

Advance Monthly Retail Sales



U.S. Department of Commerce
ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION
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The Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that advance estimates of U.S. retail sales for June adjusted for seasonal, holiday, and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$159.8 billion, an increase of 0.5 percent ($\pm 1.8\%$) from the previous month and were 3.3 percent ($\pm 1.9\%$) above the same period a year ago. Total sales in the second quarter were 3.2 percent ($\pm 1.9\%$) above the same quarter a year ago. The May from April 1992 percent change was revised from +0.2 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) as published in the May advance, to +0.4 percent ($\pm 0.4\%$).

Durable goods increased 0.7 percent ($\pm 3.7\%$) from the previous month and were 6.2 percent above the previous year. Building materials dealers were up 5.7 percent from June 1991 while automotive dealers were up 7.5 percent during the same period.

Nondurable goods increased 0.4 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) from May. General merchandise stores were up 4.9 percent from June a year ago.

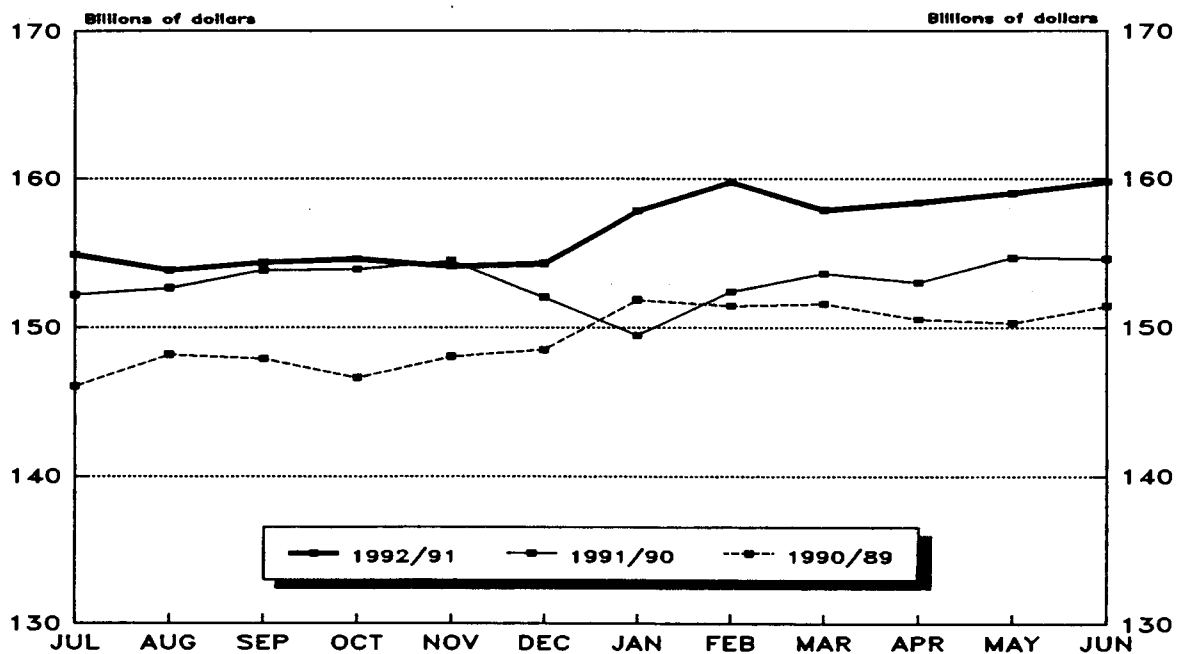
The advance estimates are based on a small subsample of the Bureau's full retail sales sample. Estimates from the advance and the subsequent full survey can differ because of the earlier reporting in the advance and because of sampling variability present in both surveys.

The Advance Monthly Retail Sales Report for July is scheduled to be released August 13, 1992 at 8:30 a.m.

ESTIMATED MONTHLY RETAIL SALES

July 1989 - June 1992

(Data adjusted for seasonal, holiday, and trading-day differences)



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This report is available the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's online Economic Bulletin Board. For information call (202) 377-1986. The data are also available through the Census Bureau's online information service - CENDATA. CENDATA is available from Dialog Information Services, INC. (1-800-334-2564) and CompuServe (1-800-848-8199). The CENDATA staff at the Bureau of the Census (301-763-2074) can provide content information and general guidance.

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales, By Kind of Business

(Sales in millions of dollars)

SIC code	Kind of business	Not adjusted					Adjusted ¹				
		1992			1991		1992			1991	
		June ² adv.	May prel.	Apr. final	June	May	June ² adv.	May prel.	Apr. final	June ² adv.	May ²
	Retail trade, total.....	164,327	163,469	157,279	155,942	161,887	159,762	159,005	158,385	154,594	154,686
	Total (excl. auto group)...	125,454	127,636	121,824	121,815	126,489	125,554	125,380	125,105	122,763	123,006
	Durable goods, total.....	63,996	60,698	58,882	57,475	59,740	58,281	57,878	57,442	54,877	54,814
52	Building mat., hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....	9,977	9,997	9,197	9,021	9,599	8,491	8,733	8,722	8,035	8,077
521.3	Building mat. and supply stores.....	(*)	7,118	6,667	6,787	6,806	(*)	6,471	6,467	6,054	5,986
525	Hardware stores.....	(*)	1,265	1,099	1,097	1,176	(*)	1,090	1,062	1,000	1,015
55 ex. 554	Automotive dealers.....	38,873	35,833	35,455	34,127	35,398	34,208	33,625	33,280	31,831	31,680
551,2,5,6,7,9	Motor vehicle and miscellaneous automotive dealers.....	36,050	33,073	32,749	31,182	32,425	31,623	30,996	30,635	29,061	28,899
551	Motor vehicle (franchised).....	(*)	28,666	27,801	27,361	28,481	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
553	Auto and home supply stores.....	(*)	2,760	2,706	2,945	2,973	(*)	2,629	2,645	2,770	2,781
57	Furniture, home furnishings, and equipment stores.....	7,546	7,340	7,206	7,242	7,402	7,599	7,571	7,609	7,425	7,520
571	Furniture and home furnishings.....	(*)	4,123	4,000	3,868	4,100	(*)	4,098	4,073	3,923	4,000
5722.32	Household appliance, radio, and TV stores.....	(*)	2,514	2,468	2,615	2,575	(*)	2,669	2,712	2,666	2,699
5722	Household appliance stores.....	(*)	702	673	708	735	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Nondurable goods, total.....	100,331	102,771	98,397	98,467	102,147	101,481	101,127	100,943	99,717	99,872
53	General merchandise group stores.....	17,703	18,843	17,701	16,997	18,111	18,957	19,028	18,947	18,079	18,290
531	Dept. stores (ex. leased depts).....	13,990	14,947	14,078	13,305	14,126	15,011	15,144	14,977	14,154	14,356
531	Dept. stores (in. leased depts).....	(*)	15,418	14,557	13,753	14,622	(*)	15,669	15,486	14,584	14,890
533	Variety stores.....	(*)	569	574	548	606	(*)	587	586	612	618
539	Misc. general mdse. stores.....	(*)	3,327	3,049	3,144	3,379	(*)	3,297	3,384	3,313	3,316
54	Food stores.....	32,235	33,141	31,717	32,541	33,575	31,930	31,889	32,139	32,060	32,047
541	Grocery stores.....	30,103	30,970	29,628	30,443	31,462	29,834	29,808	30,079	29,964	30,050
554	Gasoline service stations.....	10,983	10,642	9,911	10,928	11,055	10,561	10,393	10,249	10,641	10,702
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	8,012	8,277	8,249	7,489	7,990	8,451	8,300	8,199	8,013	8,079
561	Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings stores.....	(*)	733	698	694	717	(*)	730	717	707	726
563.8	Women's clothing, specialty stores, furriers.....	(*)	3,062	2,910	2,590	2,894	(*)	2,973	2,884	2,821	2,834
565	Family clothing stores.....	(*)	2,442	2,457	2,247	2,317	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
566	Shoe stores.....	(*)	1,496	1,598	1,398	1,497	(*)	1,470	1,454	1,450	1,482
58	Eating and drinking places.....	17,150	17,271	16,272	17,229	17,019	16,287	16,386	16,403	16,300	16,178
591	Drug and proprietary stores.....	6,341	6,477	6,530	6,056	6,366	6,490	6,529	6,537	6,315	6,291
592	Liquor stores.....	(*)	1,994	1,802	1,857	1,876	(*)	1,976	1,933	1,848	1,857
5961 (pt)	Mail-order houses (department store merchandise).....	(*)	378	338	345	364	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
53,56,57	GAF ⁴	(*)	39,956	38,244	36,614	38,601	(*)	40,879	40,734	38,988	39,347

*Advance estimates are not available from the subsample panel for these kinds of business.

NA Not available.

¹Revised.

¹Data are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-11 program and the factors derived from the program are used in calculating all seasonally adjusted data shown in this publication. Factors and explanatory material are contained in the Monthly Retail Trade Report, BR-92-05.

²Advance estimates are based on early reporting by a small subsample of the full survey panel. All other estimates are based on the full sample.

³Includes data for leased departments operated within department stores. Data for this line not included in broader kind-of-business totals.

⁴GAF represents stores which specialize in department store types of merchandise.

Note: Totals include data for kinds of business not shown separately.

Table 2. Percent Change in Estimated Monthly Retail Sales, by Kind of Business

(Adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences)

SIC code	Kind of business	Percent change					
		June 1992 advance from--		May 1992 preliminary from--		Apr. 1992 through June 1992 from--	
		May 1992 prelim.	June 1991 final	Apr. 1992 final	May 1991 final	Jan. 1992 through Mar. 1992	Apr. 1991 through June 1991
	Retail trade, total.....	+0.5	+3.3	+0.4	+2.8	+0.4	+3.2
	Total (excl. automotive group)....	+0.1	+2.3	+0.2	+1.9	+0.2	+2.3
	Durable goods, total.....	+0.7	+6.2	+0.8	+5.6	+0.9	+5.9
	Building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....	-2.8	+5.7	+0.1	+8.1	0.0	+6.7
	Automotive dealers.....	+1.7	+7.5	+1.0	+6.1	+1.0	+6.8
	Motor vehicle and miscellaneous automotive dealers.....	+2.0	+8.8	+1.2	+7.3	+1.2	+8.0
	Furniture, home furnishings, and equipment stores.....	+0.4	+2.3	-0.5	+0.7	-0.8	+1.7
	Nondurable goods, total.....	+0.4	+1.8	+0.2	+1.3	0.0	+1.7
	General merchandise group stores.....	-0.4	+4.9	+0.4	+4.0	-2.0	+4.5
	Dept. stores (ex. leased dept.).....	-0.9	+6.1	+1.1	+5.5	-1.8	+5.5
	Dept. stores (in. leased dept.) ²	(NA)	(NA)	+1.2	+5.2	(NA)	(NA)
	Food stores.....	+0.1	-0.4	-0.8	-0.5	+0.2	+0.4
	Grocery stores.....	+0.1	-0.4	-0.9	-0.8	-0.1	+0.1
	Gasoline service stations.....	+1.6	-0.8	+1.4	-2.9	+2.0	-1.8
	Apparel and accessory stores.....	+1.8	+5.5	+1.2	+2.7	+2.0	+3.2
	Eating and drinking places.....	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	+1.3	-2.5	+1.1
	Drug and proprietary stores.....	-0.6	+2.8	-0.1	+3.8	+0.2	+3.6

Table 3. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales of Large (Group II) Companies, by Kind of Business

(Sales in millions of dollars)

SIC code	Kind of business	Not adjusted			Adjusted ¹		
		May 1992 prelim.	Apr. 1992 final	May 1991	May 1992 prelim.	Apr. 1992 final	May 1991
	Retail trade, total.....	65,938	62,947	63,468	65,503	65,168	62,631
	General merchandise group stores.....	17,931	16,841	17,105	18,215	18,189	17,347
	Dept. stores (ex. leased dept.).....	14,717	13,864	13,896	14,972	14,812	14,136
	Dept. stores (in. leased dept.) ²	15,175	14,331	14,382	15,422	15,278	14,646
	Variety stores.....	378	382	385	393	391	395
	Miscellaneous general merchandise stores....	2,836	2,595	2,824	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Food stores.....	19,664	18,932	19,665	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Grocery stores.....	19,330	18,562	19,354	18,749	18,826	18,592
	Apparel and accessory stores.....	5,170	5,215	4,927	5,214	5,156	5,029
	Women's clothing, specialty stores, furriers.....	1,877	1,810	1,778	1,826	1,792	1,759
	Shoe stores.....	992	1,070	1,000	971	944	986
	Drug stores and proprietary stores.....	3,988	4,034	3,774	4,057	4,046	3,759

NA Not available.

¹Revised.

¹Data are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-11 program and the factors derived from the program are used in calculating all seasonally adjusted data shown in this publication. Factors and explanatory material are contained in the Monthly Retail Trade Report, 8R-92-05.

²Includes data for leased departments operated within department stores. Data for this line not included in broader kind-of-business totals.

Note: The large (Group II) component of the sample consists of companies which had 11 or more retail establishments according to the most recent update of multi-establishment files and which were selected with certainty (i.e., their sales size exceeded specified dollar volume cutoffs which vary by kind of business).

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

Sample Design and Reliability of Data

The advance estimates are based on a small subsample of the Bureau's full retail sales sample. Estimates from the advance and the subsequent full survey can differ because of the earlier reporting in the advance and because of sampling variability present in both surveys.

Percentage differences between advance and full sample preliminary estimates of month-to-month percentage change in seasonally adjusted total retail store sales have ranged from approximately -0.8 percent to +1.5 percent with the average of the absolute differences about 0.4 percent for the past 12 months. For individual kind-of-business groups, these differences tend to be higher. Sampling variability of and revisions to advance-to-preliminary estimates are shown in table 4 below.

Preliminary estimates for May 1992 and final estimates for April 1992 based on the full sample are published later this month in the Monthly Retail Trade Report for May (BR-92-05). The complete report will provide sales estimates in greater detail and will present a description of revisions and the techniques used in developing the estimates.

The margin of sampling error, as used on page 1, indicates a range about the estimate which corresponds to a 90 percent confidence interval. If, for example, the estimate is up 0.8 percent and the margin of sampling error is 1.2 percentage points above or below the estimate, then the indicated range is -0.4 percent to +2.0 percent. If the range contains 0, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. The Monthly Retail Trade Report includes explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability along with additional measures of sampling variability.

Table 4. Sampling Variability of and Revision to Advance-to-Preliminary Estimate

SIC code	Kind of business	Estimated Coefficient of variation in percent of the						Preliminary-to-final percent change minus the Advance-to-preliminary percent change			
		Advance-to- preliminary ratio		Ratio to same month a year ago	Dollar volume sales est.	Ratio of current quarter to prev. quarter	Range ²	Mean	Avg. of absolute diff.		
		Range ¹		Median	Median	Median				Median	
		From	To	From	To	From				To	
	Retail trade, total.....	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	-0.8	+1.5	+0.1	0.4
	Total (excl. auto).....	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	-0.7	+1.3	+0.1	0.4
	Durable goods, total.....	1.8	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.3	-2.5	+2.2	+0.2	0.7
52	Building materials, group stores.....	1.2	2.0	1.7	3.3	2.5	2.5	-3.4	+4.0	+0.4	2.0
55 ex. 554 551, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9	Automotive dealers.....	2.2	4.1	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.3	-3.0	+2.6	+0.5	1.0
	Motor vehicle and misc. automotive dealers.....	1.6	4.1	2.9	4.8	3.9	3.5	-3.2	+2.6	+0.5	1.1
57	Furniture, home furn., and equipment stores.....	1.8	4.3	2.4	4.5	4.2	3.1	-2.5	+2.3	-0.2	1.2
	Nondurable goods, total.....	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	-0.6	+0.9	+0.2	0.4
53	General merch. group, total.....	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	-1.4	+1.7	+0.1	0.7
531	Dept. stores (ex. leased depts.).....	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	-1.7	+1.6	+0.1	0.8
54	Food stores.....	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.4	1.5	-0.5	+0.8	0.0	0.4
541	Grocery stores.....	0.2	0.9	0.3	1.8	1.3	1.5	-0.5	+0.7	0.0	0.3
554	Gasoline service stations.....	1.1	4.7	1.3	3.3	2.6	2.8	-1.4	+1.9	+0.3	0.8
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	1.1	2.9	2.0	3.0	2.6	2.0	-2.7	+4.8	+0.5	1.5
58	Eating and drinking places.....	0.6	1.3	0.9	3.1	2.7	2.7	-0.9	+2.3	+0.3	0.8
591	Drug and proprietary stores.....	0.5	3.2	0.8	2.4	1.7	2.0	-3.7	+1.1	+0.1	1.0

¹The ranges of sampling variability shown are based on sales estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation, holiday, and trading-day differences for the data months of November 1990 - March 1991.

²The ranges shown for the retail trade total are based on sales estimates adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences for the 12-month period, June 1991 - May 1992. The ranges for all other totals and kinds of business are based on the 12-month period April 1990 - March 1991.

Note: Coefficients of variation for the ratio of current quarter to current quarter a-year-ago estimates are approximately the same as those for the ratio of current quarter to previous quarter. See appendix B, Reliability of Data in the Monthly Retail Trade Report for a discussion of the measures of sampling variability.

