

The Brown Book Retail Newsline

Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

March 1 through March 15, 2026

Quote of the Week:

“If you are irritated by every rub, how will your mirror be polished?” --Rumi

Supreme Court Tosses Tariffs—But Issue Far From Resolved

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The Brown Book Retail Newsline

Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

Brown Book Top Five

[How the Iran war could start to impact U.S. retail prices](#)
CNBC 3/13/26

[Cracks Emerged in a Resilient US Economy Before Iran War Sent Gas Prices Rocketing](#)
AP News 3/13/26

[The Iran War & Surging Oil Prices Are Affecting Consumers. Here is How.](#)
PBS 3/11/26

[Fears of 1970s Style Stagflation Arise W/Oil Spike to \\$100. Threat?](#)
CNBC 3/9/26

[9% Percent of Full-Service Restaurants at Risk of Closing in 2026, Black Box Warns](#)
FSR 3/03/26

The Big Picture (Economic News)

[Mall Traffic Trends Boost US Centers](#)
CRE Daily 3/13/26

[4th Qtr GDP Revised Down to Just 0.7%](#)
CNBC 3/13/26

[Retail Lending Drives Bank Comeback](#)
CRE Daily 3/12/26

[Higher tax refunds could boost consumer spending](#)
ModernRetail 3/12/26

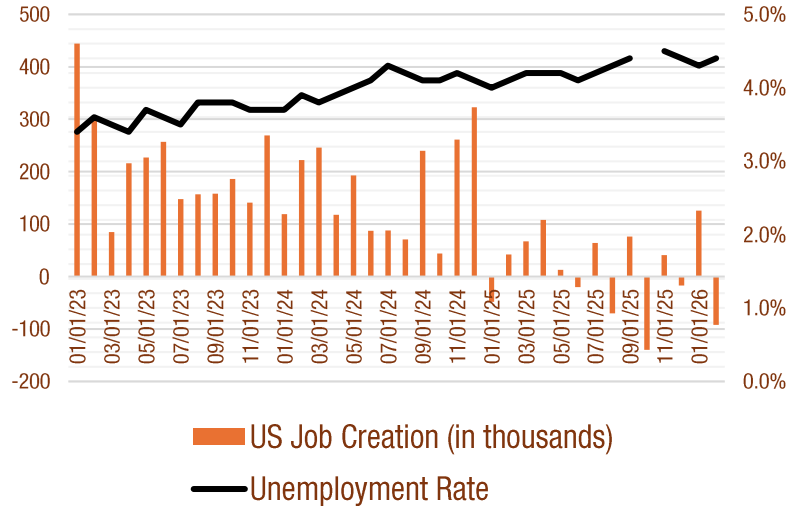
[Consumer Prices Rose 2.4% Annually in February](#)
CNBC 3/11/26

[Grocery prices rise again in February](#)
Supermarket News 3/11/26

[NRF: Retail sales grow in February for 5th consecutive month](#)
Chain Store Age 3/10/26

[Retail Sales Outpace Foot Traffic in 2025](#)
CRE Daily 3/03/26

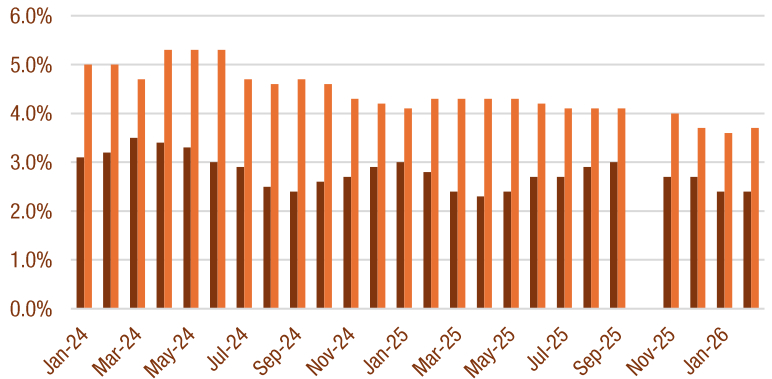
US Unemployment & Job Creation



US Unemployment Rate Feb. 2026: 4.4%
US Job Creation (P) Feb. 2026: -92K

US Inflation Rate Feb. 2026: 2.4%
US Wage Growth Feb. 2026: 3.7%

US Inflation Vs. Wage Growth



■ 12 Month % Change, Consumer Price Index
■ 12 Month % Change, Wage Growth

The Brown Book Retail Newsline

Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

The Consumer is Always Right, Even When Dead Wrong

[In March, Michigan's US Consumer Sentiment Index Reached 55.5, Surpassing Forecasts](#)

VT Markets 3/14/26

[Buy now, pay later usage rises](#)

Chain Store Age 3/13/26

[Grocery Shoppers Embrace Pajama Wear Amid Economic Shift](#)

Retail Insider Canada 3/11/26

[Most St. Patrick's day celebrators to spend less than \\$100 this year](#)

CSA 3/10/26

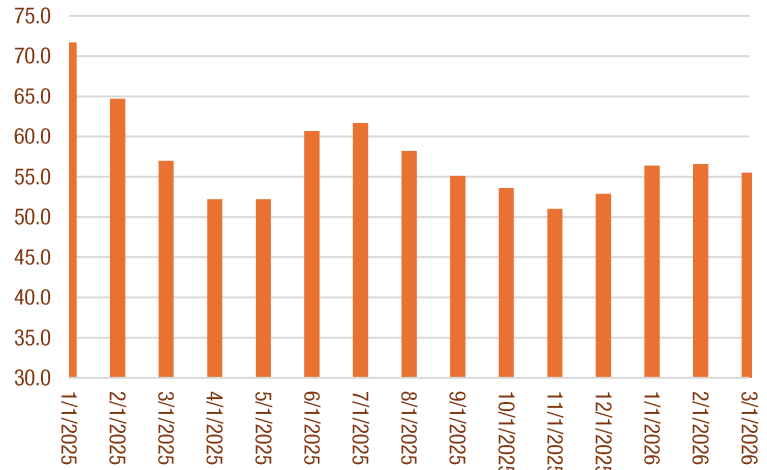
[In the Home Sector, the Weak Will Get Weaker This Year](#)

Retail Dive 3/10/26

[Study: Movie theater visits decreased 10% in 2025](#)

CSA 3/04/26

University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Survey



Mar. 2026 Reading:	55.5
Annual Change:	-2.6%
Monthly Change:	-1.9%

IPOs, Sales and M&A Madness

[Papa Johns Faces renewed Buyout Interest Amid Sales Struggles](#)
QSR 3/12/26

[Dick's Sporting Goods issues weak profit guidance as Foot Locker merger weighs on bottom line](#)
CNBC 3/12/26

[Cumberland Farms acquires Coen Markets](#)
CSP 3/12/26

[Logan's Roadhouse Acquired by SSCP Management](#)
FSR 3/10/26

[Luckin Coffee Backer to Acquire Blue Bottle from Nestlé](#)
QSR 3/06/26

[Largest Freddy's Franchisee JRI Hospitality Acquires 43 More Restaurants](#)
QSR 3/04/26

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Retailer Roundup

[Multi-state cannabis retailer Ascent Wellness on track to open 12 more stores by end of 2026, regardless of falling revenues and growing losses](#)

Inside Retail 3/13/26

[Ross opened 17 stores so far in 2026, plans another 110 new locations this year](#)

Retail Dive 3/12/26

[Lego Store Expansion Accelerates Nationwide](#)

CRE Daily 3/12/26

[Apparel retailer Windsor plans 15 new locations](#)

CSA 3/09/26

[Costco tops estimates; eyes 28 new openings, with 30-plus in 'coming years'](#)

CSA 3/06/26

[Williams-Sonoma unveils first store for its GreenRow brand](#)

CSA 3/06/26

[Gen Z fave Princess Polly signs leases for eight new stores](#)

CSA 3/06/26

[BJ's post strong Q4; says on track to deliver 25 to 30 stores over 2025 and 2026](#)

CSA 3/05/26

[Target plots 30-plus new openings](#)

CSA 3/05/26

[Abercrombie & Fitch to open 30 new stores](#)

CSA 3/04/26

[RCS puts 170-plus Eddie Bauer leases on the market](#)

CSA 3/04/26

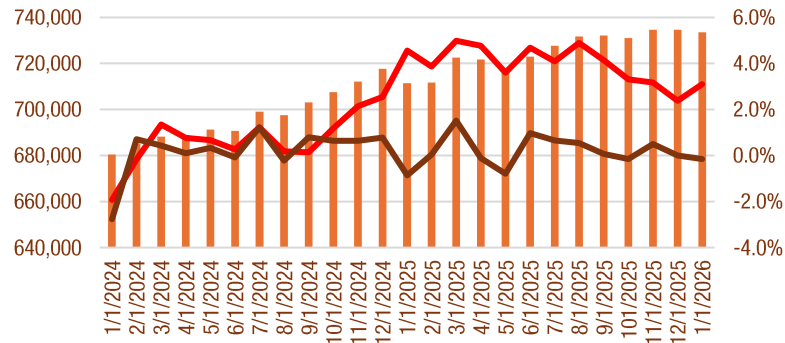
[Store Expansion News: February update](#)

CSA 3/03/26

[Uniqlo opening three NYC stores](#)

CSA 3/03/26

US Retail Sales, All Categories



■ Seasonally Adjusted Sales, Monthly (Millions of Dollars)
 — % Year Over Year Change
 — % Monthly Change

Jan. 2025 Annual Change: +3.1%
 Monthly Change: -0.2%

[Wayfair sets opening date for its second large-format store](#)

CSA 3/03/26

[Nordstrom Rack adds 23 more store openings](#)

CSA 3/02/26

[Sanctuary opens first flagship store in Beverly Hills](#)

InsideRetail 3/02/26

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Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

Grocery Grind

[Meijer Opening 3 Stores \(Across IN, OH & MI\) on May 6th](#)
Progressive Grocer 3/15/26

[Winn-Dixie Absorbs 7 Harveys Supermarkets in FL and GA](#)
Progressive Grocer 3/15/26

[Zubaideh Supermarket Launches in Buffalo NY on Walden Ave](#)
WGRZ 3/14/26

[Big Y Invests \\$130M in Six New Massachusetts Stores in Home State Expansion](#)
Supermarket News 3/13/26

[Kroger plans to shutter 50 Little Clinics](#)
Grocery Dive 3/12/26

[Mapping Grocery Outlet's 36 store closures](#)
Grocery Dive 3/10/26

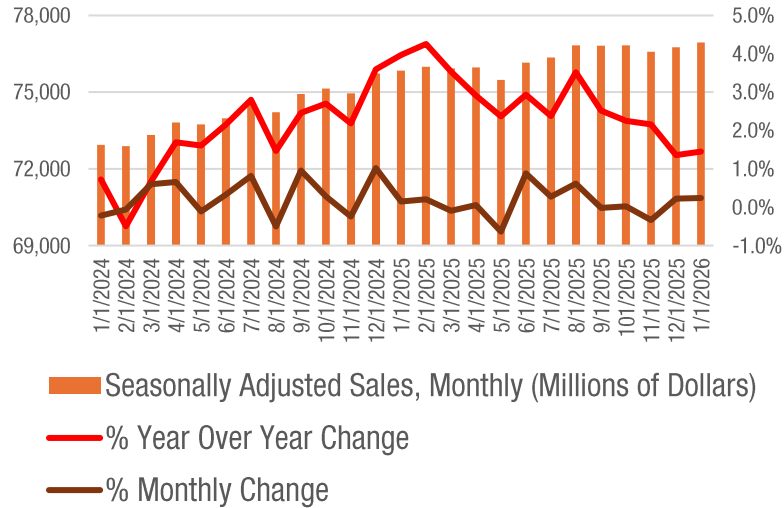
[United Family Opens Albertsons Market in New Mexico](#)
Progressive Grocer 3/06/26

[Tom Thumb Opens Third North Texas Store in Argyle](#)
The Shelby Report 3/05/26

[ALDI's 1st Maine Store to open in Portland; plans to reach 3,200 stores by 2028](#)
Progressive Grocer 3/02/26

[Whole Foods to open small format store in Williamsburg](#)
CSA 03/02/26

US Retail Sales, Grocery Stores



Jan. 2025 Annual Change: +1.5%
Monthly Change: +0.2%

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The Brown Book Retail Newslines

Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

The Restaurant Review

[5 struggling Kona Grill locations to be converted into Benihana or STK restaurants](#)

Restaurant Business 3/13/26

[El Pollo Loco plans faster expansion; plans to open 18-20 restaurants in 2026](#)

QSR 3/13/26

[Famed Taiwan-Based Thai Restaurant Opens its First U.S. Location in Los Angeles](#)

Eater 3/13/26

[Bay Area's Starbird expands into 1ST Texas location, with 36-unit franchise deal](#)

RestaurantNews.com 3/10/26

[The Peach Cobbler Factory Continues to Build in Arizona with New Location in Scottsdale](#)

RestaurantNews.com 3/10/26

[The Big Biscuit to Expand in Kansas](#)

FSR 3/09/26

[Gong cha buys 170 US stores from master franchisee](#)

Restaurant Dive 3/09/26

[Ford's Garage plans 3 locations in Iowa over next 5 years](#)

Iowa city today 3/07/26

[Dine Brands targets non-traditional spaces for dual-branded concept](#)

Restaurant dive 3/06/26

[Marco's Pizza to open 80-plus stores in 2026](#)

Pizza Marketplace.com 3/06/26

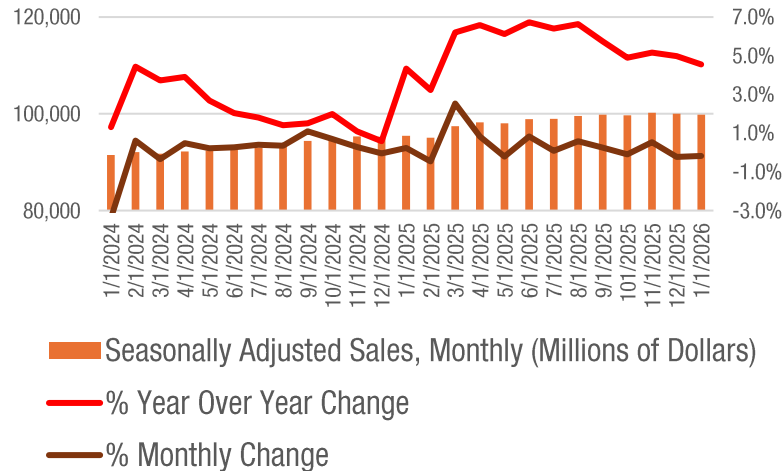
[Cookies N' Cream signed deal to open 1st location in Florida: targeting additional 50 units](#)

restaurant development + design 3/04/26

[Growing Black Rock Coffee Bar Stays the People-Driven Course](#)

QSR 3/04/26

US Retail Sales, Food Services & Drinking Places (Restaurants)



Jan. 2025 Annual Change: +4.5%
Monthly Change: -0.2%

[Mike's Red Tacos Signs 15-Unit Deal in Minnesota](#)

QSR 3/04/26

[L&L Hawaiian Barbecue opens two new locations in Maryland](#)

QSR 3/04/26

[Schlotzsky's Deli launches new 'next-gen' store prototype](#)

CSA 3/02/26

[Nespresso opens experiential concept store in NYC](#)

CSA 3/02/26

[Ford's Garage Announces Debut into Wisconsin with Three New Locations](#)

FSR 3/02/26

[Raising Cane's to Enter Four New Markets in March](#)

QSR 3/02/26

[Playa Bowls to expand in three major markets; says on track to open 20 new locations in 1st Quarter of this year](#)

CSA 03/02/26

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Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate

North of the Border (Canadian Retail News)

[Happy Belly Food Group targets up to 50 new restaurant openings](#)
Retail Insider 3/13/26

[Canada Loses 84,000 Jobs in February: Unemployment Climbs to 6.7%](#)
Canadian Grocer 3/13/26

[Article Expands Brick-And-Mortar Retail with Toronto Showroom](#)
Retail Insider 3/12/26

[B-Stretched Opens at Scotia Plaza; Eyes the PATH as Toronto's Next Wellness Corridor](#)
61X Retail 3/11/26

[Aburi opens its 3rd Japanese concept grocery store in Vancouver](#)
Grocery Business 3/06/26

[MR MIKES Steakhouse Casual surpasses 50 locations in Canada; aiming to reach 100 units across the country in the years ahead](#)
Retail Insider 3/06/26

[Vivo Avanti Expands with Restaurant in King City](#)
Retail Insider 3/05/26

[Sungiven Foods Expanding Metro Vancouver Footprint](#)
Retail Insider 3/05/26

[Samsung Builds Store of the Future in Mississauga](#)
Retail Insider 3/03/26

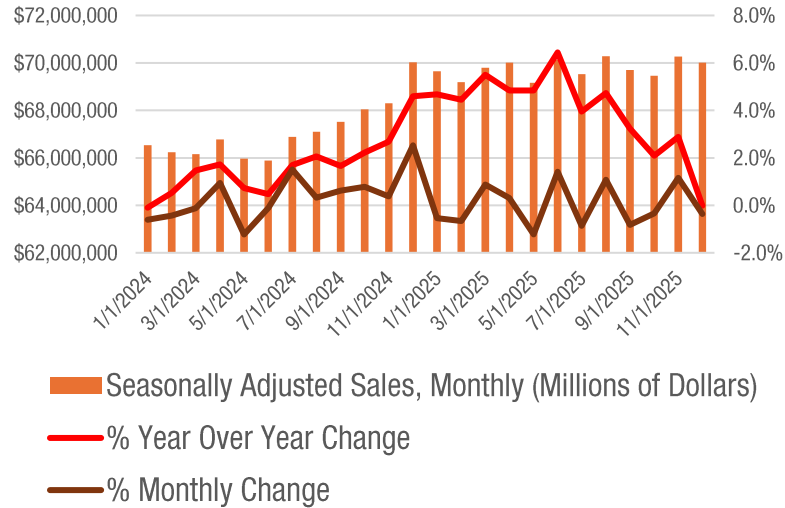
[Roots exploring options — including possible sale](#)
Chain Store Age 3/03/26

[The Changing Roles of the Bank Branch and What Toronto's Closures Tell Us](#)
61X Retail 3/3/26

[RNR Tire Express Entering Canada with Oshawa Debut](#)
Retail Insider 3/02/26

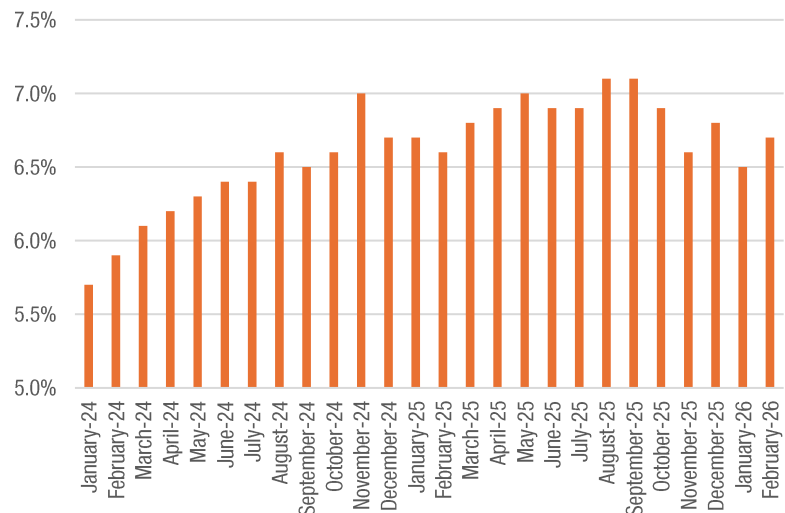
[Kit and Ace Opens Victoria Flagship Store](#)
Retail Insider 3/02/26

Canadian Retail Sales



Dec. 2025 Annual Change: 0.0%
Monthly Change: -0.4%

Canada Unemployment Rate Feb. 2026: 6.7%



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Contraction Faction (Bad News, Bankruptcies & Closures)

[Walmart & Sam's Club Close Four Stores in February](#)
Supermarket News 3/15/26

[Lee & Birch Shutters Remaining 3 Stores. Quits Business](#)
Moody on the Market 3/15/26

[Blazing Bagels, Seattle-Area Chain, Closes All 5 Stores & Files BK](#)
Seattle Times 3/14/26

[Sleep Number issues 'going concern' warning amid turnaround efforts](#)
Chain Store Age 3/13/26

[Planta's Ch. 11 bankruptcy converted to liquidation](#)
Nation's Restaurant News 3/12/26

[Popeyes to close additional stores](#)
Fast Company 3/11/26

[American Mattress Closes Some Stores. Could Chapter 7 Be Next?](#)
Furniture Today 3/11/26

[Saks Global to Close 15 More Stores in BK](#)
National Jeweler 3/10/26

[Kohl's rules out major store closures despite disappointing Q4](#)
Retail Dive 3/10/26

[Slutty Vegan founder Pinky Cole files for bankruptcy](#)
QSR 3/03/26

Well, Isn't That Convenient? (Convenience Store News)

[Buc-ee's to open first Ohio travel center while planning 2nd Ohio location and 1st Nebraska location](#)
CSP 3/13/26

[Cumberland Farms acquires Coen Markets](#)
C-Store Dive 3/12/26

[Casey's expects to open 80 new stores by end of this fiscal year](#)
Modern Retail 3/02/26

[7-Eleven acquire 15 retail, fuel sites from Short Line Express Market in Las Vegas area](#)
CSP 3/04/26

[Sunoco acquires 48 retail, fuel sites from Capitol Petroleum Group](#)
CSP 3/02/26

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Gary Gallelli
CEO - Partner
gary@gallellire.com



Rick Phillips
Managing Director
rphillips@gallellire.com



Pat Ronan
Vice President
pat@gallellire.com



Aman Bains
Associate Vice President
abains@gallellire.com



Adam Rainey
Associate Vice President
arainey@gallellire.com



Kevin Soares
Executive Vice
President | Partner
ksoares@gallellire.com



Bob Berndt
Executive Vice
President | Partner
bberndt@gallellire.com



Jeff Hagan
Senior Vice
President | Partner
jhagan@gallellire.com



Phillip Kyle
Senior Vice President
pkyle@gallellire.com



Matt Goldstein
Vice President
mgoldstein@gallellire.com



Kurt Conley
Senior Associate
kconley@gallellire.com



Robb Osborne
Partner
rosborne@gallellire.com



Brandon Sessions
Senior Vice President
bsessions@gallellire.com



Kannon Kuhn
Associate
kkuhn@gallellire.com



Ed Benoit
Land/Investments
ebenoit@gallellire.com



Skip Andreae
Land/Investments
sandreae@gallellire.com



3005 Douglas Blvd., Suite 200
Roseville, CA 95661
916-772-1700



Garrick H. Brown

Gallelli Real Estate
gbrown@gallellire.com
(916) 789-3324

ABOUT THE WRITER

Garrick Brown is one of the leading real estate analysts in the United States; he is a 25-year industry veteran analyst and thought leader in the space, as well as an experienced manager of large, national teams of researchers. He has a strong background in all the commercial real estate product types, though for the last 15 years he has primarily been known for his work in the retail space.

Garrick is regularly quoted on real estate, retail and economic matters by the Wall Street Journal, the CBS Evening News, NBC News, CNBC, National Public Radio, Women's Wear Daily and dozens of Business Journals and other industry publications.

Mr. Brown is a major business influencer; he has over 21,000 followers on LinkedIn, where he regularly posts economic and commercial real estate commentary to an audience consisting primarily of brokers, retailers, developers, site selection professionals, appraisers, lenders, investors, private equity, economic development professionals and business media. Garrick also produces a regular podcast, The Retail Grind, with Bill Yanek, the CEO of ConnexFM (North America's largest facilities management trade group), where he explores the latest economic, retail and real estate news.

Mr. Brown is frequently asked to contribute to major industry publications. He authored the retail real estate portion of the 2023 edition of the Urban Land Institute and PriceWaterhouseCoopers' trademark industry publication, Emerging Trends in Real Estate.

Garrick is a renowned public speaker on economic, real estate and retail matters. He is known for his dynamic and entertaining speaking style and for his ability to tell the stories behind the data, synthesizing trends and connecting dots beyond the obvious. He regularly speaks to private and academic groups (Baruch College, Florida State University, Harvard Graduate School of Design, UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate, etc.), and all the major, national commercial real estate-focused trade groups (BOMA, California Bankers Association, CCIM, ConnexFM, CREW, ICSC, NAIOP, Urban Land Institute, etc.).

Mr. Brown currently works as a freelance writer and consultant for a number of private clients. In addition to his public speaking engagements, Garrick frequently advises corporate real estate teams regarding economic conditions, market forecasting, business and brokerage strategies.

His previous experience includes managing Cushman & Wakefield's retail research for the Americas, as well as managing commercial real estate research functions (all property types) for the Western United States for Cassidy Turley and Newmark. He began his career as a research associate with Grubb & Ellis in Kansas City, Missouri and later managed research operations for Colliers International for the Indianapolis, Indiana and Sacramento, California markets.

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Top News Impacting Retail Real Estate



The Brown Book is the most comprehensive database of retail real estate contacts for over 20,000 retailers across the US and Canada.

What do we track?

- Concept Name/Parent Company
- Store Counts (Current & Historic)
- Store Size Requirements (Min/Max and Median Square Footages)
- Preferred Real Estate Types & Active Geographies
- Search by Sector/Subsector/Subtype
(Need a List of Competitive Boba Tea Chains? No Problem)
- Decision Maker Contact Information (email/phone/LinkedIn profile)

The Brown Book Includes Chain Store Sales

Data from CenterCheck

CenterCheck is the industry's top data firm for the Holy Grail of brokerage—accurate locational sales volumes. They partner with us and provide us with systemwide average sales (based on credit/debit card activity) for the chains that they track.

Brown Book White Glove Service

If you are looking for a concept not in the Brown Book, let us know and we will track it down for you. We respond to all requests within one business day and 90% of the time we can track down the information our subscribers are searching for.

Group Subscription plans as low as \$100 per person



SAMPLE RETAIL CATEGORIES IN THE BROWN BOOK

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Apparel</i> | <i>Furniture/Furnishings/Lifestyle</i> |
| <i>Appliances/Electronics</i> | <i>Garden/Pool/Yard</i> |
| <i>Automotive</i> | <i>Grocery</i> |
| <i>Bars/Gaming/Nightlife</i> | <i>Gun Store/Shooting Range</i> |
| <i>Beauty</i> | <i>Gyms/Health Clubs</i> |
| <i>Cooking/Homewares</i> | <i>Holiday/Party/Seasonal</i> |
| <i>Crafts/Games/Hobbies/Toys</i> | <i>Jewelry</i> |
| <i>C-Stores/Gas Stations</i> | <i>Music/Media Stores</i> |
| <i>DIY/Hardware/Home Improvement</i> | <i>Nutrition/Supplements/Vitamins</i> |
| <i>Dollar Stores</i> | <i>Office Supplies</i> |
| <i>Drug Stores/Pharmacies</i> | <i>Restaurant</i> |
| <i>Educational Concepts</i> | <i>Social Clubs</i> |
| <i>Experiential Retail</i> | <i>Sporting Goods</i> |
| <i>Financial Services</i> | <i>Sports Collectibles/Memorabilia</i> |
| <i>Food Retail (Alcohol/Spirits)</i> | <i>Sports Training</i> |
| <i>Food Retail (Specialty)</i> | <i>Theaters</i> |
| | <i>Veterinary Care/Pet Related</i> |
| | AND MANY MORE... |