

E-commerce sales rise by one-quarter over the past year

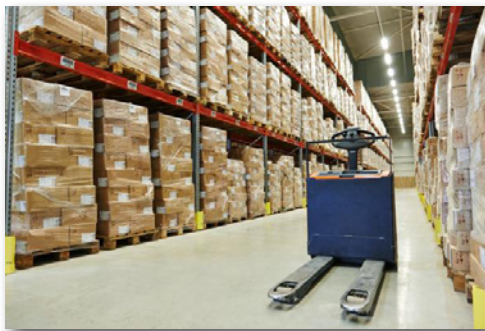
E-commerce retail sales have increased by one-quarter over the past year on a seasonally unadjusted basis to \$1.8 billion in August, accounting for 3.2% of total retail sales. By way of comparison, seasonally unadjusted total retail sales rose 1.5% over the same period.



Source: [Retail trade, August 2019](#)

Inventories reach their highest level since 1995

Following 11 consecutive monthly gains, wholesale inventories declined 0.3% to \$93.4 billion in August. However, the inventory-to-sales ratio increased from 1.44 in July to 1.45, the highest level since 1995, as the sales decline in August outpaced the drawdown in inventories.



Source: [Wholesale trade, August 2019](#)

US travel to Canada reaches its highest level in over a decade in August

There were 2.1 million trips by US residents to Canada in August, down 0.4% from July but the highest level of trips for the month of August since 2007.

Source: [Travel between Canada and other countries, August 2019](#)

Ontario and Alberta lead the increase in single-home construction

The value of single-home construction (+3.2% to \$5.4 billion) exceeded the value of multi-family construction (+0.4% to \$5.3 billion) for the third consecutive month in August, partly due to increased single-home construction in Ontario (+\$94.0 million) and Alberta (+\$47.5 million).



Source: [Investment in building construction, August 2019](#)