



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

November 2001

Sales by the group of large retailers rose to \$7.6 billion in November, a 6.4% increase from November 2000. Year-over-year sales also continued to be strong after brisk October sales. Every major commodity group recorded sales increases, although clothing sales rose only slightly. The greatest sales increases compared with November 2000 were for: health and personal care products; home furnishings and electronics; and hardware and lawn and garden products. (All data in this release are unadjusted for seasonality and all percentages represent year-over-year changes.)

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	Oct. 2001 ^r	Nov. 2000	Nov. 2001 ^p	Nov. 2000 to Nov. 2001
	Unadjusted			
	\$ millions			% change
Commodities				
Food and beverages	2,163	2,151	2,261	5.1
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,369	1,542	1,561	1.2
Home furnishings and electronics	1,053	1,169	1,319	12.8
Health and personal care products	567	545	617	13.1
Housewares	329	324	344	6.1
Sporting and leisure goods	313	434	459	5.7
Hardware and lawn and garden products	221	212	231	9.0
All other goods and services	771	765	809	5.8
Total	6,786	7,142	7,601	6.4

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

After a 3.9% year-over-year decline in September and a 6.7% gain in October, clothing, footwear and accessory sales weakened in November (+1.2%). Men's and boys' clothing sales were particularly weak, declining 1.8% and 10.0%, respectively, from November 2000. Jewellery and watch sales (+8.8%) were one of the few exceptions in this group of commodities.

Health and personal care product sales continued to lead the increases by the group of large retailers. Drug sales, which include prescription and over-the-counter drugs as well as vitamins and herbal remedies, were the largest contributor to the continued advances (+18.3%). Personal care product sales were also strong, led by a 9.4% advance in cosmetic and fragrance sales.

Home furnishings and electronics sales also posted another strong month in November, rising 12.8%—well

above the 7.6% average year-over year gain for 2001. Furniture, household appliance, and home electronic sales for the group of large retailers all posted increases in excess of 10% compared with November 2000.

The all other goods and services category was up only moderately in November. Automotive fuels, oils and additive sales were down sharply, losing 9.0% compared with November 2000. This decline was mainly the result of a 19.3% year-over-year decline in gasoline prices. However, the decline in gasoline sales was offset by a 9.5% increase in tobacco product sales for the group of large retailers. Again, this sales increase was largely driven by the price of the product—cigarette prices were up 24.7% from November 2000.

Monthly Retail Trade Survey results for November will be released Monday, January 21.

Note: The Monthly Survey of Large Retailers provides a breakdown of sales on the basis of commodities at the national level for a group of about 80 large retailers. Monthly sales data for more than 100 commodities are available. The survey includes large retailers mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings, electronics, sporting goods, and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent about 37% of total annual retail sales, excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669; elton.cryderman@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. ■

Light bulbs and tubes

November 2001

Light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 27.0 million light bulbs and tubes in November, up 6.5% from 25.4 million in November 2000.

Year-to-date sales at the end of November totalled 339.5 million light bulbs and tubes, down 1.0% from 343.1 million in the same period of 2000.

The November 2001 issue of *Electric lamps, light bulbs and tubes*, Vol. 30, no. 11 (43-009-X1B, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, please contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gregory Sannes (613-951-7205; sanngre@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Domestic and international shipping

2000 (preliminary)

Canadian ports handled 402.6 million metric tonnes of cargo in 2000, a 4.4% increase from 1999. Growth in both the domestic and international sectors contributed to the advance. Vancouver was the busiest port in 2000, handling 75.2 million tonnes, 6.9% more than in 1999. Shipments of crude petroleum rose 16.7% from 1999 to 50.8 million tonnes—2000 was the first full year of production at the Hibernia oil fields. This affected both domestic and international tonnage figures because most of the crude petroleum is shipped from the Grand Bank/Hibernia oil fields to a transshipment terminal at Come-By-Chance before it is loaded onto bulk tankers for international destinations.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Farm business cash flows

1998, 1999 and 2000 (revised)

Farm business operators had more cash available for investment or withdrawal in 2000 than in 1999. Cash flows increased 6.6% to \$10.5 billion, well above the previous five-year average of \$9.6 billion but below the record high of \$10.8 billion in 1997.

Data series on farm business cash flows are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0023.

The November 2001 update of *Agriculture economic statistics* (21-603-UPE, \$26/\$52) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Estelle Perrault (613-951-2448; estelle.perrault@statcan.ca) or Henri Morin (613-951-4109; henri.morin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Agriculture value-added account

1998, 1999 and 2000 (revised)

The value of agricultural production reached a record high of \$41.7 billion in 2000, up 6.0% from 1999. The value of agricultural production (in current dollars) has been increasing each year since 1991 except in 1997, when it dropped slightly. The average annual increase from 1991 to 2000 was 6.1%, compared with 2.2% from 1981 to 1991.

Data series on agriculture value-added accounts are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0004.

The November 2001 update of *Agriculture economic statistics* (21-603-UPE, \$26/\$52) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Estelle Perrault (613-951-2448; estelle.perrault@statcan.ca) or Henri Morin (613-951-4109; henri.morin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Balance sheet of the agricultural sector at December 31

1998, 1999 and 2000 (revised)

Farm sector equity in Canada grew 1.7% in 2000 to a record \$165.3 billion. Equity rises when asset values increase more rapidly than farm debt. From December 31, 1999 to December 31, 2000, total farm assets rose \$4.8 billion to \$199.4 billion, and total liabilities increased \$2.1 billion to \$34.1 billion. After declining every year from 1981 to 1986, the agriculture sector equity (in current dollars) has grown every year, except in 1991.

Data series on the balance sheet for the agricultural sector at December 31 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0020.

The November 2001 update of *Agriculture economic statistics* (21-603-UPE, \$26/\$52) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Estelle Perrault (613-951-2448; estelle.perrault@statcan.ca) or Henri Morin (613-951-4109; henri.morin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Electric lamps, lights bulbs and tubes, Vol. 30,
no. 11, November 2001
Catalogue number 43-009-XIB (\$5/\$47).

New motor vehicle sales, Vol. 73, no. 11,
November 2001
Catalogue number 63-007-XIB (\$13/\$124).

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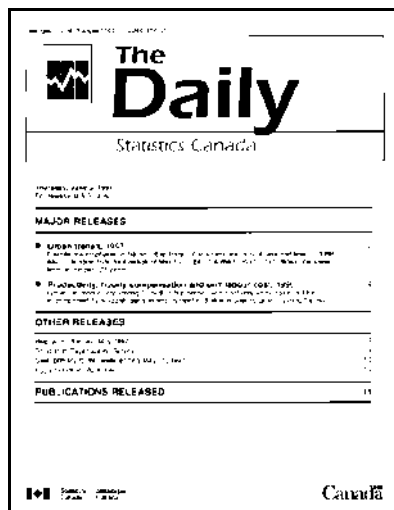
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