The Daily
Statistics Canada

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Releases

New products and studies

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Canada

Releases

Study: Prevalence of obesity among children and adolescents in the United States and Canada, 1976 to 2013

In the late 1970s, the prevalence of childhood obesity in Canada and the United States was the same at about 5%. However, the most recent statistics indicate that, overall, obesity among children and adolescents aged 3 to 19 was significantly lower in Canada (13.0%) than in the United States (17.5%).

Monitoring trends in childhood obesity is important as obese children and adolescents are at risk of becoming obese adults and can experience immediate health consequences such as psychosocial stress, elevated blood pressure and cholesterol, and abnormal glucose tolerance.

Larger difference between Canadian and American girls compared with boys

Overall, among children and adolescents aged 3 to 19, the difference in obesity rates between Canada and the United States was more noticeable among girls than boys. The gap was largest for girls aged 7 to 12, among whom the obesity rate in the United States was 18.5%, more than double the rate of 8.7% for Canadian girls. Among girls aged 13 to 19, the prevalence of obesity was also significantly lower in Canada (11.7%) than in the United States (18.3%).

Chart 1
Prevalence of childhood obesity in girls, by age group, Canada (2009 to 2013 combined) and the United States (2009 to 2012 combined)
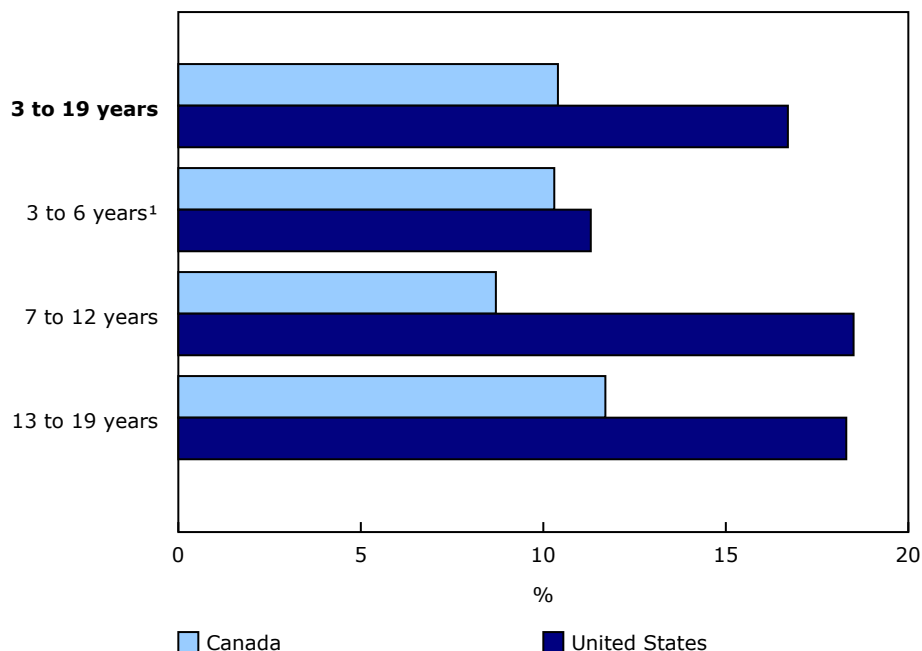
1. Data for Canada should be used with caution (coefficient of variation between 16.6% and 33.3%).
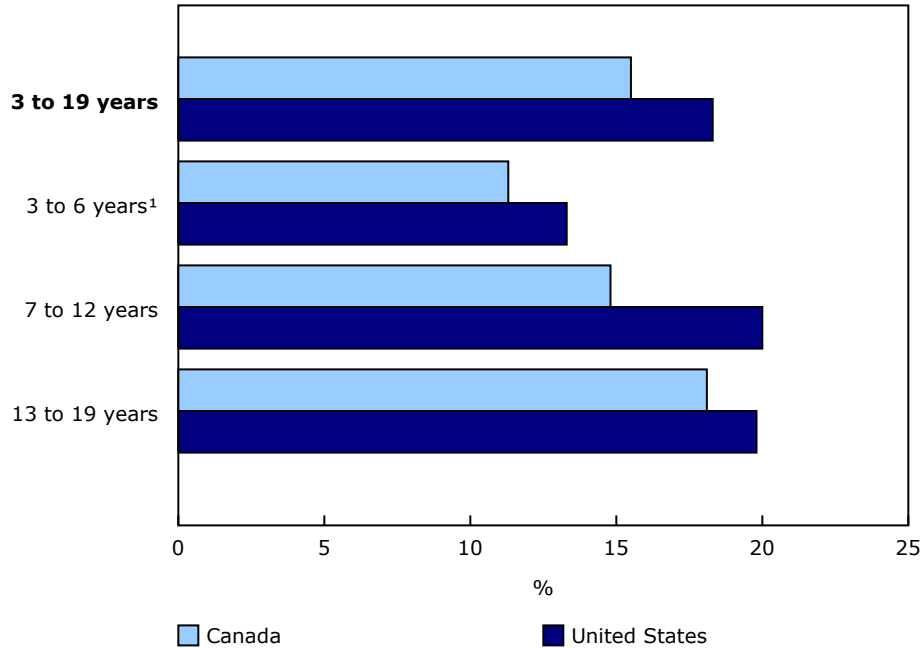**Notes(s):** Pregnant girls are excluded.
Source(s): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey; Statistics Canada, Canadian Health Measures Survey (5071).

There were no significant differences in the prevalence of obesity between American and Canadian boys, except for boys aged 7 to 12, among whom the obesity rate was 20.0% in the United States compared with 14.8% in Canada.

Chart 2
Prevalence of childhood obesity in boys, by age group, Canada (2008 to 2013 combined) and the United States (2009 to 2012 combined)

%

☐ Canada   ■ United States

1. Data for Canada should be used with caution (coefficient of variation between 16.6% and 33.3%).
Source(s): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey; Statistics Canada, Canadian Health Measures Survey (5071).

Note to readers

Data for this release were taken from the article entitled "Prevalence of obesity among children and adolescents in the United States and Canada," released by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). This NCHS Data Brief was a project carried out in collaboration between Statistics Canada and the NCHS.

Canadian estimates are based on data from three cross-sectional surveys: the 1978/1979 Canada Health Survey, the 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey – Nutrition and cycles 2 and 3 of the Canadian Health Measures Survey (2009 to 2013 combined).

American estimates are based on data from three cycles of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES): NHANES II (1976 to 1980), NHANES 2001 to 2004 and NHANES 2009 to 2012.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3217, 5049 and 5071.

The full article "Prevalence of obesity among children and adolescents in the United States and Canada" is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

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**).

Railway carloadings, June 2015

The volume of rail freight carried in Canada totalled 29.8 million tonnes in June, down 2.4% from the same month a year earlier.

Freight originating in Canada and destined within Canada and to other parts of the world declined 1.5% to 26.9 million tonnes. These shipments are composed of non-intermodal freight (that is, cargo moved via box cars or loaded in bulk) and intermodal freight (that is, cargo moved via containers and trailers on flat cars).

Non-intermodal freight decreased 0.8% to 295,000 carloads. The amount of freight loaded into these cars totalled 24.2 million tonnes, down 2.1%. The drop was attributable to a decrease in freight loadings in several commodity groupings, particularly coal (down 642 000 tonnes), fuel oils and crude petroleum (down 416 000 tonnes) and wheat (down 389 000 tonnes).

Intermodal freight loadings rose 5.2% to 184,000 units in June. From a tonnage perspective, traffic increased 4.4% to 2.8 million tonnes as a result of a rise in containerized cargo shipments.

Freight traffic received from the United States fell 9.7% to 2.9 million tonnes, as a result of decreases in both non-intermodal and intermodal shipments.

Note to readers

The survey presents data essential to the timely analysis of the rail transportation industry and its contribution to the Canadian economy. Survey data cover carrier railways operating in Canada that provide for-hire freight service and their transportation of various railway carloading components, such as the number of rail cars, tonnage, units and 20-feet equivalent units.

Data aggregations are available for Canada, the Eastern Division and the Western Division.

The aggregations in this release are not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

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**).

Machinery and Equipment Price Index, second quarter 2015

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) decreased 0.9% in the second quarter compared with the previous quarter. This was the first quarterly decline since the second quarter of 2014. The import component was down 1.1% in the second quarter, while the domestic component fell 0.1%.

The Canadian dollar appreciated 1.0% against the US dollar in the second quarter compared with the first quarter. Variations in exchange rates can have a significant influence on the MEPI given the high weight of imported machinery and equipment in the index.

All industries posted decreases in the price of machinery and equipment purchased in the second quarter. The largest contributor to the quarterly decline was finance, insurance and real estate (-1.1%). Other services excluding public administration (-1.1%), public administration (-1.0%) and transportation and warehousing (-1.0%) also contributed to the decline in prices.

Among commodities, computers and computer peripheral equipment (-3.0%) contributed the most to the quarterly decrease of the total MEPI. Passenger cars (-1.2%), aircraft and aircraft engines (-1.0%), commercial and service industry machinery (-0.9%) and other industry-specific machinery (-0.8%) also contributed to the quarterly decline.

Compared with the second quarter of 2014, the total MEPI increased 11.2%, reflecting large price increases in the first quarter of 2015. The import component increased 13.3% and the domestic component was up 5.1%. The movement in the import component was partly influenced by the year-over-year depreciation of the Canadian dollar (-11.3%) against the US dollar.

Note to readers

With the release of third quarter 2014 data, Statistics Canada converted the Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) series to 2010=100, with 2010 as the base year. The relative importance of the basket items has been updated using the 2010 annual gross additions to capital for machinery and equipment purchases by industries in Canada.

Also, the MEPI (2010=100) adopted 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 were updated. For more information on the changes applied to the input-output tables, see *Modernization of the input-output tables*.

For vectors that have a concordance, MEPI historical data (prior to the first quarter of 2010) based on the new basket (2010=100) are available in CANSIM.

The concordance information between the old CANSIM vectors and the new CANSIM vectors is available in the *Concordance table between the old and new CANSIM vectors*.

The MEPI provides quarterly estimates of price changes for machinery and equipment purchased by industries in Canada.

Data are available at the Canada level only.

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

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

With the release of second quarter 2015 data, all data for 2014 have been revised.

Next release

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index for the third quarter will be released on November 25.

Table 1
Machinery and Equipment Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted

	Relative importance[1]	Second quarter 2014[r]	First quarter 2015[r]	Second quarter 2015[p]	First quarter to second quarter 2015	Second quarter 2014 to second quarter 2015
	%	(2010=100)			% change	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	**100.00**	**108.3**	**121.5**	**120.4**	**-0.9**	**11.2**
Domestic	**26.99**	**103.8**	**109.2**	**109.1**	**-0.1**	**5.1**
Imported	**73.01**	**110.0**	**126.0**	**124.6**	**-1.1**	**13.3**
Crop and animal production	3.96	111.8	126.5	125.4	-0.9	12.2
Forestry and logging	0.17	110.8	125.7	124.7	-0.8	12.5
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.07	106.5	119.7	118.7	-0.8	11.5
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	0.13	109.8	124.0	122.9	-0.9	11.9
Mines, quarries and oil wells	12.00	111.4	124.1	123.5	-0.5	10.9
Utilities	5.04	108.6	120.5	119.5	-0.8	10.0
Construction	6.20	111.0	124.0	123.3	-0.6	11.1
All manufacturing	11.72	107.7	120.1	119.1	-0.8	10.6
Trade	5.95	106.7	118.4	117.3	-0.9	9.9
Transportation and warehousing	10.19	110.2	125.0	123.8	-1.0	12.3
Finance, insurance and real estate	18.78	107.8	122.1	120.7	-1.1	12.0
Private education services, health care and social assistance	0.68	106.1	118.6	117.3	-1.1	10.6
Other services (excluding public administration)	11.40	103.8	115.8	114.5	-1.1	10.3
Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance	3.36	106.4	118.0	116.8	-1.0	9.8
Public administration	9.84	108.1	122.1	120.9	-1.0	11.8
Non-profit institutions serving households	0.51	105.9	118.1	116.7	-1.2	10.2

r   revised
p   preliminary
1. The relative importance in the Machinery and Equipment Price Index represents shares of capital investment by industry for the year 2010. They are derived from the final demand matrix of the input-output table, compiled by the Canadian System of National Accounts.
Source(s): CANSIM table **327-0055**.

Dairy statistics, June 2015

Consumers purchased 231 567 kilolitres of milk and cream in June, down 3.0% from June 2014.

Sales of milk decreased 3.4% from the same month a year earlier to 202 365 kilolitres in June, while cream sales fell to 29 202 kilolitres.

Note to readers

Dairy statistics are available for Canada and the provinces.

Data on dairy stocks for July 1, 2015, are now available in CANSIM table 003-0033. These data represent the ending stocks of the previous month.

Available in CANSIM: tables 003-0007 to 003-0012, 003-0029, 003-0033 and 003-0034.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3430, 3431 and 3432.

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).

Real-time CANSIM tables

Statistics Canada is launching a new series of data tables—the real-time CANSIM tables—for 20 economic and social data time series to add more depth and context to some of its key datasets.

Real-time tables with data from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours are released today, while real-time tables for other surveys will be released shortly.

These tables provide real-time data—or vintage data—and meet the needs of expert data users. As new vintages are added, the real-time tables display the revised data for selected reference periods. This way, real-time tables allow users to examine a given time series of economic or social data as it appeared (and was used) at a given point in time before it was revised.

These real-time tables help economic and social statistics users to better analyze the impact and development of policy, to prepare forecasts, and to test econometric models.

The real-time CANSIM tables do not replace the current CANSIM tables. They are meant to augment and complement the data series and will be released within two weeks after the regular data series.

For more information, consult *Real-time CANSIM tables*.

Available in CANSIM: tables 281-8023, 281-8026, 281-8047 and 281-8063.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

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

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Study: Which human capital characteristics best predict the earnings of economic immigrants?, 1997 to 1999 and 2002 to 2004

This study examines which human capital characteristics, measured at the time of the immigrant's admission to Canada as a permanent resident, best predict immigrant earnings.

Of the characteristics examined, knowledge of an official language and pre-landing Canadian work experience were found to be the best predictors of earnings in the first 2 years after arrival. However, age and educational attainment are better predictors of earnings over the longer term, up to 10 years after landing.

The research paper "Which Human Capital Characteristics Best Predict the Earnings of Economic Immigrants?," part of the *Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series* (**11F0019M**), is now available 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**).

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New products and studies

New studies

Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series: "Which Human Capital Characteristics Best Predict the Earnings of Economic Immigrants?", No. 368
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