

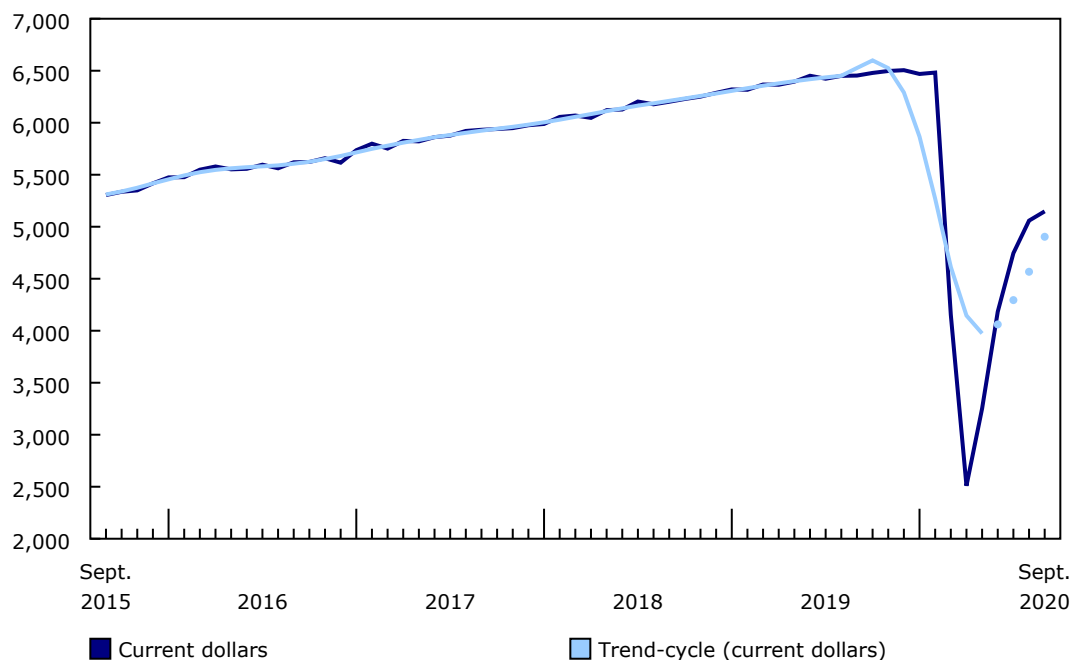
# Food services and drinking places, September 2020

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Sales in the Food Service and Drinking Places subsector were up 1.8% in September. Sales rose at full-service restaurants (+2.9%), limited-service restaurants (+1.0%) and special food services (+2.7%). Receipts declined at drinking places (-3.2%). All provinces reported increased sales in September, with Ontario (+2.2%) seeing the largest increase in dollar terms.

**Chart 1**  
**Sales in food services and drinking places**

millions of current dollars



**Note(s):** The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the three previous months. For more information, see the note to readers.  
**Source(s):** Table 21-10-0019-01.

Further information can be found in the "[Food Services and Drinking Places Sales](#)" dashboard. 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 still down

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



Due to the effects of COVID-19 on the food services and drinking places subsector, unadjusted sales for September were down by one-fifth (-20.2%) compared with September 2019. Sales fell in each of the following industry groups: full-service restaurants (-25.0%), special food services (-55.9%), limited-service restaurants (-6.9%) and drinking places (-36.5%). Year-over-year sales decreased in each province, with Ontario (-24.0%), Quebec (-19.9%) and British Columbia (-18.9%) reporting the largest declines in dollar and percentage terms.

Prices for food purchased from restaurants were up 2.2% in September compared with September 2019 and prices for alcoholic beverages served in licensed establishments were up 1.5% in the same period.

### Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and are expressed in current dollars, unless otherwise noted. Seasonally adjusted data are data that have been modified to eliminate the effect of seasonal and calendar influences to allow for more meaningful comparisons of economic conditions from period to period. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Trend-cycle data are included in selected charts as a complement to the seasonally adjusted series. These data represent a smoothed version of the seasonally adjusted time series and provide information on longer-term movements, including changes in direction underlying the series. 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. Both seasonally adjusted data and trend-cycle estimates are subject to revision as additional observations become available. These revisions could be large and could even lead to a reversal of movement, especially for reference months near the end of the series or during periods of economic disruption.

**Table 1**  
**Food services and drinking places – Seasonally adjusted**

	September 2019	June 2020 <sup>r</sup>	July 2020 <sup>r</sup>	August 2020 <sup>r</sup>	September 2020 <sup>p</sup>	August to September 2020	September 2019 to September 2020
	thousands of dollars					% change	
<b>Total, food services sales</b>	<b>6,453,375</b>	<b>4,183,061</b>	<b>4,745,575</b>	<b>5,058,467</b>	<b>5,147,865</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-20.2</b>
Full-service restaurants	2,868,908	1,529,649	1,868,442	2,070,297	2,131,230	2.9	-25.7
Limited-service eating places	2,833,730	2,357,703	2,522,979	2,617,906	2,644,795	1.0	-6.7
Special food services	529,083	188,847	226,184	227,347	233,563	2.7	-55.9
Drinking places	221,655	106,862	127,970	142,916	138,278	-3.2	-37.6
<b>Provinces and territories</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	70,423	52,592	57,621	60,302	61,835	2.5	-12.2
Prince Edward Island	26,555	18,672	18,337	20,338	22,727	11.7	-14.4
Nova Scotia	148,175	107,266	113,175	115,758	119,545	3.3	-19.3
New Brunswick	106,481	85,971	87,632	90,359	94,991	5.1	-10.8
Quebec	1,263,898	743,671	945,112	1,002,486	1,002,785	0.0	-20.7
Ontario	2,550,084	1,454,386	1,721,939	1,895,352	1,937,631	2.2	-24.0
Manitoba	181,948	152,435	160,423	153,921	158,602	3.0	-12.8
Saskatchewan	159,557	131,973	143,226	145,611	152,188	4.5	-4.6
Alberta	830,956	629,516	644,550	681,852	691,728	1.4	-16.8
British Columbia	1,100,354	795,457	841,383	879,951	892,858	1.5	-18.9
Yukon	6,937	4,871	5,577	5,535	6,108	10.4	-12.0
Northwest Territories	6,472	4,743	5,165	5,572	5,499	-1.3	-15.0
Nunavut	F	1,509	1,435	1,429	1,366	-4.4	F

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

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

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

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**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](mailto:STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca)).