

Food and Beverage Stores: A 2020 Economic Brief

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E20-ARTS



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Industries in the **Food and Beverage Stores** subsector usually retail food and beverage merchandise from fixed point-of-sale locations. Establishments in this subsector have special equipment (e.g., freezers, refrigerated display cases, refrigerators) for displaying food and beverage goods. They have staff trained in the processing of food products to guarantee the proper storage and sanitary conditions required by regulatory authority. This consumer retail industry is classified by the 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as subsector 445.

Grocery Stores: The grocery store industry is a component of the Food and Beverage Stores subsector, and is comprised of establishments primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food products. This consumer retail industry is classified by the 2012 NAICS as 4451. Neither NAICS 445 or 4451 include any wholesale vendors, merchants, or distribution centers.

Data in NAICS 4451 are included in the estimated retail totals within the aggregate NAICS 445, and are presented by the Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS). Total sales for NAICS 445 and 4451 (from 2018 to 2020) are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The data tables used for the figures are located at www.census.gov/data/tables/2020/econ/arts/annual-report.html.

Annual Retail Trade Survey:

ARTS is a mandatory annual survey that collects sales, inventory, total operating expenses, and other data from businesses primarily engaged in retail trade—selling goods directly to consumers. Data tables comprised of estimated economic activity can be found at www.census.gov/data/tables/2020/econ/arts/annual-report.html.

SALES

Sales estimates represent the total sales and receipts of merchandise sold by all establishments primarily engaged in retail trade. They do not include sales by manufacturers, wholesalers, service establishments,

and others whose primary activity is other than retail trade (Figures 1 and 2).

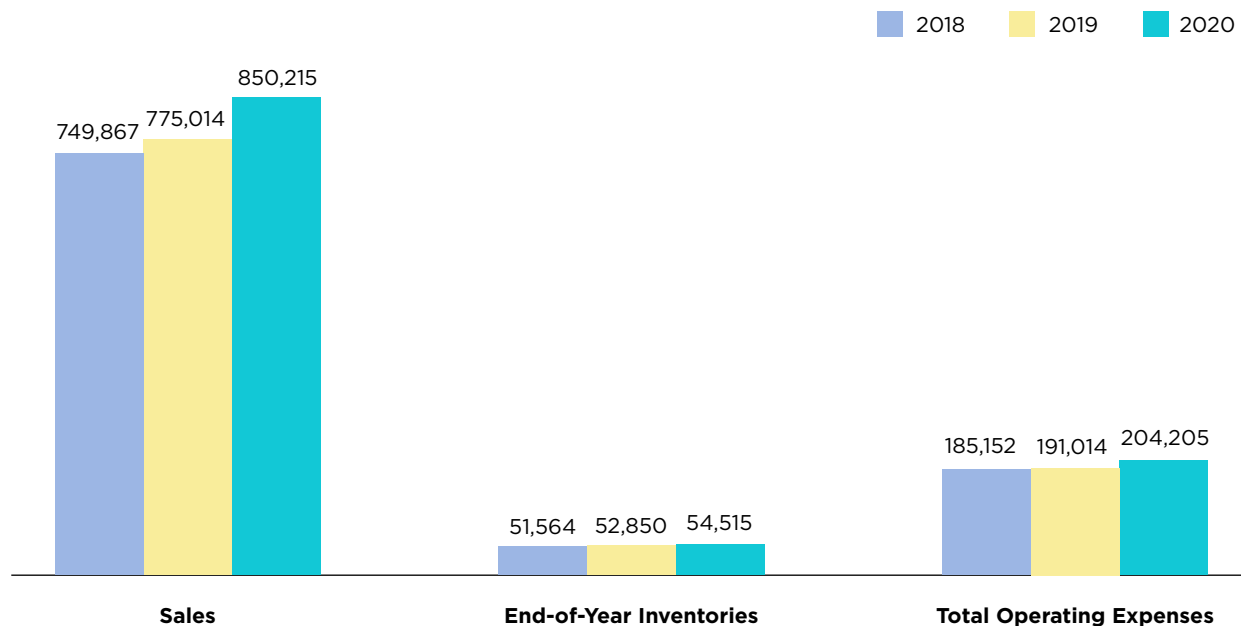
INVENTORIES

The ARTS merchandise inventories are the end-of-year value of stocks of goods held for sale. The end-of-year inventory estimates represent the value, at cost, of the merchandise available for sale as of the last day of the reporting period. Merchandise inventories are shown for stores and warehouses servicing retail establishments. Only those warehouses that maintained supplies of merchandise primarily intended for distribution within the organization are included (Figures 1 and 2).

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Total operating expenses are the sum of detailed types of expenses and all other types of expenses not reported elsewhere. A list of all accepted types

Figure 1.
Food and Beverage Stores (NAICS 445): 2018 to 2020
(In millions of dollars)



Note: NAICS is the North American Industry Classification System. Estimates are based on a sample of employer firms. Firms without paid employees, or nonemployers, are included in the sales and end-of-year inventory estimates through imputation or administrative data provided by other federal agencies. Estimates are not adjusted for price changes. Differences between estimates may be attributed to sampling or nonsampling error, rather than underlying economic conditions. Caution should be used in drawing conclusions from the estimates and comparisons shown. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/programs-surveys/arts/technical-documentation/methodology.html.

The Census Bureau has reviewed this data product to ensure appropriate access, use, and disclosure avoidance protection of the confidential source data used to produce this product (Data Management System [DMS] number: P-7500134, Disclosure Review Board [DRB] Approval ID: CBDRB-FY22-061).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Annual Retail Trade Survey.

of operating expenses can be found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/arts/about/glossary.html#par_textimage_2055883173>. Excluded are the cost of goods sold, capital expenditures, funds invested, interest expense, purchase of products for resale (cost of goods sold), bad debt, transfers made within the company, capitalized expenses, interest, impairment, other nonoperating expenses, and income, sales, and excise taxes (Figures 1 and 2).

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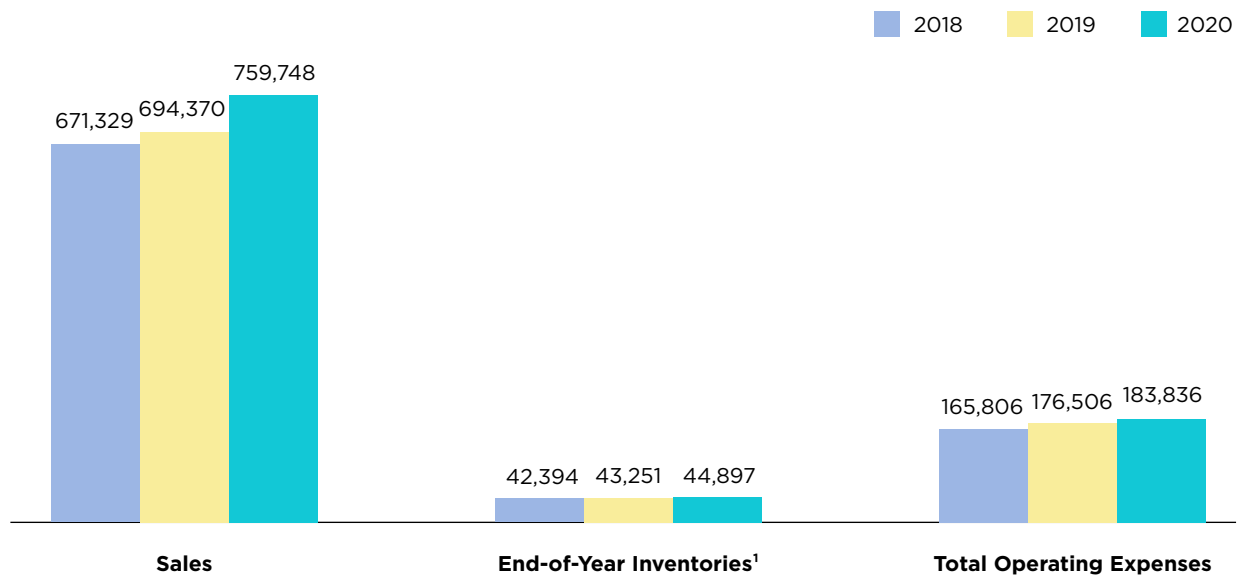
Data are subject to sampling and nonsampling error.

Annual Retail Trade Survey methodology, data collection, and survey design can be found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/arts/technical-documentation/methodology.html>.

NOTES

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Figure 2.
Grocery Stores (NAICS 4451): 2018 to 2020
(In millions of dollars)



¹ The 2018 and 2019 estimates of end-of-year inventories are not significantly different at the 90 percent confidence level.

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Annual Retail Trade Survey.