

The Daily

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Releases

Wholesale trade

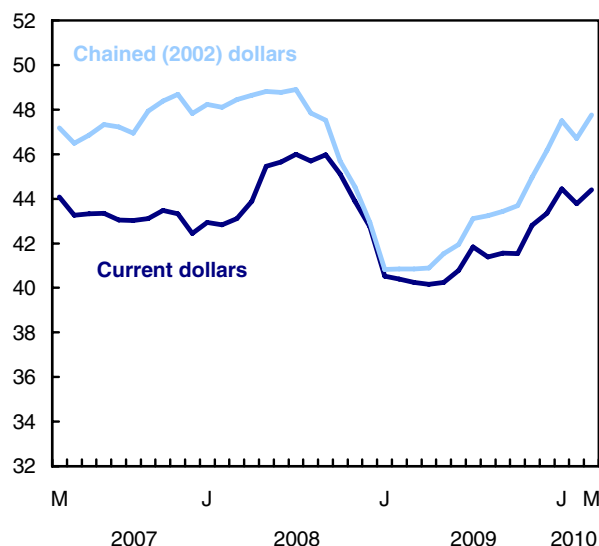
March 2010

Wholesale sales increased for the fourth time in five months, up 1.4% to \$44.4 billion in March. The major contributors to the increase were the machinery, equipment and supplies, and the building materials and supplies subsectors.

In volume terms, wholesale sales were up 2.2% in March.

Wholesale sales rise for the fourth time in five months

\$ billions



Canadian wholesalers sell to both the domestic and international markets, and are active importers and exporters. The higher increase in the volume of sales, compared with the current dollar sales gain in March, principally reflects the lower prices paid by wholesalers for imported goods. This was caused, in part, by the appreciation of the Canadian dollar with respect to the US currency during the month.

In March, six of the seven wholesale subsectors, accounting for close to 85% of total sales, posted gains.

The largest increase came in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector, which rose 4.9% to \$8.9 billion in March. This was the highest sales level since February 2009. Growth was reported in all four industries in this subsector, most notably in other machinery, equipment and supplies (+7.7%), and

Note to readers

All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted.

Wholesale trade sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using import and industry product price indexes. Since many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar can have an important influence on the prices of the goods bought and sold by wholesalers.

The wholesale sales series in chained (2002) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

Starting with the April 21, 2010, release of February 2010 data, the presentation of results makes direct use of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) instead of its trade group variant (see concordance table).

The previous CANSIM tables 081-0007 to 081-0010 have been replaced by CANSIM tables 081-0011 to 081-0013. Data beginning in January 2004 are available in the new CANSIM tables. In addition, data for provincial and territorial totals and for Canada level totals of selected sub-sectors and industries are now available beginning in January 1993. In order to allow users to adapt to these new series, access to the new CANSIM tables will be free until June 30, 2010.

computer and communications equipment and supplies (+6.0%).

The building material and supplies subsector continued on its upward trend that began in mid 2009. This subsector increased 1.6% in March, marking a seventh consecutive monthly advance. All three of its component industries showed gains.

The only decrease in March was reported in the personal and household goods subsector (-0.6%), which declined for the third time in four months. This drop was mainly due to lower sales in the pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies (-1.8%), and the textile, clothing and footwear (-6.6%) industries.

Wholesale sales up in all provinces

Wholesalers in all provinces reported higher sales in March, with Ontario and Alberta posting the largest increases in dollar terms.

Wholesale sales in Ontario increased for the sixth time in seven months, up 1.2% to \$22.7 in March. Higher sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector contributed to this growth.

In Alberta, sales increased for the fifth consecutive month, up 2.2% to \$5.0 billion in March, as a result of

higher sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies, and the building materials and supplies subsectors.

In Quebec, sales rose 0.5% following a 2.5% decline in February.

Sales in British Columbia increased for the fifth time in six months, increasing 2.1% in March after falling 5.1% in February.

Inventories down slightly

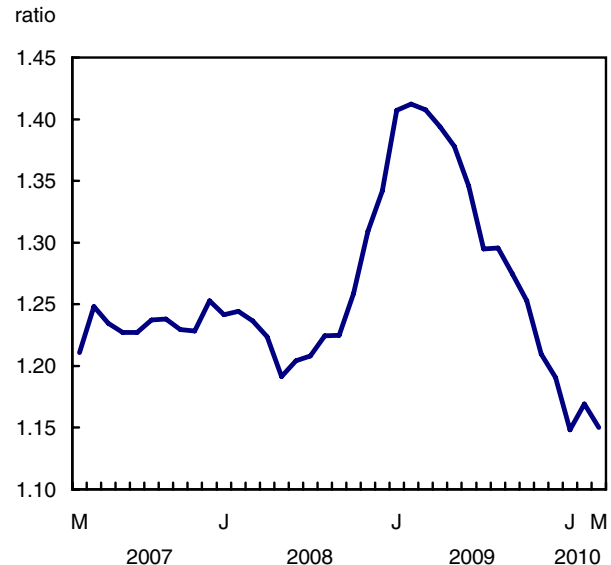
Wholesale inventories edged down 0.2% following a 0.3% increase in February.

Overall, 16 of the 25 wholesale industries reported lower inventory levels. The largest decreases in dollar terms were in the food, other miscellaneous, new motor vehicle parts and accessories, and the pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies industries. Higher inventories were seen in the lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies, metal service centres, recyclable material, and the home entertainment equipment and household appliance industries.

The increase in sales, combined with the slight decline in inventories, resulted in the inventory-to-sales ratio falling from 1.17 in February to 1.15 in March.

The inventory-to-sales ratio is a measure of the time in months required to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at their current level.

The inventory-to-sales ratio decreases



Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0011 to 081-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The March 2010 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-X, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade data for April will be released on June 17.

To obtain data or general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Steve Chadder (613-951-0303; steve.chadder@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Wholesale merchants' sales by industry

	March 2009	February 2010 ^r	March 2010 ^p	February to March 2010	March 2009 to March 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	40,255	43,782	44,407	1.4	10.3
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	34,802	36,451	37,034	1.6	6.4
Farm product	497	529	537	1.7	8.0
Food, beverage and tobacco	8,109	8,353	8,387	0.4	3.4
Food	7,233	7,431	7,450	0.2	3.0
Beverage	391	422	419	-0.7	7.1
Cigarette and tobacco product	485	500	519	3.7	6.9
Personal and household goods	6,733	7,045	7,004	-0.6	4.0
Textile, clothing and footwear	798	842	787	-6.6	-1.4
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	672	693	745	7.5	10.9
Home furnishings	426	498	491	-1.5	15.3
Personal goods	885	873	901	3.2	1.8
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,302	3,459	3,396	-1.8	2.9
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	F	680	684	0.6	F
Motor vehicle and parts	5,453	7,332	7,373	0.6	35.2
Motor vehicle	3,927	5,770	5,796	0.5	47.6
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,489	1,521	1,536	1.0	3.2
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	40	42	2.6	F
Building material and supplies	5,559	6,236	6,334	1.6	13.9
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	1,815	1,974	2,000	1.3	10.2
Metal service centres	1,160	1,222	1,256	2.8	8.3
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,583	3,040	3,077	1.2	19.1
Machinery, equipment and supplies	8,680	8,524	8,946	4.9	3.1
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,180	936	988	5.6	-16.3
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	2,637	2,608	2,641	1.3	0.2
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,569	2,749	2,915	6.0	13.5
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,294	2,231	2,402	7.7	4.7
Miscellaneous	5,224	5,763	5,825	1.1	11.5
Recyclable material	416	675	676	0.0	62.6
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	647	714	703	-1.6	8.6
Agricultural supplies	1,355	1,404	1,433	2.1	5.7
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,008	954	1,004	5.3	-0.4
Other miscellaneous	1,798	2,016	2,010	-0.3	11.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory

	March 2009	February 2010 ^r	March 2010 ^p	February to March 2010	March 2009 to March 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Canada	40,255	43,782	44,407	1.4	10.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	259	287	301	4.7	15.9
Prince Edward Island	41	41	43	6.7	6.6
Nova Scotia	557	637	653	2.6	17.3
New Brunswick	463	482	489	1.5	5.5
Quebec	8,037	8,324	8,362	0.5	4.0
Ontario	19,724	22,402	22,665	1.2	14.9
Manitoba	1,177	1,099	1,134	3.2	-3.7
Saskatchewan	1,378	1,607	1,666	3.7	20.9
Alberta	4,852	4,891	5,001	2.2	3.1
British Columbia	3,713	3,948	4,030	2.1	8.5
Yukon	11	10	11	9.6	4.0
Northwest Territories	39	51	47	-6.8	19.8
Nunavut	3	4	4	2.2	29.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry

	March 2009	February 2010 ^r	March 2010 ^p	February to March 2010	March 2009 to March 2010
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions			% change	
Inventories	56,660	51,199	51,076	-0.2	-9.9
Farm product	168	157	163	4.3	-2.8
Food	4,432	4,268	4,166	-2.4	-6.0
Beverage	247	260	246	-5.5	-0.6
Cigarette and tobacco product	286	243	242	-0.5	-15.5
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,918	1,497	1,512	1.0	-21.1
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	873	749	789	5.4	-9.6
Home furnishings	971	967	942	-2.5	-3.0
Personal goods	1,679	1,416	1,401	-1.1	-16.6
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,043	4,107	4,068	-0.9	0.6
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	646	630	616	-2.2	-4.6
Motor vehicle	3,739	3,584	3,562	-0.6	-4.7
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,133	2,908	2,863	-1.5	-8.6
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	F	73	74	1.8	F
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,092	2,679	2,685	0.2	-13.1
Metal service centres	3,007	2,326	2,380	2.3	-20.8
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,194	4,139	4,238	2.4	1.0
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,232	3,020	3,013	-0.2	-6.8
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	8,324	6,761	6,740	-0.3	-19.0
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,628	1,548	1,530	-1.1	-6.0
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,597	3,341	3,335	-0.2	-7.3
Recyclable material	357	283	323	14.3	-9.5
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	710	591	586	-0.9	-17.5
Agricultural supplies	2,787	2,323	2,333	0.4	-16.3
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,184	1,064	1,055	-0.8	-10.9
Other miscellaneous	2,337	2,266	2,212	-2.4	-5.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

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Travel between Canada and other countries March 2010

Canadian travel to the United States and overseas countries rose 3.6% in March from the previous month, while travel to Canada from abroad declined 3.7%.

Canadian residents took nearly 4.4 million trips outside of the country in March. This included 3.7 million trips to the United States, up 4.0% from February. Overnight travel by Canadian residents to the United States increased 0.9%, with the largest increase being seen in the number of overnight car trips, up 1.5% in March compared with February.

Same-day car travel to the United States rose 6.7% from February as Canadian residents took 2.0 million same-day car trips to the United States in March.

Canadian residents took 690,000 trips to overseas destinations in March, a 1.8% increase from February.

United States residents took 1.7 million trips to Canada in March, down 4.3% from February. Overnight travel by US residents decreased 2.5%, although there was a 1.8% increase in overnight car travel in March from February.

The number of same-day car trips to Canada by US residents declined 8.1% to 605,000 trips.

Residents of overseas countries took 368,000 trips to Canada in March, down 0.7% from February.

Note: Monthly data are seasonally adjusted.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The March 2010 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 26, no. 3 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, please contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and Centre for Education Statistics Division.

□

Travel between Canada and other countries

	March 2009 ^r	February 2010 ^r	March 2010 ^p	February to March 2010
Seasonally adjusted				
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	3,902	4,199	4,352	3.6
To the United States	3,210	3,521	3,662	4.0
To other countries	692	678	690	1.8
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,691	1,874	2,000	6.7
Total trips, one or more nights	2,170	2,287	2,313	1.1
United States ³	1,478	1,609	1,623	0.9
Car	890	962	976	1.5
Plane	496	540	541	0.2
Other modes of transportation	92	108	106	-1.3
Other countries ⁴	692	678	690	1.8
Travel to Canada²	2,141	2,108	2,031	-3.7
From the United States	1,791	1,737	1,663	-4.3
From other countries	350	370	368	-0.7
Same-day car trips from the United States	721	659	605	-8.1
Total trips, one or more nights	1,327	1,359	1,331	-2.1
United States ³	985	997	973	-2.5
Car	609	557	567	1.8
Plane	265	283	285	0.6
Other modes of transportation	111	157	121	-23.2
Other countries ⁴	342	362	358	-1.1
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	63	60	62	3.8
France	31	35	37	5.3
Germany	25	27	29	6.9
Australia	17	18	21	13.9
Japan	18	19	20	0.7
China	15	15	15	3.2
South Korea	13	12	13	4.6
India	9	9	11	18.5
Mexico	19	10	9	-0.6
Hong Kong	10	7	9	27.4
Italy	8	10	9	-5.8
Switzerland	8	11	9	-18.3

^p preliminary

^r revised

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Canadian Health Measures Survey: Blood pressure in children and adolescents

2007 to 2009

Based on data from the 2007 to 2009 Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS), the study "Blood pressure in Canadian children and adolescents" found a low overall prevalence of elevated or borderline elevated blood pressure among Canadian children and adolescents.

The study found that 0.8% of young people aged 6 to 19 had elevated blood pressure, while 2.1% had borderline levels.

These findings are based on data from direct, automated measures of blood pressure in cycle 1 of the CHMS, which was conducted from March 2007 through February 2009 at 15 sites across the country.

The survey used a mobile examination centre (a specially designed pair of trailers staffed by trained health professionals) to collect physical measures. This study is based on 2,079 examination centre respondents aged 6 to 19.

Echoing the results of other studies, the study found that mean systolic blood pressure was significantly higher among boys aged 12 to 19 and girls aged 6 to 11 who were overweight or obese.

Mean diastolic blood pressure was significantly higher only among obese boys aged 12 to 19.

Excess weight is believed to influence blood pressure through increased sympathetic nervous system activation, which is associated with systolic blood pressure.

Elevated blood pressure is one of the most important causes of death and disability worldwide, accounting

for 7.6 million premature deaths and 92 million disability-adjusted life years annually. Children who have higher blood pressure tend to stay at higher blood pressure levels when they reach adulthood. Hence, high blood pressure in youth may be a risk factor for the development of hypertension in adulthood. This persistence of high blood pressure from younger to older ages is more apparent among overweight and obese youth.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5071.

The article, "Blood pressure in Canadian children and adolescents," which is part of today's *Health Reports*, Vol. 21, no. 2 (82-003-X, free) online release, is now available. From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Paradis (514-398-1418; gilles.paradis@mcgill.ca), McGill University.

Today's online release also includes "The Manitoba Human Papillomavirus vaccine surveillance and evaluation system." This article describes specific aspects of the human papillomavirus surveillance and evaluation system that is being implemented in Manitoba. For more information, contact Erich V. Kliewer (604-675-8000, ext. 7076; erich.kliewer@cancercare.mb.ca), CancerCare Manitoba.

For more information about *Health Reports*, contact Christine Wright (613-951-1765; christine.wright@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

April 2010

Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 93 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 5.8% in April compared with April 2009. These airports reported 490,408 movements in April compared with 520,820 movements in April 2009.

Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The April 2010 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)* (51-007-X, free) is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Stocks of frozen eggs, poultry meats and edible dried egg products

May 1, 2010 (preliminary)

Data on stocks of frozen eggs, poultry meats and edible dried egg products in storage as of May 1 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Venturino (613-951-9278; sandra.venturino@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

New products and studies

Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141), April 2010
Catalogue number 51-007-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

International Travel: Advance Information, March 2010, Vol. 26, no. 3
Catalogue number 66-001-P (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canada's International Transactions in Securities, March 2010, Vol. 76, no. 3
Catalogue number 67-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Health Reports, Vol. 21, no. 2
Catalogue number 82-003-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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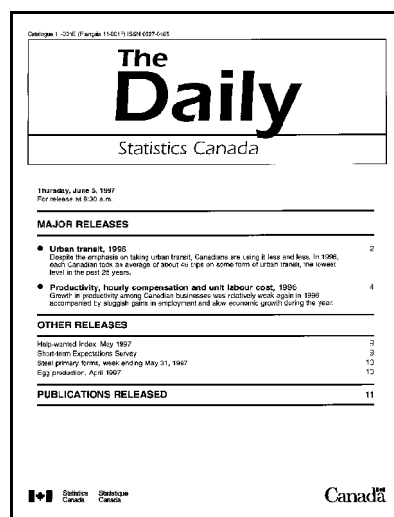
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