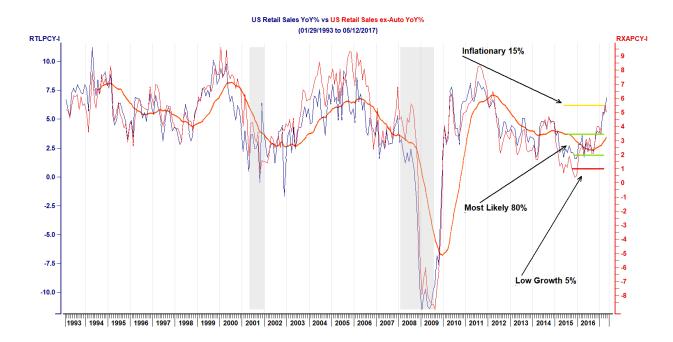
U.S. Economic Update - Retail Sales

etail sales increased for the month and year-over-year. Sales increased by 0.4% for the month of April and 4.5% since this time last year. Online sales are increasing at a rapid rate of 10.7% from last year while department store sales fell 5.2% over the same period of time.

If retails sales continue to increase at this rate it will be considered inflationary. This would make the Federal Reserve very happy.



.