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Wholesale trade, June 2012

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Wholesale sales edged down 0.1% to \$49.9 billion in June, after four consecutive monthly increases.
In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 0.5%.

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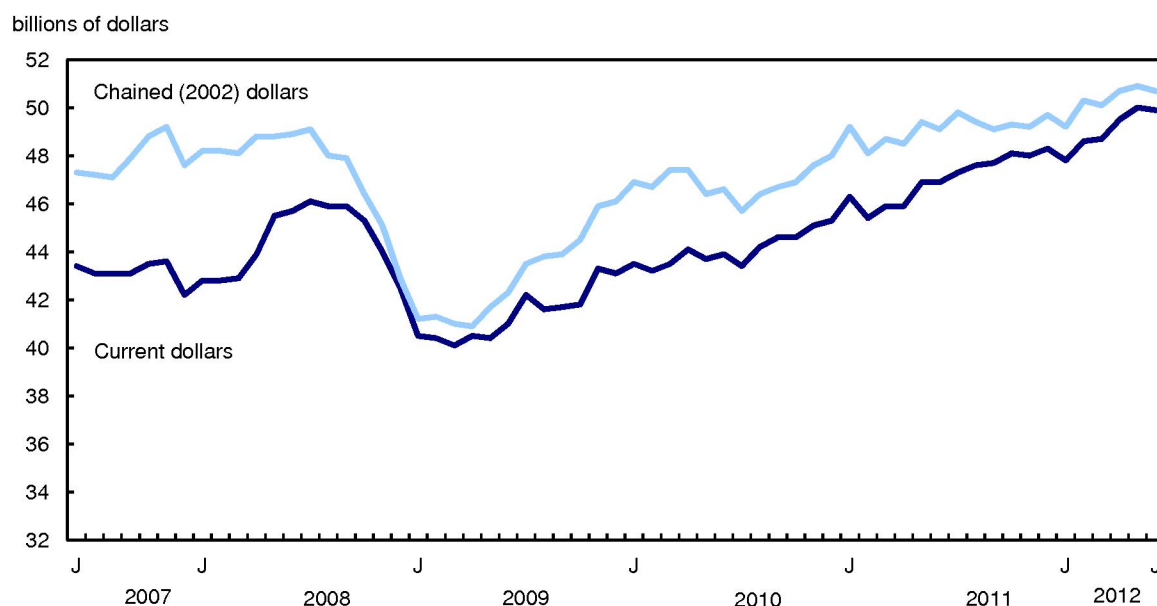
Canada

Releases

Wholesale trade, June 2012

Wholesale sales edged down 0.1% to \$49.9 billion in June, after four consecutive monthly increases. In volume terms, wholesale sales were down 0.5%.

Chart 1
Wholesale sales down slightly in June



A decline in the miscellaneous subsector was almost entirely offset by increases in five of the seven subsectors.

Sales of the miscellaneous subsector were down 6.4% in June. Although four of the five industries in the subsector posted declines, the agricultural supplies industry (-20.5%) was by far the largest contributor to the change.

Excluding the miscellaneous subsector, wholesale sales rose 0.9%.

The largest advance in dollar terms was in the motor vehicle and parts subsector (+2.2%). This fifth consecutive increase was attributable to higher sales in the motor vehicle industry (+3.4%).

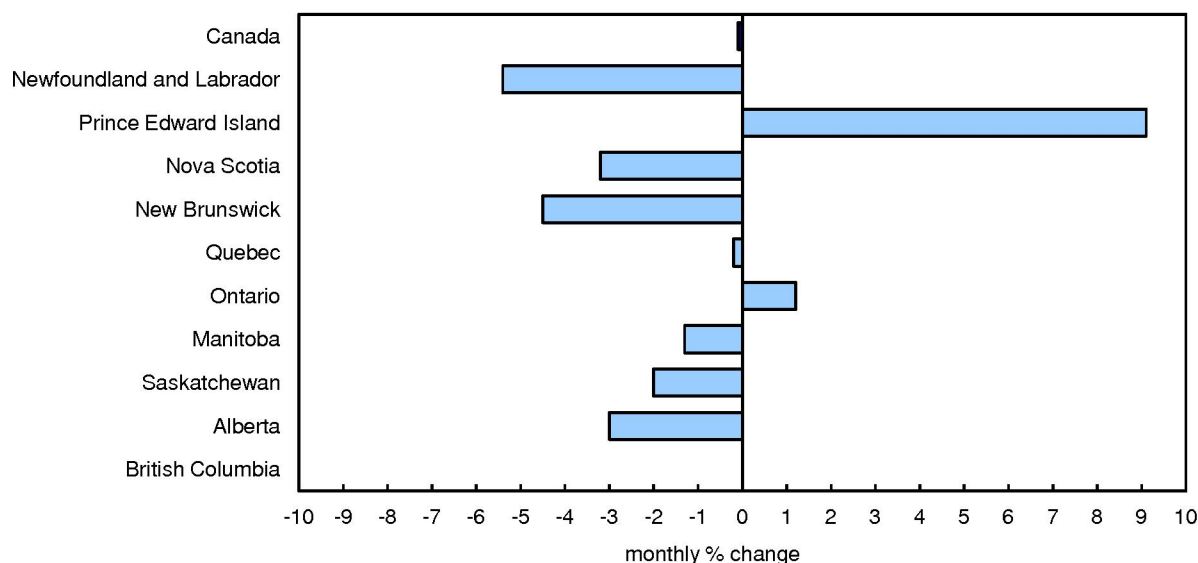
Sales in the machinery, equipment and supplies subsector rose by 1.3% in June, a third consecutive gain. Overall, three of the four industries in the subsector reported higher sales.

The food, beverage and tobacco subsector continued the upward trend that began at the end of 2009. Sales were up 0.3% in June, following a 1.3% advance in May.

Lower sales in most provinces

Wholesalers in seven provinces reported lower sales in June. These declines were largely offset by higher sales in Ontario.

Chart 2
Wholesale sales down in most of the provinces in June



Ontario, which accounts for roughly 50% of total wholesale sales, reported sales growth of 1.2% in June, the fifth increase since the beginning of 2012. The June advance was mainly a result of higher sales in the motor vehicle industry.

In Quebec, wholesale sales were down 0.2%, the first decrease in five months.

In Western Canada, sales declined in Alberta (-3.0%), Saskatchewan (-2.0%) and Manitoba (-1.3%). Wholesale sales in British Columbia were unchanged.

In June, three of the four Atlantic provinces posted declines. Prince Edward Island (+9.1%) was the lone Atlantic province to post a sales increase in June, following decreases in the previous four months.

Increase in inventories

Inventories rose 0.4% to \$60.2 billion in June. Inventories were up in 16 of the 25 industries.

The largest inventory increases in dollar terms were in the construction, forestry, mining and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies industry (+2.3%) and the other miscellaneous industry (+2.6%).

The inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.20 in May to 1.21 in June.

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.

Note to readers

All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Wholesale 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 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 next release, total wholesale sales published in volume, including the chain Fisher volume index, will be revised from January 2004 onward to reflect methodological enhancements. In addition, the reference year will change from 2002 to 2007 for these volume data.

Table 1
Wholesale merchants' sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale sales	46,946	49,962	49,900	-0.1	6.3
Total, excluding motor vehicle and parts wholesalers	39,759	41,606	41,360	-0.6	4.0
Farm product	569	541	559	3.3	-1.7
Food, beverage and tobacco	9,031	9,474	9,506	0.3	5.3
Food	8,065	8,470	8,500	0.3	5.4
Beverage	458	491	503	2.5	9.9
Cigarette and tobacco product	509	513	504	-1.8	-1.1
Personal and household goods	6,840	6,913	6,907	-0.1	1.0
Textile, clothing and footwear	934	909	939	3.3	0.6
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	668	723	731	1.1	9.5
Home furnishings	409	439	444	0.9	8.4
Personal goods	741	719	721	0.2	-2.8
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	3,435	3,458	3,408	-1.5	-0.8
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	652	664	665	0.1	2.0
Motor vehicle and parts	7,186	8,355	8,540	2.2	18.8
Motor vehicle	5,357	6,338	6,556	3.4	22.4
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,781	1,969	1,933	-1.8	8.5
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	49	49	51	5.0	4.8
Building material and supplies	6,420	6,795	6,819	0.4	6.2
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	2,063	2,171	2,143	-1.3	3.9
Metal service centres	1,400	1,577	1,638	3.9	17.1
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	2,957	3,048	3,038	-0.3	2.8
Machinery, equipment and supplies	9,757	10,728	10,873	1.3	11.4
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	1,172	1,227	1,174	-4.3	0.1
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	3,336	3,708	3,777	1.9	13.2
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	2,910	3,340	3,377	1.1	16.0
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	2,339	2,453	2,545	3.7	8.8
Miscellaneous	7,143	7,155	6,695	-6.4	-6.3
Recyclable material	868	739	685	-7.3	-21.2
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	929	902	884	-2.0	-4.9
Agricultural supplies	2,183	2,425	1,927	-20.5	-11.7
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	1,141	1,215	1,185	-2.5	3.8
Other miscellaneous	2,021	1,874	2,015	7.5	-0.3

^r revised^p preliminary**Note(s):** Figures may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 2
Wholesale merchants' sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	46,946	49,962	49,900	-0.1	6.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	341	341	323	-5.4	-5.3
Prince Edward Island	48	43	47	9.1	-1.2
Nova Scotia	655	718	695	-3.2	6.1
New Brunswick	501	528	505	-4.5	0.8
Quebec	9,022	9,674	9,652	-0.2	7.0
Ontario	23,055	23,990	24,271	1.2	5.3
Manitoba	1,269	1,368	1,350	-1.3	6.4
Saskatchewan	1,827	1,996	1,956	-2.0	7.1
Alberta	5,845	6,629	6,431	-3.0	10.0
British Columbia	4,316	4,588	4,588	0.0	6.3
Yukon	12	13	13	-0.8	5.8
Northwest Territories	50	66	60	-10.2	18.8
Nunavut	5	7	8	21.4	65.1

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Table 3
Wholesale merchants' inventories by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total, wholesale inventories	55,612	59,933	60,152	0.4	8.2
Farm product	181	174	174	0.2	-3.7
Food	4,740	4,847	4,880	0.7	3.0
Beverage	267	307	298	-2.8	11.7
Cigarette and tobacco product	216	243	233	-3.9	8.3
Textile, clothing and footwear	1,968	1,890	1,878	-0.6	-4.6
Home entertainment equipment and household appliance	721	743	760	2.3	5.5
Home furnishings	928	998	1,007	0.9	8.6
Personal goods	1,402	1,486	1,505	1.2	7.3
Pharmaceuticals and pharmacy supplies	4,149	4,675	4,718	0.9	13.7
Toiletries, cosmetics and sundries	653	717	756	5.4	15.7
Motor vehicle	3,381	4,562	4,321	-5.3	27.8
New motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,189	3,601	3,545	-1.5	11.2
Used motor vehicle parts and accessories	87	107	107	-0.2	22.3
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment and supplies	3,122	3,103	3,104	0.0	-0.6
Metal service centres	3,050	3,274	3,265	-0.3	7.1
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies	4,655	4,637	4,667	0.7	0.3
Farm, lawn and garden machinery and equipment	3,210	3,455	3,434	-0.6	7.0
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	7,606	8,844	9,046	2.3	18.9
Computer and communications equipment and supplies	1,577	1,628	1,612	-1.0	2.2
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,199	3,418	3,441	0.7	7.6
Recyclable material	535	578	596	3.2	11.5
Paper, paper product and disposable plastic product	691	707	733	3.6	6.0
Agricultural supplies	2,683	2,468	2,489	0.9	-7.2
Chemical (except agricultural) and allied product	944	1,049	1,096	4.4	16.0
Other miscellaneous	2,459	2,422	2,485	2.6	1.1

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 081-0011 to 081-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The June 2012 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-X, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade data for July will be released on September 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).

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karim El hassani (613-951-0608; karim.elhassani@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Travel between Canada and other countries, June 2012

Travel to and from Canada increased in June. Canadian residents took nearly 2.8 million overnight trips abroad in June, the highest monthly figure since record keeping began in 1972.

Canadian overnight travel was up 5.7% compared with May. This was the result of increases in overnight travel to both the United States and overseas countries.

Overnight travel to the United States rose 7.5% to 1.9 million trips, also the highest level since 1972. The majority of overnight travel was by car as Canadian residents took over 1.2 million overnight car trips, the highest level in almost 20 years.

Canadian residents took 807,000 trips to overseas countries in June, up 1.4%. Although this was a continuation of an upward trend, it marked the first time that travel to overseas countries surpassed the 800,000 mark.

As of June 1, the duty-free exemptions for Canadians returning from trips abroad changed. For those away from the country for 24 hours or more, the change was from \$50 to \$200. For those residents away 48 hours or more, the change was from \$400 to \$800.

On an inbound basis, travel to Canada from abroad rose 0.5% to just over 2.1 million trips in June.

Overnight travel from the United States rose 1.1% to 1.0 million trips. Overnight car travel increased 1.9%, while overnight plane travel decreased 0.7% in June.

US residents took 651,000 same-day car trips in June, down 1.7% from May.

Travel from overseas countries rose 0.8% in June to 381,000 trips.

In June, 6 of the top 12 overseas markets recorded increases. Residents of China took 26,000 trips to Canada in June, a 5.5% increase and the highest monthly figure on record for that country. Travel from Italy was also up 5.5%, while travel from India declined 5.4%.

Note to readers

Monthly data are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011 ^r	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	5,221	5,277	5,479	3.8
To the United States	4,460	4,481	4,672	4.3
To other countries	761	796	807	1.4
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,623	2,638	2,688	1.9
Total trips, one or more nights	2,556	2,604	2,751	5.7
United States ³	1,794	1,808	1,944	7.5
Car	1,052	1,080	1,189	10.1
Plane	641	622	644	3.6
Other modes of transportation	101	106	110	4.2
Other countries ⁴	761	796	807	1.4
Travel to Canada²	2,105	2,125	2,135	0.5
From the United States	1,726	1,747	1,754	0.4
From other countries	380	378	381	0.8
Same-day car trips from the United States	665	662	651	-1.7
Total trips, one or more nights	1,355	1,366	1,376	0.7
United States ³	984	996	1,007	1.1
Car	566	582	593	1.9
Plane	298	300	298	-0.7
Other modes of transportation	120	114	115	1.6
Other countries ⁴	371	370	369	-0.3
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	57	57	57	-0.6
France	38	39	39	-0.9
Germany	30	26	26	0.9
China	22	24	26	5.5
Australia	22	21	22	2.7
Japan	17	19	19	1.0
India	12	13	13	-5.4
South Korea	13	12	12	1.9
Mexico	11	12	12	-4.8
Hong Kong	11	10	10	-2.5
Italy	9	8	9	5.5
Switzerland	10	9	9	-1.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The June 2012 issue of *International Travel: Advance Information*, Vol. 28, no. 6 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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 Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division.

Livestock estimates, July 1, 2012

Cattle and calf inventories on Canadian farms declined slightly between July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012 to reach their lowest level since 1994. At the same time, hog inventories rose 1.5% while sheep inventories were up 0.6%.

Farmers had 13.5 million cattle and calves on their farms as of July 1, down 0.1% from the same date in 2011. The cattle herd shrunk 1.2% from July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011, following a steady decline from its peak in 2005.

As of July 1, 84,040 farms reported beef or dairy cattle, down 2.2% from the same date in 2011.

The Canadian dairy herd declined 0.1%. A 0.5% decrease in the inventory of dairy cows was partially offset by a 0.6% increase in replacement dairy heifers.

The beef herd remained virtually unchanged in the wake of a 3.5% increase in beef replacement heifers.

During the first six months of 2012, 1.6 million head of Canadian cattle and calves were sent to slaughter. This was a 2.2% decline from the same period in 2011 and 13.6% below the level for the same period in 2010.

Farmers exported 398,900 head of live cattle and calves during the first half of 2012, up 6.6% from the same period in 2011. However, exports remained 36.0% below the level for the first six months of 2010.

Hog inventories continued their rebound, increasing 1.5% from July 1, 2011 to 12.9 million. This followed a 1.3% increase in the previous year, which in turn followed five years of declines. As of July 1, hog inventories had risen in three consecutive quarters.

On July 1, 7,200 farms reported hogs, down 1.8% from the same date of 2011.

Farmers reported 1.2 million sows and gilts, a 1.1% increase from July 1, 2011. This total was down 0.7% from two years earlier.

During the second quarter of 2012, domestic hog slaughter totalled 5.1 million head, a 1.1% increase from the second quarter of 2011, but 0.2% below the level for the same period in 2010.

Total hog exports reached 1.6 million head, up 8.3% from the second quarter of 2011. Exports remained 34.7% below the second-quarter peak of 2.4 million in 2007.

Farmers reported 1.1 million sheep, up 0.6% from July 1, 2011. Sheep inventories fell in two provinces: Alberta (-1.0%) and Quebec (-1.1%). They were unchanged in British Columbia. The biggest relative increases occurred in Manitoba (+4.4%) and Saskatchewan (+3.3%).

Inventories rose 0.6% for ewes, 1.5% for replacement lambs and 0.5% for market lambs compared with July 1, 2011. During the first six months of 2012, 329,500 sheep and lambs were sent to slaughter, up 1.3% from the same period in 2011. Canada exported 2,600 lambs during the first half of 2012, down 31.6%. Imports of sheep and lambs fell 31.2%.

Note to readers

As a result of a change in the Hog Survey frequency, quarterly hog statistics will not be published in October 2012. The next semi-annual hog statistics will be released in February 2013.

The publications Cattle Statistics (23-012-X) and Sheep Statistics (23-011-X) have been discontinued. The last issue of the Hog Statistics (23-010-X) is published with this release. The data previously contained in these publications continue to be available without charge in CANSIM.

Cattle and sheep inventory data from July 2007 to January 2012 and hog inventory data from July 2007 to April 2012 have been revised following the 2011 Census of Agriculture data.

Table 1
Cattle inventories

	July 1, 2011 ^r	January 1, 2012 ^r	July 1, 2012	January 1 to July 1, 2012	July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	13,530.0	12,215.0	13,520.0	10.7	-0.1
East	3,285.0	3,170.0	3,270.0	3.2	-0.5
Atlantic	239.8	241.3	239.4	-0.8	-0.2
Quebec	1,270.0	1,210.0	1,260.0	4.1	-0.8
Ontario	1,775.2	1,718.7	1,770.6	3.0	-0.3
West	10,245.0	9,045.0	10,250.0	13.3	0.0
Manitoba	1,285.0	1,150.0	1,280.0	11.3	-0.4
Saskatchewan	2,895.0	2,455.0	2,905.0	18.3	0.3
Alberta	5,415.0	4,900.0	5,410.0	10.4	-0.1
British Columbia	650.0	540.0	655.0	21.3	0.8

^r revised

Table 2
Hog inventories

	July 1, 2011 ^r	April 1, 2012 ^r	July 1, 2012	April 1 to July 1, 2012	July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	12,685.0	12,805.0	12,870.0	0.5	1.5
East	7,312.0	7,345.0	7,381.0	0.5	0.9
Atlantic	125.1	135.5	135.5	0.0	8.3
Quebec	4,120.0	4,125.0	4,125.0	0.0	0.1
Ontario	3,066.9	3,084.5	3,120.5	1.2	1.7
West	5,373.0	5,460.0	5,489.0	0.5	2.2
Manitoba	2,845.0	2,860.0	2,890.0	1.0	1.6
Saskatchewan	1,040.0	1,090.0	1,100.0	0.9	5.8
Alberta	1,400.0	1,420.0	1,410.0	-0.7	0.7
British Columbia	88.0	90.0	89.0	-1.1	1.1

^r revised

Table 3
Sheep inventories

	July 1, 2011 ^r	January 1, 2012 ^r	July 1, 2012	January 1 to July 1, 2012	July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012
	thousands of head			% change	
Canada	1,139.2	892.0	1,146.5	28.5	0.6
East	687.2	538.0	689.5	28.2	0.3
Atlantic	47.2	36.0	48.5	34.7	2.8
Quebec	280.0	235.0	277.0	17.9	-1.1
Ontario	360.0	267.0	364.0	36.3	1.1
West	452.0	354.0	457.0	29.1	1.1
Manitoba	68.0	56.0	71.0	26.8	4.4
Saskatchewan	123.0	98.0	127.0	29.6	3.3
Alberta	203.0	154.0	201.0	30.5	-1.0
British Columbia	58.0	46.0	58.0	26.1	0.0

^r revised

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 003-0004, 003-0026, 003-0028, 003-0031, 003-0032, 003-0083, 003-0085, 003-0087 to 003-0089, 003-0092 to 003-0094, 003-0098 and 003-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3460 and 3465.

The second quarter 2012 issue of *Hog Statistics*, Vol. 11, no. 3 (23-010-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bishnu Saha (613-951-6051; bishnu.saha@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

New products and studies

New products

Hog Statistics, Second quarter 2012, Vol. 11, no. 3
Catalogue number 23-010-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire, June 2012, Vol. 8, no. 6
Catalogue number 41-019-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

International Travel: Advance Information, June 2012, Vol. 28, no. 6
Catalogue number 66-001-P (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Agricultural Ecumene Boundary File - Reference Guide, 2011 Census of Agriculture
Catalogue number 92-639-G (HTML, free)

Agricultural Ecumene Boundary File, 2011 Census of Agriculture
Catalogue number 92-639-X (HTML, free)



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