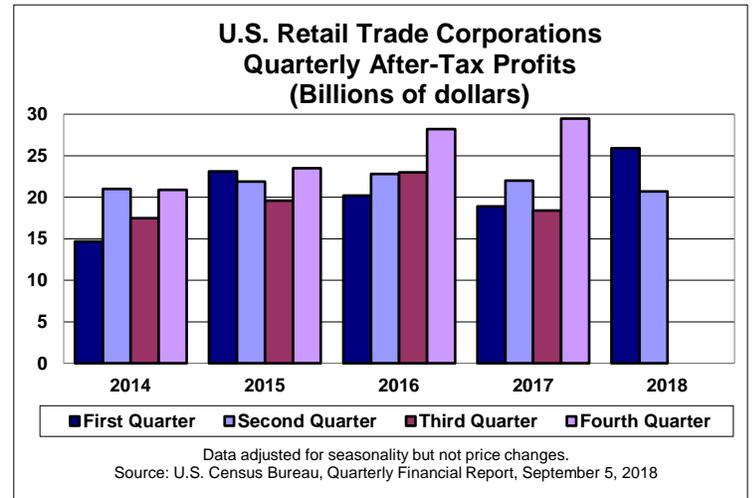


QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT: LARGE U.S. RETAIL TRADE CORPORATIONS, SECOND QUARTER 2018

Release Number: CB18-137

September 5, 2018 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following seasonally adjusted quarterly after-tax profits for retail trade industries statistics for Second Quarter 2018:

 U.S. RETAIL TRADE CORPORATIONS QUARTERLY AFTER-TAX PROFITS	
Second Quarter 2018	\$20.7 billion
First Quarter 2018 (Revised)	\$25.9 billion
Second Quarter 2017 (Revised)	\$22.0 billion
Next release: December 4, 2018	
<small>Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018</small>	



After-Tax Profits and Sales, Second Quarter 2018 – Seasonally Adjusted

Seasonally adjusted after-tax profits of U.S. retail corporations with assets of \$50 million and over totaled \$20.7 billion, down \$5.1 (± 0.1) billion from the \$25.9 billion recorded in the first quarter of 2018, and down \$1.2 (± 0.2) billion from the \$22.0 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2017.

Seasonally adjusted sales for the quarter totaled \$769.8 billion, up \$12.6 (± 2.4) billion from the \$757.2 billion recorded in the first quarter of 2018, and up \$48.2 (± 6.8) billion from the \$721.6 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2017.

After-Tax Profits and Sales, Second Quarter 2018 – Not Seasonally Adjusted

Second quarter 2018 after-tax profits of U.S. retail corporations with assets of \$50 million and over totaled \$20.2 billion, down \$1.2 (± 0.2) billion from the after-tax profits of \$21.4 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2017, and down \$4.9 (± 0.1) billion from the after-tax profits of \$25.1 billion recorded in the first quarter of 2018.

Sales in the second quarter of 2018 were \$767.3 billion, up \$48.4 (± 6.8) billion from the \$718.9 billion recorded in the second quarter of 2017, and up \$36.5 (± 2.4) billion from the \$730.7 billion recorded in the first quarter of 2018.

Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Quarterly Financial Branch
301-763-6600
csd.qfr@census.gov

Media Inquiries

Public Information Office
301-763-3030
pio@census.gov



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

The Third Quarter 2018 Quarterly Financial Report for Retail Trade Industries is scheduled for release on December 4, 2018. 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/econ/qfr/>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Access to QFR Data

This press release can be viewed today in portable document format (.pdf) at the QFR internet website <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/>. Summary statements of income and retained earnings, balance sheets, and related financial and operating ratios for retail trade corporations, as well as information on adjustments for seasonal variation, are available at the QFR internet website. Time series/trend chart data are available at <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/>, select the Time Series/Trend Charts link under Latest QFR Press Releases.

Reliability of the Estimates

Estimates of change presented in this press release are calculated using unrounded data. The calculated difference is then rounded to the nearest unit of measure. Due to this rounding, differences may not add to the totals. The same applies to the calculated confidence intervals. Thus, a difference of \$0.0 billion indicates the difference is less than \$0.05 billion. A confidence interval of ± 0.0 billion indicates a confidence interval with width of less than ± 0.05 billion on each side of the estimated value.

Data in this press release are based on quarterly financial reports from approximately 600 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. Estimates of sampling error can be computed based on the sample and used to construct confidence intervals around the estimates. Statements of change appearing in this report include 90 percent confidence intervals. Thus, a statement in the report such as “up \$2.5 (± 0.2) billion” estimates the interval (+\$2.3 billion to +\$2.7 billion) within which the actual value is likely to fall in 90 percent of samples of the same size and design, drawn from the same population. 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).

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. The quarterly publication, Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing, Mining, Trade and Selected Service Industries – Second Quarter 2018 (QFR/18-Q2), includes more detailed explanations of nonsampling and sampling error, and additional measures of sampling variability.

Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Quarterly Financial Branch
301-763-6600
csd.qfr@census.gov

Media Inquiries

Public Information Office
301-763-3030
pio@census.gov



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf.

Data Quality Indicators

The QFR produces two indicators of data quality: the Unit Response Rate and the Total Quantity Response Rate. The URR is defined as the percentage of sampled units (unweighted) that responded to the current quarter’s survey. In determining the URR, a unit is classified as a respondent if it provided adequate information for key QFR data items. The TQRR is defined as the proportion of the weighted estimated total of a key QFR data item that is either reported by a survey unit or acquired from some other information source (such as a publicly available quarterly or annual report) that is determined to be equivalent in quality to reported data. The absolute value is applied to the real-valued data item Income before Income taxes, (|NIBT|), prior to calculating the weighted estimated total. The TQRR is calculated for the QFR data items Net sales, Depreciation, |NIBT|, and Total assets.

Total Quantity Response Rates and Unit Response Rates ^{1,2}					
Industry	Total Quantity Response Rate				Unit Response Rate
	Net Sales	Depreciation	NIBT	Total assets	
	(percent)				(percent)
All retail trade.....	79.2	76.7	81.0	80.1	55.5

Footnotes:

¹For more information, see the Introduction, Survey Methodology section, in the Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing, Mining, Trade, and Selected Service Industries, or at the QFR internet website www.census.gov/econ/qfr/collection.html.

²Imputation Rate = 100% - TQRR.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf.

U.S. Retail Trade Corporations Schedule of Release Dates for Calendar Year 2018	
Fourth Quarter 2017	March 19, 2018
First Quarter 2018	June 5, 2018
Second Quarter 2018	September 5, 2018
Third Quarter 2018	December 4, 2018

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/

Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Quarterly Financial Branch
301-763-6600
csd.qfr@census.gov

Media Inquiries

Public Information Office
301-763-3030
pio@census.gov



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

FRED Mobile App



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

###

Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Quarterly Financial Branch
301-763-6600
csd.qfr@census.gov

Media Inquiries

Public Information Office
301-763-3030
pio@census.gov



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

**Table 1. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over –
Not Seasonally Adjusted Income Statement^{1, 2}**

Item	2Q	1Q	2Q
	2018	2018 (r)	2017 (r)
	(million dollars)		
Net sales, receipts, and operating revenues	767,292	730,746	718,917
Less: Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	15,833	15,827	14,920
Less: All other operating costs and expenses	717,425	683,913	669,502
Income (or loss) from operations	34,034	31,006	34,495
Interest expense	6,679	6,326	5,400
Net nonoperating income (expense)	8	6,825	2,533
Income (or loss) before income taxes	27,364	31,506	31,628
Less: Provision for current and deferred domestic income taxes	7,170	6,382	10,196
Income (or loss) after income taxes	20,194	25,124	21,432
Cash dividends charged to retained earnings in current quarter	10,089	13,167	11,168
Net income retained in business	10,105	11,957	10,264
Retained earnings at beginning of quarter	470,439	458,677	435,770
Other direct credits (or charges) to retained earnings (net)	(7,037)	(5,426)	(8,515)
Retained earnings at end of quarter	473,507	465,207	437,520

Footnotes:

(r) Revised.

¹This table only includes estimates for corporations with 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 <www.census.gov/econ/qfr>.

Data are not adjusted for seasonality or price changes.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018.

**Table 2. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over –
Not Seasonally Adjusted Income Statement Ratios^{1, 2}**

Item	2Q	1Q	1Q
	2018	2018 (r)	2017 (r)
	(cents per dollar of sales)		
Net sales, receipts, and operating revenues	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less: Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	2.06	2.17	2.08
Less: All other operating costs and expenses	93.50	93.59	93.13
Income (or loss) from operations	4.44	4.24	4.80
Interest expense	0.87	0.87	0.75
Net nonoperating income (expense)	0.00	0.93	0.35
Income (or loss) before income taxes	3.57	4.31	4.40
Less: Provision for current and deferred domestic income taxes	0.93	0.87	1.42
Income (or loss) after income taxes	2.63	3.44	2.98

Footnotes:

(r) Revised.

¹This table only includes estimates for corporations with 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 <www.census.gov/econ/qfr>.

Data are not adjusted for seasonality or price changes.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018.

**Table 3. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over –
Not Seasonally Adjusted Operating Ratios^{1,2}**

Item	2Q	1Q	2Q
	2018	2018 (r)	2017 (r)
	(percent)		
Annual rate of profit on stockholders' equity at end of period:			
Before income taxes	20.67	23.92	25.50
After income taxes	15.25	19.07	17.28
Annual rate of profit on total assets:			
Before income taxes	6.91	8.04	8.66
After income taxes	5.10	6.41	5.87

Footnotes:

(r) Revised.

¹This table only includes estimates for corporations with 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 <www.census.gov/econ/qfr>.

Data are not adjusted for seasonality or price changes.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at

<www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018.

**Table 4. U.S. Retail Trade Corporations, Assets \$50 Million and Over –
Seasonally Adjusted Sales and Net Income After Tax^{1,2}**

Industry group and year	Sales (r)				Net Income After Tax (r)			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	(million dollars)				(million dollars)			
All retail								
2007	509,750	514,832	516,371	520,739	15,310	18,443	14,485	13,924
2008	523,280	536,359	531,846	500,506	12,216	13,424	9,988	(7,039)
2009	496,050	495,111	509,012	519,035	8,478	13,926	13,262	20,511
2010	532,926	534,532	539,923	549,621	16,658	17,265	14,975	19,007
2011	568,793	584,855	585,916	584,941	17,055	18,374	17,198	16,473
2012	605,863	597,671	602,236	609,662	16,684	19,761	16,575	20,571
2013	622,380	626,473	634,639	640,138	17,376	21,756	18,780	22,788
2014	645,749	658,432	663,040	667,118	14,702	21,029	17,514	20,853
2015	658,259	672,795	681,329	680,337	23,129	21,916	19,579	23,465
2016	688,519	696,969	704,417	713,381	20,233	22,782	22,953	28,206
2017	715,765	721,590	732,524	746,925	18,866	21,957	18,363	29,460
2018	757,171	769,819			25,879	20,747		

Footnotes:

(r) Revised.

¹This table only includes estimates for corporations with assets of \$50 million and over at the time of sample selection.

²For information on adjustment for seasonal variation, see the Introduction, Survey Methodology section, in the Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing, Mining, Trade, and Selected Service Industries, or at the QFR internet website <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/collection.html>.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/econ/qfr/documents/QFR_Methodology.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, September 5, 2018.