

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, April 13, 2015

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey, fourth quarter 2014

2

New products and studies

4



Releases

Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey, fourth quarter 2014

Retail sales rose 4.1% to \$133.8 billion in the fourth quarter compared with the same quarter in 2013. Higher sales were reported in 8 of the 10 major commodity groups.

Sales of motor vehicles, parts and services (+9.0%) were the largest contributor to the increase. Sales of new automotive vehicles grew 10.1%, posting their second consecutive double-digit increase. Sales of new trucks, vans, mini-vans, sport utility vehicles and buses were up 13.6%, while sales of new cars rose 3.6%. The overall increase was attributable to a higher number of vehicles sold. Sales were also up for used automotive vehicles (+9.6%) and automotive parts and accessories (+5.9%).

Receipts for food and beverages grew 4.7% in the fourth quarter, mainly as a result of higher prices. The largest contributors to this gain were sales of alcoholic beverages (+5.1%) and fresh meat and poultry (+9.0%).

Retail sales of clothing, footwear and accessories rose 5.9%. Increases in men's clothing and accessories (+7.4%) and women's clothing and accessories (+3.0%) were largely attributable to higher sales of shirts, pants and sweaters for men and outerwear for women. Footwear recorded its largest gain (+10.5%) in nearly three years, due in part to the introduction of new product lines.

In the fourth quarter, sales receipts of furniture, home furnishings and electronics (+4.4%) increased for the third consecutive quarter, led by higher sales of indoor furniture (+8.6%) and telephones and home office electronics (+13.7%).

Automotive fuels, oils and additives sales fell 4.2% in the fourth quarter compared with the same quarter in 2013. This was the commodity group's first quarterly decrease in five years. The bulk of the decline came from lower sales of automotive fuels (-4.5%), due in large part to lower gasoline prices. Automotive fuel sales accounted for 10.2% of total retail sales, their lowest share in four years.

Note to readers

The Retail Commodity Survey collects data on retail sales at the national level by commodity, from a subsample of businesses participating in the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

Quarterly data have not been adjusted for seasonality. For example, no adjustment has been made for Easter, which occurred in the first quarter of 2013 but took place in the second quarter of 2014. All percentage changes are year over year.

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

	Fourth quarter 2013 ^r	Third quarter 2014 ^r	Fourth quarter 2014 ^p	Fourth quarter 2013 to fourth quarter 2014
	millions of dollars			% change
Commodity, total	128,527	132,911	133,848	4.1
Food and beverages	29,405	29,691	30,789	4.7
Health and personal care products	11,746	11,323	12,064	2.7
Clothing, footwear and accessories	12,345	9,915	13,070	5.9
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	11,525	10,130	12,036	4.4
Motor vehicles, parts and services	25,300	30,518	27,569	9.0
Automotive fuels, oils and additives	14,570	15,890	13,953	-4.2
Housewares	2,608	2,367	2,681	2.8
Hardware, lawn and garden products	7,016	9,094	7,231	3.1
Sporting and leisure goods	4,554	3,455	4,539	-0.3
All other goods and services	9,460	10,527	9,915	4.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Source(s): CANSIM table [080-0022](#).

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; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

There are no new products today.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access or subscribe to *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our website at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2015. All rights reserved. Use of this publication is governed by the [Statistics Canada Open Licence Agreement](#):

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/reference/copyright-droit-auteur-eng.htm>