

Walgreen Co. October Sales Increase 19.2 Percent

November 1, 2001

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Sales were helped by a very good Halloween season, which included an excellent sell-through of candy and costumes. Customer counts showed a strong increase in October, continuing the trend that Walgreens has seen for the past several months.

October pharmacy sales increased 25.2 percent, while comparable pharmacy sales rose 20.3 percent.

Calendar year-to-date sales were \$20,856,456,000, an increase of 17.2 percent from \$17,800,873,000 in 2000.

Fiscal year-to-date sales for the two months were \$4,296,311,000 up 17.2 percent from \$3,665,952,000. Comparable store sales for the fiscal year to date increased 11.2 percent.

Comparable store front-end sales increased 3.0 percent during October.

Walgreens opened 25 stores during October, relocated nine additional stores and closed one store. At Oct. 31, the company operated 3,571 drugstores in 43 states and Puerto Rico, versus 3,205 a year ago.

Please note, monthly sales numbers are preliminary and unaudited.