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ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES June 2005

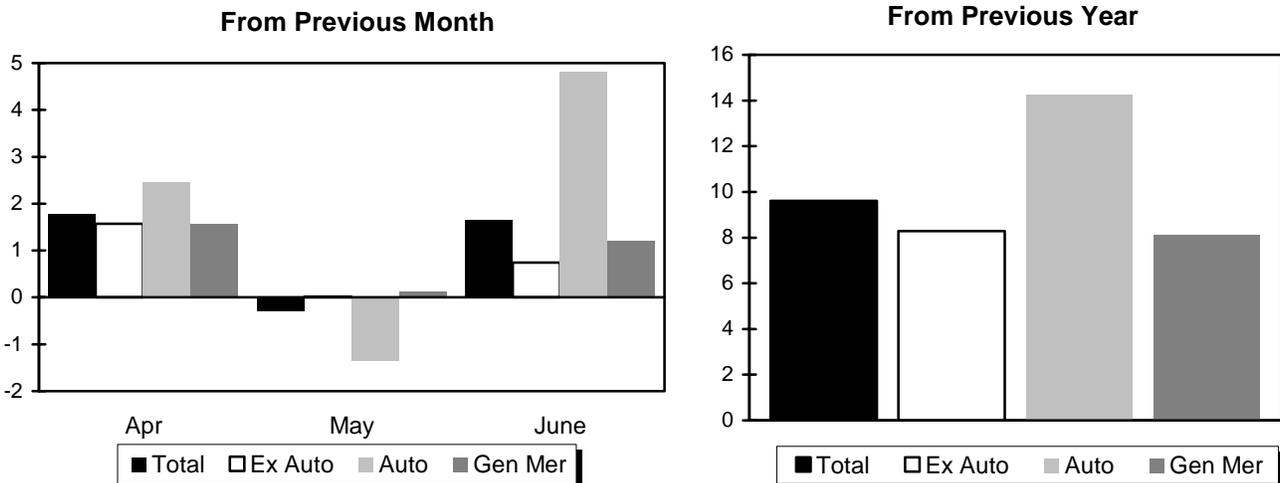
The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$350.8 billion, an increase of 1.7 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) from the previous month and up 9.6 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) from June 2004. Total sales for the April through June 2005 period were up 8.4 percent ($\pm 0.5\%$) from the same period a year ago. The April to May 2005 percent change was revised from -0.5 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$)* to -0.3 percent ($\pm 0.2\%$).

Retail trade sales were up 1.8 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) from May and were up 9.8 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) above last year. Gasoline station sales were up 16.2 percent ($\pm 3.1\%$) from June 2004 and sales of motor vehicle and parts dealers were up 14.3 percent ($\pm 2.8\%$) 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 5,000 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. Responding firms account for approximately 65% of the MARTS dollar volume estimate. 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)



The Advance Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services for July is scheduled to be released August 11, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. EDT.

For information, visit the Census Bureau's Web site at <<http://www.census.gov/retail>>. This report is also available the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's STAT-USA (202-482-1986).

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from 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		2005			2004		2005			2004	
		2005	% Chg. 2004	June ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	June	May	June ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	June (r)	May (r)
	Retail & food services,												
	total	2,002,633	7.2	359,471	353,359	343,199	325,584	332,446	350,775	345,072	346,081	320,016	324,439
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	1,537,887	7.5	270,821	272,549	263,115	248,937	253,704	270,235	268,238	268,207	249,542	249,368
	Retail	1,804,640	7.2	325,023	318,528	308,840	293,642	299,767	317,036	311,451	312,363	288,670	293,227
	GAFO⁴	(*)	(*)	(*)	84,551	81,399	78,458	81,116	(*)	88,007	88,011	83,172	83,537
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	464,746	6.3	88,650	80,810	80,084	76,647	78,742	80,540	76,834	77,874	70,474	75,071
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	429,078	6.1	82,219	74,703	73,909	70,748	73,150	74,541	70,876	71,826	64,966	69,534
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	60,615	59,651	58,727	60,776	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,107	6,175	5,899	5,592	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	50,312	3.6	8,803	8,605	8,354	8,463	8,140	8,973	8,889	8,887	8,609	8,374
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,651	4,609	4,661	4,542	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,954	3,745	3,802	3,598	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	Electronics & appliance stores	45,223	5.6	7,788	7,556	7,111	7,419	7,149	8,291	8,276	8,277	7,889	7,828
44311, 13	Appl., T.V. & camera.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,142	5,680	5,952	5,786	(*)	6,698	6,698	6,359	6,303
44312	Computer & software stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	1,414	1,431	1,467	1,363	(*)	1,578	1,579	1,530	1,525
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers	163,050	9.4	31,969	32,576	30,433	29,296	28,965	27,612	27,555	27,349	25,261	25,074
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	26,858	25,421	25,316	24,024	(*)	24,328	24,280	22,503	22,265
445	Food & beverage stores	252,837	4.4	43,612	44,072	41,943	41,110	42,544	43,429	43,262	43,158	41,272	41,227
4451	Grocery stores	227,732	4.1	39,032	39,506	37,622	36,933	38,272	38,876	38,731	38,626	37,081	37,049
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	2,747	2,672	2,618	2,659	(*)	2,792	2,783	2,655	2,656
446	Health & personal care stores	106,957	5.6	17,860	18,318	17,780	16,913	17,025	18,095	18,137	17,978	17,118	16,907
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	15,691	15,180	14,443	14,561	(*)	15,566	15,411	14,663	14,460
447	Gasoline stations	176,670	16.3	32,555	31,854	31,203	27,963	28,143	30,946	30,366	30,531	26,631	26,726
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	89,027	5.4	15,529	16,006	15,736	14,214	15,357	16,780	16,622	16,765	15,602	15,704
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	792	761	723	741	(*)	840	829	768	769
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,175	3,186	2,801	3,033	(*)	3,104	3,099	2,921	2,914
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,851	5,859	5,189	5,532	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	2,011	2,060	1,829	2,016	(*)	2,005	2,012	1,933	1,957
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores	35,876	2.0	6,295	5,977	5,972	6,060	5,736	6,887	6,862	6,825	6,573	6,555
452	General merchandise stores	243,735	6.0	43,259	43,333	41,393	39,393	41,780	44,602	44,072	44,018	41,247	41,850
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	96,236	0.0	17,045	16,913	16,633	16,286	17,482	18,151	17,919	18,063	17,753	17,984
4521	Department stores (incl. L.D.) ⁵	(*)	(*)	(*)	17,098	16,804	16,511	17,730	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4529	Other general merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	26,420	24,760	23,107	24,298	(*)	26,153	25,955	23,494	23,866
45291	Warehouse clubs & superstores	(*)	(*)	(*)	22,984	21,542	19,988	21,002	(*)	22,734	22,557	20,272	20,590
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,436	3,218	3,119	3,296	(*)	3,419	3,398	3,222	3,276
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	54,035	5.5	9,443	9,974	8,851	8,835	9,333	9,471	9,520	9,396	8,868	9,085
454	Nonstore retailers	122,172	12.0	19,260	19,447	19,980	17,329	16,853	21,410	21,056	21,305	19,126	18,826
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	12,726	12,483	11,478	11,330	(*)	13,368	13,252	12,198	12,369
722	Food services & drinking places ...	197,993	6.8	34,448	34,831	34,359	31,942	32,679	33,739	33,621	33,718	31,346	31,212

(*) Advance estimates are not available for this kind of business.

(NA) Not available. (a) Advance estimate. (p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate.

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

(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-12 ARIMA 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/mrts/www/mrts.html>

(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/mrts/www/mrts.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					
		June 2005 Advance from --		May 2005 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2005 through June 2005 from --	
		May 2005 (p)	June 2004 (r)	Apr. 2005 (r)	May 2004 (r)	Jan. 2004 through Mar. 2005	Apr. 2004 through June 2004
	Retail & food services,						
	total	1.7	9.6	-0.3	6.4	2.6	8.4
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.7	8.3	0.0	7.6	2.2	8.3
	Retail	1.8	9.8	-0.3	6.2	2.6	8.4
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	4.8	14.3	-1.3	2.3	3.7	8.7
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	5.2	14.7	-1.3	1.9	4.0	8.6
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	0.9	4.2	0.0	6.1	0.9	4.7
443	Electronics & appliance stores	0.2	5.1	0.0	5.7	0.6	5.6
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....	0.2	9.3	0.8	9.9	3.6	9.3
445	Food & beverage stores.....	0.4	5.2	0.2	4.9	1.4	5.2
4451	Grocery stores	0.4	4.8	0.3	4.5	1.2	4.8
446	Health & personal care stores	-0.2	5.7	0.9	7.3	1.5	6.4
447	Gasoline stations	1.9	16.2	-0.5	13.6	4.7	16.9
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	1.0	7.6	-0.9	5.8	1.9	7.3
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores.....	0.4	4.8	0.5	4.7	1.9	4.5
452	General merchandise stores.....	1.2	8.1	0.1	5.3	1.8	7.0
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	1.3	2.2	-0.8	-0.4	0.0	1.3
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	-0.5	6.8	1.3	4.8	1.4	5.7
454	Nonstore retailers	1.7	11.9	-1.2	11.8	2.5	12.8
722	Food services & drinking places	0.4	7.6	-0.3	7.7	2.0	8.0

(p) Preliminary estimates. (r) Revised estimates.

(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/mrts/www/mrts.html>.

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 5,000 employer firms selected from the larger Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS). Firms responding to MARTS account for approximately 65% of the total national sales estimate. 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/mrts/www/mrts.html>.

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

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 $\pm 1.65 \times 0.9$ percent or ± 1.5 percent, and the 90 percent confidence interval is -0.3 percent to +2.7 percent. If the interval contains 0, then one does not have sufficient statistical 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 $\pm 1.65 \times CV \times$ (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.

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

(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	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ..	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
	Retail	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.7	0.3	0.3
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.9	0.3	0.3
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	3.7	1.5	1.1	2.1	0.1	0.6
443	Electronics & appliance stores	2.1	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.4
444	Building material & garden eq. & ... supplies dealers	1.8	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.4	0.4
445	Food & beverage stores	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
4451	Grocery stores	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.1
446	Health & personal care stores	3.1	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.2
447	Gasoline stations	1.7	0.7	0.5	1.9	0.2	0.3
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	1.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.2
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores	2.7	1.7	1.3	1.9	0.0	0.6
452	General merchandise stores	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	3.5	3.0	1.6	3.5	0.1	0.6
454	Nonstore retailers	4.2	1.8	0.8	2.2	0.2	0.7
722	Food services & drinking places ..	2.8	0.6	0.7	1.4	0.3	0.3

(1) Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation or holiday or trading-day differences. 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 differences 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/mrts/www/mrts.html>

