

# Food services and drinking places, May 2024

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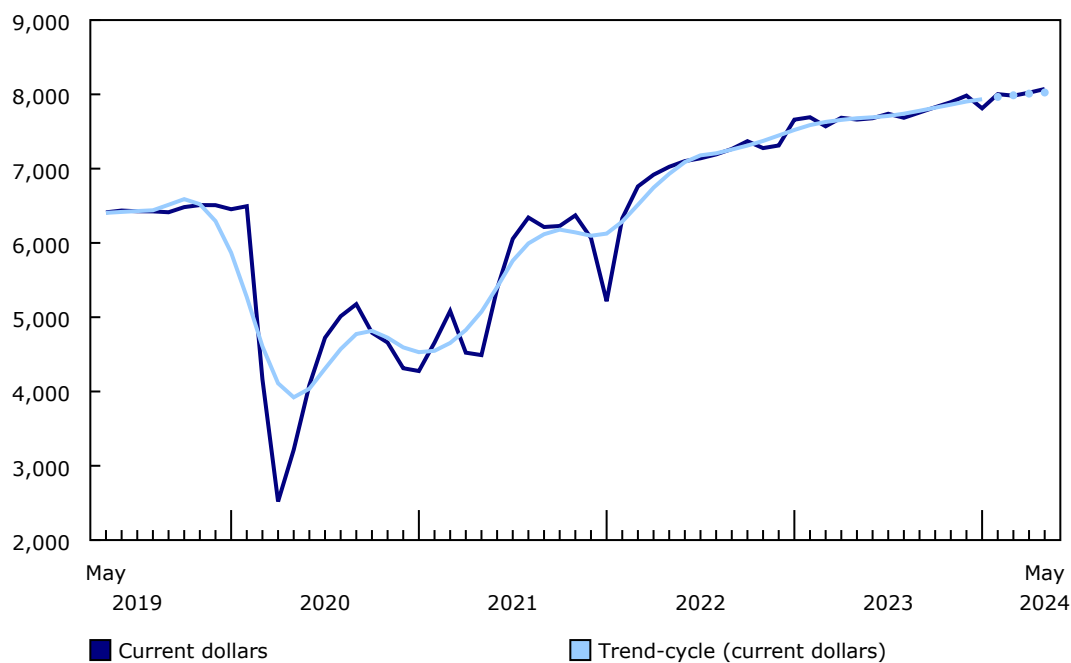
On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales in the food services and drinking places subsector increased 0.6% to \$8.1 billion in May 2024.

Gains in limited-service restaurants (+0.6%), special food services (+3.5%) and full-service restaurants (+0.2%) were responsible for the increase in May. Sales at drinking places (-1.2%) were down.

In May, eight provinces saw higher sales, with the largest contributors to the increase being Ontario (+0.8%), British Columbia (+0.8%) and Quebec (+0.6%).

**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 previous three months. For more information, see the Note to readers.

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



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

	May 2023	February 2024r	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	April to May 2024	May 2023 to May 2024
	thousands of dollars					% change	
<b>Total, food services sales</b>	<b>7,660,455</b>	<b>8,002,684</b>	<b>7,982,031</b>	<b>8,022,522</b>	<b>8,071,957</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Full-service restaurants	3,363,380	3,486,529	3,484,795	3,486,431	3,491,892	0.2	3.8
Limited-service eating places	3,484,342	3,691,544	3,669,256	3,686,769	3,710,721	0.6	6.5
Special food services	604,200	617,611	622,729	645,277	667,664	3.5	10.5
Drinking places	208,532	206,999	205,251	204,045	201,680	-1.2	-3.3
<b>Provinces and territories</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	84,908	88,267	89,876	89,542	90,491	1.1	6.6
Prince Edward Island	36,020	35,932	36,053	37,249	37,342	0.2	3.7
Nova Scotia	179,220	187,106	191,136	189,522	191,994	1.3	7.1
New Brunswick	126,341	134,589	134,417	135,002	137,112	1.6	8.5
Quebec	1,474,570	1,535,921	1,518,411	1,528,523	1,537,849	0.6	4.3
Ontario	3,016,610	3,139,812	3,173,974	3,164,685	3,189,600	0.8	5.7
Manitoba	210,290	225,708	221,043	227,517	225,580	-0.9	7.3
Saskatchewan	197,762	206,532	204,843	211,428	209,441	-0.9	5.9
Alberta	986,868	1,033,654	1,011,793	1,030,844	1,032,607	0.2	4.6
British Columbia	1,329,864	1,396,502	1,381,756	1,389,773	1,400,877	0.8	5.3
Yukon	9,342	9,811	10,199	9,905	10,329	4.3	10.6
Northwest Territories	6,660	6,856	6,532	6,561	6,684	1.9	0.4
Nunavut	F	1,992	1,998	1,971	2,049	4.0	F

F too unreliable to be published

Note(s): Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.

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

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

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

Compared with one year earlier, unadjusted sales for May 2024 were up 5.9%. Sales increased in all but one of the industry groups, the largest in dollar terms being in limited-service restaurants (+6.4%), followed by full-service restaurants (+4.8%). Drinking places (-1.4%) was the only industry group to post a year-over-year decline in unadjusted sales.

Year-over-year, sales increased in all provinces in May, with Ontario (+6.1%), Quebec (+5.4%) and British Columbia (+6.0%) posting the largest increases.

Prices for food purchased from restaurants were up 4.2% in May 2024 compared with May 2023, and prices for alcoholic beverages served in licensed establishments increased 3.6% over the same period.

## Looking for more insight?

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

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### Note to readers

Unless otherwise noted, all data in this release are seasonally adjusted and expressed in current dollars. 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 to complement 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 page [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.

Find these data and more statistics on the [Business and consumer services and culture statistics portal](#).

**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; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations ([statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)).