

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## Releases

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**Retail trade, March 2012** 2  
Retail sales rose 0.4% in March, more than offsetting the decline in February. Warmer than usual weather, especially in Ontario, contributed to the gains reported in 7 of 11 subsectors.

Study: Youth neither enrolled in school nor employed, 2011 7

Leading indicators, April 2012 9

Farm cash receipts, first quarter 2012 11

Job vacancies, three-month average ending in February 2012 (preliminary) 14

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**New products and studies** 15

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## Releases

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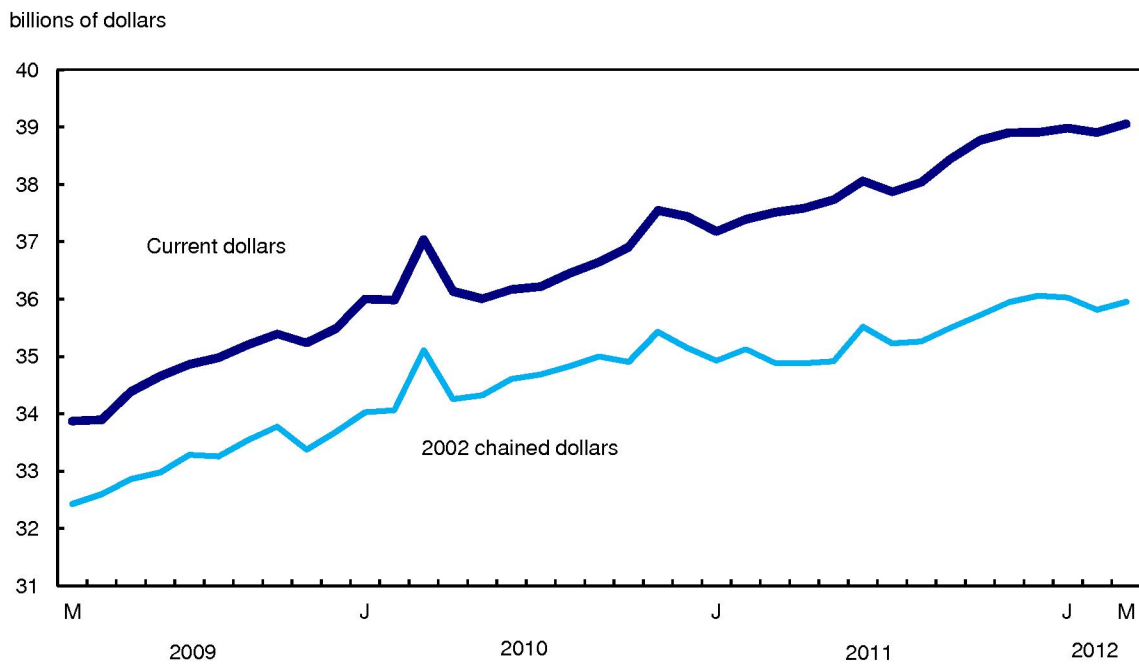
### Retail trade, March 2012

Retail sales rose 0.4% to \$39.1 billion in March, more than offsetting the decline in February. Warmer than usual weather, especially in Ontario, contributed to the gains.

In volume terms, sales also rose 0.4%.

**Chart 1**  
**Retail sales rise in March**

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Gains were reported in 7 of 11 subsectors, representing 56% of total retail sales.

Sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers rose 1.2% in March. Higher receipts at new car dealers (+0.7%) and at other motor vehicle dealers (+7.7%) accounted for most of the gain. The advance in sales at the "other motor vehicle dealers" industry followed four consecutive monthly declines. This industry includes retailers of recreational vehicles, motorcycles and boats.

Warmer than usual weather in March advanced the purchase of spring merchandise such as clothing, footwear, bicycles and lawn and garden products.

General merchandise stores registered higher sales for a third month in a row, rising 1.1% in March. Department store sales increased 1.3%, more than offsetting a decline in February. Sales at other general merchandise stores (+0.8%) were up for a fifth straight month.

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Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers reported a 1.8% sales increase in March, a second consecutive monthly gain.

Clothing and clothing accessories store sales advanced 1.3%, up for a sixth month in a row. This gain mainly reflected higher sales at shoe stores (+7.2%).

Following three consecutive monthly declines, sales at sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores rose 1.9%, reflecting higher receipts at sporting goods stores.

Sales at gasoline stations declined for a fourth time in five months, falling 1.6% in March.

Food and beverage store sales were relatively unchanged from February. Increased sales at beer, wine and liquor stores offset lower sales at supermarkets and other grocery stores, convenience stores and speciality food stores.

### **Sales gains concentrated in Ontario**

Retail sales rose in four provinces in March. Most of the gain was concentrated in Ontario (+1.2%), where sales increased for a fourth time in five months. Excluding Ontario, total retail sales were flat.

Alberta registered a 0.3% increase, partially offsetting the decline in February.

Saskatchewan retailers reported a 0.7% sales gain in March, a sixth increase in eight months.

Following two consecutive monthly declines, sales in Newfoundland and Labrador rose 0.7%.

The largest decline occurred in New Brunswick (-1.5%) where sales fell for a fourth time in five months.

Sales in British Columbia (-0.2%) and Quebec (-0.1%) edged down after increasing in February.

#### **Note to readers**

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

*Total retail sales by volume are measured by deflating values in current dollars of the various trade groups using consumer price indexes. This retail sales in chained dollars series (2002) is a chain Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.*

**Table 1**  
**Retail sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2011	February 2012 <sup>r</sup>	March 2012 <sup>p</sup>	February to March 2012	March 2011 to March 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>37,513</b>	<b>38,902</b>	<b>39,052</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	652	658	663	0.7	1.6
Prince Edward Island	157	160	160	-0.3	1.8
Nova Scotia	1,082	1,101	1,097	-0.3	1.4
New Brunswick	926	941	928	-1.5	0.2
Quebec	8,434	8,669	8,660	-0.1	2.7
Ontario	13,339	13,690	13,853	1.2	3.9
Manitoba	1,361	1,388	1,380	-0.6	1.4
Saskatchewan	1,317	1,385	1,395	0.7	5.9
Alberta	5,162	5,609	5,629	0.3	9.0
British Columbia	4,938	5,147	5,137	-0.2	4.0
Yukon	55	57	57	1.0	3.8
Northwest Territories	60	64	64	-1.0	7.3
Nunavut	30	31	30	-2.8	3.3

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

**Table 2**  
**Retail sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2011	February 2012 <sup>r</sup>	March 2012 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2012	March 2011 to March 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
<b>Total retail trade</b>	<b>37,513</b>	<b>38,902</b>	<b>39,052</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers</b>	<b>29,455</b>	<b>30,107</b>	<b>30,149</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations</b>	<b>24,688</b>	<b>25,182</b>	<b>25,304</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Motor vehicle and parts dealers</b>	<b>8,058</b>	<b>8,795</b>	<b>8,903</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>10.5</b>
New car dealers	6,509	7,121	7,173	0.7	10.2
Used car dealers	476	517	524	1.2	10.0
Other motor vehicle dealers	531	579	624	7.7	17.5
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	542	577	582	1.0	7.5
<b>Furniture and home furnishing stores</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Furniture stores	769	798	796	-0.2	3.6
Home furnishings stores	456	472	475	0.7	4.2
<b>Electronics and appliance stores</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-5.1</b>
<b>Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers</b>	<b>2,214</b>	<b>2,277</b>	<b>2,318</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Food and beverage stores</b>	<b>8,670</b>	<b>8,708</b>	<b>8,705</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,200	6,161	6,158	-0.1	-0.7
Convenience stores	534	544	543	-0.2	1.6
Specialty food stores	406	434	434	-0.1	6.8
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,530	1,569	1,571	0.1	2.7
<b>Health and personal care stores</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
<b>Gasoline stations</b>	<b>4,767</b>	<b>4,925</b>	<b>4,845</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Clothing and clothing accessories stores</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,282</b>	<b>2,313</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Clothing stores	1,643	1,791	1,805	0.8	9.9
Shoe stores	242	245	263	7.2	8.5
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	226	247	245	-0.8	8.1
<b>Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>General merchandise stores</b>	<b>4,692</b>	<b>4,906</b>	<b>4,958</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Department stores	2,190	2,253	2,284	1.3	4.3
Other general merchandise stores	2,502	2,652	2,675	0.8	6.9
<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

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

It is possible to consult the tables of unadjusted data by [industry](#) and by [province and territory](#) from the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the [Latest statistics](#) page on our website.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0021.**

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

The March 2012 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X, free) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for April will be released on June 21.

For more information or to order data, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ashley Ker (613-951-2252), Distributive Trades Division.

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## Study: Youth neither enrolled in school nor employed, 2011

In 2011, 13%, or 904,000, of the 6.8 million Canadians aged 15 to 29 were neither in school nor did they have a job. This proportion, which has changed little during the past decade, has been among the lowest of all G7 nations.

People in this age group who are neither enrolled in school nor employed are referred to by the acronym 'NEET.' The NEET concept emerged in the 1990s when jobless, out-of-school youth in several European countries were considered at risk of becoming discouraged and disengaged. This indicator is now regularly produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The 904,000 NEET young people in 2011 consisted of 391,000 who were looking for work and 513,000 not looking for work. The remaining 5.9 million youth (87%) were equally split into those in school and those with a job.

The 391,000 unemployed youth aged 15 to 29 represented an unemployment rate of 11.8% among young people not in school.

Among the unemployed, 55,000 had been looking for work for more than six months. These long-term unemployed represented 1% of all youth and 14% of unemployed youth. This was the lowest proportion of long-term unemployed young people among the G7 nations.

Young men aged 15 to 24 were significantly more likely to be unemployed than men aged 25 to 29 and young women in both age ranges. A higher level of education significantly reduced the likelihood of being unemployed. In addition, young people who were married and without children were significantly less likely to be unemployed than single youth.

Also, after controls were in place for other factors, youth living at home had significantly higher odds of being unemployed than those not living at home. This could reflect the difficulty of living on one's own without a job.

Different factors were related to not participating in the labour force. For example, women who were married with children were significantly less likely to participate than women who were single. However, being married with children significantly increased the participation rate for men.

Excluding students, young people who were not in the labour force had significantly lower levels of education compared with their counterparts in the labour force.

Among young people who were not in the labour force, one in five reported that they wanted a job, despite the fact that they were not looking for one. About one-half reported a reason for not looking, which included being too discouraged about finding work, waiting for recall and being too sick.

Most of those not in the labour force did not want a job (82%). A sizeable minority of this group (40%) were parents of young children, students in non-traditional programs, or permanently unable to work. According to the General Social Survey, others may be involved in unpaid household work, volunteering or leisure.

### **Note to readers**

*This study was based on data from the Labour Force Survey and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development methodology for determining the NEET indicator. It examined Canadian rates for young people aged 15 to 29 who were neither enrolled in school nor had a job, as well as their characteristics and activities. Youth in this age group were classified into three main groups: those attending school in a regular educational system, the employed, and those neither attending school nor employed.*

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**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3701 and 4503.**

The article "Youth neither enrolled nor employed" is now available in the May 2012 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 24, no. 2 (75-001-X, free), from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Katherine Marshall (613-951-6890; [katherine.marshall@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:katherine.marshall@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.

For more information on *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, contact Ted Wannell (613-951-3546; [ted.wannell@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:ted.wannell@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.



## Leading indicators, April 2012

The composite leading indicator rose 0.3% in April, matching the increase in March. This was the 10th consecutive monthly increase. Of the 10 components, 7 advanced in the month.

The components related to household demand supported the increase in April, led by a rise in housing starts. Both furniture sales and sales of other durable goods posted a third monthly gain. The financial components remained positive, as did employment in services. The average workweek, however, declined after being flat in the two previous months. The United States leading indicator rose for the third straight month, supported by its financial components and building permits.

In manufacturing, new orders fell for the second month in a row, while the ratio of shipments to inventories was unchanged.

### Note to readers

*This is the final release of the composite leading indicator, which is being discontinued.*

**Table 1**  
**Leading indicators**

	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	April 2012	Last month of data available	% change
<b>Composite leading indicator (1992=100)</b>	<b>259.0</b>	<b>260.5</b>	<b>262.2</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>264.9</b>	<b>265.8</b>		<b>0.3</b>
Housing index (1992=100) <sup>1</sup>	133.0	134.0	135.1	134.9	135.8	140.5		3.5
Business and personal services employment ('000)	3,050	3,061	3,073	3,073	3,079	3,084		0.2
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	12,359	12,161	12,097	12,301	12,329	12,347		0.1
Money supply, M1 (millions of dollars, 1992) <sup>2</sup>	234,314	236,339	238,462	239,621	240,674	241,651		0.4
U.S. Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) <sup>3</sup>	140.3	140.3	140.3	140.6	141.2	141.7		0.4
<b>Manufacturing</b>								
Average workweek (hours)	37.3	37.5	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.6		-0.3
New orders, durables (millions of dollars, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	26,495	26,683	26,623	27,029	26,661	26,354		-1.2
Shipments/inventories of finished goods <sup>4</sup>	1.92	1.93	1.96	1.99	1.99	1.99		0.00 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Retail trade</b>								
Furniture and appliance sales (millions of dollars, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	2,988	2,963	2,963	2,984	2,992	3,006		0.5
Other durable goods sales (millions of dollars, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	10,812	10,886	10,884	10,945	11,046	11,107		0.6
<b>Unsmoothed composite leading indicator</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>261.8</b>	<b>267.4</b>	<b>265.8</b>	<b>265.5</b>	<b>268.3</b>		<b>1.1</b>

1. Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).

2. Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

3. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.

4. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.

5. Difference from previous month.

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**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 377-0003.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.**

This release will be reprinted in the June 2012 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 25, no. 6 (11-010-X, free). For more information on the economy, consult the *Canadian Economic Observer*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; [ceo@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:ceo@statcan.gc.ca)), Current Economic Analysis Group.

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## Farm cash receipts, first quarter 2012

Farm cash receipts for Canadian farmers totalled \$14.4 billion during the first quarter, up 16.9% from the same period in 2011.

Farm cash receipts, which include crop and livestock revenues plus program payments, increased in every province except Prince Edward Island (-2.5%). Increases ranged from 0.8% in New Brunswick to 28.3% in Alberta. Cash receipts in Quebec were unchanged.

Market receipts from the sale of crops and livestock were up 18.3% from the first quarter of 2011 to \$13.6 billion. Crop receipts rose 25.2% to \$8.2 billion, making up more than 60% of the total market receipts, while livestock receipts increased 9.1% to \$5.4 billion.

The \$1.7-billion increase in crop receipts was mainly the result of a rise in canola receipts and an increase in the liquidation of deferred grain receipts. Canola receipts grew by \$846 million (+53.2%) to \$2.4 billion, mostly the result of a 48.5% increase in marketings from the record 2011 crop. Liquidation of grain receipts in 2012, which were deferred in 2011, rose by \$768 million from first quarter 2011 levels to \$1.8 billion. Producers deferred 70.7% more grain receipts in 2011 compared with 2010, a result of above-average 2011 crop receipts.

Crop receipts rose in all provinces except Quebec (-7.1%), New Brunswick (-5.2%) and Prince Edward Island (-2.2%).

On the livestock side, cattle and calf receipts increased 12.5%, despite a reduction in the number of head marketed, as prices were up 15.9% from the same period in 2011. During the first quarter, Canadian farmers exported 9.9% fewer cattle and calves interprovincially and 5.3% fewer internationally, compared with the first quarter of 2011.

Hog receipts rose 9.8%, mainly the result of a 9.9% increase in price. Average first quarter prices for both cattle and hogs have increased since 2010, primarily because of low North American inventories.

Livestock receipts increased in every province, ranging from 2.7% in Prince Edward Island to 15.4% in Manitoba.

In the supply-managed sector (dairy, poultry, eggs), farm cash receipts increased 6.9% in the first quarter compared with the same period in 2011, mainly a result of higher prices as feed grain and other production costs increased. Supply-managed commodities accounted for more than 43% of total livestock receipts.

Program payments were down 1.6% from the first quarter of 2011 to \$818 million.

### **Note to readers**

*All data are in current dollars. Farm cash receipts measures gross revenue for farm businesses. They do not represent their bottom line, as farmers have to pay their expenses and loans and cover depreciation.*

*Effective immediately, farm cash receipts data will be released semi-annually instead of quarterly. Data for the second and third quarters of 2012 will be released in November 2012. Information on net farm income for 2011 will also be released in November 2012.*

*Preliminary information on farm operating expenses and depreciation charges for 2011, as well as farm debt outstanding, value of farm capital, value per acre of farm land and buildings, and value per head of livestock, are now available in CANSIM.*

**Table 1**  
**Farm cash receipts**

	January to March 2010	January to March 2011	January to March 2012 <sup>P</sup>	January-March 2010 to January-March 2011	January-March 2011 to January-March 2012
	millions of dollars			% change <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Canada</b>					
<b>Total farm cash receipts</b>	<b>11,135</b>	<b>12,349</b>	<b>14,440</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>16.9</b>
<b>Total crops</b>	<b>5,790</b>	<b>6,558</b>	<b>8,213</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>25.2</b>
Total wheat <sup>2</sup>	1,045	1,312	1,392	25.5	6.1
Wheat excluding durum <sup>2</sup>	796	1,053	1,070	32.3	1.6
Durum wheat <sup>2</sup>	249	259	321	4.0	24.2
Oats	115	115	102	0.2	-11.7
Barley <sup>2</sup>	152	169	214	11.4	26.4
Rye	5	11	6	105.0	-41.8
Flaxseed	72	45	56	-37.8	26.4
Canola	1,249	1,591	2,437	27.4	53.2
Soybeans	232	339	425	46.6	25.1
Corn	284	565	544	98.9	-3.7
Dry peas	120	210	126	75.0	-39.9
Mustard	26	19	16	-26.2	-14.0
Sunflower	7	8	4	19.3	-49.1
Lentils	292	146	135	-50.0	-7.9
Canary seed	22	30	21	37.6	-30.6
Chickpeas	12	19	17	51.7	-9.2
Dry beans	27	22	24	-17.1	6.0
Potatoes	274	282	298	2.9	5.7
Greenhouse vegetables	66	68	72	2.3	5.7
Field vegetables	132	153	154	15.7	0.7
Tree fruits	47	40	44	-14.9	8.6
Small fruits	12	11	13	-7.9	16.8
Floriculture, nursery and sod	268	263	274	-1.6	4.0
Other crops	220	188	246	-14.6	31.2
Deferments	-101	-126	-252	-25.4	-99.4
Liquidations	1,213	1,078	1,846	-11.1	71.3
<b>Total livestock</b>	<b>4,639</b>	<b>4,961</b>	<b>5,410</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>9.1</b>
Cattle and calves	1,397	1,491	1,678	6.7	12.5
Hogs	834	914	1,004	9.6	9.8
Dairy products	1,375	1,426	1,515	3.7	6.2
Sheep and lambs	35	41	41	17.2	-1.0
Poultry and eggs	743	783	849	5.4	8.4
Other livestock products	254	305	323	19.8	6.1
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
Crop insurance	414	417	408	0.7	-2.3
AgriInvest	93	112	96	19.3	-14.1
AgriStability	245	172	199	-29.8	16.0
Other payments	-46	131	115	386.6	-11.9

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. Percent change calculated using thousands of dollars.

2. Includes Marketing Board payments.

**Note(s):** Figures may not add to totals because of rounding.

**Table 2**  
**Provincial farm cash receipts**

	January to March 2010	January to March 2011	January to March 2012 <sup>P</sup>	January-March 2010 to January-March 2011	January-March 2011 to January-March 2012
	millions of dollars			% change <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>11,135</b>	<b>12,349</b>	<b>14,440</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>16.9</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	34	39	41	13.3	5.9
Prince Edward Island	110	139	135	25.4	-2.5
Nova Scotia	166	179	186	8.0	3.7
New Brunswick	121	128	129	5.8	0.8
Quebec	1,443	1,750	1,750	21.3	0.0
Ontario	1,954	2,259	2,506	15.6	11.0
Manitoba	1,441	1,430	1,641	-0.8	14.8
Saskatchewan	2,851	3,195	4,005	12.1	25.4
Alberta	2,491	2,712	3,478	8.9	28.3
British Columbia	524	519	568	-0.9	9.4

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. Percent change calculated using thousands of dollars.

**Note(s):** Figures may not add to totals because of rounding.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 002-0001 to 002-0003, 002-0005, 002-0007, 002-0008, 002-0012 and 003-0025.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3437, 3471 and 3472.**

Additional [data tables](#) are available from the *Summary tables* module of our website.

The May 2012 issue of *Direct Payments to Agriculture Producers: Agriculture Economic Statistics*, Vol. 10, no. 2 (21-015-X, free), is now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Stephen Boyd (613-951-1875; stephen.boyd@statcan.gc.ca) or Annette Laurent (613-951-2306; annette.laurent@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

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## Job vacancies, three-month average ending in February 2012 (preliminary)

Preliminary data on job vacancies are now available for February. Canadian businesses had, on average, 237,000 job vacancies in February, and the job vacancy rate was 1.7%.

Job vacancy data tables are not currently available on CANSIM, but can be obtained by contacting Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

### **Note to readers**

*All data are based on three-month moving averages. For example, data for February are based on an average of the data from December, January and February.*

*These data are not seasonally adjusted and should not be compared from one month to the next.*

### **Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.**

The next job vacancies release will be on June 20. The release will include an analytical comparison of March 2011 to March 2012, monthly revisions dating back to March 2011, and 2011 annual data.

For more information or to obtain data, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118; [jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.

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## New products and studies

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### New products

**Direct Payments to Agriculture Producers - Agriculture Economic Statistics**, May 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2  
Catalogue number 21-015-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Perspectives on Labour and Income**, Summer 2012, Vol. 24, no. 2  
Catalogue number 75-001-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

### New studies

Youth neither enrolled nor employed  
**Perspectives on Labour and Income**



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

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