

Catalogue no. 63-005-X

# Retail Trade

November 2008



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Statistics Canada  
Distributive Trades Division

# Retail Trade

November 2008

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#### **Note of appreciation**

*Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.*

# User information

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## Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . 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<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

## Note to users

Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.

## Acknowledgement

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## Highlights

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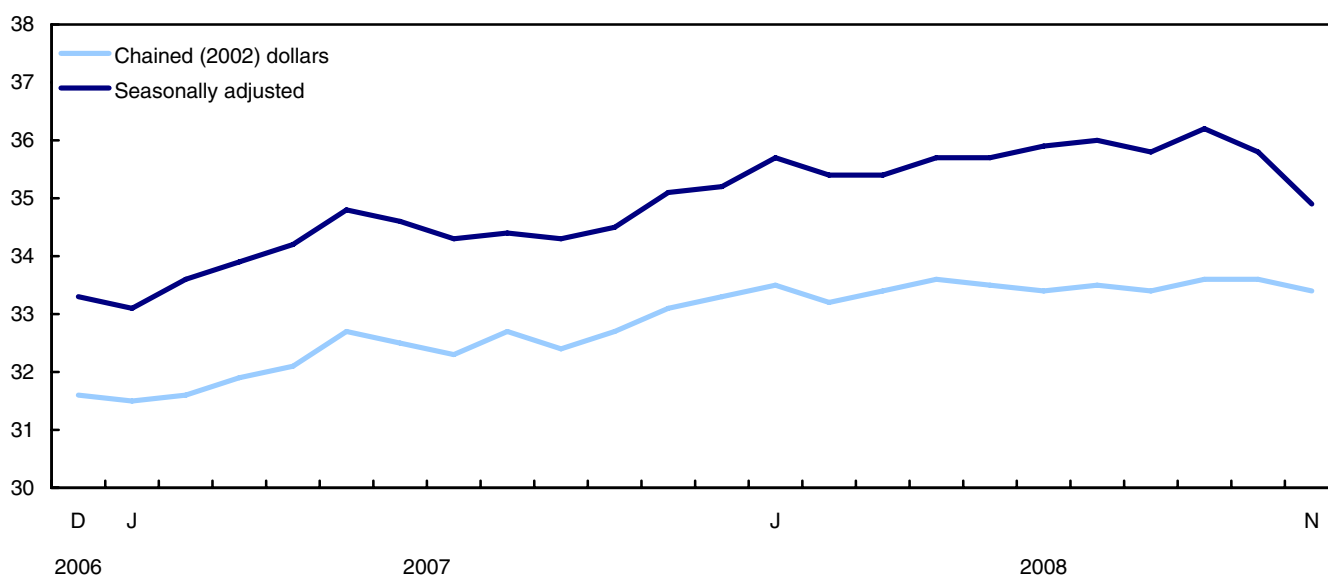
- Retail sales were down 2.4% in November compared with a month earlier, largely reflecting the sizeable drop in gasoline prices and lower sales at new car dealers. Excluding the automotive sector, retail sales were flat. In volume terms, retail sales fell 0.6%.

## Analysis — November 2008

In November, retail sales fell by 2.4% from October to \$34.9 billion, the largest monthly decline since January 1998. November's decline largely reflected price-induced lower sales at gasoline stations and a drop in unit sales at new car dealers. Excluding the automotive sector (which includes new, used and recreational vehicle and parts dealers as well as gasoline stations), retail sales were flat.

**Chart 1**  
**Retail sales: seasonally adjusted and chained (2002) dollars, Canada**

billions of dollars



Retail sales in November were pulled down considerably by a 7.1% decline in sales in the automotive sector. The 14.9% sales drop at gasoline stations, the largest monthly decline since September 2006, was all price-induced as gasoline prices at the pump fell considerably from October. Lower unit sales of new motor vehicles, especially passenger cars, according to the New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey, were behind the 3.4% sales decline at new car dealers in November.

Retail sales in volume terms fell 0.6%.

Aside from the automotive sector, four other retail sectors registered lower sales while the remaining three reported increases.

The second largest decline in November was observed in the miscellaneous retailers sector, where sales fell by 0.7%. Sales in this sector have levelled off in 2008, mainly reflecting a downturn in sales at sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores midway through the year.

### Note to readers

Total retail sales by volume are measured by deflating values in current dollars of the various trade groups using consumer price indexes. This retail sales in chained dollars series (2002) is a chain Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.



Sales in general merchandise stores decreased by 0.5%, representing the second decline in nine months.

The largest increases were observed in the pharmacies and personal care stores sector, and the food and beverage stores sector, where sales rose by 0.5% in each sector.

### **Sales down in all provinces and territories**

Lower gasoline prices and a decline in sales at new car dealers led to a drop in sales in all provinces in November. With the exception of Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, the decline in retail sales was at least 1.0%.

Retail sales in British Columbia dropped by 3.1% in November and were at their lowest level since January 2007. Sales in this province have been on a downward trend since the summer of 2008.

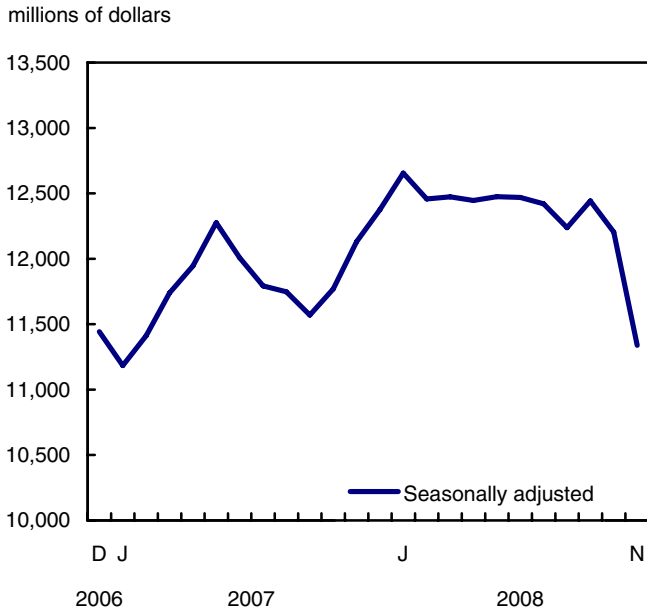
In Ontario, November's 2.8% sales decline was the third consecutive monthly decrease after reaching a plateau midway through 2008.

With a 2.1% decline in November, retail sales in Quebec slowed down after having increased earlier in 2008.

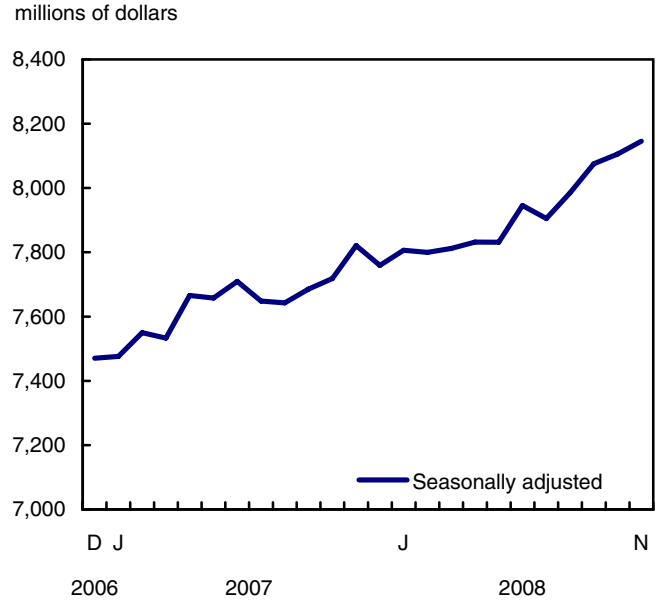
Saskatchewan's retail sales decline in November was the fifth in two years. As for Prince Edward Island, it was the only province to register an increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in November, according to the New Motor Vehicles Sales Survey.

**Chart 2**  
**Retail sales: seasonally adjusted, by retail sector, Canada**

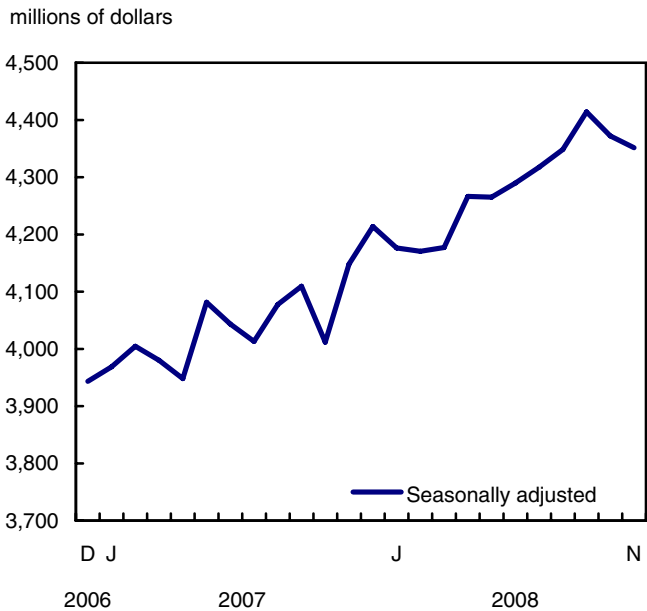
**Automotive**



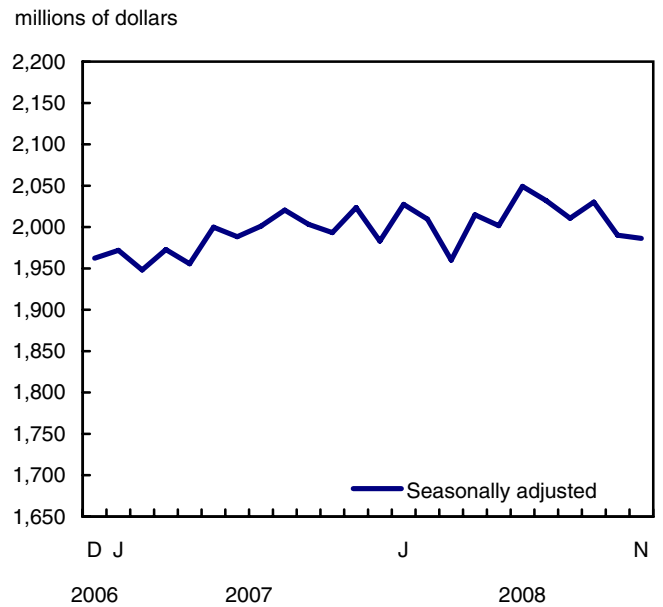
**Food and beverage stores**



**General merchandise stores**

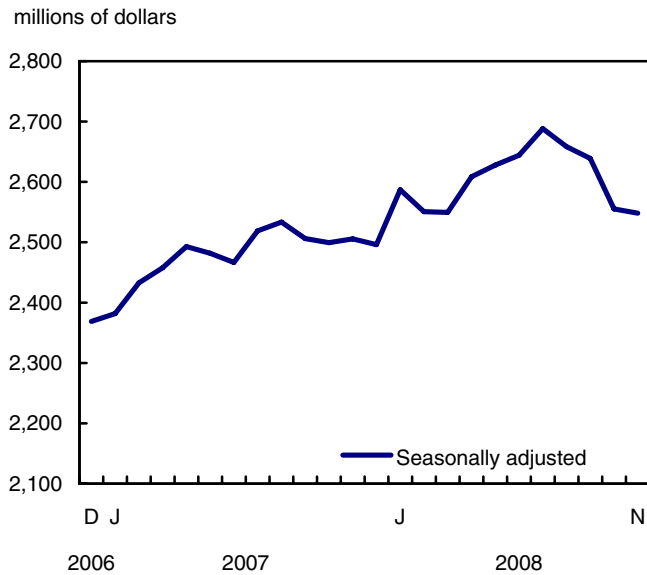


**Clothing and accessories stores**

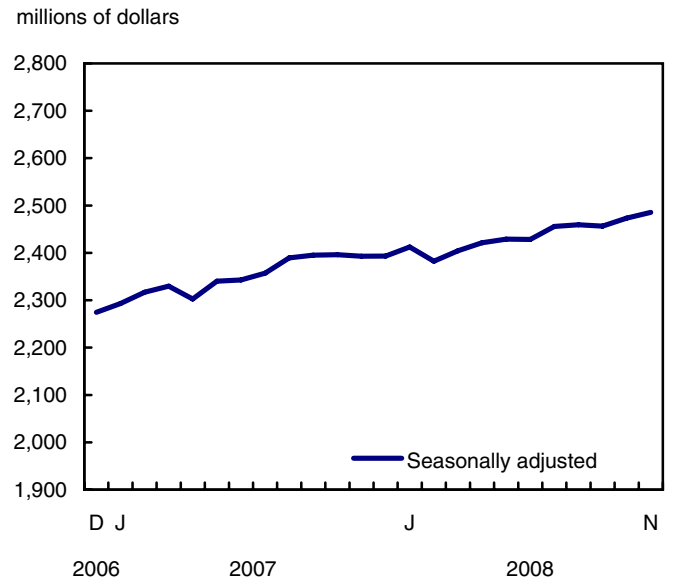


**Chart 3**  
**Retail sales: seasonally adjusted, by retail sector, Canada**

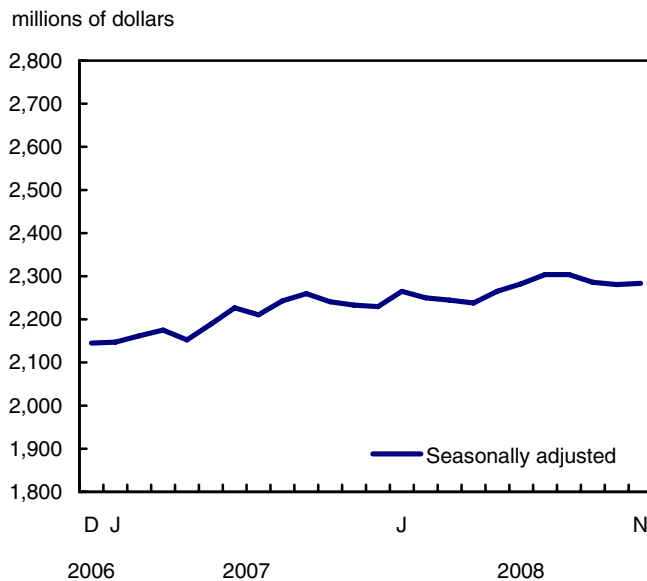
**Furniture, home furnishings  
and electronics stores**



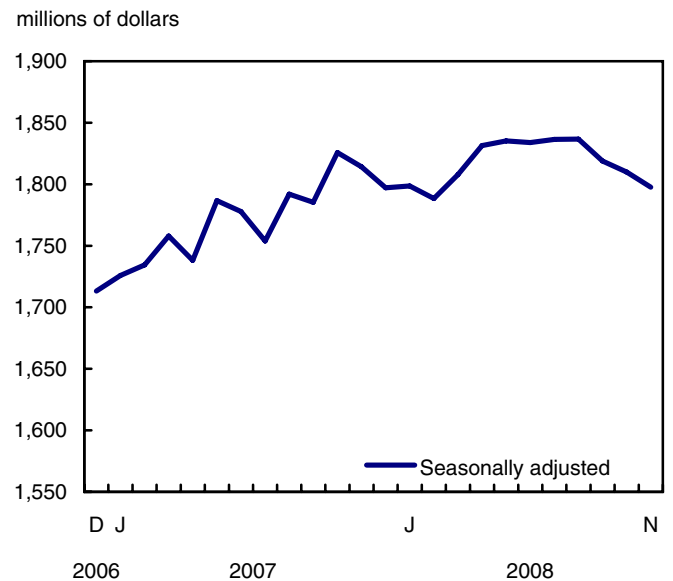
**Pharmacies and personal care stores**



**Building and outdoor home  
supplies stores**



**Miscellaneous retailers**



## Related products

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### Selected publications from Statistics Canada

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63-007-X      New Motor Vehicle Sales

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### Selected technical and analytical products from Statistics Canada

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11-621-M2003006	A New Look: Retail Clothing Sales in Canada
11-621-M2003007	Christmas: Consumers' Season
11-621-M2004012	On the Move with Homebuyers: Shopping for Furniture
11-621-M2004019	Consumer Holiday Shopping Patterns
11-621-M2005029	Gift Cards: A Win-win Way to Give
11-621-M2005032	Provincial Retail Trade Since the Turn of the Millennium
11-621-M2005034	Christmas Shopping: A Provincial Perspective
11-621-M2006048	Competing for the Retail Drug Market
11-621-M2006051	Gift Cards: The Gift of Choice

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### Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

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080-0014	Retail trade, sales by trade group based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
080-0015	Retail trade, sales by trade group based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
080-0016	Retail trade, sales, chained dollars and index at basic prices
080-0017	Retail trade, sales and sales trend, seasonally adjusted, by trade sector based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

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**Selected surveys from Statistics Canada**

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

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**Selected summary tables from Statistics Canada**

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

# Statistical tables

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**Table 1-1**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, seasonally adjusted (current periods) — Sales**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September <sup>r</sup> 2008	August <sup>r</sup> 2008	Year-to-date 2008
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>					
New car dealers	5,852.9	6,059.3	6,096.5	5,942.9	68,295.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,677.5	1,671.8	1,645.8	1,617.0	17,816.3
Gasoline stations	3,807.9	4,473.2	4,700.3	4,678.3	49,506.6
Furniture stores	828.8	826.5	871.1	873.8	9,451.2
Home furnishings stores	484.1	502.5	520.5	521.4	5,668.6
Computer and software stores	112.0	117.1	115.1	119.5	1,301.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,123.2	1,109.0	1,132.2	1,143.9	12,235.7
Home centres and hardware stores	1,875.2	1,860.0	1,861.7	1,885.7	20,401.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	408.2	420.8	424.2	418.1	4,601.0
Supermarkets	5,895.8	5,875.7	5,828.7	5,745.8	62,760.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	850.5	840.8	840.0	842.6	9,183.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,399.1	1,389.1	1,406.6	1,396.8	15,299.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,485.5	2,473.3	2,456.5	2,459.4	26,808.4
Clothing stores	1,526.6	1,522.3	1,554.8	1,541.8	16,968.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	459.7	467.8	475.4	468.9	5,143.4
General merchandise stores	4,351.5	4,372.1	4,414.2	4,348.4	47,148.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	878.4	881.3	895.5	906.3	9,900.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	919.2	928.7	923.4	930.4	10,094.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>34,936.2</b>	<b>35,791.3</b>	<b>36,162.5</b>	<b>35,840.9</b>	<b>392,585.8</b>
<b>Regions</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	596.8	615.1	611.8	602.3	6,517.6
Prince Edward Island	145.3	145.6	146.0	144.2	1,575.4
Nova Scotia	996.0	1,025.7	1,055.8	1,026.0	11,213.3
New Brunswick	803.9	835.2	849.1	829.6	8,993.3
Quebec	7,865.1	8,036.8	8,191.6	8,000.6	87,479.1
Ontario	12,341.8	12,696.7	12,785.4	12,820.7	139,712.4
Manitoba	1,261.8	1,274.2	1,261.9	1,251.6	13,810.5
Saskatchewan	1,221.9	1,226.2	1,213.0	1,211.8	13,231.4
Alberta	5,035.0	5,115.9	5,140.7	5,093.9	56,390.4
British Columbia	4,542.9	4,689.8	4,777.4	4,732.5	52,240.5
Yukon	44.0	45.3	45.3	44.5	490.4
Northwest Territories	56.4	58.9	59.8	58.5	653.6
Nunavut	25.3	25.7	24.9	24.7	278.0

Table 1-2

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

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September <sup>r</sup> 2008	August <sup>r</sup> 2008
	percent			
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>				
New car dealers	-3.4	-0.6	2.6	-1.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	0.3	1.6	1.8	2.3
Gasoline stations	-14.9	-4.8	0.5	-2.9
Furniture stores	0.3	-5.1	-0.3	-1.4
Home furnishings stores	-3.7	-3.5	-0.2	-1.8
Computer and software stores	-4.4	1.7	-3.6	-4.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	1.3	-2.0	-1.0	-0.2
Home centres and hardware stores	0.8	-0.1	-1.3	0.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-3.0	-0.8	1.4	-0.9
Supermarkets	0.3	0.8	1.4	1.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	1.2	0.1	-0.3	0.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	0.7	-1.2	0.7	0.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.5	0.7	-0.1	0.1
Clothing stores	0.3	-2.1	0.8	-1.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-1.7	-1.6	1.4	-0.7
General merchandise stores	-0.5	-1.0	1.5	0.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-0.3	-1.6	-1.2	0.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.0	0.6	-0.8	0.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Regions</b>				
Newfoundland and Labrador	-3.0	0.5	1.6	-0.1
Prince Edward Island	-0.2	-0.3	1.2	0.9
Nova Scotia	-2.9	-2.8	2.9	-0.2
New Brunswick	-3.8	-1.6	2.3	-1.3
Quebec	-2.1	-1.9	2.4	-0.6
Ontario	-2.8	-0.7	-0.3	0.0
Manitoba	-1.0	1.0	0.8	0.2
Saskatchewan	-0.4	1.1	0.1	-0.4
Alberta	-1.6	-0.5	0.9	-0.2
British Columbia	-3.1	-1.8	0.9	-0.9
Yukon	-2.8	-0.1	1.9	-0.6
Northwest Territories	-4.2	-1.4	2.1	1.7
Nunavut	-1.7	3.5	0.8	-4.8



Table 1-3

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

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September <sup>r</sup> 2008	August <sup>r</sup> 2008	Year-to-date 2008
	percent				
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>					
New car dealers	-7.1	-5.0	-4.3	-8.2	-3.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	6.1	7.8	6.8	3.2	4.6
Gasoline stations	-10.4	16.5	28.6	26.3	17.5
Furniture stores	-1.8	-2.3	3.5	4.2	2.4
Home furnishings stores	-1.9	-1.2	2.2	2.0	3.3
Computer and software stores	-5.5	0.2	-1.1	1.2	-0.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	7.0	7.9	9.0	7.4	8.7
Home centres and hardware stores	4.0	3.2	2.2	3.8	4.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-5.2	-3.9	-3.1	-1.8	-1.0
Supermarkets	5.2	6.0	6.4	5.0	4.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	1.3	2.0	0.3	2.3	1.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1.6	2.8	2.8	3.6	3.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	3.9	3.2	2.6	2.9	3.7
Clothing stores	-1.4	-0.2	1.3	-0.3	1.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-3.2	0.1	1.3	-1.1	0.1
General merchandise stores	4.9	9.0	7.4	6.6	6.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-1.3	-0.5	0.4	2.6	2.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	-0.6	-1.3	3.3	2.4	2.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Regions</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	6.5	10.5	11.9	9.4	8.7
Prince Edward Island	5.1	5.5	7.1	4.1	5.7
Nova Scotia	0.9	3.9	8.0	5.5	5.2
New Brunswick	0.9	5.9	9.1	5.5	5.4
Quebec	2.1	6.3	9.0	5.8	5.4
Ontario	-0.7	4.1	5.2	4.8	4.5
Manitoba	3.9	7.4	7.2	7.3	8.1
Saskatchewan	6.6	10.2	9.7	11.2	12.0
Alberta	-3.0	0.7	1.3	-0.2	0.8
British Columbia	-5.1	-0.9	1.1	0.4	1.4
Yukon	2.2	5.3	7.1	6.2	7.4
Northwest Territories	-7.4	2.8	5.5	3.1	5.6
Nunavut	6.3	12.0	6.3	5.8	10.7

**Table 2-1**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (current periods) — Sales**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September 2008	August 2008	Year-to-date 2008
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>					
New car dealers	4,975.2	5,833.5	6,112.6	6,193.0	68,879.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,441.9	1,637.9	1,581.3	1,714.1	18,174.1
Gasoline stations	3,485.2	4,464.6	4,859.9	5,149.0	49,859.2
Furniture stores	857.4	862.7	907.5	948.0	9,343.3
Home furnishings stores	535.2	520.6	527.9	522.4	5,484.0
Computer and software stores	108.8	117.7	119.9	115.4	1,271.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,166.4	1,040.2	1,123.4	1,170.9	11,218.5
Home centres and hardware stores	1,765.0	2,025.8	2,094.5	2,066.0	20,691.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	369.4	443.5	465.6	465.2	4,689.9
Supermarkets	5,803.6	6,002.0	5,552.0	5,990.4	62,431.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	799.2	846.7	833.5	924.9	9,133.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,372.7	1,376.2	1,332.5	1,628.7	14,763.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,444.1	2,532.8	2,397.5	2,405.3	26,353.2
Clothing stores	1,703.4	1,593.5	1,576.8	1,549.6	16,030.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	477.1	459.0	446.1	496.7	4,734.2
General merchandise stores	4,841.1	4,391.1	4,103.9	4,302.4	45,076.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	912.9	822.9	903.0	918.3	9,208.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	895.7	980.4	951.4	966.1	9,889.8
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>33,954.3</b>	<b>35,951.2</b>	<b>35,889.2</b>	<b>37,526.5</b>	<b>387,232.2</b>
<b>Regions</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	610.2	618.9	601.1	652.0	6,405.7
Prince Edward Island	137.1	144.3	146.7	169.3	1,555.7
Nova Scotia	976.9	1,031.3	1,036.4	1,085.8	11,015.6
New Brunswick	786.6	846.5	837.5	881.8	8,879.2
Quebec	7,534.1	8,176.0	8,086.2	8,378.5	86,972.2
Ontario	12,233.2	12,695.0	12,679.5	13,310.1	137,163.5
Manitoba	1,226.4	1,290.5	1,257.6	1,304.9	13,622.8
Saskatchewan	1,160.7	1,233.4	1,222.2	1,267.8	13,050.5
Alberta	4,836.8	5,113.8	5,122.8	5,318.0	55,693.0
British Columbia	4,337.9	4,675.0	4,769.2	5,021.8	51,466.7
Yukon	39.6	45.1	46.8	50.0	486.1
Northwest Territories	50.9	55.6	57.2	59.9	645.7
Nunavut	24.0	25.8	26.0	26.7	275.6

**Table 2-2**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (current periods) — Percentage change from previous year**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September 2008	August 2008	Year-to-date 2008
	percent				
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>					
New car dealers	-13.8	-4.1	0.7	-14.8	-3.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	2.7	11.5	10.2	-1.4	4.1
Gasoline stations	-13.8	15.5	27.5	24.1	17.7
Furniture stores	-3.1	-2.1	2.4	5.3	2.4
Home furnishings stores	-6.7	-2.3	7.0	0.2	2.9
Computer and software stores	-12.4	0.0	5.8	-1.2	-0.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	3.1	7.2	9.2	8.5	8.4
Home centres and hardware stores	-1.6	1.5	8.3	0.3	3.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-10.6	-2.7	1.9	-5.1	-1.2
Supermarkets	4.1	12.1	1.4	5.0	4.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	0.8	3.8	-1.4	2.3	1.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-0.4	9.3	-2.2	4.5	3.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.4	4.4	3.7	0.2	3.5
Clothing stores	-3.0	1.4	0.1	-1.1	1.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-6.1	5.0	-0.6	-2.0	0.2
General merchandise stores	4.6	9.6	6.6	6.5	6.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-3.8	0.8	0.2	1.3	2.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.6	-0.2	3.2	1.2	2.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Regions</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	3.0	13.4	13.2	6.8	8.5
Prince Edward Island	1.4	6.4	9.3	2.0	5.4
Nova Scotia	-2.8	6.1	8.4	3.1	4.9
New Brunswick	-2.7	8.5	10.4	2.1	5.2
Quebec	-1.2	8.4	9.6	3.0	5.3
Ontario	-3.2	5.2	5.3	2.9	4.3
Manitoba	0.6	9.3	8.0	4.6	7.9
Saskatchewan	2.7	12.0	11.5	8.0	11.7
Alberta	-5.7	3.1	2.1	-3.1	0.6
British Columbia	-7.2	1.0	1.1	-0.9	1.4
Yukon	-1.4	6.4	9.0	3.0	7.3
Northwest Territories	-9.1	3.4	6.2	0.3	5.4
Nunavut	4.2	13.9	6.2	5.6	11.0

**Table 3-1**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Canada**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	19,111.7	22,029.3	16,929.3	17,234.7	20,232.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	5,239.9	6,059.7	3,794.7	4,094.2	5,039.2
Gasoline stations	15,430.4	14,515.2	11,963.8	11,927.2	12,211.2
Furniture stores	2,794.6	2,579.0	2,249.7	2,698.0	2,676.7
Home furnishings stores	1,582.4	1,496.7	1,349.1	1,765.7	1,511.4
Computer and software stores	349.0	337.9	358.3	381.8	329.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	3,356.6	2,882.5	2,772.9	4,062.3	3,055.3
Home centres and hardware stores	6,454.1	6,492.0	3,954.5	5,242.5	6,079.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	1,438.6	1,525.2	913.2	1,178.6	1,441.3
Supermarkets	17,422.7	17,118.6	16,084.7	16,963.4	16,652.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	2,682.8	2,548.5	2,256.2	2,497.5	2,648.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	4,541.9	4,138.3	3,334.8	4,558.8	4,403.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	7,200.4	7,191.3	6,984.6	7,637.6	6,973.4
Clothing stores	4,558.6	4,640.8	3,533.9	5,755.7	4,521.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1,380.1	1,378.5	1,039.5	1,825.4	1,383.0
General merchandise stores	12,755.8	12,964.0	10,124.0	14,908.7	11,875.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2,675.2	2,560.6	2,237.2	3,324.2	2,607.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	2,851.2	2,787.7	2,374.9	2,995.7	2,756.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>111,825.9</b>	<b>113,245.6</b>	<b>92,255.3</b>	<b>109,051.9</b>	<b>106,398.2</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-13.2	30.1	-1.8	-14.8	-11.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-13.5	59.7	-7.3	-18.8	-16.6
Gasoline stations	6.3	21.3	0.3	-2.3	0.3
Furniture stores	8.4	14.6	-16.6	0.8	7.6
Home furnishings stores	5.7	10.9	-23.6	16.8	5.0
Computer and software stores	3.3	-5.7	-6.2	15.7	-1.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	16.4	4.0	-31.7	33.0	15.0
Home centres and hardware stores	-0.6	64.2	-24.6	-13.8	-3.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-5.7	67.0	-22.5	-18.2	-6.7
Supermarkets	1.8	6.4	-5.2	1.9	-0.9
Convenience and specialty food stores	5.3	13.0	-9.7	-5.7	2.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	9.8	24.1	-26.8	3.5	8.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.1	3.0	-8.5	9.5	0.6
Clothing stores	-1.8	31.3	-38.6	27.3	0.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.1	32.6	-43.1	32.0	1.6
General merchandise stores	-1.6	28.1	-32.1	25.5	-3.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	4.5	14.5	-32.7	27.5	6.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	2.3	17.4	-20.7	8.7	1.5
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>-15.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-2.8</b>

Table 3-1 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-5.5	-3.7	2.3	0.0	0.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.0	0.3	8.5	8.3	6.6
Gasoline stations	26.4	19.3	18.7	21.6	5.5
Furniture stores	4.4	3.6	2.8	3.1	5.6
Home furnishings stores	4.7	4.0	5.8	9.7	13.9
Computer and software stores	5.8	1.3	-4.7	-2.4	-10.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	9.9	8.5	9.5	9.2	11.1
Home centres and hardware stores	6.2	2.8	4.7	5.9	5.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-0.2	-1.2	2.2	8.0	9.2
Supermarkets	4.6	1.8	4.3	3.0	1.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	1.3	-1.6	4.9	4.9	5.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	3.2	2.4	6.4	4.9	6.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	3.3	3.7	4.1	6.5	7.7
Clothing stores	0.8	2.9	2.2	4.0	5.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-0.2	1.3	0.3	1.0	3.7
General merchandise stores	7.4	5.8	6.0	4.8	3.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.6	4.7	2.8	5.0	4.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	3.4	2.6	4.7	7.5	4.4
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>

Table 3-2

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	343.8	401.2	253.3	246.6	334.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	142.9	147.1	129.4	164.3	127.0
Gasoline stations	281.7	254.6	212.6	216.6	227.1
Furniture stores	27.9	25.5	20.0	31.8	24.9
Home furnishings stores	6.8	6.5	6.1	9.3	7.2
Computer and software stores	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.8	5.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	23.8	15.7	14.7	24.5	16.5
Home centres and hardware stores	150.0	117.1	63.9	115.6	123.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	25.6	22.3	11.6	18.9	23.4
Supermarkets	281.9	265.7	253.4	268.2	270.4
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	88.1	86.4	80.6	87.4	82.3
Clothing stores	46.9	42.5	28.7	66.1	44.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	11.9	10.1	7.7	17.0	11.2
General merchandise stores	286.8	263.9	204.9	331.0	254.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	20.6	18.0	16.8	31.7	19.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	34.0	31.0	25.1	37.0	28.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>1,917.4</b>	<b>1,828.5</b>	<b>1,430.6</b>	<b>1,803.3</b>	<b>1,728.1</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-14.3	58.4	2.7	-26.2	-15.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-2.8	13.7	-21.3	29.4	-5.9
Gasoline stations	10.7	19.8	-1.9	-4.6	1.2
Furniture stores	9.5	27.6	-37.1	27.6	17.9
Home furnishings stores	5.1	6.8	-34.5	30.3	9.7
Computer and software stores	-2.6	0.0	-13.0	9.8	12.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	51.8	6.7	-39.8	48.5	22.2
Home centres and hardware stores	28.1	83.3	-44.7	-6.5	17.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	15.0	92.4	-38.8	-19.2	14.9
Supermarkets	6.1	4.9	-5.5	-0.8	2.0
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	2.0	7.1	-7.7	6.2	-5.3
Clothing stores	10.5	47.7	-56.5	49.3	13.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	17.2	32.1	-55.0	51.5	20.9
General merchandise stores	8.7	28.7	-38.1	30.0	4.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	14.8	6.7	-46.8	62.4	13.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	9.6	23.5	-32.2	29.0	4.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>-20.7</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>

Table 3-2 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	2.8	1.2	17.5	10.8	16.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	12.6	9.0	5.1	28.2	26.3
Gasoline stations	24.0	13.4	19.0	8.0	1.4
Furniture stores	12.1	20.7	11.2	7.2	10.9
Home furnishings stores	-4.3	-0.1	9.3	2.0	1.0
Computer and software stores	-7.0	7.0	-24.4	-6.7	-2.9
Home electronics and appliance stores	44.8	16.6	8.6	11.3	11.2
Home centres and hardware stores	21.4	11.7	5.9	14.6	1.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	9.4	9.4	12.4	9.8	11.1
Supermarkets	4.3	0.2	2.1	1.5	2.2
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	7.1	-0.6	-1.9	-10.0	2.1
Clothing stores	6.0	8.3	6.1	2.4	5.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	5.6	8.9	5.8	4.4	6.5
General merchandise stores	12.6	8.4	9.1	6.9	8.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	5.8	4.9	10.2	15.1	8.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	18.3	12.9	7.9	7.2	0.2
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>

**Table 3-3**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Prince Edward Island**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	67.7	76.5	52.8	54.8	71.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	15.0	17.9	10.4	11.4	13.6
Gasoline stations	83.5	69.5	54.4	55.1	66.2
Furniture stores	5.3	5.4	3.8	4.5	4.3
Home furnishings stores	3.9	3.6	2.9	4.5	3.6
Computer and software stores	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.3	7.0	6.2	9.7	7.6
Home centres and hardware stores	39.1	32.5	23.4	36.0	38.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	13.1	17.8	6.5	10.7	11.6
Supermarkets	93.2	84.8	78.2	82.7	89.6
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	29.8	29.4	28.4	31.5	29.5
Clothing stores	15.4	12.0	8.5	16.9	15.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	4.4	3.8	2.6	5.8	4.3
General merchandise stores	47.9	43.5	31.6	54.7	45.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	8.0	6.4	5.4	9.0	9.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	12.0	7.0	6.2	8.2	13.3
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>484.8</b>	<b>446.3</b>	<b>343.2</b>	<b>423.6</b>	<b>458.5</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-11.4	44.8	-3.7	-23.3	-7.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-16.2	72.4	-8.9	-16.1	10.1
Gasoline stations	20.2	27.7	-1.4	-16.7	23.0
Furniture stores	-1.4	41.6	-16.1	6.4	9.9
Home furnishings stores	8.7	26.2	-36.2	23.6	20.8
Computer and software stores	-5.3	-14.4	-2.3	8.3	-3.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	19.2	12.4	-36.1	28.3	18.3
Home centres and hardware stores	20.5	38.7	-35.1	-6.9	2.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-26.8	175.4	-39.3	-8.3	-35.7
Supermarkets	9.9	8.4	-5.4	-7.7	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	1.3	3.4	-9.8	6.8	5.9
Clothing stores	27.5	40.9	-49.5	12.7	24.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	16.0	43.5	-54.1	35.1	29.5
General merchandise stores	10.3	37.7	-42.3	20.7	8.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	24.3	18.0	-39.6	-3.2	29.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	71.5	12.3	-24.2	-38.2	63.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>-19.0</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	<b>8.7</b>



Table 3-3 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-5.3	-0.6	1.1	0.0	6.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	10.4	45.0	-8.5	39.4	45.6
Gasoline stations	26.1	29.0	19.4	18.9	17.3
Furniture stores	24.6	38.9	17.6	9.6	7.0
Home furnishings stores	8.2	20.2	69.5	58.9	30.8
Computer and software stores	-14.3	-12.3	-12.3	17.8	12.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	10.0	9.1	8.4	4.8	9.0
Home centres and hardware stores	1.1	-14.1	11.4	11.6	5.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	12.3	-1.4	-12.3	30.7	21.8
Supermarkets	4.0	3.4	3.9	0.6	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	0.9	5.5	7.0	13.3	14.2
Clothing stores	2.4	-0.3	3.3	3.4	5.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	3.2	15.2	18.7	12.6	18.5
General merchandise stores	5.8	4.3	4.9	2.2	6.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-14.2	-10.4	-23.7	-13.0	-7.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	-9.8	-13.9	1.7	0.1	2.3
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>

**Table 3-4**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — New Brunswick**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	431.9	499.4	353.3	349.2	425.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	176.6	178.3	104.1	139.0	153.0
Gasoline stations	434.4	394.4	319.4	333.1	356.4
Furniture stores	36.7	32.7	28.6	37.4	33.8
Home furnishings stores	25.0	22.1	18.9	25.6	23.7
Computer and software stores	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	50.9	44.6	42.3	63.7	47.4
Home centres and hardware stores	148.5	134.7	81.0	121.0	153.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	38.4	33.7	17.6	29.5	34.7
Supermarkets	498.4	470.6	434.2	459.6	460.2
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	146.3	145.3	146.9	149.9	135.7
Clothing stores	69.7	69.2	51.5	94.4	71.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	20.6	20.5	16.0	34.3	21.4
General merchandise stores	281.7	276.8	212.8	362.4	266.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	44.2	41.0	36.2	51.9	39.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	43.1	35.5	35.9	43.8	38.5
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>2,640.1</b>	<b>2,570.8</b>	<b>2,035.2</b>	<b>2,469.4</b>	<b>2,450.4</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-13.5	41.4	1.2	-17.9	-17.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-0.9	71.3	-25.2	-9.1	-3.1
Gasoline stations	10.2	23.5	-4.1	-6.5	3.0
Furniture stores	12.3	14.4	-23.5	10.5	5.7
Home furnishings stores	13.2	17.0	-26.2	8.1	6.2
Computer and software stores	-6.5	-5.5	-2.9	17.4	-38.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	14.0	5.6	-33.6	34.3	17.9
Home centres and hardware stores	10.2	66.3	-33.0	-21.4	5.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	13.9	91.4	-40.3	-15.0	13.3
Supermarkets	5.9	8.4	-5.5	-0.1	0.7
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	0.7	-1.1	-2.0	10.5	0.4
Clothing stores	0.7	34.4	-45.4	32.5	7.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.6	28.3	-53.4	60.5	4.4
General merchandise stores	1.8	30.1	-41.3	36.1	-1.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	7.9	13.3	-30.3	32.7	11.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	21.4	-1.0	-18.1	13.8	0.4
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>-17.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-0.9</b>

Table 3-4 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	1.6	-2.7	3.1	2.0	10.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	15.5	12.9	8.1	32.1	23.5
Gasoline stations	21.9	13.9	12.9	12.2	4.1
Furniture stores	8.6	2.2	8.1	4.8	11.3
Home furnishings stores	5.7	-0.8	-1.0	4.4	16.0
Computer and software stores	0.7	-33.6	-53.6	-48.5	-52.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	7.3	10.9	7.7	7.1	7.5
Home centres and hardware stores	-3.5	-7.6	-4.1	-0.2	10.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	10.6	10.0	-7.2	9.0	13.5
Supermarkets	8.3	3.0	4.2	0.7	-1.4
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	7.8	7.5	8.1	1.3	2.0
Clothing stores	-2.1	4.1	2.5	2.5	3.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-3.5	0.1	2.8	0.8	2.5
General merchandise stores	5.8	2.5	3.3	2.9	3.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	13.1	17.2	13.5	5.8	3.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.9	-7.4	2.1	1.9	2.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>6.0</b>

**Table 3-5**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nova Scotia**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	587.3	674.7	532.4	488.7	600.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	120.7	123.8	94.5	110.0	108.8
Gasoline stations	424.2	394.8	313.8	336.4	355.2
Furniture stores	55.2	43.2	38.7	45.5	41.5
Home furnishings stores	33.6	30.6	28.4	37.9	33.7
Computer and software stores	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	67.8	56.9	57.0	90.6	61.4
Home centres and hardware stores	219.1	206.1	131.2	184.7	197.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	39.3	40.8	23.6	29.4	33.5
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	222.3	205.5	196.4	205.5	183.4
Clothing stores	93.4	91.5	68.3	127.9	91.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	26.1	25.9	20.9	41.9	27.8
General merchandise stores	352.0	339.6	271.1	450.0	328.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	66.4	58.0	50.1	78.6	63.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	80.0	65.2	63.9	87.5	82.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>3,239.0</b>	<b>3,147.7</b>	<b>2,620.7</b>	<b>3,116.0</b>	<b>3,036.5</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-13.0	26.7	8.9	-18.6	-12.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-2.5	31.0	-14.1	1.1	-11.3
Gasoline stations	7.4	25.8	-6.7	-5.3	6.6
Furniture stores	27.7	11.7	-15.0	9.7	3.2
Home furnishings stores	9.7	7.7	-25.1	12.6	8.6
Computer and software stores	-7.9	-2.6	-10.5	1.7	-25.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	19.1	-0.2	-37.1	47.5	19.7
Home centres and hardware stores	6.3	57.1	-28.9	-6.4	4.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-3.6	72.6	-19.8	-12.0	-6.2
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	8.2	4.6	-4.4	12.0	-0.4
Clothing stores	2.1	34.0	-46.6	40.4	5.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	0.7	24.2	-50.2	50.8	8.9
General merchandise stores	3.7	25.3	-39.8	37.0	1.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	14.6	15.6	-36.3	24.0	3.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	22.8	2.0	-27.0	6.0	10.8
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>-15.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>

Table 3-5 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-2.2	-1.8	12.0	4.1	1.8
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	11.0	0.9	7.4	8.9	2.6
Gasoline stations	19.4	18.6	16.7	21.1	12.9
Furniture stores	33.0	7.4	5.7	-8.9	3.2
Home furnishings stores	-0.3	-1.3	8.7	-4.8	13.5
Computer and software stores	-18.4	-34.0	-19.3	-4.9	5.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	10.3	10.9	19.4	17.6	8.4
Home centres and hardware stores	11.1	9.3	6.0	9.7	0.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	17.5	14.3	10.9	14.4	7.4
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	21.2	11.6	-2.0	-7.7	-3.7
Clothing stores	2.6	5.9	4.8	2.5	6.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-6.1	1.6	4.4	-0.5	-0.2
General merchandise stores	7.2	5.0	5.2	3.1	6.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	4.7	-5.1	5.0	-0.2	4.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	-3.1	-12.6	1.5	4.6	4.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>

**Table 3-6**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Quebec**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	4,252.7	5,164.4	3,421.1	3,334.7	4,272.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,300.1	1,540.3	754.1	870.2	1,183.4
Gasoline stations	3,296.1	3,116.1	2,604.2	2,558.8	2,568.6
Furniture stores	820.6	786.2	634.9	749.1	751.4
Home furnishings stores	255.3	226.3	187.7	245.6	215.9
Computer and software stores	88.2	79.8	83.0	83.5	78.8
Home electronics and appliance stores	568.8	484.8	468.9	657.8	522.1
Home centres and hardware stores	1,651.8	1,714.5	841.2	1,229.1	1,471.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	202.9	237.2	132.4	179.2	210.3
Supermarkets	3,957.9	3,915.4	3,652.3	3,835.4	3,693.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	933.2	873.5	801.0	861.1	932.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	674.6	631.0	531.0	794.2	635.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,141.5	2,122.6	2,068.6	2,190.8	2,107.4
Clothing stores	1,124.5	1,161.4	799.5	1,281.2	1,083.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	285.0	286.8	200.6	365.8	281.4
General merchandise stores	2,392.7	2,476.6	1,865.9	2,750.9	2,205.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	601.4	584.7	461.7	702.8	579.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	631.6	664.9	508.9	583.1	569.2
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>25,178.7</b>	<b>26,066.5</b>	<b>20,016.9</b>	<b>23,273.4</b>	<b>23,361.4</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-17.7	51.0	2.6	-22.0	-17.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-15.6	104.3	-13.4	-26.5	-21.8
Gasoline stations	5.8	19.7	1.8	-0.4	-3.6
Furniture stores	4.4	23.8	-15.2	-0.3	-1.9
Home furnishings stores	12.8	20.6	-23.6	13.7	-0.4
Computer and software stores	10.5	-3.9	-0.7	6.0	-1.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	17.3	3.4	-28.7	26.0	17.8
Home centres and hardware stores	-3.7	103.8	-31.6	-16.5	-9.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-14.5	79.2	-26.1	-14.8	-19.2
Supermarkets	1.1	7.2	-4.8	3.9	-2.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	6.8	9.1	-7.0	-7.7	1.8
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.9	18.8	-33.1	25.1	5.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.9	2.6	-5.6	4.0	0.8
Clothing stores	-3.2	45.3	-37.6	18.2	-4.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-0.6	42.9	-45.2	30.0	-2.8
General merchandise stores	-3.4	32.7	-32.2	24.7	-7.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.9	26.6	-34.3	21.3	6.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	-5.0	30.6	-12.7	2.4	-9.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>-14.0</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-7.0</b>

Table 3-6 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-0.5	-0.7	4.4	-3.7	-2.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	9.9	1.8	13.3	7.8	6.6
Gasoline stations	28.3	16.9	20.7	20.4	1.8
Furniture stores	9.2	2.6	0.0	0.8	1.9
Home furnishings stores	18.2	4.4	0.4	-4.1	-0.1
Computer and software stores	11.9	-0.5	-12.8	-16.0	-19.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.9	9.4	10.9	7.3	13.0
Home centres and hardware stores	12.3	5.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-3.5	-8.8	0.9	-2.5	7.5
Supermarkets	7.2	3.9	3.2	3.3	-0.8
Convenience and specialty food stores	0.1	-4.6	5.4	1.3	-0.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.2	4.7	8.4	4.1	9.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1.6	1.5	4.6	8.3	15.7
Clothing stores	3.8	2.6	-0.1	3.7	2.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1.3	-1.0	0.8	0.9	-1.0
General merchandise stores	8.5	4.1	4.9	3.5	1.6
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	3.8	7.4	0.6	10.2	4.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	11.0	5.6	5.7	5.7	-0.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>

**Table 3-7**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Ontario**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	6,589.8	7,573.9	5,765.4	6,033.8	6,783.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,690.7	1,948.9	1,318.4	1,370.1	1,554.6
Gasoline stations	5,201.5	5,004.7	4,053.5	4,056.5	4,006.6
Furniture stores	992.1	882.0	790.6	941.7	954.8
Home furnishings stores	585.7	572.2	530.9	716.2	595.5
Computer and software stores	109.7	104.7	114.9	128.2	96.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,219.2	994.4	971.0	1,497.1	1,093.0
Home centres and hardware stores	1,996.7	2,065.1	1,291.5	1,668.2	1,911.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	515.1	481.1	289.5	391.9	507.6
Supermarkets	5,847.5	5,715.2	5,399.7	5,728.4	5,601.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	862.7	840.0	737.8	828.2	849.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,916.3	1,721.8	1,362.3	1,852.2	1,847.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,859.5	2,900.1	2,787.1	3,051.7	2,767.2
Clothing stores	1,748.6	1,835.5	1,369.7	2,345.0	1,714.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	566.4	571.6	420.9	738.1	576.7
General merchandise stores	4,815.9	4,950.4	3,799.4	5,728.3	4,486.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	898.0	847.5	798.2	1,194.3	904.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	1,059.4	1,056.8	893.7	1,208.8	1,042.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>39,474.9</b>	<b>40,066.0</b>	<b>32,694.4</b>	<b>39,478.6</b>	<b>37,293.7</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-13.0	31.4	-4.4	-11.1	-11.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-13.3	47.8	-3.8	-11.9	-14.6
Gasoline stations	3.9	23.5	-0.1	1.2	-2.9
Furniture stores	12.5	11.6	-16.0	-1.4	12.7
Home furnishings stores	2.4	7.8	-25.9	20.3	4.3
Computer and software stores	4.8	-8.9	-10.4	33.2	2.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	22.6	2.4	-35.1	37.0	16.3
Home centres and hardware stores	-3.3	59.9	-22.6	-12.7	-7.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	7.1	66.2	-26.1	-22.8	-1.3
Supermarkets	2.3	5.8	-5.7	2.3	-1.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	2.7	13.9	-10.9	-2.5	1.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	11.3	26.4	-26.4	0.2	8.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-1.4	4.1	-8.7	10.3	0.7
Clothing stores	-4.7	34.0	-41.6	36.8	-3.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-0.9	35.8	-43.0	28.0	0.9
General merchandise stores	-2.7	30.3	-33.7	27.7	-4.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	6.0	6.2	-33.2	32.0	9.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	0.2	18.3	-26.1	16.0	2.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>-17.2</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-3.1</b>



Table 3-7 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-2.9	-0.9	2.2	-1.9	-2.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	8.8	7.0	9.6	6.4	2.3
Gasoline stations	29.8	21.2	19.1	22.2	4.3
Furniture stores	3.9	4.1	3.3	3.0	5.7
Home furnishings stores	-1.6	0.2	4.0	11.7	11.7
Computer and software stores	14.0	11.7	7.8	5.8	-16.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	11.5	5.8	6.3	7.0	9.9
Home centres and hardware stores	4.4	0.4	3.0	1.4	4.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	1.5	-6.5	-4.9	2.5	5.5
Supermarkets	4.4	0.3	5.1	3.1	0.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	1.5	-0.1	8.1	9.3	11.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	3.7	1.5	5.6	2.5	4.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	3.3	5.5	3.7	7.5	5.3
Clothing stores	2.0	3.1	-0.2	2.1	1.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-1.8	0.0	-2.0	-2.4	1.0
General merchandise stores	7.3	5.8	3.9	2.4	-0.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-0.7	2.2	-0.2	2.1	2.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	1.7	3.5	6.0	10.2	6.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>

**Table 3-8**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Manitoba**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	607.9	681.0	575.3	557.6	636.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	166.1	200.3	153.6	154.7	178.6
Gasoline stations	574.1	539.9	441.0	436.7	434.7
Furniture stores	79.1	80.7	65.5	82.5	74.2
Home furnishings stores	49.6	43.3	37.8	50.6	42.0
Computer and software stores	10.1	10.1	11.5	12.5	10.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	115.3	102.3	97.9	143.8	104.1
Home centres and hardware stores	302.7	291.7	180.8	243.7	282.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	65.0	70.3	31.9	47.3	53.8
Supermarkets	674.1	671.2	636.0	665.3	651.4
Convenience and specialty food stores	57.1	52.9	45.6	50.0	53.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	168.6	163.4	121.3	164.4	159.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	174.0	172.8	170.9	172.3	156.6
Clothing stores	99.9	109.4	83.6	141.5	109.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	37.0	38.3	31.3	54.8	37.2
General merchandise stores	524.3	545.8	428.1	603.5	474.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	87.3	93.2	72.8	110.9	83.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	98.8	91.4	71.9	91.0	88.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>3,891.1</b>	<b>3,958.2</b>	<b>3,256.6</b>	<b>3,782.9</b>	<b>3,629.3</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-10.7	18.4	3.2	-12.4	-8.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-17.1	30.4	-0.7	-13.4	-9.6
Gasoline stations	6.4	22.4	1.0	0.4	4.5
Furniture stores	-2.0	23.3	-20.6	11.1	24.3
Home furnishings stores	14.6	14.4	-25.3	20.6	13.5
Computer and software stores	-0.8	-11.5	-8.0	22.2	11.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	12.8	4.5	-31.9	38.1	16.6
Home centres and hardware stores	3.8	61.3	-25.8	-13.6	5.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-7.5	120.2	-32.5	-12.1	-10.0
Supermarkets	0.4	5.5	-4.4	2.1	-1.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	7.9	16.2	-8.8	-6.3	0.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	3.2	34.7	-26.2	3.4	3.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	0.7	1.1	-0.8	10.1	1.1
Clothing stores	-8.7	30.9	-40.9	29.4	-1.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-3.5	22.7	-42.9	47.3	-2.9
General merchandise stores	-3.9	27.5	-29.1	27.3	-4.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-6.3	28.1	-34.4	32.5	0.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	8.0	27.2	-21.0	3.3	2.0
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-1.0</b>

Table 3-8 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-4.5	-2.3	8.4	4.9	2.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-7.0	1.4	26.4	21.2	24.0
Gasoline stations	32.1	29.7	28.4	35.6	12.8
Furniture stores	6.5	35.1	21.9	21.2	7.3
Home furnishings stores	18.2	17.1	16.4	14.4	3.5
Computer and software stores	-1.3	10.4	19.1	21.6	19.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	10.8	14.5	14.6	17.5	17.4
Home centres and hardware stores	7.3	8.6	16.0	15.5	10.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	20.8	17.5	-3.1	6.7	-1.5
Supermarkets	3.5	1.9	6.4	3.7	1.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	7.0	-0.7	1.9	10.9	22.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	6.0	6.1	7.6	5.3	6.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	11.1	11.6	12.2	9.4	5.7
Clothing stores	-8.6	-1.7	-0.7	-1.3	4.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-0.5	0.1	5.5	6.5	7.6
General merchandise stores	10.6	10.6	7.4	9.1	7.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	4.3	12.3	5.1	6.4	8.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	12.1	5.8	-2.5	5.1	2.4
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>

**Table 3-9**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Saskatchewan**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	718.3	742.6	605.6	641.8	673.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	196.4	237.4	157.7	158.7	203.3
Gasoline stations	650.1	621.9	491.7	490.0	515.8
Furniture stores	62.9	57.5	50.6	62.5	56.8
Home furnishings stores	45.6	44.2	37.9	45.9	42.5
Computer and software stores	9.2	9.7	10.1	10.3	9.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	102.1	93.5	88.6	131.3	87.7
Home centres and hardware stores	286.6	263.1	163.4	205.8	249.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	51.4	75.5	26.4	33.1	41.9
Supermarkets	486.0	478.7	447.8	472.4	463.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	33.8	32.6	28.5	31.7	32.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	161.7	135.1	107.3	136.8	142.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	170.6	171.8	169.9	184.9	155.9
Clothing stores	87.7	93.9	74.9	117.2	91.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	29.8	31.9	23.7	44.8	27.7
General merchandise stores	590.8	613.3	448.4	618.5	516.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	57.6	56.0	46.7	73.6	51.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	60.3	61.4	56.2	73.8	59.4
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>3,800.8</b>	<b>3,820.2</b>	<b>3,035.4</b>	<b>3,532.7</b>	<b>3,420.0</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-3.3	22.6	-5.6	-4.7	-0.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-17.3	50.5	-0.6	-21.9	-15.0
Gasoline stations	4.5	26.5	0.3	-5.0	5.0
Furniture stores	9.5	13.7	-19.1	10.0	14.8
Home furnishings stores	3.0	16.8	-17.5	8.0	11.7
Computer and software stores	-4.9	-4.2	-2.0	13.6	-1.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	9.2	5.6	-32.5	49.8	11.6
Home centres and hardware stores	8.9	61.0	-20.6	-17.6	8.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-31.9	186.2	-20.3	-21.1	-40.4
Supermarkets	1.5	6.9	-5.2	2.0	0.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.6	14.5	-10.2	-2.4	-6.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	19.7	25.9	-21.6	-4.2	13.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-0.7	1.1	-8.1	18.6	8.3
Clothing stores	-6.6	25.3	-36.0	28.3	0.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-6.6	34.4	-47.0	61.4	-1.7
General merchandise stores	-3.7	36.8	-27.5	19.8	-2.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.9	19.7	-36.5	44.0	5.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.9	9.4	-23.9	24.2	2.3
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>-14.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>

Table 3-9 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	6.7	10.1	12.2	16.8	9.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-3.4	-0.8	21.2	25.9	23.1
Gasoline stations	26.0	26.6	26.1	29.6	13.3
Furniture stores	10.8	16.2	19.6	17.8	27.2
Home furnishings stores	7.2	16.3	21.0	14.9	19.1
Computer and software stores	1.5	5.1	2.2	-2.0	1.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	16.5	19.1	22.5	21.2	20.3
Home centres and hardware stores	14.8	13.8	33.2	31.7	33.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	22.6	7.3	-23.3	-14.7	-25.1
Supermarkets	5.0	3.6	4.9	2.1	0.8
Convenience and specialty food stores	4.0	-6.3	-21.2	-21.5	-21.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	13.2	6.9	10.2	10.6	7.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	9.5	19.3	29.0	21.4	18.8
Clothing stores	-4.0	3.8	3.0	2.7	5.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	7.5	13.1	10.1	10.8	13.2
General merchandise stores	14.5	15.5	19.2	18.1	16.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	12.7	15.8	15.8	7.4	14.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	1.5	5.8	11.2	10.7	4.5
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>11.6</b>

**Table 3-10**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Alberta**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	3,244.8	3,607.4	3,122.0	3,247.5	3,852.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	890.3	1,108.9	654.0	654.1	916.2
Gasoline stations	2,282.8	2,101.7	1,797.7	1,785.5	1,850.0
Furniture stores	389.6	352.9	321.7	398.2	392.8
Home furnishings stores	312.6	302.2	253.9	320.1	283.1
Computer and software stores	62.0	61.9	62.7	69.2	61.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	633.6	583.9	540.8	761.9	593.0
Home centres and hardware stores	844.8	833.9	566.0	716.7	844.8
Specialized building materials and garden stores	237.3	280.1	194.5	243.8	285.9
Supermarkets	2,329.4	2,298.5	2,162.6	2,279.9	2,251.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	288.8	275.0	245.0	253.3	276.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	408.7	393.4	339.8	472.6	431.5
Pharmacies and personal care stores	591.4	616.1	597.8	688.5	596.1
Clothing stores	642.7	620.4	528.6	807.2	652.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	214.1	208.3	165.3	281.7	205.3
General merchandise stores	1,742.3	1,766.7	1,449.4	2,048.4	1,659.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	407.3	421.2	321.0	489.2	400.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	379.6	353.1	331.6	386.5	380.1
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>15,902.3</b>	<b>16,185.6</b>	<b>13,654.5</b>	<b>15,904.1</b>	<b>15,932.1</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-10.1	15.5	-3.9	-15.7	-7.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-19.7	69.6	0.0	-28.6	-26.7
Gasoline stations	8.6	16.9	0.7	-3.5	4.9
Furniture stores	10.4	9.7	-19.2	1.4	11.1
Home furnishings stores	3.5	19.0	-20.7	13.0	0.8
Computer and software stores	0.2	-1.3	-9.3	13.1	-8.1
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.5	8.0	-29.0	28.5	13.6
Home centres and hardware stores	1.3	47.3	-21.0	-15.2	1.7
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-15.3	44.0	-20.2	-14.7	1.5
Supermarkets	1.3	6.3	-5.1	1.3	-0.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	5.0	12.2	-3.3	-8.4	2.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	3.9	15.8	-28.1	9.5	6.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-4.0	3.1	-13.2	15.5	2.4
Clothing stores	3.6	17.4	-34.5	23.7	7.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	2.8	26.0	-41.3	37.3	8.1
General merchandise stores	-1.4	21.9	-29.2	23.5	-0.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	-3.3	31.2	-34.4	22.3	-2.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	7.5	6.5	-14.2	1.7	3.0
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>-14.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-2.2</b>

Table 3-10 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-15.8	-13.3	-3.0	-1.1	3.0
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-2.8	-11.3	2.5	4.7	4.4
Gasoline stations	23.4	19.1	15.7	23.4	8.9
Furniture stores	-0.8	-0.2	-0.8	2.7	5.8
Home furnishings stores	10.4	7.6	10.3	20.0	37.9
Computer and software stores	1.3	-7.0	-12.2	-7.5	-9.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	6.9	11.9	9.8	9.6	10.8
Home centres and hardware stores	0.0	0.4	8.2	15.1	8.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-17.0	-0.5	17.9	35.9	39.7
Supermarkets	3.5	1.5	3.2	2.4	3.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	4.4	1.5	9.6	4.2	17.2
Beer, wine and liquor stores	-5.3	-2.9	5.1	9.1	6.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	-0.8	5.8	6.3	5.9	7.5
Clothing stores	-1.5	2.1	7.6	9.9	14.0
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	4.3	9.7	5.7	4.0	13.2
General merchandise stores	5.0	5.8	8.6	7.3	7.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	1.8	2.2	4.1	8.1	6.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	-0.2	-4.3	1.2	-4.1	2.5
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>

**Table 3-11**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — British Columbia**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	2,205.4	2,545.8	2,191.0	2,227.2	2,518.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	522.2	536.7	403.3	446.3	585.4
Gasoline stations	2,170.2	1,987.4	1,642.4	1,633.9	1,802.3
Furniture stores	322.6	310.3	292.6	341.7	339.4
Home furnishings stores	262.1	243.7	242.8	307.9	262.0
Computer and software stores	56.4	57.7	62.7	63.8	61.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	560.8	493.3	479.9	674.2	517.6
Home centres and hardware stores	795.6	817.9	602.9	710.0	787.9
Specialized building materials and garden stores	246.9	262.7	176.9	192.0	235.2
Supermarkets	2,596.2	2,582.4	2,417.1	2,539.5	2,535.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	238.3	236.6	196.3	238.6	244.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	815.9	762.5	610.3	781.5	810.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	760.9	725.6	722.6	858.8	744.5
Clothing stores	624.2	598.8	515.3	750.2	642.6
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	182.8	179.3	149.1	239.0	188.2
General merchandise stores	1,607.5	1,571.8	1,310.4	1,842.6	1,531.9
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	478.8	428.8	423.2	575.6	451.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	441.4	411.4	373.9	467.0	442.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>14,888.1</b>	<b>14,752.9</b>	<b>12,812.7</b>	<b>14,889.7</b>	<b>14,701.3</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-13.4	16.2	-1.6	-11.6	-8.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-2.7	33.1	-9.6	-23.8	1.5
Gasoline stations	9.2	21.0	0.5	-9.3	4.4
Furniture stores	3.9	6.0	-14.4	0.7	8.5
Home furnishings stores	7.5	0.4	-21.1	17.5	13.7
Computer and software stores	-2.4	-7.9	-1.7	4.6	3.4
Home electronics and appliance stores	13.7	2.8	-28.8	30.3	10.8
Home centres and hardware stores	-2.7	35.7	-15.1	-9.9	-2.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	-6.0	48.5	-7.9	-18.4	-5.5
Supermarkets	0.5	6.8	-4.8	0.2	0.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	0.7	20.5	-17.7	-2.3	-2.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	7.0	24.9	-21.9	-3.6	9.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	4.9	0.4	-15.9	15.4	-2.4
Clothing stores	4.2	16.2	-31.3	16.7	10.8
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1.9	20.2	-37.6	27.0	2.4
General merchandise stores	2.3	19.9	-28.9	20.3	1.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	11.7	1.3	-26.5	27.4	12.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	7.3	10.0	-19.9	5.5	12.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>



Table 3-11 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-12.4	-7.4	-0.9	5.3	1.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	-10.8	-7.0	-1.2	-0.9	5.6
Gasoline stations	20.4	15.1	15.2	18.7	5.4
Furniture stores	-4.9	-0.8	3.5	4.1	9.5
Home furnishings stores	0.0	5.8	6.2	8.6	12.2
Computer and software stores	-7.5	-2.0	-1.7	11.2	11.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	8.3	5.6	10.2	10.7	10.4
Home centres and hardware stores	1.0	1.2	4.3	9.1	9.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	5.0	5.5	7.1	5.3	0.7
Supermarkets	2.4	2.5	5.3	3.7	3.8
Convenience and specialty food stores	-2.4	-5.1	-10.7	-0.8	-2.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	0.7	3.2	5.2	8.4	7.7
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2.2	-4.9	-2.0	2.4	-0.7
Clothing stores	-2.9	3.3	6.8	6.8	11.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	-2.9	-2.4	-3.4	5.5	8.2
General merchandise stores	4.9	4.1	5.8	6.7	5.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	6.0	6.3	7.5	2.4	7.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	-0.3	4.6	5.0	15.6	9.0
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>

**Table 3-12**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Yukon**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
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
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>149.7</b>	<b>142.7</b>	<b>109.0</b>	<b>129.6</b>	<b>138.6</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
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
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>-15.9</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>

Table 3-12 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
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
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>7.9</b>

Table 3-13

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	41.3	38.4	39.9	34.4	41.7
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
General merchandise stores	38.1	40.0	37.6	43.9	38.4
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>179.6</b>	<b>181.8</b>	<b>177.7</b>	<b>176.1</b>	<b>175.2</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	7.6	-3.7	16.0	-17.6	8.8
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
General merchandise stores	-4.7	6.5	-14.4	14.3	-1.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>

Table 3-13 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
New car dealers	-1.0	0.1	14.0	29.0	18.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	x	x	x	x	x
Gasoline stations	x	x	x	x	x
Furniture stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home furnishings stores	x	x	x	x	x
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	x	x	x	x	x
Supermarkets	x	x	x	x	x
Convenience and specialty food stores	x	x	x	x	x
Beer, wine and liquor stores	x	x	x	x	x
Pharmacies and personal care stores	x	x	x	x	x
Clothing stores	x	x	x	x	x
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	x	x	x	x	x
General merchandise stores	-0.8	3.0	11.8	12.5	9.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	x	x	x	x	x
Miscellaneous store retailers	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>11.6</b>

**Table 3-14**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region, not seasonally adjusted (quarterly estimates) — Nunavut**

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group</b>					
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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Home furnishings stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Computer and software stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home electronics and appliance stores	x	x	x	x	x
Home centres and hardware stores	x	x	x	x	x
Specialized building materials and garden stores	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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>73.1</b>
	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
percentage change from previous quarter					
<b>Trade group</b>					
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	...	...	...	...	...
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	...	...	...	...	...
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>-5.8</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>

Table 3-14 – continued

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

	Quarter III 2008	Quarter II 2008	Quarter I 2008	Quarter IV 2007	Quarter III 2007
	percentage change from previous year				
<b>Trade group</b>					
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	...	...	...	...	...
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	...	...	...	...	...
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
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>

**Table 4**  
**Retail sales (current periods) — Coefficient of variation**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September 2008	August 2008
	percent			
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>				
New car dealers	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.7
Gasoline stations	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
Furniture stores	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.6
Home furnishings stores	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.9
Computer and software stores	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	1.9	2.4	2.2	2.2
Home centres and hardware stores	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	4.5	4.3	4.5	5.0
Supermarkets	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0
Convenience and specialty food stores	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4
Clothing stores	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.3
General merchandise stores	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.2
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Regions</b>				
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.4
Prince Edward Island	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.7
Nova Scotia	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.5
New Brunswick	2.3	2.6	3.0	3.2
Quebec	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6
Ontario	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2
Manitoba	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.0
Saskatchewan	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5
Alberta	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
British Columbia	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.4
Yukon	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1
Northwest Territories	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.1
Nunavut	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0



**Table 5-1**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Seasonally adjusted, November 2007 to November 2008**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September <sup>r</sup> 2008	August <sup>r</sup> 2008	July 2008	June 2008	May 2008
	millions of dollars						
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>							
New car dealers	5,852.9	6,059.3	6,096.5	5,942.9	6,019.9	6,078.5	6,291.3
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,677.5	1,671.8	1,645.8	1,617.0	1,580.5	1,580.6	1,569.0
Gasoline stations	3,807.9	4,473.2	4,700.3	4,678.3	4,819.8	4,809.5	4,614.5
Furniture stores	828.8	826.5	871.1	873.8	886.3	874.0	870.7
Home furnishings stores	484.1	502.5	520.5	521.4	531.0	528.1	518.6
Computer and software stores	112.0	117.1	115.1	119.5	124.6	122.6	121.3
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,123.2	1,109.0	1,132.2	1,143.9	1,146.2	1,119.5	1,117.3
Home centres and hardware stores	1,875.2	1,860.0	1,861.7	1,885.7	1,881.6	1,871.0	1,849.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	408.2	420.8	424.2	418.1	422.1	411.4	415.8
Supermarkets	5,895.8	5,875.7	5,828.7	5,745.8	5,681.6	5,697.3	5,617.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	850.5	840.8	840.0	842.6	834.9	832.5	819.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,399.1	1,389.1	1,406.6	1,396.8	1,388.6	1,415.7	1,394.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,485.5	2,473.3	2,456.5	2,459.4	2,455.7	2,428.2	2,429.1
Clothing stores	1,526.6	1,522.3	1,554.8	1,541.8	1,559.5	1,568.9	1,536.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	459.7	467.8	475.4	468.9	472.3	480.3	465.6
General merchandise stores	4,351.5	4,372.1	4,414.2	4,348.4	4,317.5	4,289.8	4,265.1
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	878.4	881.3	895.5	906.3	906.5	921.6	917.1
Miscellaneous store retailers	919.2	928.7	923.4	930.4	929.9	912.2	918.2
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>34,936.2</b>	<b>35,791.3</b>	<b>36,162.5</b>	<b>35,840.9</b>	<b>35,958.5</b>	<b>35,941.8</b>	<b>35,730.6</b>
<b>Regions</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	596.8	615.1	611.8	602.3	602.7	590.2	573.0
Prince Edward Island	145.3	145.6	146.0	144.2	143.0	145.1	141.4
Nova Scotia	996.0	1,025.7	1,055.8	1,026.0	1,028.6	1,015.8	1,006.9
New Brunswick	803.9	835.2	849.1	829.6	840.3	818.8	815.3
Quebec	7,865.1	8,036.8	8,191.6	8,000.6	8,049.0	7,988.5	7,978.4
Ontario	12,341.8	12,696.7	12,785.4	12,820.7	12,817.1	12,795.9	12,753.9
Manitoba	1,261.8	1,274.2	1,261.9	1,251.6	1,249.3	1,261.2	1,250.7
Saskatchewan	1,221.9	1,226.2	1,213.0	1,211.8	1,216.6	1,210.4	1,201.5
Alberta	5,035.0	5,115.9	5,140.7	5,093.9	5,106.4	5,149.0	5,113.4
British Columbia	4,542.9	4,689.8	4,777.4	4,732.5	4,777.5	4,837.4	4,766.0
Yukon	44.0	45.3	45.3	44.5	44.7	44.7	44.6
Northwest Territories	56.4	58.9	59.8	58.5	57.5	59.1	59.6
Nunavut	25.3	25.7	24.9	24.7	25.9	25.8	26.0

Table 5-1 – continued

**Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Seasonally adjusted, November 2007 to November 2008**

	April 2008	March 2008	February 2008	January 2008	December 2007	November 2007
	millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>						
New car dealers	6,369.3	6,464.3	6,485.6	6,635.3	6,473.2	6,297.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,560.5	1,601.2	1,618.6	1,693.7	1,644.0	1,581.5
Gasoline stations	4,516.3	4,408.0	4,353.3	4,325.5	4,258.9	4,251.1
Furniture stores	870.2	837.0	850.0	862.8	827.2	843.8
Home furnishings stores	512.7	515.1	510.7	523.9	503.2	493.7
Computer and software stores	120.6	116.2	115.3	117.0	114.2	118.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,105.2	1,081.2	1,074.6	1,083.4	1,051.6	1,049.8
Home centres and hardware stores	1,830.3	1,828.4	1,826.3	1,831.8	1,818.0	1,802.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	407.8	416.1	423.5	433.0	411.4	430.8
Supermarkets	5,629.7	5,610.8	5,587.2	5,590.1	5,566.0	5,604.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	824.0	828.3	831.6	839.4	834.6	839.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,378.2	1,373.0	1,380.7	1,376.8	1,358.8	1,376.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,421.3	2,404.3	2,382.5	2,412.6	2,393.1	2,393.0
Clothing stores	1,557.7	1,498.8	1,543.0	1,559.2	1,513.0	1,548.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	457.2	461.2	466.7	468.3	470.0	474.9
General merchandise stores	4,266.4	4,177.1	4,170.6	4,176.3	4,213.8	4,148.0
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	913.9	906.1	885.3	888.4	888.3	889.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	917.6	901.7	903.1	910.2	908.9	924.6
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>35,658.7</b>	<b>35,429.0</b>	<b>35,408.5</b>	<b>35,727.7</b>	<b>35,248.0</b>	<b>35,068.3</b>
<b>Regions</b>						
Newfoundland and Labrador	583.3	575.8	580.3	586.4	569.5	560.1
Prince Edward Island	141.0	141.4	140.5	142.0	138.0	138.3
Nova Scotia	1,005.4	1,022.9	1,015.0	1,015.3	977.6	987.0
New Brunswick	807.2	784.3	803.8	805.8	788.6	796.4
Quebec	7,939.6	7,654.3	7,882.1	7,893.1	7,681.7	7,700.4
Ontario	12,754.9	12,661.1	12,529.9	12,754.9	12,524.7	12,423.5
Manitoba	1,241.2	1,262.7	1,244.2	1,251.8	1,233.6	1,214.1
Saskatchewan	1,188.4	1,195.1	1,174.3	1,172.2	1,170.5	1,146.0
Alberta	5,102.0	5,195.5	5,160.3	5,178.5	5,209.3	5,188.8
British Columbia	4,765.9	4,807.1	4,746.9	4,796.9	4,826.4	4,786.0
Yukon	44.4	44.1	44.4	44.4	43.8	43.1
Northwest Territories	60.0	60.3	61.9	61.5	60.3	60.9
Nunavut	25.3	24.5	24.9	24.9	23.9	23.8

**Table 5-2**  
**Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Not seasonally adjusted, November 2007 to November 2008**

	November <sup>p</sup> 2008	October <sup>r</sup> 2008	September 2008	August 2008	July 2008	June 2008	May 2008
	millions of dollars						
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>							
New car dealers	4,975.2	5,833.5	6,112.6	6,193.0	6,806.0	6,827.4	7,480.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,441.9	1,637.9	1,581.3	1,714.1	1,944.4	1,919.9	2,139.1
Gasoline stations	3,485.2	4,464.6	4,859.9	5,149.0	5,421.5	5,126.1	4,988.7
Furniture stores	857.4	862.7	907.5	948.0	939.1	876.1	883.9
Home furnishings stores	535.2	520.6	527.9	522.4	532.1	511.2	500.3
Computer and software stores	108.8	117.7	119.9	115.4	113.7	111.6	113.6
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,166.4	1,040.2	1,123.4	1,170.9	1,062.3	973.0	986.4
Home centres and hardware stores	1,765.0	2,025.8	2,094.5	2,066.0	2,293.6	2,282.3	2,376.4
Specialized building materials and garden stores	369.4	443.5	465.6	465.2	507.8	535.8	587.2
Supermarkets	5,803.6	6,002.0	5,552.0	5,990.4	5,880.2	5,579.8	6,179.9
Convenience and specialty food stores	799.2	846.7	833.5	924.9	924.3	870.2	884.5
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,372.7	1,376.2	1,332.5	1,628.7	1,580.8	1,458.6	1,502.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,444.1	2,532.8	2,397.5	2,405.3	2,397.6	2,356.7	2,477.3
Clothing stores	1,703.4	1,593.5	1,576.8	1,549.6	1,432.2	1,531.3	1,610.3
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	477.1	459.0	446.1	496.7	437.3	462.5	490.7
General merchandise stores	4,841.1	4,391.1	4,103.9	4,302.4	4,349.5	4,413.1	4,536.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	912.9	822.9	903.0	918.3	853.9	849.5	873.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	895.7	980.4	951.4	966.1	933.7	958.7	978.0
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>33,954.3</b>	<b>35,951.2</b>	<b>35,889.2</b>	<b>37,526.5</b>	<b>38,410.3</b>	<b>37,644.0</b>	<b>39,588.7</b>
<b>Regions</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	610.2	618.9	601.1	652.0	664.4	624.8	630.4
Prince Edward Island	137.1	144.3	146.7	169.3	168.8	155.6	157.1
Nova Scotia	976.9	1,031.3	1,036.4	1,085.8	1,116.8	1,068.5	1,101.2
New Brunswick	786.6	846.5	837.5	881.8	920.9	870.5	896.2
Quebec	7,534.1	8,176.0	8,086.2	8,378.5	8,714.0	8,460.9	9,263.8
Ontario	12,233.2	12,695.0	12,679.5	13,310.1	13,485.3	13,334.4	13,882.5
Manitoba	1,226.4	1,290.5	1,257.6	1,304.9	1,328.5	1,321.8	1,381.2
Saskatchewan	1,160.7	1,233.4	1,222.2	1,267.8	1,310.8	1,275.9	1,348.0
Alberta	4,836.8	5,113.8	5,122.8	5,318.0	5,461.5	5,432.6	5,661.9
British Columbia	4,337.9	4,675.0	4,769.2	5,021.8	5,097.1	4,961.4	5,128.5
Yukon	39.6	45.1	46.8	50.0	52.9	50.6	49.8
Northwest Territories	50.9	55.6	57.2	59.9	62.6	61.2	60.9
Nunavut	24.0	25.8	26.0	26.7	26.7	25.9	27.2

Table 5-2 – continued

**Retail sales by trade group and by region (historical estimates) — Not seasonally adjusted, November 2007 to November 2008**

	April 2008	March 2008	February 2008	January 2008	December 2007	November 2007
	millions of dollars					
<b>Trade group - Canada</b>						
New car dealers	7,721.5	6,359.8	5,238.6	5,330.8	5,380.6	5,773.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	2,000.8	1,375.3	1,197.0	1,222.5	1,221.3	1,403.6
Gasoline stations	4,400.4	4,219.4	3,839.3	3,905.2	4,021.3	4,041.2
Furniture stores	818.9	775.1	707.0	767.7	932.4	884.7
Home furnishings stores	485.3	467.5	429.5	452.1	659.2	573.7
Computer and software stores	112.7	123.1	112.6	122.6	140.0	124.2
Home electronics and appliance stores	923.1	950.0	872.8	950.2	1,961.4	1,130.9
Home centres and hardware stores	1,833.2	1,386.6	1,232.4	1,335.4	1,451.3	1,794.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	402.2	329.8	292.7	290.6	310.0	413.1
Supermarkets	5,358.8	5,489.8	5,228.1	5,366.8	6,037.2	5,573.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	793.9	789.3	729.1	737.8	889.2	792.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,177.7	1,219.0	1,112.4	1,003.4	1,921.9	1,377.9
Pharmacies and personal care stores	2,357.3	2,344.8	2,280.1	2,359.7	2,776.3	2,434.1
Clothing stores	1,499.1	1,289.2	1,067.6	1,177.1	2,427.4	1,756.9
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	425.3	349.2	353.5	336.9	880.3	508.0
General merchandise stores	4,014.6	3,621.5	3,148.1	3,354.4	6,273.3	4,628.8
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	837.3	771.8	666.0	799.4	1,558.7	948.7
Miscellaneous store retailers	850.9	817.7	779.0	778.1	1,102.6	910.7
<b>Total, all stores</b>	<b>36,012.9</b>	<b>32,678.8</b>	<b>29,285.8</b>	<b>30,290.6</b>	<b>39,944.4</b>	<b>35,070.0</b>
<b>Regions</b>						
Newfoundland and Labrador	573.4	499.3	463.0	468.3	665.0	592.6
Prince Edward Island	133.6	119.6	111.1	112.5	152.8	135.1
Nova Scotia	978.1	932.3	833.0	855.5	1,139.5	1,004.9
New Brunswick	804.1	712.0	654.5	668.7	881.0	808.1
Quebec	8,341.8	7,066.2	6,395.2	6,555.5	8,105.3	7,622.6
Ontario	12,849.1	11,483.4	10,303.6	10,907.5	14,776.1	12,635.8
Manitoba	1,255.2	1,168.6	1,027.6	1,060.4	1,383.6	1,218.8
Saskatchewan	1,196.3	1,091.4	959.5	984.5	1,302.1	1,129.8
Alberta	5,091.2	4,925.9	4,319.6	4,409.0	5,814.1	5,127.8
British Columbia	4,663.0	4,551.0	4,102.9	4,158.8	5,584.8	4,675.2
Yukon	42.3	38.9	35.0	35.1	47.1	40.1
Northwest Territories	59.7	65.6	58.7	53.5	66.2	56.1
Nunavut	25.1	24.7	22.1	21.4	26.7	23.1

## Objectives, uses and users

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### 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

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## 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

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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

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

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

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

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

## Questionnaire design

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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Weighted rates:**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Unweighted rates:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Use of Administrative Data

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

For more information on the methodology for modeling sales from administrative data sources (i.e. GST data) which also contributes to the estimates of the survey portion, please refer to Statistics Canada Integrated Meta Data base (IMDB) document located on Statistics Canada's website by clicking on the following link: [http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406\\_D11\\_T9\\_V1\\_E.pdf](http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406_D11_T9_V1_E.pdf).

## Methods used to reduce non-response at collection

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

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

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

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

## Data collection and capture operations

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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Imputation

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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

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

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

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

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

For more information on the methodology for modeling sales from administrative data sources (i.e. GST data) which also contributes to the estimates of the survey portion, please refer to Statistics Canada Integrated Meta Data base (IMDB) document located on Statistics Canada's website by clicking on the following link: [http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406\\_D11\\_T9\\_V1\\_E.pdf](http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/2406_D11_T9_V1_E.pdf).

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

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

## Seasonal adjustment and trend-cycle estimation

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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 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 a given month 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, major power blackout 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. While seasonal adjustment permits a better understanding of the underlying trend-cycle of a series, the seasonally adjusted series still contains an irregular component. Slight month-to-month variations in the seasonally adjusted series may be simple irregular movements. To get a better idea of the underlying trend, users should examine several months of the seasonally adjusted series.

Since April 2008, MRTS data are seasonally adjusted using the X-12-ARIMA<sup>1</sup> software. The technique that is used essentially consists of first correcting the initial series for all sorts of undesirable effects, such as the trading-day and the Easter holiday effects, by a module called regARIMA. These effects are estimated using regression models with ARIMA errors (auto-regressive integrated moving average models). The series can also be extrapolated for at least one year by using the model. Subsequently, the raw series—pre-adjusted and extrapolated if applicable—is seasonally adjusted by the X-11 method.

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<sup>2</sup>. The moving averages used to estimate the main components—the trend and seasonality—are primarily smoothing tools designed to eliminate an 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

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1. For more information, see X-12-ARIMA Reference Manual Version 0.3 (2007), U.S. Census Bureau.

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

used to clean up the series during the seasonal adjustment. Outlying data points can also be detected and corrected in advance, within the regARIMA module.

Lastly, the annual totals of the seasonally adjusted series are forced to the annual totals of the original series.

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.

## Adjustment for historical series

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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Disclosure control

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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

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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

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## Special Aggregation: Retail Trade

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

### Industries - Retail Trade

<b>A</b>	<b>Automotive</b>
<b>010</b>	<b>New Car Dealers</b>
44111	New Car Dealers
<b>020</b>	<b>Used and Recreational Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</b>
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
<b>130</b>	<b>Gasoline Stations</b>
44711	Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores
44719	Other Gasoline Stations
<b>B</b>	<b>Furniture, Home Furnishings and Electronics Stores</b>
<b>030</b>	<b>Furniture Stores</b>
44211	Furniture Stores
<b>040</b>	<b>Home Furnishings Stores</b>
44221	Floor Covering Stores
44229	Other Home Furnishings Stores
<b>050</b>	<b>Computer and Software Stores</b>
44312	Computer and Software Stores
<b>060</b>	<b>Home Electronics and Appliance Stores</b>
44311	Appliance, Television and Other Electronics Stores
44313	Camera and Photographic Supplies Stores
<b>C</b>	<b>Building and Outdoor Home Supplies Stores</b>
<b>070</b>	<b>Home Centres and Hardware Stores</b>
44411	Home Centres
44413	Hardware Stores
<b>080</b>	<b>Specialized Building Materials and Garden Stores</b>
44412	Paint and Wallpaper Stores
44419	Other Building Material Dealers
44421	Outdoor Power Equipment Stores
44422	Nursery Stores and Garden Centres
<b>D</b>	<b>Food and Beverage Stores</b>
<b>090</b>	<b>Supermarkets</b>
44511	Supermarkets and Other Grocery (except Convenience) Stores
<b>100</b>	<b>Convenience and Specialty Food Stores</b>
44512	Convenience Stores
44521	Meat Markets
44522	Fish and Seafood Markets
44523	Fruit and Vegetable Markets



44529	Other Specialty Food Stores
<b>110</b>	<b>Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores</b>
44531	Beer, Wine and Liquor Stores
<b>E</b>	<b>Pharmacies and Personal Care Stores</b>
<b>120</b>	<b>Pharmacies and Personal Care Stores</b>
44611	Pharmacies and Drug Stores
44612	Cosmetics, Beauty Supplies and Perfume Stores
44613	Optical Goods Stores
44619	Other Health and Personal Care Stores
<b>F</b>	<b>Clothing and Accessories Stores</b>
<b>140</b>	<b>Clothing Stores</b>
44811	Men's Clothing Stores
44812	Women's Clothing Stores
44813	Children's and Infant's Clothing Stores
44814	Family Clothing Stores
44819	Other Clothing Stores
<b>150</b>	<b>Shoe, Clothing Accessories and Jewellery Stores</b>
44815	Clothing Accessories Stores
44821	Shoe Stores
44831	Jewellery Stores
44832	Luggage and Leather Goods Stores
<b>G</b>	<b>General Merchandise Stores</b>
<b>175</b>	<b>Department Stores</b>
45211	Department Stores
45291	Warehouse Clubs and Superstores
45299	All Other General Merchandise Stores
<b>H</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Retailers</b>
<b>160</b>	<b>Sporting Goods, Hobby, Music and Book Stores</b>
45111	Sporting Goods Stores
45112	Hobby, Toy and Game Stores
45113	Sewing, Needlework and Piece Goods Stores
45114	Musical Instrument and Supplies Stores
45121	Book Stores and News Dealers
45122	Pre-Recorded Tape, Compact Disc and Record Stores
<b>190</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</b>
45311	Florists
45321	Office Supplies and Stationery Stores
45322	Gift, Novelty and Souvenir Stores
45331	Used Merchandise Stores
45391	Pet and Pet Supplies Stores
45392	Art Dealers
45393	Mobile Home Dealers
45399	All Other Miscellaneous Store Retailers
<b>L</b>	<b>Non-Store Retailers (not in scope on the Monthly Retail Trade Survey)</b>
<b>210</b>	<b>Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses</b>
45411	Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses
<b>220</b>	<b>Vending Machine Operators</b>
45421	Vending Machine Operators
<b>230</b>	<b>Fuel Dealers</b>
45431	Fuel Dealers
<b>240</b>	<b>Other Direct Selling Establishments</b>
45439	Other Direct Selling Establishments