehicle parts	2,210	2,293	2,298	0.2	4.0
Aerospace product and parts	1,534	1,852	1,523	-17.8	-0.8
Railroad rolling stock	60	111	123	10.3	106.0
Ship and boat building	97	166	129	-22.3	33.3
Furniture and related product	906	925	936	1.2	3.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	977	1,067	1,013	-5.1	3.7
Non-durable goods industries	25,496	24,302	23,827	-2.0	-6.5
Durable goods industries	25,436	26,517	25,947	-2.1	2.0

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. Percent change calculated at thousands of dollars.

Source(s): CANSIM table [304-0014](#).



**Table 3**  
**Manufacturing sales: Provinces and territories – Seasonally adjusted**

	April 2014	March 2015 <sup>r</sup>	April 2015 <sup>p</sup>	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	millions of dollars			% change <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>50,933</b>	<b>50,819</b>	<b>49,774</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	572	503	489	-2.9	-14.5
Prince Edward Island	122	129	129	-0.1	5.7
Nova Scotia	599	631	595	-5.8	-0.7
New Brunswick	1,385	1,589	1,503	-5.4	8.5
Quebec	11,883	12,375	11,706	-5.4	-1.5
Ontario	23,620	23,571	23,482	-0.4	-0.6
Manitoba	1,286	1,269	1,308	3.0	1.7
Saskatchewan	1,420	1,264	1,201	-4.9	-15.4
Alberta	6,536	5,823	5,723	-1.7	-12.4
British Columbia	3,507	3,659	3,634	-0.7	3.6
Yukon	2	3	2	-11.0	11.8
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	2	2	2	-6.0	-12.4

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

1. Percent change calculated at thousands of dollars.

Source(s): CANSIM tables [304-0014](#) and [304-0015](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [304-0014](#), [304-0015](#) and [377-0009](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2101](#).

Data from the May Monthly Survey of Manufacturing will be released on July 15.

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

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jeff Paul (613-951-7328; [jeff.paul@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:jeff.paul@statcan.gc.ca)), Manufacturing and Wholesale Trade Division.

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## Cement, April 2015

Canadian manufactures produced 792 000 tonnes of cement products in April, up 3.2% from March.

The growth rate of shipments from own manufacture outpaced that of production, with shipments up 16.5% to 791 000 tonnes.

### **Note to readers**

*Data for March have been revised.*

*Data in this release are subject to revision and are not seasonally adjusted.*

*The Cement Survey measures, on a monthly basis, the quantities of domestic cement that are produced and shipped by Canadian manufacturers. The survey also measures quantities of sales of domestic and imported cement that are distributed by region and exported.*

**Available in CANSIM: tables [303-0060](#) and [303-0061](#).**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2140](#).**

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](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Electric Power Selling Price Index, January to April 2015

The Electric Power Selling Price Index (2009=100) for January to April is now available.

### **Note to readers**

*The Electric Power Selling Price Index is a monthly series measuring the price movements of sales of electricity by distributors to commercial and industrial users; the estimates are produced three times per year. Data are available for Canada and by region and province.*

*With each release, data for the previous 12 months may have been revised. The index is not seasonally adjusted.*

**Available in CANSIM: table [329-0073](#).**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2325](#).**

The Electric Power Selling Price Index for May to August will be released in October.

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](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

