ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES FOR RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICES, MAY 2022

June 15, 2022 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for May 2022:

ADVANCE MONTHLY SALES		
May 2022	**$672.9 billion**	**-0.3%***
April 2022 (revised)	**$674.7 billion**	**0.7%**
Next release: July 15, 2022		

* 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, June 15, 2022

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, June 15, 2022
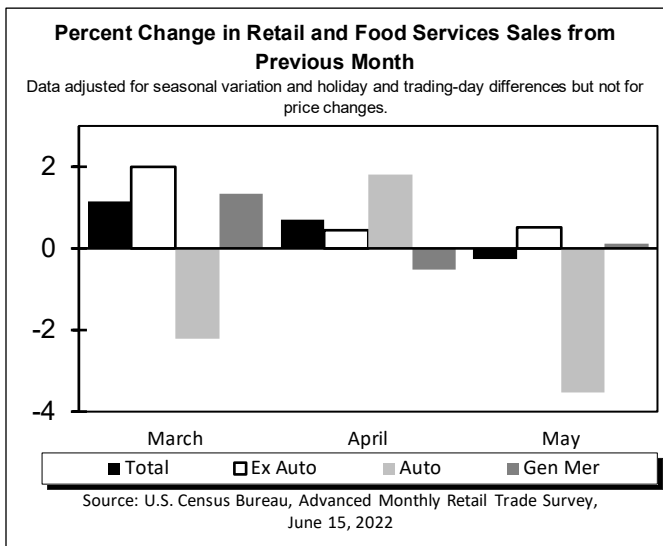
Advance Estimates of U.S. Retail and Food Services

Advance estimates of U.S. retail and food services sales for May 2022, adjusted for seasonal variation and holiday and trading-day differences, but not for price changes, were $672.9 billion, a decrease of 0.3 percent (±0.5 percent)* from the previous month, but 8.1 percent (±0.7 percent) above May 2021. Total sales for the March 2022 through May 2022 period were up 7.7 percent (±0.7 percent) from the same period a year ago. The March 2022 to April 2022 percent change was revised from up 0.9 percent (±0.5 percent) to up 0.7 percent (±0.2 percent).

Retail trade sales were down 0.4 percent (±0.4 percent)* from April 2022, but up 6.9 percent (±0.7 percent) above last year. Gasoline stations were up 43.2 percent (±1.6 percent) from May 2021, while food services and drinking places were up 17.5 percent (±4.0 percent) from last year.

General Information

The June 2022 Advance Monthly Retail report is scheduled for release on July 15, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <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 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 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.

Statement Regarding COVID-19 Impact
The Census Bureau continues to monitor response and data quality and has determined that estimates in this release meet publication standards. For more information, see COVID-19 FAQs.

Weather Information
For information on the impact of weather events on the compilation of this report, please see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on our website at:
<www.census.gov/retail/marts_weather_faqs.html>

RESOURCES

The Rest of the Consumer Spending Story
Retail and services together represent what's commonly referred to as consumer spending. Quarterly Services Survey (QSS) revenue comprises roughly 2/3 of the personal consumption expenditures component of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measured by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The first quarter 2022 Quarterly Services Report was released on June 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM. Learn about historical revenue trends for certain industries going back 15 years and other data, such as in-patient days and discharges for hospitals, by visiting <https://www.census.gov/services/index.html>.

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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	Not Adjusted 5 Month Total 2022	% Chg. 2021	2022 May[3] (a)	2022 Apr. (p)	2022 Mar. (r)	2021 May	2021 Apr.	Adjusted[2] 2022 May[3] (a)	2022 Apr. (p)	2022 Mar. (r)	2021 May (r)	2021 Apr. (r)
	Retail & food services, total	3,228,304	10.6	697,715	681,635	681,854	644,652	629,451	672,874	674,674	669,958	622,523	625,764
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts) ...	2,589,112	12.5	566,534	544,270	541,746	507,052	490,560	546,628	543,818	541,436	491,389	492,307
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	2,928,932	8.3	626,257	616,791	617,457	594,839	582,495	606,892	611,226	605,302	576,443	579,864
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	2,289,740	9.8	495,076	479,426	477,349	457,239	443,604	480,646	480,370	476,780	445,309	446,407
	Retail	2,823,692	8.9	607,550	594,519	597,077	567,461	557,874	587,893	590,259	587,570	550,179	555,865
	GAFO[4]	(*)	(*)	(*)	121,704	124,548	124,204	117,693	(*)	126,135	126,026	122,905	124,583
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	639,192	3.4	131,181	137,365	140,108	137,600	138,891	126,246	130,856	128,522	131,134	133,457
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers .	589,374	2.8	120,490	126,945	129,327	128,180	129,053	115,856	120,670	118,540	121,844	123,970
44111	New car dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	100,084	101,277	102,538	101,980	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4413	Auto parts, acc. & tire stores............	(*)	(*)	(*)	10,420	10,781	9,420	9,838	(*)	10,186	9,982	9,290	9,487
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	58,059	2.5	12,203	12,215	12,533	11,925	11,951	12,179	12,289	12,097	11,949	12,047
4421	Furniture stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	6,706	6,978	6,742	6,770	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4422	Home furnishings stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
443	Electronics & appliance stores	35,031	-1.8	7,175	7,085	7,627	7,501	7,346	7,707	7,811	7,673	8,066	8,153
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.............................	208,326	6.3	50,369	46,179	44,478	46,315	46,533	42,581	42,487	42,572	40,006	41,661
4441	Building mat. & sup. dealers	(*)	(*)	(*)	39,600	38,803	39,644	39,531	(*)	37,465	37,491	35,083	36,501
445	Food & beverage stores........................	376,872	7.7	79,861	76,387	76,325	74,598	69,944	78,170	77,222	77,268	72,456	71,984
4451	Grocery stores	339,019	8.5	71,557	68,410	68,614	66,336	62,163	69,948	69,101	69,098	64,341	63,822
4453	Beer, wine & liquor stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	5,719	5,590	6,016	5,645	(*)	5,872	5,897	5,869	5,930
446	Health & personal care stores	161,506	5.0	33,265	32,422	33,648	31,436	31,960	32,936	33,016	32,763	31,436	32,315
44611	Pharmacies & drug stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	26,780	27,579	26,084	26,721	(*)	27,160	27,091	26,162	26,909
447	Gasoline stations	299,372	38.7	71,458	64,844	64,397	49,813	46,956	65,982	63,448	64,656	46,080	45,900
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	117,581	12.9	27,435	25,902	25,622	25,886	23,115	26,320	26,282	26,157	24,810	24,070
44811	Men's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	711	(*)	(S)	(S)	(S)	599
44812	Women's clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,644	3,658	3,502	3,267	(*)	3,383	3,412	3,198	3,100
44814	Family clothing stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	9,697	9,583	9,986	9,031	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4482	Shoe stores	(*)	(*)	(*)	3,430	3,515	3,651	3,425	(*)	3,343	3,288	3,500	3,446
451	Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores	40,650	1.0	8,786	8,704	8,748	8,686	8,786	9,067	9,029	9,009	9,086	9,367
452	General merchandise stores..................	319,100	2.1	68,524	65,469	67,648	67,916	64,291	68,198	68,122	68,468	66,552	68,499
4521	Department stores	50,051	3.9	11,026	10,702	10,541	11,189	10,027	11,545	11,437	11,393	11,440	11,206
4529	Other general merch. stores....	(*)	(*)	(*)	54,767	57,107	56,727	54,264	(*)	56,685	57,075	55,112	57,293
45291	Warehouse clubs & supercenters..............................	(*)	(*)	(*)	46,432	49,023	48,125	45,977	(*)	48,367	48,876	46,951	48,964
45299	All oth. gen. merch. stores.............	(*)	(*)	(*)	8,335	8,084	8,602	8,287	(*)	8,318	8,199	8,161	8,329
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	73,634	22.7	17,412	15,699	15,191	13,723	13,217	15,642	15,810	15,490	12,450	13,291
454	Nonstore retailers	494,369	9.9	99,881	102,248	100,752	92,062	94,884	102,865	103,887	102,895	96,154	95,121
4541	Elect. shopping & m/o houses	(*)	(*)	(*)	92,260	88,881	83,723	85,806	(*)	93,570	92,681	87,302	86,151
722	Food services & drinking places	404,612	23.6	90,165	87,116	84,777	77,191	71,577	84,981	84,415	82,388	72,344	69,899

(*) 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 <https://www.census.gov/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, June 15, 2022. 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]					
		May 2022 Advance from --		Apr. 2022 Preliminary from --		Mar. 2022 through May 2022 from --	
		Apr. 2022 (p)	May 2021 (r)	Mar. 2022 (r)	Apr. 2021 (r)	Dec. 2021 through Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021 through May 2021
	Retail & food services, total	-0.3	8.1	0.7	7.8	3.6	7.7
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.5	11.2	0.4	10.5	4.2	10.4
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	-0.7	5.3	1.0	5.4	2.5	5.0
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	0.1	7.9	0.8	7.6	2.9	7.3
	Retail	-0.4	6.9	0.5	6.2	3.0	6.1
441	Motor vehicle & parts dealers	-3.5	-3.7	1.8	-1.9	1.0	-2.5
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers ...	-4.0	-4.9	1.8	-2.7	0.9	-3.4
442	Furniture & home furn. stores	-0.9	1.9	1.6	2.0	3.5	1.4
443	Electronics & appliance stores	-1.3	-4.5	1.8	-4.2	5.4	-4.3
444	Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers....................................	0.2	6.4	-0.2	2.0	1.6	3.4
445	Food & beverage stores............................	1.2	7.9	-0.1	7.3	1.5	7.8
4451	Grocery stores	1.2	8.7	0.0	8.3	1.7	8.8
446	Health & personal care stores	-0.2	4.8	0.8	2.2	0.7	2.7
447	Gasoline stations	4.0	43.2	-1.9	38.2	14.7	40.5
448	Clothing & clothing accessories stores	0.1	6.1	0.5	9.2	4.1	8.0
451	Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores	0.4	-0.2	0.2	-3.6	1.3	-3.1
452	General merchandise stores....................	0.1	2.5	-0.5	-0.6	0.4	0.1
4521	Department stores	0.9	0.9	0.4	2.1	4.1	1.2
453	Miscellaneous store retailers	-1.1	25.6	2.1	19.0	7.2	20.6
454	Nonstore retailers	-1.0	7.0	1.0	9.2	2.3	6.5
722	Food services & drinking places	0.7	17.5	2.5	20.8	7.7	20.1

(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, June 15, 2022. 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 May 2022

(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	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts)	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
	Total (excl. gasoline stations)	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3
	Total (excl. motor vehicle & parts & gasoline stations)	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
	Retail, total	**0.7**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**0.2**	**0.3**
441	**Motor vehicle & parts dealers ....**	**1.5**	**0.8**	**0.4**	**1.2**	**0.1**	**0.5**
4411, 4412	Auto & other motor veh. dealers	1.6	0.9	0.4	1.3	0.1	0.5
442	**Furniture & home furn. stores................**	**2.9**	**1.0**	**0.7**	**1.5**	**0.2**	**1.3**
443	**Electronics & appliance stores ....**	**1.8**	**0.6**	**0.5**	**1.0**	**-0.4**	**1.2**
444	**Building material & garden eq. & supplies dealers.....................................**	**2.4**	**0.7**	**0.6**	**1.3**	**0.1**	**0.3**
445	**Food & beverage stores..........................**	**0.6**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**0.5**	**0.0**	**0.2**
4451	Grocery stores	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3
446	**Health & personal care stores ....**	**3.7**	**0.6**	**0.3**	**1.7**	**0.6**	**0.8**
447	**Gasoline stations ....**	**1.1**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.9**	**0.8**	**0.9**
448	**Clothing & clothing accessories stores ....**	**2.2**	**0.8**	**0.7**	**1.8**	**0.4**	**0.4**
451	**Sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, & book stores ....**	**2.7**	**0.7**	**0.9**	**1.5**	**-0.1**	**0.8**
452	**General merchandise stores....................**	**1.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.0**	**0.2**
4521	Department stores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
453	**Miscellaneous store retailers ....**	**4.9**	**2.6**	**1.6**	**4.6**	**-0.5**	**1.1**
454	**Nonstore retailers ....**	**1.5**	**0.5**	**0.3**	**0.8**	**0.2**	**1.4**
722	**Food services & drinking places ....**	**3.8**	**1.0**	**0.8**	**2.3**	**0.4**	**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, June 15, 2022. 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>.