

Food services and drinking places, January 2020

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Thursday, April 2, 2020

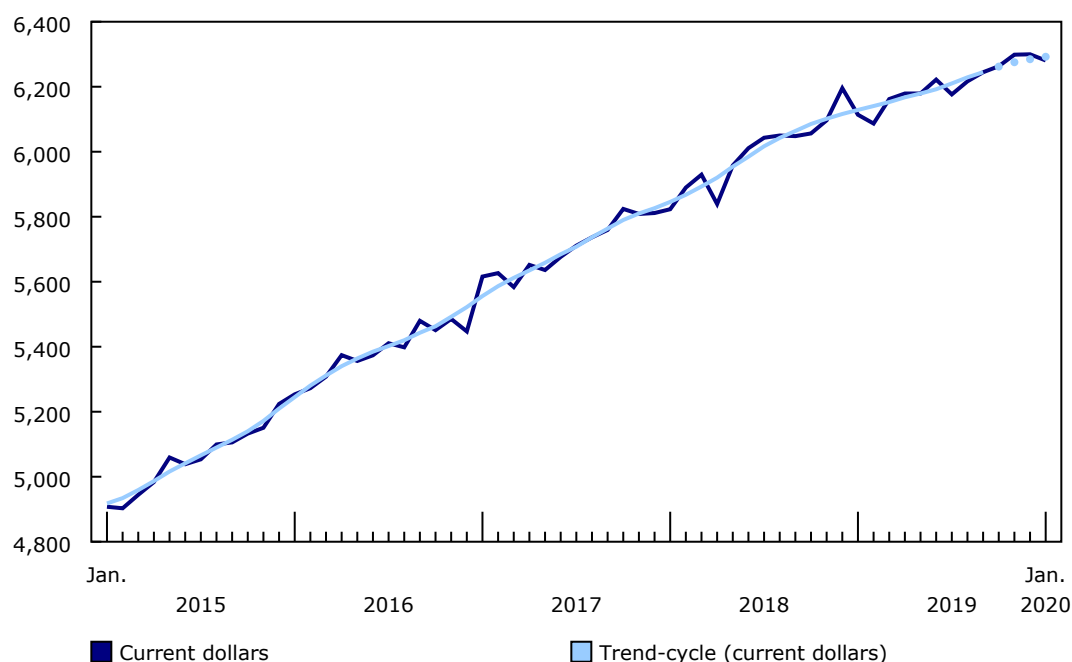
On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales in the food services and drinking places subsector decreased 0.3% to \$6.3 billion in January. The impacts of the novel coronavirus (also known as COVID-19) on the sector will be more noticeable in subsequent months.

Lower sales were reported at full-service restaurants (-0.6%), limited-service restaurants (-0.1%) and drinking places (-1.5%). Sales increased in special food services (+0.6%)

In January, seven provinces reported lower sales, with the greatest contributor to the decrease being British Columbia (-2.1%). Newfoundland and Labrador (-7.1%) had a large decline following a record-breaking snowstorm. Higher receipts were reported in Ontario (+0.6%).

Chart 1
Sales in food services and drinking places

millions of current dollars



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

Further information can be found in the dashboard "[Food Services and Drinking Places Sales](#)." This web application provides access to data on sales in food services and drinking places for Canada, and by province and territory. This dynamic application allows users to compare provincial and territorial data through interactive maps and charts.

Year-over-year sales in the food services and drinking places subsector increase

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



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

Unadjusted sales for January were up 3.0% in the food services and drinking places subsector compared with January 2019. Sales increased in each of the following industry groups: full-service restaurants (+3.5%), limited-service restaurants (+2.7%) and special food services (+4.7%). Sales at drinking places declined 3.6%.

Year-over-year sales increased in eight provinces, with Quebec (+7.9%) and Ontario (+3.2%) contributing to most of the total national increase. Newfoundland and Labrador (-7.6%) posted the largest decline this January compared with last year, attributable to inclement weather.

Prices for food purchased from restaurants were up 2.1% in January compared with January 2019 and prices for alcoholic beverages served in licensed establishments were up 1.9% in the same period.

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and are 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 previous two months, and seasonally adjusted data are revised for the previous three months.

Table 1
Food services and drinking places – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2019	October 2019 ^r	November 2019 ^r	December 2019 ^r	January 2020 ^p	December 2019 to January 2020	January 2019 to January 2020
	thousands of dollars					% change	
Total, food services sales	6,113,754	6,263,092	6,298,570	6,299,833	6,280,821	-0.3	2.7
Full-service restaurants	2,694,890	2,771,430	2,794,462	2,800,114	2,783,161	-0.6	3.3
Limited-service eating places	2,727,782	2,783,969	2,783,147	2,797,308	2,795,217	-0.1	2.5
Special food services	477,553	505,947	516,231	496,950	499,964	0.6	4.7
Drinking places	213,529	201,746	204,730	205,461	202,479	-1.5	-5.2
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	73,275	73,295	73,917	73,406	68,181	-7.1	-7.0
Prince Edward Island	23,156	24,827	25,533	25,608	25,024	-2.3	8.1
Nova Scotia	141,269	147,482	146,722	145,098	143,397	-1.2	1.5
New Brunswick	106,081	105,810	105,188	105,391	105,637	0.2	-0.4
Quebec	1,152,428	1,221,699	1,237,758	1,236,646	1,235,076	-0.1	7.2
Ontario	2,444,050	2,476,681	2,495,278	2,497,392	2,513,093	0.6	2.8
Manitoba	177,994	181,042	179,598	180,195	180,992	0.4	1.7
Saskatchewan	162,210	159,983	159,431	161,790	161,636	-0.1	-0.4
Alberta	786,109	804,400	802,684	800,375	796,163	-0.5	1.3
British Columbia	1,033,280	1,053,514	1,058,027	1,059,411	1,036,783	-2.1	0.3
Yukon	5,775	6,512	6,687	6,832	7,046	3.1	22.0
Northwest Territories	6,588	6,298	6,238	6,209	6,280	1.1	-4.7
Nunavut	1,539	1,550	1,508	1,480	1,513	2.2	-1.7

^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).