

Statistics Canada

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System of National Economic Accounts: New module

Starting today, all of Statistics Canada's information and data on the System of National Economic Accounts are available in one convenient online location — and the data are free of charge for the first time.

The new National Economic Accounts module, accessible from the Agency's Web site home page, features an up-to-date portrait of national and provincial economies and their structure.

This includes comprehensive information and overviews of all the components of the accounts. In addition, more than 300 statistical tables are available covering topics ranging from gross domestic product, productivity and government debt to stocks of natural resources and international transactions. These tables are being offered free for the first time.

The module also offers links to recent news releases from *The Daily*, relevant publications and release dates, glossaries and methodology, contact information and frequently asked questions.

For more information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636; *mediahotline@statcan.ca*), Communications and Library Services Division.









Releases

Retail trade

November 2005

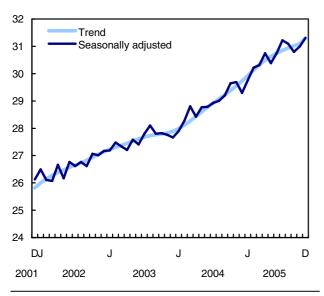
Retail sales advanced at the fastest rate of growth in four months in November, and nearly double the pace of the previous month. New motor vehicle sales were again a strong contributor to these gains.

Retail sales increased 1.1% in November from the previous month to a record high \$31.3 billion.

Excluding sales by dealers of new, used and recreational vehicles and auto parts, retail sales edged up 0.1% from October. Lower prices for gasoline offset gains made in the automotive sector. In general, non-auto retailers saw their sales decline only twice in the first 11 months of 2005.

Autos drive up retail sales in November

Billions of dollars



Besides the big 1.9% gain made in the auto sector, three other sectors showed strong increases; building and outdoor home supplies stores (+2.8%), clothing and accessories stores (+2.5%), and miscellaneous retailers (+1.2%). Pharmacies and personal care goods stores advanced 0.7% in November.

Sales in general merchandise stores, furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores, and food and beverage stores remained essentially unchanged from October.

Once prices are taken into account, constant dollar retail sales rose 1.3% in November after increasing 1.5% in October.

Auto sales levels back in line

Sales at new car dealers rose 4.9% in November after a rebound in October. These two months of gains saw new car dealers recover nearly all the lost sales of August and September and brought them back in line with recent historical trends.

Lower prices for gasoline exerted downward pressure on sales from the auto sector, and resulted in a 3.2% decline in the value of sales at gas stations. Over the long run, gasoline station sales have been on the rise since April 2003. Prices have played a major role in this run-up.

In the building and outdoor home supplies sector, shoppers spent more money at both home centres and hardware stores (+2.3%) and specialized building material and garden stores (+5.3%). This sector as a whole is poised to have the strongest year-over-year performance of 2005. November represented a 9.9% increase over the same month last year and this was not exceptional for this sector.

Sales at clothing store were up 2.7% in November. This continued 11 months of see-sawing between gains and losses. After a surge at the start of 2005, sales growth in the clothing and accessories sector has either been flat or declining. Prior to this, the long-term trend showed a slow advance.

For the sector as a whole, miscellaneous retailers such as office supply, sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores increased their sales by 1.2% in November. This continued three months of uninterrupted sales growth, with only three declines since October 2004.

Alberta, Quebec and Ontario lead the pack

Retail sales increased or remained essentially unchanged in all provinces and territories in November. Retailers in Alberta (+1.4%), Quebec (+1.3%) and Ontario (+1.1%) were the star performers, reflecting the increase in auto sector sales, as seen at the national level.

Prince Edward Island (+2.2%) also made a notable gain above the national pace. Higher sales in building and outdoor home supplies stores as well as food and beverage stores were largely responsible for the retail sales advances.

Related indicators for December

Total employment was virtually unchanged in December from the previous month. In addition, the overall unemployment rate edged up to 6.5%. Housing starts were up 1.2% in December to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 227,700 units, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Estimated from early results supplied by the auto industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in December was little changed from November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0014 to 080-0017 and 076-0005.

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

The November issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-XIE, \$18/\$166) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for December will be released on February 21.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jane Lin (613-951-9691), Distributive Trades Division.

Retail sales

	November 2004	August 2005 ^r	September 2005 ^r	October 2005 ^r	November 2005 ^p	October to November	November 2004 to
						2005	November 2005
<u>-</u>			sea	sonally adjuste	ed		
			\$ millions			% change	
Automotive	10,058	10,887	10,328	10,564	10,769	1.9	7.1
New car dealers Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts	5,854	6,245	5,558	5,876	6,165	4.9	5.3
dealers Gasoline stations	1,254 2,950	1,281 3,361	1,267 3,503	1,248 3,439	1,274 3,330	2.0 -3.2	1.5 12.9
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	2,930	3,301	3,503	3,433	3,330	-3.2	12.9
stores	2,034	2,152	2,163	2,170	2,163	-0.3	6.3
Furniture stores	2,034 727	748	2,103 762	769	2,103 765	-0.5	5.2
Home furnishings stores	377	408	402	408	414	1.6	9.9
Computer and software stores	133	133	132	138	138	0.5	4.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	797	863	866	856	845	-1.2	6.0
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	1.794	1,927	1.943	1,917	1,972	2.8	9.9
Home centres and hardware stores	1,425	1,539	1,565	1,566	1,602	2.3	12.4
Specialized building materials and garden			,	,			
stores	369	388	378	351	370	5.3	0.2
Food and beverage stores	7,120	7,211	7,272	7,256	7,244	-0.2	1.7
Supermarkets	5,219	5,254	5,302	5,254	5,284	0.6	1.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	740	757	758	757	738	-2.5	-0.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,161	1,200	1,211	1,244	1,222	-1.8	5.3
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,954	2,012	2,065	2,057	2,072	0.7	6.0
Clothing and accessories stores	1,686	1,734	1,769	1,748	1,791	2.5	6.2
Clothing stores Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery	1,287	1,325	1,350	1,329	1,365	2.7	6.0
stores	399	409	419	419	426	1.8	6.9
General merchandise stores	3,531	3,618	3,676	3,679	3,690	0.3	4.5
Department stores	1,812	1,856	1,873	1,866	1,852	-0.8	2.2
Other general merchandise stores	1,719	1.762	1,803	1,813	1,838	1.4	6.9
Miscellaneous retailers	1,509	1,539	1,579	1,588	1,607	1.2	6.5
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	741	788	810	803	809	0.8	9.3
Miscellaneous store retailers	769	750	769	785	798	1.7	3.8
Total retail sales	29,687	31,080	30,794	30,978	31,308	1.1	5.5
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts	,	,	,	,	•		
dealers	22,579	23,553	23,969	23,854	23,869	0.1	5.7
Provinces and territories	22,579	23,333	23,909	23,034	23,009	0.1	5.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	492	488	476	495	497	0.3	1.0
Prince Edward Island	117	119	116	117	119	2.2	2.2
Nova Scotia	871	897	886	887	892	0.5	2.4
New Brunswick	699	703	704	705	711	0.9	1.7
Quebec	6,789	6.950	6,921	6,940	7,030	1.3	3.6
Ontario	10,987	11.365	11.233	11.347	11.468	1.1	4.4
Manitoba	995	1,363	1.041	1.060	1.060	0.0	4.4 6.5
Saskatchewan	875	942	926	920	930	1.1	6.4
Alberta	3,752	4,159	4,122	4,143	4,203	1.4	12.0
British Columbia	4.009	4,286	4,263	4.257	4,288	0.7	6.9
Yukon	35	37	37	37	38	3.9	8.1
Northwest Territories	46	48	48	48	49	1.6	7.0
Nunavut	20	21	21	21	21	0.3	7.4

Revised. Preliminary.

Retail sales

	November 2004	October 2005 ^r	November 2005 ^p	November 2004
	2004	2003	2003	to
				November
		unadjuste	d	2005
		\$ millions		0/ ahansa
		•		% change
Automotive	9,326	10,040	10,068	8.0
New car dealers Used and recreational motor vehicle and	5,380	5,322	5,717	6.2
parts dealers	1.149	1,182	1,181	2.8
Gasoline stations	2,796	3,535	3,170	13.4
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	2,790	3,333	3,170	13.4
stores	2,212	2,183	2,339	5.8
Furniture stores	2,212 761	2,163 810	2,339 797	4.8
	443	423	797 491	10.9
Home furnishings stores	137	136	136	-0.3
Computer and software stores	871	814	915	-0.3 5.0
Home electronics and appliance stores Building and outdoor home supplies stores	1,791	2,036	1,964	5.0 9.6
Home centres and hardware stores	1,436	1,679	1,614	12.4
Specialized building materials and garden	252	0.57	050	4 7
stores	356	357	350	-1.7
Food and beverage stores	6,649	7,056	6,882	3.5
Supermarkets	4,883	5,123	5,035	3.1
Convenience and specialty food stores	684	752	685	0.1
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,082	1,181	1,162	7.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,947	2,036	2,071	6.3
Clothing and accessories stores	1,828	1,811	1,951	6.7
Clothing stores	1,425	1,415	1,506	5.7
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery				
stores	402	396	445	10.5
General merchandise stores	3,973	3,756	4,160	4.7
Department stores	2,137	1,981	2,168	1.4
Other general merchandise stores	1,836	1,775	1,992	8.5
Miscellaneous retailers	1,537	1,547	1,655	7.7
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	775	739	851	9.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	762	808	804	5.5
Total retail sales	29,263	30,465	31,089	6.2
Total excluding new car dealers, used and				
recreational motor vehicle and parts				
dealers	22,734	23,960	24,191	6.4
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland and Labrador	507	481	516	1.6
Prince Edward Island	113	114	116	2.6
Nova Scotia	866	868	894	3.2
New Brunswick	693	689	711	2.5
Quebec	6,548	6,913	6,847	4.6
Ontario	11,059	11,169	11,603	4.9
Manitoba	981	1,042	1,044	6.3
Saskatchewan	858	912	915	6.6
Alberta	3,699	4,048	4,198	13.5
British Columbia	3,845	4,127	4,146	7.8
Yukon	33	35	35	7.5
Northwest Territories	41	46	45	9.2
Nunavut	19	21	20	6.6

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Revised. Preliminary.

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

January 1, 2006 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on January 1 totalled 56,403 metric tonnes, up 12.9% from a year ago.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division.

Primary iron and steel

November 2005

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The November issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XIE, \$6/\$51) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*) Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Production and disposition of tobacco products

December 2005

Total cigarettes sold in December by Canadian manufacturers increased 4.4% from November to 3.4 billion cigarettes. Total cigarettes sold increased 4.7% from the same period a year earlier.

Cigarette production for December decreased 15.6% from November to 2.7 billion cigarettes. Cigarette production increased 13.2% compared with December 2004.

At 4.0 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for December decreased by 22.2% from November, but was 20.7% higher compared with December 2004.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The December 2005 issue of *Production* and *Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 34, no. 12 (32-022-XIE, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Refined petroleum products

November 2005 (preliminary)

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

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 the dissemination officer (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789 *energy@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Sawmills and planing mills

November 2005

Data on sawmills and planing mills are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2134 and 2135.

The November 2005 issue of *Sawmills and Planing Mills*, Vol. 59, no. 11 (35-003-XIB, \$10/\$93) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873 8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

New products

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, December 2005, Vol. 34, no. 12 Catalogue number 32-022-XIE (\$6/\$51).

Sawmills and Planing Mills, November 2005, Vol. 59, no. 11

Catalogue number 35-003-XIB (\$10/\$93).

Wholesale Trade, November 2005, Vol. 68, no. 11 Catalogue number 63-008-XIE (\$15/\$150).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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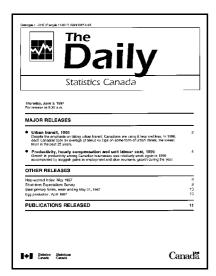
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