

The Daily

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Releases

Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey, fourth quarter 2012

Retail sales rose 0.2% from the fourth quarter of 2011 to the fourth quarter of 2012. This was the lowest increase since the third quarter of 2009. Higher sales were reported in 6 of 10 major commodity groups.

Motor vehicles, parts and services receipts rose 2.3% from the fourth quarter of 2011 to the fourth quarter of 2012. Sales of new automotive vehicles (+2.6%) were the largest contributor to the increase, led by higher sales of new passenger cars (+11.5%). Sales of new trucks, vans, minivans and sport utility vehicles (-2.1%) declined for the first time since the second quarter of 2009. Used automotive vehicle sales rose 4.6% in the fourth quarter, a seventh consecutive quarter of gains.

Food and beverage sales grew 1.6%. Sales of this commodity group continued to shift away from food and beverage stores and toward general merchandise stores in 2012.

Sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives were up 1.7%. The increase in sales of automotive fuels (+1.6%) has been in the single-digits in each quarter of 2012, following double-digit growth rates in all quarters of 2010 and 2011, reflecting price movements at the pump over this time period.

The commodity group of furniture, home furnishings and electronics saw its sales fall 5.9%. The largest contribution to the decline was from home electronics, computers and cameras (-11.2%). Sales of these product types decreased in every quarter in 2012.

Retail sales of sporting and leisure goods declined 4.6%. Pre-recorded CDs, DVDs and video and audio tapes (-18.8%) were the largest contributor to the decline. These forms of media have registered sales declines in 16 of the last 17 quarters. Books, newspapers and other periodicals (-12.3%) declined for a fourth consecutive quarter.

Note to readers

The Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey collects national level retail sales by commodity, from a sub-sample of businesses in the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

Quarterly data have not been adjusted for seasonality. All percentage changes are year over year.

Table 1
Sales by commodity, all retail stores – Seasonally unadjusted

	Fourth quarter 2011	Third quarter 2012 ^r	Fourth quarter 2012 ^p	Fourth quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012
	millions of dollars			% change
Commodity, total	122,614	120,596	122,887	0.2
Food and beverages	28,367	28,367	28,814	1.6
Health and personal care products	11,050	10,492	11,177	1.2
Clothing, footwear and accessories	11,986	9,062	11,827	-1.3
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	12,073	9,597	11,364	-5.9
Motor vehicles, parts and services	23,032	25,456	23,571	2.3
Automotive fuels, oils and additives	13,221	14,233	13,442	1.7
Housewares	2,454	2,209	2,502	2.0
Hardware, lawn and garden products	6,982	8,531	6,897	-1.2
Sporting and leisure goods	4,569	3,279	4,359	-4.6
All other goods and services	8,880	9,370	8,933	0.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Available in CANSIM: table 080-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2008.

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

Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports, December 2012

The number of take-offs and landings for 129 airports without air traffic control towers reached 36,089 movements in December. Moosonee, Ontario (2,639 movements) and Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador (2,174 movements) were the most active sites.

Available in CANSIM: tables 401-0021 and 401-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The December 2012 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: Airports without Air Traffic Control Towers (TP 141)* (51-008-X) is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. This report, which presents monthly statistics for Canadian airports without NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and/or flight service stations, is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

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New products and studies

New products

Aircraft Movement Statistics: Airports Without Air Traffic Control Towers (TP 141), December 2012
Catalogue number 51-008-X ([HTML](#) | [PDF](#))

Release dates: April 15 to 19, 2013

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
16	Canada's international transactions in securities	February 2013
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	February 2013
16	Job vacancies	Three-month average ending in January 2013
17	Study: Productivity and Economic Growth in the Canadian Provinces	1997 to 2010
17	Health Reports	April 2013
18	Employment Insurance	February 2013
18	Investment in non-residential building construction	First quarter 2013
18	Travel between Canada and other countries	February 2013
19	Consumer Price Index	March 2013
19	Wholesale trade	February 2013

See also the release dates for major economic indicators for the rest of the year.



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