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ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, MAY 2023

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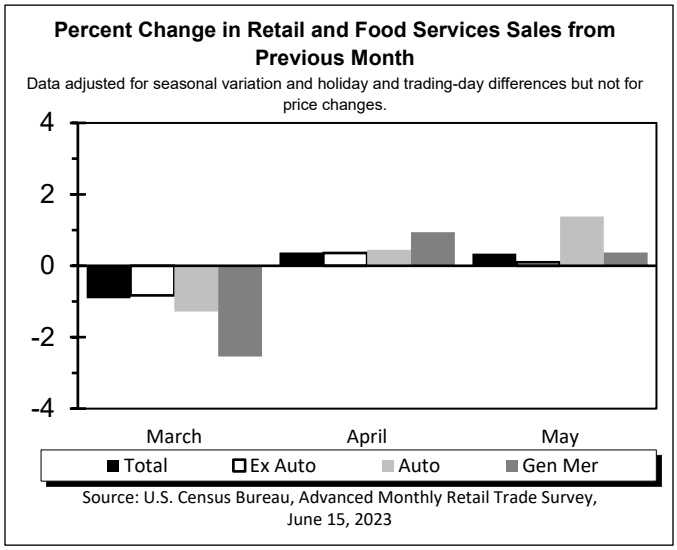
June 15, 2023 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for May 2023:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES

May 2023	**$686.6 billion**	**0.3%***
April 2023 (revised)	**$684.2 billion**	**0.4%**

Next release: July 18, 2023

* 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, June 15, 2023



Advance Estimates of U.S. Retail and Food Services

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for May 2023, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were $686.6 billion, up 0.3 percent (±0.5 percent)* from the previous month, and up 1.6 percent (±0.7 percent) above May 2022. Total sales for the March 2023 through May 2023 period were up 1.7 percent (±0.4 percent) from the same period a year ago. The March 2023 to April 2023 percent change was unrevised at 0.4 percent (±0.2 percent).

Retail trade sales were up 0.3 percent (±0.5 percent)* from April 2023, and up 0.7 percent (±0.5 percent) above last year. Nonstore retailers were up 6.5 percent (±1.4 percent) from last year, while food services and drinking places were up 8.0 percent (±2.3 percent) from May 2022.

General Information

The June 2023 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on July 18, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <www.census.gov/retail/>.

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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 4,800 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 more information on how data is collected for the Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, see our methodology page at: <https://www.census.gov/retail/marts/how_surveys_are_collected.html>.

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 4,800 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 and coefficients of variation (CV), as given in Table 3 of this report, are estimated measures of sampling variation.

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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.

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

The Rest of the Consumer Spending Story

Retail and services together represent what's commonly referred to as consumer spending. Quarterly Services Survey (QSS) revenue comprises roughly 2/3 of the personal consumption expenditures component of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measured by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The fourth quarter 2022 Quarterly Services Report was released on March 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Learn about historical revenue trends for certain industries going back 15 years and other data, such as in-patient days and discharges for hospitals, by visiting <https://www.census.gov/services/index.html>

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new

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users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before. <www.census.gov/developers/>

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.

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*** The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.**

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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]				
		5 Month Total		2023			2022		2023			2022	
		2023	% Chg. 2022	May[3] (a)	Apr. (p)	Mar. (r)	May	Apr.	May[3] (a)	Apr. (p)	Mar. (r)	May (r)	Apr. (r)
	Retail & food services, total	**3,334,460**	**3.5**	**722,405**	**677,509**	**695,933**	**702,760**	**679,473**	**686,573**	**684,213**	**681,673**	**675,722**	**675,899**
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	2,680,241	3.8	580,687	543,971	554,088	570,623	542,012	554,528	553,971	552,011	549,217	545,046
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	3,071,426	4.8	665,471	623,899	641,380	631,649	616,286	633,512	629,731	626,680	609,014	612,074
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	2,417,207	5.6	523,753	490,361	499,535	499,512	478,825	501,467	499,489	497,018	482,509	481,221
	Retail	2,898,511	2.2	629,656	588,241	604,084	616,626	596,690	598,576	596,523	594,281	594,233	595,371
	GAFO[4]	**(*)**	**(*)**	**(*)**	**123,393**	**123,653**	**129,704**	**125,121**	**(*)**	**128,042**	**127,636**	**128,006**	**128,562**
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**654,219**	**2.0**	**141,718**	**133,538**	**141,845**	**132,137**	**137,461**	**132,045**	**130,242**	**129,662**	**126,505**	**130,853**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	600,822	1.6	130,141	122,627	130,540	121,427	127,038	121,061	119,287	119,106	116,087	120,644
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	97,948	103,412	95,901	100,395	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	10,911	11,305	10,710	10,423	(*)	10,955	10,556	10,418	10,209
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	**55,630**	**-2.9**	**11,456**	**10,607**	**12,035**	**11,998**	**12,040**	**11,209**	**11,165**	**11,418**	**11,974**	**12,286**
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,912	6,778	6,838	6,808	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**35,282**	**-2.7**	**7,120**	**6,687**	**7,494**	**7,421**	**7,425**	**7,623**	**7,608**	**7,694**	**8,023**	**8,343**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**	**206,970**	**-1.3**	**51,496**	**43,548**	**42,170**	**50,558**	**46,530**	**42,491**	**41,579**	**41,391**	**42,894**	**43,352**
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	36,260	36,115	43,063	39,626	(*)	35,654	35,652	37,284	37,920
445	**Food & beverage stores**	**399,648**	**4.4**	**84,217**	**80,205**	**81,360**	**81,238**	**77,842**	**82,100**	**81,844**	**81,888**	**79,655**	**78,807**
4451	Grocery stores	361,485	4.6	75,784	72,382	73,584	73,154	69,957	73,792	73,634	73,731	71,579	70,735
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,629	5,645	5,830	5,639	(*)	5,950	5,880	5,795	5,801
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**173,557**	**7.7**	**36,170**	**34,317**	**36,344**	**32,964**	**32,470**	**35,530**	**35,525**	**35,251**	**32,964**	**32,964**
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	28,442	30,044	27,526	27,116	(*)	29,382	29,283	27,471	27,445
447	**Gasoline stations**	**263,034**	**-10.1**	**56,934**	**53,610**	**54,553**	**71,111**	**63,187**	**53,061**	**54,482**	**54,993**	**66,708**	**63,825**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**116,447**	**1.0**	**26,428**	**24,714**	**24,963**	**26,470**	**25,539**	**25,629**	**25,640**	**25,616**	**25,678**	**26,174**
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,368	3,408	3,815	3,733	(*)	3,260	3,271	3,487	3,538
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	10,258	10,226	10,367	9,900	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,119	3,273	3,328	3,206	(*)	3,192	3,165	3,351	3,238
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**38,681**	**2.2**	**8,410**	**7,960**	**8,258**	**8,201**	**8,144**	**8,643**	**8,615**	**8,611**	**8,543**	**8,546**
452	**General merchandise stores**	**342,539**	**3.9**	**74,260**	**71,106**	**68,530**	**73,046**	**69,677**	**72,580**	**72,315**	**71,641**	**71,172**	**70,621**
4521	Department stores	50,879	-0.1	10,968	10,531	10,618	11,308	10,930	11,188	11,154	11,280	11,599	11,541
4529	Other general merch. stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	60,575	57,912	61,738	58,747	(*)	61,161	60,361	59,573	59,080
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters	(*)	(*)	(*)	51,915	49,472	52,838	50,614	(*)	52,492	51,749	51,200	50,971
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,660	8,440	8,900	8,133	(*)	8,669	8,612	8,373	8,109
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**73,745**	**4.4**	**17,091**	**15,190**	**14,861**	**16,316**	**14,990**	**15,424**	**15,575**	**15,286**	**14,753**	**15,096**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**538,759**	**7.4**	**114,356**	**106,759**	**111,671**	**105,166**	**101,385**	**112,241**	**111,933**	**110,830**	**105,364**	**104,504**
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	97,559	100,415	95,475	91,896	(*)	102,049	100,920	94,906	94,446
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**435,949**	**12.9**	**92,749**	**89,268**	**91,849**	**86,134**	**82,783**	**87,997**	**87,690**	**87,392**	**81,489**	**80,528**

(*) 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 <https://www.census.gov/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, June 15, 2023. 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]					
		May 2023 Advance from --		Apr. 2023 Preliminary from --		Mar. 2023 through May 2023 from --	
		Apr. 2023 (p)	May 2022 (r)	Mar. 2023 (r)	Apr. 2022 (r)	Dec. 2022 through Feb. 2023	Mar. 2022 through May 2022
	Retail & food services, total	**0.3**	**1.6**	**0.4**	**1.2**	**-0.1**	**1.7**
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.6	-0.3	1.7
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.6	4.0	0.5	2.9	0.2	3.6
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	0.4	3.9	0.5	3.8	0.1	4.1
	Retail	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.6
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**1.4**	**4.4**	**0.4**	**-0.5**	**0.9**	**1.5**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	1.5	4.3	0.2	-1.1	0.9	1.2
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	**0.4**	**-6.4**	**-2.2**	**-9.1**	**-5.1**	**-6.6**
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**0.2**	**-5.0**	**-1.1**	**-8.8**	**2.5**	**-6.4**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**	**2.2**	**-0.9**	**0.5**	**-4.1**	**-2.3**	**-3.2**
445	**Food & beverage stores**	**0.3**	**3.1**	**-0.1**	**3.9**	**-0.1**	**3.8**
4451	Grocery stores	0.2	3.1	-0.1	4.1	-0.1	4.0
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**0.0**	**7.8**	**0.8**	**7.8**	**3.4**	**7.7**
447	**Gasoline stations**	**-2.6**	**-20.5**	**-0.9**	**-14.6**	**-3.6**	**-16.1**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**0.0**	**-0.2**	**0.1**	**-2.0**	**-1.7**	**-1.4**
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**0.3**	**1.2**	**0.0**	**0.8**	**-0.5**	**1.1**
452	**General merchandise stores**	**0.4**	**2.0**	**0.9**	**2.4**	**-1.2**	**2.4**
4521	Department stores	0.3	-3.5	-1.1	-3.4	-3.7	-2.8
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**-1.0**	**4.5**	**1.9**	**3.2**	**1.5**	**3.2**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**0.3**	**6.5**	**1.0**	**7.1**	**1.3**	**7.0**
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**0.4**	**8.0**	**0.3**	**8.9**	**0.5**	**9.7**

(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, June 15, 2023. 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 May 2023

(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	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.1
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.3
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.3
	Retail, total	**0.7**	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**-0.1**	**0.1**
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**1.7**	**1.0**	**0.4**	**1.2**	**0.1**	**0.3**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	1.8	1.1	0.4	1.3	0.1	0.3
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	**2.7**	**1.4**	**0.7**	**1.7**	**-0.3**	**0.9**
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**2.1**	**0.8**	**0.4**	**1.0**	**0.1**	**0.6**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**	**2.5**	**0.7**	**0.5**	**1.1**	**0.0**	**0.2**
445	**Food & beverage stores**	**0.7**	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.5**	**0.0**	**0.2**
4451	Grocery stores	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**3.2**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.7**	**0.3**	**0.3**
447	**Gasoline stations**	**1.3**	**0.5**	**0.4**	**0.8**	**-0.6**	**1.0**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**2.8**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**1.3**	**0.0**	**0.4**
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**2.5**	**1.1**	**1.0**	**1.7**	**0.3**	**0.2**
452	**General merchandise stores**	**1.2**	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.0**	**0.1**
4521	Department stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**5.0**	**2.7**	**1.2**	**2.9**	**0.1**	**2.3**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**1.6**	**0.5**	**0.4**	**0.8**	**-0.2**	**0.5**
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**3.6**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**1.3**	**-0.2**	**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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, June 15, 2023. 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>.