FOR RELEASE AT 8:30 AM EDT, TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, June 2019
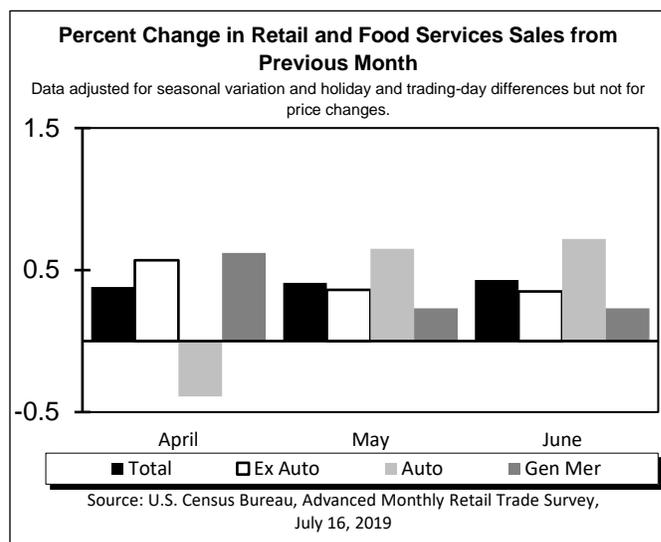
Release Number: CB19-99

Notice of Revision: Monthly retail sales estimates were revised on June 25, 2019 based on the results of the 2017 Annual Retail Trade Survey and the Service Annual Survey. The Annual Revision of Monthly Retail and Food Services showing revised estimates can be found on our website at https://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/www/benchmark/2019/html/annrev19.html.

July 16, 2019 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2019:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES		
June 2019	**$519.9 billion**	**0.4%***
May 2019 (revised)	**$517.7 billion**	**0.4%**
Next release: August 15, 2019		

* 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, 2019.

Percent Change in Retail and Food Services Sales from Previous Month
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, 2019

Advance Estimates of U.S. Retail and Food Services

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for June 2019, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were $519.9 billion, an increase of 0.4 percent (±0.5 percent)* from the previous month, and 3.4 percent (±0.7 percent) above June 2018. Total sales for the April 2019 through June 2019 period were up 3.4 percent (±0.5 percent) from the same period a year ago. The April 2019 to May 2019 percent change was revised from up 0.5 percent (±0.5 percent)* to up 0.4 percent (±0.2 percent).

Retail trade sales were up 0.4 percent (±0.5 percent)* from May 2019, and 3.3 percent (±0.5 percent) above last year. Nonstore retailers were up 13.4 percent (±1.4 percent) from June 2018, while health and personal care stores were up 5.5 percent (±1.9 percent) from last year.

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General Information

The July 2019 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on August 15, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <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 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>.

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

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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 ±1.753 x 0.9 percent or ±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 ±1.753 x CV x (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.

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/>

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.

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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[1] code	Kind of Business	6 Month Total		Not Adjusted					Adjusted[2]				
		2019	% Chg. 2018	2019			2018		2019			2018	
				Jun.[3] (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun.	May	Jun.[3] (a)	May (p)	Apr. (r)	Jun. (r)	May (r)
	Retail & food services, total	**2,999,101**	**2.9**	**519,429**	**547,255**	**510,176**	**510,029**	**530,082**	**519,885**	**517,682**	**515,545**	**502,688**	**502,987**
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	2,385,730	3.0	412,910	434,225	405,978	405,277	421,168	415,385	413,932	412,466	402,306	402,514
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	2,749,702	3.1	474,868	500,000	466,049	464,191	483,790	477,846	474,448	471,984	459,929	460,517
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	2,136,331	3.3	368,349	386,970	361,851	359,439	374,876	373,346	370,698	368,905	359,547	360,044
	Retail	2,620,460	2.7	453,155	479,282	446,483	445,793	465,377	455,353	453,738	452,232	440,624	441,597
	GAFO[4]	(*)	(*)	(*)	111,042	102,747	106,233	110,704	(*)	109,297	109,078	108,792	110,037
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**613,371**	**2.4**	**106,519**	**113,030**	**104,198**	**104,752**	**108,914**	**104,500**	**103,750**	**103,079**	**100,382**	**100,473**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	566,151	2.3	98,457	104,553	96,015	96,794	100,776	96,526	95,745	95,064	92,715	92,796
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	85,861	78,463	79,222	82,916	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores............	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,477	8,183	7,958	8,138	(*)	8,005	8,015	7,667	7,677
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	**55,556**	**-0.8**	**9,545**	**9,984**	**9,271**	**9,713**	**9,910**	**9,840**	**9,788**	**9,800**	**9,762**	**9,773**
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,562	5,077	5,454	5,427	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	4,422	4,194	4,259	4,483	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**44,700**	**-4.6**	**7,587**	**7,626**	**6,956**	**8,052**	**7,942**	**8,123**	**8,147**	**8,079**	**8,548**	**8,531**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**....................................	**189,334**	**0.7**	**34,352**	**37,857**	**34,656**	**36,045**	**39,115**	**31,156**	**30,993**	**31,479**	**31,952**	**31,543**
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	33,215	30,214	31,818	33,653	(*)	27,865	28,132	28,409	28,044
445	**Food & beverage stores**........................	**378,736**	**2.5**	**64,577**	**66,923**	**62,737**	**63,240**	**64,958**	**64,662**	**64,340**	**64,248**	**62,820**	**62,867**
4451	Grocery stores	340,709	2.7	57,792	59,950	56,301	56,409	58,116	57,850	57,589	57,450	56,128	56,151
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,110	4,582	4,995	4,955	(*)	4,923	4,927	4,826	4,848
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**175,384**	**4.1**	**28,958**	**30,579**	**29,538**	**28,016**	**29,460**	**30,102**	**29,950**	**29,686**	**28,530**	**28,939**
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	25,534	24,722	23,015	24,642	(*)	24,766	24,599	23,557	23,994
447	**Gasoline stations**	**249,399**	**0.6**	**44,561**	**47,255**	**44,127**	**45,838**	**46,292**	**42,039**	**43,234**	**43,561**	**42,759**	**42,470**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**122,679**	**-0.1**	**21,235**	**23,210**	**21,597**	**21,589**	**23,764**	**22,486**	**22,378**	**22,413**	**22,692**	**23,048**
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	857	840	780	862	(*)	760	768	777	770
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,820	3,590	3,330	3,798	(*)	3,470	3,429	3,408	3,494
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	9,328	8,692	8,698	9,449	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,129	3,132	2,833	3,061	(*)	3,186	3,212	3,086	3,120
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**35,390**	**-6.7**	**6,292**	**6,276**	**6,043**	**6,642**	**6,625**	**6,507**	**6,504**	**6,512**	**6,729**	**6,966**
452	**General merchandise stores**..................	**337,432**	**2.0**	**59,181**	**61,344**	**56,653**	**57,871**	**60,018**	**60,026**	**59,887**	**59,748**	**58,545**	**59,241**
4521	Department stores	61,398	-4.3	10,650	11,430	10,542	11,256	12,055	11,352	11,483	11,552	11,981	12,309
4529	Other general merch. stores....	(*)	(*)	(*)	49,914	46,111	46,615	47,963	(*)	48,404	48,196	46,564	46,932
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters................................	(*)	(*)	(*)	42,425	39,061	39,877	40,736	(*)	41,189	40,987	39,758	39,976
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores............	(*)	(*)	(*)	7,489	7,050	6,738	7,227	(*)	7,215	7,209	6,806	6,956
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**63,299**	**-0.1**	**11,466**	**12,550**	**10,718**	**11,286**	**12,297**	**11,196**	**11,128**	**11,040**	**10,847**	**10,954**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**355,180**	**10.6**	**58,882**	**62,648**	**59,989**	**52,749**	**56,082**	**64,716**	**63,639**	**62,587**	**57,058**	**56,792**
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	55,633	53,080	46,800	49,215	(*)	56,538	55,523	50,215	49,712
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**378,641**	**4.2**	**66,274**	**67,973**	**63,693**	**64,236**	**64,705**	**64,532**	**63,944**	**63,313**	**62,064**	**61,390**

(*) 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, 2019. 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>.

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. 2019 Advance from --		May 2019 Preliminary from --		Apr. 2019 through Jun. 2019 from --	
		May 19 (p)	Jun. 2018 (r)	Apr. 2019 (r)	May 18 (r)	Jan. 2019 through Mar. 2019	Apr. 2018 through Jun. 2018
	Retail & food services, total	**0.4**	**3.4**	**0.4**	**2.9**	**1.8**	**3.4**
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.4	3.3	0.4	2.8	1.7	3.3
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.7	3.9	0.5	3.0	1.7	3.5
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	0.7	3.8	0.5	3.0	1.5	3.5
	Retail	0.4	3.3	0.3	2.7	1.7	3.2
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**0.7**	**4.1**	**0.7**	**3.3**	**2.4**	**3.5**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ...	0.8	4.1	0.7	3.2	2.5	3.4
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**	**0.5**	**0.8**	**-0.1**	**0.2**	**2.0**	**-0.2**
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**-0.3**	**-5.0**	**0.8**	**-4.5**	**-0.8**	**-5.2**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**....................	**0.5**	**-2.5**	**-1.5**	**-1.7**	**-3.4**	**-0.9**
445	**Food & beverage stores**...........................	**0.5**	**2.9**	**0.1**	**2.3**	**1.1**	**2.5**
4451	Grocery stores	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.6	1.1	2.7
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**0.5**	**5.5**	**0.9**	**3.5**	**1.5**	**4.5**
447	**Gasoline stations**	**-2.8**	**-1.7**	**-0.8**	**1.8**	**3.5**	**1.6**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**0.5**	**-0.9**	**-0.2**	**-2.9**	**0.8**	**-1.1**
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**0.0**	**-3.3**	**-0.1**	**-6.6**	**1.5**	**-5.5**
452	**General merchandise stores**...................	**0.2**	**2.5**	**0.2**	**1.1**	**1.5**	**2.2**
4521	Department stores	-1.1	-5.2	-0.6	-6.7	-1.1	-5.9
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**0.6**	**3.2**	**0.8**	**1.6**	**3.8**	**2.6**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**1.7**	**13.4**	**1.7**	**12.1**	**3.5**	**11.9**
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**0.9**	**4.0**	**1.0**	**4.2**	**2.5**	**4.6**

(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 16, 2019. 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>.

Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability and Revision to Advance Estimates June 2019

(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	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
	Retail, total	**0.5**	**0.3**	**0.1**	**0.3**	**0.1**	**0.1**
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers**	**1.2**	**0.9**	**0.4**	**1.1**	**0.0**	**0.5**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	1.2	1.0	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.5
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores**.................	**2.2**	**1.3**	**0.8**	**1.7**	**0.0**	**0.5**
443	**Electronics & appliance stores**	**1.2**	**0.5**	**0.5**	**0.9**	**-0.3**	**0.7**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers**....................................	**1.4**	**0.8**	**0.5**	**1.0**	**0.2**	**0.5**
445	**Food & beverage stores**...........................	**0.7**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**0.0**	**0.3**
4451	Grocery stores	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.3
446	**Health & personal care stores**	**1.9**	**0.4**	**0.4**	**1.1**	**0.2**	**0.3**
447	**Gasoline stations**	**1.5**	**0.4**	**0.4**	**0.7**	**-0.1**	**0.5**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores**	**1.9**	**0.6**	**0.6**	**0.9**	**0.0**	**0.6**
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores**	**3.7**	**0.8**	**0.9**	**1.5**	**-0.4**	**0.7**
452	**General merchandise stores**....................	**0.7**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.3**	**0.0**	**0.3**
4521	Department stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers**	**3.8**	**2.1**	**1.5**	**2.3**	**0.6**	**1.2**
454	**Nonstore retailers**	**1.2**	**0.5**	**0.4**	**0.8**	**0.3**	**0.4**
722	**Food services & drinking places**	**3.5**	**0.9**	**0.7**	**2.0**	**0.2**	**0.3**

(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 16, 2019. 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>.

FOR RELEASE AT 8:30 AM EDT, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

MONTHLY ADVANCE ECONOMIC INDICATORS REPORT, JUNE 2019

Release Number: CB19-111

July 25, 2019 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following international trade, wholesale inventories, and retail inventories advance statistics for June 2019:

	ADVANCE INTERNATIONAL TRADE: GOODS DEFICIT	ADVANCE WHOLESALE INVENTORIES	ADVANCE RETAIL INVENTORIES
JUNE 2019	$74.2 Billion -1.2%°	$680.0 Billion +0.2%*	$662.4 Billion -0.1%*
MAY 2019	$75.0 Billion	$678.4 Billion (R)	$663.3 Billion (R)

Next release: August 29, 2019.

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.
° Statistical significance is not applicable or not measurable.
Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Advance Economic Indicators Report, July 25, 2019.

Advance International Trade in Goods

The international trade deficit was $74.2 billion in June, down $0.9 billion from $75.0 billion in May. Exports of goods for June were $136.3 billion, $3.7 billion less than May exports. Imports of goods for June were $210.5 billion, $4.6 billion less than May imports.

Advance Wholesale Inventories

Wholesale inventories for June, adjusted for seasonal variations but not for price changes, were estimated at an end-of-month level of $680.0 billion, up 0.2 percent (±0.2 percent)* from May 2019, and were up 7.9 percent (±1.1 percent) from June 2018. The April 2019 to May 2019 percentage change was unrevised from the preliminary estimate of up 0.4 percent (±0.2 percent).

Advance Retail Inventories

Retail inventories for June, adjusted for seasonal variations but not for price changes, were estimated at an end-of-month level of $662.4 billion, down 0.1 percent (±0.2 percent)* from May 2019, and were up 4.4 percent (±0.5 percent) from June 2018. The April 2019 to May 2019 percentage change was revised from up 0.4 percent (±0.2 percent) to up 0.3 percent (±0.2 percent).

The July 2019 Advance report is scheduled for release on August 29, 2019. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <www.census.gov/econ/indicators/>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

International Trade in Goods

Goods (Census Basis)

Data for goods on a Census basis are compiled from the documents collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and reflect the movement of goods between foreign countries and the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. Foreign Trade Zones. They include government and non-government shipments of goods and exclude shipments between the United States and its territories and possessions; transactions with U.S. military, diplomatic, and consular installations abroad; U.S. goods returned to the United States by its Armed Forces; personal and household effects of travelers; and in-transit shipments. Data for U.S. exports to Canada are derived from import data compiled by Canada. For more information on the data exchange and substitution please refer to the FT-900. The General Imports value reflects the total arrival of merchandise from foreign countries that immediately enters consumption channels, warehouses, or Foreign Trade Zones.

For imports, the value reported is the U.S. Customs and Border Protection appraised value of merchandise—generally, the price paid for merchandise for export to the United States. Import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing merchandise to the United States are excluded.

Exports are valued at the free alongside ship value of merchandise at the U.S. port of export, based on the transaction price including inland freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in placing the merchandise alongside the carrier at the U.S. port of exportation.

Additional information on coverage and valuation are available in the Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics, <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec2.html#coverage> and <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec2.html#valuation>, respectively.

Nonsampling Errors

Goods data are a complete enumeration of documents collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and are not subject to sampling errors. This report presents current month statistics which reflect nearly complete coverage. Current month statistics reflecting complete coverage will be published in the upcoming U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report (FT-900). Statistics for other months shown reflect complete coverage and appear in the most recently published FT-900. Quality assurance procedures are performed at every stage of collection, processing, and tabulation. However, the data are still subject to several types of nonsampling errors. Information on nonsampling errors and other quality

issues are available in the Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics, <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec2.html>.

The U.S. Census Bureau recommends that data users incorporate this information into their analyses, as nonsampling errors could impact the conclusion drawn from the results. For a detailed discussion of errors affecting the goods data, see U.S. Merchandise Trade Statistics: A Quality Profile (October 2014), available at <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/aip/quality_profile10032014.pdf> or from the Economic Indicators Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

Adjustments for Seasonal and Trading-Day Variations

Goods data are presented on a seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted basis. Seasonally adjusted (and/or trading day adjusted data) are produced using X-13ARIMA-SEATS software to develop monthly adjustment factors. Goods data are initially classified under the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System), which is an internationally accepted standard for the commodity classification of traded goods. Combining trade into approximately 140 export and 140 import end-use categories makes it possible to examine goods according to their principal uses. These categories are used as the basis for computing the seasonal and trading-day adjusted data. These adjusted data are then summed to the six end-use aggregates for publication.

For more information, visit the seasonal adjustment section of the Guide to Foreign Trade here: <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/sec2.html#seasonal>

Retail and Wholesale Inventories

National estimates of end-of-month inventories are based on data from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey and the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey. Additional information for each survey can be found at <www.census.gov/retail> and <www.census.gov/wholesale>. The advance estimates contained in this report are not incorporated into the full MRTS and MWTS time series.

The MRTS and MWTS samples selected to measure inventories consist of a stratified simple random sampling method of approximately 11,000 retail firms and 4,200 wholesale firms located in the United States. The retail and wholesale samples include firms of all sizes and are updated on a quarterly basis to account for new retail and wholesale firms, deaths, and other changes to the universe.

Data for nonresponding firms are imputed based on data for similar-sized firms classified in the same kind of business. For surveyed Retail companies, approximately 45.9 percent provided data for this reporting period resulting in a total quantity response rate of 52.8 percent. For surveyed Wholesale companies, approximately 50.9 percent provided data for this reporting period resulting in a total quantity response rate of 51.2 percent.

MRTS estimates cover companies with one or more establishments that sell merchandise and related services to final consumers. Nonemployers are represented in the retail estimates through benchmarking to prior annual survey estimates that include nonemployer sales based on administrative records.

MWTS estimates cover wholesale merchants who sell goods on their own account and include such businesses as wholesale merchants or jobbers, industrial distributors, exporters, and importers. Sales offices and branches maintained by manufacturing, refining, or mining firms for the purpose of marketing their products are not covered in this report. Also excluded is NAICS Industry Group 4251: Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.

Reliability of Estimates
Because the retail and wholesale estimates 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 are estimated measures of sampling variation.

The margin of sampling error gives a range about the estimate which is a 90 percent confidence interval. If, for example, the percentage change estimate is +1.2 percent and its estimated standard error is 0.9 percent, then the margin of sampling error is ±1.753 x 0.9 percent or ±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 are statistically significant unless otherwise noted. For a monthly total, the estimated coefficient of variation is given. The resulting confidence interval is the estimated value ±1.753 x CV x (the estimated monthly total).

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 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.

The U.S. Census Bureau recommends that individuals using retail and wholesale estimates incorporate this information into their analyses, as sampling error and nonsampling error could affect the conclusions drawn from the estimates.

Adjustments for Seasonal Variations

Concurrent seasonal adjustment is used to adjust the retail and wholesale inventories estimates for seasonal variations. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program. The factors derived from the program are applied to the retail and wholesale estimates of current and previous month inventories and for inventories estimates a year ago as well.

Data Availability

The Advance Economic Indicators Report is available at <www.census.gov/econ/indicators/index.html>. For archived versions of the Advance Economic Indicators Report please visit the Historical Data tab at the following: <census.gov/econ/indicators/historical_data.html>.

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/>

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.

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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.

° Statistical significance is not applicable or not measurable for this survey.

(R) Revised from the last published Monthly Retail Trade Report and Monthly Wholesale Trade: Sales and Inventories Report

Table 1. U.S. International Trade in Goods by Principal End–Use Category (1)

In millions of dollars. Details may not equal totals due to seasonal adjustment and rounding. (X) – Not applicable

	Goods - Census Basis (2)						
	Monthly				Percent change		
	June 2019 (a)	May 2019	April 2019	June 2018	June 2019/ May 2019	May 2019/ April 2019	June 2019/ June 2018
Seasonally Adjusted							
Balance	-74,171	-75,049	-70,931	-68,462	(X)	(X)	(X)
Exports	136,285	140,033	136,077	141,502	-2.7	2.9	-3.7
Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	12,003	11,940	11,211	12,698	0.5	6.5	-5.5
Industrial Supplies (3)	44,493	44,396	44,602	46,608	0.2	-0.5	-4.5
Capital Goods	44,887	46,075	44,724	47,311	-2.6	3.0	-5.1
Automotive Vehicles, etc.	13,240	13,798	13,172	12,937	-4.0	4.7	2.3
Consumer Goods	16,138	18,106	17,290	16,483	-10.9	4.7	-2.1
Other Goods	5,523	5,718	5,077	5,466	-3.4	12.6	1.0
Imports	210,456	215,081	207,009	209,964	-2.2	3.9	0.2
Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	12,697	12,786	12,843	12,188	-0.7	-0.5	4.2
Industrial Supplies (3)	42,967	46,392	44,593	48,550	-7.4	4.0	-11.5
Capital Goods	56,832	57,251	55,614	57,448	-0.7	2.9	-1.1
Automotive Vehicles, etc.	32,615	33,234	30,908	30,364	-1.9	7.5	7.4
Consumer Goods	54,677	55,646	54,296	53,030	-1.7	2.5	3.1
Other Goods	10,669	9,773	8,755	8,385	9.2	11.6	27.2
Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Balance	-69,399	-78,627	-73,914	-66,476	(X)	(X)	(X)
Exports	137,876	142,208	135,118	145,370	-3.0	5.2	-5.2
Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	10,075	10,594	10,615	11,056	-4.9	-0.2	-8.9
Industrial Supplies (3)	44,242	45,854	45,182	46,619	-3.5	1.5	-5.1
Capital Goods	46,471	46,739	44,160	49,654	-0.6	5.8	-6.4
Automotive Vehicles, etc.	13,778	14,975	13,532	13,604	-8.0	10.7	1.3
Consumer Goods	17,749	18,225	16,545	18,870	-2.6	10.2	-5.9
Other Goods	5,561	5,821	5,084	5,567	-4.5	14.5	-0.1
Imports	207,274	220,835	209,032	211,846	-6.1	5.6	-2.2
Foods, Feeds, & Beverages	12,468	13,469	13,364	12,161	-7.4	0.8	2.5
Industrial Supplies (3)	43,666	48,983	46,268	50,263	-10.9	5.9	-13.1
Capital Goods	57,760	59,179	56,177	59,589	-2.4	5.3	-3.1
Automotive Vehicles, etc.	32,187	33,393	31,481	30,406	-3.6	6.1	5.9
Consumer Goods	50,833	55,831	52,565	51,025	-9.0	6.2	-0.4
Other Goods	10,361	9,981	9,177	8,403	3.8	8.8	23.3

(a) Advance statistics

(1) For a listing of the detail included in each end-use category, see <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/codes/enduse/exeumstr.txt>.
(2) Data are presented on a Census basis. The information needed to convert to a balance of payment basis is not available.
(3) Includes petroleum and petroleum products.

NOTES:
* Current month statistics reflect nearly complete coverage; current month statistics reflecting complete coverage will be published in the upcoming U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report (FT-900). Statistics for other months shown reflect complete coverage and appear in the most recently published FT-900.
* For information on data sources, nonsampling errors, and definitions, see the explanatory notes in this release or at <www.census.gov/econ/indicators/advance_report.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Advance Economic Indicators Report, July 25, 2019.

Table 2. Levels and Percent Changes for Inventories

Inventories estimates are shown in millions of dollars. Estimates are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey and the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

	Inventories					
	Monthly			Percent change		
	June 2019 (a)	May 2019 (r)	June 2018 (r)	June 2019/ May 2019	May 2019/ April 2019	June 2019/ June 2018
Adjusted[1]						
Merchant wholesale[2] trade, total	680,016	678,392	630,267	0.2	0.4	7.9
Durable goods	424,361	422,502	384,568	0.4	0.3	10.3
Nondurable goods	255,655	255,890	245,699	-0.1	0.6	4.1
Retail trade, total	662,375	663,329	634,398	-0.1	0.3	4.4
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	419,397	419,643	407,607	-0.1	0.2	2.9
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	242,978	243,686	226,791	-0.3	0.5	7.1
Not Adjusted						
Merchant wholesale[2] trade, total	672,704	672,814	623,849	0.0	-0.6	7.8
Durable goods	423,337	422,112	383,942	0.3	0.1	10.3
Nondurable goods	249,367	250,702	239,907	-0.5	-1.8	3.9
Retail trade, total	655,365	658,073	627,657	-0.4	-0.6	4.4
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	411,678	412,296	399,998	-0.1	-0.4	2.9
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	243,687	245,777	227,659	-0.9	-0.9	7.0

(a) Advance estimate
(r) Revised estimate

See footnotes and notes at the end of Table 3.

Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability

Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey and the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

	Inventories					
	Monthly			Standard Error of		
	Coefficient of Variation			Percent Change		
	June 2019 (a)	May 2019 (r)	June 2018 (r)	June 2019/ May 2019	May 2019/ April 2019	June 2019/ June 2018
Merchant wholesale[2] trade, total	1.8	1.8	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.6
Durable goods	2.4	2.4	2.1	0.1	0.2	1.0
Nondurable goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.2	0.1	1.0
Retail trade, total	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.3
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.2	1.3	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.7

(a) Advance estimate
(r) Revised estimate

(1) Estimates are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variation, but not for price changes. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available not adjusted 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.

(2) The 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) defines merchant wholesalers as including manufacturers' sales branches and offices. However, the estimates included in this release exclude manufacturers' sales branches and offices. Note that this is not a change in coverage from prior releases and is consistent with the description used in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey data products.

NOTES:
Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at
<www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/monthly_methodology.html> for wholesale and at
<www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html> for retail.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Advance Economic Indicators Report, July 25, 2019.

**FOR RELEASE AT 10:00 AM EDT, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019**

MANUFACTURING AND TRADE INVENTORIES AND SALES, JUNE 2019

Release Number: CB19-116

Special Notice: With the release of the August 2019 Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales report, the MTIS time series tables that are available as Text files will change to Excel format. This change will impact the August 2019 MTIS release as well as each subsequent monthly release. For further information as well as examples of the new files, please visit <www.census.gov/mtis>.

August 15, 2019 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following new manufacturing and trade statistics for June 2019:

	BUSINESS INVENTORIES	
JUNE 2019	**$2,035.7 billion**	**0.0%***
MAY 2019 (revised)	**$2,035.8 billion**	**+0.3%**

Next release: September 13, 2019

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.
Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, August 15, 2019.

Total Business Inventories / Sales Ratios: 2010 to 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, August 15, 2019.
(Data adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences but not for price changes)
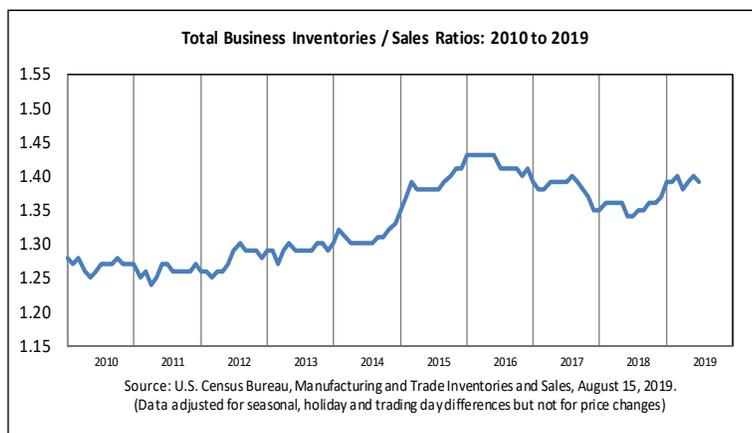
Sales

The combined value of distributive trade sales and manufacturers' shipments for June, adjusted for seasonal and trading day differences but not for price changes, was estimated at $1,460.1 billion, up 0.1 percent (±0.2 percent)* from May 2019 and was up 1.3 percent (±0.4 percent) from June 2018.

Inventories

Manufacturers' and trade inventories, adjusted for seasonal variations but not for price changes, were estimated at an end-of-month level of $2,035.7 billion, virtually unchanged (±0.1 percent)* from May 2019, but were up 5.2 percent (±0.4 percent) from June 2018.

Inventories/Sales Ratio

The total business inventories/sales ratio based on seasonally adjusted data at the end of June was 1.39. The June 2018 ratio was 1.34.

General Information

The July 2019 Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales Report is scheduled for release on September 13, 2019. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Reliability of Estimates

The sampling variability for retailers and merchant wholesalers can be used to construct a 90 percent confidence interval for the estimates. Over all possible samples, 90 percent of such intervals will cover the true estimate. These intervals are given in parentheses for the estimates on the front page. If, for example, the estimate is up 0.8 percent and the margin of sampling error is ±1.2 percent, the 90 percent confidence interval is -0.4 percent to +2.0 percent. If the range contains 0, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. Measures of reliability for Retail and Wholesale sales and inventory levels and changes are included in the detailed monthly press releases for those Industries. Manufacturers do not contribute to estimates of sampling variability because the manufacturer's mail panel is not a probability sample from a known frame and standard errors of the industry estimates cannot be calculated. Estimates from all three surveys are also subject to nonsampling errors, which can arise in any stage of the survey. Such errors include coverage error (failure to accurately represent all population units in the sample) response errors, coding errors, and nonresponse. Although no direct measurement of these errors has been obtained, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data to minimize their influence.

Description of the Survey

The Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales estimates are based on data from three surveys: the Monthly Retail Trade Survey, the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, and the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey. Data for the wholesale and manufacturing sectors are unrevised from the most recent Monthly Wholesale Trade Report and the Full Report on Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and orders. Data from the Retail sector is revised and presented in more detail from the most recent Advance Economic Indicators Report. For more information on these surveys see the links below:
<www.census.gov/retail/>, <www.census.gov/wholesale/>, and <www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3/>.

RESOURCES

API

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

Table 1. Estimated Monthly Sales and Inventories for Manufacturers, Retailers, and Merchant Wholesalers

(In millions of dollars)

	Sales			Inventories			Inventories/Sales Ratios		
	Jun. 2019	May 2019	Jun. 2018	Jun. 2019	May 2019	Jun. 2018	Jun. 2019	May 2019	Jun. 2018
	(p)	(r)	(r)	(p)	(r)	(r)	(p)	(r)	(r)
Adjusted[1]									
Total business..........................	1,460,084	1,458,214	1,441,800	2,035,698	2,035,784	1,934,716	1.39	1.40	1.34
Manufacturers[2].......................	506,153	504,257	501,313	695,585	694,247	669,588	1.37	1.38	1.34
Retailers[3].................................	455,392	454,135	441,099	661,444	663,185	634,570	1.45	1.46	1.44
Merchant wholesalers[4]..........	498,539	499,822	499,388	678,669	678,352	630,558	1.36	1.36	1.26
Not Adjusted									
Total business..........................	1,472,019	1,527,171	1,481,626	2,017,625	2,029,098	1,917,092	1.37	1.33	1.29
Manufacturers[2].......................	523,671	522,423	525,660	692,267	698,116	665,586	1.32	1.34	1.27
Retailers[3].................................	452,164	479,072	445,793	654,164	658,054	627,657	1.45	1.37	1.41
Merchant wholesalers[4]..........	496,184	525,676	510,173	671,194	672,928	623,849	1.35	1.28	1.22

(p) Preliminary estimate.

(r) Revised estimate.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/mtis/how_surveys_are_collected.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, August 15, 2019.

Table 2. Percent Changes for Sales and Inventories -- Manufacturers, Retailers, and Merchant Wholesalers

	Adjusted						Not Adjusted					
	Sales			Inventories			Sales			Inventories		
	Jun. 19/ May 19	May 19/ Apr. 19	Jun. 19/ Jun. 18	Jun. 19/ May 19	May 19/ Apr. 19	Jun. 19/ Jun. 18	Jun. 19/ May 19	May 19/ Apr. 19	Jun. 19/ Jun. 18	Jun. 19/ May 19	May 19/ Apr. 19	Jun. 19/ Jun. 18
Total business............................	0.1	-0.1	1.3	0.0	0.3	5.2	-3.6	4.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	5.2
Manufacturers[2].........................	0.4	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.2	3.9	0.2	3.3	-0.4	-0.8	0.2	4.0
Retailers[3]..................................	0.3	0.4	3.2	-0.3	0.3	4.2	-5.6	7.3	1.4	-0.6	-0.6	4.2
Merchant wholesalers[4].............	-0.3	-0.6	-0.2	0.0	0.4	7.6	-5.6	3.3	-2.7	-0.3	-0.6	7.6

See footnotes and notes at the end of Table 3.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not for price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/mtis/how_surveys_are_collected.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, August 15, 2019.

Table 3. Estimated Monthly Retail Sales, Inventories, and Inventories/Sales Ratios, By Kind of Business

(In millions of dollars)

NAICS Code	Kind of Business	Sales			Inventories[3]			Percent Change In Inventories			Inventories/Sales Ratios		
		Jun. 2019 (p)	May 2019 (r)	Jun. 2018 (r)	Jun. 2019 (p)	May 2019 (r)	Jun. 2018 (r)	Jun. 19/ May 19	May 19/ Apr. 19	Jun. 19/ Jun. 18	Jun. 19 (p)	May 19 (r)	Jun. 18 (r)
	Adjusted [1]												
	Retail trade, total............................	455,392	454,135	441,099	661,444	663,185	634,570	-0.3	0.3	4.2	1.45	1.46	1.44
	Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)............................	351,577	350,639	340,629	419,109	419,531	407,779	-0.1	0.2	2.8	1.19	1.20	1.20
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers............................	103,815	103,496	100,470	242,335	243,654	226,791	-0.5	0.4	6.9	2.33	2.35	2.26
442,3	Furniture,home furn., elect. & appl. stores............................	17,860	17,954	18,356	27,783	28,041	27,380	-0.9	-0.7	1.5	1.56	1.56	1.49
444	Building materials, garden equip & supplies............................	30,984	30,918	31,958	59,480	59,439	56,366	0.1	0.5	5.5	1.92	1.92	1.76
445	Food & beverage stores............................	64,969	64,439	62,813	49,458	49,407	47,803	0.1	0.5	3.5	0.76	0.77	0.76
448	Clothing & clothing access. stores............................	22,373	22,385	22,683	51,360	51,619	51,255	-0.5	-0.3	0.2	2.30	2.31	2.26
452	General merchandise stores............................	59,876	59,839	58,637	80,669	80,427	80,193	0.3	-0.5	0.6	1.35	1.34	1.37
4521	Dept. strs. (excl. leased depts.)............................	11,390	11,515	12,027	23,475	23,498	25,445	-0.1	-0.2	-7.7	2.06	2.04	2.12
	Not Adjusted												
	Retail trade, total............................	452,164	479,072	445,793	654,164	658,054	627,657	-0.6	-0.6	4.2	1.45	1.37	1.41
	Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)............................	346,448	366,223	341,041	411,344	412,288	399,998	-0.2	-0.4	2.8	1.19	1.13	1.17
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers............................	105,716	112,849	104,752	242,820	245,766	227,659	-1.2	-0.9	6.7	2.30	2.18	2.17
442,3	Furniture,home furn., elect. & appl. stores............................	16,954	17,638	17,765	27,061	27,172	26,723	-0.4	-0.4	1.3	1.60	1.54	1.50
444	Building materials, garden equip & supplies............................	34,141	37,844	36,045	59,837	61,638	56,648	-2.9	-1.5	5.6	1.75	1.63	1.57
445	Food & beverage stores............................	64,834	66,911	63,240	49,206	49,011	47,544	0.4	1.0	3.5	0.76	0.73	0.75
448	Clothing & clothing access. stores............................	21,063	23,200	21,589	50,230	50,483	50,179	-0.5	-1.0	0.1	2.38	2.18	2.32
452	General merchandise stores............................	58,879	61,068	57,871	77,198	77,719	76,678	-0.7	-1.4	0.7	1.31	1.27	1.32
4521	Dept. strs. (excl. leased depts.)............................	10,639	11,400	11,256	21,949	22,441	23,791	-2.2	-2.7	-7.7	2.06	1.97	2.11

(p) Preliminary estimate.

(r) Revised estimate.

[1] Adjusted for seasonal variations and, in the case of sales, for trading day differences and holiday variations. Concurrent seasonal adjustment is being used to adjust all sales, shipment and inventory estimates. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available unadjusted estimates as input to the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program. The factors derived from the program are applied to the current and previous month estimates and for retail and wholesale estimates a year ago as well. For retail sales, concurrent seasonal adjustment is also used to adjust the advance estimates (published one month before the preliminary estimates) and the estimates one year before the advance month. This explains the revision to retail estimates from a year ago.

[2] Manufacturers sales refer to the value of shipments by manufacturers. The shipments data from individual manufacturers are adjusted prior to tabulation for the number of trading days as well as for any variations in the length of the reporting period.

[3] Adjusted and not adjusted inventories for aggregate levels retail trade total, total excluding motor vehicles and parts, and motor vehicle and parts dealers are revised from the Advance Economic Indicators Report.

[4] The 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) defines merchant wholesalers as including manufacturers' sales branches and offices. However, the estimates included in this release exclude manufacturers' sales branches and offices. Note that this is not a change in coverage from prior releases and is consistent with the description used in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey data products.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/mtis/how_surveys_are_collected.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, August 15, 2019.

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QUARTERLY RETAIL E-COMMERCE SALES
2nd QUARTER 2019

SPECIAL NOTICE: Quarterly retail e-commerce estimates were revised based on the results of the 2017 Annual Retail Trade Survey. For the full Adjusted and Not Adjusted Time Series, see <https://census.gov/retail/index.html#ecommerce>.

The Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that the estimate of U.S. retail e-commerce sales for the second quarter of 2019, adjusted for seasonal variation, but not for price changes, was $146.2 billion, an increase of 4.2 percent (±0.9%) from the first quarter of 2019. Total retail sales for the second quarter of 2019 were estimated at $1,361.8 billion, an increase of 1.8 percent (±0.2%) from the first quarter of 2019. The second quarter 2019 e-commerce estimate increased 13.3 percent (±1.6%) from the second quarter of 2018 while total retail sales increased 3.2 percent (±0.5%) in the same period. E-commerce sales in the second quarter of 2019 accounted for 10.7 percent of total sales.

On a not adjusted basis, the estimate of U.S. retail e-commerce sales for the second quarter of 2019 totaled $139.7 billion, an increase of 8.3 percent (±0.9%) from the first quarter of 2019. The second quarter 2019 e-commerce estimate increased 13.6 percent (±1.6%) from the second quarter of 2018 while total retail sales increased 3.4 percent (±0.5%) in the same period. E-commerce sales in the second quarter of 2019 accounted for 10.1 percent of total sales.

Estimated Quarterly U.S. Retail E-commerce Sales as a Percent of Total Quarterly Retail Sales:
1st Quarter 2010 – 2nd Quarter 2019
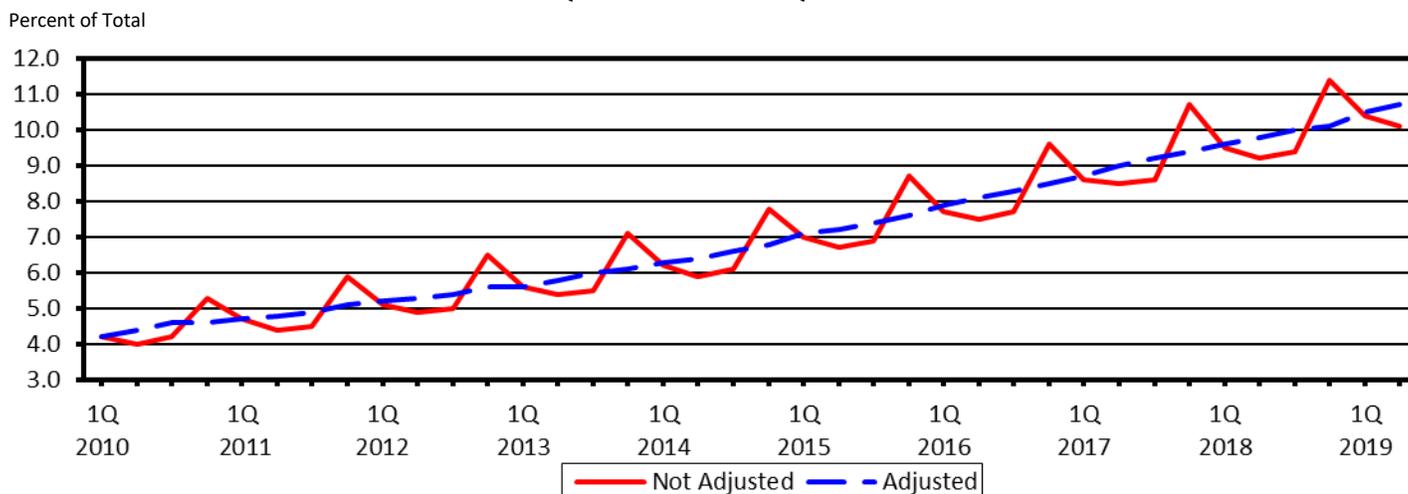
The Quarterly Retail E-Commerce sales estimate for the third quarter of 2019 is scheduled for release on November 19, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. EST.

For information, including estimates from 4th quarter 1999 forward, visit the Census Bureau's Web site at <http://www.census.gov/retail>. For additional information about Census Bureau e-business measurement programs and plans visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/e-stats.html>.

* The 90% confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

Table 1. Estimated Quarterly U.S. Retail Sales: Total and E-commerce[1]

(Estimates are based on data from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey and administrative records. Unless otherwise specified, all estimates are revised based on the 2017 Annual Retail Trade Survey.)

Quarter	Retail Sales (millions of dollars)		E-commerce as a Percent of	Percent Change From Prior Quarter		Percent Change From Same Quarter A Year Ago	
	Total	E-commerce	Total	Total	E-commerce	Total	E-commerce
Adjusted[2]							
2nd quarter 2019(p)	1,361,759	146,204	10.7	1.8	4.2	3.2	13.3
1st quarter 2019	1,338,082	140,346	10.5	0.3	4.0	2.6	12.0
4th quarter 2018	1,334,506	134,969	10.1	0.4	1.6	3.1	11.1
3rd quarter 2018	1,328,653	132,819	10.0	0.7	2.9	5.2	13.8
2nd quarter 2018	1,319,569	129,046	9.8	1.2	3.0	5.6	14.2
Not Adjusted							
2nd quarter 2019(p)	1,377,719	139,671	10.1	11.0	8.3	3.4	13.6
1st quarter 2019	1,241,540	129,015	10.4	-11.8	-19.8	1.8	11.6
4th quarter 2018	1,407,934	160,894	11.4	6.4	29.5	3.4	10.8
3rd quarter 2018	1,323,360	124,214	9.4	-0.7	1.0	4.8	14.1
2nd quarter 2018	1,332,848	122,934	9.2	9.3	6.3	5.3	14.8

(p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate.

[1] E-commerce sales are sales of goods and services where the buyer places an order, or the price and terms of the sale are negotiated over an Internet, mobile device (M-commerce), extranet, Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) network, electronic mail, or other comparable online system. Payment may or may not be made online.
[2] Estimates are adjusted for seasonal variation, but not for price changes. Total sales estimates are also adjusted for trading-day differences and moving holidays.

Note: Table 2 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions, see http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html.

Table 2. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability for Quarterly U.S. Retail Sales Estimates: Total and E-commerce

(Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.)

Quarter	Coefficient of Variation (CV)		Standard Error (SE) for E-commerce as a Percent of Total	SE for Percent Change From Prior Quarter		SE for Percent Change From Same Quarter A Year Ago	
	Total	E-commerce		Total	E-commerce	Total	E-commerce
2nd quarter 2019(p)	0.4	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.9
1st quarter 2019(r)	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.6
4th quarter 2018	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.5
3rd quarter 2018	0.4	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.8	2.5
2nd quarter 2018	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.8	2.4

(p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate. (Z) Estimate is less than 0.05%.

Note: Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on data not adjusted for seasonal variation, trading-day differences, or moving holidays, and are used to make confidence statements about both adjusted and not adjusted estimates. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions, see http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html.

Survey Description

Retail e-commerce sales are estimated from the same sample used for the Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS) to estimate preliminary and final U.S. retail sales. Advance U.S. retail sales are estimated from a subsample of the MRTS sample that is not of adequate size to measure changes in retail e-commerce sales.

A stratified simple random sampling method is used to select approximately 10,800 retail firms excluding food services whose sales are then weighted and benchmarked to represent the complete universe of over two million retail firms. The MRTS sample is probability based and represents all employer firms engaged in retail activities as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Coverage includes all retailers whether or not they are engaged in e-commerce. Online travel services, financial brokers and dealers, and ticket sales agencies are **not** classified as retail and are **not** included in either the total retail or retail e-commerce sales estimates. Nonemployers are represented in the estimates through benchmarking to prior annual survey estimates that include nonemployer sales based on administrative records. E-commerce sales are included in the total monthly sales estimates.

The MRTS sample is updated on an ongoing basis to account for new retail employer businesses (including those selling via the Internet), business deaths, and other changes to the retail business universe. Firms are asked each month to report e-commerce sales separately. For each month of the quarter, data for nonresponding sampling units are imputed from responding sampling units falling within the same kind of business and sales size category or based on historical performance of that company. Responding firms account for approximately 67 percent of the e-commerce sales estimate and about 72 percent of the estimate of U.S. retail sales for any quarter.

For each month of the quarter, estimates are obtained by summing weighted sales (either reported or imputed). The monthly estimates are benchmarked to prior annual survey estimates. Estimates for the quarter are obtained by summing the monthly benchmarked estimates. The estimate for the most recent quarter is a preliminary estimate. Therefore, the estimate is subject to revision. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this report should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the input data only.

Adjusted Estimates

This report publishes estimates that have been adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes. We used quarterly e-commerce sales estimates for 4th quarter 1999 to the current quarter as input to the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program to derive the adjusted estimates. For sales, we derived quarterly adjusted estimates by summing adjusted monthly sales estimates for each respective quarter. Seasonal adjustment of estimates is an approximation based on current and past experiences.

The X-13ARIMA-SEATS software improves upon the X-12 ARIMA seasonal adjustment software by providing enhanced diagnostics as well as incorporating an enhanced version of the Bank of Spain's SEATS (Signal Extraction in ARIMA Time Series) software, which uses an ARIMA model-based procedure instead of the X-11 filter-based approach to estimate seasonal factors. The X-13ARIMA-SEATS and X-12 ARIMA software produce identical results when using X-13ARIMA-SEATS with the X-11 filter-based adjustments. The X-13ARIMA-SEATS software and additional information on the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program may be found at http://www.census.gov/srd/www/x13as/.

Note that the retail estimates continue to be adjusted using the X-11 filter-based adjustment procedure.

Reliability of Estimates

Because the estimates 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 population conducted under the same survey conditions. This error occurs because only a subset of the entire population is measured in a sample survey.   Standard errors and coefficients of variation, as given in Table 2 of this report, are estimated measures of sampling variation.

The margin of error, as used on page 1, gives a range about the estimate which is a 90 percent confidence interval. If, for example, the estimated percent change is -11.4% and its estimated standard error is 1.2%, then the margin of error is ±1.753 x 1.2% or 2.1%, and the 90 percent confidence interval is -13.5% to -9.3%. Confidence intervals are computed based on the particular sample selected and canvassed. If one repeats the process of drawing all possible samples and forming all corresponding confidence intervals, approximately 90 percent of these individual confidence intervals would contain the estimate computed from a complete enumeration of all units on the sampling frame. If the confidence 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.

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 with e-commerce sales, mistakes in the recording and coding of data, and other errors of collection, response, coverage, or processing. Although not directly measured, precautionary steps are taken to minimize the effects of nonsampling error.