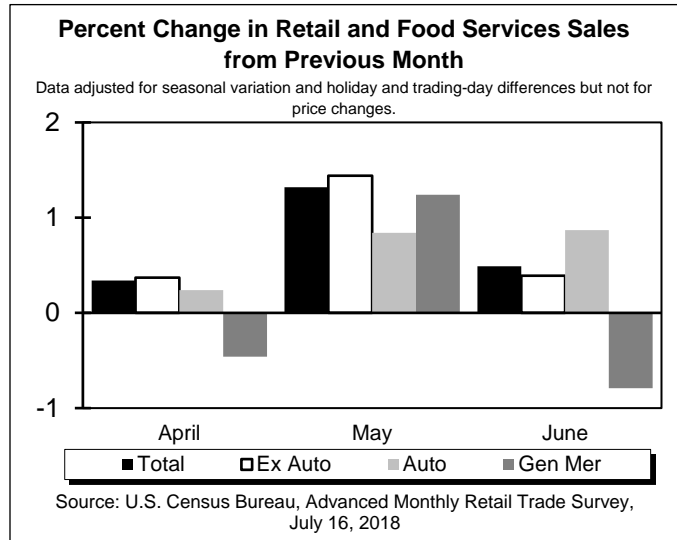


## ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, JUNE 2018

Release Number: CB18-105

**July 16, 2018** — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2018:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES		
June 2018	\$506.8 billion	0.5%
May 2018 (revised)	\$504.3 billion	1.3%
Next release: August 15, 2018		
<small>* 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 16, 2018.</small>		



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

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2018, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were \$506.8 billion, an increase of 0.5 percent ( $\pm 0.4$  percent) from the previous month, and 6.6 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) above June 2017. Total sales for the April 2018 through June 2018 period were up 5.9 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) from the same period a year ago. The April 2018 to May 2018 percent change was revised from up 0.8 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) to up 1.3 percent ( $\pm 0.2$  percent).

Retail trade sales were up 0.3 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent)\* from May 2018, and 6.4 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) above last year. Gasoline Stations were up 21.6 percent ( $\pm 1.6$  percent) from June 2017, while Nonstore Retailers were up 10.2 percent ( $\pm 1.4$  percent) from last year.

### General Information

The July 2018 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on August 15, 2018 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/).

### 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 5,500 retail and food services

#### Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Retail Indicator Branch  
301-763-2713  
[eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov](mailto:eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov)

#### Media Inquiries

Public Information Office  
301-763-3030  
[pio@census.gov](mailto:pio@census.gov)

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 5,500 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 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).

#### **Data Inquiries**

Economic Indicators Division, Retail Indicator Branch  
301-763-2713  
[eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov](mailto:eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov)

#### **Media Inquiries**

Public Information Office  
301-763-3030  
[pio@census.gov](mailto:pio@census.gov)



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](http://census.gov)

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.

## RESOURCES

### 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/)>

### FRED Mobile App



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

###

\* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

#### Data Inquiries

Economic Indicators Division, Retail Indicator Branch  
301-763-2713  
[eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov](mailto:eid.retail.indicator.branch@census.gov)

#### Media Inquiries

Public Information Office  
301-763-3030  
[pio@census.gov](mailto:pio@census.gov)



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](http://census.gov)

# 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		2018			2017		2018			2017	
		2018	% Chg. 2017	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> .....	2,922,502	5.5	513,622	531,045	483,951	483,338	496,410	506,787	504,340	497,776	475,415	473,752
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	2,309,907	5.8	405,257	419,766	382,729	379,823	390,040	402,883	401,333	395,627	376,112	375,061
	Total (excl. gasoline stations) .....	2,672,438	4.7	466,992	484,368	442,242	444,729	457,071	463,208	461,200	455,899	439,566	437,327
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations) .....	2,059,843	4.9	358,627	373,089	341,020	341,214	350,701	359,304	358,193	353,750	340,263	338,636
	Retail .....	2,569,620	5.5	451,241	468,034	424,946	426,090	437,604	446,164	444,614	439,586	419,290	417,639
	<b>GAFO<sup>4</sup></b> .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	110,924	100,373	103,232	104,476	(*)	110,503	109,266	106,710	105,201
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers</b> .....	612,595	4.0	108,365	111,279	101,222	103,515	106,370	103,904	103,007	102,149	99,303	98,691
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	567,685	4.3	100,484	103,254	93,801	95,672	98,530	96,341	95,429	94,653	91,904	91,231
44111	New car dealers .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	84,490	76,368	76,719	79,876	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,025	7,421	7,843	7,840	(*)	7,578	7,496	7,399	7,460
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores</b> .....	58,167	5.3	10,145	10,310	9,527	9,717	9,755	10,268	10,208	10,355	9,795	9,726
4421	Furniture stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,597	5,184	5,059	5,105	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,713	4,343	4,658	4,650	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores</b> .....	45,304	2.1	7,685	7,710	7,090	7,562	7,490	8,237	8,273	8,244	8,070	8,106
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp; supplies dealers</b> .....	194,998	4.0	37,181	40,736	34,377	36,158	38,487	32,905	32,631	31,831	30,996	30,891
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	34,449	29,275	30,765	31,635	(*)	28,684	28,176	26,892	26,584
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores</b> .....	363,667	4.0	62,078	64,059	58,982	59,566	61,141	61,729	61,932	61,791	59,413	59,597
4451	Grocery stores .....	325,600	3.9	55,299	57,127	52,836	52,941	54,479	55,024	55,142	55,038	52,888	53,047
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,913	4,317	4,676	4,647	(*)	4,803	4,765	4,558	4,569
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores</b> .....	169,564	4.0	29,320	29,408	27,710	27,707	28,259	29,586	28,945	28,567	27,735	27,732
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	24,521	23,084	23,055	23,743	(*)	23,853	23,555	23,194	23,051
447	<b>Gasoline stations</b> .....	250,064	13.9	46,630	46,677	41,709	38,609	39,339	43,579	43,140	41,877	35,849	36,425
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories stores</b> .....	124,463	5.1	21,512	24,213	20,988	20,568	21,870	22,748	23,341	22,674	21,869	21,498
44811	Men's clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	922	864	757	816	(*)	814	827	747	738
44812	Women's clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,845	3,460	3,249	3,519	(*)	3,492	3,386	3,374	3,246
44814	Family clothing stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	9,524	8,108	8,439	8,672	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores .....	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,072	2,829	2,718	2,868	(*)	3,081	3,010	2,967	2,936
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, &amp; book stores</b> .....	37,212	-1.7	6,409	6,526	6,159	6,658	6,509	6,669	6,891	6,951	7,001	6,910
452	<b>General merchandise stores</b> .....	334,382	3.5	58,192	59,793	54,532	56,466	56,515	58,944	59,416	58,687	57,598	56,586
4521	Department stores .....	66,732	0.0	11,679	12,406	11,178	11,634	12,072	12,448	12,677	12,497	12,452	12,447
4529	Other general merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	47,387	43,354	44,832	44,443	(*)	46,739	46,190	45,146	44,139
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	40,045	36,905	38,260	37,872	(*)	39,767	39,344	38,607	37,759
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.....	(*)	(*)	(*)	7,342	6,449	6,572	6,571	(*)	6,972	6,846	6,539	6,380
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b> .....	63,586	5.6	11,376	12,174	10,296	10,758	11,420	10,994	10,973	10,847	10,307	10,331
454	<b>Nonstore retailers</b> .....	315,618	10.0	52,348	55,149	52,354	48,806	50,449	56,601	55,857	55,613	51,354	51,146
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses ....	(*)	(*)	(*)	48,617	45,811	43,208	44,473	(*)	49,108	48,787	45,339	45,013
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places</b> ...	352,882	4.8	62,381	63,011	59,005	57,248	58,806	60,623	59,726	58,190	56,125	56,113

(\*) 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, musical instrument, and book (451), general merchandise (452), office supply, stationery, and gift stores (4532).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2018. 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. 2018 Advance from --		May 2018 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2018 through Jun. 2018 from --	
		May 2018 (p)	Jun. 2017 (r)	Apr. 2018 (r)	May 2017 (r)	Jan. 2018 through Mar. 2018	Apr. 2017 through Jun. 2017
	<b>Retail &amp; food services,</b>						
	<b>total</b> .....	0.5	6.6	1.3	6.5	1.9	5.9
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	0.4	7.1	1.4	7.0	1.9	6.3
	Total (excl. gasoline stations) .....	0.4	5.4	1.2	5.5	1.8	5.0
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations) .....	0.3	5.6	1.3	5.8	1.8	5.2
	Retail .....	0.3	6.4	1.1	6.5	1.8	5.9
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers</b> .....	0.9	4.6	0.8	4.4	2.0	4.4
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ..	1.0	4.8	0.8	4.6	2.1	4.7
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores</b> .....	0.6	4.8	-1.4	5.0	2.5	5.7
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores</b> .....	-0.4	2.1	0.4	2.1	0.7	1.3
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp; supplies dealers</b> .....	0.8	6.2	2.5	5.6	1.0	4.6
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores</b> .....	-0.3	3.9	0.2	3.9	0.8	3.9
4451	Grocery stores .....	-0.2	4.0	0.2	3.9	1.0	4.0
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores</b> .....	2.2	6.7	1.3	4.4	3.3	4.9
447	<b>Gasoline stations</b> .....	1.0	21.6	3.0	18.4	2.9	16.9
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories stores</b> .....	-2.5	4.0	2.9	8.6	2.8	5.7
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, &amp; book stores</b> .....	-3.2	-4.7	-0.9	-0.3	-0.5	-1.9
452	<b>General merchandise stores</b> .....	-0.8	2.3	1.2	5.0	0.4	3.1
4521	Department stores .....	-1.8	0.0	1.4	1.8	0.9	0.3
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b> .....	0.2	6.7	1.2	6.2	-0.4	5.3
454	<b>Nonstore retailers</b> .....	1.3	10.2	0.4	9.2	3.0	9.9
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places</b> ....	1.5	8.0	2.6	6.4	3.0	6.1

(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 16, 2018. 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 Jun. 2018**

(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,</b>						
	<b>total</b> .....	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ..	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. gasoline stations) .....	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations) .....	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
	<b>Retail, total</b> .....	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
441	<b>Motor vehicle &amp; parts dealers</b> .....	1.1	1.0	0.3	0.9	-0.1	0.4
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	1.1	1.1	0.4	1.0	-0.1	0.5
442	<b>Furniture &amp; home furn. stores</b> .....	2.1	1.2	0.7	1.3	0.2	0.9
443	<b>Electronics &amp; appliance stores</b> ....	2.0	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.4	0.4
444	<b>Building material &amp; garden eq. &amp;....</b>						
	<b>supplies dealers</b> .....	1.9	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.1	0.7
445	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores</b> .....	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
4451	Grocery stores .....	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.2
446	<b>Health &amp; personal care stores</b> .....	1.6	0.3	0.5	1.3	0.0	0.4
447	<b>Gasoline stations</b> .....	4.0	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.5
448	<b>Clothing &amp; clothing accessories</b>						
	<b>stores</b> .....	1.4	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.4
451	<b>Sporting goods, hobby, musical</b>						
	<b>instrument, &amp; book stores</b> .....	3.1	0.7	1.2	1.3	0.6	0.6
452	<b>General merchandise stores</b> .....	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2
4521	Department stores .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
453	<b>Miscellaneous store retailers</b> .....	3.4	2.6	1.4	2.4	0.0	1.6
454	<b>Nonstore retailers</b> .....	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.5
722	<b>Food services &amp; drinking places</b> ..	3.4	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.1	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 period January 2018 - present. For measures of sampling variability where there are not enough months collected on the new sample basis to calculate medians, the last available medians from the prior sample are provided.

(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 with exception to the following: Total (excl. gasoline stations), Total (excl. motor vehicles & parts & gasoline stations), Electronics & appliance stores, and Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores which are based on estimates from April 2018 to present until we have 12 months of revisions.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Advance Monthly Retail Trade Survey, July 16, 2018. 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)>.