

Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy, 2012

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Relocation or outsourcing of business activities

During the 2010 to 2012 period, 5.2% of Canadian enterprises relocated their business activities from Canada to another country. Enterprises in finance and insurance (15.0%) and utilities (10.4%) had the highest rates of relocating any business activities to another country.

For the three-year period of 2010 to 2012, large enterprises (18.2%) led in relocating any business activities to another country, followed by medium-sized (5.7%) and small enterprises (3.5%). During 2010 to 2012, the rates of enterprises across all the size groups relocating business activities to another country declined from the 2007 to 2009 period.

For the three-year period from 2010 to 2012, 20.6% of enterprises outsourced (contracted out) business activities from Canada to another country, up from 16.8% for the 2007 to 2009 period.

Canadian enterprises relocating business activities from another country into Canada edged up from 1.8% in 2007 to 2009 to 2.2% for 2010 to 2012. Large enterprises (6.2%) led all enterprise size groups in relocating business activities into Canada during the 2010 to 2012 period.

Table 1
Relocation or outsourcing of any business activities, by regions, all surveyed industries, 2010 to 2012

	Canada	Atlantic region ¹	Quebec	Ontario	Alberta	Rest of Canada ²
	%					
Relocation of any business activities to another country	5.2 ^A	1.4 ^A	7.9 ^B	4.1 ^A	2.4 ^A	10.1 ^B
Outsourcing of any business activities to another country	20.6 ^B	10.1 ^B	13.4 ^B	25.2 ^B	11.1 ^B	22.6 ^E
Relocation of any business activities from another country into Canada	2.2 ^A	1.0 ^A	4.0 ^B	2.3 ^A	0.5 ^A	1.1 ^A

^A very reliable (standard error between 0% and 2.49%)

^B reliable (standard error between 2.50% and 7.49%)

^E use with caution

1. The Atlantic region comprises Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

2. The rest of Canada comprises Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Note(s): Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy (SIBS) 2012 estimates are provided as percentages accompanied by quality indicators. Data quality indicators are based on the standard error (SE) and number of observations in the estimates. Quality indicators for SIBS are the following: A is very reliable (SE between 0% and 2.49%); B is reliable (SE between 2.50% and 7.49%); E is use with caution (SE between 7.50% and 14.99%); and F is too unreliable to be published (SE greater than or equal to 15.00%). Categories are not mutually exclusive and do not add up to 100%.

Global value chains module: Data availability

Data on global value chains from the Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy, first released in *The Daily* on [March 10, 2014](#), are now available in CANSIM for 2009 and 2012. Tables on enterprise structure, operational activities, relocation of business activities from Canada to another country, relocation of business activities into Canada, sales activities, changes to business practices and relationship with main suppliers are available by region, enterprise size and all surveyed industries.



Available in CANSIM: tables 358-0271 to 358-0303.

Tables 358-0271 to 358-0276: Enterprise structure.

Tables 358-0277 to 358-0283: Operational activities.

Tables 358-0284 to 358-0291: Relocation of business activities from Canada to another country.

Tables 358-0292 to 358-0294: Relocation of business activities into Canada.

Tables 358-0295 to 358-0301: Sales activities.

Table 358-0302: Changes to business practices.

Table 358-0303: Relationship with main suppliers.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5171.

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