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SECOND QUARTER 2009 DATA FROM THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT: LARGE U.S. RETAIL TRADE CORPORATIONS

After-Tax Profits and Sales, Second Quarter 2009 - Not Seasonally Adjusted

Second quarter 2009 **after-tax profits** of U.S. retail corporations with assets of \$50 million and over totaled \$13.3 billion, up \$5.9 (± 0.1) billion from the after-tax profits of \$7.4 billion recorded in first quarter 2009, and up \$0.9 (± 0.2) billion from the \$12.4 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2008.

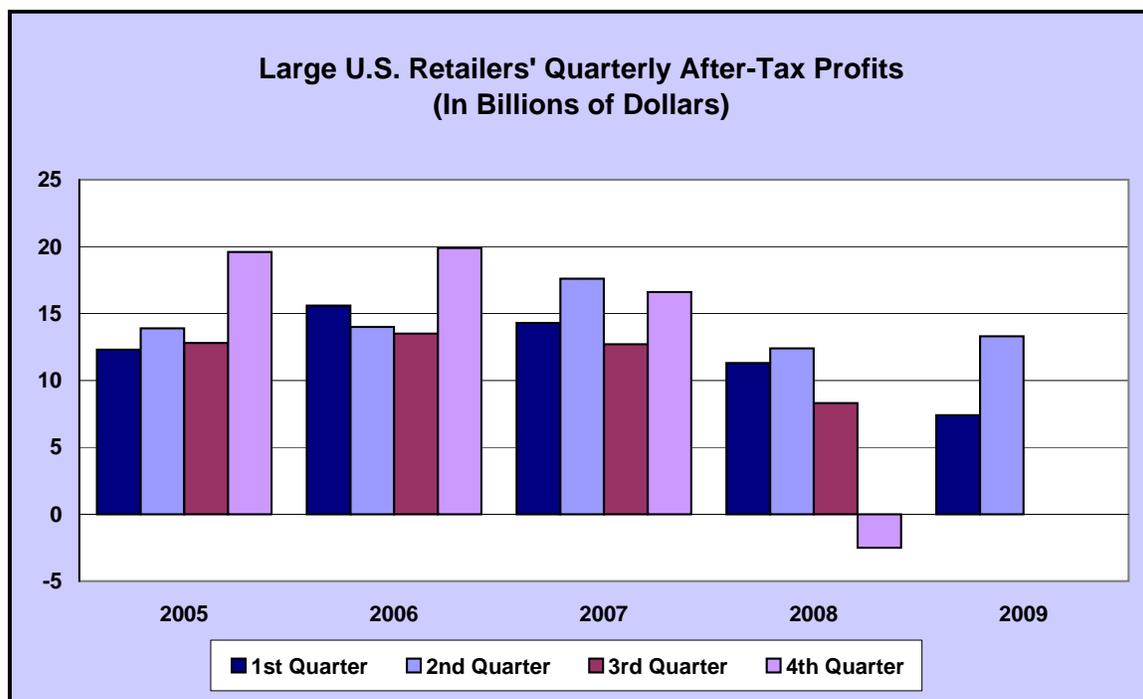
Sales in the second quarter of 2009, at \$499.9 billion, were up \$12.3 (± 2.2) billion from the \$487.6 billion recorded in the first quarter of 2009, but down \$32.0 (± 5.8) billion from the \$531.8 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2008.

After-tax profits for these corporations averaged 2.7 cents per dollar of sales for the second quarter of 2009, up 1.2 (± 0.1) cents from the 1.5 cents recorded in the first quarter of 2009, and up 0.3 (± 0.1) cents from the 2.3 cents recorded in the second quarter of 2008.

The annual rate of after-tax profits on stockholders' equity in the second quarter of 2009 was 13.3 percent, up 5.6 (± 0.1) percentage points from the 7.7 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2009, and up 0.8 (± 0.3) percentage points from the 12.5 percent recorded in the second quarter of 2008.

Retail Trade Corporations After-Tax Profits, 2005-2009 – Not Seasonally Adjusted

Second quarter 2009 after-tax profits of U.S. retail trade corporations with assets of \$50 million and over (not seasonally adjusted) were up from first quarter 2009, and also up from second quarter 2008.



ACCESS TO QFR DATA

This press release can be viewed today in portable document format (.pdf) at our QFR internet website <http://www.census.gov/econ/qfr/index.html>. Summary statements of income and retained earnings, balance sheets, and related financial and operating ratios for retail trade corporations are also available at our QFR internet website.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Data in this press release are based on quarterly financial reports from approximately 630 U.S. corporations. The data are estimated from a sample survey and are subject to sampling and nonsampling errors. Sampling error occurs because only a subset of the entire population is measured. Nonsampling error encompasses all other factors that contribute to the total error of a survey, including response errors, nonresponse, and coverage errors. Although no direct measures of nonsampling error are available, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data in an effort to minimize their influence.

Statements of change appearing in this report include 90% confidence intervals based on estimates of sampling variability. A statement such as "up \$2.5 (\pm 0.2) billion," appearing in the text, indicates the range (+\$2.3 billion to +\$2.7 billion) in which the actual change is likely to have occurred. If the range of estimated change contains zero (0), then it is uncertain whether there is an increase or decrease; that is, the change is not statistically different from zero (0). For any comparison cited without a confidence interval, the change is statistically significant at the 90% confidence level. The quarterly publication, *Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing, Mining, and Trade Corporations – Second quarter 2009* (QFR/09-Q2), includes more detailed explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability, along with additional measures of sampling variability.

| Schedule of Release Dates | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Reference Quarter | Manufacturing, Mining, and Wholesale Trade | Retail Trade |
| Third Quarter 2009 | December 14, 2009 | December 21, 2009 |

Table 1. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over - Income Statement^{1 2}

| Item | 2Q 2009 | 1Q 2009 ³ | 2Q 2008 ³ |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | (million dollars) | | |
| Net sales, receipts, and operating revenues | 499,890 | 487,600 | 531,846 |
| Less: Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 10,297 | 10,162 | 10,134 |
| Less: All other operating costs and expenses | 467,497 | 458,446 | 499,051 |
| Income (or loss) from operations | 22,096 | 18,992 | 22,661 |
| Interest expense | 4,182 | 4,210 | 4,294 |
| Net nonoperating income (expense) | 2,165 | (1,002) | 1,212 |
| Income (or loss) before income taxes | 20,079 | 13,780 | 19,579 |
| Less: Provision for current and deferred domestic income taxes | 6,772 | 6,414 | 7,144 |
| Income (or loss) after income taxes | 13,308 | 7,366 | 12,435 |
| Cash dividends charged to retained earnings in current quarter | 2,541 | 2,760 | 2,711 |
| Net income retained in business | 10,766 | 4,605 | 9,724 |
| Retained earnings at beginning of quarter | 280,440 | 283,440 | 281,407 |
| Other direct credits (or charges) to retained earnings (net) | (2,464) | (9,322) | (5,687) |
| Retained earnings at end of quarter | 288,743 | 278,724 | 285,444 |

¹Retail Trade data are the quarterly results of companies within the Retail Trade sector with total assets of \$50 million and over at the time of sample selection.

²Complete Income Statement and Balance Sheet Financial Tables are available at the QFR website.

³Revised.

Table 2. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over - Income Statement Ratios^{1 2}

| Item | 2Q 2009 | 1Q 2009 ³ | 2Q 2008 ³ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | (cents per dollar of sales) | | |
| Net sales, receipts, and operating revenues | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Less: Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 2.06 | 2.08 | 1.91 |
| Less: All other operating costs and expenses | 93.52 | 94.02 | 93.83 |
| Income (or loss) from operations | 4.42 | 3.89 | 4.26 |
| Interest expense | 0.84 | 0.86 | 0.81 |
| Net nonoperating income (expense) | 0.43 | (0.21) | 0.23 |
| Income (or loss) before income taxes | 4.02 | 2.83 | 3.68 |
| Less: Provision for current and deferred domestic income taxes | 1.35 | 1.32 | 1.34 |
| Income (or loss) after income taxes | 2.66 | 1.51 | 2.34 |

¹Retail Trade data are the quarterly results of companies within the Retail Trade sector with total assets of \$50 million and over at the time of sample selection.

²Complete Income Statement and Balance Sheet Financial Tables are available at the QFR website.

³Revised.

Table 3. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over - Operating Ratios^{1 2}

| Item | 2Q 2009 | 1Q 2009 ³ | 2Q 2008 ³ |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | (percent) | | |
| Annual rate of profit on stockholders' equity at end of period: | | | |
| Before income taxes | 20.11 | 14.46 | 19.73 |
| After income taxes | 13.33 | 7.73 | 12.53 |
| Annual rate of profit on total assets: | | | |
| Before income taxes | 8.15 | 5.68 | 7.85 |
| After income taxes | 5.40 | 3.04 | 4.99 |

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²Complete Income Statement and Balance Sheet Financial Tables are available at the QFR website.

³Revised.