

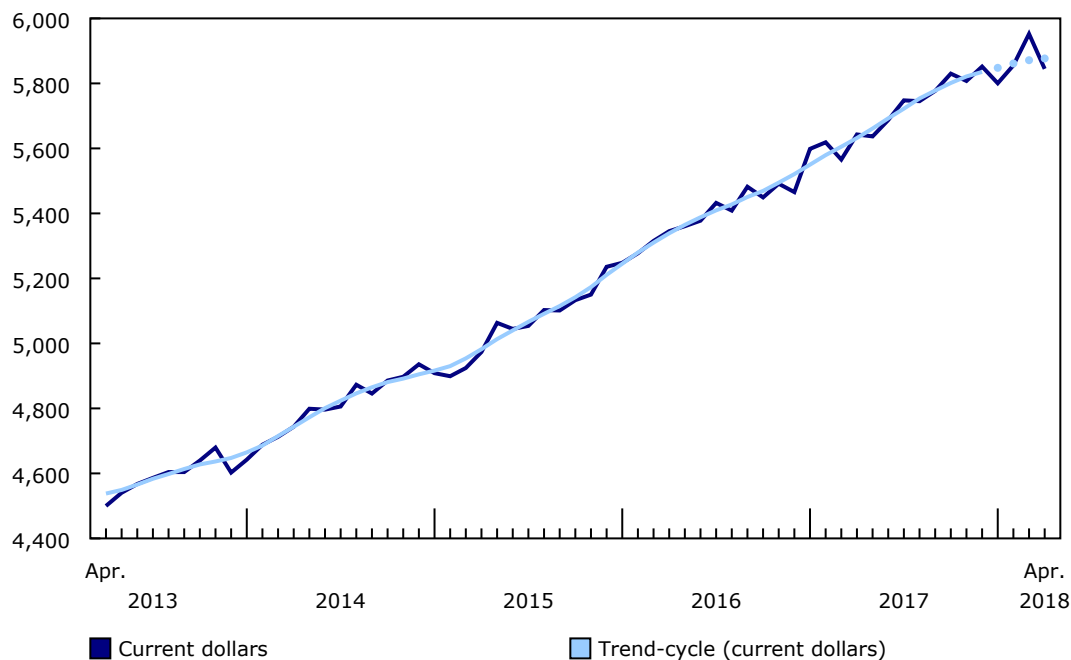
Food services and drinking places, April 2018

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Thursday, June 21, 2018

Following a strong March, sales in the food services and drinking places subsector were down 1.8% in April to \$5.8 billion. Lower sales at limited-service (-2.6%) and full-service (-1.9%) restaurants accounted for all of the decrease. Sales were up in the special food services industry group (+1.6%) and drinking places (+2.3%).

Chart 1
Sales at food services and drinking places

millions of current dollars



Source(s): Table 21-10-0019-01.

Colder than normal spring temperatures and an ice storm affecting Central and Eastern Canada may have contributed to decreased sales. Following increases in March, lower sales were reported in eight provinces, led by Ontario (-2.5%), Quebec (-2.0%) and British Columbia (-1.7%). The only increases were in Saskatchewan (+0.9%) and Prince Edward Island (+0.9%).

To find out more, consult the dashboard entitled [Food Services and Drinking Places Sales](#). This web application provides access to data on the sales of food services and drinking places for Canada, the provinces and territories. This dynamic application allows users to compare provincial and territorial data with interactive maps and charts.

Sales in food services and drinking places subsector increase in April 2018

The figures in this section are based on unadjusted (that is, not seasonally adjusted) estimates.

Unadjusted year-over-year sales in the food services and drinking places subsector rose 3.1% in April compared with April 2017. Sales were up in each of the following industry groups: full-service restaurants (+2.8%), limited-service restaurants (+2.7%), special food services (+8.1%) and drinking places (+1.1%). Sales increased in seven provinces, with Ontario (+4.9%), British Columbia (+4.2%) and Quebec (+1.9%) posting the largest gains in dollar terms. Newfoundland and Labrador (-3.2%) reported the largest decline.

Prices for food purchased from restaurants were up 4.5% in April compared with April 2017, while prices for alcoholic beverages served in licensed establishments were up 2.2%.

Note to readers

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

For information on trend-cycle data, see the [StatCan Blog](#) and [Trend-cycle estimates – Frequently asked questions](#).

Data for the current reference month are preliminary. Usually, unadjusted data are revised for the two previous months, and seasonally adjusted data are revised for the three previous months.

Table 1
Food services and drinking places – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2017	January 2018 ^r	February 2018 ^r	March 2018 ^r	April 2018 ^p	March to April 2018	April 2017 to April 2018
	thousands of dollars					change %	
Total, food services sales	5,642,948	5,800,398	5,855,509	5,952,291	5,844,711	-1.8	3.6
Full-service restaurants	2,495,367	2,543,228	2,598,585	2,638,342	2,588,751	-1.9	3.7
Limited-service eating places	2,502,797	2,604,425	2,604,464	2,652,040	2,582,032	-2.6	3.2
Special food services	441,618	455,067	450,604	456,610	463,973	1.6	5.1
Drinking places	203,166	197,678	201,856	205,299	209,954	2.3	3.3
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	72,597	69,662	70,999	71,688	69,905	-2.5	-3.7
Prince Edward Island	21,111	21,816	22,453	22,320	22,527	0.9	6.7
Nova Scotia	132,216	135,223	138,375	139,099	138,703	-0.3	4.9
New Brunswick	97,713	97,556	99,673	99,967	97,850	-2.1	0.1
Quebec	1,052,215	1,074,844	1,095,932	1,107,508	1,085,444	-2.0	3.2
Ontario	2,222,669	2,318,182	2,341,371	2,395,630	2,335,648	-2.5	5.1
Manitoba	168,300	169,929	169,628	171,151	170,602	-0.3	1.4
Saskatchewan	157,056	156,922	158,579	158,454	159,858	0.9	1.8
Alberta	770,069	769,339	756,740	774,741	770,407	-0.6	0.0
British Columbia	932,065	970,350	985,117	993,490	977,093	-1.7	4.8
Yukon	6,333	5,966	5,809	6,049	5,847	-3.3	-7.7
Northwest Territories	8,011	8,226	8,636	9,873	8,575	-13.1	7.0
Nunavut	2,593	2,383	2,196	2,320	2,250	-3.0	-13.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Source(s): Table 21-10-0019-01.

Available tables: table [21-10-0019-01](#).

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; STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca).