

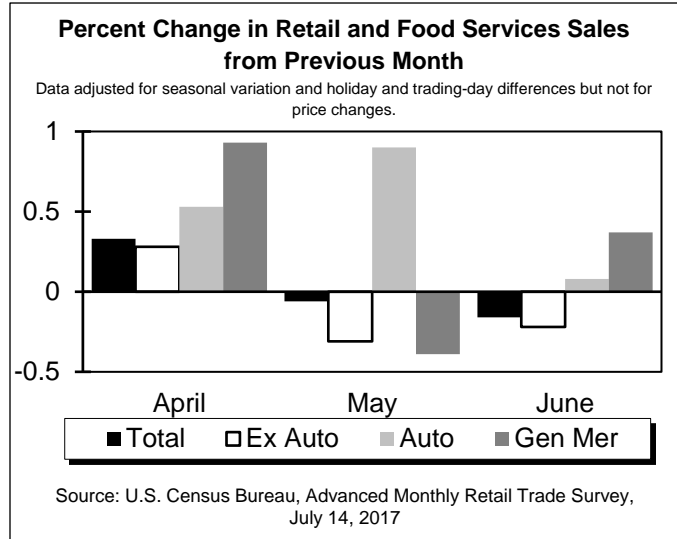
FOR RELEASE AT 8:30 AM EDT, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

## ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, JUNE 2017

Release Number: CB17-112

**July 14, 2017** — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2017:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES		
June 2017	\$473.5 billion	-0.2%*
May 2017 (revised)	\$474.2 billion	-0.1%*
Next release: August 15, 2017		
* 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, July 14, 2017.		



### Advance Estimates of U.S. Retail and Food Services

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2017, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$473.5 billion, a decrease of 0.2 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent)\* from the previous month, and 2.8 percent ( $\pm 0.9$  percent) above June 2016. Total sales for the April 2017 through June 2017 period were up 3.8 percent ( $\pm 0.7$  percent) from the same period a year ago. The April 2017 to May 2017 percent change was revised from down 0.3 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent)\* to down 0.1 percent ( $\pm 0.2$  percent)\*.

Retail trade sales were down 0.1 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent)\* from May 2017, and up 3.0 percent ( $\pm 0.7$  percent) from last year. Nonstore Retailers were up 9.2 percent ( $\pm 1.8$  percent) from June 2016, while Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, & Music Stores were down 8.9 percent ( $\pm 2.1$  percent) from last year.

### General Information

The July 2017 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on August 15, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: [www.census.gov/economic-indicators/](http://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/). The full text and tables of this release can be found at [www.census.gov/retail/](http://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 4,700 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.

### 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 4,700 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](http://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.

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  $\pm 1.753 \times 0.9$  percent or  $\pm 1.6$  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

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significant unless otherwise noted. For a monthly total, the median estimated coefficient of variation is given. The resulting confidence interval is the estimated value  $\pm 1.753 \times CV \times$  (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.

### **America's Economy Mobile App**

The America's Economy app provides real-time updates for 19 key economic indicators released from the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

[<www.census.gov/mobile/economy/>](http://www.census.gov/mobile/economy/)

### **API**

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before.

[<www.census.gov/developers/>](http://www.census.gov/developers/)

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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 <sup>1</sup> code	Kind of Business	Not Adjusted						Adjusted <sup>2</sup>					
		6 Month Total		2017			2016		2017			2016	
		2017	% Chg. 2016	Jun. <sup>3</sup> (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun.	May	Jun. <sup>3</sup> (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun. (r)	May (r)
	<b>Retail &amp; food services,</b>												
	<b>total</b> .....	2,773,607	3.9	481,015	496,904	467,675	465,901	471,434	473,513	474,249	474,547	460,413	455,753
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	2,189,546	3.8	379,405	391,242	370,500	368,464	373,630	375,627	376,437	377,610	366,965	362,976
	Retail .....	2,436,613	4.0	424,329	437,918	410,138	410,863	413,968	417,499	417,911	418,413	405,320	401,076
	<b>GAFO<sup>4</sup></b> .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	104,858	100,776	101,449	103,642	(*)	105,769	106,196	105,490	105,213
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers</b> .....	584,061	4.1	101,610	105,662	97,175	97,437	97,804	97,886	97,812	96,937	93,448	92,777
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	539,466	4.5	93,738	97,852	89,790	89,462	90,188	90,481	90,353	89,432	85,939	85,325
44111	New car dealers .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	79,676	72,753	73,311	74,647	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	7,810	7,385	7,975	7,616	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores</b> .....	54,120	3.2	9,383	9,507	8,749	9,067	8,964	9,507	9,498	9,489	9,271	9,147
4421	Furniture stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,931	4,599	4,881	4,859	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,576	4,150	4,186	4,105	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores</b> .....	44,551	-1.1	7,744	7,542	7,013	7,623	7,466	8,190	8,184	8,293	8,128	8,215
44311, 13	Appl., T.V. & camera.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,707	5,265	5,863	5,713	(*)	6,033	6,108	6,139	6,143
44312	Computer & software stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp; supplies dealers</b> .....	187,735	6.6	35,928	38,575	33,776	34,196	34,608	30,781	30,620	30,817	29,276	28,090
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	31,800	27,695	29,180	28,911	(*)	26,611	26,733	25,574	24,668
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores</b> .....	350,359	1.9	59,777	61,184	58,782	58,603	59,344	59,436	59,683	59,645	58,409	58,269
4451	Grocery stores .....	314,357	1.7	53,182	54,602	52,677	52,381	53,132	52,970	53,218	53,209	52,224	52,090
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,587	4,188	4,423	4,357	(*)	4,528	4,523	4,379	4,366
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores</b> .....	163,389	-0.1	27,710	28,276	26,795	27,452	27,598	27,738	27,667	27,624	27,646	27,515
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	23,567	22,249	22,694	23,088	(*)	22,858	22,749	22,923	22,859
447	<b>Gasoline stations</b> .....	219,849	9.9	38,758	39,388	37,607	38,499	37,337	36,054	36,538	37,682	35,947	34,700
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories stores</b> .....	117,542	0.0	20,185	21,765	20,970	19,977	21,494	21,527	21,554	21,589	21,459	21,451
44811	Men's clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	837	804	725	777	(*)	774	760	727	724
44812	Women's clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,478	3,533	3,202	3,569	(*)	3,269	3,324	3,385	3,377
44814	Family clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,360	8,187	7,969	8,256	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	2,861	2,996	2,719	2,888	(*)	2,959	2,993	3,021	3,005
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, book &amp; music stores</b> .....	38,694	-4.7	6,796	6,645	6,449	7,363	6,874	7,094	7,137	7,214	7,783	7,529
452	<b>General merchandise stores</b> .....	323,916	0.9	56,292	57,029	55,451	55,016	56,308	57,196	56,983	57,206	56,249	56,245
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	67,505	-4.2	11,734	12,222	11,883	12,243	12,492	12,500	12,591	12,696	13,008	12,961
4521	Department stores (incl. L.D.) <sup>5</sup> .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	12,515	12,160	12,488	12,816	(*)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4529	Other general merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	44,807	43,568	42,773	43,816	(*)	44,392	44,510	43,241	43,284
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	38,539	37,472	36,889	37,833	(*)	38,271	38,315	37,375	37,458
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,268	6,096	5,884	5,983	(*)	6,121	6,195	5,866	5,826
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b> .....	62,128	3.7	10,999	11,815	10,302	10,916	11,201	10,481	10,819	10,895	10,442	10,449
454	<b>Nonstore retailers</b> .....	290,269	10.8	49,147	50,530	47,069	44,714	44,970	51,609	51,416	51,022	47,262	46,689
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses ....	(*)	(*)	(*)	44,323	41,275	38,747	38,847	(*)	45,090	44,815	40,829	40,256
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places</b> ...	336,994	2.9	56,686	58,986	57,537	55,038	57,466	56,014	56,338	56,134	55,093	54,677

(\*) 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 <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/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, 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 14, 2017. 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](http://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 <sup>1</sup>					
		Jun. 2017 Advance from --		May 2017 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2017 through Jun. 2017 from --	
		May 2017 (p)	Jun. 2016 (r)	Apr. 2017 (r)	May 2016 (r)	Jan. 2017 through Mar. 2017	Apr. 2016 through Jun. 2016
	<b>Retail &amp; food services,</b>						
	<b>total .....</b>	-0.2	2.8	-0.1	4.1	0.2	3.8
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	-0.2	2.4	-0.3	3.7	0.2	3.5
	Retail .....	-0.1	3.0	-0.1	4.2	0.3	4.0
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers .....</b>	0.1	4.7	0.9	5.4	0.3	4.8
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	0.1	5.3	1.0	5.9	0.4	5.3
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores .....</b>	0.1	2.5	0.1	3.8	0.8	3.5
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores .....</b>	0.1	0.8	-1.3	-0.4	2.3	0.8
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp; supplies dealers.....</b>	0.5	5.1	-0.6	9.0	-0.6	7.2
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores.....</b>	-0.4	1.8	0.1	2.4	0.5	2.3
4451	Grocery stores .....	-0.5	1.4	0.0	2.2	0.4	2.0
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores .....</b>	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.6	0.5
447	<b>Gasoline stations .....</b>	-1.3	0.3	-3.0	5.3	-3.6	5.5
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories stores .....</b>	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.5	0.5	0.8
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, book &amp; music stores.....</b>	-0.6	-8.9	-1.1	-5.2	-1.2	-5.9
452	<b>General merchandise stores.....</b>	0.4	1.7	-0.4	1.3	0.6	1.5
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	-0.7	-3.9	-0.8	-2.9	0.0	-3.2
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers .....</b>	-3.1	0.4	-0.7	3.5	-0.8	2.2
454	<b>Nonstore retailers .....</b>	0.4	9.2	0.8	10.1	2.4	10.1
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places ....</b>	-0.6	1.7	0.4	3.0	-0.3	2.6

(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, July 14, 2017. 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](http://www.census.gov/retail/how_surveys_are_collected.html)>

**Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability and Revision to Advance Estimates June 2017**

(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 <sup>(1)</sup> for Current Mo. (%)	Median standard error <sup>(1)</sup> for Percent change			Revision for month-to-month change <sup>(2)</sup>	
			Previous Mo. to Current Mo.	Previous Qtr. to Current Qtr.	Current Mo. to same Mo. Last Yr.	Average revision	Median absolute revision
	<b>Retail &amp; food services, total .....</b>	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ..	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1
	<b>Retail .....</b>	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers .....</b>	1.4	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.3	0.6
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	1.4	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.3	0.6
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores.....</b>	2.6	1.1	0.8	1.4	0.2	0.9
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores .....</b>	2.8	0.6	0.5	1.9	0.0	0.5
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp;....</b>						
	supplies dealers.....	2.2	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.2	0.6
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores.....</b>	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2
4451	Grocery stores .....	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores .....</b>	2.9	0.4	0.7	2.9	0.1	0.3
447	<b>Gasoline stations .....</b>	1.8	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.4
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories stores .....</b>	2.4	0.6	0.4	0.8	-0.1	0.4
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, book &amp; music stores.....</b>	2.5	1.3	0.7	1.2	-0.1	0.4
452	<b>General merchandise stores.....</b>	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
4521	Department stores (ex. L.D.).....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers .....</b>	2.8	2.4	1.3	2.7	0.0	0.8
454	<b>Nonstore retailers .....</b>	1.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.1	0.4
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places ..</b>	2.2	1.1	0.7	1.4	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, July 14, 2017. 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](http://www.census.gov/retail/how_surveys_are_collected.html)>.