

Table 2. Levels and Percent Changes for Inventories

Inventories estimates are shown in millions of dollars. Estimates are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey and the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

	Inventories					
	Monthly			Percent change		
	April 2017 (a)	March 2017 (r)	April 2016 (r)	April 2017/ March 2017	March 2017/ February 2017	April 2017/ April 2016
Adjusted¹						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	592,001	594,068	581,466	-0.3	0.1	1.8
Durable goods	360,928	361,526	353,210	-0.2	0.6	2.2
Nondurable goods	231,073	232,542	228,256	-0.6	-0.7	1.2
Retail trade, total	613,530	615,178	595,892	-0.3	0.3	3.0
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	395,706	396,354	391,805	-0.2	0.2	1.0
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	217,824	218,824	204,087	-0.5	0.4	6.7
Not Adjusted						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	593,881	598,917	583,346	-0.8	0.3	1.8
Durable goods	362,013	360,567	354,336	0.4	0.5	2.2
Nondurable goods	231,868	238,350	229,010	-2.7	0.0	1.2
Retail trade, total	614,459	617,025	595,916	-0.4	1.5	3.1
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	390,440	392,597	386,423	-0.5	1.4	1.0
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	224,019	224,428	209,493	-0.2	1.7	6.9

(a) Advance estimate

(r) Revised estimate

See footnotes and notes at the end of Table 3.

Table 3. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability

Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey and the Monthly Retail Trade Survey.

	Inventories					
	Monthly			Standard Error of		
	Coefficient of Variation			Percent Change		
	April 2017 (a)	March 2017 (r)	April 2016 (r)	April 2017/ March 2017	March 2017/ February 2017	April 2017/ April 2016
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.6
Durable goods	1.6	1.6	1.8	0.2	0.3	0.8
Nondurable goods	2.2	2.1	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.8
Retail trade, total	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.2
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.7

(a) Advance estimate

(r) Revised estimate

(1) Estimates are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variation, but not for price changes. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses all available not adjusted estimates as input to the X-13ARIMA-SEATS program. The factors derived from the program are used in calculating all seasonally adjusted estimates shown in this table.

(2) The 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) defines merchant wholesalers as including manufacturers' sales branches and offices. However, the estimates included in this release exclude manufacturers' sales branches and offices. Note that this is not a change in coverage from prior releases and is consistent with the description used in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey data products.

NOTES:

Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/monthly_methodology.html for wholesale and at www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html for retail.