

The Daily

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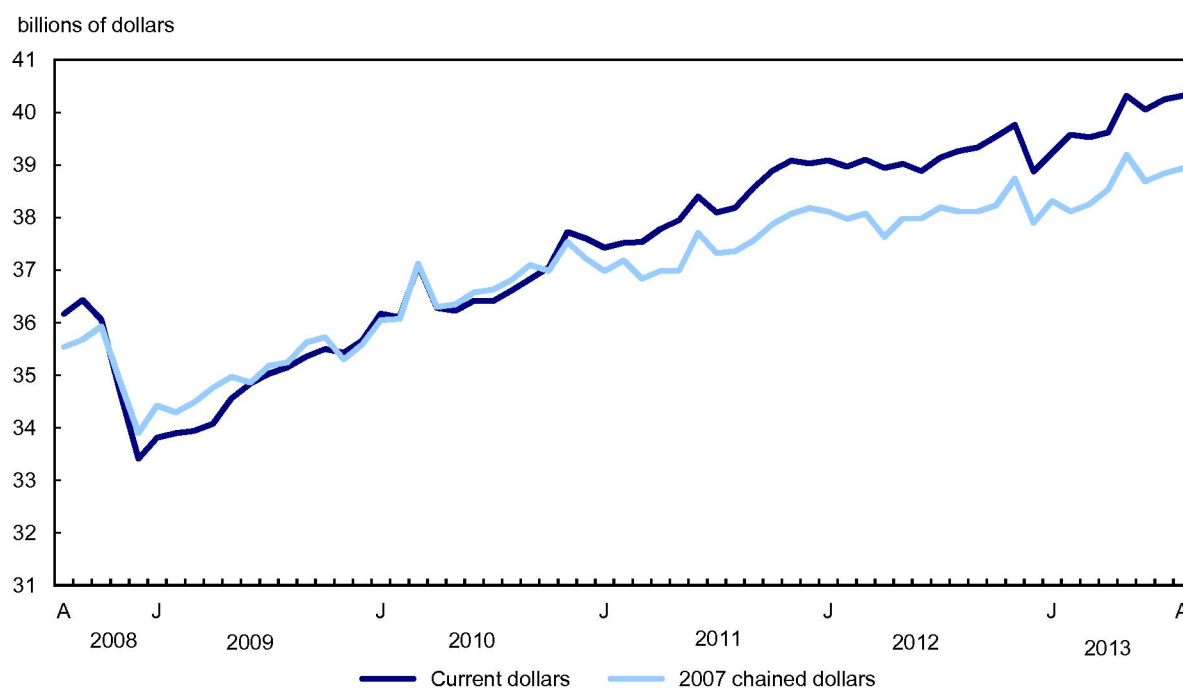
Releases

Retail trade, August 2013

Retail sales continued their upward trend in August, edging up 0.2% to \$40.3 billion. Higher sales at food and beverage stores were partially offset by weaker sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations. Gains were reported in 6 of 11 subsectors, representing 56% of total retail trade.

In volume terms, sales also rose 0.2%.

Chart 1
Retail sales increase in August



A 1.2% increase at food and beverage stores accounted for the largest sales gain among all subsectors. Higher sales were reported at supermarkets and other grocery stores (+1.1%) and beer, wine and liquor stores (+2.1%).

Clothing and clothing accessories stores reported a 1.9% sales gain on the strength of higher receipts at clothing stores (+2.1%) and to a lesser extent shoe stores (+2.7%). Most of the gain reflected higher volumes of product sold.

Sales at building materials and garden equipment and supplies dealers rose 1.1% in August, the third increase in four months.

Sporting goods, hobby, book and music store receipts rose 2.1% in August. Sales in this subsector have been on an upward trend since the beginning of 2013.

Sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers (-0.5%) declined for a second consecutive month following six straight monthly increases. Lower sales at new car dealers (-1.0%) more than offset gains at other motor vehicle dealers (+4.0%) and used car dealers (+0.2%).

Following three consecutive monthly gains, sales at gasoline stations declined 0.8%, partially reflecting lower prices at the pump.

Electronics and appliance stores (-1.5%) posted a fourth straight monthly sales decline. Sales in this subsector have been on a downward trend since the end of 2011, in part, as a result of lower prices for the commodities sold by this store type.

Sales up in six provinces

Retail sales rose in six provinces in August, largely led by higher sales in Ontario (+0.3%) and British Columbia (+0.6%). Gains in these two provinces were widespread across subsectors. This was the third sales increase in four months for both provinces.

Retailers in all three Prairie provinces reported gains in August following declines in July. Manitoba (+0.5%) retailers registered the largest increase.

Sales advanced for a sixth straight month in Nova Scotia (+0.3%) on the strength of higher sales at new car dealers.

Weaker sales at new car dealers contributed to a 0.2% sales decrease in Quebec.

Following seven straight monthly increases, sales in New Brunswick declined 0.8% in August.

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

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

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. For more information, see [Calculation of Volume of Retail Trade Sales](#).

Table 1
Retail sales by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	August 2012	July 2013 ^r	August 2013 ^p	July to August 2013	August 2012 to August 2013
	millions of dollars			% change	
Canada	39,268	40,246	40,321	0.2	2.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	702	722	718	-0.5	2.3
Prince Edward Island	161	166	166	-0.4	3.0
Nova Scotia	1,119	1,148	1,152	0.3	2.9
New Brunswick	909	929	922	-0.8	1.5
Quebec	8,663	8,811	8,797	-0.2	1.6
Ontario	13,771	14,093	14,140	0.3	2.7
Manitoba	1,414	1,425	1,433	0.5	1.3
Saskatchewan	1,514	1,529	1,533	0.3	1.2
Alberta	5,751	6,060	6,064	0.1	5.5
British Columbia	5,110	5,217	5,250	0.6	2.8
Yukon	56	54	55	1.3	-2.6
Northwest Territories	69	63	61	-2.7	-11.7
Nunavut	30	29	30	4.0	-2.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Table 2
Retail sales by industry – Seasonally adjusted

	August 2012	July 2013 ^r	August 2013 ^p	July to August 2013	August 2012 to August 2013
	millions of dollars			% change	
Total retail trade (current dollars)	39,268	40,246	40,321	0.2	2.7
Total retail trade (2007 chained dollars)	38,113	38,841	38,936	0.2	2.2
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers	30,529	30,826	30,951	0.4	1.4
Total (current dollars) excluding motor vehicle and parts dealers and gasoline stations	25,454	25,765	25,930	0.6	1.9
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	8,740	9,420	9,370	-0.5	7.2
New car dealers	7,076	7,623	7,546	-1.0	6.6
Used car dealers	483	526	528	0.2	9.2
Other motor vehicle dealers	589	643	669	4.0	13.4
Automotive parts, accessories and tire stores	591	628	628	0.0	6.3
Furniture and home furnishings stores	1,280	1,311	1,301	-0.8	1.6
Furniture stores	803	831	818	-1.6	1.9
Home furnishings stores	478	480	483	0.5	1.1
Electronics and appliance stores	1,240	1,208	1,189	-1.5	-4.1
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	2,260	2,294	2,318	1.1	2.6
Food and beverage stores	8,936	8,857	8,964	1.2	0.3
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	6,327	6,224	6,294	1.1	-0.5
Convenience stores	565	544	545	0.1	-3.6
Specialty food stores	441	472	474	0.4	7.6
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,603	1,617	1,651	2.1	3.0
Health and personal care stores	2,818	2,909	2,912	0.1	3.3
Gasoline stations	5,075	5,061	5,021	-0.8	-1.1
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	2,145	2,250	2,293	1.9	6.9
Clothing stores	1,664	1,751	1,788	2.1	7.5
Shoe stores	237	247	253	2.7	6.8
Jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores	245	253	252	-0.3	2.9
Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	900	909	928	2.1	3.1
General merchandise stores	4,968	5,039	5,046	0.1	1.6
Department stores	2,266	2,208	2,219	0.5	-2.1
Other general merchandise stores	2,702	2,831	2,826	-0.2	4.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	907	987	979	-0.8	8.0

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Available in CANSIM: tables 080-0020 and 080-0024.

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

The August 2013 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-X) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for September will be released on November 22.

For more information, or to order data, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; 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; ashley.ker@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Job vacancies in brief, three-month average ending in July 2013

In July, there were 210,000 job vacancies among Canadian businesses, down 54,000 from July 2012. There were 6.5 unemployed people for every job vacancy, up from 5.2 one year earlier. The increase in the ratio of unemployment to job vacancies was all the result of the decline in job vacancies.

The national job vacancy rate was 1.4% in July, down from 1.8% 12 months earlier.

Note to readers

Monthly data are based on three-month moving averages. For example, data for the current month are based on an average of the data from the current month and the previous two months.

Data on job vacancies are not seasonally adjusted and should only be compared on a year-over-year basis. Given this is a new data series, trends are not yet available; therefore, data should be interpreted with caution.

With each release, data for the current reference month are subject to revision. Data have been revised for the previous month. Users are encouraged to request and use the most up-to-date data for each month.

Available in CANSIM: tables 284-0001 to 284-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5202.

The next job vacancies release, for August, will be on November 19.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118; jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Pipeline inventories and exports of crude oil and condensate, August 2013

Data on closing inventories, held in Canada; tanks: crude oil and condensate; and exports of crude oil are now available for August upon request.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2148 and 2191.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Population estimates by census subdivision, 2011 and 2012

Population estimates by census subdivision for the reference year 2011 (according to the geographical limits effective as of January 1, 2012) and for reference year 2012 (according to the geographical limits effective as of January 1, 2013) are now available free of charge in electronic format upon request. Revised data for the reference years 2006 to 2010 are also available.

Note to readers

Estimates released today are based on 2006 Census counts adjusted for census net undercoverage and incompletely enumerated Indian reserves to which is added the estimated demographic growth for the period from May 16, 2006 and the reference date of the estimates.

These estimates are not to be confused with the 2011 Census population counts that were released on February 8, 2012.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

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