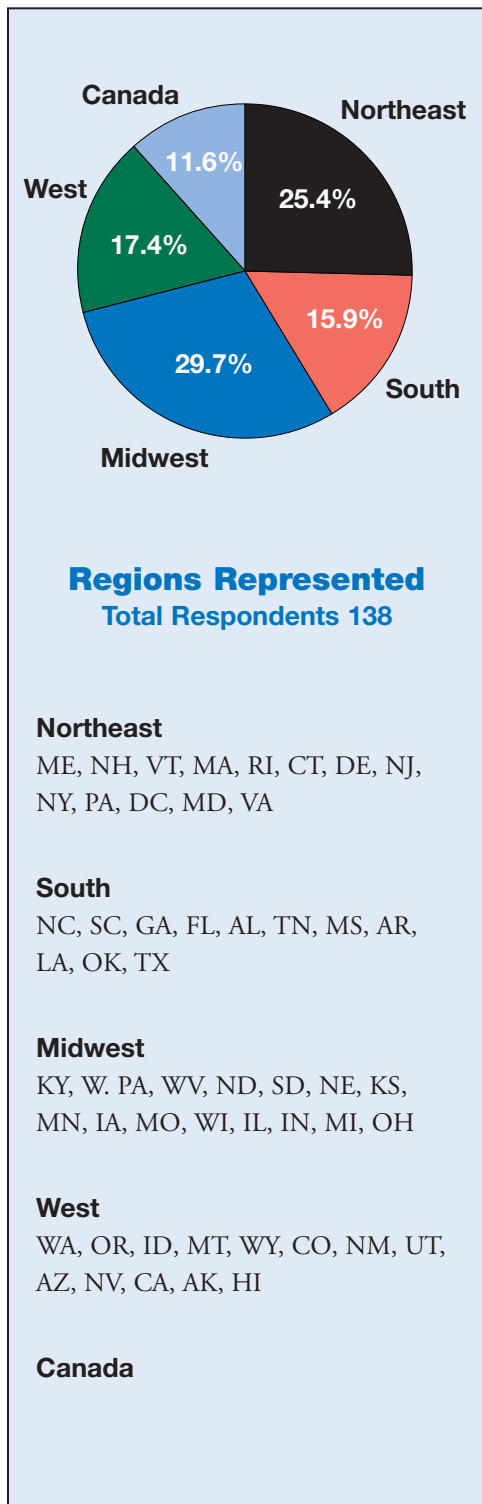


MAFSI Business Barometer

Reports -1.1% Decrease in Sales for 2nd Quarter 2003 Compared to the Same Time Last Year

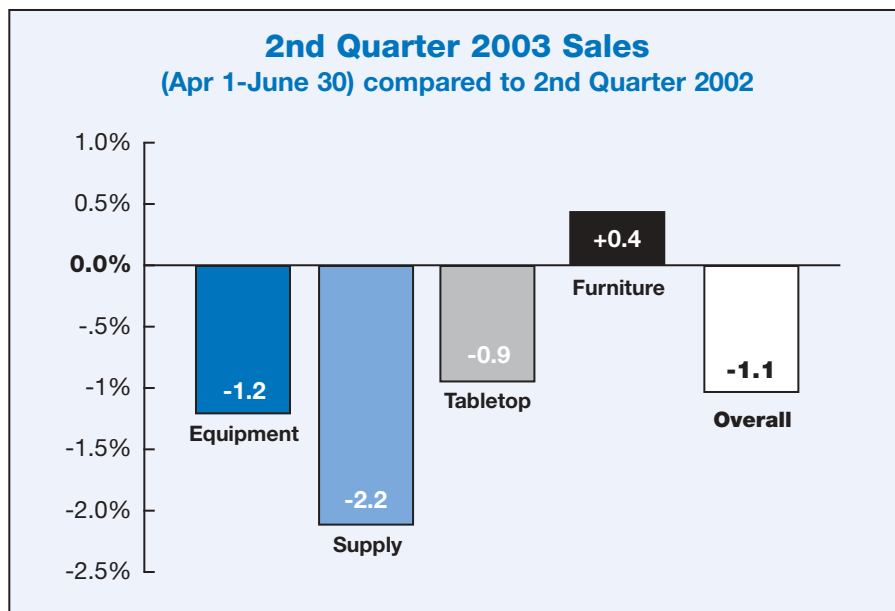


While the Northeast had positive overall sales at +1.6% and Canada showed a modest increase at +0.5%, the rest of the United States was down in overall sales for second quarter 2003. In looking ahead at third quarter 2003, MAFSI reps from across the U.S. and Canada forecast no growth at -0.1%, compared to overall sales the same time last year. This is according to the latest results of the MAFSI Business Barometer.

Compared to Q2/02, the MAFSI Business Barometer revealed that during second quarter 2003 overall:

- Equipment sales decreased **-1.2%**
- Supply sales decreased **-2.2%**
- Tabletop sales decreased **-0.9%**
- Furniture sales increased **+0.4%**

Manufacturers' representatives were surveyed from agencies across the United States and Canada for the MAFSI Business Barometer Survey. The quarterly survey is a leading economic indicator in the foodservice industry that provides an invaluable outlook on sales trends and forecast regionally and nationally. This survey is the industry's most definitive non-food sales/trend indicator. ✍

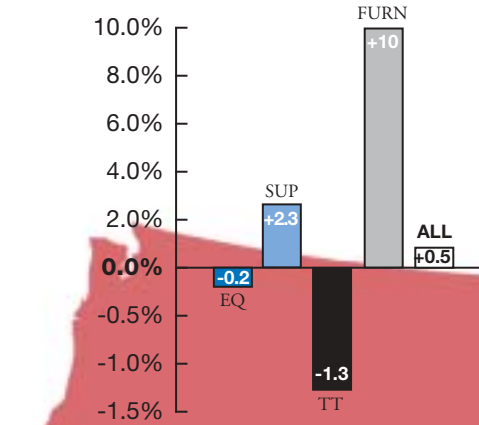


MAFSI Business Confidence Index for 3rd Quarter 2003 (July 1-Sept 30) compared to 3rd Quarter 2002

All Regions
-0.1%

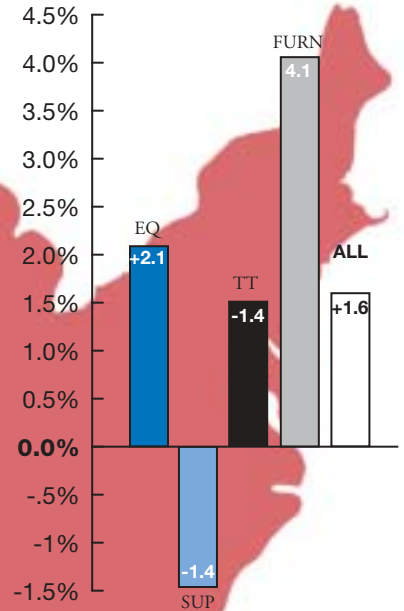
MAFSI Business Barometer

Canada

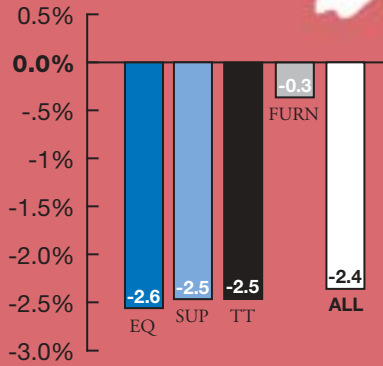


2nd Quarter 2003 Sales (Apr 1-June 30) compared to 2nd Quarter 2002

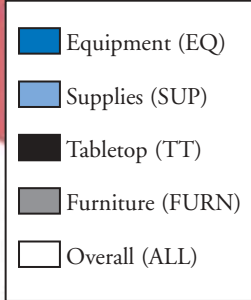
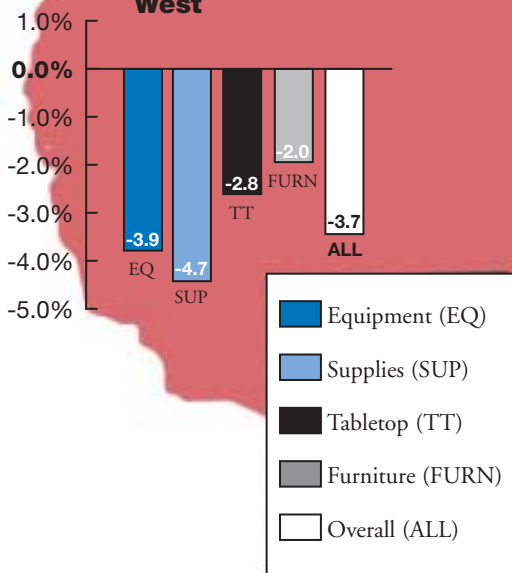
Northeast



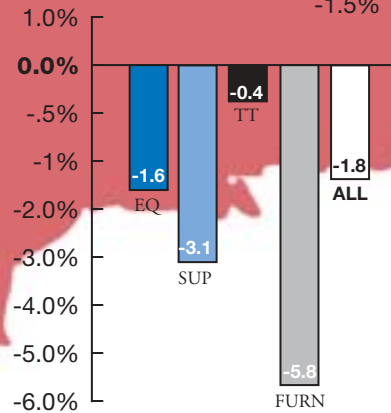
Midwest



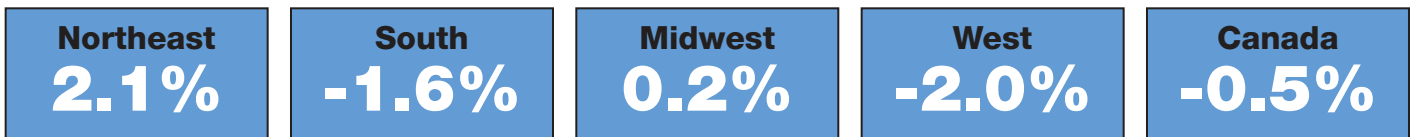
West



South



Projected 3rd Quarter 2003 Sales (July 1-Sept 30) compared to 3rd Quarter 2002



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