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Retail trade

May 2004



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Statistics Canada
Distributive Trades Division
Retail Financial Section

Retail trade

May 2004

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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 confidential to meet secrecy requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

Acknowledgement

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Highlights

- Retailers sold \$28.6 billion worth of goods and services in May, an increase of 0.5% from April, when sales fell 0.8%. May's gain marked the fourth increase in five months. However, prices played a key role in May.

Analysis — May 2004

Retailers sold \$28.6 billion worth of goods and services in May, an increase of 0.5% from April, when sales fell 0.8%. May's gain marked the fourth increase in five months. Previously, retailers had suffered four consecutive monthly sales declines at the end of 2003, after experiencing a period of general increases that began in the fall of 2001.

Once prices are taken into account, retail sales in constant dollars fell 0.2% in May. The most significant price increases were noted in gasoline stations, where the average price at the pump jumped 13.6%, the largest monthly gain in 21 years. Higher prices were also observed in supermarkets, but to a much lesser extent.

Excluding sales by dealers of new, used and recreational vehicles and auto parts, retail sales grew at a much faster pace in May (+1.4%). In constant dollars, this gain translates to an increase of 0.5%.

Sales increases were noted in five of the eight retail sectors in May. Food and beverage stores enjoyed by far the largest sales gain (+2.2%), followed by furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores (+1.0%). More moderate increases were posted by building and outdoor home supplies stores (+0.6%), stores in the automotive sector (+0.4%) and pharmacies and personal care stores (+0.3%). The automotive sector gain was entirely driven by a sizable price-induced increase at gasoline stations, while sales at auto dealers fell in May.

Retailers classified in the miscellaneous sector, such as sporting goods, office supplies, hobby, music and book stores suffered the most significant sales decline in May (-2.7%), along with general merchandise stores (-1.1%). Clothing and accessories stores (-0.2%) also posted lower sales in May.

Strong month at food and beverage stores

In May, sales rebounded in beer, wine and liquor stores (+5.4%). Sales have been quite volatile in the last three months. In March, sales jumped significantly (+5.3%) as a result of promotions and subsequently retreated in April (-5.3%). Previously, sales by these retailers had generally been increasing since early 2003.

Supermarkets posted a sizable sales gain in May (+1.8%). About a third of this increase came from higher prices at these stores. Purchases by consumers in supermarkets have picked up since the beginning of the year, after a period of little change that began in the spring of 2003.

Computer and software stores (+3.4%) and home electronics and appliance stores (+1.9%) benefited from higher consumer spending in May. This was the first monthly sales gain in computer and software stores in five months. Sales by computer and software stores, which are cyclical, have generally been falling since the summer of 2003. Despite May's increase, sales in home electronics and appliance stores have remained essentially flat since the summer of last year.

Home centres and hardware stores are still surfing the housing wave. Sales by these retailers advanced 1.0% in May, and jumped 16.4% compared to the same month a year earlier.

Gasoline sales up, car sales down

A substantial jump in gasoline prices at the pump led to a 7.4% sales increase by gasoline stations in May. Sales returned to record levels, slightly surpassing the previous price-induced peak in February 2003.

In May, sales were down in new car dealers (-2.1%) and used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers (-2.8%). Sales at new car dealers remained at about 3.8% below the average level seen from January 2002 to July 2003. New car dealers had been experiencing record sales during that period, before sales began to fall in the second half of 2003.

Sales in other general merchandise stores fell 2.4% in May, while department stores posted a marginal 0.2% gain. On a year-over-year basis, sales advanced by 5.2% in both type of stores in May. The opening of a number of stores in November 2003 for other general merchandise stores and in January 2004 for department stores helped stimulate sales in recent months.

Sales increase in four provinces only

Retailers in Newfoundland and Labrador (+2.2%), Nova Scotia (+1.7%), Quebec (+1.1%) and Ontario (+0.9%) enjoyed the only sales increases in May, after posting declines of at least 1.0% in April.

Despite May's gain in Newfoundland and Labrador, retail sales in that province have been slowly falling since the summer of 2003, after increasing in the previous twelve months. Retailers in Nova Scotia experienced strong sales in March, April and May, after a period of essentially flat sales that began in the summer of 2002.

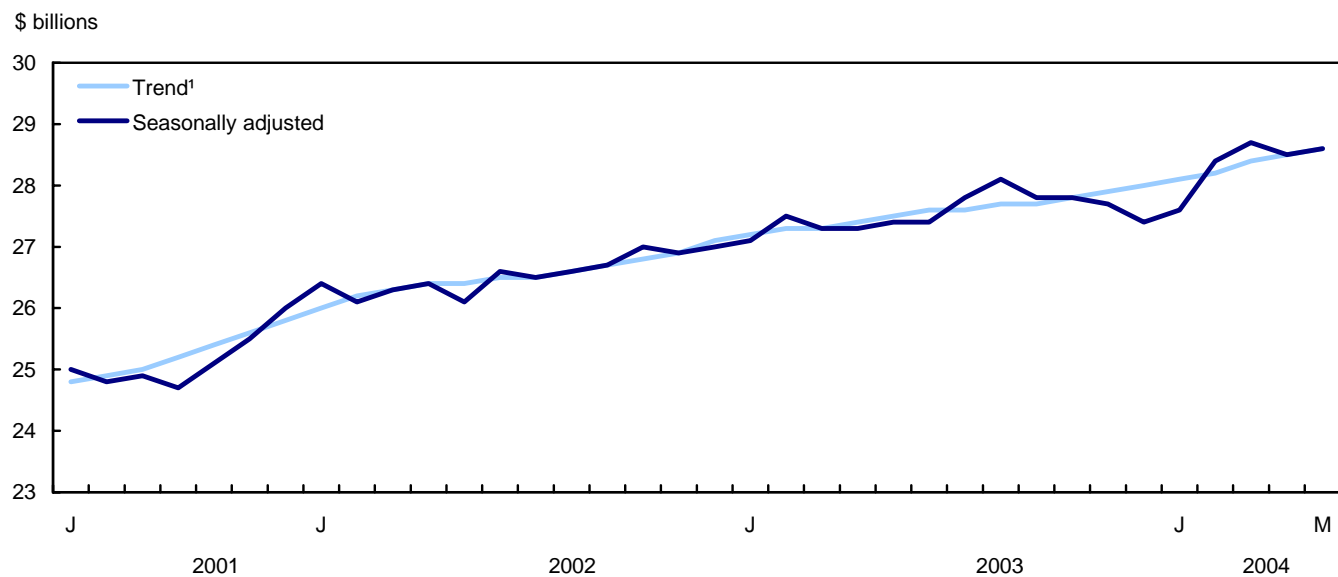
Since the start of the year, retail sales in Quebec and Ontario recovered all of the ground lost in the last four months of 2003. Previously, retailers in these two provinces had generally been experiencing increasing sales since the fall of 2001.

Related indicators for June

Total employment continued to increase in June (+0.2%), bringing the number of jobs created in the second quarter of 2004 to 130,400. Previously, employment growth had paused in the first quarter of the year. Housing starts were still exceptionally high in June, despite remaining unchanged at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 239,300. Gasoline prices at the pump fell for the first time in six months in June (-3.3%), after advancing 29.4% over the previous five months. It is estimated that the number of new motor vehicles sold in June fell by about 2.0% from May, according to preliminary estimates obtained from the automotive industry.

Chart 1

Retail sales - Canada

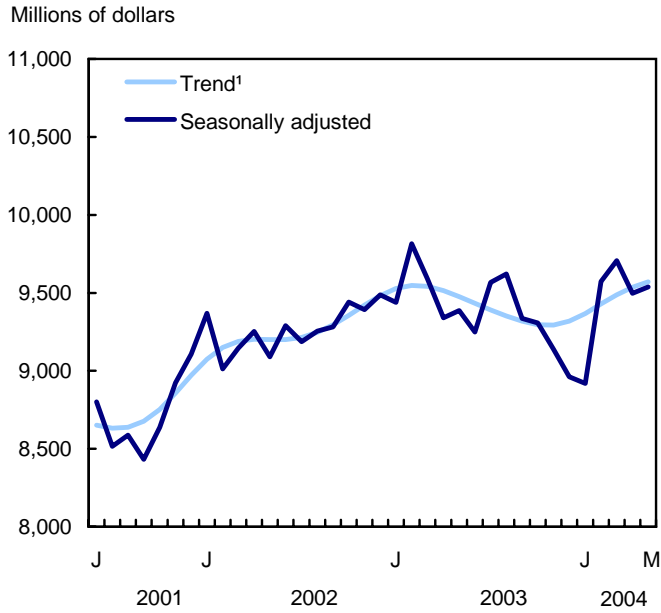


¹ Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

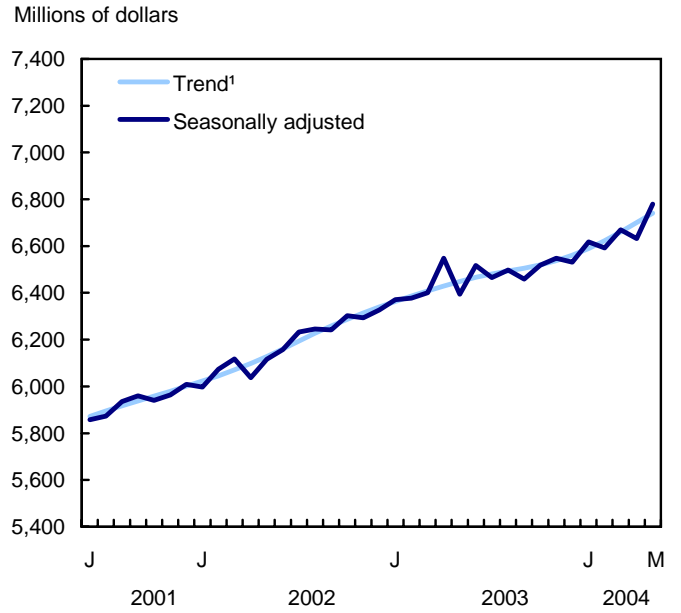
Chart 2

Retail sales trends - Canada

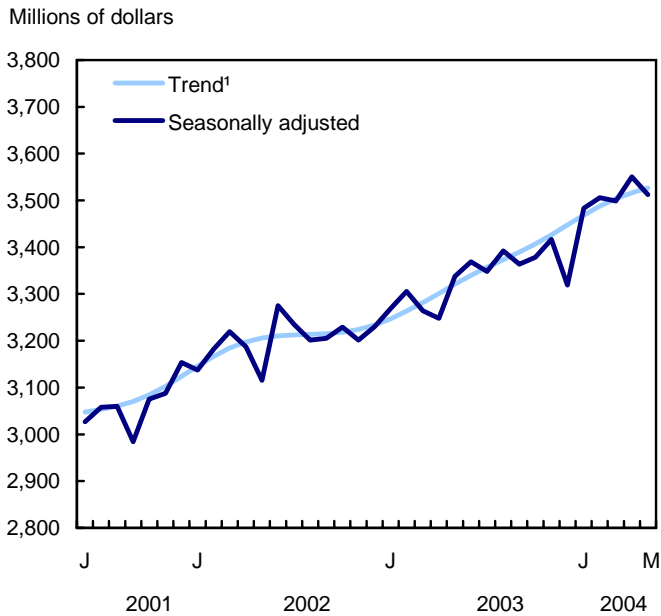
Automotive



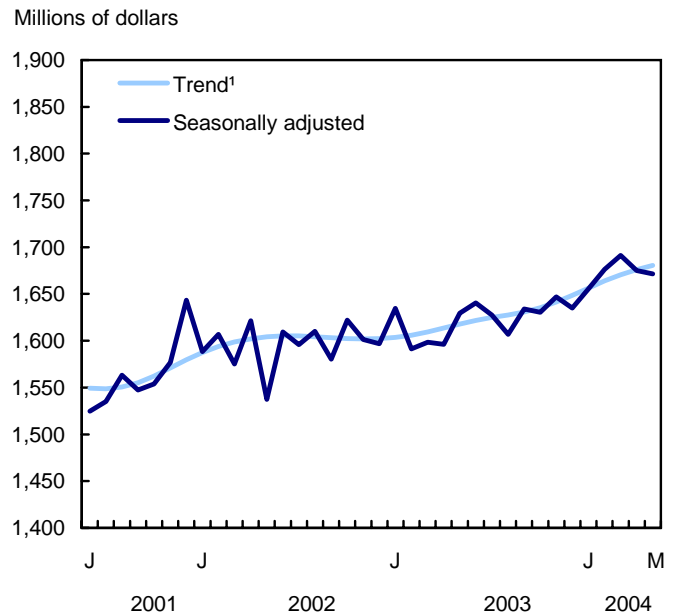
Food and beverage stores



General merchandise stores



Clothing and accessories stores



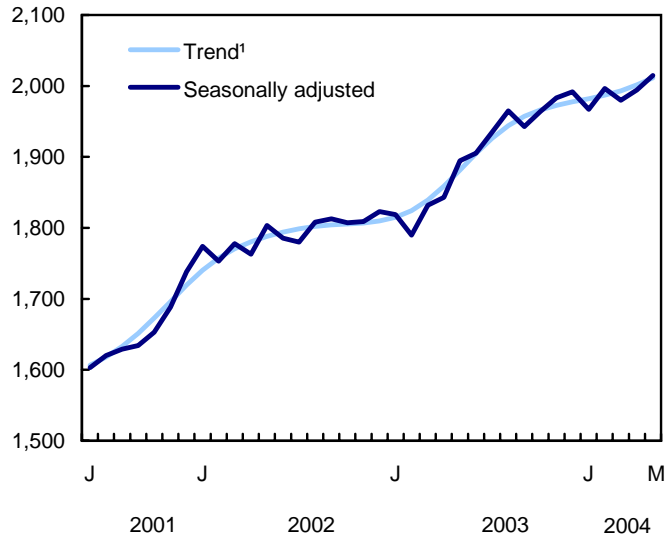
1. Trends represent smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

Chart 3

Retail sales trends - Canada

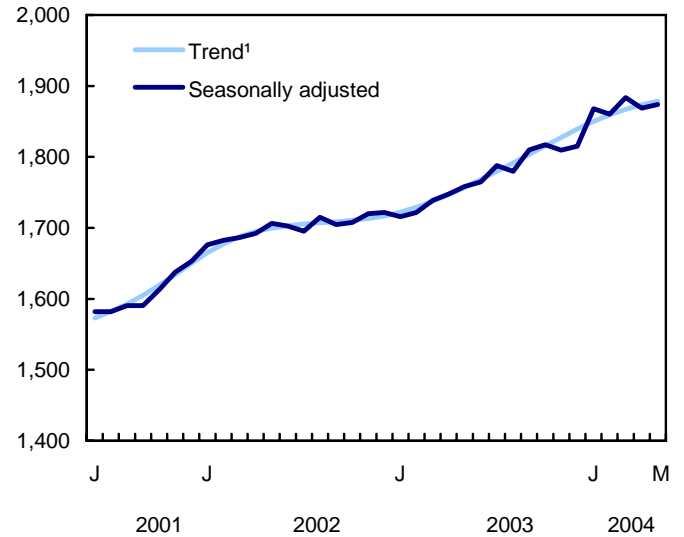
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores

Millions of dollars



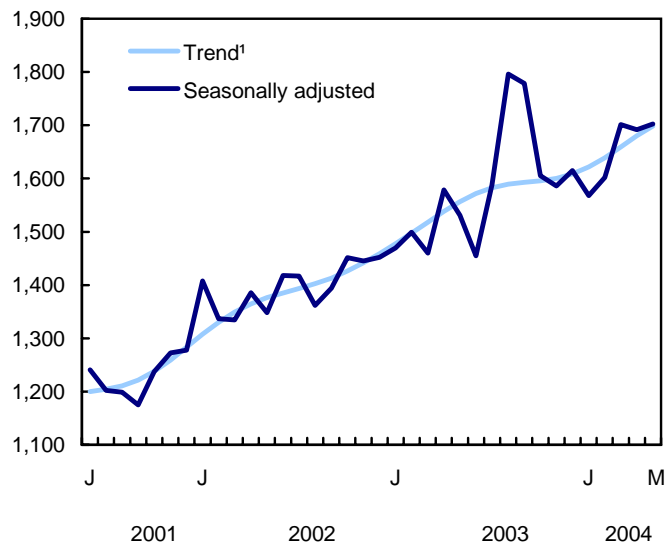
Pharmacies and personal care stores

Millions of dollars



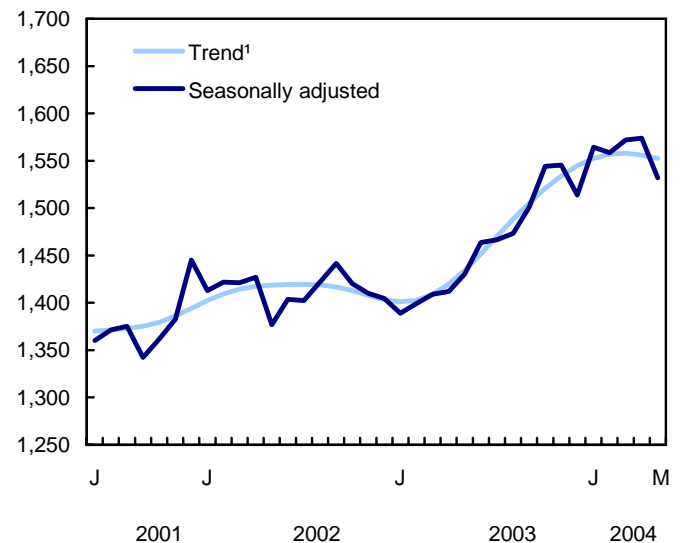
Building and outdoor home supplies stores

Millions of dollars



Miscellaneous retailers

Millions of dollars



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 CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

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 in constant dollars and price index
080-0017	Retail trade, sales and sales trend, seasonally adjusted, by trade sector based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
076-0005	Monthly department store sales and stocks (from 1991) for Canada, provinces and selected census metropolitan areas

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

- *Canadian Statistics - Economic indicators, by provinces and territories (monthly and quarterly)*
- *Canadian Statistics - Retail trade, by industries (monthly)*
- *Canadian Statistics - Retail trade, by provinces and territories (monthly)*
- *Canadian Statistics - Retail trade, by industries, monthly*
- *Canadian Statistics - Retail trade, provinces and territories, monthly*

- *Canadian Statistics - Department store sales*

Statistical Tables

Table 1-1

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

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March ^r 2004	February ^r 2004	Year-to-date 2004
	millions of dollars				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	5,531.0	5,648.1	5,875.0	5,768.5	28,047.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,203.4	1,238.2	1,243.2	1,205.1	6,035.3
Gasoline stations	2,804.0	2,610.1	2,587.8	2,599.4	13,150.5
Furniture stores	709.3	708.1	701.3	714.2	3,527.0
Home furnishings stores	364.7	365.6	357.2	359.9	1,796.2
Computer and software stores	152.3	147.2	151.5	152.4	760.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	788.5	773.5	769.7	770.0	3,868.5
Home centres and hardware stores	1,332.2	1,318.8	1,333.0	1,246.2	6,443.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	370.1	372.7	368.4	355.5	1,821.6
Supermarkets	4,872.2	4,787.1	4,757.8	4,757.1	23,992.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	749.2	746.2	751.6	733.2	3,692.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,158.5	1,098.9	1,160.5	1,101.9	5,606.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,873.7	1,868.6	1,883.6	1,860.2	9,353.9
Clothing stores	1,267.1	1,265.5	1,275.3	1,262.5	6,315.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	404.3	409.7	415.9	413.9	2,054.4
Department stores	1,830.5	1,826.8	1,816.6	1,870.8	9,154.2
Other general merchandise stores	1,681.6	1,723.5	1,682.4	1,634.9	8,396.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	702.8	729.2	726.5	728.8	3,623.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	829.1	844.6	845.5	829.7	4,177.0
Total, all stores	28,624.6	28,482.4	28,702.8	28,364.2	141,817.2
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	471.7	461.5	471.0	487.1	2,372.1
Prince Edward Island	117.4	118.4	118.5	115.3	583.8
Nova Scotia	861.3	847.2	855.9	813.3	4,205.9
New Brunswick	651.7	661.5	661.5	658.7	3,285.6
Quebec	6,474.3	6,402.7	6,534.0	6,353.8	32,122.1
Ontario	10,645.5	10,547.2	10,667.5	10,622.0	52,853.5
Manitoba	962.4	977.9	983.8	961.4	4,801.4
Saskatchewan	859.9	866.0	848.5	853.2	4,222.5
Alberta	3,602.6	3,613.1	3,614.0	3,628.0	17,783.7
British Columbia	3,882.0	3,889.8	3,850.4	3,774.5	19,101.8
Yukon Territory	34.7	35.1	34.5	35.0	174.9
Northwest Territories	42.1	42.7	43.3	42.4	212.6
Nunavut	18.9	19.3	19.9	19.6	97.1

Table 1-2

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

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March ^r 2004	February ^r 2004
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers	-2.1	-3.9	1.8	10.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-2.8	-0.4	3.2	5.2
Gasoline stations	7.4	0.9	-0.4	2.0
Furniture stores	0.2	1.0	-1.8	2.9
Home furnishings stores	-0.2	2.4	-0.8	3.2
Computer and software stores	3.4	-2.8	-0.6	-3.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	1.9	0.5	0.0	0.4
Home centres and hardware stores	1.0	-1.1	7.0	2.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-0.7	1.2	3.6	0.2
Supermarkets	1.8	0.6	0.0	-1.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	0.4	-0.7	2.5	3.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	5.4	-5.3	5.3	1.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.3	-0.8	1.3	-0.4
Clothing stores	0.1	-0.8	1.0	1.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-1.3	-1.5	0.5	0.8
Department stores	0.2	0.6	-2.9	3.4
Other general merchandise stores	-2.4	2.4	2.9	-2.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-3.6	0.4	-0.3	-1.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.8	-0.1	1.9	0.2
Total, all stores	0.5	-0.8	1.2	2.6
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.2	-2.0	-3.3	1.3
Prince Edward Island	-0.8	-0.1	2.8	1.0
Nova Scotia	1.7	-1.0	5.2	-1.8
New Brunswick	-1.5	0.0	0.4	1.0
Quebec	1.1	-2.0	2.8	-0.1
Ontario	0.9	-1.1	0.4	2.4
Manitoba	-1.6	-0.6	2.3	5.0
Saskatchewan	-0.7	2.1	-0.6	7.3
Alberta	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	9.1
British Columbia	-0.2	1.0	2.0	1.9
Yukon Territory	-1.3	1.8	-1.3	-2.0
Northwest Territories	-1.5	-1.3	2.0	0.8
Nunavut	-1.8	-3.1	1.4	0.7

Table 1-3

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

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March ^r 2004	February ^r 2004	Year-to-date 2004
	percent				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	-5.7	-1.2	3.1	-1.3	-2.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-0.9	3.6	5.9	2.4	1.9
Gasoline stations	21.7	7.6	-4.8	-7.0	2.4
Furniture stores	8.1	11.7	11.5	15.2	11.6
Home furnishings stores	12.2	16.2	10.4	12.4	11.4
Computer and software stores	-9.1	-9.4	-2.9	-1.1	-4.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	5.8	5.7	6.4	10.8	7.3
Home centres and hardware stores	16.4	6.7	20.1	8.4	11.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-4.1	8.8	5.3	1.7	2.5
Supermarkets	4.4	-0.3	1.3	1.6	2.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	7.6	5.5	10.6	11.4	8.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	12.2	5.6	13.4	6.1	8.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	6.5	6.9	8.3	8.0	7.7
Clothing stores	3.8	5.8	6.8	6.5	4.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-1.2	2.4	2.9	2.0	1.3
Department stores	5.2	8.2	6.0	9.4	6.9
Other general merchandise stores	5.2	10.6	8.4	2.5	6.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-1.1	3.4	1.9	2.7	2.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	15.2	19.5	21.5	20.4	19.7
Total, all stores	4.6	4.3	5.2	3.1	3.8
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.5	-2.8	0.3	6.2	2.0
Prince Edward Island	2.6	2.7	3.5	-0.9	1.5
Nova Scotia	4.1	1.9	3.5	-4.0	1.2
New Brunswick	1.0	0.2	1.8	1.4	1.1
Quebec	3.0	2.7	5.1	2.1	3.5
Ontario	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.1	2.0
Manitoba	6.5	9.4	9.7	7.8	7.4
Saskatchewan	5.4	5.9	2.5	4.2	3.3
Alberta	12.2	11.2	12.3	10.9	10.0
British Columbia	7.4	7.8	7.1	1.6	5.0
Yukon Territory	0.4	-0.3	-5.1	-6.7	-1.5
Northwest Territories	-4.8	0.8	-4.3	-7.0	-4.7
Nunavut	-1.1	-2.9	1.5	0.7	-0.7

Table 2-1

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

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March 2004	February 2004	Year-to-date 2004
millions of dollars					
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	6,433.9	6,374.1	6,294.8	4,641.7	27,889.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,513.7	1,481.5	1,210.2	887.9	5,920.9
Gasoline stations	2,945.3	2,535.0	2,549.2	2,341.7	12,768.3
Furniture stores	708.8	663.8	633.2	563.2	3,167.6
Home furnishings stores	355.5	341.6	338.8	288.6	1,611.4
Computer and software stores	141.4	141.1	180.4	143.5	765.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	675.5	637.2	670.6	600.2	3,265.6
Home centres and hardware stores	1,646.9	1,326.5	1,079.3	820.0	5,732.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	519.6	384.6	303.2	236.2	1,669.0
Supermarkets	5,010.3	4,814.1	4,553.2	4,318.3	23,639.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	771.7	748.2	684.9	640.3	3,499.8
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,137.1	1,000.3	939.5	839.6	4,782.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,867.5	1,852.0	1,867.8	1,753.5	9,179.4
Clothing stores	1,278.5	1,196.7	1,072.0	854.9	5,343.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	415.7	367.0	320.5	302.5	1,714.5
Department stores	1,784.6	1,688.1	1,496.1	1,342.8	7,618.7
Other general merchandise stores	1,823.8	1,640.5	1,428.4	1,209.1	7,472.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	651.5	662.9	612.4	544.8	3,134.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	822.5	757.8	769.4	695.5	3,734.1
Total, all stores	30,503.9	28,613.1	27,003.9	23,024.3	132,909.5
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	500.6	452.4	425.7	372.7	2,135.3
Prince Edward Island	123.3	111.1	99.7	83.5	508.2
Nova Scotia	900.7	835.5	791.6	643.3	3,884.5
New Brunswick	692.8	666.3	608.5	515.8	3,027.8
Quebec	7,190.9	6,721.7	6,212.1	5,059.0	30,519.8
Ontario	11,321.0	10,391.1	9,946.4	8,592.5	49,155.7
Manitoba	1,014.6	985.6	918.7	782.9	4,496.1
Saskatchewan	895.1	865.9	790.6	686.2	3,934.3
Alberta	3,760.4	3,617.2	3,445.2	2,978.8	16,705.0
British Columbia	4,007.4	3,871.6	3,666.9	3,229.1	18,088.9
Yukon Territory	36.3	32.9	31.4	26.9	156.8
Northwest Territories	41.5	42.4	47.0	37.4	205.5
Nunavut	19.2	19.4	19.9	16.3	91.5

Table 2-2

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

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March 2004	February 2004	Year-to-date2004
	percent				
Trade group - Canada					
New car dealers	-10.3	0.3	8.6	0.2	-2.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-5.3	4.8	11.7	3.6	1.9
Gasoline stations	21.9	7.7	-4.7	-4.8	3.5
Furniture stores	5.1	13.9	11.2	18.1	11.7
Home furnishings stores	9.3	16.2	14.1	13.6	11.7
Computer and software stores	-10.4	-8.6	-2.1	-1.9	-4.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	3.9	6.5	6.4	12.4	7.4
Home centres and hardware stores	12.6	9.0	25.4	9.9	12.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-8.1	9.6	8.4	2.3	0.8
Supermarkets	-1.3	3.3	-0.7	3.3	2.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.3	7.9	9.0	13.8	8.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.1	11.3	9.0	8.2	8.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	4.1	8.4	10.2	10.8	8.2
Clothing stores	1.3	7.4	6.6	9.2	5.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-5.1	3.5	3.0	4.7	0.7
Department stores	2.8	8.8	4.9	12.9	7.0
Other general merchandise stores	1.5	12.0	9.6	4.6	6.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-4.1	4.8	2.0	5.2	2.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	10.3	20.0	23.8	23.2	19.3
Total, all stores	0.4	5.9	6.2	5.0	3.8
Regions					
Newfoundland and Labrador	-4.7	-0.4	0.5	8.0	1.3
Prince Edward Island	-2.0	5.1	4.5	0.7	1.7
Nova Scotia	0.0	4.5	4.1	-2.8	1.5
New Brunswick	-3.8	1.7	3.4	3.2	0.9
Quebec	-1.3	4.9	6.1	3.9	3.4
Ontario	-1.4	3.0	4.1	3.7	1.8
Manitoba	0.8	12.7	10.2	9.7	7.3
Saskatchewan	1.4	7.5	3.8	6.1	3.5
Alberta	8.1	12.7	13.5	13.0	10.2
British Columbia	3.8	9.4	7.7	3.7	5.3
Yukon Territory	-4.3	1.9	-3.9	-4.8	-1.4
Northwest Territories	-8.0	3.0	-4.6	-5.1	-4.4
Nunavut	-4.8	-0.9	2.0	4.3	0.0

Table 3-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Canada					
New car dealers	15,081.7	15,052.2	18,263.4	20,130.9	15,061.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	2,925.6	3,212.6	3,939.9	4,443.8	2,797.5
Gasoline stations	7,288.0	7,087.0	7,984.1	7,204.9	7,571.9
Furniture stores	1,795.0	2,223.9	2,151.8	1,969.9	1,578.1
Home furnishings stores	914.3	1,226.7	992.9	928.7	823.3
Computer and software stores	482.8	513.6	470.8	467.9	488.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,952.9	3,138.0	2,199.5	1,899.1	1,792.1
Home centres and hardware stores	2,759.0	3,703.6	4,337.1	4,128.2	2,426.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	764.7	1,024.5	1,230.2	1,374.3	739.1
Supermarkets	13,814.9	14,457.4	14,303.0	14,388.4	13,436.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	1,979.9	2,167.7	2,247.7	2,176.5	1,779.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	2,645.0	3,735.9	3,472.9	3,025.6	2,439.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	5,459.9	5,791.8	5,253.6	5,236.4	4,984.7
Clothing stores	2,868.2	4,736.8	3,556.3	3,568.1	2,705.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	931.9	1,575.9	1,207.5	1,211.1	909.3
Department stores	4,146.0	7,075.8	4,911.7	4,980.4	3,833.0
Other general merchandise stores	4,008.5	5,561.4	4,899.1	5,015.9	3,733.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	1,820.2	2,790.7	2,144.5	1,979.5	1,761.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	2,153.8	2,617.4	2,363.7	2,135.8	1,753.8
Total, all stores	73,792.5	87,693.0	85,929.7	86,265.6	70,614.7

Table 3-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates) , Canada - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Canada					
New car dealers	0.2	-17.6	-9.3	33.7	-4.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-8.9	-18.5	-11.3	58.8	-8.8
Gasoline stations	2.8	-11.2	10.8	-4.8	2.7
Furniture stores	-19.3	3.3	9.2	24.8	-22.5
Home furnishings stores	-25.5	23.5	6.9	12.8	-25.9
Computer and software stores	-6.0	9.1	0.6	-4.3	1.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	-37.8	42.7	15.8	6.0	-37.8
Home centres and hardware stores	-25.5	-14.6	5.1	70.1	-26.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-25.4	-16.7	-10.5	86.0	-26.3
Supermarkets	-4.4	1.1	-0.6	7.1	-4.8
Convenience and specialty food stores	-8.7	-3.6	3.3	22.3	-10.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-29.2	7.6	14.8	24.0	-30.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-5.7	10.2	0.3	5.1	-9.0
Clothing stores	-39.4	33.2	-0.3	31.9	-41.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-40.9	30.5	-0.3	33.2	-41.9
Department stores	-41.4	44.1	-1.4	29.9	-44.1
Other general merchandise stores	-27.9	13.5	-2.3	34.3	-28.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-34.8	30.1	8.3	12.4	-33.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-17.7	10.7	10.7	21.8	-24.4
Total, all stores	-15.9	2.1	-0.4	22.2	-17.4

Table 3-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates) , Canada - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Canada					
New car dealers	0.1	-4.9	3.6	0.1	-0.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.6	4.7	1.5	-1.5	-1.4
Gasoline stations	-3.7	-3.8	1.9	1.8	29.3
Furniture stores	13.7	9.2	7.9	4.9	1.3
Home furnishings stores	11.1	10.3	7.2	3.6	7.4
Computer and software stores	-1.2	6.5	-1.0	-1.2	-8.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	9.0	8.9	11.0	7.2	3.8
Home centres and hardware stores	13.7	12.4	31.2	10.4	11.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	3.5	2.1	5.5	5.1	-2.3
Supermarkets	2.8	2.4	3.6	5.5	5.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	11.3	9.4	8.1	13.6	3.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	8.4	6.1	4.2	5.3	2.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	9.5	5.7	4.7	3.2	2.9
Clothing stores	6.0	2.4	1.6	3.3	2.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	2.5	0.7	-0.9	-1.3	-0.7
Department stores	8.2	3.2	4.3	3.3	2.9
Other general merchandise stores	7.4	6.0	4.6	4.8	4.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	3.3	5.1	1.9	-0.6	0.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	22.8	12.8	4.3	4.2	-4.0
Total, all stores	4.5	2.6	4.9	3.2	4.5

Table 4-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Newfoundland and Labrador					
New car dealers	182.4	196.5	317.1	320.4	195.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	115.9	135.8	177.0	206.5	143.2
Gasoline stations	153.2	165.6	189.1	156.5	146.1
Furniture stores	16.4	28.8	20.4	19.2	14.8
Home furnishings stores	4.1	8.8	6.7	6.3	5.3
Computer and software stores	6.1	7.1	5.3	5.9	8.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	11.7	21.3	12.1	10.4	10.6
Home centres and hardware stores	49.7	97.9	117.3	89.3	38.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	10.1	13.5	14.0	11.9	8.1
Supermarkets	237.0	234.5	263.7	259.1	240.2
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	71.9	80.4	70.1	68.2	67.0
Clothing stores	22.6	56.7	35.6	31.9	20.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	7.2	16.1	10.2	9.9	6.0
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	10.9	21.8	13.8	12.2	9.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	22.1	29.7	22.2	17.3	13.6
Total, all stores	1,182.2	1,500.3	1,555.2	1,495.4	1,127.7

Table 4-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates) , Newfoundland and Labrador - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Newfoundland and Labrador					
New car dealers	-7.2	-38.0	-1.0	64.1	-10.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-14.6	-23.3	-14.3	44.2	12.5
Gasoline stations	-7.5	-12.4	20.8	7.1	-5.7
Furniture stores	-42.9	40.8	6.2	29.8	-48.2
Home furnishings stores	-53.0	32.4	6.2	17.2	-39.8
Computer and software stores	-13.0	32.8	-9.6	-26.1	-31.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	-45.1	76.0	16.7	-1.9	-46.9
Home centres and hardware stores	-49.2	-16.6	31.4	132.0	-53.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-25.5	-3.6	18.0	46.2	-42.2
Supermarkets	1.0	-11.0	1.7	7.9	-1.7
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	-10.5	14.7	2.7	1.8	-8.8
Clothing stores	-60.1	59.2	11.7	57.4	-61.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-55.1	57.8	2.8	66.9	-57.5
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-49.8	57.7	13.1	23.1	-48.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	-25.4	33.7	28.4	27.5	-37.7
Total, all stores	-21.2	-3.5	4.0	32.6	-21.6

Table 4-3

**Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Newfoundland and Labrador
- % change from previous year**

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Newfoundland and Labrador					
New car dealers	-6.6	-9.4	4.4	-2.8	-8.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-19.0	6.7	6.5	20.0	16.5
Gasoline stations	4.9	6.9	8.6	5.9	20.0
Furniture stores	10.9	0.6	2.5	-10.3	-17.7
Home furnishings stores	-22.6	-0.8	-3.3	-1.0	-0.1
Computer and software stores	-22.8	-39.3	-35.4	-27.5	-17.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	10.6	7.0	1.6	11.2	-1.0
Home centres and hardware stores	29.2	18.6	27.7	18.4	10.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	23.9	-3.9	-6.7	-7.9	4.9
Supermarkets	-1.3	-4.0	8.2	11.5	9.2
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	7.3	9.4	5.5	2.2	3.6
Clothing stores	11.5	8.0	5.2	6.4	-8.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	21.4	15.1	5.1	23.9	0.3
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	10.1	12.3	-1.0	4.0	5.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	63.2	36.5	7.3	-2.0	-16.5
Total, all stores	4.8	4.3	7.0	7.1	4.4

Table 5-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Prince Edward Island					
New car dealers	43.1	49.4	63.7	65.4	44.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	9.3	12.1	16.0	18.5	9.0
Gasoline stations	33.7	36.1	47.0	36.5	32.6
Furniture stores	3.6	4.8	5.2	4.8	3.5
Home furnishings stores	1.6	3.9	3.9	3.0	2.3
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	16.6	29.2	32.9	26.9	15.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	4.2	4.9	6.7	12.7	4.0
Supermarkets	68.3	70.6	74.5	68.8	69.9
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	24.1	25.4	24.3	23.8	21.8
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	5.0	7.8	6.6	5.6	4.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	5.8	9.0	17.8	8.5	5.9
Total, all stores	273.9	356.4	398.3	357.5	268.5

Table 5-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Prince Edward Island
- % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Prince Edward Island					
New car dealers	-12.6	-22.5	-2.5	47.7	-20.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-22.7	-24.7	-13.5	106.5	-31.2
Gasoline stations	-6.4	-23.3	28.8	11.8	-6.6
Furniture stores	-24.7	-8.1	7.9	36.5	-30.3
Home furnishings stores	-57.4	-0.6	28.5	34.3	-46.1
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	-43.0	-11.4	22.5	75.1	-39.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-15.0	-27.5	-46.8	213.8	-31.9
Supermarkets	-3.3	-5.2	8.2	-1.6	-11.0
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	-5.0	4.6	2.2	8.9	-7.8
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	-35.8	17.9	19.3	14.4	-33.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	-35.8	-49.6	109.1	44.5	-27.7
Total, all stores	-23.2	-10.5	11.4	33.2	-24.9

Table 5-3

**Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Prince Edward Island
- % change from previous year**

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Prince Edward Island					
New car dealers	-2.6	-10.9	-4.4	-10.4	-5.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.0	-7.5	25.4	2.4	-36.3
Gasoline stations	3.4	3.1	9.3	2.6	14.0
Furniture stores	2.0	-5.6	-7.2	3.8	-27.2
Home furnishings stores	-26.9	-7.6	-8.8	-11.1	3.6
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	8.3	15.2	22.2	9.6	13.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	2.8	-17.6	-13.3	1.8	5.5
Supermarkets	-2.4	-10.2	-15.0	-8.4	1.6
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	10.7	7.4	9.4	11.7	5.4
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	3.4	6.6	0.5	12.4	2.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-2.1	10.1	6.8	7.7	25.8
Total, all stores	2.0	-0.3	2.5	1.0	0.0

Table 6-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
New Brunswick					
New car dealers	314.5	312.3	395.2	439.9	303.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	208.4	224.1	267.1	229.3	208.9
Furniture stores	29.4	35.8	27.3	24.7	21.1
Home furnishings stores	13.8	27.4	20.9	19.2	16.2
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	69.6	93.2	114.4	102.3	58.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	16.7	23.9	33.9	33.4	15.7
Supermarkets	384.8	411.3	410.8	421.9	430.7
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	125.9	137.5	124.1	119.2	110.4
Clothing stores	40.5	74.2	55.8	52.7	38.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	12.7	27.7	18.4	17.2	13.3
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	24.9	41.1	30.0	25.2	22.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	35.8	48.3	40.1	33.1	28.8
Total, all stores	1,668.7	2,030.7	2,053.9	2,087.4	1,625.0

Table 6-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), New Brunswick - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
New Brunswick					
New car dealers	0.7	-21.0	-10.2	45.1	-10.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	-7.0	-16.1	16.5	9.8	-6.0
Furniture stores	-17.9	30.9	10.5	17.5	-33.6
Home furnishings stores	-49.6	31.0	8.8	18.6	-37.8
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	-25.4	-18.5	11.8	73.7	-27.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-30.1	-29.4	1.5	112.3	-27.1
Supermarkets	-6.4	0.1	-2.6	-2.0	-3.1
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	-8.4	10.8	4.1	8.0	-12.7
Clothing stores	-45.4	33.0	5.8	35.6	-51.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-54.1	51.1	6.4	30.2	-54.8
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-39.5	37.0	18.8	10.0	-40.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-25.8	20.2	21.4	14.7	-21.7
Total, all stores	-17.8	-1.1	-1.6	28.5	-20.7

Table 6-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), New Brunswick - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
New Brunswick					
New car dealers	3.7	-7.9	0.6	-7.7	-15.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	-0.2	0.9	-0.9	-2.7	4.0
Furniture stores	39.5	12.8	6.4	-3.4	-9.6
Home furnishings stores	-14.7	5.1	-4.3	-7.8	-5.0
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	18.2	15.4	23.5	12.7	2.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	6.2	10.9	37.4	31.4	31.3
Supermarkets	-10.6	-7.4	-5.2	-1.5	8.3
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	14.0	8.7	10.0	8.1	7.4
Clothing stores	4.2	-8.1	-5.1	-0.1	-4.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-4.0	-5.4	-2.2	-4.0	-7.2
Department stores	x	x	x	x	x
Other general merchandise stores	x	x	x	x	x
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	8.4	6.2	-5.5	-4.0	-14.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	24.3	31.2	20.9	13.9	8.9
Total, all stores	2.7	-1.0	0.7	1.5	-0.8

Table 7-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Nova Scotia					
New car dealers	434.9	453.0	513.1	608.4	436.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	81.6	90.9	88.7	87.7	74.2
Gasoline stations	220.8	220.2	235.7	195.5	193.6
Furniture stores	30.5	43.7	38.1	34.4	27.7
Home furnishings stores	15.7	23.2	18.7	17.3	13.4
Computer and software stores	7.9	4.9	4.7	5.5	4.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	33.7	51.1	33.3	28.4	28.9
Home centres and hardware stores	98.3	134.3	149.6	136.1	81.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	23.4	36.5	37.1	40.0	34.4
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	170.4	191.9	181.4	177.4	166.5
Clothing stores	54.0	111.5	80.6	73.7	52.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	18.2	36.2	23.8	21.1	16.6
Department stores	129.0	263.7	156.7	157.2	113.8
Other general merchandise stores	87.9	142.6	119.2	115.4	84.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	41.6	76.2	54.0	50.3	43.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	55.4	78.5	64.5	55.9	42.9
Total, all stores	2,148.3	2,673.3	2,590.6	2,600.4	2,125.3

Table 7-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Nova Scotia - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Nova Scotia					
New car dealers	-4.0	-11.7	-15.7	39.5	-0.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-10.3	2.5	1.2	18.1	-16.3
Gasoline stations	0.3	-6.6	20.5	1.0	-6.7
Furniture stores	-30.1	14.6	10.9	24.1	-32.5
Home furnishings stores	-32.4	24.0	8.4	28.5	-31.3
Computer and software stores	62.7	4.4	-15.7	22.9	61.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	-34.2	53.6	17.2	-1.6	-41.7
Home centres and hardware stores	-26.9	-10.2	9.9	66.2	-29.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-35.7	-1.8	-7.2	16.4	-23.6
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	-11.2	5.8	2.3	6.5	-10.8
Clothing stores	-51.6	38.4	9.3	39.6	-53.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-49.8	51.8	12.8	27.5	-55.2
Department stores	-51.1	68.3	-0.3	38.2	-52.1
Other general merchandise stores	-38.4	19.6	3.3	37.2	-40.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-45.4	41.3	7.4	15.5	-39.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	-29.4	21.7	15.2	30.3	-33.7
Total, all stores	-19.6	3.2	-0.4	22.4	-19.6

Table 7-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Nova Scotia - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Nova Scotia					
New car dealers	-0.3	3.2	-3.4	-6.0	-12.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	9.9	2.6	0.3	7.3	9.2
Gasoline stations	14.1	6.1	4.0	-1.4	22.8
Furniture stores	10.2	6.4	0.5	-1.0	-10.1
Home furnishings stores	16.8	18.7	10.7	14.7	21.0
Computer and software stores	75.9	74.6	57.8	49.1	-2.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	16.6	3.2	-2.7	-6.1	-3.4
Home centres and hardware stores	20.0	15.9	31.7	25.1	21.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-31.9	-19.0	-39.6	-28.6	6.8
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	2.4	2.8	7.4	6.6	3.6
Clothing stores	2.2	-0.9	0.5	6.8	3.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	9.7	-2.1	-6.0	-3.9	-6.0
Department stores	13.4	11.2	5.4	11.9	1.0
Other general merchandise stores	4.5	1.0	0.0	-1.1	-0.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-4.4	6.4	3.9	7.5	5.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	29.0	21.1	4.9	2.6	-8.3
Total, all stores	1.1	1.1	1.3	2.3	1.4

Table 8-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Quebec					
New car dealers	3,321.1	3,067.9	4,057.6	4,702.3	2,921.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	673.2	780.7	940.8	1,081.5	807.3
Gasoline stations	1,715.7	1,618.4	1,769.5	1,628.7	1,783.8
Furniture stores	499.1	605.7	659.2	613.0	437.5
Home furnishings stores	150.5	219.4	187.5	185.6	144.7
Computer and software stores	113.4	146.1	147.7	120.2	131.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	344.3	606.8	439.6	396.1	352.2
Home centres and hardware stores	651.2	934.8	1,017.3	1,035.2	519.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	107.4	126.5	135.3	222.8	141.4
Supermarkets	2,971.1	3,203.3	3,221.6	3,257.3	3,006.8
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	1,479.7	1,588.7	1,495.1	1,490.2	1,406.2
Clothing stores	706.4	1,088.3	888.6	925.8	656.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	196.9	344.6	270.8	285.1	192.8
Department stores	745.4	1,270.6	888.9	959.0	685.7
Other general merchandise stores	881.3	1,239.6	1,080.9	1,169.3	837.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	391.7	579.8	490.7	470.9	366.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	485.1	554.3	557.6	566.1	404.9
Total, all stores	16,607.2	19,432.7	19,546.5	20,333.6	15,835.5

Table 8-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Quebec - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Quebec					
New car dealers	8.3	-24.4	-13.7	60.9	-0.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-13.8	-17.0	-13.0	34.0	-7.9
Gasoline stations	6.0	-8.5	8.6	-8.7	7.1
Furniture stores	-17.6	-8.1	7.6	40.1	-19.5
Home furnishings stores	-31.4	17.0	1.0	28.3	-28.6
Computer and software stores	-22.4	-1.0	22.8	-8.7	8.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	-43.3	38.0	11.0	12.5	-39.7
Home centres and hardware stores	-30.3	-8.1	-1.7	99.4	-28.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-15.1	-6.5	-39.3	57.6	-21.7
Supermarkets	-7.2	-0.6	-1.1	8.3	-2.5
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	-6.9	6.3	0.3	6.0	-8.6
Clothing stores	-35.1	22.5	-4.0	41.0	-39.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-42.8	27.3	-5.0	47.9	-43.0
Department stores	-41.3	42.9	-7.3	39.9	-42.4
Other general merchandise stores	-28.9	14.7	-7.6	39.6	-29.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-32.4	18.1	4.2	28.4	-31.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	-12.5	-0.6	-1.5	39.8	-16.3
Total, all stores	-14.5	-0.6	-3.9	28.4	-15.0

Table 8-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Quebec - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Quebec					
New car dealers	13.7	4.2	11.4	7.6	4.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-16.6	-11.0	-4.9	-7.8	7.7
Gasoline stations	-3.8	-2.8	0.8	2.2	34.0
Furniture stores	14.1	11.4	12.0	9.5	-1.6
Home furnishings stores	4.0	8.3	5.6	3.0	8.1
Computer and software stores	-13.9	20.0	20.2	8.4	24.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	-2.2	4.0	6.1	8.4	6.7
Home centres and hardware stores	25.4	29.2	26.2	11.5	15.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-24.1	-30.0	-30.8	-5.6	6.7
Supermarkets	-1.2	3.9	3.9	4.7	1.7
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	5.2	3.2	3.0	-0.4	-2.0
Clothing stores	7.6	1.1	3.0	2.9	0.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	2.2	1.9	0.6	1.6	5.8
Department stores	8.7	6.8	4.1	5.7	2.9
Other general merchandise stores	5.2	4.7	2.9	5.9	3.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	6.8	8.7	5.4	3.0	1.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	19.8	14.6	8.2	9.1	-3.9
Total, all stores	4.9	4.3	5.6	4.7	5.8

Table 9-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Ontario					
New car dealers	5,509.0	5,807.7	6,920.0	7,797.5	5,955.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,031.6	1,217.9	1,569.3	1,704.9	954.3
Gasoline stations	2,553.2	2,463.4	2,642.3	2,397.3	2,720.0
Furniture stores	673.1	859.0	858.5	778.8	622.0
Home furnishings stores	415.8	547.7	416.0	381.3	352.4
Computer and software stores	171.3	155.4	140.1	174.8	163.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	806.2	1,275.1	919.9	758.8	727.8
Home centres and hardware stores	990.0	1,311.0	1,595.6	1,541.5	946.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	288.3	467.4	577.3	581.3	279.8
Supermarkets	4,713.0	4,868.6	4,749.6	4,779.7	4,459.6
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	2,160.3	2,230.7	2,006.2	2,029.3	1,935.3
Clothing stores	1,166.6	2,013.8	1,414.4	1,424.5	1,100.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	392.8	626.7	482.4	476.6	370.4
Department stores	1,710.3	2,948.0	2,027.9	2,051.7	1,602.3
Other general merchandise stores	1,568.0	2,227.8	1,977.7	1,987.2	1,475.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	702.9	1,137.5	839.5	740.0	686.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	828.3	1,036.2	905.4	798.8	667.8
Total, all stores	27,443.5	33,550.7	32,411.5	32,476.5	26,697.7

Table 9-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Ontario - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Ontario					
New car dealers	-5.1	-16.1	-11.3	30.9	-6.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-15.3	-22.4	-8.0	78.6	-9.3
Gasoline stations	3.6	-6.8	10.2	-11.9	4.0
Furniture stores	-21.6	0.1	10.2	25.2	-23.1
Home furnishings stores	-24.1	31.7	9.1	8.2	-27.3
Computer and software stores	10.3	10.9	-19.9	6.9	11.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	-36.8	38.6	21.2	4.3	-35.2
Home centres and hardware stores	-24.5	-17.8	3.5	62.9	-26.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-38.3	-19.0	-0.7	107.8	-36.1
Supermarkets	-3.2	2.5	-0.6	7.2	-4.6
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	11.2	-1.1	4.9	-7.7
Clothing stores	-42.1	42.4	-0.7	29.5	-43.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-37.3	29.9	1.2	28.7	-42.0
Department stores	-42.0	45.4	-1.2	28.0	-45.4
Other general merchandise stores	-29.6	12.6	-0.5	34.7	-28.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-38.2	35.5	13.4	7.9	-38.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	-20.1	14.4	13.3	19.6	-28.3
Total, all stores	-18.2	3.5	-0.2	21.6	-19.0

Table 9-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Ontario - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Ontario					
New car dealers	-7.5	-8.8	0.5	0.7	-2.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	8.1	15.7	4.0	-4.2	-6.2
Gasoline stations	-6.1	-5.8	-0.4	-0.9	31.6
Furniture stores	8.2	6.2	8.9	6.0	4.3
Home furnishings stores	18.0	13.0	8.0	1.6	3.8
Computer and software stores	4.7	6.2	-9.4	5.5	-24.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	10.8	13.6	19.8	10.4	7.2
Home centres and hardware stores	4.6	2.3	34.5	6.1	2.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	3.1	6.8	13.8	12.1	17.1
Supermarkets	5.7	4.2	7.3	9.2	9.3
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	11.6	6.4	4.7	4.9	5.0
Clothing stores	6.0	3.5	2.1	2.2	1.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	6.1	-1.8	-2.3	-5.7	-5.0
Department stores	6.7	0.5	3.2	1.0	1.3
Other general merchandise stores	6.2	7.8	5.7	4.9	5.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.5	2.6	2.2	-4.1	0.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	24.0	11.3	1.8	4.0	-7.2
Total, all stores	2.8	1.8	4.9	3.0	4.1

Table 10-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Manitoba					
New car dealers	499.8	504.5	612.0	620.3	489.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	81.6	79.9	76.4	78.1	54.6
Gasoline stations	236.9	235.2	282.1	266.2	259.5
Furniture stores	45.0	57.3	46.0	41.3	35.6
Home furnishings stores	23.9	32.2	27.7	26.0	23.9
Computer and software stores	17.6	18.7	16.0	16.0	20.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	65.7	97.5	67.7	53.5	54.1
Home centres and hardware stores	97.4	124.7	144.6	134.1	79.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	37.9	61.4	77.4	121.1	34.2
Supermarkets	565.2	588.9	561.0	572.1	525.9
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	148.4	150.8	131.7	125.4	124.1
Clothing stores	73.1	123.3	90.8	95.0	70.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	25.2	42.4	31.9	33.1	24.3
Department stores	171.0	279.5	194.6	200.9	158.3
Other general merchandise stores	140.5	189.7	173.4	178.0	129.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	52.5	76.7	56.2	55.6	44.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	60.1	71.2	67.6	58.2	45.3
Total, all stores	2,495.9	2,936.7	2,833.8	2,844.5	2,309.9

Table 10-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Manitoba - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Manitoba					
New car dealers	-0.9	-17.6	-1.3	26.7	-7.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	2.1	4.5	-2.2	43.2	-0.1
Gasoline stations	0.7	-16.6	6.0	2.6	2.4
Furniture stores	-21.4	24.5	11.5	16.0	-27.4
Home furnishings stores	-25.7	16.3	6.6	8.9	-22.5
Computer and software stores	-5.8	16.7	0.2	-20.7	0.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	-32.6	44.0	26.5	-1.1	-37.7
Home centres and hardware stores	-21.9	-13.8	7.8	69.8	-26.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-38.3	-20.7	-36.1	254.0	-41.0
Supermarkets	-4.0	5.0	-1.9	8.8	-7.2
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	-1.6	14.4	5.0	1.1	-3.2
Clothing stores	-40.8	35.8	-4.3	34.1	-41.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-40.5	32.7	-3.5	36.1	-42.7
Department stores	-38.8	43.6	-3.1	26.9	-40.2
Other general merchandise stores	-26.0	9.5	-2.6	37.9	-27.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-31.6	36.5	1.1	24.7	-37.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-15.6	5.3	16.1	28.6	-21.2
Total, all stores	-15.0	3.6	-0.4	23.1	-17.9

Table 10-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Manitoba - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Manitoba					
New car dealers	2.1	-4.4	0.4	-0.5	-3.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	49.5	46.3	19.7	0.6	-8.3
Gasoline stations	-8.7	-7.2	-0.6	-0.5	24.3
Furniture stores	26.4	16.9	2.6	-1.7	0.7
Home furnishings stores	0.3	4.7	-0.6	-3.4	-2.2
Computer and software stores	-12.7	-6.5	-9.8	-12.7	18.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	21.4	12.3	16.5	-3.6	-3.8
Home centres and hardware stores	23.3	15.5	23.9	11.5	13.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	10.7	5.9	6.1	30.9	-14.8
Supermarkets	7.5	3.9	1.9	2.8	0.6
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	19.6	17.6	9.9	-5.6	-4.9
Clothing stores	3.2	1.3	-0.7	3.1	3.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	3.6	-0.1	3.6	1.0	-5.6
Department stores	8.0	5.6	5.6	2.5	5.8
Other general merchandise stores	8.9	6.9	10.0	9.8	7.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	17.6	7.1	-1.3	-4.0	-2.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	32.8	23.9	14.9	9.5	-0.6
Total, all stores	8.0	4.4	4.5	3.0	2.5

Table 11-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Saskatchewan					
New car dealers	497.1	543.1	663.1	630.6	533.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	105.1	95.4	103.5	122.5	74.2
Gasoline stations	274.0	287.8	329.1	303.7	276.9
Furniture stores	32.2	41.3	34.8	31.0	26.9
Home furnishings stores	21.2	26.2	23.2	22.3	20.0
Computer and software stores	8.0	5.9	5.3	4.9	3.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	44.5	75.3	50.1	46.7	43.8
Home centres and hardware stores	55.5	88.2	104.8	91.6	49.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	23.5	33.4	39.1	35.2	16.5
Supermarkets	428.7	460.5	440.7	452.4	414.0
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	126.1	133.3	123.1	122.5	120.1
Clothing stores	62.8	111.7	82.2	88.3	68.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	19.5	34.2	23.0	24.2	18.5
Department stores	145.6	235.2	172.7	176.7	139.0
Other general merchandise stores	134.9	176.4	162.2	168.7	128.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	28.3	43.0	30.6	29.8	25.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	47.2	56.0	45.4	41.6	35.9
Total, all stores	2,173.3	2,612.1	2,593.8	2,539.9	2,113.0

Table 11-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Saskatchewan - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Saskatchewan					
New car dealers	-8.5	-18.1	5.2	18.2	-9.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	10.2	-7.9	-15.5	65.1	-7.1
Gasoline stations	-4.8	-12.5	8.4	9.7	-0.9
Furniture stores	-22.1	18.8	12.3	15.1	-28.9
Home furnishings stores	-18.9	12.9	3.8	11.6	-19.5
Computer and software stores	34.9	11.4	9.0	28.4	-21.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	-40.9	50.2	7.3	6.7	-42.9
Home centres and hardware stores	-37.1	-15.8	14.4	84.8	-34.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-29.7	-14.7	11.0	113.2	-23.6
Supermarkets	-6.9	4.5	-2.6	9.3	-8.7
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	-5.4	8.3	0.5	2.0	-3.7
Clothing stores	-43.8	35.8	-6.9	29.0	-39.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-42.9	48.3	-4.8	30.4	-44.1
Department stores	-38.1	36.2	-2.3	27.2	-40.3
Other general merchandise stores	-23.5	8.8	-3.9	31.4	-25.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-34.1	40.6	2.7	16.8	-35.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	-15.7	23.4	9.0	16.0	-20.6
Total, all stores	-16.8	0.7	2.1	20.2	-17.7

Table 11-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Saskatchewan - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Saskatchewan					
New car dealers	-6.8	-7.5	8.8	-2.2	5.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	41.6	19.4	14.3	21.5	5.5
Gasoline stations	-1.0	3.0	11.8	13.0	26.7
Furniture stores	19.6	9.2	5.8	3.7	0.9
Home furnishings stores	6.0	5.3	14.1	18.2	28.7
Computer and software stores	110.5	22.0	-6.1	-8.5	-37.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	1.6	-1.7	3.4	2.4	0.3
Home centres and hardware stores	12.0	17.2	29.7	17.0	11.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	42.1	54.2	47.1	43.6	3.8
Supermarkets	3.6	1.5	0.2	4.6	1.0
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	5.0	6.9	11.1	13.4	14.2
Clothing stores	-8.3	-2.0	-5.9	0.3	11.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	5.2	3.0	2.9	8.1	6.8
Department stores	4.8	1.0	0.5	1.2	3.6
Other general merchandise stores	5.1	1.9	5.2	4.5	1.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	11.2	8.9	6.5	12.4	7.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	31.6	24.0	8.1	5.3	-0.1
Total, all stores	2.9	1.7	6.8	5.1	6.9

Table 12-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Alberta					
New car dealers	2,184.2	2,086.9	2,344.0	2,446.8	1,992.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	358.2	297.6	342.6	411.8	256.6
Gasoline stations	864.7	839.4	1,000.8	897.5	845.9
Furniture stores	239.1	277.5	243.3	227.5	203.1
Home furnishings stores	124.4	160.0	142.3	135.0	120.2
Computer and software stores	89.9	95.8	82.0	71.5	81.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	301.8	479.2	322.4	290.9	264.4
Home centres and hardware stores	341.8	441.3	563.9	511.2	319.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	113.8	111.5	135.2	104.1	75.1
Supermarkets	1,798.8	1,878.9	1,838.0	1,837.5	1,696.8
Convenience and specialty food stores	175.6	170.2	159.1	149.3	138.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	265.3	351.9	345.5	324.1	249.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	504.4	519.1	461.2	470.0	459.4
Clothing stores	341.7	529.4	415.4	398.1	312.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	125.9	243.5	176.0	179.9	139.3
Department stores	548.7	897.6	634.3	624.3	502.0
Other general merchandise stores	438.3	573.5	503.7	517.6	392.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	238.7	338.3	243.9	236.8	210.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	272.2	319.9	267.6	234.5	207.7
Total, all stores	9,327.4	10,611.6	10,221.0	10,068.5	8,466.3

Table 12-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Alberta - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Alberta					
New car dealers	4.7	-11.0	-4.2	22.8	-6.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	20.4	-13.2	-16.8	60.5	-6.8
Gasoline stations	3.0	-16.1	11.5	6.1	0.0
Furniture stores	-13.8	14.1	6.9	12.0	-22.1
Home furnishings stores	-22.3	12.4	5.4	12.4	-20.8
Computer and software stores	-6.2	16.8	14.7	-12.1	-19.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	-37.0	48.6	10.8	10.0	-41.9
Home centres and hardware stores	-22.6	-21.7	10.3	60.2	-25.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	2.1	-17.5	29.9	38.7	-6.0
Supermarkets	-4.3	2.2	0.0	8.3	-6.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.1	7.0	6.6	7.8	-14.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-24.6	1.9	6.6	30.0	-24.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-2.8	12.6	-1.9	2.3	-9.2
Clothing stores	-35.5	27.4	4.3	27.4	-37.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-48.3	38.4	-2.2	29.2	-40.6
Department stores	-38.9	41.5	1.6	24.4	-41.1
Other general merchandise stores	-23.6	13.9	-2.7	32.1	-27.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-29.4	38.7	3.0	12.6	-32.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	-14.9	19.6	14.1	12.9	-22.7
Total, all stores	-12.1	3.8	1.5	18.9	-17.3

Table 12-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Alberta - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Alberta					
New car dealers	9.6	-1.6	6.0	-1.1	2.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	39.6	8.0	3.3	4.3	-3.7
Gasoline stations	2.2	-0.8	8.6	9.0	28.0
Furniture stores	17.7	6.5	2.1	3.9	1.4
Home furnishings stores	3.5	5.4	3.8	3.4	3.7
Computer and software stores	10.6	-4.6	-15.5	-24.6	-18.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	14.2	5.3	0.7	2.8	-5.4
Home centres and hardware stores	7.1	3.1	22.5	10.2	20.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	51.6	39.6	60.1	-0.9	-27.0
Supermarkets	6.0	3.8	3.9	4.9	4.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	26.8	5.7	-2.8	1.4	20.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.4	6.3	8.8	9.0	7.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	9.8	2.7	2.2	6.3	11.4
Clothing stores	9.4	5.2	2.6	5.2	4.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-9.6	3.9	-2.3	2.5	5.2
Department stores	9.3	5.3	5.2	3.7	7.1
Other general merchandise stores	11.8	6.0	5.1	4.2	2.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	13.5	8.8	1.9	1.7	0.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	31.0	19.1	7.1	1.1	0.3
Total, all stores	10.2	3.7	5.8	3.3	5.5

Table 13-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
British Columbia					
New car dealers	2,053.9	1,990.6	2,329.9	2,451.2	2,137.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	374.9	410.1	499.6	529.6	336.4
Gasoline stations	1,004.3	977.8	1,193.5	1,071.6	1,080.4
Furniture stores	225.0	267.8	216.7	193.0	184.1
Home furnishings stores	141.4	175.8	143.5	130.7	123.3
Computer and software stores	58.5	70.2	61.1	60.6	65.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	309.3	474.1	315.7	280.8	277.4
Home centres and hardware stores	383.1	440.5	484.3	450.6	312.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	139.0	144.6	172.9	211.1	129.4
Supermarkets	2,119.4	2,190.7	2,162.9	2,138.2	1,976.8
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	636.5	721.3	625.0	599.0	563.3
Clothing stores	389.8	606.5	473.9	462.9	374.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	129.7	197.1	165.6	159.2	124.7
Department stores	487.6	790.3	571.8	557.9	444.7
Other general merchandise stores	531.0	672.9	598.5	597.4	478.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	319.9	462.2	373.4	347.8	343.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	336.1	407.0	367.1	315.0	294.8
Total, all stores	10,210.0	11,689.5	11,407.0	11,160.6	9,776.7

Table 13-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), British Columbia - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
British Columbia					
New car dealers	3.2	-14.6	-4.9	14.7	-2.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-8.6	-17.9	-5.7	57.4	-13.5
Gasoline stations	2.7	-18.1	11.4	-0.8	1.0
Furniture stores	-16.0	23.6	12.3	4.8	-19.5
Home furnishings stores	-19.5	22.5	9.8	6.0	-20.9
Computer and software stores	-16.7	14.9	0.8	-7.7	3.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	-34.8	50.2	12.4	1.2	-35.6
Home centres and hardware stores	-13.0	-9.1	7.5	44.0	-14.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-3.9	-16.4	-18.1	63.1	-6.4
Supermarkets	-3.3	1.3	1.2	8.2	-5.7
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	-11.8	15.4	4.3	6.3	-14.9
Clothing stores	-35.7	28.0	2.4	23.6	-37.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-34.2	19.0	4.0	27.7	-34.5
Department stores	-38.3	38.2	2.5	25.5	-42.1
Other general merchandise stores	-21.1	12.4	0.2	24.7	-23.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-30.8	23.8	7.3	1.4	-23.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	-17.4	10.9	16.6	6.8	-25.5
Total, all stores	-12.7	2.5	2.2	14.2	-14.6

Table 13-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), British Columbia - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
British Columbia					
New car dealers	-3.9	-8.7	0.3	-8.5	-2.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	11.4	5.4	6.3	-2.0	-10.9
Gasoline stations	-7.0	-8.6	0.0	0.5	28.2
Furniture stores	22.2	17.2	3.8	-5.3	4.7
Home furnishings stores	14.7	12.7	13.4	11.1	23.4
Computer and software stores	-10.9	10.6	8.1	7.6	7.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	11.5	10.0	10.9	8.8	6.8
Home centres and hardware stores	22.4	20.6	54.2	16.6	25.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	7.4	4.6	1.8	-5.9	-23.6
Supermarkets	7.2	4.5	3.2	5.3	3.4
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	13.0	9.0	6.7	2.3	0.6
Clothing stores	4.1	1.8	0.1	6.6	6.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	4.0	3.5	1.6	1.0	-1.5
Department stores	9.6	2.9	6.1	3.5	2.8
Other general merchandise stores	10.9	7.0	4.1	3.6	2.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-6.8	2.9	-2.1	-0.8	2.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	14.0	2.9	-0.9	-2.4	-1.1
Total, all stores	4.4	2.1	4.0	0.6	4.0

Table 14-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Yukon Territory					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	87.6	103.3	119.9	110.2	88.8

Table 14-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Yukon Territory - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Yukon Territory					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	-15.2	-13.8	8.8	24.1	-14.5

Table 14-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Yukon Territory - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Yukon Territory					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	-1.3	-0.5	1.4	4.2	3.1

Table 15-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Northwest Territories					
New car dealers	24.7	24.6	28.7	27.0	30.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.4	3.1	2.6	2.5	3.2
Gasoline stations	13.2	9.7	11.5	9.8	15.4
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	1.8	2.6	2.0	2.3	1.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	2.3	3.1	3.4	3.0	3.4
Total, all stores	121.6	135.0	136.6	132.0	128.7

Table 15-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Northwest Territories
- % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Northwest Territories					
New car dealers	0.1	-14.2	6.4	-10.3	34.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	43.5	16.6	3.7	-19.3	-13.0
Gasoline stations	35.7	-15.4	16.9	-36.1	35.9
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	-32.3	29.9	-13.7	32.0	-18.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-24.3	-9.3	12.8	-12.3	-6.8
Total, all stores	-9.9	-1.2	3.6	2.5	-1.9

Table 15-3

**Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Northwest Territories
- % change from previous year**

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Northwest Territories					
New car dealers	-18.0	10.4	2.1	-9.9	17.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	40.0	-15.2	-8.4	-12.3	-15.1
Gasoline stations	-14.2	-14.2	17.5	10.5	55.0
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	0.2	20.3	6.8	27.0	26.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	-32.0	-16.4	-9.9	6.1	22.9
Total, all stores	-5.5	2.9	3.1	3.6	13.1

Table 16-1

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

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	millions of dollars				
Trade group					
Nunavut					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	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	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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other general merchandise stores	38.8	43.9	44.9	43.2	36.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	52.8	60.6	61.6	59.1	51.7

Table 16-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Nunavut - % change from previous quarter

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Nunavut					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	...	...	...	...	...
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	...	...	...	...	...
Other general merchandise stores	-11.5	-2.4	3.9	17.0	-17.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	-12.8	-1.7	4.3	14.3	-17.1

Table 16-3

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (quarterly estimates), Nunavut - % change from previous year

	Quarter I 2004	Quarter IV 2003	Quarter III 2003	Quarter II 2003	Quarter I 2003
	percent				
Trade group					
Nunavut					
New car dealers	x	x	x	x	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	...	...	...	...	...
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	...	...	...	...	...
Other general merchandise stores	5.1	-1.5	9.3	7.1	7.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
Total, all stores	2.2	-2.9	-0.1	5.2	10.0

Table 17-1

Retail sales, weighted response rate (current periods)

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March 2004	February 2004
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers	95.1	95.4	95.1	95.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	88.7	91.0	90.7	92.3
Gasoline stations	93.7	93.8	96.0	96.2
Furniture stores	94.2	94.9	95.1	96.8
Home furnishings stores	86.9	89.0	89.9	89.8
Computer and software stores	92.5	94.9	95.8	96.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	89.9	91.7	89.3	91.1
Home centres and hardware stores	92.7	93.2	95.3	95.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	87.4	87.8	88.7	88.8
Supermarkets	95.3	97.6	97.2	96.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	84.8	88.4	88.4	90.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	70.6	66.4	85.7	85.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	90.6	93.5	93.5	93.1
Clothing stores	90.7	92.5	94.2	94.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	88.2	92.6	91.6	90.0
Department stores	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other general merchandise stores	98.8	99.1	50.7	95.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	89.7	92.6	92.7	93.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	70.3	69.7	67.2	67.7
Total, all stores	92.2	93.3	91.5	93.9
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador	92.8	93.9	94.1	95.0
Prince Edward Island	93.1	93.8	93.4	93.1
Nova Scotia	90.1	95.7	94.6	95.6
New Brunswick	89.7	96.1	94.4	94.7
Quebec	91.9	93.9	92.1	94.4
Ontario	92.0	93.4	92.6	94.4
Manitoba	86.2	93.5	90.7	93.4
Saskatchewan	93.2	93.8	91.5	94.6
Alberta	93.4	92.9	89.7	93.0
British Columbia	94.3	91.1	87.9	92.1
Yukon Territory	90.0	91.3	90.1	86.7
Northwest Territories	82.9	92.2	94.1	93.7
Nunavut	89.1	94.1	95.9	95.3

Table 17-2

Retail sales, coefficient of variation (current periods)

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March 2004	February 2004
	percent			
Trade group - Canada				
New car dealers	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.4
Gasoline stations	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Furniture stores	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5
Home furnishings stores	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.9
Computer and software stores	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.7
Home centres and hardware stores	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	5.1	4.6	4.6	5.0
Supermarkets	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9
Clothing stores	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	2.5	2.3	2.7	3.1
Department stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other general merchandise stores	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	3.1	3.2	2.9	3.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	3.5	3.3	2.9	2.8
Total, all stores	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
Regions				
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.6
Prince Edward Island	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.1
Nova Scotia	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
New Brunswick	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.4
Quebec	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5
Ontario	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Manitoba	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6
Saskatchewan	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.4
Alberta	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.8
British Columbia	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3
Yukon Territory	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.9
Northwest Territories	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.1
Nunavut	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 18-1

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted, (historical estimates), November 2003 to May 2004

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March ^r 2004	February ^r 2004	January 2004	December 2003	November 2003
	millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada							
New car dealers	5,531.0	5,648.1	5,875.0	5,768.5	5,225.3	5,332.6	5,478.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,203.4	1,238.2	1,243.2	1,205.1	1,145.4	1,176.1	1,227.8
Gasoline stations	2,804.0	2,610.1	2,587.8	2,599.4	2,549.1	2,452.7	2,431.9
Furniture stores	709.3	708.1	701.3	714.2	694.1	688.5	689.1
Home furnishings stores	364.7	365.6	357.2	359.9	348.9	352.5	352.1
Computer and software stores	152.3	147.2	151.5	152.4	157.2	162.9	162.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	788.5	773.5	769.7	770.0	766.8	788.1	779.7
Home centres and hardware stores	1,332.2	1,318.8	1,333.0	1,246.2	1,212.8	1,251.5	1,230.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	370.1	372.7	368.4	355.5	354.9	363.7	355.3
Supermarkets	4,872.2	4,787.1	4,757.8	4,757.1	4,818.4	4,719.6	4,742.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	749.2	746.2	751.6	733.2	712.1	720.7	718.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,158.5	1,098.9	1,160.5	1,101.9	1,086.8	1,091.0	1,088.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,873.7	1,868.6	1,883.6	1,860.2	1,867.8	1,814.9	1,809.7
Clothing stores	1,267.1	1,265.5	1,275.3	1,262.5	1,245.1	1,226.7	1,236.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	404.3	409.7	415.9	413.9	410.6	408.2	410.4
Department stores	1,830.5	1,826.8	1,816.6	1,870.8	1,809.4	1,735.6	1,765.6
Other general merchandise stores	1,681.6	1,723.5	1,682.4	1,634.9	1,674.1	1,583.6	1,651.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	702.8	729.2	726.5	728.8	736.3	738.9	740.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	829.1	844.6	845.5	829.7	828.0	774.8	804.9
Total, all stores	28,624.6	28,482.4	28,702.8	28,364.2	27,643.1	27,382.5	27,674.5
Regions							
Newfoundland and Labrador	471.7	461.5	471.0	487.1	480.8	479.0	476.5
Prince Edward Island	117.4	118.4	118.5	115.3	114.1	112.0	113.9
Nova Scotia	861.3	847.2	855.9	813.3	828.2	833.3	832.9
New Brunswick	651.7	661.5	661.5	658.7	652.2	632.2	645.1
Quebec	6,474.3	6,402.7	6,534.0	6,353.8	6,357.4	6,229.6	6,304.6
Ontario	10,645.5	10,547.2	10,667.5	10,622.0	10,371.3	10,264.8	10,422.2
Manitoba	962.4	977.9	983.8	961.4	915.9	923.0	929.0
Saskatchewan	859.9	866.0	848.5	853.2	794.9	810.7	812.2
Alberta	3,602.6	3,613.1	3,614.0	3,628.0	3,326.0	3,289.9	3,333.7
British Columbia	3,882.0	3,889.8	3,850.4	3,774.5	3,705.1	3,709.0	3,707.6
Yukon Territory	34.7	35.1	34.5	35.0	35.7	34.1	34.9
Northwest Territories	42.1	42.7	43.3	42.4	42.1	45.5	43.2
Nunavut	18.9	19.3	19.9	19.6	19.5	19.3	18.9

Table 18-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted, (historical estimates), May 2003 to October 2003

	October 2003	September 2003	August 2003	July 2003	June 2003	May 2003
	millions of dollars					
Trade group - Canada						
New car dealers	5,684.8	5,679.2	5,863.9	5,952.7	5,709.1	5,867.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,233.1	1,182.0	1,208.3	1,236.8	1,204.7	1,215.0
Gasoline stations	2,388.5	2,474.7	2,548.8	2,377.4	2,335.0	2,304.1
Furniture stores	678.8	667.6	695.3	673.6	669.5	656.4
Home furnishings stores	346.9	337.9	328.6	327.2	313.4	325.1
Computer and software stores	168.6	162.5	155.1	168.8	163.9	167.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	769.8	774.9	786.1	765.0	758.7	745.4
Home centres and hardware stores	1,221.9	1,408.8	1,419.1	1,205.5	1,096.5	1,144.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	383.5	370.0	376.8	382.7	358.5	386.0
Supermarkets	4,734.1	4,684.2	4,722.7	4,711.1	4,743.4	4,665.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	714.7	706.0	703.4	701.5	715.5	696.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,070.0	1,068.1	1,071.0	1,052.5	1,058.7	1,032.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,817.1	1,809.8	1,779.5	1,787.7	1,765.0	1,758.6
Clothing stores	1,221.6	1,222.2	1,199.0	1,217.2	1,221.1	1,220.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	409.0	411.6	407.8	410.2	419.3	409.1
Department stores	1,753.5	1,749.2	1,760.4	1,734.2	1,742.0	1,739.9
Other general merchandise stores	1,625.0	1,614.3	1,631.8	1,613.9	1,626.8	1,597.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	739.8	738.0	728.0	721.7	720.9	710.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	804.4	762.9	745.1	744.8	742.8	719.5
Total, all stores	27,765.2	27,824.0	28,130.8	27,784.7	27,364.9	27,361.9
Regions						
Newfoundland and Labrador	471.2	476.4	490.0	479.9	479.1	469.4
Prince Edward Island	115.6	116.6	117.5	115.2	114.6	114.5
Nova Scotia	835.4	816.4	840.5	839.0	837.8	827.3
New Brunswick	645.7	646.5	653.8	662.2	660.4	645.5
Quebec	6,348.9	6,328.0	6,375.2	6,285.5	6,229.9	6,282.7
Ontario	10,513.5	10,586.9	10,640.1	10,548.6	10,345.3	10,379.1
Manitoba	917.8	922.9	922.5	920.4	917.1	904.0
Saskatchewan	823.6	849.8	842.6	819.8	813.6	815.9
Alberta	3,312.4	3,295.6	3,378.2	3,352.6	3,244.2	3,212.1
British Columbia	3,683.1	3,683.8	3,771.0	3,663.5	3,625.9	3,613.6
Yukon Territory	34.3	35.9	35.6	35.5	34.2	34.5
Northwest Territories	44.1	44.4	44.5	44.2	43.3	44.2
Nunavut	19.5	20.8	19.2	18.1	19.3	19.1

Table 19-1

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (historical estimates), November 2003 to May 2004

	May ^p 2004	April ^r 2004	March 2004	February 2004	January 2004	December 2003	November 2003
	millions of dollars						
Trade group - Canada							
New car dealers	6,433.9	6,374.1	6,294.8	4,641.7	4,145.1	4,744.8	4,813.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,513.7	1,481.5	1,210.2	887.9	827.6	903.9	1,077.3
Gasoline stations	2,945.3	2,535.0	2,549.2	2,341.7	2,397.1	2,323.6	2,265.1
Furniture stores	708.8	663.8	633.2	563.2	598.7	794.8	728.1
Home furnishings stores	355.5	341.6	338.8	288.6	287.0	457.6	402.3
Computer and software stores	141.4	141.1	180.4	143.5	158.9	184.5	158.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	675.5	637.2	670.6	600.2	682.1	1,540.7	853.3
Home centres and hardware stores	1,646.9	1,326.5	1,079.3	820.0	859.7	1,089.8	1,205.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	519.6	384.6	303.2	236.2	225.3	296.4	326.3
Supermarkets	5,010.3	4,814.1	4,553.2	4,318.3	4,943.4	5,001.4	4,626.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	771.7	748.2	684.9	640.3	654.7	766.0	676.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,137.1	1,000.3	939.5	839.6	865.8	1,645.3	1,062.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,867.5	1,852.0	1,867.8	1,753.5	1,838.7	2,173.1	1,770.0
Clothing stores	1,278.5	1,196.7	1,072.0	854.9	941.4	2,009.1	1,401.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	415.7	367.0	320.5	302.5	308.9	743.4	431.3
Department stores	1,784.6	1,688.1	1,496.1	1,342.8	1,307.1	3,076.7	2,167.3
Other general merchandise stores	1,823.8	1,640.5	1,428.4	1,209.1	1,371.0	2,184.1	1,767.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	651.5	662.9	612.4	544.8	663.0	1,295.0	790.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	822.5	757.8	769.4	695.5	688.9	970.1	806.3
Total, all stores	30,503.9	28,613.1	27,003.9	23,024.3	23,764.2	32,200.5	27,329.0
Regions							
Newfoundland and Labrador	500.6	452.4	425.7	372.7	383.8	545.3	482.2
Prince Edward Island	123.3	111.1	99.7	83.5	90.6	130.0	110.2
Nova Scotia	900.7	835.5	791.6	643.3	713.5	991.5	837.3
New Brunswick	692.8	666.3	608.5	515.8	544.4	738.4	635.6
Quebec	7,190.9	6,721.7	6,212.1	5,059.0	5,336.1	6,855.9	6,073.3
Ontario	11,321.0	10,391.1	9,946.4	8,592.5	8,904.7	12,425.5	10,467.9
Manitoba	1,014.6	985.6	918.7	782.9	794.3	1,086.4	916.8
Saskatchewan	895.1	865.9	790.6	686.2	696.5	956.2	799.1
Alberta	3,760.4	3,617.2	3,445.2	2,978.8	2,903.3	3,946.2	3,309.7
British Columbia	4,007.4	3,871.6	3,666.9	3,229.1	3,314.0	4,412.6	3,607.5
Yukon Territory	36.3	32.9	31.4	26.9	29.3	37.9	31.7
Northwest Territories	41.5	42.4	47.0	37.4	37.2	52.2	39.5
Nunavut	19.2	19.4	19.9	16.3	16.6	22.6	18.4

Table 19-2

Retail sales, by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted, (historical estimates), May 2003 to October 2003

	October 2003	September 2003	August 2003	July 2003	June 2003	May 2003
	millions of dollars					
Trade group - Canada						
New car dealers	5,493.6	5,863.6	5,840.4	6,559.4	6,603.6	7,170.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,231.5	1,185.8	1,263.3	1,490.8	1,431.0	1,599.3
Gasoline stations	2,498.2	2,563.3	2,793.9	2,626.9	2,435.9	2,416.2
Furniture stores	701.0	682.2	741.9	727.8	712.6	674.6
Home furnishings stores	366.8	339.4	324.2	329.4	309.4	325.4
Computer and software stores	171.0	173.2	142.6	155.0	155.8	157.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	744.0	749.5	772.4	677.6	650.7	650.3
Home centres and hardware stores	1,408.0	1,398.1	1,419.6	1,519.4	1,449.3	1,462.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	401.9	400.6	405.2	424.3	457.9	565.4
Supermarkets	4,829.8	4,467.8	4,953.3	4,881.9	4,650.8	5,078.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	725.7	693.5	774.2	780.0	736.3	746.8
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,028.0	995.5	1,269.9	1,207.4	1,055.3	1,071.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,848.7	1,747.2	1,742.0	1,764.4	1,734.5	1,793.3
Clothing stores	1,326.7	1,222.1	1,233.7	1,100.5	1,191.6	1,262.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	401.2	380.3	435.1	392.1	418.3	438.1
Department stores	1,831.8	1,569.4	1,734.1	1,608.2	1,692.6	1,736.7
Other general merchandise stores	1,609.5	1,488.6	1,647.7	1,762.7	1,755.8	1,796.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	705.1	716.5	743.8	684.3	667.7	679.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	841.0	805.7	814.7	743.2	758.8	745.6
Total, all stores	28,163.6	27,442.4	29,052.0	29,435.3	28,867.7	30,369.5
Regions						
Newfoundland and Labrador	472.8	475.2	542.7	537.3	515.9	525.4
Prince Edward Island	116.3	118.7	138.2	141.5	126.1	125.7
Nova Scotia	844.4	794.5	884.7	911.4	899.9	901.0
New Brunswick	656.7	636.4	699.8	717.6	712.2	720.3
Quebec	6,503.6	6,205.9	6,632.7	6,707.8	6,642.7	7,281.9
Ontario	10,657.4	10,501.3	10,839.0	11,071.2	10,908.5	11,482.9
Manitoba	933.6	909.7	951.7	972.4	963.9	1,006.2
Saskatchewan	856.9	836.9	882.7	874.2	851.6	882.8
Alberta	3,355.7	3,266.9	3,465.9	3,488.2	3,378.7	3,479.8
British Columbia	3,669.5	3,596.4	3,907.2	3,903.4	3,763.1	3,860.1
Yukon Territory	33.7	36.4	40.5	43.0	40.0	38.0
Northwest Territories	43.4	43.0	45.5	48.2	45.7	45.1
Nunavut	19.6	21.2	21.3	19.1	19.3	20.2

Table 20-1

Retail trade, Canada, not seasonally adjusted, current and constant (1997) dollar estimates

	Price Index	Current Dollars		Constant 1997 dollars	
		millions of dollars	Year to year % change	millions of dollars	Year to year % change
2002					
January	103.2	22,299.7	8.5	21,614.2	8.4
February	103.9	20,725.0	6.9	19,939.1	6.7
March	104.5	24,563.4	4.2	23,503.2	3.3
April	105.5	26,323.5	8.4	24,946.4	7.5
May	105.5	28,995.2	5.5	27,471.3	5.4
June	105.8	28,276.4	4.1	26,718.8	3.3
July	106.4	27,824.7	9.4	26,156.5	7.3
August	106.1	28,109.0	7.2	26,496.2	5.0
September	105.8	25,975.4	7.4	24,561.1	6.0
October	105.9	27,052.2	8.9	25,537.2	7.0
November	106.4	27,197.3	4.7	25,568.6	1.8
December	104.6	31,190.2	2.7	29,811.2	0.6
Year	105.3	318,532.0	6.5	302,323.8	5.2
2003					
January	106.8	23,260.7	4.3	21,781.3	0.8
February	107.9	21,936.8	5.8	20,322.4	1.9
March	107.6	25,417.2	3.5	23,623.0	0.5
April	106.8	27,028.4	2.7	25,310.9	1.5
May	106.6	30,369.5	4.7	28,493.0	3.7
June	106.1	28,867.7	2.1	27,205.1	1.8
July	106.4	29,435.3	5.8	27,670.9	5.8
August	106.3	29,052.0	3.4	27,321.9	3.1
September	105.8	27,442.4	5.6	25,936.2	5.6
October	105.4	28,163.6	4.1	26,709.1	4.6
November	105.7	27,329.0	0.5	25,859.7	1.1
December	103.8	32,200.5	3.2	31,014.3	4.0
Year	106.3	330,502.9	3.8	311,247.8	2.9
2004					
January	106.3	23,764.2	2.2	22,351.7	2.6
February ^r	106.5	23,024.3	5.0	21,626.1	6.4
March ^r	106.4	27,003.9	6.2	25,369.3	7.4
April ^r	107.1	28,613.1	5.9	26,710.9	5.5
May ^p	108.6	30,503.9	0.4	28,100.7	-1.4
June	..	..	..	..	..
July	..	..	..	..	..
August	..	..	..	..	..
September	..	..	..	..	..
October	..	..	..	..	..
November	..	..	..	..	..
December	..	..	..	..	..
Year	..	..	..	..	..

1. Seasonally adjusted constant (1997) dollar estimates are derived by deflating, with an implicit price index, the seasonally adjusted current dollar estimate.

Table 20-2

Retail trade, Canada, seasonally adjusted, current and constant (1997) dollar estimates

	Price Index	Current Dollars		Constant 1997 dollars ¹	
		millions of dollars	Month to month % change	millions of dollars	Month to month % change
2002					
January	103.9	26,361.5	1.3	25,361.3	1.3
February	104.4	26,068.5	-1.1	24,966.7	-1.6
March	104.8	26,278.2	0.8	25,078.2	0.4
April	105.7	26,365.5	0.3	24,934.5	-0.6
May	105.4	26,094.0	-1.0	24,766.4	-0.7
June	105.7	26,641.2	2.1	25,205.9	1.8
July	106.3	26,545.8	-0.4	24,968.8	-0.9
August	106.5	26,617.5	0.3	24,984.7	0.1
September	106.3	26,662.5	0.2	25,090.6	0.4
October	106.6	26,981.3	1.2	25,320.2	0.9
November	107.0	26,873.7	-0.4	25,114.3	-0.8
December	106.9	27,042.3	0.6	25,295.5	0.7
Year	105.8	318,532.0	...	301,087.1	...
2003					
January	107.2	27,106.1	0.2	25,277.6	-0.1
February	107.9	27,499.3	1.5	25,491.1	0.8
March	107.6	27,294.9	-0.7	25,367.3	-0.5
April	106.8	27,314.3	0.1	25,581.6	0.8
May	106.4	27,361.9	0.2	25,715.5	0.5
June	106.2	27,364.9	0.0	25,761.5	0.2
July	106.5	27,784.7	1.5	26,085.7	1.3
August	106.9	28,130.8	1.2	26,320.2	0.9
September	106.7	27,824.0	-1.1	26,082.1	-0.9
October	106.3	27,765.2	-0.2	26,123.2	0.2
November	106.6	27,674.5	-0.3	25,967.7	-0.6
December	106.7	27,382.5	-1.1	25,657.0	-1.2
Year	106.8	330,502.9	...	309,430.5	...
2004					
January	106.8	27,643.1	1.0	25,880.9	0.9
February ^r	106.7	28,364.2	2.6	26,581.7	2.7
March ^r	106.8	28,702.8	1.2	26,864.4	1.1
April ^r	107.4	28,482.4	-0.8	26,531.6	-1.2
May ^p	108.1	28,624.6	0.5	26,478.1	-0.2
June	..	..	..	..	..
July	..	..	..	..	..
August	..	..	..	..	..
September	..	..	..	..	..
October	..	..	..	..	..
November	..	..	..	..	..
December	..	..	..	..	..
Year	..	..	...	..	...

1. Seasonally adjusted constant (1997) dollar estimates are derived by deflating, with an implicit price index, the seasonally adjusted current dollar estimate.

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 12,000 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 non-response. 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 non-respondents 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 non-response 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. 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.

To get a better picture of the success of the collection process, another unweighted rate called the 'collection result rate' is computed. It is computed by dividing the number of respondents by the number of units that we tried to contact. 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 two different response rates are calculated as follows:

Weighted rates:

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

Sum of all 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.

Unweighted rates:

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

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

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

Collection results rate =
$$\frac{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } ii}{\text{Number of questionnaires with response status } iv}$$

where *ii* = same as *ii* defined above

where *iv* = same as *iii* except for the exclusion of units that were not contacted because their response is unavailable for a particular month since they are non-monthly reporters.

The response rate (collection) is basically the percentage of questionnaires collected over all in-scope questionnaires while the collection results rate is the percentage of questionnaires collected over all in-scope questionnaires for which an attempt to collect was performed. All the above rates are provided at the industry trade group, geography and size group level as well as for any combination of these levels.

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.

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.

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.²The 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 non-sampling 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 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. While the impact of non-sampling errors is difficult to evaluate, certain measures such as response and imputation rates can be used as indicators of the potential level of non-sampling error.

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

088 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