

RETAILS SALES

Retail sales in Canada reached \$55.1 billion dollars in August, up 0.9% compared with the same month in 2019. Out of 19 commodity categories, 10 reported higher sales than the previous period.



SALES	August 2019	August 2020	August 2019 to August 2020
	millions of dollars	millions of dollars	% change
Food	9518431	9957968	4.6
Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages	3532697	3602570	2.0
Cannabis products	125954	244891	94.4
Clothing	2786781	2371176	-14.9
Footwear	720679	647238	-10.2
Jewellery and watches, luggage and briefcases	447069	379869	-15.0
Home furniture, furnishings, housewares, appliances and electronics	4631834	4965057	7.2
Sporting and leisure products (except publications, audio and video recordings, and game software)	933880	1069649	14.5
Publications	290809	240303	-17.4
Audio and video recordings, and game software	87473	78981	-9.7
Motor vehicles	11529172	11493992	-0.3
Recreational vehicles	892965	1023618	14.6
Motor vehicle parts, accessories and supplies	1744767	1759044	0.8
Automotive and household fuels	4747319	3818526	-19.6
Home health products	3262813	3330782	2.1
Infant care, personal and beauty products	1198597	1180447	-1.5
Hardware, tools, and renovation and lawn and garden products	3916077	4561477	16.5
Miscellaneous products	2597610	2783926	7.2
Total retail trade commissions and miscellaneous services	1602375	1568269	-2.1

HOME PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENT

Canadians continued to place an emphasis on completing projects around their homes during COVID-19.

- renovation materials and supplies **+14.6%**
- lumber and other renovation materials and supplies **+17.9%**
- hardware and tools **+29.7%**
- home appliances **+28.1%**
- housewares **+6.9%**
- home furnishings **+7.2%**



AUTOMOTIVE

Sales of motor vehicles continued to rise compared with the previous month, climbing to within 0.3% of sales a year prior with a decline in new vehicles and an increase in sales of used vehicles.

- new motor vehicle sales **-2.8%**
- used motor vehicles **+4.6%**



FOOD

Canadians continued to spend more on food with sales in the categories of food up **+4.6%**

- fresh fruit and vegetables **+8.2%**
- frozen food **+14.5%**
- soft drinks and non-alcoholic beverages **+5.1**
- alcoholic beverages **+1.4%**



SCHOOL

Despite the uncertainty surrounding the return to school due to COVID-19, sales reported for August have seen an increase and decrease in certain categories.

- computers, peripherals, and networking equipment **+4.6%**
- home office supplies **+32.0%**
- craft and hobby kits, and leisure supplies **16.4%**
- children's and infant clothing **-7.8%**
- children's footwear **-14.5%**

