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Retail trade

January 2006



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Statistics Canada
Distributive Trades Division
Retail Financial Section

Retail trade

January 2006

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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

Acknowledgement

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Table of contents

Highlights	5
Analysis — January 2006	6
Gift cards, other factors, boost January sales	6
Steady growth in auto sector	7
Widespread gains in all provinces and territories	7
Related indicators for February	7
Related products	11
Statistical tables	
1 Retail sales by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted (current periods)	14
1-1 Sales	14
1-2 % change from previous month	15
1-3 % change from previous year	16
2 Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (current periods)	17
2-1 Sales	17
2-2 % change from previous year	18
3 Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates)	19
3-1 Canada	19
3-2 Newfoundland and Labrador	22
3-3 Prince Edward Island	25
3-4 New Brunswick	28
3-5 Nova Scotia	31
3-6 Quebec	34
3-7 Ontario	37
3-8 Manitoba	40
3-9 Saskatchewan	43
3-10 Alberta	46
3-11 British Columbia	49
3-12 Yukon Territory	52
3-13 Northwest Territories	55
3-14 Nunavut	58
4 Weighted response rate	61

Table of contents – continued

5	Retail sales (current periods) — Coefficient of variation	62
6	Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates)	63
6-1	Seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006	63
6-2	Not seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006	65

Data quality, concepts and methodology

	Objectives, uses and users	67
	Concepts, variables and classifications	68
	Coverage and frames	70
	Sampling	71
	Questionnaire design	72
	Response and non-response	73
	Data collection and capture operations	76
	Editing	77
	Imputation	78
	Estimation	79
	Seasonal adjustment and trend-cycle estimation	80
	Adjustment for historical series	82
	Data quality evaluation	83
	Disclosure control	84
	Data comparability	85

Appendix

I.	Special Aggregation: Retail Trade	86
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Charts

1.	Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, Canada	8
2.	Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, by retail sector, Canada	9
3.	Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, by retail sector, Canada	10

Highlights

- Retailers began 2006 with strong sales, likely buoyed by gift card redemptions. This is the third year in a row that sales were strong in January.

Analysis — January 2006

Retailers began 2006 with strong sales, likely buoyed by gift card redemptions. This is the third year in a row that sales were strong in January.

Retail sales rose for a fourth consecutive month in January, advancing 1.4% to a record high of \$31.8 billion.

January's gain was the strongest in the last six months. Retailers experienced moderate increases in the last quarter of 2005 with November's advance of 1.0% sandwiched between October's and December's modest increases of 0.6% each.

Shoppers increased their spending in all sectors in January, with the exception of the food and beverage sector, which saw sales fall 1.2%. New car sales (+1.4%) rebounded in January after falling 0.7% in December. For a second consecutive month, new car dealers were not the sole driver of the increase in retail sales. Excluding sales by dealers of new, used and recreational vehicles and auto parts, retail sales still advanced 1.4% in January.

Sales increased by at least 3.0% in four of the eight retail sectors — furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores (+5.0%), miscellaneous retailers (+4.8%), building and outdoor home supplies stores (+3.1%) and general merchandise stores (+3.0%).

Moderate gains were also posted by retailers in the pharmacies and personal care (+0.8%), and the clothing (+0.8%) sectors.

In constant dollars, retail sales rose by 0.9% in January, following a 0.3% increase in December.

Gift cards, other factors, boost January sales

Strong economic fundamentals, together with the popularity of gift cards, likely provided the foundation for the strong retail performance by many retailers in January. Other factors that may have contributed to strong retail sales during the month include unseasonably warm temperatures and the increasing observance of certain religious and cultural days in January.

January sales jumped in stores that tend to carry gift cards such as miscellaneous retailers (+4.8%) and general merchandise retailers (+3.0%), which include department stores. Miscellaneous retailers include office supplies, sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores. This sector has been on an upward growth path in sales since mid-2003.

With housing starts at record levels in the past year, the corollary effect on furniture and home furnishing demands after homes are built have benefited retailers in the furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores sector in recent months. With the added effect of gift cards, sales in furniture stores soared 6.5% in January. Sales in furniture stores have been on a steady upward trend since July of last year, with the exception of a short pause in November.

Home electronics and appliance store sales were also robust (+4.7%), likely due to the redemption of gift cards after the holiday season. This continues the gain made in December following declines in October and November. Home furnishing store sales were up for the fourth consecutive month in January (+3.7%) while sales at computer and software stores increased 2.3% after pausing in December.

Among retailers in the building and outdoor home supplies sector, home centres and hardware store sales increased for the sixth consecutive month, climbing by 2.7% in January. Specialized building material and garden stores, a smaller group of retailers, also saw sales increase 4.6%.

Steady growth in auto sector

New car sales were up 1.4% in January after edging down in December. This continues the upward trend in new motor vehicle sales that began at the start of 2004.

Used car dealers saw their sales increase 1.3%, adding to gains of 3.8% in December and 2.3% in November. As a result, January sales were 12.3% higher compared with the same month last year, and the highest year-over-year advance for this group of retailers since 2002.

Sales at gasoline stations rose by 1.0%, levelling off the strong upward trend that started in the fall of 2003 when oil prices started to soar.

Food and beverage sales fell 1.2% in January, mainly attributable to a 3.0% decline in supermarkets. This was only partially offset by strong gains in convenience and specialty food stores (+3.5%) and beer, wine and liquor stores (+3.9%). Despite the decrease, sales in supermarkets have generally been increasing at a steady pace and annual gains have been over 4.5% in each of the last four years.

Widespread gains in all provinces and territories

Sales were up in every province and territory in January. Aside from Ontario (+1.0%), Alberta and British Columbia were the largest contributors to sales growth.

With \$400 personal cash rebates from the provincial government in Alberta, it is not a surprise that Alberta retailers got off to a strong start this year with a 2.4% increase in sales. Retail sales in Alberta have been rising sharply since 2000, benefiting from the energy resources boom. This was reflected in Alberta's average personal disposable income growth of 7.0% for the five years prior to 2005, significantly higher than the national average of 4.6%.

British Columbia bounced back from a lacklustre performance in the last quarter, matching Alberta's 2.4% increase in retail sales in January. Both provinces saw increases in sectors relating to home furnishing and those likely to redeem post-holiday gift cards.

Retail sales in the Northwest Territories bounced back from December's weak performance with the strongest sales growth of any region in January (+6.8%), mainly attributable to the auto sector. Retail sales were also robust in Nova Scotia (+2.4%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+1.6%) and Prince Edward Island (+1.6%). This was the fourth consecutive monthly gain in each of these three Atlantic provinces.

Related indicators for February

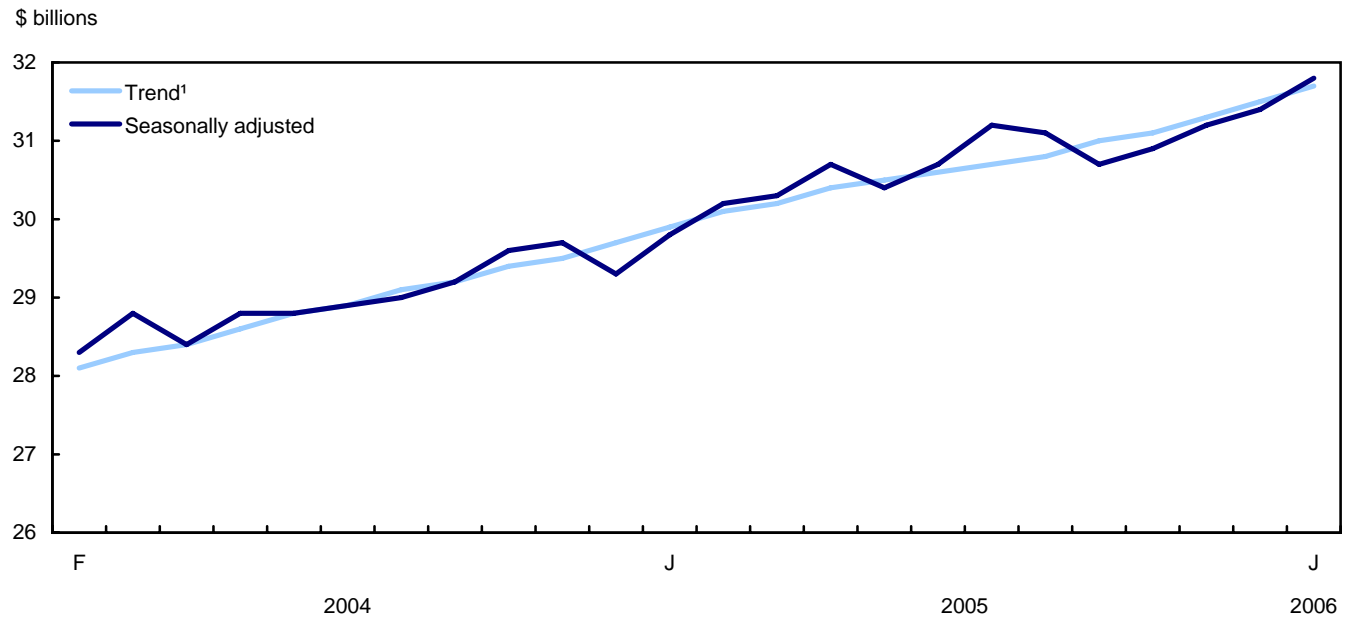
Total employment increased by 0.2% in February for the second month in a row. The unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points to 6.4%, matching the 30-year low set in November 2005.

Housing starts dropped 2.9% in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 240,900 units, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Based on preliminary figures from the auto industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in February decreased slightly. The decrease was mostly the result of lower new passenger car sales during the month.

Chart 1

Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, Canada

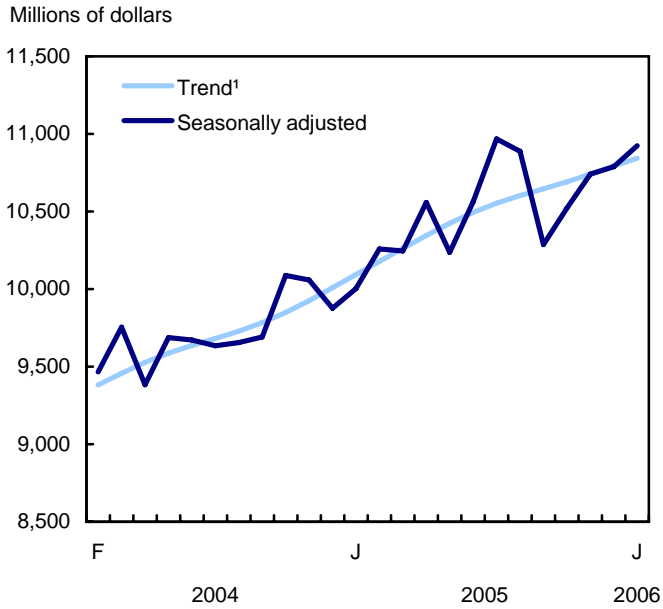


1. Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

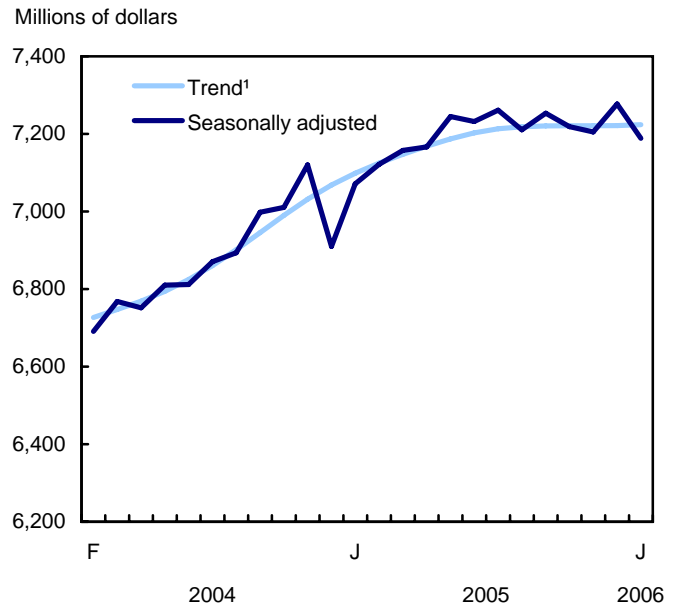
Chart 2

Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, by retail sector, Canada

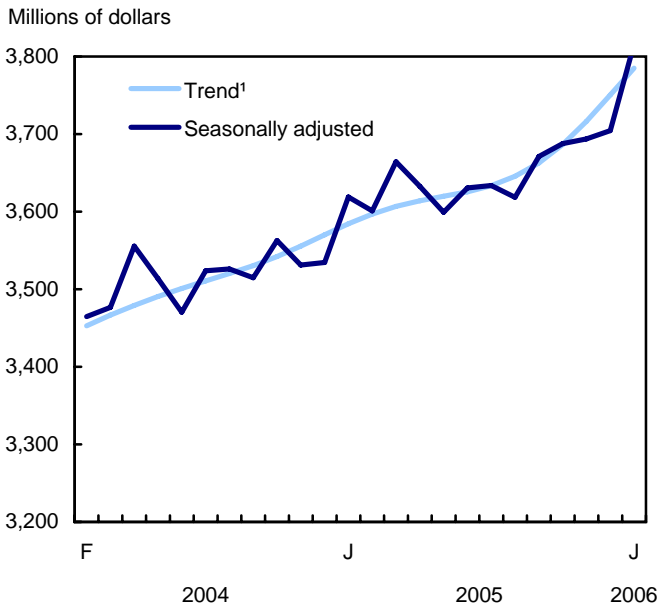
Automotive



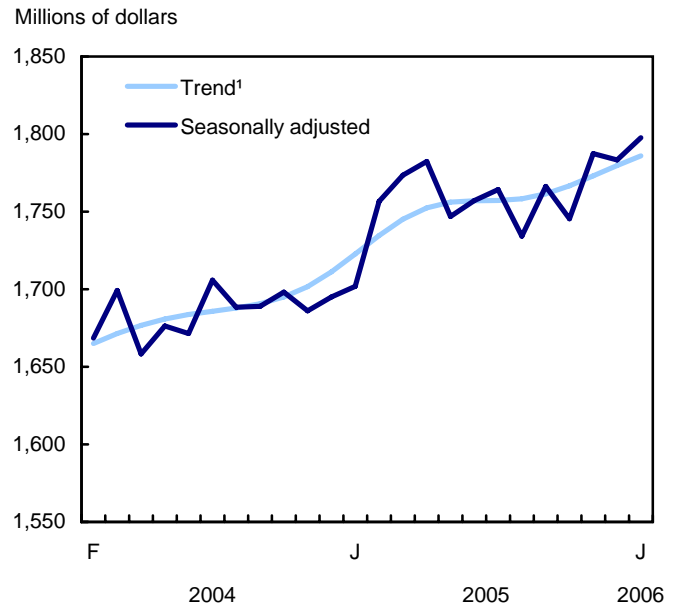
Food and beverage stores



General merchandise stores



Clothing and accessories stores

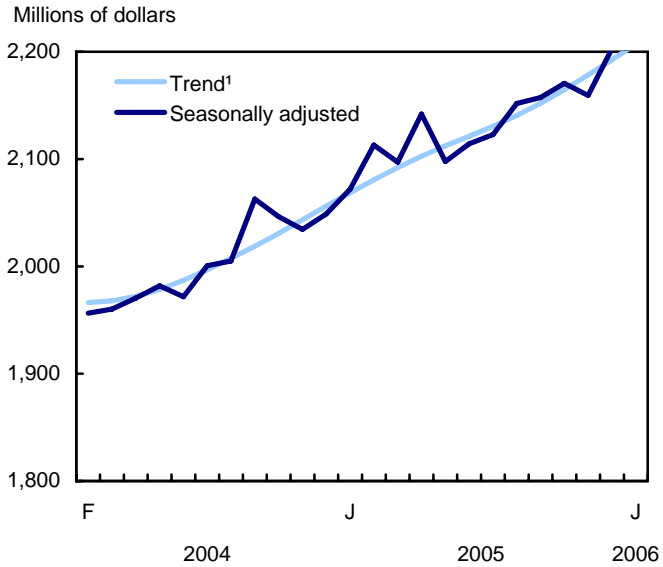


1. Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

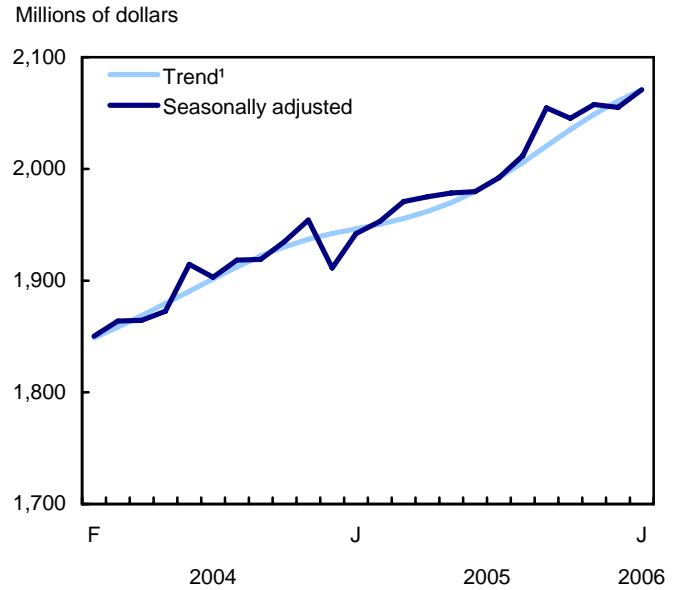
Chart 3

Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and trend, by retail sector, Canada

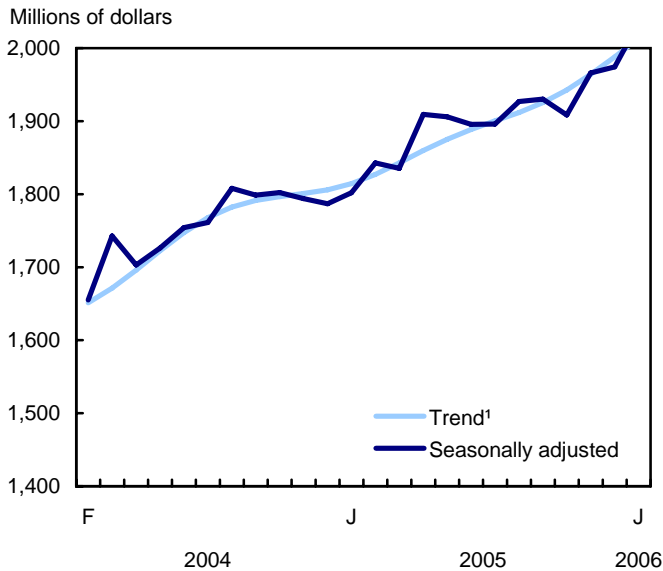
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores



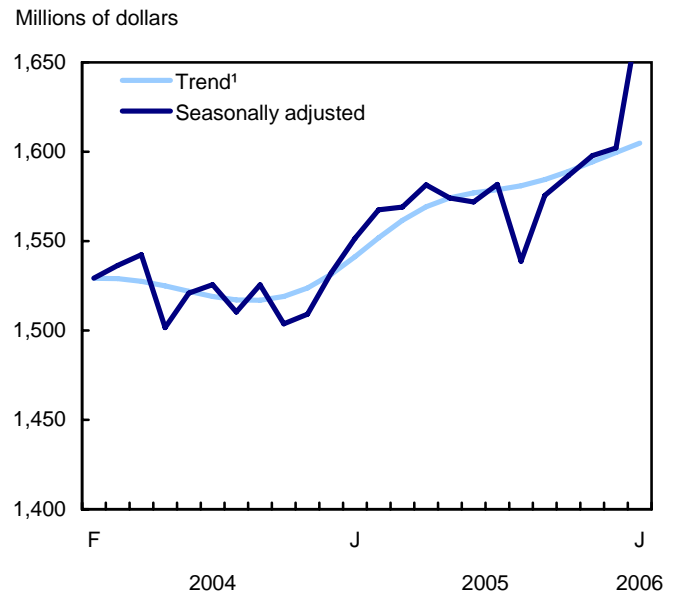
Pharmacies and personal care stores



Building and outdoor home supplies stores



Miscellaneous retailers



1. Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

63-007-X	New motor vehicle sales
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Selected technical and analytical products from Statistics Canada

11-621-M2003006	A new look: retail clothing sales in Canada
11-621-M2003007	Christmas: consumers' season
11-621-M2004012	On the move with homebuyers: shopping for furniture
11-621-M2004019	Consumer holiday shopping patterns
11-621-M2005029	Gift cards: a win-win way to give
11-621-M2005032	Provincial retail trade since the turn of the millennium
11-621-M2005034	Christmas Shopping: A Provincial Perspective

Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

076-0005	Monthly department store sales and stocks (from 1991) for Canada, provinces and selected census metropolitan areas
080-0014	Retail trade, sales by trade group based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
080-0015	Retail trade, sales by trade group based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
080-0016	Retail trade, sales, chained dollars and index at basic prices
080-0017	Retail trade, sales and sales trend, seasonally adjusted, by trade sector based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

2406	Retail Trade Survey (Monthly)
2408	Monthly Retail Trade Survey (Department Store Organizations)

Selected tables of Canadian statistics from Statistics Canada

- *Economic indicators, by province and territory (monthly and quarterly)*
- *Retail trade, by industries*
- *Retail trade, by province and territory*
- *Retail trade, by industries (monthly)*
- *Retail trade, by provinces and territories (monthly)*
- *Department store sales, by provinces*

Statistical tables

Table 1-1

Retail sales by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted (current periods) — Sales

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November ^r 2005	October ^r 2005	Year-to-date 2006
	millions of dollars				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	6,187.8	6,102.6	6,147.0	5,837.0	6,187.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,350.4	1,332.6	1,283.2	1,254.3	1,350.4
Gasoline stations	3,385.8	3,353.0	3,310.3	3,430.1	3,385.8
Furniture stores	819.8	769.8	760.5	767.2	819.8
Home furnishings stores	443.9	428.1	417.4	408.0	443.9
Computer and software stores	142.6	139.4	139.6	137.6	142.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	906.1	865.7	841.9	857.7	906.1
Home centres and hardware stores	1,650.2	1,606.7	1,594.4	1,559.4	1,650.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	384.6	367.5	371.6	349.1	384.6
Supermarkets	5,162.6	5,324.5	5,247.6	5,222.4	5,162.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	787.7	761.3	746.5	757.7	787.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,238.3	1,191.4	1,211.0	1,238.5	1,238.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,070.9	2,055.0	2,057.6	2,045.3	2,070.9
Clothing stores	1,375.4	1,354.8	1,358.4	1,324.2	1,375.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	422.2	428.5	429.0	421.2	422.2
Department stores	x	x	1,856.7	1,874.8	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	1,837.1	1,812.9	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	862.0	810.7	808.5	801.2	862.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	816.4	791.4	789.3	785.4	816.4
Total, all stores	31,822.7	31,387.5	31,207.6	30,884.0	31,822.7
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	512.5	504.6	498.6	495.3	512.5
Prince Edward Island	123.0	121.1	119.8	116.6	123.0
Nova Scotia	937.5	915.4	889.3	886.5	937.5
New Brunswick	721.7	713.6	709.8	702.5	721.7
Quebec	7,023.5	6,965.6	6,995.1	6,903.2	7,023.5
Ontario	11,670.3	11,558.9	11,414.9	11,310.1	11,670.3
Manitoba	1,044.2	1,039.4	1,050.3	1,050.3	1,044.2
Saskatchewan	932.2	919.9	926.8	915.1	932.2
Alberta	4,409.5	4,306.2	4,227.3	4,157.5	4,409.5
British Columbia	4,339.3	4,237.7	4,268.4	4,240.8	4,339.3
Yukon Territory	37.1	36.7	37.7	36.7	37.1
Northwest Territories	51.0	47.8	48.9	48.3	51.0
Nunavut	20.8	20.5	20.6	21.0	20.8

Table 1-2

Retail sales by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted (current periods) % change from previous month

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November ^r 2005	October ^r 2005
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers	1.4	-0.7	5.3	5.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1.3	3.8	2.3	-1.1
Gasoline stations	1.0	1.3	-3.5	-1.9
Furniture stores	6.5	1.2	-0.9	0.9
Home furnishings stores	3.7	2.6	2.3	1.7
Computer and software stores	2.3	-0.1	1.4	4.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	4.7	2.8	-1.8	-0.8
Home centres and hardware stores	2.7	0.8	2.2	0.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	4.6	-1.1	6.4	-7.4
Supermarkets	-3.0	1.5	0.5	-1.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.5	2.0	-1.5	0.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	3.9	-1.6	-2.2	2.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.8	-0.1	0.6	-0.5
Clothing stores	1.5	-0.3	2.6	-1.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-1.5	-0.1	1.9	-0.2
Department stores	x	x	-1.0	0.2
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	1.3	0.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	6.3	0.3	0.9	-0.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	3.2	0.3	0.5	2.3
Total, all stores	1.4	0.6	1.0	0.6
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.6	1.2	0.7	4.6
Prince Edward Island	1.6	1.1	2.8	0.8
Nova Scotia	2.4	2.9	0.3	0.3
New Brunswick	1.1	0.5	1.0	0.2
Quebec	0.8	-0.4	1.3	0.1
Ontario	1.0	1.3	0.9	1.0
Manitoba	0.5	-1.0	0.0	1.3
Saskatchewan	1.3	-0.7	1.3	-0.8
Alberta	2.4	1.9	1.7	0.9
British Columbia	2.4	-0.7	0.7	-0.1
Yukon Territory	1.2	-2.6	2.6	0.3
Northwest Territories	6.8	-2.3	1.4	1.5
Nunavut	1.3	-0.2	-2.1	0.5

Table 1-3

Retail sales by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted (current periods) % change from previous year

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November ^r 2005	October ^r 2005	Year-to-date 2006
	percent				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	5.5	7.8	5.0	-0.8	5.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	12.3	4.0	2.3	-0.4	12.3
Gasoline stations	15.3	14.3	12.2	16.6	15.3
Furniture stores	11.4	8.5	4.6	5.1	11.4
Home furnishings stores	15.2	8.6	10.8	6.8	15.2
Computer and software stores	5.7	0.2	5.0	4.0	5.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	11.1	7.4	5.6	6.9	11.1
Home centres and hardware stores	15.6	11.9	11.9	9.8	15.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	2.7	4.7	0.7	-8.7	2.7
Supermarkets	-0.5	3.6	0.5	2.9	-0.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	4.0	0.2	0.9	2.0	4.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	10.0	17.9	4.3	3.6	10.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6.6	7.5	5.3	5.7	6.6
Clothing stores	4.4	5.2	5.5	2.1	4.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	10.0	5.2	7.5	4.8	10.0
Department stores	x	x	2.4	1.5	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	6.9	5.7	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	12.2	6.5	9.2	8.7	12.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	4.3	2.6	2.7	2.5	4.3
Total, all stores	6.9	7.1	5.1	4.2	6.9
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	5.2	2.6	1.3	2.0	5.2
Prince Edward Island	5.7	6.4	2.7	-0.5	5.7
Nova Scotia	12.4	8.6	2.2	1.3	12.4
New Brunswick	5.1	6.7	1.5	3.8	5.1
Quebec	2.8	6.0	3.0	2.6	2.8
Ontario	5.2	5.5	3.9	2.9	5.2
Manitoba	4.0	6.5	5.5	3.8	4.0
Saskatchewan	6.6	5.7	6.0	5.4	6.6
Alberta	16.7	15.9	12.7	10.4	16.7
British Columbia	9.8	6.2	6.5	5.3	9.8
Yukon Territory	4.0	2.8	6.2	2.4	4.0
Northwest Territories	9.4	4.6	6.7	6.5	9.4
Nunavut	1.9	2.0	3.9	6.9	1.9

Table 2-1

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (current periods) — Sales

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November 2005	October 2005	Year-to-date 2006
	millions of dollars				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	4,752.2	5,180.7	5,719.1	5,322.0	4,752.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	951.6	1,023.1	1,178.6	1,182.4	951.6
Gasoline stations	3,096.7	3,183.1	3,149.8	3,535.5	3,096.7
Furniture stores	700.1	899.1	790.8	809.8	700.1
Home furnishings stores	373.5	571.6	487.1	423.3	373.5
Computer and software stores	145.2	173.7	138.4	135.8	145.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	783.8	1,695.1	918.0	814.1	783.8
Home centres and hardware stores	1,149.9	1,328.4	1,605.8	1,678.6	1,149.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	244.6	288.4	355.2	357.5	244.6
Supermarkets	4,838.3	6,068.2	5,032.5	5,122.9	4,838.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	678.9	841.8	694.2	752.2	678.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	878.6	1,856.6	1,143.1	1,180.9	878.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,003.3	2,457.3	2,073.4	2,036.0	2,003.3
Clothing stores	1,005.3	2,262.3	1,502.7	1,415.4	1,005.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	291.6	817.4	445.5	395.5	291.6
Department stores	x	x	2,167.7	1,981.3	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	1,989.6	1,774.8	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	762.7	1,448.4	849.0	738.6	762.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	675.8	990.8	787.0	807.9	675.8
Total, all stores	26,297.5	36,813.6	31,027.6	30,464.7	26,297.5
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	393.7	602.5	517.4	480.9	393.7
Prince Edward Island	93.8	141.4	116.6	113.7	93.8
Nova Scotia	760.8	1,107.5	893.6	867.8	760.8
New Brunswick	580.8	831.0	711.2	689.0	580.8
Quebec	5,661.3	7,680.5	6,842.7	6,912.5	5,661.3
Ontario	9,698.8	13,907.1	11,559.3	11,169.1	9,698.8
Manitoba	856.4	1,226.4	1,040.9	1,042.2	856.4
Saskatchewan	767.5	1,072.8	915.6	911.8	767.5
Alberta	3,684.7	5,023.3	4,193.9	4,048.1	3,684.7
British Columbia	3,710.4	5,102.1	4,137.5	4,127.0	3,710.4
Yukon Territory	29.1	40.8	34.7	35.4	29.1
Northwest Territories	42.7	54.2	44.5	46.3	42.7
Nunavut	17.6	24.1	19.6	21.1	17.6

Table 2-2

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (current periods) % change from previous year

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November 2005	October 2005	Year-to-date 2006
	percent				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	9.9	4.9	6.3	-1.2	9.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	16.1	2.4	2.6	-1.6	16.1
Gasoline stations	16.0	13.2	12.7	16.7	16.0
Furniture stores	10.8	8.0	4.0	4.8	10.8
Home furnishings stores	18.4	10.9	10.0	6.5	18.4
Computer and software stores	8.5	5.3	1.4	7.5	8.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	12.7	6.9	5.3	5.5	12.7
Home centres and hardware stores	19.2	8.6	11.8	9.7	19.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	5.2	2.1	-0.2	-7.1	5.2
Supermarkets	-4.3	6.9	3.1	-0.3	-4.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.4	0.7	1.4	0.5	3.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	5.4	14.8	5.7	0.0	5.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	7.7	6.6	6.5	5.4	7.7
Clothing stores	2.2	5.9	5.4	2.7	2.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	5.7	4.3	10.7	2.4	5.7
Department stores	x	x	1.4	1.1	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	8.4	5.6	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	11.8	6.2	9.5	10.1	11.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	4.6	1.2	3.3	2.5	4.6
Total, all stores	7.0	6.6	6.0	3.4	7.0
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	6.5	3.3	2.0	0.1	6.5
Prince Edward Island	6.3	6.8	3.2	-2.4	6.3
Nova Scotia	12.3	8.7	3.2	0.0	12.3
New Brunswick	5.4	5.3	2.6	3.4	5.4
Quebec	2.3	5.1	4.5	2.2	2.3
Ontario	5.3	5.2	4.5	2.5	5.3
Manitoba	3.4	6.1	6.1	3.8	3.4
Saskatchewan	6.6	4.8	6.7	4.2	6.6
Alberta	18.0	14.3	13.4	8.4	18.0
British Columbia	9.5	6.1	7.6	4.3	9.5
Yukon Territory	3.1	3.2	5.9	2.9	3.1
Northwest Territories	6.9	3.0	8.5	6.9	6.9
Nunavut	3.3	2.2	2.8	6.0	3.3

Table 3-1

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Canada

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	16,221.8	19,219.6	20,983.7	15,542.4	15,705.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	3,384.1	4,126.0	4,923.2	2,898.0	3,350.5
Gasoline stations	9,868.4	10,880.0	9,412.9	8,246.3	8,637.7
Furniture stores	2,499.7	2,375.8	2,194.1	1,883.2	2,365.8
Home furnishings stores	1,482.0	1,190.9	1,120.4	974.7	1,355.9
Computer and software stores	447.9	377.8	360.6	406.5	427.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	3,427.2	2,506.6	2,202.3	2,074.7	3,229.4
Home centres and hardware stores	4,612.7	5,177.1	5,337.3	3,079.2	4,188.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	1,001.1	1,281.8	1,440.7	776.3	1,022.8
Supermarkets	16,223.6	16,042.2	15,704.2	14,775.9	15,695.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	2,288.2	2,437.6	2,361.5	2,036.5	2,268.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	4,180.6	3,981.9	3,507.2	2,773.5	3,880.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6,566.8	5,931.4	5,850.4	5,602.5	6,184.2
Clothing stores	5,180.4	3,955.6	3,965.3	3,014.4	4,940.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1,658.4	1,214.4	1,209.1	881.5	1,572.7
Department stores	x	5,296.5	5,339.2	4,310.3	7,268.5
Other general merchandise stores	x	5,354.5	5,552.0	4,192.5	5,841.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	3,036.1	2,365.1	2,156.8	1,905.7	2,810.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	2,585.7	2,404.5	2,383.9	2,024.2	2,530.0
Total, all stores	98,305.9	96,119.4	96,004.9	77,398.3	93,276.0

Table 3-1 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Canada

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-15.6	-8.4	35.0	-1.0	-12.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-18.0	-16.2	69.9	-13.5	-13.3
Gasoline stations	-9.3	15.6	14.1	-4.5	-3.2
Furniture stores	5.2	8.3	16.5	-20.4	4.9
Home furnishings stores	24.4	6.3	14.9	-28.1	20.9
Computer and software stores	18.6	4.8	-11.3	-5.0	11.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	36.7	13.8	6.1	-35.8	41.0
Home centres and hardware stores	-10.9	-3.0	73.3	-26.5	-11.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-21.9	-11.0	85.6	-24.1	-18.2
Supermarkets	1.1	2.2	6.3	-5.9	3.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	-6.1	3.2	16.0	-10.2	-4.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	5.0	13.5	26.5	-28.5	2.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	10.7	1.4	4.4	-9.4	10.5
Clothing stores	31.0	-0.2	31.5	-39.0	29.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	36.6	0.4	37.2	-43.9	34.1
Department stores	x	-0.8	23.9	-40.7	39.6
Other general merchandise stores	x	-3.6	32.4	-28.2	14.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	28.4	9.7	13.2	-32.2	27.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	7.5	0.9	17.8	-20.0	3.5
Total, all stores	2.3	0.1	24.0	-17.0	4.0

Table 3-1 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Canada

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	3.3	7.0	8.0	3.3	5.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1.0	6.8	10.1	0.9	4.3
Gasoline stations	14.2	21.9	10.9	12.7	21.2
Furniture stores	5.7	5.4	5.2	4.7	6.4
Home furnishings stores	9.3	6.2	6.5	7.1	10.5
Computer and software stores	4.7	-1.9	1.0	-1.3	-10.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	6.1	9.4	10.8	7.2	2.0
Home centres and hardware stores	10.1	9.3	11.5	6.8	13.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-2.1	2.5	6.3	4.3	2.0
Supermarkets	3.4	5.7	5.8	5.3	7.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	0.9	2.9	5.0	6.1	4.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	7.7	4.6	4.4	1.1	-1.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6.2	6.0	4.9	3.5	6.8
Clothing stores	4.9	3.5	7.4	5.5	4.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	5.5	3.5	1.2	-5.9	-0.2
Department stores	x	1.7	2.1	4.0	2.7
Other general merchandise stores	x	5.0	4.4	4.4	5.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	8.0	7.2	7.7	5.2	0.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	2.2	-1.6	0.1	-3.2	-3.3
Total, all stores	5.4	7.2	6.8	4.7	6.1

Table 3-2

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Newfoundland and Labrador

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	200.1	270.9	322.6	195.5	194.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	127.4	100.6	124.2	109.4	145.3
Gasoline stations	193.4	231.4	197.8	165.9	189.6
Furniture stores	28.6	22.3	20.6	15.8	31.0
Home furnishings stores	9.2	6.5	6.0	5.0	9.3
Computer and software stores	7.1	6.1	6.1	7.1	7.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	21.0	13.6	11.9	11.6	19.6
Home centres and hardware stores	94.8	123.6	104.1	50.5	97.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	16.5	19.5	18.7	10.2	17.0
Supermarkets	258.7	259.4	253.0	233.6	244.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	84.1	69.8	74.3	69.8	84.2
Clothing stores	59.9	39.4	35.4	25.1	60.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	15.4	10.5	9.2	6.7	15.9
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	26.4	16.4	14.0	12.1	23.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	30.6	25.4	25.2	22.1	27.4
Total, all stores	1,600.7	1,557.8	1,535.8	1,189.6	1,570.8

Table 3-2 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Newfoundland and Labrador

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-26.1	-16.0	65.0	0.6	-28.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	26.6	-19.0	13.5	-24.7	48.5
Gasoline stations	-16.4	17.0	19.3	-12.5	-11.7
Furniture stores	28.2	8.5	30.0	-49.0	24.3
Home furnishings stores	40.5	9.3	18.7	-46.2	52.5
Computer and software stores	15.7	0.1	-13.9	-4.3	24.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	54.2	14.3	3.2	-41.1	46.4
Home centres and hardware stores	-23.3	18.8	106.0	-48.0	-20.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-15.7	4.4	83.0	-39.8	-14.4
Supermarkets	-0.3	2.5	8.3	-4.4	-3.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	20.5	-6.0	6.4	-17.0	10.6
Clothing stores	52.0	11.3	41.3	-58.4	57.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	46.5	13.5	38.7	-58.1	54.6
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	60.8	16.9	16.1	-48.7	55.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	20.6	0.8	13.6	-19.3	13.0
Total, all stores	2.8	1.4	29.1	-24.3	2.9

Table 3-2 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Newfoundland and Labrador

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	2.9	-0.9	6.7	7.2	-1.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-12.3	2.8	8.3	-6.4	7.0
Gasoline stations	2.0	7.8	6.9	4.2	10.4
Furniture stores	-7.7	-10.6	7.6	-5.2	7.8
Home furnishings stores	-1.8	6.5	15.0	22.7	6.0
Computer and software stores	-4.6	2.2	19.7	15.0	4.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	7.2	1.7	2.3	0.3	-8.7
Home centres and hardware stores	-2.5	0.9	2.4	-0.5	-0.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-3.0	-1.5	5.5	15.9	25.9
Supermarkets	5.9	2.6	2.5	-1.4	4.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-0.1	-8.3	0.4	-2.9	4.7
Clothing stores	-0.6	2.9	13.6	13.7	6.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-3.3	2.1	2.0	-7.6	-1.4
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	12.1	8.5	11.3	7.9	7.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.6	4.5	-0.5	-2.1	-7.6
Total, all stores	1.9	2.0	4.4	0.3	3.4

Table 3-3

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Prince Edward Island

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	47.5	62.5	69.2	44.2	52.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	9.3	9.8	9.4	5.5	7.6
Gasoline stations	40.4	51.1	43.9	34.6	37.4
Furniture stores	4.2	4.1	4.5	3.1	4.9
Home furnishings stores	3.1	2.7	1.9	1.5	3.1
Computer and software stores	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.7	6.9	6.3	5.7	9.7
Home centres and hardware stores	30.1	34.3	34.1	18.9	30.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	7.4	9.9	13.6	6.5	7.0
Supermarkets	77.9	85.2	75.8	71.3	78.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	24.8	23.8	23.5	22.3	21.9
Clothing stores	16.2	12.2	9.9	7.1	14.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	4.7	3.7	3.1	2.3	4.9
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	10.5	8.7	6.7	5.4	8.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	8.2	12.7	7.8	5.7	7.7
Total, all stores	371.7	401.2	373.0	279.6	361.9

Table 3-3 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Prince Edward Island

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-24.0	-9.7	56.6	-15.3	-11.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-5.0	3.6	71.2	-27.3	-5.2
Gasoline stations	-20.9	16.3	26.9	-7.5	-10.6
Furniture stores	2.6	-9.7	44.5	-36.5	-3.1
Home furnishings stores	13.0	46.9	25.9	-52.3	4.0
Computer and software stores	-7.9	0.5	-8.6	-14.5	42.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	27.2	8.6	11.2	-41.5	32.2
Home centres and hardware stores	-12.5	0.8	80.2	-38.3	-18.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-25.3	-26.8	107.4	-7.1	-22.4
Supermarkets	-8.6	12.4	6.3	-8.5	-7.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	4.3	1.6	5.0	2.2	-9.8
Clothing stores	32.4	23.7	38.7	-51.7	18.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	27.2	19.1	33.1	-52.2	31.7
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	21.2	28.8	24.7	-38.5	9.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	-35.1	62.3	36.8	-25.3	-35.0
Total, all stores	-7.3	7.6	33.4	-22.7	-6.0

Table 3-3 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Prince Edward Island

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-9.0	5.7	-1.2	2.2	5.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	22.5	22.3	-23.1	-35.3	-37.3
Gasoline stations	7.9	22.1	19.8	2.6	3.8
Furniture stores	-15.0	-19.8	-1.9	-11.7	2.8
Home furnishings stores	-0.3	-8.2	-31.2	-24.9	-19.6
Computer and software stores	-27.6	12.0	5.2	-11.4	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	-10.2	-6.7	-2.4	9.8	x
Home centres and hardware stores	-1.9	-8.6	4.6	13.8	5.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	5.4	9.6	13.0	31.5	44.1
Supermarkets	-0.2	1.5	2.2	4.5	10.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	13.6	-1.7	-4.6	-7.5	-13.9
Clothing stores	9.6	-1.9	-0.6	5.2	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-3.6	-0.1	4.2	0.4	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	19.7	7.9	13.5	7.6	12.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	7.7	7.9	11.4	5.5	-14.5
Total, all stores	2.7	4.2	2.8	1.8	1.3

Table 3-4

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — New Brunswick

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	327.5	422.9	485.5	338.9	329.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	101.8	110.4	117.6	76.6	98.1
Gasoline stations	304.6	337.4	293.8	245.4	258.8
Furniture stores	32.4	28.2	30.1	26.8	37.9
Home furnishings stores	20.7	16.8	14.6	12.8	19.2
Computer and software stores	5.6	5.0	4.7	6.2	5.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	53.9	38.1	36.8	32.8	49.6
Home centres and hardware stores	115.4	137.7	127.6	71.5	112.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	18.2	24.1	23.8	12.6	19.6
Supermarkets	428.0	433.6	415.2	388.8	415.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	144.3	133.0	127.6	133.6	149.1
Clothing stores	84.9	60.7	57.2	43.0	80.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	28.4	18.7	16.9	12.3	27.3
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	48.3	36.3	30.1	29.5	41.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	41.7	34.1	33.5	29.7	42.9
Total, all stores	2,231.1	2,227.7	2,187.4	1,745.0	2,148.4

Table 3-4 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — New Brunswick

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-22.6	-12.9	43.3	2.9	-16.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-7.8	-6.1	53.6	-21.9	-7.7
Gasoline stations	-9.7	14.8	19.7	-5.2	-3.6
Furniture stores	14.7	-6.2	12.4	-29.4	17.8
Home furnishings stores	23.1	15.5	13.4	-33.2	19.2
Computer and software stores	10.7	7.1	-23.9	9.5	12.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	41.4	3.8	11.9	-33.8	47.9
Home centres and hardware stores	-16.2	8.0	78.4	-36.6	-8.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-24.7	1.2	89.0	-35.8	-25.5
Supermarkets	-1.3	4.4	6.8	-6.5	-2.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	8.5	4.2	-4.5	-10.4	13.1
Clothing stores	39.8	6.1	33.2	-46.6	33.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	51.7	10.5	37.6	-55.0	48.6
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	33.3	20.5	2.1	-29.5	27.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	22.3	1.9	12.9	-30.8	25.3
Total, all stores	0.2	1.8	25.4	-18.8	3.0

Table 3-4 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — New Brunswick

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-0.5	7.3	9.2	7.5	5.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	3.7	3.9	11.7	7.0	x
Gasoline stations	17.7	25.7	14.8	12.0	10.3
Furniture stores	-14.6	-12.3	-5.5	-3.1	5.9
Home furnishings stores	7.8	4.3	6.7	-7.3	-29.7
Computer and software stores	-1.2	0.6	0.7	8.5	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.7	13.7	25.5	15.8	x
Home centres and hardware stores	2.3	12.2	7.4	6.3	21.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-7.5	-8.5	-8.3	-8.6	-17.8
Supermarkets	3.0	1.5	0.6	0.5	1.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-3.2	0.9	0.2	9.6	8.4
Clothing stores	5.5	0.6	4.8	6.0	8.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	3.9	1.8	-2.5	-9.2	-1.4
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	15.6	10.2	10.0	18.2	1.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	-2.7	-0.4	-5.5	-15.1	-11.2
Total, all stores	3.9	6.8	5.8	5.1	5.2

Table 3-5

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nova Scotia

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	453.0	556.6	670.0	419.8	440.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	93.6	81.8	96.2	60.0	94.3
Gasoline stations	262.6	299.8	261.9	230.7	265.6
Furniture stores	44.2	36.1	33.3	28.8	42.8
Home furnishings stores	34.7	25.8	21.0	17.5	29.1
Computer and software stores	6.0	5.7	7.6	7.8	8.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	71.3	50.3	45.3	39.7	61.8
Home centres and hardware stores	165.6	190.5	178.3	105.0	162.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	26.5	32.3	38.0	21.0	31.2
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	199.5	180.7	178.4	174.6	191.8
Clothing stores	119.3	80.4	74.0	54.4	110.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	39.5	25.1	24.1	17.9	38.0
Department stores	x	175.6	170.7	139.9	261.0
Other general merchandise stores	x	122.3	119.8	89.0	151.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	72.7	55.2	52.6	45.8	69.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	78.2	74.6	63.1	53.7	72.4
Total, all stores	2,868.9	2,783.9	2,767.8	2,175.6	2,752.8

Table 3-5 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nova Scotia

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-18.6	-16.9	59.6	-4.8	-21.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	14.4	-15.0	60.3	-36.3	9.2
Gasoline stations	-12.4	14.5	13.5	-13.2	-8.7
Furniture stores	22.4	8.4	15.8	-32.8	16.3
Home furnishings stores	34.7	22.3	20.3	-39.9	13.0
Computer and software stores	5.1	-25.7	-2.2	-4.1	14.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	41.7	11.1	14.1	-35.8	36.3
Home centres and hardware stores	-13.1	6.9	69.8	-35.5	-10.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-18.0	-15.1	81.0	-32.7	-12.7
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	10.4	1.3	2.2	-9.0	11.4
Clothing stores	48.4	8.7	35.9	-50.7	38.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	57.7	4.2	34.1	-52.8	53.9
Department stores	x	2.9	22.0	-46.4	55.8
Other general merchandise stores	x	2.1	34.6	-41.1	25.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	31.9	4.9	14.9	-33.7	26.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	4.9	18.3	17.5	-25.9	1.2
Total, all stores	3.1	0.6	27.2	-21.0	2.0

Table 3-5 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nova Scotia

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	2.8	-1.2	2.4	-4.5	-2.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-0.8	-5.3	-6.5	-21.8	3.7
Gasoline stations	-1.1	3.0	-0.4	1.5	16.7
Furniture stores	3.1	-2.0	0.0	-6.9	-2.0
Home furnishings stores	19.1	-0.1	-5.4	6.1	25.6
Computer and software stores	-26.7	-20.0	4.8	10.4	84.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	15.3	10.9	16.9	10.2	14.0
Home centres and hardware stores	1.8	4.6	5.0	2.3	21.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-15.1	-9.7	-7.2	3.0	-14.3
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	4.0	5.0	4.0	3.3	0.0
Clothing stores	8.0	0.8	1.4	3.0	-1.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	4.0	1.5	1.3	-1.1	5.0
Department stores	x	4.9	2.5	8.5	-1.1
Other general merchandise stores	x	1.8	-3.7	-2.1	6.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	5.3	0.9	4.8	9.3	-9.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	8.0	4.2	5.2	-1.8	-7.7
Total, all stores	4.2	3.2	2.8	1.0	2.6

Table 3-6

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Quebec

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	3,354.8	3,982.4	4,852.4	3,375.2	3,235.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	739.4	1,063.5	1,357.2	629.4	809.3
Gasoline stations	2,162.5	2,439.5	2,121.4	1,849.9	1,966.1
Furniture stores	693.6	688.3	679.9	549.4	656.1
Home furnishings stores	271.2	211.5	207.3	173.0	235.4
Computer and software stores	127.8	108.8	101.8	113.0	116.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	566.7	411.9	387.9	365.7	567.5
Home centres and hardware stores	1,120.9	1,333.1	1,467.4	748.2	1,053.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	151.2	189.6	216.0	103.7	165.0
Supermarkets	3,643.7	3,651.0	3,589.5	3,363.8	3,516.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	840.8	941.1	927.7	776.9	866.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	730.5	550.2	507.7	422.9	587.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,727.6	1,606.0	1,611.4	1,514.8	1,621.5
Clothing stores	1,193.6	999.1	1,049.8	751.4	1,166.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	364.1	272.1	278.5	195.8	360.8
Department stores	x	924.4	977.6	772.7	1,301.9
Other general merchandise stores	x	1,138.6	1,217.3	907.3	1,296.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	610.7	543.4	462.1	405.5	572.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	550.6	544.1	551.2	457.9	526.6
Total, all stores	21,435.7	21,598.5	22,563.7	17,476.4	20,621.5

Table 3-6 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Quebec

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-15.8	-17.9	43.8	4.3	-20.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-30.5	-21.6	115.6	-22.2	-18.7
Gasoline stations	-11.4	15.0	14.7	-5.9	-1.9
Furniture stores	0.8	1.2	23.8	-16.3	-0.5
Home furnishings stores	28.2	2.0	19.9	-26.5	28.1
Computer and software stores	17.5	6.9	-9.9	-3.2	14.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	37.6	6.2	6.1	-35.6	33.4
Home centres and hardware stores	-15.9	-9.2	96.1	-28.9	-11.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-20.3	-12.2	108.3	-37.2	-16.8
Supermarkets	-0.2	1.7	6.7	-4.3	5.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	-10.7	1.5	19.4	-10.4	-8.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	32.8	8.4	20.0	-28.0	9.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	7.6	-0.3	6.4	-6.6	10.5
Clothing stores	19.5	-4.8	39.7	-35.6	25.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	33.8	-2.3	42.2	-45.7	35.7
Department stores	x	-5.4	26.5	-40.6	32.6
Other general merchandise stores	x	-6.5	34.2	-30.0	17.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	12.4	17.6	14.0	-29.2	10.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	1.2	-1.3	20.4	-13.1	-5.0
Total, all stores	-0.8	-4.3	29.1	-15.3	0.9

Table 3-6 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Quebec

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	3.7	-1.6	8.0	3.8	8.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-8.6	6.8	9.0	-6.1	3.7
Gasoline stations	10.0	21.8	10.2	8.3	20.6
Furniture stores	5.7	4.4	3.8	8.4	8.3
Home furnishings stores	15.2	15.1	17.0	11.7	7.3
Computer and software stores	9.4	6.7	4.0	11.4	-20.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	-0.1	-3.2	4.6	4.9	-6.7
Home centres and hardware stores	6.4	12.0	14.0	13.1	12.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-8.4	-4.4	-3.4	1.0	30.5
Supermarkets	3.6	9.5	11.0	10.3	5.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	-3.0	-0.3	7.4	6.6	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	24.4	2.4	7.0	-0.6	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6.5	9.5	8.6	3.8	2.1
Clothing stores	2.3	7.6	12.8	9.3	7.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.9	2.4	1.5	2.4	4.7
Department stores	x	-5.9	-2.8	3.7	2.5
Other general merchandise stores	x	3.0	2.1	2.1	4.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	6.6	4.9	3.8	5.3	-1.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	4.6	-1.8	-2.0	1.9	-5.0
Total, all stores	3.9	5.7	7.7	5.8	5.5

Table 3-7

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Ontario

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	5,943.6	6,979.9	7,579.5	5,744.0	5,822.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,197.7	1,340.8	1,568.9	1,021.4	1,155.8
Gasoline stations	3,424.6	3,681.1	3,194.9	2,836.2	2,963.7
Furniture stores	884.8	859.6	769.4	670.0	856.1
Home furnishings stores	629.4	516.8	486.0	429.3	619.1
Computer and software stores	123.4	104.8	100.0	122.7	135.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,316.5	957.1	809.6	773.6	1,273.2
Home centres and hardware stores	1,587.8	1,713.4	1,807.1	1,081.4	1,454.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	385.9	478.9	509.1	281.9	375.3
Supermarkets	5,470.4	5,471.7	5,387.5	5,111.2	5,425.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	679.2	689.4	672.8	602.8	688.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,779.2	1,758.2	1,524.1	1,193.6	1,729.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,689.7	2,417.4	2,367.3	2,279.6	2,468.6
Clothing stores	2,132.1	1,527.9	1,592.4	1,194.4	2,071.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	715.5	527.1	532.2	368.9	670.0
Department stores	x	2,115.1	2,154.1	1,708.6	3,000.4
Other general merchandise stores	x	2,113.8	2,223.6	1,643.2	2,328.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	1,193.6	867.4	778.0	743.4	1,131.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	976.7	880.8	900.3	764.2	1,010.1
Total, all stores	36,635.6	35,001.1	34,957.1	28,570.5	35,179.9

Table 3-7 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Ontario

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-14.8	-7.9	32.0	-1.3	-11.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-10.7	-14.5	53.6	-11.6	-10.9
Gasoline stations	-7.0	15.2	12.6	-4.3	-0.8
Furniture stores	2.9	11.7	14.8	-21.7	2.6
Home furnishings stores	21.8	6.3	13.2	-30.7	23.1
Computer and software stores	17.7	4.8	-18.5	-9.5	8.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	37.5	18.2	4.6	-39.2	43.4
Home centres and hardware stores	-7.3	-5.2	67.1	-25.6	-11.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-19.4	-5.9	80.6	-24.9	-19.3
Supermarkets	0.0	1.6	5.4	-5.8	3.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	-1.5	2.5	11.6	-12.5	1.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1.2	15.4	27.7	-31.0	1.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	11.3	2.1	3.9	-7.7	8.7
Clothing stores	39.5	-4.1	33.3	-42.4	34.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	35.8	-1.0	44.3	-44.9	31.6
Department stores	x	-1.8	26.1	-43.1	44.3
Other general merchandise stores	x	-4.9	35.3	-29.4	14.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	37.6	11.5	4.6	-34.3	40.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	10.9	-2.2	17.8	-24.3	9.8
Total, all stores	4.7	0.1	22.4	-18.8	6.2

Table 3-7 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Ontario

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	2.1	6.1	6.4	3.5	0.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	3.6	3.3	9.3	0.1	-5.1
Gasoline stations	15.6	23.3	9.8	11.6	20.1
Furniture stores	3.3	3.0	2.4	-1.1	-0.3
Home furnishings stores	1.7	2.7	1.0	3.2	13.0
Computer and software stores	-9.0	-16.5	-10.7	-11.1	4.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	3.4	7.8	5.1	0.7	-0.6
Home centres and hardware stores	9.2	4.6	7.2	3.7	10.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	2.8	3.0	4.7	2.7	-19.6
Supermarkets	0.8	4.2	4.9	5.1	11.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	-1.4	1.8	2.3	6.5	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	2.9	3.0	3.4	0.2	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	9.0	6.5	5.0	4.9	10.7
Clothing stores	2.9	-1.2	4.6	1.4	2.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	6.8	3.5	-0.6	-13.4	6.9
Department stores	x	1.7	1.6	-0.1	1.8
Other general merchandise stores	x	4.3	4.7	5.2	4.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	5.5	7.8	6.9	6.2	-0.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	-3.3	-4.2	2.7	-5.8	-2.5
Total, all stores	4.1	5.7	5.3	3.5	4.9

Table 3-8

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Manitoba

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	527.8	668.5	682.8	525.2	541.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	94.8	125.6	143.0	81.2	88.0
Gasoline stations	326.5	358.0	324.5	279.7	285.5
Furniture stores	62.6	55.6	54.7	46.2	60.3
Home furnishings stores	44.0	40.8	38.1	30.1	41.1
Computer and software stores	11.0	10.5	11.6	12.2	12.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	113.9	82.6	75.7	68.1	100.6
Home centres and hardware stores	190.1	219.1	202.1	112.1	165.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	62.7	77.7	80.2	46.7	47.3
Supermarkets	643.4	629.5	617.2	588.1	626.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	47.5	50.5	56.1	50.7	55.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	146.7	139.2	132.6	101.3	142.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	163.3	142.8	137.2	133.5	151.2
Clothing stores	133.3	99.3	98.5	75.4	125.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	45.3	30.9	32.5	25.1	45.0
Department stores	x	215.2	219.5	178.9	285.6
Other general merchandise stores	x	194.6	194.9	148.8	206.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	96.5	67.7	64.9	56.5	90.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	77.9	69.9	70.1	57.4	70.2
Total, all stores	3,309.6	3,278.1	3,236.2	2,617.3	3,141.5

Table 3-8 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Manitoba

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-21.1	-2.1	30.0	-3.0	-10.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-24.5	-12.2	76.0	-7.7	-10.6
Gasoline stations	-8.8	10.3	16.0	-2.0	-1.7
Furniture stores	12.5	1.8	18.2	-23.3	8.1
Home furnishings stores	7.8	7.2	26.8	-26.9	6.5
Computer and software stores	5.1	-9.5	-4.9	-1.0	11.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	37.9	9.2	11.1	-32.3	32.8
Home centres and hardware stores	-13.2	8.4	80.3	-32.3	-14.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-19.2	-3.2	71.7	-1.3	-18.4
Supermarkets	2.2	2.0	4.9	-6.1	4.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	-5.9	-9.9	10.6	-8.9	-5.8
Beer, wine and liquor stores	5.4	5.0	30.9	-29.0	3.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	14.4	4.0	2.8	-11.7	10.4
Clothing stores	34.2	0.8	30.7	-40.1	27.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	46.5	-4.7	29.3	-44.2	45.6
Department stores x		-2.0	22.7	-37.4	39.7
Other general merchandise stores x		-0.2	31.0	-28.1	14.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	42.5	4.4	14.8	-37.2	39.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.4	-0.2	22.2	-18.2	-5.6
Total, all stores	1.0	1.3	23.6	-16.7	4.2

Table 3-8 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Manitoba

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-2.5	10.3	2.7	3.8	7.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	7.7	27.6	29.1	15.6	10.2
Gasoline stations	14.4	23.2	15.5	14.9	21.3
Furniture stores	3.8	-0.3	7.5	7.9	5.3
Home furnishings stores	7.0	5.8	7.3	22.0	27.6
Computer and software stores	-10.5	-5.1	8.6	-5.2	-34.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	13.2	9.1	8.3	2.5	2.1
Home centres and hardware stores	14.9	12.7	15.9	5.0	32.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	32.6	33.9	25.4	17.4	-20.5
Supermarkets	2.7	5.2	2.7	3.8	6.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	-14.6	-14.6	-1.7	8.0	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	2.9	1.3	0.4	3.3	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	8.0	4.2	-0.2	-5.2	0.3
Clothing stores	5.9	0.3	6.3	3.3	2.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.7	0.2	3.0	0.0	6.1
Department stores	x	5.2	5.2	4.6	2.2
Other general merchandise stores	x	7.8	4.3	4.6	9.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	7.2	5.1	4.8	7.5	17.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.1	-5.8	-5.7	-6.9	-1.5
Total, all stores	5.4	8.8	6.3	5.1	6.6

Table 3-9

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Saskatchewan

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	485.8	592.3	612.5	462.4	521.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	105.3	142.0	184.0	97.9	113.7
Gasoline stations	404.1	449.5	392.1	330.8	359.5
Furniture stores	46.0	45.7	40.4	33.6	46.2
Home furnishings stores	36.2	29.5	28.2	21.5	29.4
Computer and software stores	10.2	9.1	7.8	8.8	9.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	92.7	67.9	56.7	50.2	80.0
Home centres and hardware stores	140.0	148.1	144.5	72.2	102.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	48.6	63.6	98.9	29.2	41.2
Supermarkets	498.8	490.1	484.6	446.3	480.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	39.1	39.4	39.4	33.0	41.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	119.2	124.7	106.3	84.8	114.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	153.8	142.3	142.6	136.3	150.2
Clothing stores	106.6	82.7	85.4	68.1	109.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	36.6	23.4	25.5	19.0	36.0
Department stores	x	186.3	187.7	151.4	236.3
Other general merchandise stores	x	204.0	207.8	148.1	183.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	53.6	38.0	35.3	30.2	52.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	54.3	49.6	54.4	46.5	50.5
Total, all stores	2,900.1	2,928.1	2,934.0	2,270.3	2,757.7

Table 3-9 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Saskatchewan

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-18.0	-3.3	32.5	-11.3	-4.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-25.9	-22.8	88.0	-14.0	-14.0
Gasoline stations	-10.1	14.7	18.5	-8.0	-3.3
Furniture stores	0.6	13.2	20.1	-27.2	8.4
Home furnishings stores	22.5	4.6	31.0	-26.8	5.2
Computer and software stores	12.4	16.0	-11.1	-4.2	-0.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	36.5	19.7	13.0	-37.2	44.1
Home centres and hardware stores	-5.5	2.4	100.2	-29.5	-14.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-23.5	-35.7	238.7	-29.1	-11.6
Supermarkets	1.8	1.1	8.6	-7.0	2.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	-0.7	-0.1	19.4	-20.7	-5.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-4.4	17.3	25.3	-25.9	-5.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	8.0	-0.2	4.6	-9.3	13.6
Clothing stores	29.0	-3.2	25.4	-37.9	33.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	56.4	-8.1	34.4	-47.4	58.2
Department stores	x	-0.7	23.9	-35.9	31.8
Other general merchandise stores	x	-1.8	40.3	-19.4	13.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	41.2	7.7	16.7	-42.4	30.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	9.4	-8.8	16.9	-7.9	16.9
Total, all stores	-1.0	-0.2	29.2	-17.7	4.2

Table 3-9 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Saskatchewan

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-6.8	8.4	1.1	-5.4	-4.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-7.5	7.4	17.7	-4.7	19.3
Gasoline stations	12.4	21.0	13.2	20.1	24.9
Furniture stores	-0.5	7.3	8.3	6.8	11.9
Home furnishings stores	23.0	5.6	5.4	2.3	12.4
Computer and software stores	11.0	-1.6	6.6	14.6	55.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	15.9	22.3	15.6	10.4	4.5
Home centres and hardware stores	36.7	23.6	26.8	8.3	16.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	18.0	36.4	62.2	35.7	30.5
Supermarkets	3.9	4.5	4.1	3.6	4.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	-6.0	-10.2	-3.6	-10.3	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	4.2	3.5	5.1	7.6	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2.3	7.6	9.2	8.1	12.7
Clothing stores	-2.8	0.8	5.6	8.4	-1.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1.6	2.7	1.8	-2.9	5.5
Department stores	x	3.9	3.2	4.0	0.5
Other general merchandise stores	x	26.1	23.9	9.3	4.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.3	-5.2	5.3	9.0	22.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	7.5	14.9	1.0	1.9	-9.9
Total, all stores	5.2	10.6	9.3	4.6	5.6

Table 3-10

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Alberta

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	2,744.3	3,098.5	3,033.4	2,345.8	2,448.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	495.9	677.8	842.1	439.5	420.4
Gasoline stations	1,335.7	1,410.9	1,172.7	1,049.4	1,087.0
Furniture stores	376.0	340.1	292.8	263.7	327.9
Home furnishings stores	194.1	151.8	143.9	123.3	169.1
Computer and software stores	91.8	74.1	66.3	71.9	72.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	631.8	469.9	407.0	375.2	520.7
Home centres and hardware stores	588.7	641.7	650.5	380.1	494.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	135.1	183.7	220.5	124.0	153.5
Supermarkets	2,161.2	2,060.1	2,003.3	1,848.3	1,998.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	207.4	216.4	208.5	177.9	188.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	412.4	387.6	358.1	271.6	377.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	554.8	510.9	508.1	489.9	571.0
Clothing stores	670.9	515.8	466.0	374.1	572.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	205.6	144.2	134.3	106.5	178.6
Department stores	x	724.9	708.6	598.4	946.6
Other general merchandise stores	x	590.9	607.6	465.4	618.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	411.9	342.0	367.0	256.7	353.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	346.1	310.6	307.3	256.0	329.0
Total, all stores	13,265.3	12,851.9	12,498.1	10,017.6	11,827.2

Table 3-10 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Alberta

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-11.4	2.1	29.3	-4.2	-4.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-26.8	-19.5	91.6	4.5	-23.1
Gasoline stations	-5.3	20.3	11.8	-3.5	-0.8
Furniture stores	10.6	16.1	11.1	-19.6	13.4
Home furnishings stores	27.9	5.5	16.7	-27.1	22.6
Computer and software stores	24.0	11.7	-7.7	-0.3	17.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	34.5	15.5	8.5	-28.0	42.9
Home centres and hardware stores	-8.3	-1.4	71.2	-23.1	-12.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-26.5	-16.7	77.8	-19.2	-16.9
Supermarkets	4.9	2.8	8.4	-7.5	3.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	-4.1	3.8	17.2	-5.8	-6.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.4	8.3	31.9	-28.1	8.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	8.6	0.6	3.7	-14.2	16.5
Clothing stores	30.1	10.7	24.6	-34.6	24.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	42.6	7.4	26.1	-40.4	35.5
Department stores x		2.3	18.4	-36.8	38.7
Other general merchandise stores x		-2.7	30.6	-24.8	11.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	20.5	-6.8	43.0	-27.4	19.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.4	1.1	20.0	-22.2	7.1
Total, all stores	3.2	2.8	24.8	-15.3	5.6

Table 3-10 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Alberta

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	12.1	21.3	17.8	7.7	17.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	17.9	23.9	32.4	24.0	41.3
Gasoline stations	22.9	28.7	13.9	19.4	29.5
Furniture stores	14.7	17.6	14.7	11.6	18.2
Home furnishings stores	14.8	10.0	10.5	7.2	5.7
Computer and software stores	27.4	20.8	10.5	-2.7	-16.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	21.3	29.0	27.2	22.8	7.6
Home centres and hardware stores	19.2	13.6	18.2	7.9	11.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-12.0	-0.5	16.8	7.7	62.9
Supermarkets	8.2	6.7	4.8	2.9	6.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	9.8	7.1	4.2	4.3	11.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	9.1	11.5	6.2	2.8	7.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-2.8	4.2	3.1	3.6	10.0
Clothing stores	17.3	11.8	11.7	9.6	8.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	15.1	9.4	8.3	0.7	-26.7
Department stores	x	6.2	5.9	9.1	5.5
Other general merchandise stores	x	6.9	7.7	6.4	7.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	16.5	15.6	22.1	9.4	4.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	5.2	1.1	-5.7	-6.0	2.8
Total, all stores	12.2	14.7	12.7	8.2	11.7

Table 3-11

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — British Columbia

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	2,102.2	2,536.1	2,623.0	2,047.3	2,084.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	407.9	460.3	465.7	363.8	404.6
Gasoline stations	1,385.7	1,590.3	1,382.9	1,196.4	1,200.4
Furniture stores	325.4	293.9	266.6	244.0	300.5
Home furnishings stores	237.2	186.4	171.2	158.9	198.3
Computer and software stores	63.5	52.3	53.1	54.9	58.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	544.8	402.7	360.9	348.4	541.2
Home centres and hardware stores	569.4	621.4	609.7	431.9	505.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	146.9	200.5	220.4	139.2	164.4
Supermarkets	2,423.8	2,351.1	2,288.6	2,163.2	2,344.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	267.6	268.8	251.6	223.6	229.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	659.4	676.6	593.9	482.3	611.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	810.7	691.6	667.3	635.9	761.5
Clothing stores	656.2	532.3	491.0	417.1	621.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	201.6	156.8	151.2	125.8	194.4
Department stores	x	662.6	637.9	536.1	844.4
Other general merchandise stores	x	688.4	682.0	563.3	696.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	506.2	385.6	341.7	316.6	460.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	412.8	393.4	364.7	324.7	386.4
Total, all stores	13,366.5	13,151.1	12,623.4	10,773.4	12,608.1

Table 3-11 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — British Columbia

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-17.1	-3.3	28.1	-1.8	-9.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-11.4	-1.2	28.0	-10.1	-16.1
Gasoline stations	-12.9	15.0	15.6	-0.3	-9.6
Furniture stores	10.7	10.2	9.3	-18.8	10.3
Home furnishings stores	27.3	8.9	7.8	-19.9	12.4
Computer and software stores	21.5	-1.6	-3.2	-6.5	4.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	35.3	11.6	3.6	-35.6	43.2
Home centres and hardware stores	-8.4	1.9	41.2	-14.5	-8.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-26.7	-9.0	58.3	-15.3	-20.0
Supermarkets	3.1	2.7	5.8	-7.7	3.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	-0.4	6.8	12.5	-2.6	-0.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-2.5	13.9	23.1	-21.1	-3.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	17.2	3.7	4.9	-16.5	11.8
Clothing stores	23.3	8.4	17.7	-32.9	22.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	28.5	3.7	20.1	-35.3	26.6
Department stores	x	3.9	19.0	-36.5	31.6
Other general merchandise stores	x	0.9	21.1	-19.2	7.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	31.3	12.9	7.9	-31.3	25.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	4.9	7.9	12.3	-16.0	-2.8
Total, all stores	1.6	4.2	17.2	-14.6	2.8

Table 3-11 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — British Columbia

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	0.9	10.6	7.4	-0.3	4.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	0.8	-4.5	-13.7	-1.9	-1.4
Gasoline stations	15.4	19.8	12.4	19.5	22.8
Furniture stores	8.3	7.9	8.6	9.0	12.2
Home furnishings stores	19.6	5.7	10.6	13.7	12.8
Computer and software stores	8.2	-6.9	6.8	-2.9	-16.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	0.7	6.6	13.3	10.3	12.6
Home centres and hardware stores	12.7	12.1	12.2	5.0	14.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-10.6	-2.4	-6.0	-2.2	13.7
Supermarkets	3.4	3.8	3.2	2.4	7.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	16.5	17.0	12.0	17.5	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	7.9	7.3	3.8	3.0	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6.5	1.5	-0.6	-0.5	5.6
Clothing stores	5.6	4.9	3.4	7.2	2.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	3.7	2.1	1.1	-0.4	-1.4
Department stores	x	3.3	3.3	9.9	6.9
Other general merchandise stores	x	6.6	4.5	6.1	3.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	9.9	5.0	2.4	-2.6	-0.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	6.8	-1.1	2.6	-0.8	-5.0
Total, all stores	6.0	7.2	4.9	4.5	6.8

Table 3-12

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Yukon Territory

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	12.1	17.2	21.9	14.1	14.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	111.0	123.1	119.6	89.6	106.8

Table 3-12 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Yukon Territory

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-29.7	-21.7	55.5	0.7	-13.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	-9.9	2.9	33.5	-16.1	-6.9

Table 3-12 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Yukon Territory

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-13.8	6.4	17.2	-16.2	x
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	3.9	7.4	12.3	4.2	4.0

Table 3-13

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Northwest Territories

	Quarter ^r IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	23.2	31.9	30.7	30.0	22.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	144.9	150.6	144.9	138.5	136.9

Table 3-13 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Northwest Territories

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	-27.4	4.0	2.4	35.5	-23.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	-3.8	3.9	4.6	1.2	-1.4

Table 3-13 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Northwest Territories

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	4.7	10.1	13.6	21.6	-10.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	5.9	8.5	8.5	12.7	0.8

Table 3-14

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nunavut

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New car dealers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Home furnishings stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Department stores	x	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	64.8	66.2	63.8	54.8	62.5

Table 3-14 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nunavut

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous quarter				
Trade group					
New car dealers	...	...	...	...	...
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	...	...	...	...	...
Home furnishings stores	...	...	...	...	...
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	...	...	...	...	...
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	...	...	...	...	...
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	...	...	...	...	...
Department stores	...	...	...	...	...
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	-2.1	3.7	16.4	-12.3	6.0

Table 3-14 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nunavut

	Quarter IV 2005	Quarter III 2005	Quarter II 2005	Quarter I 2005	Quarter IV 2004
	% change from previous year				
Trade group					
New car dealers	...	...	...	...	X
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	X	X	X	X	X
Gasoline stations	X	X	X	X	X
Furniture stores	...	...	...	...	X
Home furnishings stores	...	...	...	...	...
Computer and software stores	X	X	X	X	X
Home electronics and appliance stores	X	X	X	X	X
Home centres and hardware stores	X	X	X	X	X
Specialized building materials and garden stores	...	...	...	...	X
Supermarkets	X	X	X	X	X
Convenience and specialty food stores	X	X	X	X	X
Beer, wine and liquor stores	X	X	X	X	X
Pharmacies and personal care stores	X	X	X	X	X
Clothing stores	...	...	...	...	X
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	...	...	...	...	X
Department stores	...	...	...	...	...
Other general merchandise stores	X	X	X	X	X
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	X	X	X	X	X
Miscellaneous store retailers	X	X	X	X	X
Total, all stores	3.6	12.2	8.3	3.9	3.2

Table 4

Weighted response rate

	January 2006 ^p	December 2005 ^r	November 2005	October 2005
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers
Gasoline stations
Furniture stores
Home furnishings stores
Computer and software stores
Home electronics and appliance stores
Home centres and hardware stores
Specialized building materials and garden stores
Supermarkets
Convenience and specialty food stores
Beer, wine and liquor stores
Pharmacies and personal care stores
Clothing stores
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores
Department stores
Other general merchandise stores
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores
Miscellaneous store retailers
Total, all stores
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador
Prince Edward Island
Nova Scotia
New Brunswick
Quebec
Ontario
Manitoba
Saskatchewan
Alberta
British Columbia
Yukon Territory
Northwest Territories
Nunavut

Table 5

Retail sales (current periods) — Coefficient of variation

	January 2006 ^p	December 2005 ^r	November 2005	October 2005
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.8
Gasoline stations	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5
Furniture stores	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.3
Home furnishings stores	3.9	3.1	3.5	3.7
Computer and software stores	8.1	8.2	7.7	8.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	2.9	2.1	2.5	2.6
Home centres and hardware stores	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5
Supermarkets	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.1
Clothing stores	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	2.7	2.9	2.3	2.2
Department stores	x	x	0.0	0.0
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	0.7	0.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	3.3	2.6	2.7	3.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.4
Total, all stores	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.4	1.9	1.9	2.2
Prince Edward Island	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.4
Nova Scotia	2.0	1.7	2.0	2.0
New Brunswick	2.6	2.0	2.4	2.5
Quebec	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.4
Ontario	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.1
Manitoba	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.9
Saskatchewan	2.4	2.0	2.3	2.3
Alberta	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.5
British Columbia	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.6
Yukon Territory	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0
Northwest Territories	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Nunavut	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 6-1

Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November ^r 2005	October ^r 2005	September 2005	August 2005	July 2005
	millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada							
New car dealers	6,187.8	6,102.6	6,147.0	5,837.0	5,522.2	6,245.2	6,435.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,350.4	1,332.6	1,283.2	1,254.3	1,268.8	1,281.5	1,296.0
Gasoline stations	3,385.8	3,353.0	3,310.3	3,430.1	3,495.2	3,360.8	3,236.1
Furniture stores	819.8	769.8	760.5	767.2	760.5	747.6	732.7
Home furnishings stores	443.9	428.1	417.4	408.0	401.1	408.4	395.2
Computer and software stores	142.6	139.4	139.6	137.6	131.6	133.2	129.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	906.1	865.7	841.9	857.7	864.2	862.6	865.1
Home centres and hardware stores	1,650.2	1,606.7	1,594.4	1,559.4	1,553.3	1,538.6	1,513.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	384.6	367.5	371.6	349.1	377.0	388.3	383.1
Supermarkets	5,162.6	5,324.5	5,247.6	5,222.4	5,287.3	5,253.5	5,279.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	787.7	761.3	746.5	757.7	755.1	757.2	769.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,238.3	1,191.4	1,211.0	1,238.5	1,211.2	1,199.9	1,212.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,070.9	2,055.0	2,057.6	2,045.3	2,054.6	2,011.7	1,992.1
Clothing stores	1,375.4	1,354.8	1,358.4	1,324.2	1,344.4	1,324.9	1,356.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	422.2	428.5	429.0	421.2	421.9	409.3	407.9
Department stores	x	x	1,856.7	1,874.8	1,870.5	1,856.1	1,862.4
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	1,837.1	1,812.9	1,800.7	1,762.4	1,771.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	862.0	810.7	808.5	801.2	808.0	788.2	803.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	816.4	791.4	789.3	785.4	767.6	750.5	778.0
Total, all stores	31,822.7	31,387.5	31,207.6	30,884.0	30,695.1	31,080.0	31,219.7
Regions							
Newfoundland and Labrador	512.5	504.6	498.6	495.3	473.6	488.3	493.1
Prince Edward Island	123.0	121.1	119.8	116.6	115.6	119.2	118.0
Nova Scotia	937.5	915.4	889.3	886.5	883.8	897.3	888.5
New Brunswick	721.7	713.6	709.8	702.5	701.2	703.3	714.5
Quebec	7,023.5	6,965.6	6,995.1	6,903.2	6,895.2	6,949.6	7,036.0
Ontario	11,670.3	11,558.9	11,414.9	11,310.1	11,196.3	11,364.9	11,485.3
Manitoba	1,044.2	1,039.4	1,050.3	1,050.3	1,036.6	1,064.2	1,075.4
Saskatchewan	932.2	919.9	926.8	915.1	922.5	942.0	948.6
Alberta	4,409.5	4,306.2	4,227.3	4,157.5	4,121.7	4,159.3	4,153.9
British Columbia	4,339.3	4,237.7	4,268.4	4,240.8	4,243.4	4,285.6	4,199.1
Yukon Territory	37.1	36.7	37.7	36.7	36.6	36.7	36.8
Northwest Territories	51.0	47.8	48.9	48.3	47.6	48.3	49.3
Nunavut	20.8	20.5	20.6	21.0	20.9	21.1	21.1

Table 6-1 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006

	June 2005	May 2005	April 2005	March 2005	February 2005	January 2005
millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada						
New car dealers	6,119.6	5,832.7	6,148.9	5,932.8	6,013.4	5,864.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,291.2	1,307.0	1,290.9	1,262.8	1,271.9	1,202.7
Gasoline stations	3,151.6	3,097.2	3,118.7	3,050.2	2,972.7	2,935.6
Furniture stores	723.2	728.6	765.1	737.0	750.2	736.2
Home furnishings stores	391.4	389.8	389.4	382.3	385.1	385.3
Computer and software stores	129.4	129.2	131.8	129.2	134.1	134.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	870.2	850.2	855.6	848.6	843.7	815.6
Home centres and hardware stores	1,514.6	1,518.8	1,521.6	1,464.7	1,464.2	1,427.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	381.0	387.1	387.8	370.7	378.7	374.6
Supermarkets	5,240.7	5,250.7	5,192.4	5,187.8	5,168.1	5,188.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	768.4	773.7	767.5	767.2	770.2	757.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,223.1	1,220.2	1,206.7	1,202.5	1,183.3	1,125.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,979.7	1,978.4	1,975.1	1,970.7	1,952.9	1,942.1
Clothing stores	1,354.0	1,337.8	1,372.0	1,352.1	1,351.8	1,318.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	403.1	409.0	410.4	421.4	404.9	383.8
Department stores	1,865.2	1,843.3	1,855.9	1,899.7	1,861.7	1,867.4
Other general merchandise stores	1,765.3	1,756.0	1,776.6	1,764.7	1,739.4	1,751.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	771.9	782.4	792.3	780.8	774.9	768.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	800.1	791.6	789.1	788.2	792.6	783.1
Total, all stores	30,743.6	30,383.7	30,747.8	30,313.3	30,213.7	29,762.8
Regions						
Newfoundland and Labrador	489.1	488.2	494.6	488.4	493.0	487.0
Prince Edward Island	120.0	116.0	121.2	118.3	125.9	116.3
Nova Scotia	891.0	881.3	891.2	871.7	887.6	833.8
New Brunswick	700.0	680.0	696.5	699.9	703.4	686.8
Quebec	7,018.5	6,907.5	6,970.3	6,919.7	6,858.0	6,830.3
Ontario	11,284.0	11,045.3	11,373.0	11,161.6	11,152.3	11,097.9
Manitoba	1,037.9	1,025.5	1,036.3	1,018.0	1,027.3	1,004.4
Saskatchewan	936.4	948.8	924.3	903.0	898.5	874.3
Alberta	4,031.7	4,045.8	4,005.6	3,903.3	3,876.6	3,778.2
British Columbia	4,129.1	4,138.2	4,127.4	4,122.7	4,084.2	3,951.0
Yukon Territory	36.6	39.0	38.2	37.3	35.9	35.7
Northwest Territories	47.9	47.7	48.2	48.9	50.3	46.6
Nunavut	21.4	20.4	21.1	20.7	20.8	20.4

Table 6-2

Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Not seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006

	January ^p 2006	December ^r 2005	November 2005	October 2005	September 2005	August 2005	July 2005
	millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada							
New car dealers	4,752.2	5,180.7	5,719.1	5,322.0	5,666.1	6,661.4	6,892.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	951.6	1,023.1	1,178.6	1,182.4	1,256.6	1,396.0	1,473.4
Gasoline stations	3,096.7	3,183.1	3,149.8	3,535.5	3,689.5	3,709.6	3,480.9
Furniture stores	700.1	899.1	790.8	809.8	799.0	784.6	792.2
Home furnishings stores	373.5	571.6	487.1	423.3	399.2	411.9	379.8
Computer and software stores	145.2	173.7	138.4	135.8	137.9	128.4	111.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	783.8	1,695.1	918.0	814.1	866.6	851.0	789.0
Home centres and hardware stores	1,149.9	1,328.4	1,605.8	1,678.6	1,719.7	1,710.7	1,746.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	244.6	288.4	355.2	357.5	414.8	441.6	425.4
Supermarkets	4,838.3	6,068.2	5,032.5	5,122.9	5,315.2	5,142.3	5,584.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	678.9	841.8	694.2	752.2	763.4	810.1	864.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	878.6	1,856.6	1,143.1	1,180.9	1,198.7	1,298.7	1,484.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,003.3	2,457.3	2,073.4	2,036.0	2,028.2	1,983.6	1,919.7
Clothing stores	1,005.3	2,262.3	1,502.7	1,415.4	1,386.1	1,308.4	1,261.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	291.6	817.4	445.5	395.5	402.5	418.8	393.2
Department stores	x	x	2,167.7	1,981.3	1,729.9	1,779.9	1,786.8
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	1,989.6	1,774.8	1,673.6	1,763.7	1,917.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	762.7	1,448.4	849.0	738.6	809.4	796.4	759.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	675.8	990.8	787.0	807.9	815.5	811.6	777.5
Total, all stores	26,297.5	36,813.6	31,027.6	30,464.7	31,071.7	32,208.7	32,838.9
Regions							
Newfoundland and Labrador	393.7	602.5	517.4	480.9	485.4	533.7	538.7
Prince Edward Island	93.8	141.4	116.6	113.7	120.1	139.0	142.1
Nova Scotia	760.8	1,107.5	893.6	867.8	891.1	936.7	956.1
New Brunswick	580.8	831.0	711.2	689.0	713.2	752.0	762.5
Quebec	5,661.3	7,680.5	6,842.7	6,912.5	6,948.7	7,207.2	7,442.6
Ontario	9,698.8	13,907.1	11,559.3	11,169.1	11,374.8	11,699.5	11,926.8
Manitoba	856.4	1,226.4	1,040.9	1,042.2	1,046.8	1,102.3	1,128.9
Saskatchewan	767.5	1,072.8	915.6	911.8	921.9	997.2	1,009.0
Alberta	3,684.7	5,023.3	4,193.9	4,048.1	4,168.5	4,318.5	4,365.0
British Columbia	3,710.4	5,102.1	4,137.5	4,127.0	4,294.9	4,407.9	4,448.4
Yukon Territory	29.1	40.8	34.7	35.4	37.9	42.2	43.0
Northwest Territories	42.7	54.2	44.5	46.3	46.5	50.1	53.9
Nunavut	17.6	24.1	19.6	21.1	21.8	22.4	22.0

Table 6-2 – continued

Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Not seasonally adjusted, January 2005 to January 2006

	June 2005	May 2005	April 2005	March 2005	February 2005	January 2005
millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada						
New car dealers	7,325.4	6,868.2	6,790.1	6,329.1	4,891.0	4,322.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,606.1	1,703.2	1,613.8	1,159.8	918.8	819.4
Gasoline stations	3,287.9	3,136.3	2,988.8	2,984.6	2,592.7	2,669.0
Furniture stores	747.5	721.4	725.2	666.2	585.2	631.8
Home furnishings stores	383.5	372.4	364.5	354.0	305.3	315.4
Computer and software stores	118.6	119.0	122.9	148.9	123.7	133.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	765.3	721.5	715.4	736.6	642.8	695.3
Home centres and hardware stores	1,890.8	1,918.7	1,527.9	1,165.7	948.8	964.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	517.3	537.7	385.8	301.1	242.6	232.5
Supermarkets	5,317.2	5,232.0	5,155.0	5,143.2	4,576.0	5,056.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	817.1	791.8	752.6	729.9	649.9	656.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,264.8	1,161.4	1,080.9	1,053.6	886.4	833.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,958.8	1,967.2	1,924.4	1,957.0	1,784.9	1,860.7
Clothing stores	1,338.9	1,306.8	1,319.6	1,133.2	897.2	983.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	405.7	414.1	389.2	315.9	289.8	275.8
Department stores	1,857.7	1,751.7	1,729.7	1,599.4	1,336.0	1,374.9
Other general merchandise stores	1,966.2	1,881.8	1,703.9	1,517.9	1,247.0	1,427.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	731.1	711.0	714.7	661.2	562.5	681.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	847.0	813.5	723.5	721.6	656.3	646.3
Total, all stores	33,147.2	32,129.8	30,727.9	28,678.9	24,136.9	24,582.5
Regions						
Newfoundland and Labrador	537.6	518.4	479.8	447.8	372.1	369.7
Prince Edward Island	134.2	123.2	115.6	100.8	90.6	88.3
Nova Scotia	989.6	909.7	868.5	807.2	690.8	677.5
New Brunswick	773.5	719.1	694.8	651.8	542.4	550.9
Quebec	7,723.3	7,609.7	7,230.7	6,610.9	5,329.5	5,536.0
Ontario	12,119.7	11,664.2	11,173.2	10,440.6	8,916.9	9,213.1
Manitoba	1,121.6	1,070.9	1,043.6	962.0	827.1	828.3
Saskatchewan	1,010.5	999.3	924.2	836.2	713.9	720.2
Alberta	4,278.9	4,200.5	4,018.6	3,737.0	3,157.1	3,123.4
British Columbia	4,341.9	4,207.9	4,073.6	3,975.2	3,408.4	3,389.8
Yukon Territory	42.6	40.9	36.1	34.4	27.0	28.2
Northwest Territories	52.2	44.8	47.8	54.2	44.4	39.9
Nunavut	21.5	21.1	21.2	20.9	16.8	17.0

Objectives, uses and users

Objective

The Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS) provides information on the performance of the retail trade sector on a monthly basis, and when combined with other statistics, represents an important indicator of the state of the Canadian economy.

Uses

The estimates provide a measure of the health and performance of the retail trade sector. Information collected is used to estimate level and monthly trend for retail sales. At the end of each year, the estimates provide a preliminary look at annual retail sales and performance.

Users

A variety of organizations, sector associations, and levels of government make use of the information. Retailers rely on the survey results to compare their performance against similar types of businesses, as well as for marketing purposes. Retail associations are able to monitor industry performance and promote their retail industries. Investors can monitor industry growth, which can result in better access to investment capital by retailers. Governments are able to understand the role of retailers in the economy, which aids in the development of policies and tax incentives. As an important industry in the Canadian economy, governments are able to better determine the overall health of the economy through the use of the estimates in the calculation of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Concepts, variables and classifications

Concepts

The retail trade sector comprises establishments primarily engaged in retailing merchandise, generally without transformation, and rendering services incidental to the sale of merchandise.

The retailing process is the final step in the distribution of merchandise; retailers are therefore organized to sell merchandise in small quantities to the general public. This sector comprises two main types of retailers, that is, store and non-store retailers. The MRTS covers only store retailers. Their main characteristics are described below.

Store retailers operate fixed point-of-sale locations, located and designed to attract a high volume of walk-in customers. In general, retail stores have extensive displays of merchandise and use mass-media advertising to attract customers. They typically sell merchandise to the general public for personal or household consumption, but some also serve business and institutional clients. These include establishments such as office supplies stores, computer and software stores, gasoline stations, building material dealers, plumbing supplies stores and electrical supplies stores.

In addition to selling merchandise, some types of store retailers are also engaged in the provision of after-sales services, such as repair and installation. For example, new automobile dealers, electronic and appliance stores and musical instrument and supplies stores often provide repair services, while floor covering stores and window treatment stores often provide installation services. As a general rule, establishments engaged in retailing merchandise and providing after sales services are classified in this sector.

Catalogue sales showrooms, gasoline service stations, and mobile home dealers are treated as store retailers.

Variables

Sales are defined as the sales of all goods purchased for resale, net of returns and discounts. This includes commission revenue and fees earned from selling goods and services on account of others, such as selling lottery tickets, bus tickets, and phone cards. It also includes parts and labour revenue from repair and maintenance; revenue from rental and leasing of goods and equipment; revenues from services, including food services; sales of goods manufactured as a secondary activity; and the proprietor's withdrawals, at retail, of goods for personal use. Other revenue from rental of real estate, placement fees, operating subsidies, grants, royalties and franchise fees are excluded.

Trading Location is the physical location(s) in which business activity is conducted in each province and territory, and for which sales are credited or recognized in the financial records of the company. For retailers, this would normally be a store.

Constant Dollars: The value of retail trade is measured in two ways; including the effects of price change on sales and net of the effects of price change. The first measure is referred to as retail trade in current dollars and the latter as retail trade in constant dollars. The method of calculating the current dollar estimate is to aggregate the weighted value of sales for all retail outlets. The method of calculating the constant dollar estimate is to first adjust the sales values to a base year, using the Consumer Price Index, and then sum up the resulting values.

Classification

The Monthly Retail Trade Survey is based on the definition of retail trade under the NAICS (North American Industry Classification System). NAICS is the agreed upon common framework for the production of comparable statistics by

the statistical agencies of Canada, Mexico and the United States. The agreement defines the boundaries of twenty sectors. NAICS is based on a production-oriented, or supply based conceptual framework in that establishments are grouped into industries according to similarity in production processes used to produce goods and services.

Estimates appear for 19 major trade groups based on special aggregations of the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industries. The 19 trade groups are further aggregated to 8 trade group sectors.

Geographically, sales estimates are produced for Canada and each province and territory.

Coverage and frames

Statistics Canada's Business Register (BR) provides the frame for the Monthly Retail Trade Survey. The BR is a structured list of businesses engaged in the production of goods and services in Canada. It is a centrally maintained database containing detailed descriptions of most business entities operating within Canada. The BR includes all incorporated businesses, with or without employees. For unincorporated businesses, the BR includes all employer businesses, and businesses with no employees with annual sales greater than \$30,000 that have a Goods and Services Tax (GST) account (the BR does not include unincorporated businesses with no employees and with annual sales less than \$30,000).

The businesses on the BR are represented by a hierarchical structure with four levels, with the statistical enterprise at the top, followed by the statistical company, the statistical establishment and the statistical location. An enterprise can be linked to one or more statistical companies, a statistical company can be linked to one or more statistical establishments, and a statistical establishment to one or more statistical locations.

The target population for the MRTS consists of all statistical establishments on the BR that are classified to the retail sector using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) (approximately 215,000 establishments). The NAICS code range for the retail sector is 441100 to 453999. A statistical establishment is the production entity or the smallest grouping of production entities which: produces a homogeneous set of goods or services; does not cross provincial boundaries; and provides data on the value of output, together with the cost of principal intermediate inputs used, along with the cost and quantity of labour used to produce the output. The production entity is the physical unit where the business operations are carried out. It must have a civic address and dedicated labour.

The exclusions to the target population are ancillary establishments (producers of services in support of the activity of producing goods and services for the market of more than one establishment within the enterprise, and serves as a cost centre or a discretionary expense centre for which data on all its costs including labour and depreciation can be reported by the business), future establishments, establishments with a missing or a zero gross business income (GBI) value on the BR and establishments in the following non-covered NAICS:

- 4541 (electronic shopping and mail-order houses)
- 4542 (vending machine operators)
- 45431 (fuel dealers)
- 45439 (other direct selling establishments)

Sampling

The MRTS sample consists of 10,000 groups of establishments (clusters) classified to the Retail Trade sector selected from the Statistics Canada Business Register. A cluster of establishments is defined as all establishments belonging to a statistical enterprise that are in the same trade group and geographical region. The MRTS uses a stratified design with simple random sample selection in each stratum. The stratification is done by industry groups using the NAICS-four digit level, and the geographical regions consisting of the provinces and territories, as well as three provincial sub-regions. We further stratify the population by size. The size measure is created using a combination of independent survey data and three administrative variables: the GBI, the GST sales, and the T2-revenue (from corporation tax return).

The size strata consist of one take-all (census), at most, two take-some (partially sampled) strata, and one take-none (none sampled) stratum. Take-none strata serve to reduce respondent burden by excluding the smaller businesses from the surveyed population. These businesses should represent at most five percent of total sales. Instead of sending questionnaires to these businesses, the estimates are produced through the use of administrative data.

The sample was allocated optimally in order to reach target coefficients of variation at the national, provincial/territorial, industrial, and industry by province/territory levels. The sample was also inflated to compensate for dead, non-responding, and misclassified units.

MRTS is a repeated survey with maximisation of monthly sample overlap. The sample is kept month after month and every month births are added to the sample and dead units are identified. MRTS births, i.e., new clusters of establishment(s), are identified every month via the BR's latest universe. They are stratified according to the same criteria as the initial population. A sample of these births is selected according to the sampling fraction of the stratum to which they belong and is added to the monthly sample. Deaths occur on a monthly basis. A death can be a cluster of establishment(s) that have ceased their activities (out-of-business) or whose major activities are no longer in retail trade (out-of-scope). The status of these businesses is updated on the BR using administrative sources and survey feedback, including feedback from the MRTS. Methods to treat dead units and misclassified units are part of the sample and population update procedures.

Questionnaire design

The Monthly Retail Trade Survey incorporates the following sub-surveys:

Monthly Retail Trade Survey - R8

Monthly Retail Trade Survey (with inventories) – R8

Survey of Sales and Inventories of Alcoholic Beverages

The questionnaires collect monthly data on retail sales and the number of trading locations by province or territory and inventories of goods owned and intended for resale from a sample of retailers. The items on the questionnaires have remained unchanged for several years. For the 2004 redesign, the general questionnaires were subject to cosmetic changes only. The questionnaire for Sales and Inventories of Alcoholic Beverages underwent more extensive changes. The modifications were discussed with stakeholders and the respondents were given an opportunity to comment before the new questionnaire was finalized. If further changes are needed to any of the questionnaires, proposed changes would go through a review committee and a field test with respondents and data users to ensure its relevancy.

Response and non-response

Despite the best efforts of survey managers and operations staff to maximize response in the MRTS, some non-response will occur. For statistical establishments to be classified as responding, the degree of partial response (where an accurate response is obtained for only some of the questions asked a respondent) must meet a minimum threshold level below which the response would be rejected and considered a unit nonresponse. In such an instance, the business is classified as not having responded at all.

Non-response has two effects on data: first it introduces bias in estimates when nonrespondents differ from respondents in the characteristics measured; and second, it contributes to an increase in the sampling variance of estimates because the effective sample size is reduced from that originally sought.

The degree to which efforts are made to get a response from a non-respondent is based on budget and time constraints, its impact on the overall quality and the risk of nonresponse bias.

The main method to reduce the impact of non-response at sampling is to inflate the sample size through the use of over-sampling rates that have been determined from similar surveys.

Besides the methods to reduce the impact of non-response at sampling and collection, the non-responses to the survey that do occur are treated through imputation.

In order to measure the amount of non-response that occurs each month, various response rates are calculated. For a given reference month, the estimation process is run at least twice (a preliminary and a revised run). Between each run, respondent data can be identified as unusable and imputed values can be corrected through respondent data. As a consequence, response rates are computed following each run of the estimation process.

For the MRTS, two types of rates are calculated (unweighted and weighted). In order to assess the efficiency of the collection process, unweighted response rates are calculated. Weighted rates, using the estimation weight and the value for the variable of interest, assess the quality of estimation. Within each of these types of rates, there are distinct rates for units that are surveyed and for units that are only modeled from administrative data that has been extracted from GST files.

To get a better picture of the success of the collection process, two unweighted rates called the 'collection results rate' and the 'extraction results rate' are computed. They are computed by dividing the number of respondents by the number of units that we tried to contact or tried to receive extracted data for them. Non-monthly reporters (respondents with special reporting arrangements where they do not report every month but for whom actual data is available in subsequent revisions) are excluded from both the numerator and denominator for the months where no contact is performed.

In summary, the various response rates are calculated as follows:

Weighted rates:

$$\text{Survey Response rate (estimation)} = \frac{\text{Sum of weighted sales of units with response status } i}{\text{Sum of survey weighted sales}}$$

where i = units that have either reported data that will be used in estimation or are converted refusals, or have reported data that has not yet been resolved for estimation.

$$\text{Admin Response rate (estimation)} = \frac{\text{Sum of weighted sales of units with response status } ii}{\text{Sum of administrative weighted sales}}$$

where *ii* = units that have data that was extracted from administrative files and are usable for estimation.

$$\text{Total Response rate (estimation)} = \frac{\text{Sum of weighted sales of units with response status } i \text{ or response status } ii}{\text{Sum of all weighted sales}}$$

Unweighted rates:

$$\text{Survey Response rate (collection)} = \frac{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } iii}{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } iv}$$

where *iii* = units that have either reported data (unresolved, used or not used for estimation) or are converted refusals.

where *iv* = all of the above plus units that have refused to respond, units that were not contacted and other types of nonrespondent units.

$$\text{Admin Response rate (extraction)} = \frac{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } vi}{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } vii}$$

where *vi* = in-scope units that have data (either usable or non-usable) that was extracted from administrative files

where *vii* = all of the above plus units that have refused to report to the administrative data source, units that were not contacted and other types of nonrespondent units.

(% of questionnaire collected over all in-scope questionnaires)

$$\text{Collection Results Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } iii}{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } viii}$$

where *viii* = same as *iii* defined above

where *viii* = same as *iv* except for the exclusion of units that were contacted because their response is unavailable for a particular month since they are non-monthly reporters.

$$\text{Extraction Results Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } ix}{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } vii}$$

where *ix* = same as *vi* with the addition of extracted units that have been imputed or were out of scope

where *vii* = same as *vii* defined above

(% of questionnaires collected over all questionnaire in-scope we tried to collect)

All the above weighted and unweighted rates are provided at the trade group, geography and size group level or for any combination of these levels.

Use of Administrative Data

Managing response burden is an ongoing challenge for Statistics Canada. In an attempt to alleviate response burden and survey costs, especially for smaller businesses, Statistics Canada has been investigating various alternatives to survey taking. Administrative data files are a rich source of information for business data and Statistics Canada is working at bringing this rich data source to its full potential. As such, beginning with the October 2005 reference month, the MRTS has reduced the number of simple establishments in the sample that are surveyed directly and instead derives sales data for these establishments from Goods and Service Tax (GST) files using a statistical model. The model accounts for differences between sales and revenue (reported for GST purposes) as well as for the time lag between the survey reference period and the reference period of the GST file.

For more information on the methodology for modeling sales from administrative data sources (i.e. GST data) which also contributes to the estimates of the survey portion, please refer to Statistics Canada Integrated Meta Data base (IMDB) document located on Statistics Canada's website by clicking on the following link: http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406_D11_T9_V1_E.pdf.

Methods used to reduce non-response at collection

Significant effort is spent trying to minimize non-response during collection. Methods used, among others, are interviewer techniques such as probing and persuasion, repeated re-scheduling and call-backs to obtain the information, and procedures dealing with how to handle non-compliant (refusal) respondents.

If data are unavailable at the time of collection, a respondent's best estimates are also accepted, and are subsequently revised once the actual data become available.

To minimize total non-response for all variables, partial responses are accepted. In addition, questionnaires are customized for the collection of certain variables, such as inventory, so that collection is timed for those months when the data are available.

Finally, to build trust and rapport between the interviewers and respondents, cases are generally assigned to the same interviewer each month. This action establishes a personal relationship between interviewer and respondent, and builds respondent trust.

Data collection and capture operations

Collection of the data is performed by Statistics Canada's Regional Offices. Respondents are sent a questionnaire or are contacted by telephone to obtain their sales and inventory values, as well as to confirm the opening or closing of business trading locations. Collection of the data begins approximately 7 working days after the end of the reference month and continues for the duration of that month.

New entrants to the survey are introduced to the survey via an introductory letter that informs the respondent that a representative of Statistics Canada will be calling. This call is to introduce the respondent to the survey, confirm the respondent's business activity, establish and begin data collection, as well as to answer any questions that the respondent may have.

Editing

Data editing is the application of checks to detect missing, invalid or inconsistent entries or to point to data records that are potentially in error. In the survey process for the MRTS, data editing is done at two different time periods.

First of all, editing is done during data collection. Once data are collected via the telephone, or via the receipt of completed mail-in questionnaires, the data are captured using customized data capture applications. All data are subjected to data editing. Edits during data collection are referred to as field edits and generally consist of validity and some simple consistency edits. They are used to detect mistakes made during the interview by the respondent or the interviewer and to identify missing information during collection in order to reduce the need for follow-up later on. Another purpose of the field edits is to clean up responses. In the MRTS, the current month's responses are edited against the respondent's previous month's responses and/or the previous year's responses for the current month. Field edits are also used to identify problems with data collection procedures and the design of the questionnaire, as well as the need for more interviewer training.

Follow-up with respondents occurs to validate potential erroneous data following any failed preliminary edit check of the data. Once validated, the collected data is regularly transmitted to the head office in Ottawa.

Secondly, editing known as statistical editing is also done after data collection and this is more empirical in nature. Statistical editing is run prior to imputation in order to identify the data that will be used as a basis to impute non-respondents. Large outliers that could disrupt a monthly trend are excluded from trend calculations by the statistical edits. It should be noted that adjustments are not made at this stage to correct the reported outliers.

The first step in the statistical editing is to identify which responses will be subjected to the statistical edit rules. Reported data for the current reference month will go through various edit checks.

The first set of edit checks is based on the Hidiriglou-Berthelot method whereby a ratio of the respondent's current month data over historical (last month, same month last year) or auxiliary data (GST sales, GBI) is analyzed. When the respondent's ratio differs significantly from ratios of respondents who are similar in terms of industry and/or geography group, the response is deemed an outlier.

The second set of edits consists of an edit known as the share of market edit. With this method, one is able to edit all respondents, even those where historical and auxiliary data is unavailable. The method relies on current month data only. Therefore, within a group of respondents that are similar in terms of industry and/or geography, if the weighted contribution of a respondent to the group's total is too large, it will be flagged as an outlier.

For edit checks based on the Hidiriglou-Berthelot method, data that are flagged as an outlier will not be included in the imputation models (those based on ratios). Also, data that are flagged as outliers in the share of market edit will not be included in the imputation models where means and medians are calculated to impute for responses that have no historical responses.

In conjunction with the statistical editing after data collection of reported data, there is also error detection done on the extracted GST data.

Modeled data based on the GST are also subject to an extensive series of processing steps which thoroughly verify each record that is the basis for the model as well as the record being modeled.

Edits are performed at a more aggregate level (industry by geography level) to detect records which deviate from the expected range, either by exhibiting large month-to-month change, or differing significantly from the remaining units.

All data which fail these edits are subject to manual inspection and possible corrective action.

Imputation

Imputation in the MRTS is the process used to assign replacement values for missing data. This is done by assigning values when they are missing on the record being edited to ensure that estimates are of high quality and that a plausible, internal consistency is created. Due to concerns of response burden, cost and timeliness, it is generally impossible to do all follow-ups with the respondents in order to resolve missing responses. Since it is desirable to produce a complete and consistent microdata file, imputation is used to handle the remaining missing cases.

In the MRTS, imputation is based on historical data or administrative data (GST sales). The appropriate method is selected according to a strategy that is based on whether historical data is available, auxiliary data is available and/or which reference month is being processed.

There are three types of historical imputation methods. The first type is a general trend that uses one historical data source (previous month, data from next month or data from same month previous year). The second type is a regression model where data from previous month and same month previous year are used simultaneously. The third type uses the historical data as a direct replacement value for a non-respondent. Depending upon the particular reference month, there is an order of preference that exists so that top quality imputation can result. The historical imputation method that was labelled as the third type above is always the last option in the order for each reference month.

The imputation methods using administrative data are automatically selected when historical information is unavailable for a non-respondent. The administrative data source (annual GST sales) is the basis of these methods. The annual GST sales are used for two types of methods. One is a general trend that will be used for simple structure, e.g. enterprises with only one establishment, and a second type is called median-average that is used for units with a more complex structure.

Estimation

Estimation is a process that approximates unknown population parameters using only part of the population that is included in a sample. Inferences about these unknown parameters are then made, using the sample data and associated survey design.

In the MRTS, new estimation processes have been developed using Statistics Canada's Generalized Estimation System (GES) and addressing the need to treat influential units and allowing for implementation of special corrections during processing. Different methodologies have been put in place to estimate retail sales and inventories.

For retail sales, the population is divided into a survey portion (take-all and take-some strata) and a non-survey portion (take-none stratum). From the sample that is drawn from the survey portion, an estimate for the population is determined through the use of a Horvitz-Thompson estimator where responses for sales are weighted by using the inverses of the inclusion probabilities of the sampled units. Such weights (called sampling weights) can be interpreted as the number of times that each sampled unit should be replicated to represent the entire population. The calculated weighted sales values are summed by domain, to produce the total sales estimates by each industrial trade group / geographic area combination. A domain is defined as the most recent classification values available from the BR for the unit and the survey reference period. These domains may differ from the original sampling strata because units may have changed size, industry or location. Changes in classification are reflected immediately in the estimates and do not accumulate over time. For the non-survey portion, a ratio type estimator is calculated using auxiliary data. The estimate of the total retail sales is equal to the sum of the survey and non-survey portion estimates.

For retail inventories, a non-probability sample is drawn including the largest businesses in each domain, and a ratio type estimator is used to produce an estimate for the population total.

For more information on the methodology for modeling sales from administrative data sources (i.e. GST data) which also contributes to the estimates of the survey portion, please refer to Statistics Canada Integrated Meta Data base (IMDB) document located on Statistics Canada's website by clicking on the following link: http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406_D11_T9_V1_E.pdf.

The measure of precision used for the MRTS to evaluate the quality of a population parameter estimate and to obtain valid inferences is the variance. The variance from the survey portion is derived directly from a stratified simple random sample without replacement.

Sample estimates may differ from the expected value of the estimates. However, since the estimate is based on a probability sample, the variability of the sample estimate with respect to its expected value can be measured. The variance of an estimate is a measure of the precision of the sample estimate and is defined as the average, over all possible samples, of the squared difference of the estimate from its expected value.

Seasonal adjustment and trend-cycle estimation

Revisions in the raw data are required to correct known non-sampling errors. These normally include replacing imputed data with reported data, corrections to previously reported data, and estimates for new births that were not known at the time of the original estimates.

Raw data are revised, on a monthly basis, for the month immediately prior to the current reference month being published. That is, when data for December are being published for the first time, there will also be revisions, if necessary, to the raw data for November. In addition, revisions are made once a year, with the initial release of the February data, for all months in the previous year. The purpose is to correct any significant problems that have been found that apply for an extended period. The actual period of revision depends on the nature of the problem identified, but rarely exceeds three years.

Retail trade data are seasonally adjusted using the X11ARIMA/2000¹ model. This consists of extrapolating a year's worth of raw data with the ARIMA model (auto-regressive integrated moving average model), and of seasonally adjusting the raw time series.

Socio-economic time series such as data from the MRTS can be broken down into five main components: the trend-cycle, seasonality, the trading-day effect, the Easter holiday effect and the irregular component.

The trend represents the long-term change in the series, whereas the cycle represents a smooth, quasi-periodical movement about the trend, showing a succession of growth and decline phases (e.g., the business cycle). These two components—the trend and the cycle—are estimated together, and the trend-cycle reflects the fundamental evolution of the series. The other components reflect short-term transient movements.

The seasonal component represents sub-annual, monthly or quarterly fluctuations that recur more or less regularly from one year to the next. Seasonal variations are caused by the direct and indirect effects of the climatic seasons, institutional factors (attributable to social conventions or administrative rules; e.g., Christmas) and technological factors.

The trading day component originates from the fact that the relative importance of the days varies systematically within the week and that the number of each day of the week in a given month or a given quarter varies from year to year. This effect is present when activity varies with the day of the week. For instance, Sunday is typically less active than the other days, and the number of Sundays, Mondays, etc. in, say, July changes from year to year.

The Easter holiday effect is the variation due to the shift of part of April's activity to March when Easter falls in March rather than April.

Lastly, the irregular component includes all other more or less erratic fluctuations not taken into account in the preceding components. It is a residual that includes errors of measurement on the variable itself as well as unusual events (e.g., strikes, drought, floods or other unexpected events causing variations in respondents' commercial activities).

Thus, the latter four components—seasonal, irregular, trading day and Easter holiday effect—all conceal the fundamental trend-cycle component of the series. Seasonal adjustment (correction of seasonal variation) consists in removing the seasonal, trading day and Easter holiday effect components from the series, and it thus helps reveal the trend-cycle. However, one must bear in mind that the seasonally adjusted series contains not only the trend-cycle but also the irregular component (which is technically difficult to isolate for the current months).

1. For further information, see X11ARIMA version 2000, an update of the seasonal adjustment method X11ARIMA/88, developed by Estelle Bee Dagum, Time Series Research and Analysis Centre, Statistics Canada.

The X-11 method is used for analysing monthly and quarterly series. It is based on an iterative principle applied in estimating the different components, with estimation being done at each stage using adequate moving averages.² The moving averages used to estimate the main components—the trend and seasonality—are primarily smoothing tools designed to eliminate any undesirable component from the series. Since moving averages react poorly to the presence of atypical values, the X-11 method includes a tool for detecting and correcting atypical points. This tool is used to clean up the series prior to seasonal adjustment.

Lastly, the trading day effect and the Easter holiday effect are components that are estimated using linear regression models, based on the irregular component. To evaluate the different components of the series, taking account of the possible presence of atypical points, X-11 proceeds iteratively: estimation of components, search for unwanted effects in the irregular component, estimation of components on a corrected series, search for unwanted effects in the irregular component, etc.

Retail trade forms a system of 33 series: the Canada grand total, the 19 trade group totals, and the 13 provincial/territorial totals. For non-seasonally adjusted series, the summing of the 19 trade group totals produces the grand total (Canada) for each month and is equal to the sum of the 13 provincial/territorial totals.

Unfortunately, seasonal adjustment removes the sub-annual additivity of a system of series; small discrepancies, which generally vary between -1% and 1%, are observed between the sum of the seasonally adjusted trade groups and the sum of the seasonally adjusted provinces and territories. To restore additivity, a reconciliation process is applied to the seasonally adjusted retail trade series. The reconciliation process operates as follows: (1) The seasonally adjusted grand total for Canada is obtained “indirectly” by summing up the trade group totals, which have previously been seasonally adjusted separately. And (2) the seasonally adjusted provincial and territorial totals are then reconciled so that their sum is equal to the seasonally adjusted grand total for Canada, obtained previously. The procedure is such that a) the system’s seasonally adjusted components are modified as little as possible in percentage, b) the seasonally adjusted components add up to the grand total for each month, and c) the seasonally adjusted monthly values add up to the yearly totals for the non-adjusted series.

2. Ladiray, D. and Quenneville, B. (2001). *Seasonal Adjustment with the X-11 Method*. New York: Springer-Verlag, *Lecture Notes in Statistics* #158.

Adjustment for historical series

The historical series for the MRTS begins in January 1991. The data from January 1991 to March 2004 were backcasted based on conversion coefficients from the MRTS on a 1980 SIC basis. Before the first release of the redesigned MRTS results for the April 2004 reference month, estimates were produced from December 2003 on to establish a comparison basis between the old and the new survey. The backcasted series were adjusted to the level of the redesigned survey.

In the first phase, the backcasted series were benchmarked beginning in January 1991. To do so, individual ratios of series from the new survey were calculated. These ratios were then applied to the backcasted series.

This benchmarking removes the additivity to the system of series because the series are benchmarked individually. For example, this process brings forth differences between the sum of the trade group and the sum of the provinces and territories. To restore additivity, a reconciliation process is applied to the benchmarked series.

Data quality evaluation

The methodology of this survey has been designed to control errors and to reduce their potential effects on estimates. However, the survey results remain subject to errors, of which sampling error is only one component of the total survey error. Sampling error results when observations are made only on a sample and not on the entire population. All other errors arising from the various phases of a survey are referred to as nonsampling errors. For example, these types of errors can occur when a respondent provides incorrect information or does not answer certain questions; when a unit in the target population is omitted or covered more than once; when GST data for records being modeled for a particular month are not representative of the actual record for various reasons; when a unit that is out of scope for the survey is included by mistake or when errors occur in data processing, such as coding or capture errors.

Prior to publication, combined survey results are analyzed for comparability; in general, this includes a detailed review of individual responses (especially for large businesses), general economic conditions and historical trends.

A common measure of data quality for surveys is the coefficient of variation (CV). The coefficient of variation, defined as the standard error divided by the sample estimate, is a measure of precision in relative terms. Since the coefficient of variation is calculated from responses of individual units, it also measures some non-sampling errors.

The formula used to calculate coefficients of variation (CV) as percentages is:

$$CV(X) = \frac{S(X)}{X} * 100\%$$

where X denotes the estimate and S(X) denotes the standard error of X.

Confidence intervals can be constructed around the estimates using the estimate and the CV. Thus, for our sample, it is possible to state with a given level of confidence that the expected value will fall within the confidence interval constructed around the estimate. For example, if an estimate of \$12,000,000 has a CV of 2%, the standard error will be \$240,000 (the estimate multiplied by the CV). It can be stated with 68% confidence that the expected values will fall within the interval whose length equals the standard deviation about the estimate, i.e. between \$11,760,000 and \$12,240,000. Alternatively, it can be stated with 95% confidence that the expected value will fall within the interval whose length equals two standard deviations about the estimate, i.e. between \$11,520,000 and \$12,480,000.

Finally, due to the small contribution of the non-survey portion to the total estimates, bias in the non-survey portion has a negligible impact on the CVs. Therefore, the CV from the survey portion is used for the total estimate that is the summation of estimates from the surveyed and non-surveyed portions.

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Confidentiality analysis includes the detection of possible "direct disclosure", which occurs when the value in a tabulation cell is composed of a few respondents or when the cell is dominated by a few companies.

Data comparability

In June 2004, estimates based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) were released. This followed a parallel production of four months where both NAICS and 1980 Standard Industrial Classification based estimates were generated for internal analysis. The change in classification and the new sample indicated a change in the level of the estimates. To avoid a break in the series, retail estimates were adjusted at the trade group by province level back to January 1991.

Caution should be taken when comparing annualized monthly totals from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey to the estimates from annual retail surveys. Differences may result from sampling differences; conceptual and coverage differences; the timing of revisions within the two survey processes; the reporting period covered (fiscal or calendar year); different response rates to the two surveys; and how revenues are reported.

Each year, effort is made to evaluate the differences and correct known discrepancies in the data. However, benchmarking of the two surveys is not done.

Appendix I

Special Aggregation: Retail Trade

Based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2002

Industries - Retail Trade

A Automotive

010 New Car Dealers

44111 New Car Dealers

020 Used and Recreational Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers

44112 Used Car Dealers

44121 Recreational Vehicle Dealers

44122 Motorcycle, Boat, and Other Motor Vehicle Dealers

44131 Automotive Parts and Accessories Stores

44132 Tire Dealers

130 Gasoline Stations

44711 Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores

44719 Other Gasoline Stations

B Furniture, Home Furnishings and Electronics Stores

030 Furniture Stores

44211 Furniture Stores

040 Home Furnishings Stores

44221 Floor Covering Stores

44229 Other Home Furnishings Stores

050 Computer and Software Stores

44312 Computer and Software Stores

060 Home Electronics and Appliance Stores

44311 Appliance, Television and Other Electronics Stores

44313 Camera and Photographic Supplies Stores

C Building and Outdoor Home Supplies Stores

070 Home Centres and Hardware Stores

44411 Home Centres

44413 Hardware Stores

080 Specialized Building Materials and Garden Stores

44412 Paint and Wallpaper Stores

44419 Other Building Material Dealers

44421 Outdoor Power Equipment Stores

44422 Nursery Stores and Garden Centres

090 Food and Beverage Stores

090 Supermarkets

44511 Supermarkets and Other Grocery (except Convenience) Stores

L Non-Store Retailers (not in scope on the Monthly Retail Trade Survey)**210 Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses**

45411 Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses

220 Vending Machine Operators

45421 Vending Machine Operators

230 Fuel Dealers

45431 Fuel Dealers

240 Other Direct Selling Establishments

45439 Other Direct Selling Establishments