

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## Releases

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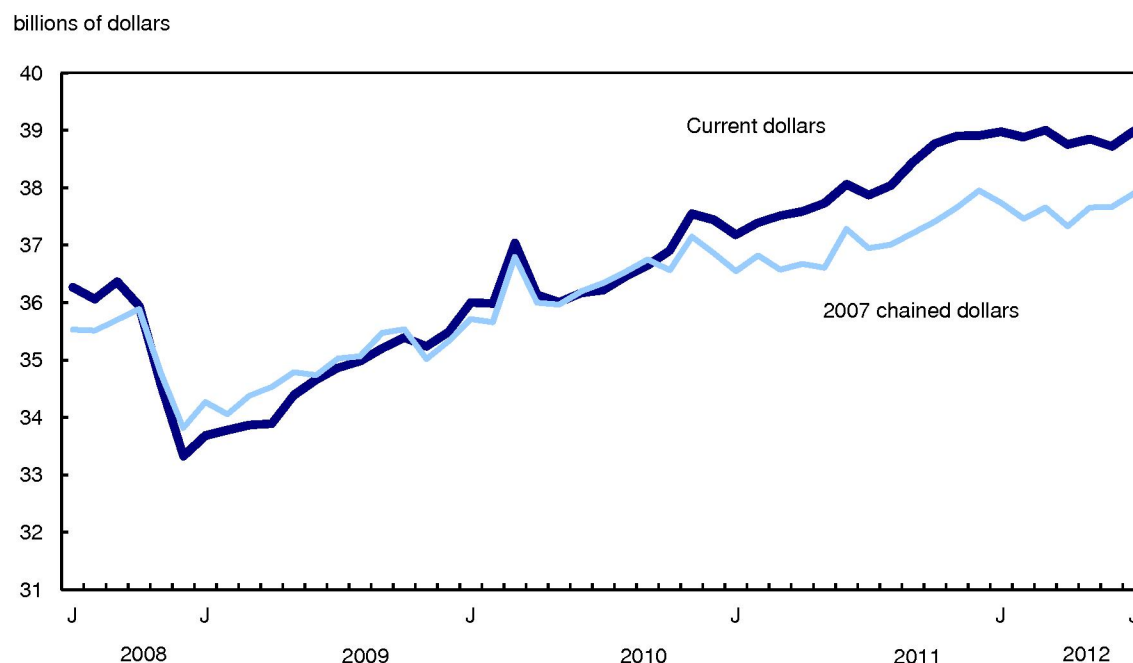
### Retail trade, July 2012

Retail sales rose 0.7% to \$39.0 billion in July, more than offsetting the decline in June. Gains were reported in 8 of 11 subsectors, representing 72% of total retail trade. The increase was led by higher sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers, and general merchandise stores.

In volume terms, retail sales rose 0.6%.

**Chart 1**  
**Retail sales increase in July**

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Sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers increased 1.7% in July. Higher receipts at new car dealers (+1.7%) accounted for most of this gain. This was the first notable increase at new car dealers since the peak in January 2012. Sales in the "other motor vehicle dealers" industry, which includes retailers of recreational vehicles, motorcycles and boats, increased 2.8% after three consecutive monthly declines.

General merchandise stores registered a 1.5% increase. Department store sales rose 2.9%, more than offsetting the decline in June.

Following three consecutive monthly declines, sales at building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers increased 1.9%.

Gasoline stations reported a 0.7% sales gain following declines the previous two months.

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Furniture and home furnishings store sales rose 2.1%. Sales in this subsector have remained relatively unchanged since the end of 2011.

Sales at clothing and clothing accessories stores edged up 0.2%. Gains at jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores (+4.1%) and shoe stores (+3.4%) were partially offset by a 0.7% decline in sales at clothing stores.

Receipts at food and beverage stores declined 0.9% in July after rising in May and June. Lower sales at supermarkets and other grocery stores (-1.3%) accounted for most of the decline. Beer, wine and liquor store sales declined for a second consecutive month, decreasing 0.5%.

Sales at electronics and appliance stores (-1.7%) declined for the third time in four months. Sales in this subsector have been on a downward trend since the end of 2011.

## **Sales up in all provinces**

Retail sales increased in all provinces in July. The largest contribution to the national gain in dollar terms occurred in Quebec (+1.0%), where sales rose for a second month in a row.

Alberta registered a 1.4% sales gain, more than offsetting the decline in June.

British Columbia retailers reported a 0.7% increase in July. Sales in this province have been relatively flat since the beginning of 2012.

Continuing an upward trend, retail sales in Saskatchewan increased for a sixth consecutive month, rising 1.2% in July.

Retail sales in Ontario (+0.1%) were relatively unchanged from June.

### **Note to readers**

*All the data in this release are seasonally adjusted and in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).*

*Total retail sales expressed in volume are calculated by deflating current dollar values using consumer price indexes. The retail sales series in chained (2007) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2007 as the reference year.*

*Data published this month on total retail sales in volume, including the chain Fisher volume index, have been revised from January 2004 onward to reflect methodological enhancements. In addition, the reference year has changed from 2002 to 2007 for these volume data. For more information, see [Sales in volume for Retail Trade](#).*

*The old table 080-0021 has been replaced by CANSIM table 080-0024. Data for July 2012 as well as data from January 2004 are now available in this new CANSIM table.*

**Table 1**  
**Retail sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted**

	July 2011	June 2012 <sup>r</sup>	July 2012 <sup>p</sup>	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>37,868</b>	<b>38,720</b>	<b>38,987</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	647	683	696	1.8	7.5
Prince Edward Island	157	159	161	1.3	3.0
Nova Scotia	1,114	1,076	1,089	1.2	-2.2
New Brunswick	917	915	921	0.6	0.5
Quebec	8,543	8,542	8,626	1.0	1.0
Ontario	13,397	13,615	13,622	0.1	1.7
Manitoba	1,363	1,382	1,393	0.7	2.2
Saskatchewan	1,347	1,451	1,469	1.2	9.1
Alberta	5,250	5,655	5,732	1.4	9.2
British Columbia	4,989	5,093	5,128	0.7	2.8
Yukon	55	55	57	3.1	3.7
Northwest Territories	61	62	62	0.5	2.1
Nunavut	30	30	31	2.4	1.6

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

**Note(s):** Figures may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

**Table 2**  
**Retail sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted**

	July 2011	June 2012 <sup>r</sup>	July 2012 <sup>P</sup>	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	millions of dollars			% change	
<b>Total retail trade</b>	<b>37,868</b>	<b>38,720</b>	<b>38,987</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers</b>	<b>29,686</b>	<b>30,048</b>	<b>30,170</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations</b>	<b>24,895</b>	<b>25,261</b>	<b>25,348</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Motor vehicle and parts dealers</b>	<b>8,183</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>8,817</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>
New car dealers	6,517	7,011	7,128	1.7	9.4
Used car dealers	487	500	501	0.2	3.0
Other motor vehicle dealers	598	588	604	2.8	1.1
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	581	573	583	1.7	0.4
<b>Furniture and home furnishing stores</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Furniture stores	771	801	803	0.3	4.2
Home furnishings stores	460	461	486	5.3	5.6
<b>Electronics and appliance stores</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
<b>Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers</b>	<b>2,268</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Food and beverage stores</b>	<b>8,675</b>	<b>8,833</b>	<b>8,755</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,180	6,274	6,189	-1.3	0.1
Convenience stores	532	518	529	2.1	-0.6
Specialty food stores	415	433	436	0.8	5.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,549	1,609	1,601	-0.5	3.4
<b>Health and personal care stores</b>	<b>2,736</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>2,814</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Gasoline stations</b>	<b>4,790</b>	<b>4,787</b>	<b>4,822</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Clothing and clothing accessories stores</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>2,256</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Clothing stores	1,693	1,762	1,749	-0.7	3.3
Shoe stores	259	246	254	3.4	-2.0
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	234	243	253	4.1	8.0
<b>Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>General merchandise stores</b>	<b>4,769</b>	<b>4,870</b>	<b>4,943</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Department stores	2,231	2,207	2,270	2.9	1.8
Other general merchandise stores	2,538	2,663	2,673	0.4	5.3
<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note(s):** Figures may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

It is possible to consult the tables of unadjusted data by [industry](#) and by [province and territory](#) from the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the [Latest statistics](#) page on our website.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0024.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2406 and 2408.**

The July 2012 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X, free) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for August will be released on October 23.

For more information or to order data, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ashley Ker (613-951-2252), Distributive Trades Division.

## Natural gas sales, July 2012

Natural gas sales totalled 4 753 million cubic metres in July, up 7.5% compared with July 2011.

The volume of sales to the industrial sector was up 11.0% during the same period, while the volume of sales to the commercial (-13.9%) and residential (-5.2%) sectors were down.

Total sales in July were 1.3% lower compared with June.

### Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

**Table 1**  
**Natural gas sales**

	July 2011	June 2012	July 2012 <sup>P</sup>	June to July 2012	July 2011 to July 2012
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
<b>Total sales</b>	<b>4 422 421</b>	<b>4 817 170</b>	<b>4 753 443</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
Residential <sup>1</sup>	399 663	511 544	378 772	-26.0	-5.2
Commercial <sup>2</sup>	357 274	385 155	307 492	-20.2	-13.9
Industrial <sup>3</sup> and direct sales <sup>4</sup>	3 665 484	3 920 471	4 067 179	3.7	11.0

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility, sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

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## Production and disposition of tobacco products, August 2012

Canadian manufacturers produced 2.2 billion cigarettes in August, up 25.4% from the previous month. The total number of cigarettes sold increased by 6.6% to 2.1 billion and closing inventories increased by 1.8% to 2.3 billion cigarettes in August.

### **Note to readers**

*The May 2012 edition was the last issue of Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products (32-022-X). The data are available free of charge in CANSIM table 303-0062.*

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 303-0062.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).



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## Sawmills, July 2012

Lumber production by sawmills decreased 8.1% from June to 4 357.4 thousand cubic metres in July. Compared with July 2011, lumber production was down 0.1%.

Sawmills shipped 4 711.4 thousand cubic metres of lumber in July, up 2.3% from June.

### **Note to readers**

*In January 2012, a number of changes were made to the sampling and estimation methods for the Monthly Sawmills Survey. CANSIM table 303-0009 has been terminated. Starting with January 2012, data are now available in CANSIM tables 303-0064 and 303-0065. Historically revised data based on the new methodology are also available in CANSIM table 303-0064 from January 2003 to December 2011.*

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 303-0064 and 303-0065.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2134.**

The July 2012 issue of *Sawmills*, Vol. 66, no. 7 (35-003-X, free), will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Refined petroleum products, August 2012

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for August. Other selected data about these products are also available.

### **Note to readers**

*These data are subject to revision.*

### **Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

## New products and studies

There are no new products today.



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