

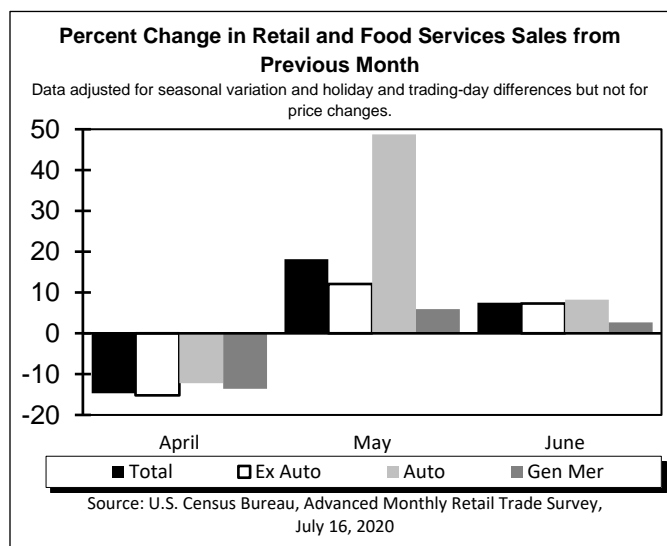
ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, JUNE 2020

Release Number: CB20-102

Statement Regarding COVID-19 Impact: Due to recent events surrounding COVID-19, many businesses are operating on a limited capacity or have ceased operations completely. The Census Bureau has monitored response and data quality and determined estimates in this release meet publication standards. For more information on the compilation of this month's report, see <[COVID-19 FAQs](#)>.

July 16, 2020 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2020:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES		
June 2020	\$524.3 billion	7.5%
May 2020 (revised)	\$487.7 billion	18.2%
Next release: August 14, 2020		
* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero. Data adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences but not for price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advanced Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2020.		



Advance Estimates of U.S. Retail and Food Services

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2020, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$524.3 billion, an increase of 7.5 percent (± 0.5 percent) from the previous month, and 1.1 percent (± 0.7 percent) above June 2019. Total sales for the April 2020 through June 2020 period were down 8.1 percent (± 0.5 percent) from the same period a year ago. The April 2020 to May 2020 percent change was revised from up 17.7 percent (± 0.5 percent) to up 18.2 percent (± 0.3 percent).

Retail trade sales were up 6.4 percent (± 0.5 percent) from May 2020, and 5.0 percent (± 0.7 percent) above last year. Nonstore retailers were up 23.5 percent (± 1.4 percent) from June 2019, while building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers were up 17.3 percent (± 2.1 percent) from last year.

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General Information

The July 2020 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on August 14, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <www.census.gov/retail/>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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 5,500 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.

Survey Description

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the Advance Monthly Retail Trade and Food Services Survey 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 5,500 employer firms selected from the larger Monthly Retail Trade Survey. Advance sales estimates are computed using a link relative estimator. For each detailed industry, we compute a ratio of current-to-previous month weighted sales using data from units for which we have obtained usable responses for both the current and previous month. For each detailed industry, the advance total sales estimates for the current month is computed by multiplying this ratio by the preliminary sales estimate for the previous month (derived from the larger MRTS) at the appropriate industry level. Total estimates for broader industries are computed as the sum of the detailed industry estimates. The link relative estimate is used because imputation is not performed for most nonrespondents in MARTS. For a limited number of nonresponding companies that have influential effects on the estimates, sales may be estimated based on historical performance of that company. The monthly estimates are benchmarked to the annual survey estimates from the Annual Retail Trade Survey once available. The estimates are adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading day differences. Additional information on MARTS and MRTS can be found on the Census Bureau website at: <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

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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 $\pm 1.753 \times 0.9$ 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 $\pm 1.753 \times CV \times$ (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.

Weather Information

For information on the impact of weather events on the compilation of this report, please see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on our website at:

<www.census.gov/retail/marts_weather_faqs.html>

RESOURCES

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before. <www.census.gov/developers/>

FRED Mobile App



ECONOMIC DATA | ST. LOUIS FED

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Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and

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Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

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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		2020			2019		2020			2019	
		2020	% Chg. 2019	Jun. ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun.	May	Jun. ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun. (r)	May (r)
	Retail & food services,												
	total	2,891,507	-3.4	530,442	507,477	410,345	518,273	547,130	524,306	487,708	412,766	518,614	516,913
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	2,324,681	-2.6	415,754	399,076	340,412	413,530	435,358	414,070	385,871	344,298	416,024	414,476
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	2,689,355	-2.1	494,766	476,072	384,063	474,450	500,912	490,681	458,548	386,718	477,076	474,433
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	2,122,529	-0.9	380,078	367,671	314,130	369,707	389,140	380,445	356,711	318,250	374,486	371,996
	Retail	2,600,480	-0.6	482,116	465,086	380,223	452,242	479,466	476,881	448,201	382,734	454,256	453,199
	GAFO⁴	(*)	(*)	(*)	89,642	68,325	105,686	110,244	(*)	87,992	71,515	109,206	108,872
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	566,826	-6.4	114,688	108,401	69,933	104,743	111,772	110,236	101,837	68,468	102,590	102,437
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	520,724	-6.8	105,805	100,037	63,060	96,728	103,357	101,736	93,580	61,763	94,646	94,476
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	77,758	50,003	77,853	83,481	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,364	6,873	8,015	8,415	(*)	8,257	6,705	7,944	7,961
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	46,751	-16.4	9,355	7,202	3,865	9,539	10,069	9,575	7,224	4,034	9,926	9,872
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,074	1,904	5,098	5,342	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	1,961	4,441	4,727	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	Electronics & appliance stores	35,784	-19.2	6,604	4,729	3,228	7,481	7,574	7,048	5,129	3,758	8,070	8,101
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....	210,422	9.9	42,377	43,124	36,783	34,575	38,372	36,699	36,826	32,815	31,298	31,200
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	36,608	30,743	30,187	33,158	(*)	32,282	28,361	27,644	27,794
445	Food & beverage stores.....	420,975	12.8	71,051	75,377	70,115	63,795	65,842	71,775	72,663	71,116	63,856	63,397
4451	Grocery stores	378,384	13.0	62,952	67,113	63,230	56,948	58,830	63,652	64,656	63,869	57,005	56,622
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,285	5,211	5,011	5,109	(*)	6,072	5,573	4,976	4,922
446	Health & personal care stores	173,065	-2.2	28,233	27,305	26,709	28,966	30,847	28,318	27,360	26,952	30,017	30,065
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	24,545	24,749	23,745	25,717	(*)	24,545	24,700	24,838	24,944
447	Gasoline stations	202,152	-17.2	35,676	31,405	26,282	43,823	46,218	33,625	29,160	26,048	41,538	42,480
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	73,665	-39.3	15,860	8,643	2,904	20,960	22,938	17,099	8,336	3,013	22,271	22,150
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	141	90	645	747	(*)	125	81	652	665
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	1,153	495	3,272	3,807	(*)	1,042	470	3,419	3,455
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,036	704	9,016	9,403	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	1,423	424	3,008	3,254	(*)	1,424	427	3,284	3,280
451	Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores	34,164	-6.1	8,059	6,154	3,381	6,585	6,445	8,257	6,526	3,667	6,845	6,763
452	General merchandise stores.....	344,580	2.3	59,143	61,663	54,117	58,727	60,695	61,048	59,458	56,129	59,553	59,486
4521	Department stores	48,978	-19.5	9,339	8,346	5,804	10,625	11,299	10,086	8,416	6,181	11,285	11,396
4529	Other general merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	53,317	48,313	48,102	49,396	(*)	51,042	49,948	48,268	48,090
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	44,921	40,843	41,281	42,167	(*)	42,946	42,456	41,364	41,179
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,396	7,470	6,821	7,229	(*)	8,096	7,492	6,904	6,911
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	58,769	-7.3	10,867	9,686	7,454	11,468	12,563	10,397	8,837	7,591	11,265	11,159
454	Nonstore retailers	433,327	18.4	80,203	81,397	75,452	61,580	66,131	82,804	84,845	79,143	67,027	66,089
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	75,973	69,952	54,928	58,855	(*)	78,974	73,479	59,446	58,738
722	Food services & drinking places	291,027	-22.8	48,326	42,391	30,122	66,031	67,664	47,425	39,507	30,032	64,358	63,714

(*) 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, musical instrument, and book (451), general merchandise (452), office supply, stationery, and gift stores (4532).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2020. 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 www.census.gov/retail/how_surveys_are_collected.html.

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. 2020 Advance from --		May 2020 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2020 through Jun. 2020 from --	
		May 2020 (p)	Jun. 2019 (r)	Apr. 2020 (r)	May 2019 (r)	Jan. 2020 through Mar. 2020	Apr. 2019 through Jun. 2019
	Retail & food services,						
	total	7.5	1.1	18.2	-5.6	-7.5	-8.1
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	7.3	-0.5	12.1	-6.9	-8.6	-8.0
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	7.0	2.9	18.6	-3.3	-6.1	-6.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	6.7	1.6	12.1	-4.1	-6.9	-5.5
	Retail	6.4	5.0	17.1	-1.1	-4.1	-3.8
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	8.2	7.5	48.7	-0.6	-2.9	-8.7
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ...	8.7	7.5	51.5	-0.9	-3.3	-9.2
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	32.5	-3.5	79.1	-26.8	-26.0	-29.7
443	Electronics & appliance stores	37.4	-12.7	36.5	-36.7	-30.3	-34.2
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....	-0.3	17.3	12.2	18.0	5.5	12.8
445	Food & beverage stores.....	-1.2	12.4	2.2	14.6	2.5	13.1
4451	Grocery stores	-1.6	11.7	1.2	14.2	1.9	13.0
446	Health & personal care stores	3.5	-5.7	1.5	-9.0	-9.8	-8.1
447	Gasoline stations	15.3	-19.1	11.9	-31.4	-24.9	-30.0
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	105.1	-23.2	176.7	-62.4	-49.2	-57.3
451	Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores	26.5	20.6	78.0	-3.5	-2.7	-9.0
452	General merchandise stores.....	2.7	2.5	5.9	0.0	-4.4	-1.2
4521	Department stores	19.8	-10.6	36.2	-26.1	-19.5	-27.7
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	17.7	-7.7	16.4	-20.8	-21.3	-19.9
454	Nonstore retailers	-2.4	23.5	7.2	28.4	17.9	24.9
722	Food services & drinking places	20.0	-26.3	31.5	-38.0	-33.8	-38.8

(p) Preliminary estimate (r) Revised estimate

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2020. 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 www.census.gov/retail/how_surveys_are_collected.html.

Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability and Revision to Advance Estimates June 2020

(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
441 4411, 4412 442 443 444 445 4451 446 447 448 451 452 4521 453 454 722	Retail & food services,						
	total	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2
	Retail, total	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2
	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.4	1.1	0.5	1.2	0.6	0.5
	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	1.5	1.2	0.5	1.3	0.7	0.4
	Furniture & home furn. stores.....	2.5	1.3	0.8	1.7	0.6	0.4
	Electronics & appliance stores	1.4	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4
	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....	1.5	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.4	0.8
	Food & beverage stores.....	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3
	Grocery stores	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3
	Health & personal care stores	1.9	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.2	0.4
	Gasoline stations	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.6
	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	2.2	0.8	0.6	1.0	-0.3	1.0
	Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores	1.9	1.0	1.0	2.7	-0.4	1.0
	General merchandise stores.....	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.1
	Department stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.2
	Miscellaneous store retailers	4.3	3.5	1.6	3.6	0.3	1.5
	Nonstore retailers	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.8	-0.3	0.5
	Food services & drinking places	3.3	1.1	0.7	1.9	-0.3	0.6

(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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2020. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at <www.census.gov/retail/how_surveys_are_collected.html>.