

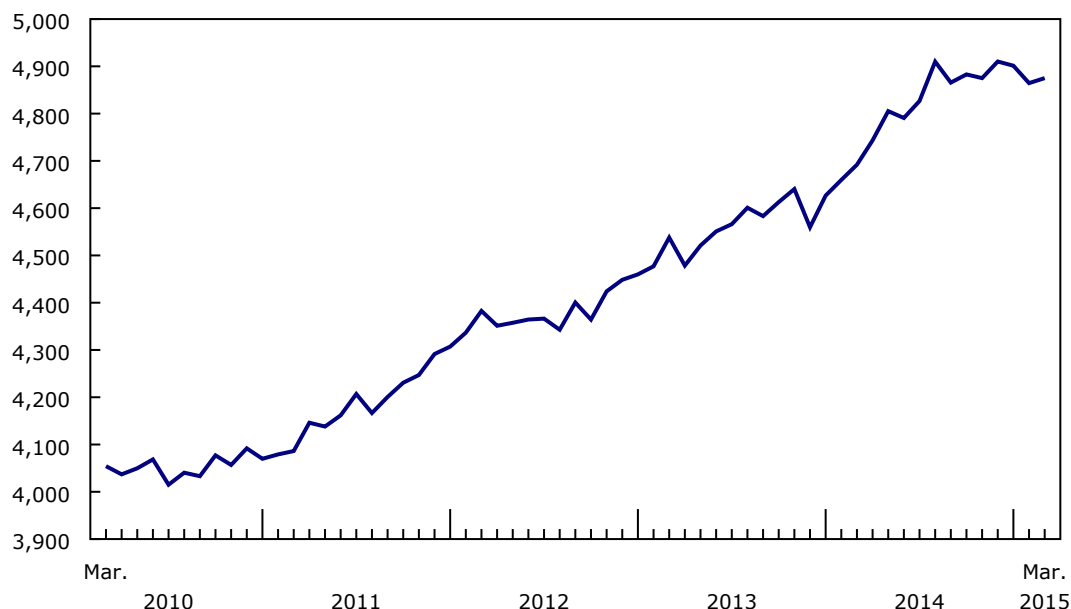
Food services and drinking places, March 2015

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Sales at food services and drinking places rose 0.2% to \$4.9 billion in March. Prices for food purchased from restaurants were up 2.8% in the 12 months to March, but were unchanged from February.

Chart 1
Food services and drinking places sales increase in March

millions of current dollars



Source(s): CANSIM table [355-0006](#).

In March, three of the four sectors reported higher sales. In dollar terms, sales in the full-service restaurant sector (+0.4%) led the gain. Receipts in the limited service restaurant sector rose 0.3%, the ninth consecutive increase. Higher sales were posted in the drinking places sector (+0.8%), more than offsetting the losses in February. Lower sales were reported in the special food services sector (-1.4%), which includes food service contractors, caterers and mobile food services, erasing the gains of the previous two months.

Sales up in five provinces

Sales were up in five provinces in March.

The largest sales increases were in Ontario (+1.2%) and Saskatchewan (+1.9%), led by gains in limited-service restaurants. Sales were also up in Quebec (+0.2%), Nova Scotia (+0.6%), and Manitoba (+0.2%).

Sales were down in British Columbia (-1.3%) and Alberta (-1.2%) in March following gains the previous month.



Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and expressed in current dollars. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

With this release, monthly data were revised back to January 2013 for unadjusted data, and back to January 2010 for seasonally adjusted data.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of respondent information, correction of information in the data provided, the replacement of estimated figures with actual values (once available), and updates to seasonal factors.

Table 1
Food services and drinking places – Seasonally adjusted

	March 2014 ^r	December 2014 ^r	January 2015 ^r	February 2015 ^r	March 2015 ^p	February to March 2015	March 2014 to March 2015
	thousands of dollars					change %	
Total, food services sales	4,691,938	4,910,207	4,901,266	4,864,472	4,875,139	0.2	3.9
Full-service restaurants	2,049,817	2,141,255	2,128,127	2,086,518	2,095,337	0.4	2.2
Limited-service eating places	2,054,319	2,174,916	2,179,978	2,183,240	2,189,621	0.3	6.6
Special food services	397,266	406,183	410,917	413,436	407,527	-1.4	2.6
Drinking places	190,537	187,853	182,243	181,278	182,654	0.8	-4.1
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	67,413	76,149	74,765	76,480	76,351	-0.2	13.3
Prince Edward Island	16,119	17,793	17,454	17,354	17,180	-1.0	6.6
Nova Scotia	110,821	119,271	116,800	116,885	117,620	0.6	6.1
New Brunswick	80,400	86,251	85,091	86,199	85,695	-0.6	6.6
Quebec	877,088	887,102	890,361	876,050	877,702	0.2	0.1
Ontario	1,804,486	1,900,120	1,899,695	1,866,204	1,888,363	1.2	4.6
Manitoba	135,952	142,712	143,865	142,342	142,674	0.2	4.9
Saskatchewan	146,950	152,789	153,325	151,954	154,873	1.9	5.4
Alberta	709,141	738,325	733,246	735,800	727,044	-1.2	2.5
British Columbia	729,610	775,230	772,578	780,835	770,671	-1.3	5.6
Yukon	5,523	5,907	5,801	6,033	F	F	F
Northwest Territories	7,275	7,281	7,114	7,068	F	F	F
Nunavut	1,160	1,276	1,170	1,268	F	F	F

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

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

Source(s): CANSIM table [355-0006](#).

Available in CANSIM: table [355-0006](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2419](#).

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).