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ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES June 2007

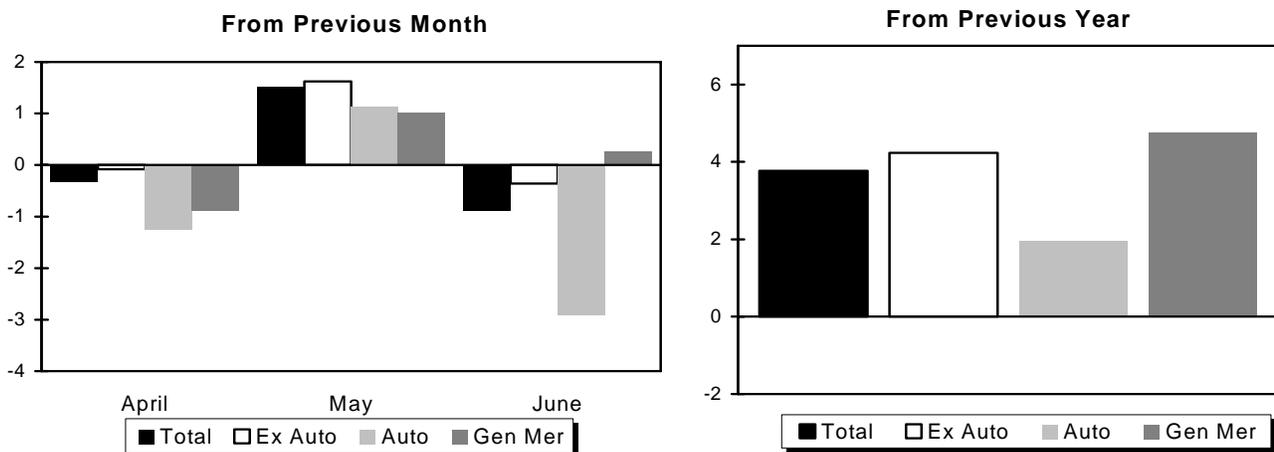
The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$373.9 billion, a decrease of 0.9 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) from the previous month, but 3.8 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) above June 2006. Total sales for the April through June 2007 period were up 3.9 percent ($\pm 0.5\%$) from the same period a year ago. The April to May 2007 percent change was revised from +1.4 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) to +1.5 percent ($\pm 0.3\%$).

Retail trade sales were down 1.0 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) from May 2007, but were 3.5 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) above last year. Nonstore retailers were up 9.5 percent ($\pm 4.5\%$) from June 2006 and sales of health and personal care stores were up 7.0 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) 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 13, 2007 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 than 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		2007			2006		2007			2006	
		2007	% Chg. 2006	Jun. ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun.	May	Jun. ³ (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun. (r)	May (r)
	Retail & food services,												
	total	2,183,916	4.0	381,702	397,784	364,267	369,852	376,795	373,946	377,287	371,651	360,358	359,363
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	1,716,305	4.2	300,809	311,632	286,029	289,298	295,340	298,737	299,818	295,041	286,591	285,736
	Retail	1,964,287	3.8	343,180	359,068	327,420	333,698	340,330	336,727	340,096	334,693	325,223	324,199
	GAFO⁴	(*)	(*)	(*)	95,839	89,099	89,882	90,552	(*)	98,039	96,819	93,860	93,261
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	467,611	3.0	80,893	86,152	78,238	80,554	81,455	75,209	77,469	76,610	73,767	73,627
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	430,398	3.1	74,293	79,445	72,094	74,007	75,137	68,917	71,124	70,404	67,648	67,569
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	63,510	57,967	60,213	60,716	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,707	6,144	6,547	6,318	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	58,843	3.0	9,952	10,228	9,413	10,156	9,866	10,022	10,331	10,299	10,207	10,016
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,476	5,112	5,311	5,164	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,752	4,301	4,845	4,702	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	Electronics & appliance stores	50,861	3.1	8,508	8,572	7,808	8,392	8,243	9,179	9,305	9,202	9,018	8,954
44311, 13	Appl., T.V. & camera.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,971	6,187	6,789	6,685	(*)	7,528	7,401	7,292	7,211
44312	Computer & software stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	1,601	1,621	1,603	1,558	(*)	1,777	1,801	1,726	1,743
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers	179,762	-2.5	33,310	37,911	31,873	34,205	36,763	29,727	30,417	29,042	29,764	29,992
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	30,919	26,684	29,563	30,704	(*)	26,700	25,633	26,302	26,722
445	Food & beverage stores	277,609	6.1	48,160	49,142	45,538	45,435	46,201	47,552	47,375	47,189	45,122	44,853
4451	Grocery stores	248,413	5.8	42,689	43,784	40,717	40,523	41,269	42,225	42,141	42,063	40,281	40,028
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,451	3,037	3,190	3,145	(*)	3,400	3,298	3,131	3,117
446	Health & personal care stores	117,504	7.1	19,794	20,219	19,240	18,550	19,130	19,974	19,745	19,653	18,662	18,573
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	17,026	16,298	15,601	16,136	(*)	16,643	16,631	15,790	15,696
447	Gasoline stations	204,193	1.8	38,569	39,236	34,877	37,503	37,485	35,845	36,262	34,842	35,148	34,837
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	101,250	6.7	17,446	18,755	17,381	16,628	17,234	18,711	18,980	18,518	17,856	17,626
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	868	853	775	760	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,675	3,469	3,245	3,404	(*)	3,467	3,339	3,308	3,248
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	7,056	6,676	6,420	6,345	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	2,248	2,279	2,096	2,223	(*)	2,255	2,223	2,235	2,232
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores	39,546	1.2	7,188	6,779	6,233	6,770	6,545	7,535	7,507	7,368	7,256	7,280
452	General merchandise stores	267,398	5.0	46,941	47,707	44,863	44,576	45,214	48,028	47,897	47,418	45,849	45,721
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	94,275	-1.1	16,309	16,899	16,070	16,599	16,912	17,367	17,550	17,323	17,738	17,668
4521	Department stores (incl. L.D.) ⁵	(*)	(*)	(*)	17,341	16,492	17,067	17,396	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4529	Other general merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	30,808	28,793	27,977	28,302	(*)	30,347	30,095	28,111	28,053
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	27,152	25,429	24,536	24,814	(*)	26,777	26,572	24,610	24,593
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,656	3,364	3,441	3,488	(*)	3,570	3,523	3,501	3,460
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	58,235	1.5	10,126	11,038	9,239	10,101	10,631	10,140	10,302	10,059	9,922	9,954
454	Nonstore retailers	141,475	9.2	22,293	23,329	22,717	20,828	21,563	24,805	24,506	24,493	22,652	22,766
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	16,190	15,154	14,286	14,543	(*)	16,554	16,242	15,086	14,916
722	Food services & drinking places ...	219,629	5.5	38,522	38,716	36,847	36,154	36,465	37,219	37,191	36,958	35,135	35,164

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

(NA) Not available. (S) Suppressed. (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					
		Jun. 2007 Advance from --		May 2007 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2007 through Jun. 2007 from --	
		May 2007 (p)	Jun. 2006 (r)	Apr. 2007 (r)	May 2006 (r)	Jan. 2007 through Mar. 2007	Apr. 2006 through Jun. 2006
	Retail & food services, total	-0.9	3.8	1.5	5.0	1.2	3.9
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	-0.4	4.2	1.6	4.9	1.8	4.1
	Retail	-1.0	3.5	1.6	4.9	1.2	3.7
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	-2.9	2.0	1.1	5.2	-0.8	2.8
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	-3.1	1.9	1.0	5.3	-1.0	2.8
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	-3.0	-1.8	0.3	3.1	-1.4	1.2
443	Electronics & appliance stores	-1.4	1.8	1.1	3.9	-0.4	2.8
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....	-2.3	-0.1	4.7	1.4	1.2	-1.4
445	Food & beverage stores.....	0.4	5.4	0.4	5.6	1.1	5.7
4451	Grocery stores	0.2	4.8	0.2	5.3	1.0	5.3
446	Health & personal care stores	1.2	7.0	0.5	6.3	1.8	6.9
447	Gasoline stations	-1.1	2.0	4.1	4.1	6.2	2.0
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	-1.4	4.8	2.5	7.7	0.2	5.6
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores.....	0.4	3.8	1.9	3.1	2.9	2.3
452	General merchandise stores.....	0.3	4.8	1.0	4.8	0.5	4.2
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	-1.0	-2.1	1.3	-0.7	-1.3	-1.7
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.6	2.2	2.4	3.5	1.8	2.4
454	Nonstore retailers	1.2	9.5	0.1	7.6	3.5	9.1
722	Food services & drinking places	0.1	5.9	0.6	5.8	1.4	5.7

(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

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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 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	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ..	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.3
	Retail	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.3
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	2.0	1.5	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.8
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	2.2	1.6	0.8	1.6	0.1	0.8
442	Furniture & home furn. stores.....	1.9	1.6	0.8	1.9	-0.1	0.3
443	Electronics & appliance stores	1.3	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.4
444	Building material & garden eq. &... supplies dealers.....	2.3	1.3	0.8	1.2	-0.1	1.3
445	Food & beverage stores.....	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.2
4451	Grocery stores	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.2
446	Health & personal care stores	1.6	0.6	0.5	1.0	-0.1	0.3
447	Gasoline stations	2.3	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.0	0.3
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	1.8	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.3
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book & music stores.....	2.3	1.3	1.1	2.1	0.0	0.4
452	General merchandise stores.....	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	3.4	3.0	1.8	3.1	0.2	0.7
454	Nonstore retailers	1.4	1.1	0.8	2.7	0.1	0.5
722	Food services & drinking places ..	1.5	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.1	0.4

- (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 period August 2006 to present.
- (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>

