U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY JULY 15, 2016, AT 8:30 A.M. EDT

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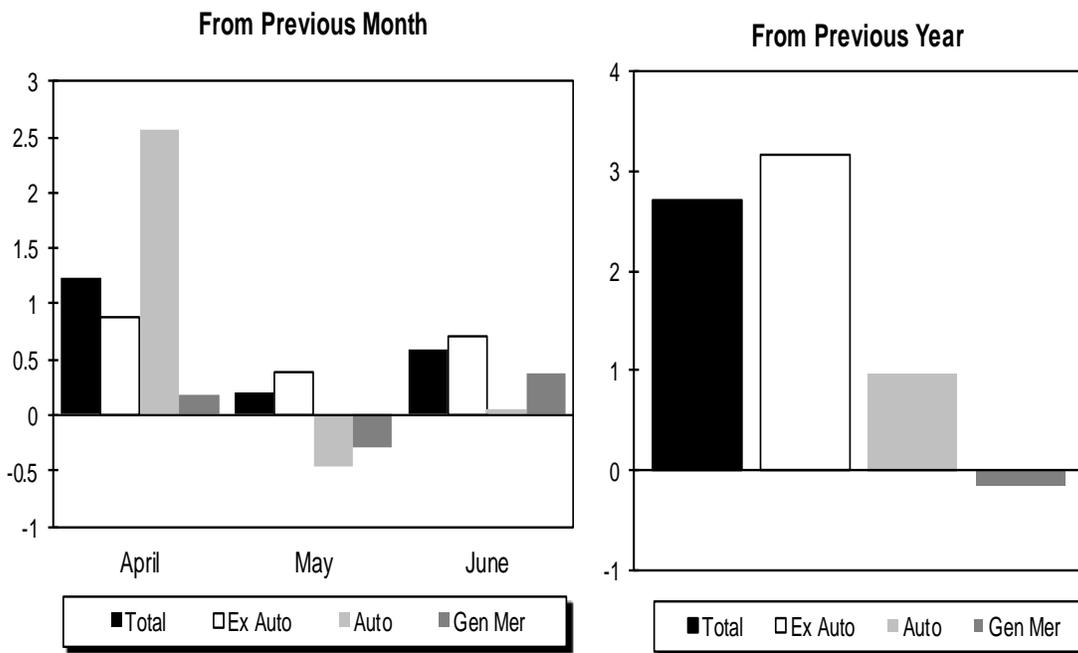## ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES
JUNE 2016

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were $457.0 billion, an increase of 0.6 percent (±0.5%) from the previous month, and 2.7 percent (±0.7%) above June 2015. Total sales for the April 2016 through June 2016 period were up 2.6 percent (±0.5%) from the same period a year ago. The April 2016 to May 2016 percent change was revised from up 0.5 percent (±0.5%)* to up 0.2 percent (±0.1%).

Retail trade sales were up 0.7 percent (±0.5%) from May 2016, and up 2.4 percent (±0.5%) from last year. Nonstore retailers were up 14.2 percent (±1.2%) from June 2015, while Health and Personal Care Stores were up 8.4 percent (±2.1%) from last year.

The advance estimates are based on a subsample of the Census Bureau's full retail and food services sample. A stratified random sampling method is used to select approximately 4,700 retail and food services firms whose sales are then weighted and benchmarked to represent the complete universe of over three million retail and food services firms. For an explanation of the measures of sampling variability included in this report, please see the Reliability of Estimates section on the last page of this publication.

Percent Change in Retail and Food Services Sales

(Estimates adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes)

From Previous Month / **From Previous Year**

The Advance Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services for July is scheduled to be released August 12, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. EDT.

For customized retail time series estimates by industry, visit the Census Bureau's web site at www.census.gov/timeseries.

To learn more about this release and the other indicators the U.S. Census Bureau publishes, join us for the Investigating Economic Indicators Webinar Series. For more information, visit http://www.census.gov/econ/webinar.

To receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators, download the America's Economy app for Apple and Android smartphones and tablets.

The U.S. Census Bureau updated its Application Programming Interface (API) with monthly and quarterly economic indicators. The API allows developers to combine Census Bureau statistics with other data sets to create tools for research on a variety of topics. For more information, visit www.census.gov/developers.

For additional survey information, visit www.census.gov/retail.

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different than zero.

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services, by Kind of Business

(Total sales estimates are shown in millions of dollars and are based on data from the Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, Monthly Retail Trade Survey, and administrative records.)

NAICS[1] code	Kind of Business	Not Adjusted						Adjusted[2]				
		6 Month Total		2016			2015		2016			2015	
		2016	% Chg. 2015	Jun.[3] (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun.	May	Jun.[3] (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun. (r)	May (r)
	Retail & food services, total	2,657,142	3.1	462,314	469,523	450,730	448,229	462,615	456,978	454,359	453,397	444,877	444,400
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) …	2,102,254	3.1	366,574	372,629	355,012	354,120	365,642	365,330	362,765	361,371	354,099	353,357
	Retail	2,330,986	2.6	408,054	412,166	394,134	396,354	407,384	402,609	399,837	399,134	393,054	392,927
	GAFO[4]	(*)	(*)	(*)	103,589	98,419	100,211	105,975	(*)	105,545	105,410	105,536	105,862
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	554,888	3.2	95,740	96,894	95,718	94,109	96,973	91,648	91,594	92,026	90,778	91,043
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	511,560	3.4	88,096	89,565	88,500	86,400	89,629	84,464	84,416	84,851	83,478	83,765
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	74,382	72,883	71,321	74,245	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores......	(*)	(*)	(*)	7,329	7,218	7,709	7,344	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	51,391	3.9	8,760	8,769	8,518	8,501	8,831	9,012	8,966	8,976	8,773	8,938
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,788	4,611	4,632	4,867	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,981	3,907	3,869	3,964	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	46,602	-2.5	8,003	7,697	7,179	8,311	7,931	8,555	8,554	8,519	8,974	8,800
44311, 13	Appl., T.V. & camera.................	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,875	5,482	6,088	5,963	(*)	6,393	6,360	6,436	6,426
44312	Computer & software stores.......	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**.....................	176,761	7.7	34,060	34,788	32,496	31,709	33,282	29,374	28,285	29,011	27,288	27,363
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	29,004	27,029	26,899	27,130	(*)	24,769	25,261	23,554	23,612
445	**Food & beverage stores**..............	346,614	2.5	59,328	59,829	56,779	57,062	59,494	59,087	58,789	58,553	57,527	57,377
4451	Grocery stores	311,463	2.4	52,854	53,550	50,958	50,950	53,201	52,696	52,552	52,372	51,413	51,303
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,311	4,043	4,241	4,369	(*)	4,302	4,287	4,224	4,213
446	**Health & personal care stores**	163,820	7.5	27,745	27,828	27,163	25,647	25,436	27,997	27,800	27,633	25,828	25,641
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	23,555	22,980	21,530	21,503	(*)	23,415	23,306	21,747	21,633
447	**Gasoline stations**	193,637	-10.3	37,061	36,192	32,852	40,745	39,999	34,095	33,698	32,984	37,727	37,208
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	116,823	0.4	19,590	21,472	20,221	19,612	22,093	21,130	21,335	21,169	21,315	21,480
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	772	729	707	791	(*)	731	720	726	736
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,659	3,600	3,278	3,801	(*)	3,462	3,495	3,506	3,519
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,254	7,804	7,870	8,669	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	2,797	2,762	2,481	2,822	(*)	2,886	2,868	2,772	2,833
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores**.............................	42,254	6.4	7,516	7,195	6,970	7,084	6,995	7,987	7,924	7,823	7,480	7,522
452	**General merchandise stores**..........	318,416	0.4	54,730	55,712	52,960	54,135	57,441	56,130	55,921	56,086	56,218	56,334
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.)........	70,985	-3.8	12,447	12,536	11,925	12,561	13,692	13,242	13,149	13,267	13,744	13,958
4521	Department stores (incl. L.D.)[5]......	(*)	(*)	(*)	12,851	12,207	12,737	13,896	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4529	Other general merch. stores.... ..	(*)	(*)	(*)	43,176	41,035	41,574	43,749	(*)	42,772	42,819	42,474	42,376
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters......................	(*)	(*)	(*)	37,244	35,492	35,927	37,812	(*)	36,985	37,009	36,735	36,640
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores......	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,932	5,543	5,647	5,937	(*)	5,787	5,810	5,739	5,736
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	60,874	5.3	11,265	11,330	10,240	10,584	10,697	10,689	10,590	10,680	10,079	10,062
454	**Nonstore retailers**	258,906	10.6	44,256	44,460	43,038	38,855	38,212	46,905	46,381	45,674	41,067	41,159
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	38,790	37,491	33,699	33,091	(*)	40,322	39,884	35,324	35,467
722	**Food services & drinking places** ...	326,156	6.4	54,260	57,357	56,596	51,875	55,231	54,369	54,522	54,263	51,823	51,473

(*) Advance estimates are not available for this kind of business.   (NA) Not available   (a) Advance estimate   (p) Preliminary estimate   (r) Revised estimate

(S) Estimate does not meet publication standards because of high sampling variability (coefficient of variation is greater than 30%), poor response quality (total quantity response rate is less than 50%), or other concerns about the estimate's quality.

(1) For a full description of the NAICS codes used in this table, see http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics

(2) Estimates are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variation and for holiday and trading day differences, but not for price changes. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program. The factors derived from the program are used in calculating all seasonally adjusted estimates shown in this table. Year-to-date seasonally adjusted sales estimates are not tabulated. Adjustment factors and explanatory material can be found on the Internet at http://www.census.gov/retail

(3) Advance estimates are based on early reports obtained from a small sample of firms selected from the larger Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS) sample. All other estimates are from the MRTS sample.

(4) GAFO represents firms which specialize in department store types of merchandise and is comprised of furniture & home furnishings (442), electronics & appliances (443), clothing & accessories (448), sporting goods, hobby, book, and music (451), general merchandise (452), office supply, stationery, and gift stores (4532).

(5) Estimates include data for leased departments operated within department stores. Data for this line are not included in broader kind-of-business totals.

Note: Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at http://www.census.gov/retail

Table 2. Estimated Change in Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services, by Kind of Business

(Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey,
 Monthly Retail Trade Survey, and administrative records.)

NAICS code	Kind of Business	Percent Change[1]					
		Jun. 2016 Advance from --		May 2016 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2016 through Jun. 2016 from --	
		May 2016 (p)	Jun. 2015 (r)	Apr. 2016 (r)	May 2015 (r)	Jan. 2016 through Mar. 2016	Apr. 2015 through Jun. 2015
	Retail & food services, total	0.6	2.7	0.2	2.2	1.4	2.6
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.7	3.2	0.4	2.7	1.7	3.0
	Retail ....….............	0.7	2.4	0.2	1.8	1.5	2.3
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	0.1	1.0	-0.5	0.6	0.3	1.4
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	0.1	1.2	-0.5	0.8	0.5	1.6
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	0.5	2.7	-0.1	0.3	0.6	2.1
443	Electronics & appliance stores	0.0	-4.7	0.4	-2.8	0.6	-3.4
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers…………………..	3.9	7.6	-2.5	3.4	-2.1	5.8
445	Food & beverage stores.................	0.5	2.7	0.4	2.5	1.3	2.5
4451	Grocery stores	0.3	2.5	0.3	2.4	1.3	2.4
446	Health & personal care stores	0.7	8.4	0.6	8.4	2.9	8.2
447	Gasoline stations	1.2	-9.6	2.2	-9.4	5.3	-9.3
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	-1.0	-0.9	0.8	-0.7	-0.1	-0.6
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores……………………….	0.8	6.8	1.3	5.3	2.1	5.5
452	General merchandise stores..........	0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	0.2	0.0
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).........	0.7	-3.7	-0.9	-5.8	-0.5	-3.8
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	0.9	6.1	-0.8	5.2	3.5	6.1
454	Nonstore retailers	1.1	14.2	1.5	12.7	5.2	12.7
722	Food services & drinking places	-0.3	4.9	0.5	5.9	1.0	5.4

(p) Preliminary estimate   (r) Revised estimate

(1) Estimates shown in this table are derived from adjusted estimates provided in Table 1 of this report.

Note: Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at http://www.census.gov/retail.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Survey Description

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the Advance Monthly Retail Trade and Food Services Survey (MARTS) to provide an early estimate of monthly sales by kind of business for retail and food service firms located in the United States. Each month, questionnaires are mailed to a probability sample of approximately 4,700 employer firms selected from the larger Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS). Advance sales estimates are computed using a link relative estimator. The change in sales from the previous month is estimated using only units that have reported data for both the current and previous month. There is no imputation or adjustment for nonrespondents in MARTS. The total sales estimate is derived by multiplying this ratio by the preliminary sales estimate for the previous month (derived from the larger MRTS sample). Detailed industry estimates are summed to derive total estimates at broad industry levels. The monthly estimates are adjusted using annual survey estimates and for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences. Additional information on MARTS and MRTS can be found on the Census Bureau website at: http://www.census.gov/retail.

Reliability of Estimates

Because the estimates presented in this report are based on a sample survey, they contain sampling error and nonsampling error.

Sampling error is the difference between the estimate and the result that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of the sampling frame conducted under the same survey conditions. This error occurs because only a subset of the entire sampling frame is measured in a sample survey. Standard errors and coefficients of variation (CV), as given in Table 3 of this report, are estimated measures of sampling variation.

The margin of sampling error, as used on page 1, gives a range about the estimate which is a 90 percent confidence interval. If, for example, the percent change estimate is +1.2 percent and its estimated standard error is 0.9 percent, then the margin of sampling error is ±1.753 x 0.9 percent or ±1.6 percent, and the 90 percent confidence interval is –0.4 percent to +2.8 percent. If the interval contains 0, then one does not have sufficient evidence to conclude at the 90 percent confidence level that the change is different from zero and therefore the change is not statistically significant. Estimated changes shown in the text are statistically significant unless otherwise noted. For a monthly total, the median estimated coefficient of variation is given. The resulting confidence interval is the estimated value ±1.753 x CV x (the estimated monthly total). The Census Bureau recommends that individuals using estimates in this report incorporate this information into their analyses, as sampling error could affect the conclusions drawn from the estimates.

Nonsampling error encompasses all other factors that contribute to the total error of a sample survey estimate. This type of error can occur because of nonresponse, insufficient coverage of the universe of retail businesses, mistakes in the recording and coding of data, and other errors of collection, response, coverage, or processing. Although nonsampling error is not measured directly, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the process to minimize this type of error.

Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability and Revision to Advance Estimates Jun. 2016

(Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey and Monthly Retail Trade Survey)

NAICS Code	Kind of Business	Median CV [1] for Current Mo. (%)	Median standard error [1] for Percent change			Revision for month-to-month change [2]	
			Previous Mo. to Current Mo.	Previous Qtr. to Current Qtr.	Current Mo. to same Mo. Last Yr.	Average revision	Median absolute revision
	Retail & food services, total ……………..…………………	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ..	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2
	Retail …..…………………………	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers ……..	1.3	1.0	0.4	1.2	-0.1	0.4
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	1.3	1.1	0.5	1.3	-0.1	0.5
442	Furniture & home furn. stores…….	2.5	1.2	0.8	1.3	0.1	0.2
443	Electronics & appliance stores …..	2.9	0.5	0.7	1.6	-0.1	0.3
444	Building material & garden eq. &…. supplies dealers……………………	2.0	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.7
445	Food & beverage stores……………	1.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2
4451	Grocery stores ………………….	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2
446	Health & personal care stores ……	2.2	0.3	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.2
447	Gasoline stations ………………….	2.0	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.5
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores ………………………………	2.1	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.4
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores………………………..	2.3	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	0.4
452	General merchandise stores……….	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.)……	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
453	Miscellaneous store retailers ……..	2.9	2.1	1.2	2.5	0.4	0.8
454	Nonstore retailers ………………….	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.4
722	Food services & drinking places ..	2.3	1.0	0.8	2.1	0.0	0.4

(1) Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation or holiday or trading day variation. Medians are based on estimates for the most recent 12 months.

(2) These columns provide measures of the difference between the advance-to-preliminary and preliminary-to-final estimates of month-to-month change for the same pair of months as measured by the Advance sample and MRTS sample. The average and median revisions are based on estimates for the most recent 12 months.

Note: Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at http://www.census.gov/retail