

Advance Monthly Retail Sales



JUNE 1982

FOR WIRE TRANSMISSION 2:30 P.M. EDT, Tuesday, July 13, 1982

CB-82-96

The Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, announced today that total sales of retail stores in June after adjusting for seasonal variations and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were estimated at \$89.3 billion. This adjusted figure was 1.5 percent below May but 2.3 percent higher than June a year ago. The adjusted June estimate excluding the automotive group was 0.3 percent below May but 2.0 percent above June of last year.

Adjusted sales of durable goods stores were about 4.2 percent below May while sales of nondurable goods stores decreased 0.2 percent. Compared with sales for June 1981, durable goods stores sales increased 1.1 percent and nondurable goods stores increased 2.8 percent.

The revised estimate of retail sales for May 1982 based on preliminary results from a full sample of retail stores was about \$90.7 billion, \$1.4 billion above the May advance estimate published earlier. Seasonally adjusted preliminary sales for May were about 2.7 percent above April and 5.0 percent above May 1981. Excluding the automotive group, retail sales were 1.9 percent above April and 3.4 percent above May 1981. For nondurable goods stores, adjusted May sales were 1.8 percent higher than April and 4.3 percent above May 1981. For durable goods stores, May adjusted sales were 4.6 percent above April and 6.5 percent above May 1981.

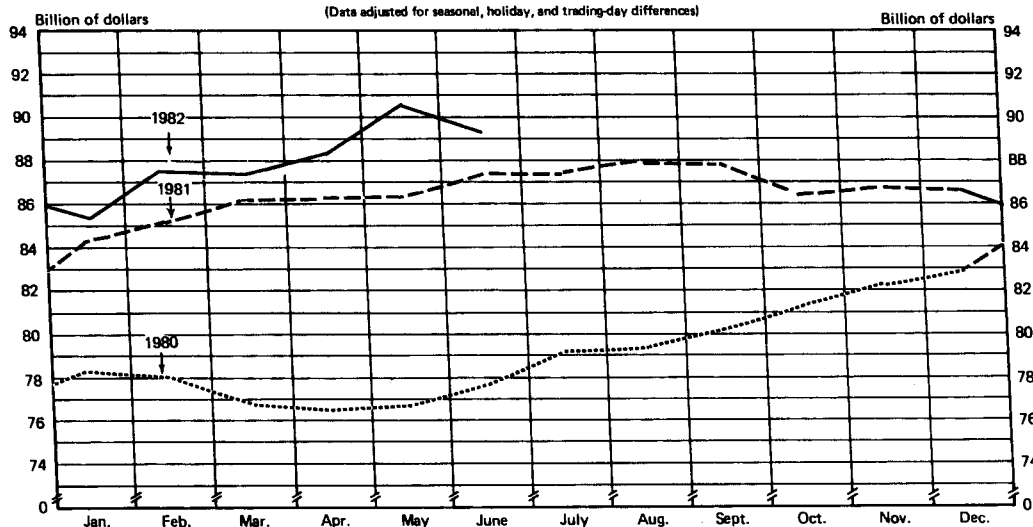
The advance sales estimates are based on early reporting of sales by a small subsample of the Bureau's retail survey panel. Because of the early reporting, the advance estimates can differ from the subsequent estimates which are based on monthly reports obtained from the full sample of retail stores. In addition, sampling variability between the subsample used for the advance estimates and the full sample can cause a difference. For most months, such differences have been reduced by modifying the advance estimates prior to publication on the basis of the relationship between the advance and full-sample data for previous months.

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 -1.5 percent to +1.2 percent with the average of the absolute differences about 0.7 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 on the last page of this report.

Preliminary estimates for May 1982 and final estimates for April 1982 based on the full sample will be published later this month in the Monthly Retail Trade Report for May (BR-82-05). 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. In addition, the completed report will include approximate measures of sampling variability.

The Advance Monthly Retail Sales Report for July is scheduled to be released August 11, 1982, at 2:30 p.m.

ESTIMATED MONTHLY RETAIL SALES FOR THE UNITED STATES January 1980—June 1982



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The Advance Monthly Retail Sales report, the Monthly Retail Trade report, and the Annual Retail Trade report are available on a single subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, at \$25 per year. Add \$6.25 for each subscription to a foreign address. Postage stamps not acceptable; currency submitted at sender's risk. Remittances from foreign countries must be by international money order or by a draft on a U.S. bank. Single copies of the Advance Monthly Retail Sales report are for sale by Subscriber Services (Publications), Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233, at 70 cents each.

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales by Kind of Business for the United States

(Sales in millions of dollars)

SIC code	Kind of business	Not adjusted					Adjusted ¹				
		1982			1981		1982			1981	
		June ² advance	May prelim.	Apr. final	June	May	June ² advance	May prelim.	Apr. final	June	May
	Retail trade, total.....	89,798	90,169	87,502	87,309	86,899	89,301	90,682	88,294	87,299	86,361
	Total (excl. automotive group).....	72,875	72,985	70,996	71,104	71,686	73,357	73,558	72,220	71,935	71,170
	Durable goods stores, total.....	29,466	29,273	27,903	28,985	27,522	28,037	29,267	27,984	27,725	27,488
52	Building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....	5,056	4,867	4,308	5,174	4,969	4,455	4,482	4,263	4,580	4,578
521,3	Building materials and supply stores.....	(*)	3,088	2,733	3,423	3,182	(*)	2,966	2,829	3,045	3,074
525	Hardware stores.....	(*)	915	802	872	871	(*)	833	759	796	783
55 ex. 554	Automotive dealers.....	16,923	17,184	16,506	16,205	15,213	15,944	17,124	16,074	15,364	15,191
551,2,5,6,7,9	Motor vehicle and miscellaneous automotive dealers.....	14,963	15,411	14,705	14,473	13,595	14,076	15,365	14,360	13,718	13,595
551	Motor vehicle dealers (franchised).....	(*)	13,722	13,091	12,753	11,885	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
553	Auto and home supply stores.....	(*)	1,773	1,801	1,732	1,618	(*)	1,759	1,714	1,646	1,596
57	Furniture, home furnishings, and equipment stores.....	3,703	3,464	3,451	3,785	3,630	3,692	3,709	3,706	3,817	3,814
571	Furniture and home furnishings stores....	(*)	2,146	2,139	2,379	2,329	(*)	2,219	2,233	2,358	2,374
5722,32	Household appliance, radio, and TV stores	(*)	1,067	1,056	1,154	1,045	(*)	1,192	1,184	1,164	1,138
5722	Household appliance stores.....	(*)	476	454	542	473	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Nondurable goods stores, total.....	60,332	60,896	59,599	58,324	59,377	61,264	61,415	60,310	59,574	58,873
53	General merchandise group stores.....	10,275	10,772	10,226	10,079	10,307	10,940	11,178	10,700	10,743	10,523
531	Department stores.....	8,512	8,904	8,427	8,247	8,382	9,046	9,227	8,861	8,764	8,553
533	Variety stores.....	(*)	731	735	702	722	(*)	757	721	749	740
539	Miscellaneous general merchandise stores.	(*)	1,137	1,064	1,130	1,203	(*)	1,194	1,118	1,230	1,230
54	Food stores.....	20,981	21,091	20,616	19,693	20,339	20,843	20,919	20,555	19,798	19,577
541	Grocery stores.....	19,385	19,529	18,988	18,154	18,810	19,269	19,374	19,026	18,282	18,069
554	Gasoline service stations.....	8,359	8,045	7,819	8,895	8,636	7,976	7,918	7,827	8,480	8,442
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	3,818	3,946	4,038	3,623	3,724	4,200	4,245	4,017	4,003	3,929
561	Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings stores.....	(*)	609	587	608	597	(*)	670	633	652	649
562,3,8	Women's clothing, specialty stores, furriers.....	(*)	1,535	1,570	1,346	1,411	(*)	1,642	1,562	1,512	1,479
565	Family clothing stores.....	(*)	810	820	775	786	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
566	Shoe stores.....	(*)	734	790	670	706	(*)	766	700	729	718
58	Eating and drinking places.....	9,054	8,947	8,464	8,176	8,253	8,664	8,570	8,364	7,854	7,815
591	Drug stores and proprietary stores.....	2,841	2,843	2,829	2,699	2,693	2,935	2,892	2,852	2,774	2,717
592	Liquor stores.....	(*)	1,479	1,410	1,422	1,436	(*)	1,506	1,519	1,435	1,439
53,56,57,594,5961 (pt.)	GAF ³ plus mail-order houses (department stores mdse.).....	(*)	21,557	20,959	20,642	20,756	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
53,56,57,594	GAF ³	(*)	21,164	20,545	20,278	20,404	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

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

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

NA Not available.

¹Data adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences. (See Explanatory Material in the Monthly Retail Trade Report, BR-82-05).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.³GAF represents stores which specialize in department store types of merchandise. Data for mail-order catalog desks located within department stores of some mail-order firms are included in the department store estimates.

Table 2. Percent Change in Estimated Monthly Retail Sales by Kind of Business for the United States

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

SIC code	Kind of business	Percent change					
		June 1982 advance from--		May 1982 preliminary from--		Apr. 1982 through June 1982	
		May 1982 preliminary	June 1981 final	Apr. 1982 final	May 1981 final	Jan. 1982 through Mar. 1982	Apr. 1981 through June 1981
	Retail trade, total.....	-1.5	+2.3	+2.7	+5.0	+3.2	+3.2
	Total (excl. automotive group).....	-0.3	+2.0	+1.9	+3.4	+1.3	+2.2
	Durable goods stores, total.....	-4.2	+1.1	+4.6	+6.5	+8.0	+3.5
52	Building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....	-0.6	-2.7	+5.1	-2.1	+7.1	-4.2
55 ex. 554	Automotive dealers.....	-6.9	+3.8	+6.5	+12.7	+12.5	+8.2
551,2,5,6,7,9	Motor vehicle and miscellaneous automotive dealers.....	-8.4	+2.6	+7.0	+13.0	+13.0	+8.0
57	Furniture, home furnishings, and equipment stores.....	-0.5	-3.3	+0.1	-2.8	+2.9	-3.1
	Nondurable goods stores, total.....	-0.2	+2.8	+1.8	+4.3	+1.1	+3.1
53	General merchandise group stores.....	-2.1	+1.8	+4.5	+6.2	+2.6	+2.9
531	Department stores.....	-2.0	+3.2	+4.1	+7.9	+2.2	+4.5
54	Food stores.....	-0.4	+5.3	+1.8	+6.9	+2.3	+5.6
541	Grocery stores.....	-0.5	+5.4	+1.8	+7.2	+2.6	+5.9
554	Gasoline service stations.....	+0.7	-5.9	+1.2	-6.2	-5.3	-6.6
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	-1.1	+4.9	+5.7	+8.0	-0.1	+4.8
58	Eating and drinking places.....	+1.1	+10.3	+2.5	+9.7	+3.5	+9.3
591	Drug stores and proprietary stores.....	+1.5	+5.8	+1.4	+6.4	+3.4	+5.8

Table 3. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales of Group II Companies by Kind of Business for the United States:

(Sales in millions of dollars)

SIC code	Kind of business	Not adjusted			Adjusted ¹		
		May 1982 preliminary	Apr. 1982 final	May 1981	May 1982 preliminary	Apr. 1982 final	May 1981
	Retail trade, total.....	32,238	31,360	30,891	32,765	31,789	30,783
53	General merchandise group stores.....	9,930	9,401	9,388	10,309	9,847	9,578
531	Department stores.....	8,601	8,134	8,068	8,913	8,517	8,224
533	Variety stores.....	589	588	563	615	586	576
539	Miscellaneous general merchandise stores.....	740	679	757	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
54	Food stores.....	11,327	11,204	10,858	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
541	Grocery stores.....	11,178	11,031	10,710	11,133	10,987	10,358
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	1,605	1,666	1,491	1,722	1,614	1,563
562,3,8	Women's clothing, specialty stores, furriers.....	676	702	648	711	676	665
566	Shoe stores.....	370	404	343	391	342	349
591	Drug stores and proprietary stores.....	1,552	1,535	1,459	1,580	1,547	1,472

Note: The 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).

¹Data adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences. (See Explanatory Material in the Monthly Retail Trade Report, BR-82-05).

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 advance-to- preliminary ratio			Preliminary-to-final percent change minus the advance-to-preliminary percent change			
		Range ¹		Median	Range ²		Mean	Average of absolute difference
		From	To		From	To		
	Retail trade, total.....	0.6	0.8	0.7	-1.54	+1.18	-0.18	0.69
	Total (excl. automotive group).....	0.7	0.8	0.7	-3.12	+2.82	-0.38	0.57
	Durable goods stores, total.....	1.2	2.0	1.6	-3.59	+4.63	-0.14	1.55
52	Building materials, hardware, garden supply, and mobile home dealers.....	1.5	3.6	1.8	-4.10	+3.70	-0.39	2.07
55 ex. 554 551,2,5, 6,7,9	Automotive dealers..... Motor vehicle and miscellaneous auto- motive dealers.....	1.8	2.3	2.05	-4.62	+7.79	+0.67	2.63
57	Furniture, home furnishings, and equipment stores.....	1.0	1.8	1.45	-5.47	+4.04	+0.55	2.71
	Nondurable goods stores, total.....	1.7	4.2	2.25	-4.37	+2.97	-0.61	1.99
	Nondurable goods stores, total.....	0.5	0.7	0.6	-1.24	+0.54	-0.31	0.46
53	General merchandise group stores.....	0.3	0.7	0.45	-3.03	+2.04	+0.05	1.24
531	Department stores.....	0.1	0.4	0.35	-2.36	+3.23	+0.18	1.29
54	Food stores.....	1.2	1.5	1.5	-1.65	+1.54	-0.23	0.77
541	Grocery stores.....	0.4	0.5	0.45	-2.61	+2.50	-0.38	0.86
554	Gasoline service stations.....	0.6	1.5	0.95	-2.32	+0.50	-0.83	1.04
56	Apparel and accessory stores.....	1.2	2.9	1.75	-1.92	+1.19	-0.33	1.06
58	Eating and drinking places.....	0.6	1.2	1.05	-2.35	+2.33	-0.13	1.39
591	Drug stores and proprietary stores.....	0.4	1.9	0.55	-1.09	+0.99	-0.15	0.68

Note: See Appendix B, Reliability of Data, in the Monthly Retail Trade Report for a discussion on the measures of sampling variability.

¹The ranges of sampling variability shown are based on sales estimates unadjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences for the data months of July-December 1981.

²The ranges shown are based on sales estimates adjusted for seasonal variations, holiday, and trading-day differences for the 12-month period, January-December 1981.

