

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU



FORM  
**SA-44C**  
(9-14-2004)

**DUE DATE** →

# ANNUAL RETAIL TRADE REPORT 2004

**NOTICE** — Your report to the Census Bureau is **confidential** by law (Title 13, U.S. Code). It may be seen only by persons sworn to uphold the confidentiality of Census Bureau information and may be used only for statistical purposes. The law also provides that copies retained in your files are **immune from legal process**.

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO**

➔ U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
National Processing Center  
1201 East 10th Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47132-0001  
FAX 1-800-447-4613

**Any questions call  
1-800-772-7851 weekdays,  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST**

PROMPT RETURN WILL RESULT IN  
CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS TO YOUR  
GOVERNMENT.

*(Please correct any error in name, address, and ZIP Code)*

**YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUIRED BY LAW.** Title 13, U.S. Code, requires businesses and other organizations that receive this questionnaire to answer the questions and return the report to the Census Bureau.

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- Provide data on a calendar year basis for 2004. If data are not available in this format, indicate in the appropriate items the period covered.
- Always provide book figures. If they are not available, carefully prepared estimates, labeled "Est," are acceptable.
- Any significant change in your firm's operations should be noted in the "REMARKS" section of this report.

**Include**

- All domestic/U.S. retail establishments operated by your company and its subsidiaries, except for subsidiaries which report on separate Annual Retail Trade reports.
- Data for auxiliary facilities of your firm primarily engaged in furnishing supporting services to your retail establishment(s) (such as warehouses, garages, central administrative offices, and repair services)
- Retail leased departments and concessions operated by this firm in establishments of others (e.g., shoe departments in department stores or prescription counters in food stores)
- Data for establishment(s) sold or acquired during 2004 for the period they were operated by your firm

**Exclude**

- Data for retail establishments operated by other firms, such as franchises
- Departments and concessions operated by other firms in your retail store(s)

▶ **NOTE: A store front is not required for your firm to be classified as retail. For more information on classification, visit [www.census.gov/epcd/www/drnaics.htm](http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/drnaics.htm)**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**Item 1A OWNERSHIP OR CONTROL**

**1.** Does another firm own more than 50 percent of the working stock or have the power to control management and policies of this firm?

- 050 1  YES —  
2  NO

051 Name of owning or controlling company										
Address – Number and street							052 EI Number (9 digits)			
City, State, and ZIP Code								-		

**2.** Did your firm experience any organizational change during 2004?

- 025 1  YES —

- 026 1  Sold to  
027 1  Merged with  
028 1  Acquired

2  NO — **Go to item 1B**

029 Name of company sold to/merged with/acquired										
Number and street										
City, State, and ZIP Code										
Date of sale/merger or acquisition 030			Month	Year	EIN 031			-		



**Item 3 MERCHANDISE INVENTORIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

Report the total cost value of all domestic/U.S. inventories for the retail establishments reported in item 1B on December 31, 2004. If data are not available for December 31, specify the date that the data represent in item 3d. See below for detailed directions.

**INCLUDE**

- Merchandise owned and held by your firm in the U.S.
- Merchandise in transit to the U.S.
- Merchandise under contract for sale
- Merchandise held by others for sale on consignment
- Merchandise inventories at departments and concessions operated by your firm in establishments of other firms

**EXCLUDE**

- Fixtures, equipment, and supplies not held for sale
- Merchandise owned and held outside the U.S.
- Merchandise owned by others, but held by you on consignment
- Merchandise inventories at departments and concessions operated by other firms in your establishments

Merchandise inventories at cost			
2004			
Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	DoI.
201			
\$			
202			
\$			
200			
\$			

► **NOTE: For inventories at LIFO cost, report the LIFO amount plus the LIFO Reserve.**

- a. Amount of merchandise in retail store(s), departments, and concessions . . . . .
- b. Amount of merchandise in warehouses, offices, or in transit for distribution at your retail store(s) or through departments and concessions operated by your firm in other establishments . . . . .
- c. TOTAL merchandise inventories — (Sum of items 3a and 3b) . . . . .

d. Are the reported data in items 3a through 3c as of December 31, 2004?

220 1  YES — Go to item 4

2  NO — Report the date inventory was taken → Ending . . . . .

Month	Day	Year
203		

**Item 4 INVENTORY VALUATION METHOD**

a. Does your firm value any inventory reported in item 3 on a LIFO (Last-In, First-Out) or LIFO Retail Method basis?

305 1  YES — Go to item 4b

2  NO — SKIP to item 5

b. What is the amount of inventories in item 3c subject to LIFO costing? Exclude LIFO Reserve. . . . .

c. What is the amount of LIFO Reserve for inventories in item 3c? LIFO Reserve is the DIFFERENCE between a given physical stock valued on a non-LIFO basis, for example, FIFO, and that same physical stock values at LIFO (i.e., non-LIFO value MINUS LIFO value) . . . . .

d. What is the amount of TOTAL inventories subject to LIFO? (Sum of items 4b and 4c) →

e. What is the amount of total inventories in item 3c which was NOT subject to LIFO? . . . . .

2004			
Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	DoI.
300			
\$			
301			
\$			
302			
\$			
303			
\$			

► **NOTE: The sum of lines 4d and 4e should equal item 3c.**

**Item 5 TOTAL PURCHASES FOR 2004**

Purchases at cost value			
2004			
Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	Dol.
400			
\$			

a. What is the total cost value of all merchandise bought for resale to customers at your retail establishment(s) (net of returns, allowances, and trade and cash discounts) for the period reported in item 2C, for which you took title during 2004 whether or not payment was made during the year? →  
See below for detailed directions.

▶ **NOTE: Purchases should not be greater than sales, if they are, explain in "REMARKS."**

**INCLUDE**

- Cash and credit purchases by your firm
- Merchandise owned, but in transit to your firm
- Purchases made by both your warehouse(s) and establishment(s)
- Freight, delivery, and other transportation costs
- Import duties (if paid separately)
- Costs of services resold without any processing
- Parts and supplies used in repair work or other services

**AUTOMOTIVE – Additional**

- Value of automotive and other trade-ins exclusive of rebates and rebates and discounts granted as an increase in trade-in allowance

**EXCLUDE**

- Expenditures for supplies, equipment, and parts purchased for your company's own use.
- Sales and other taxes collected directly from customers and paid directly to a local, State, or Federal Tax Agency
- Purchases made by other firms operating departments and concessions in your establishment(s)
- Purchases of merchandise held outside the U.S.
- Purchases of containers, wrappings, packaging and selling supplies for your company's own use

b. Did you purchase any goods reported above over an Internet, extranet, EDI, or other online system?

405 1  YES      2  NO      3  DON'T KNOW

**DEFINITIONS OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

**INSTALLMENT ACCOUNTS**

**Open-end** — Primarily "revolving" or optional accounts in which a deferred payment privilege is extended through a line of credit and the customer has the option of paying the balance in full, usually with no finance charge, or paying in two or more installments subject to some minimum required payment with a finance charge usually assessed.

**Closed-end** — Credit generally requiring a new contract to cover each extension of credit in which a precomputed finance charge is assessed, and which specifies a fixed schedule of installment payments with the number and the amount of payments and due dates specified in the contract.

**CHARGE ACCOUNTS** — Credit accounts for which full payment is scheduled to be made at the end of the customary billing period.

**PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE BEFORE ANSWERING ITEM 6B.**

**Item 6A ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BALANCES**

Does this company extend credit to customers at any of its retail establishments or departments and concessions covered by this report?

▶ **NOTE: Report credit that is extended to customers and is managed through the firm itself. EXCLUDE credit that is actually provided by third parties, such as banks, finance companies, oil or other credit card issuing companies.**

520 1  YES — Refer to definitions of accounts receivable on the next page.      2  NO — **SKIP to item 7**

**Item 6B ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BALANCES FOR 2004**

Mark (X) one box for each line to indicate type of credit account carried.

Type of account

**1. Installment accounts**

(a) Open-end accounts (revolving or optional)      521 1  YES      2  NO

(b) Closed-end accounts      522 1  YES      2  NO

**2. Charge accounts**

523 1  YES      2  NO

**3. Total — Sum of lines 1(a), 1(b), and 2** →

Balances outstanding as of December 31, 2004			
Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	Dol.
501			
\$			
502			
\$			
503			
\$			
500			
\$			

**REMARKS – Use this space for clarification of responses**

962

<b>CENSUS USE</b>
961

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 24 minutes per response, including the time for assembling data from existing records and completing the form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Paperwork Project 0607-0013, U.S. Census Bureau, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Stop 1500, Washington, DC 20233-1500. You may e-mail comments to Paperwork@census.gov; use "Paperwork Project 0607-0013" as the subject. **PLEASE INCLUDE FORM NAME AND NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE.** Respondents are not required to respond to any information collection unless it displays a valid approval number from the Office of Management and Budget. This 8-digit number appears in the top right corner of this form.

**Item 7 CERTIFICATION — This report is substantially accurate and has been prepared to the best of my ability in accordance with instructions.**

Name of person to contact regarding this report <i>(Please print)</i> 950	Address — <i>Number and street, city, State, ZIP Code</i> 951	954 Telephone		
		Area code	Number	Extension
E-mail address 957	Internet address (firm's homepage) 956  http://	955 Fax number		
		Area code	Number	
Signature of authorized person	Title 952	Date 953		