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Ouachita Parish 2009 (November-December) estimated seasonal retail sales down 3% from 2008 levels.

Please refer to the tables below.

Christmas season non-automotive retail sales for 2009 showed an estimated 2.96% drop when compared to the same period in 2008. Sales were forecast to drop 3-5% following a rise in self-reported joblessness in the last quarter of 2009. For the Nation, November-December non-automotive sales posted a 3.5% gain over 2008. (In 2008, Ouachita Parish was up nearly 2% versus a 6% decline for the Nation.)

If vehicle sales to Ouachita parish residents are included, the decline is reduced to 2.35%. The discrepancy arises from the slight increase in vehicle registration recorded in November collections. Adjusted for inflation, the decline is 4.64% and 4.04%, respectively. (For the year, the value of vehicle registrations in Ouachita parish was down an estimated 16.6% compared to 2008.)

For the year, Ouachita Parish fared relatively well when compared to the Nation.

Ouachita Parish Estimated Retail Sales			
Year over Year % Change: all items current \$			
	Nov-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jun-Dec
2007	5.12	3.01	5.08
2008	-0.67	1.6	1.55
2009	-2.35	0.91	-5.82
Year over Year % Change: Non-auto current \$			
	Nov-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jun-Dec
2007	4.81	2.75	4.63
2008	1.3	1.95	3.58
2009	-2.96	3.55	-5.52
Year over Year % Change: All items constant \$			
	Nov-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jun-Dec
2007	2.67	0.57	2.77
2008	-2.49	-0.57	-0.67
2009	-4.04	-0.98	-7.32
Year over Year % Change: Non-auto constant \$			
	Nov-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jun-Dec
2007	2.36	4.52	4.52
2008	-0.55	-0.24	0.14
2009	-4.64	-1.62	-7.82