

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, March 7, 2014

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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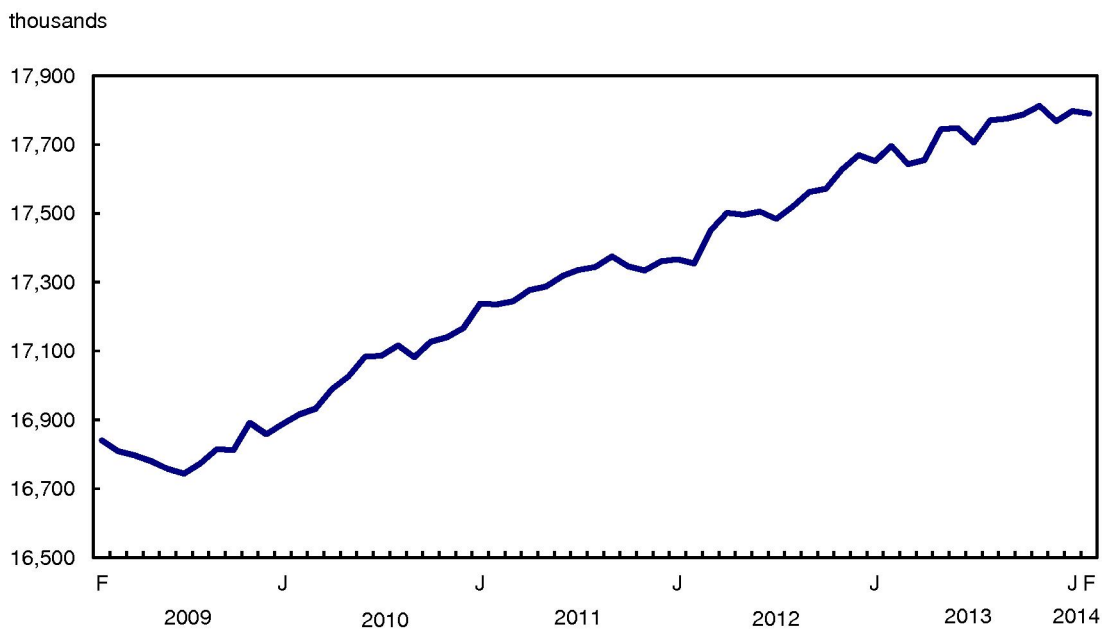
Releases

Labour Force Survey, February 2014

Employment was little changed in February, and the unemployment rate remained at 7.0%. There has been little overall employment growth in Canada since August 2013.

Compared with 12 months earlier, employment increased by 95,000 (+0.5%) and the unemployment rate was unchanged. Over the same period, the number of hours worked rose 0.7%.

Chart 1 Employment



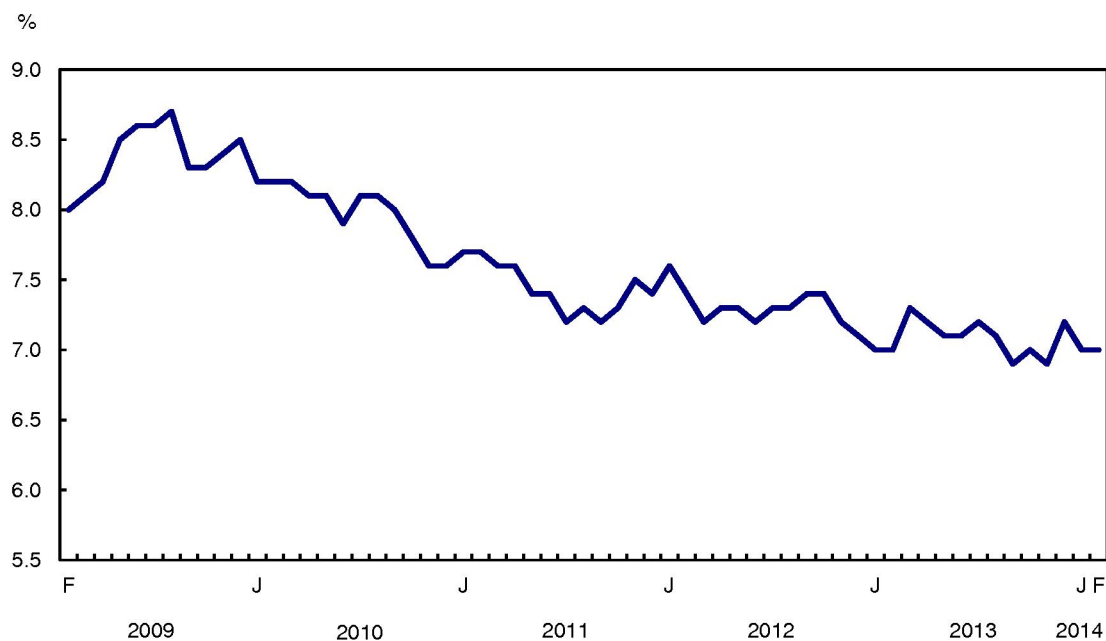
Provincially, employment decreased in Quebec and British Columbia, while it increased in Alberta and Nova Scotia.

In February, there were fewer people working in health care and social assistance as well as finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. At the same time, employment rose in "other services," natural resources as well as agriculture.

The number of public sector employees declined in February, while there was little change among private sector employees and the self-employed.

Employment fell among men aged 25 to 54 and was virtually unchanged for the other demographic groups.

Chart 2
Unemployment rate



Provincial employment

In Quebec, the number of people working fell by 26,000 in February, pushing the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 7.8%. This employment decline follows a slight upward trend that began in September 2013.

In British Columbia, 10,000 fewer people were employed in February. The unemployment rate for this province was 6.4%, unchanged from a month earlier, as fewer people participated in the labour market. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in British Columbia was essentially unchanged.

Employment in Alberta rose by 19,000 in February, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.3 percentage points to 4.3%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in this province grew by 3.8% or 82,000, accounting for the lion's share of the national growth.

In February, employment increased by 2,900 in Nova Scotia. The unemployment rate was little changed at 8.9% compared with the previous month, as more people entered the labour market. Compared with February 2013, employment in the province was little changed.

Although employment in Saskatchewan was little changed in February, the unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points to 3.9%, as fewer people searched for work. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province increased 0.9% or 5,200.

Industry perspective

Employment in health care and social assistance fell by 28,000 in February. Despite this decline, employment in this industry has been on a slight upward trend since August.

There were 25,000 fewer people working in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing in February, the first notable decline in this industry since an upward trend began in September.

In February, employment rose by 18,000 in "other services" such as personal care services as well as civic and social organizations. Compared with a year earlier, however, employment in this industry was unchanged.

There were 9,800 more people working in natural resources in February. On a year-over-year basis, employment in this industry was up 9.6% or 34,000.

Employment in agriculture increased by 7,900 but was little changed compared with 12 months earlier.

In February, the number of public sector employees fell by 51,000, with declines in health care and social assistance, educational services as well as transportation and warehousing. On a year-over-year basis, there was little change in the public sector and in self-employment, while the number of private sector employees increased by 129,000 (+1.1%).

Employment declines among men aged 25 to 54

There were 20,000 fewer men aged 25 to 54 working in February, bringing employment to virtually the same level as that of 12 months earlier. Among women in this age group, there was little change in employment in February compared with the previous month and with a year earlier.

Employment was little changed among youths aged 15 to 24 in February compared with a month earlier, but was down 36,000 (-1.5%) from 12 months earlier. The youth unemployment rate was 13.6%, unchanged from a year earlier.

There was no notable employment change among men and women aged 55 and over compared with the previous month. However, employment for this group has been on an upward trend, rising 3.8% (+125,000) since February 2013, mostly the result of population ageing.

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling variability. As a result, monthly estimates will show more variability than trends observed over longer time periods. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries also have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X).

This analysis focuses on differences between estimates that are statistically significant at the 68% confidence level.

*The **employment rate** is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The rate for a particular group (for example, youths aged 15 to 24) is the number employed in that group as a percentage of the population for that group.*

*The **unemployment rate** is the number unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed).*

*The **participation rate** is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population. For more detailed information, see the Guide to the Labour Force Survey (71-543-G).*

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted estimates, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see "Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends."

Each year, the LFS estimates are revised for the previous three years, using the latest seasonal factors.

Table 1
Labour force characteristics by age and sex – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2014	February 2014	Standard error ¹	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over							
Population	28,870.4	28,893.5	...	23.1	367.2	0.1	1.3
Labour force	19,130.5	19,133.4	29.1	2.9	102.6	0.0	0.5
Employment	17,797.3	17,790.3	28.9	-7.0	94.7	0.0	0.5
Full-time	14,424.7	14,443.6	39.2	18.9	69.6	0.1	0.5
Part-time	3,372.6	3,346.7	36.1	-25.9	25.1	-0.8	0.8
Unemployment	1,333.2	1,343.1	24.9	9.9	7.9	0.7	0.6
Participation rate	66.3	66.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	61.6	61.6	0.1	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	19.0	18.8	0.2	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years							
Population	4,436.8	4,433.8	...	-3.0	-20.0	-0.1	-0.4
Labour force	2,815.1	2,803.1	17.2	-12.0	-40.0	-0.4	-1.4
Employment	2,423.4	2,420.7	15.8	-2.7	-36.3	-0.1	-1.5
Full-time	1,242.8	1,268.4	18.6	25.6	-17.1	2.1	-1.3
Part-time	1,180.6	1,152.2	19.7	-28.4	-19.3	-2.4	-1.6
Unemployment	391.7	382.4	14.6	-9.3	-3.7	-2.4	-1.0
Participation rate	63.4	63.2	0.4	-0.2	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.9	13.6	0.5	-0.3	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	54.6	54.6	0.4	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	48.7	47.6	0.7	-1.1	-0.1	...	...
Men, 25 years and over							
Population	11,966.6	11,980.0	...	13.4	196.3	0.1	1.7
Labour force	8,654.7	8,654.5	15.1	-0.2	94.7	0.0	1.1
Employment	8,124.1	8,110.0	16.4	-14.1	62.7	-0.2	0.8
Full-time	7,486.2	7,478.1	22.0	-8.1	31.7	-0.1	0.4
Part-time	637.8	631.9	18.0	-5.9	30.9	-0.9	5.1
Unemployment	530.7	544.5	14.5	13.8	32.0	2.6	6.2
Participation rate	72.3	72.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	67.9	67.7	0.1	-0.2	-0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	7.9	7.8	0.2	-0.1	0.3	...	...
Women, 25 years and over							
Population	12,467.0	12,479.7	...	12.7	190.8	0.1	1.6
Labour force	7,660.7	7,675.9	16.6	15.2	47.9	0.2	0.6
Employment	7,249.9	7,259.7	16.4	9.8	68.4	0.1	1.0
Full-time	5,695.7	5,697.1	25.7	1.4	54.9	0.0	1.0
Part-time	1,554.1	1,562.5	24.0	8.4	13.3	0.5	0.9
Unemployment	410.8	416.2	13.3	5.4	-20.5	1.3	-4.7
Participation rate	61.4	61.5	0.1	0.1	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.4	0.2	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	58.2	58.2	0.1	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	21.4	21.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Table 2
Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS¹) – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2014	February 2014	Standard error ²	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker							
Employees	15,100.8	15,085.3	35.7	-15.5	87.2	-0.1	0.6
Self-employed	2,696.5	2,705.1	25.5	8.6	7.5	0.3	0.3
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,637.0	3,586.3	25.0	-50.7	-41.3	-1.4	-1.1
Private	11,463.8	11,499.0	37.9	35.2	128.5	0.3	1.1
All industries	17,797.3	17,790.3	28.9	-7.0	94.7	0.0	0.5
Goods-producing sector	3,877.7	3,896.6	26.3	18.9	45.8	0.5	1.2
Agriculture	302.8	310.7	7.5	7.9	-10.0	2.6	-3.1
Natural resources ³	376.6	386.4	7.4	9.8	33.9	2.6	9.6
Utilities	158.6	158.4	5.4	-0.2	24.8	-0.1	18.6
Construction	1,301.1	1,297.5	17.7	-3.6	-9.2	-0.3	-0.7
Manufacturing	1,738.7	1,743.7	19.6	5.0	6.4	0.3	0.4
Services-producing sector	13,919.6	13,893.7	34.4	-25.9	48.9	-0.2	0.4
Trade	2,686.7	2,700.1	24.5	13.4	-2.7	0.5	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	884.1	888.2	14.2	4.1	28.7	0.5	3.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,148.8	1,124.2	16.8	-24.6	14.4	-2.1	1.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,385.4	1,367.9	18.6	-17.5	39.5	-1.3	3.0
Business, building and other support services	690.3	691.1	14.4	0.8	-12.6	0.1	-1.8
Educational services	1,291.2	1,282.8	16.2	-8.4	1.0	-0.7	0.1
Health care and social assistance	2,221.5	2,194.0	19.5	-27.5	28.0	-1.2	1.3
Information, culture and recreation	793.7	808.1	14.8	14.4	24.7	1.8	3.2
Accommodation and food services	1,149.4	1,147.0	17.2	-2.4	2.2	-0.2	0.2
Other services	758.1	776.1	13.8	18.0	-0.3	2.4	0.0
Public administration	910.3	914.1	13.0	3.8	-74.2	0.4	-7.5

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

3. Also referred to as forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas.

Note(s): Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Table 3
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2014	February 2014	Standard error ¹	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Population	429.4	429.2	...	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Labour force	264.4	263.7	1.9	-0.7	-1.8	-0.3	-0.7
Employment	232.7	232.5	2.0	-0.2	-1.6	-0.1	-0.7
Full-time	196.7	198.3	2.4	1.6	-1.7	0.8	-0.8
Part-time	36.0	34.2	1.9	-1.8	0.1	-5.0	0.3
Unemployment	31.8	31.2	1.8	-0.6	-0.2	-1.9	-0.6
Participation rate	61.6	61.4	0.4	-0.2	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.0	11.8	0.6	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	54.2	54.2	0.5	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Prince Edward Island							
Population	121.1	121.2	...	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.6
Labour force	84.1	84.4	0.6	0.3	-0.8	0.4	-0.9
Employment	74.6	74.7	0.7	0.1	-0.7	0.1	-0.9
Full-time	61.9	62.5	0.9	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.6
Part-time	12.7	12.2	0.7	-0.5	-1.6	-3.9	-11.6
Unemployment	9.5	9.7	0.7	0.2	-0.2	2.1	-2.0
Participation rate	69.4	69.6	0.5	0.2	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.3	11.5	0.8	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	61.6	61.6	0.6	0.0	-1.0	...	...
Nova Scotia							
Population	781.6	781.3	...	-0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Labour force	489.9	494.8	2.6	4.9	-6.0	1.0	-1.2
Employment	447.8	450.7	2.6	2.9	-3.5	0.6	-0.8
Full-time	359.3	363.9	3.5	4.6	-0.9	1.3	-0.2
Part-time	88.5	86.8	3.2	-1.7	-2.5	-1.9	-2.8
Unemployment	42.2	44.1	2.4	1.9	-2.5	4.5	-5.4
Participation rate	62.7	63.3	0.3	0.6	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.6	8.9	0.5	0.3	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	57.3	57.7	0.3	0.4	-0.5	...	...
New Brunswick							
Population	620.0	620.1	...	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Labour force	389.7	391.5	2.2	1.8	-1.1	0.5	-0.3
Employment	351.3	353.1	2.4	1.8	0.0	0.5	0.0
Full-time	299.3	298.3	3.0	-1.0	1.1	-0.3	0.4
Part-time	52.0	54.8	2.6	2.8	-1.1	5.4	-2.0
Unemployment	38.4	38.4	2.3	0.0	-1.1	0.0	-2.8
Participation rate	62.9	63.1	0.4	0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.9	9.8	0.6	-0.1	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	56.7	56.9	0.4	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Quebec							
Population	6,716.9	6,719.6	...	2.7	48.3	0.0	0.7
Labour force	4,384.9	4,375.3	15.1	-9.6	16.7	-0.2	0.4
Employment	4,058.2	4,032.7	15.2	-25.5	-2.6	-0.6	-0.1
Full-time	3,239.2	3,242.1	20.0	2.9	-49.8	0.1	-1.5
Part-time	819.0	790.6	18.3	-28.4	47.2	-3.5	6.3
Unemployment	326.7	342.7	13.2	16.0	19.4	4.9	6.0
Participation rate	65.3	65.1	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.5	7.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	60.4	60.0	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	...	...

Table 3 - continued
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2014	February 2014	Standard error ¹	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014	January to February 2014	February 2013 to February 2014
Ontario							
Population	11,278.4	11,287.3	...	8.9	137.1	0.1	1.2
Labour force	7,438.2	7,448.7	19.8	10.5	17.5	0.1	0.2
Employment	6,882.8	6,888.9	19.0	6.1	28.7	0.1	0.4
Full-time	5,600.6	5,605.9	26.6	5.3	86.0	0.1	1.6
Part-time	1,282.2	1,283.0	24.6	0.8	-57.3	0.1	-4.3
Unemployment	555.4	559.8	17.2	4.4	-11.3	0.8	-2.0
Participation rate	66.0	66.0	0.2	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.5	7.5	0.2	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.0	61.0	0.2	0.0	-0.5	...	...
Manitoba							
Population	979.9	980.9	...	1.0	11.8	0.1	1.2
Labour force	670.8	666.5	2.7	-4.3	-3.1	-0.6	-0.5
Employment	633.1	631.4	2.7	-1.7	-5.5	-0.3	-0.9
Full-time	514.9	509.2	3.7	-5.7	-3.5	-1.1	-0.7
Part-time	118.1	122.2	3.5	4.1	-2.0	3.5	-1.6
Unemployment	37.7	35.1	2.1	-2.6	2.4	-6.9	7.3
Participation rate	68.5	67.9	0.3	-0.6	-1.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.3	0.3	-0.3	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	64.6	64.4	0.3	-0.2	-1.3	...	...
Saskatchewan							
Population	835.3	836.4	...	1.1	16.7	0.1	2.0
Labour force	581.6	580.4	2.5	-1.2	6.0	-0.2	1.0
Employment	556.8	557.9	2.6	1.1	5.2	0.2	0.9
Full-time	462.3	464.3	3.4	2.0	7.9	0.4	1.7
Part-time	94.5	93.6	3.1	-0.9	-2.7	-1.0	-2.8
Unemployment	24.8	22.5	1.8	-2.3	0.8	-9.3	3.7
Participation rate	69.6	69.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.3	3.9	0.3	-0.4	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	66.7	66.7	0.3	0.0	-0.7	...	...
Alberta							
Population	3,230.0	3,236.3	...	6.3	107.9	0.2	3.4
Labour force	2,351.5	2,364.2	9.3	12.7	81.3	0.5	3.6
Employment	2,243.3	2,262.1	9.9	18.8	82.3	0.8	3.8
Full-time	1,882.9	1,896.7	12.6	13.8	48.9	0.7	2.6
Part-time	360.3	365.5	11.2	5.2	33.5	1.4	10.1
Unemployment	108.2	102.0	7.1	-6.2	-1.2	-5.7	-1.2
Participation rate	72.8	73.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.6	4.3	0.3	-0.3	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	69.5	69.9	0.3	0.4	0.2	...	...
British Columbia							
Population	3,877.9	3,881.1	...	3.2	43.9	0.1	1.1
Labour force	2,475.3	2,463.9	10.5	-11.4	-6.0	-0.5	-0.2
Employment	2,316.8	2,306.4	10.4	-10.4	-7.6	-0.4	-0.3
Full-time	1,807.7	1,802.7	14.6	-5.0	-19.2	-0.3	-1.1
Part-time	509.1	503.7	13.8	-5.4	11.6	-1.1	2.4
Unemployment	158.5	157.5	8.6	-1.0	1.6	-0.6	1.0
Participation rate	63.8	63.5	0.3	-0.3	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.4	0.3	0.0	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	59.7	59.4	0.3	-0.3	-0.9	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Available in CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0051, 282-0054, 282-0055, 282-0060 to 282-0063, 282-0069 to 282-0089, 282-0092 to 282-0095, 282-0100 to 282-0121 and 282-0200 to 282-0225.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)*, is now available online for the week ending February 15. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

[Data tables](#) are also now available online. From the *Browse by subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on April 4.

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

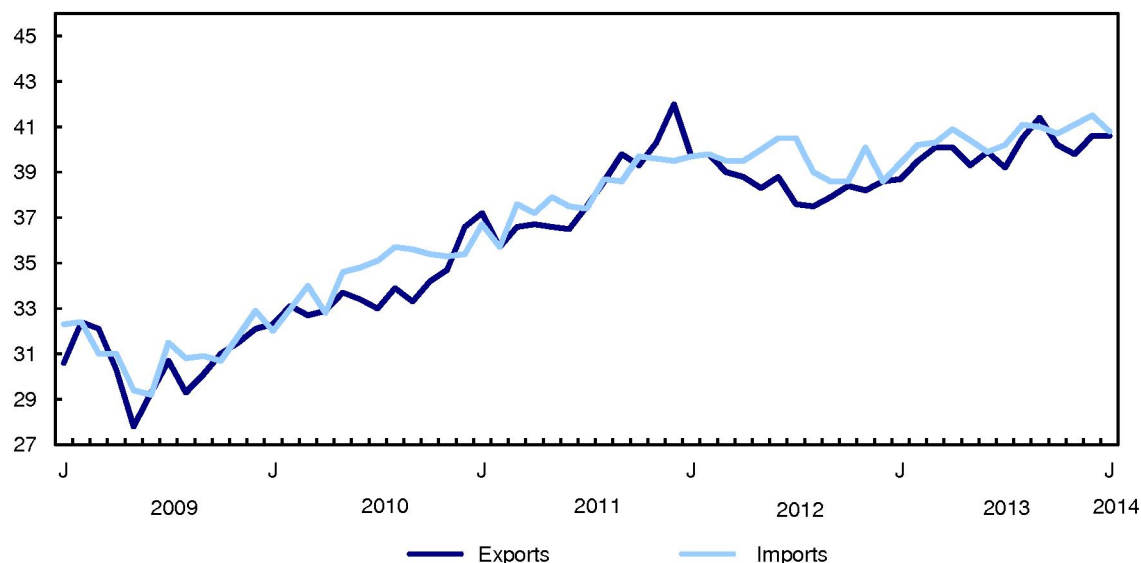
To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao at 613-951-4750 (vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca) or Andrew Fields (613-951-3551; andrew.fields@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2014

Canada's merchandise imports declined 1.6% while exports edged up 0.2% in January. As a result, Canada's trade deficit with the world narrowed from \$922 million in December to \$177 million in January.

Chart 1 Exports and imports

billions of dollars



Note(s): Data are seasonally adjusted.

Imports declined to \$40.8 billion as volumes were down 2.6% while prices were up 1.0%. The main contributors to the overall decline in imports were motor vehicles and parts as well as energy products.

Exports edged up to \$40.6 billion, as an increase in energy products was mostly offset by decreases in motor vehicles and parts as well as metal ores and non-metallic minerals. Overall, prices were up 5.8% while volumes were down 5.3%.

Imports from the United States declined 1.8% to \$27.1 billion, as imports of motor vehicles and parts as well as aircraft and other transportation equipment and parts fell. Exports to the United States edged down 0.1% to \$30.7 billion. Consequently, Canada's trade surplus with the United States widened from \$3.2 billion in December to \$3.6 billion in January.

Exports to countries other than the United States grew 1.3% to \$10.0 billion, as increases in exports to the principal trading area "all other countries" (+9.3%) were partially offset by declines to Japan (-20.1%). Imports from countries other than the United States declined 1.2% to \$13.8 billion. Lower imports of crude oil and crude bitumen from Norway led to an 8.6% decrease in imports from the principal trading area "other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries". This decline was partially offset by a 5.4% increase in imports from the European Union. As a result, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States narrowed from \$4.1 billion in December to \$3.8 billion in January.

Imports decline on lower volumes

Imports of motor vehicles and parts declined 5.9% to \$6.7 billion in January, as motor vehicle engines and motor vehicle parts decreased 7.5%. Passenger cars and light trucks also contributed to the decline, down 5.4% to \$2.9 billion, as holiday shutdowns were extended at some manufacturing plants in the United States.

Imports of energy products fell 7.3% to \$3.5 billion; the commodity grouping crude oil and crude bitumen (-16.5%) was the main contributor to the section's decline. Overall, volumes were down 6.2%.

Imports of metal ores and non-metallic minerals decreased 16.8% to \$891 million. The main factor behind this decline was other metal ores and concentrates (-16.0%), mainly lead and zinc ores and concentrates. Copper ores and concentrates also fell (-70.9%). The declines in January for both of these commodity groupings followed significant increases in December.

Imports of aircraft and other transportation equipment and parts declined 10.3% to \$1.2 billion. Imports of aircraft were down \$113 million to \$170 million.

Imports of electronic and electrical equipment and parts grew 2.6% to \$4.8 billion, as volumes and prices rose. The gains in imports were led by communications and audio and video equipment (+5.1%) as well as electronic and electrical parts (+8.5%).

Imports of metal and non-metallic mineral products increased 3.8% to \$3.5 billion, a third consecutive monthly gain. Unwrought iron, steel and ferro-alloys, and basic and semi-finished ferrous metal products as well as unwrought copper and copper alloys contributed to the section's increase.

Energy products lead gain in exports

Exports of energy products increased 9.2% to \$10.4 billion in January, on the strength of prices. Exports of crude oil and crude bitumen, up 11.6% to \$7.4 billion, led the section's increase. Natural gas exports (+12.3%) also contributed to the gain.

Exports of farm, fishing and intermediate food products grew 7.4% to \$2.5 billion, the second highest value on record. A 21.5% gain in exports of wheat led widespread increases in the section. Both prices and volumes contributed to the section's gain.

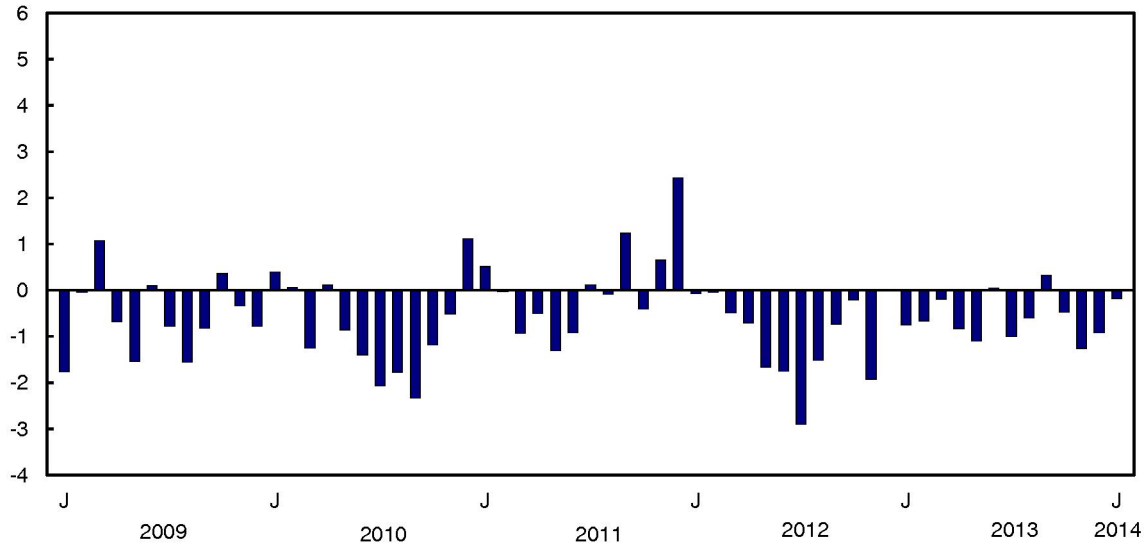
Exports of consumer goods rose 3.8% to \$4.6 billion. The main contributors to the increase were pharmaceutical and medicinal products (+11.5%), miscellaneous goods and supplies (+8.9%), and other food products (+4.5%), mainly yellow peas and red lentils.

Exports of metal ores and non-metallic minerals declined 11.7% to \$1.4 billion. The main factor behind the decrease was copper ores and concentrates, down \$215 million to \$130 million in January on lower volumes (-63.3%).

Exports of motor vehicles and parts fell 11.0% to \$5.2 billion, as volumes were down 12.5%. An extension of holiday shutdowns in both the United States and Canada contributed to the decrease in exports of both motor vehicle engines and motor vehicle parts (-21.8%) and passenger cars and light trucks (-8.1%).

Chart 2
Trade balance

billions of dollars



Note(s): Data are seasonally adjusted.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of Canada's international balance of payments (BOP), which also includes trade in services, investment income, current transfers as well as capital and financial flows.

International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a BOP and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. BOP data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for factors such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.

Data in this release are on a BOP basis, seasonally adjusted and in current dollars. Constant dollars are calculated using the Laspeyres volume formula (2007=100).

For more information on seasonal adjustment, see "Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends."

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Current year revisions are reflected in both the customs and BOP based data.

The previous year's customs data are revised with the release of the January and February reference months as well as on a quarterly basis. The previous two years of customs based data are revised annually and are released in February with the December reference month.

The previous year's BOP based data are revised with the release of the January, February and March reference months. To remain consistent with the Canadian System of macroeconomic accounts, annual revisions will take place in December with the October reference month rather than in June, as was previously the case.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates produced for the energy section with actual figures, changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Table 1
Merchandise trade: Principal trading areas – Seasonally adjusted, current dollars

	January 2013 ^r	December 2013 ^r	January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total exports	38,696	40,561	40,645	0.2	5.0
United States	28,545	30,732	30,694	-0.1	7.5
Japan	888	1,029	823	-20.1	-7.4
European Union ¹	3,402	2,716	2,729	0.5	-19.8
Other OECD countries ²	1,390	1,690	1,596	-5.6	14.8
All other countries	4,471	4,394	4,804	9.3	7.4
Total imports	39,443	41,482	40,822	-1.6	3.5
United States	24,959	27,562	27,070	-1.8	8.5
Japan	845	794	792	-0.3	-6.3
European Union ¹	3,389	3,431	3,615	5.4	6.7
Other OECD countries ²	2,864	3,278	2,997	-8.6	4.6
All other countries	7,387	6,417	6,349	-1.1	-14.1
Trade balance	-748	-922	-177	...	...
United States	3,586	3,170	3,624	...	...
Japan	44	235	31	...	...
European Union ¹	13	-715	-886	...	...
Other OECD countries ²	-1,475	-1,588	-1,401	...	...
All other countries	-2,916	-2,024	-1,545	...	...

^r revised

... not applicable

1. The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Effective July 2013, Croatia is included in "European Union."

2. Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Chile, Iceland, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

Note(s): Totals may not equal the sum of their components.

Table 2
Merchandise trade: North American Product Classification System¹– Seasonally adjusted, current dollars

	January 2013 ^f	December 2013 ^f	January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total exports	38,696	40,561	40,645	0.2	5.0
Farm, fishing and intermediate food products	2,424	2,346	2,519	7.4	3.9
Energy products	8,732	9,563	10,444	9.2	19.6
Metal ores and non-metallic minerals	1,380	1,621	1,431	-11.7	3.7
Metal and non-metallic mineral products	4,790	4,282	4,154	-3.0	-13.3
Basic and industrial chemical, plastic and rubber products	2,963	2,949	2,890	-2.0	-2.5
Forestry products and building and packaging materials	2,672	2,957	3,010	1.8	12.6
Industrial machinery, equipment and parts	2,193	2,280	2,231	-2.1	1.8
Electronic and electrical equipment and parts	1,897	1,904	1,898	-0.3	0.1
Motor vehicles and parts	5,189	5,857	5,214	-11.0	0.5
Aircraft and other transportation equipment and parts	1,426	1,474	1,360	-7.7	-4.6
Consumer goods	4,182	4,397	4,566	3.8	9.2
Special transactions trade ²	191	219	215	-2.0	12.6
Other balance of payments adjustments	658	712	713	0.2	8.3
Total imports	39,443	41,482	40,822	-1.6	3.5
Farm, fishing and intermediate food products	1,071	1,085	1,179	8.7	10.1
Energy products	3,978	3,752	3,478	-7.3	-12.6
Metal ores and non-metallic minerals	1,115	1,071	891	-16.8	-20.1
Metal and non-metallic mineral products	3,219	3,367	3,495	3.8	8.6
Basic and industrial chemical, plastic and rubber products	3,085	3,522	3,412	-3.1	10.6
Forestry products and building and packaging materials	1,718	1,787	1,795	0.5	4.5
Industrial machinery, equipment and parts	3,669	3,881	3,973	2.4	8.3
Electronic and electrical equipment and parts	4,554	4,681	4,803	2.6	5.5
Motor vehicles and parts	6,646	7,165	6,746	-5.9	1.5
Aircraft and other transportation equipment and parts	1,248	1,341	1,202	-10.3	-3.7
Consumer goods	7,860	8,316	8,413	1.2	7.0
Special transactions trade ²	457	685	608	-11.3	33.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	824	829	827	-0.3	0.4

^f revised

1. International merchandise trade data are based on the North American Product Classification System 2007.

2. These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

Note(s): Totals may not equal the sum of their components.

Available in CANSIM: tables 228-0058 to 228-0068.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2201, 2202 and 2203.

These data are now available in the *Canadian International Merchandise Trade Database* (65F0013X). From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

The January 2014 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 68, no. 1 (65-001-X), is also now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for February will be released on April 3.

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

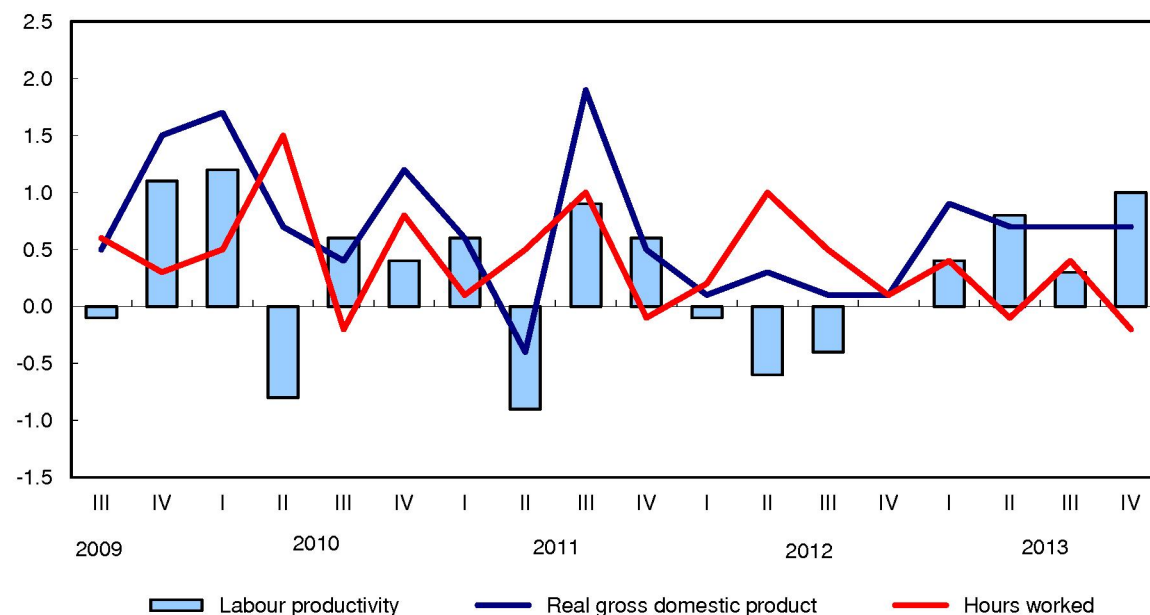
To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alec Forbes (613-951-0325), International Trade Division.

Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, fourth quarter 2013

Labour productivity in Canadian businesses rose 1.0% in the fourth quarter, following a 0.3% gain in the third quarter. This was the fourth consecutive quarterly increase for 2013 and the highest growth rate since the first quarter of 2010 (+1.2%).

Chart 1
Productivity of Canadian businesses increases at a faster pace

quarterly % change



The real gross domestic product (GDP) of businesses grew 0.7% in the fourth quarter, echoing the results observed in the previous two quarters. Output was up in almost every major industry group in the business sector. For a second consecutive quarter, the output growth of goods-producing businesses was comparable to that of service-producing businesses.

At the same time, hours worked in the business sector fell 0.2% in the fourth quarter, after increasing 0.4% in the third quarter. Goods-producing businesses, particularly construction, were largely responsible for this decrease in hours worked, which contrasts with the situation in the previous quarter. Hours worked in service-producing businesses edged up 0.1% for a second consecutive quarter.

Both goods-producing businesses and service-producing businesses contributed to the overall productivity gain in the fourth quarter.

Productivity in goods-producing businesses increased 1.7% in the fourth quarter, after falling 0.3% in the previous quarter. Construction (+2.0%) contributed the most to the increase, while productivity also grew in utilities (+3.0%) and manufacturing (+0.6%).

Productivity in service-producing businesses rose 0.5%, a fifth straight quarterly advance. Arts and entertainment (+7.2%), finance and insurance (+0.9%), administrative services (+1.6%) and wholesale trade (+0.7%) were mainly responsible for this growth.

In comparison, the productivity of American businesses increased 0.7% in the fourth quarter, a gain similar to the one observed in the third quarter.

In Canadian businesses, labour costs per unit of production were up 0.4% in the fourth quarter, as the increase in average compensation per hour worked (+1.4%) outpaced productivity growth.

However, in American dollars, the unit labour costs of Canadian businesses fell 0.6%, a fourth consecutive quarterly decline. The average value of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar decreased 1.0% during the quarter, marking a fourth consecutive quarter of 1.0% depreciation or more.

By comparison, the unit labour costs of American businesses declined 0.3%, after falling 0.5% in the third quarter.

Annual 2013

Labour productivity in Canadian businesses rose 1.0% in 2013, after remaining flat in 2012. In comparison, productivity growth in American businesses was also up 1.0% in 2013.

Canadian businesses increased their real output (+2.1%) at a slightly faster pace in 2013 than in 2012, while hours worked (+1.1%) continued to rise, albeit at a slower pace than in each of the three previous years.

In 2012, the real GDP of businesses (+1.7%) and hours worked (+1.8%) both grew at a comparable rate.

For 2013 as a whole, productivity increased in both goods-producing businesses (+0.5%) and service-producing businesses (+1.2%). With the exception of construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade and real estate services, productivity was up in every industry group in the business sector in 2013.

With hourly compensation (+2.4%) rising at a faster pace than productivity in 2013, the unit labour costs of Canadian businesses increased 1.3% in 2013 compared with a 3.0% gain in 2012.

However, the Canadian dollar was down an average of 3.0% in relation to the US dollar. Consequently, in American dollars, the unit labour costs of Canadian businesses fell 1.7% in 2013. In comparison, the unit labour costs of American businesses increased 0.8% in 2013.

Note to readers

Revisions

With this release on labour productivity and related measures, data were revised back to the first quarter of 2013 at the aggregate and industry levels.

Productivity measure

The term "productivity" in this release refers to labour productivity. For the purposes of this analysis, labour productivity and related variables cover the business sector only.

Labour productivity is a measure of real gross domestic product (GDP) per hour worked.

Unit labour cost is defined as the cost of workers' wages and benefits per unit of real GDP.

All the growth rates reported in this release are rounded to one decimal place. They are calculated with index numbers rounded to three decimal places, which are now available on CANSIM.

Table 1
Business sector: Labour productivity and related variables for Canada and the United States¹–
Seasonally adjusted

	Fourth quarter 2011	First quarter 2012	Second quarter 2012	Third quarter 2012	Fourth quarter 2012	First quarter 2013	Second quarter 2013	Third quarter 2013	Fourth quarter 2013
% change from previous quarter									
Canada									
Labour productivity	0.6	-0.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.3	1.0
Real gross domestic product (GDP)	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
Hours worked	-0.1	0.2	1.0	0.5	0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.4	-0.2
Hourly compensation	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.9	0.4	1.4
Unit labour cost	0.6	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.6	-0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4
Exchange rate ²	-4.2	2.3	-0.9	1.5	0.4	-1.8	-1.4	-1.4	-1.0
Unit labour cost in US dollars	-3.6	3.4	0.2	2.8	1.0	-2.0	-1.3	-1.3	-0.6
United States³									
Labour productivity	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.5	-0.5	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.7
Real GDP	1.6	1.2	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.8	1.4	1.1
Hours worked	0.7	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4
Hourly compensation	-1.2	2.1	0.5	0.2	2.4	-1.2	1.0	0.3	0.3
Unit labour cost	-2.0	1.8	0.2	-0.3	2.9	-1.3	0.5	-0.5	-0.3
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	First quarter 2013	Second quarter 2013	Third quarter 2013	Fourth quarter 2013
% change from the previous year					% change from same quarter of previous year				
Canada									
Labour productivity	0.2	1.8	0.9	-0.0	1.0	-0.6	0.8	1.5	2.4
Real GDP	-4.7	3.8	2.7	1.7	2.1	1.4	1.7	2.3	3.0
Hours worked	-4.9	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.1	2.0	0.9	0.9	0.5
Hourly compensation	2.5	1.4	3.4	2.9	2.4	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.9
Unit labour cost	2.3	-0.4	2.5	3.0	1.3	2.6	1.7	0.6	0.5
Exchange rate ²	-6.7	10.3	4.1	-1.0	-3.0	-0.8	-1.3	-4.2	-5.6
Unit labour cost in US dollars	-4.5	10.0	6.7	1.9	-1.7	1.8	0.4	-3.6	-5.2
United States³									
Labour productivity	3.3	3.3	0.4	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.9	2.1
Real GDP	-4.1	3.1	2.4	3.6	2.5	1.7	2.1	2.6	3.7
Hours worked	-7.1	-0.1	2.0	2.2	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.6
Hourly compensation	1.1	2.0	2.4	2.6	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.5	0.4
Unit labour cost	-2.2	-1.2	2.0	1.2	0.8	1.5	1.8	1.6	-1.6

1. Calculations of growth rates are based on index numbers rounded to three decimal places.

2. The exchange rate corresponds to the Canadian dollar value expressed in US dollars.

3. US data are from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Productivity and costs: Fourth quarter 2013 published in NEWS, February 6.

Available in CANSIM: tables 383-0008 and 383-0012.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5042.

The [System of macroeconomic accounts](#) module, accessible from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website, features an up-to-date portrait of national and provincial economies and their structure.

Links to other releases from the national accounts can be found in the fourth quarter 2013 issue of *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review*, Vol. 12, no. 4 (13-010-X). This publication will be updated on March 14, at the time of the release of the financial flow accounts and national balance sheet accounts.

Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost data for the first quarter will be released on June 6.

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).

Chain Fisher real export and import values, January 2014

The monthly chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 2007) for Canadian international merchandise trade are now available for January.

Available in CANSIM: tables 228-0061 and 228-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The January 2014 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 68, no. 1 (65-001-X), is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for February will be released on April 3.

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).

Export and import price indexes, January 2014

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2007=100) on a customs or balance of payments basis are now available based on the North American Product Classification System 2007.

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2007=100) for all countries and the United States on customs basis, by Standard International Trade Classification, are also available.

Available in CANSIM: tables 228-0063 to 228-0068.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The January 2014 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 68, no. 1 (65-001-X), is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Data on Canadian international merchandise trade for February will be released on April 3.

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).

Forage seed usage, 2013

Forage seed usage data are now available for 2013.

Note to readers

Data are from the Forage Seed Usage Survey, which was conducted between October 15, 2013 and January 31, 2014. The goal of this survey is to better evaluate trends in usage of improved forage seed varieties.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3442.

To obtain the data, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, or for any other information, 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).

Wool disposition and farm value, 2012

The quantity, price and farm value of purchased wool and wool used on farms are now available for 2012 by province and for Canada.

Available in CANSIM: table 003-0097.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3435.

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).

New products and studies

New products

Building Permits, January 2014, Vol. 58, no. 1
Catalogue number 64-001-X (HTML | PDF)

Canadian International Merchandise Trade, January 2014, Vol. 68, no. 1
Catalogue number 65-001-X (HTML | PDF)

Canadian International Merchandise Trade Database, January 2014
Catalogue number 65F0013X (Database)

Labour Force Information, February 9 to 15, 2014
Catalogue number 71-001-X (HTML | PDF)

Labour Force Survey Microdata File, February 2014
Catalogue number 71M0001X (CD-ROM)

Release dates: March 10 to 14, 2014

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
10	Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy	2012
13	Canada's international investment position	Fourth quarter 2013
13	Industrial capacity utilization rates	Fourth quarter 2013
13	New Housing Price Index	January 2014
14	National balance sheet and financial flow accounts	Fourth quarter 2013

See also the release dates for major economic indicators for the rest of the year.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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