

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		
	February 2021 (a)	January 2021 (r)	February 2020 (r)	February 2021/ January 2021	January 2021/ December 2020	February 2021/ February 2020
Adjusted¹						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	681,064	677,837	669,096	0.5	1.4	1.8
Durable goods	402,678	401,723	405,467	0.2	1.3	-0.7
Nondurable goods	278,386	276,114	263,629	0.8	1.5	5.6
Retail trade, total	625,948	625,807	659,717	0.0	-0.3	-5.1
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	441,184	436,098	430,986	1.2	0.2	2.4
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	184,764	189,709	228,731	-2.6	-1.4	-19.2
Not Adjusted						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	691,910	692,426	677,750	-0.1	2.5	2.1
Durable goods	402,268	399,965	404,926	0.6	2.4	-0.7
Nondurable goods	289,642	292,461	272,824	-1.0	2.7	6.2
Retail trade, total	624,493	619,535	658,135	0.8	-0.1	-5.1
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	437,244	427,922	426,035	2.2	0.0	2.6
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	187,249	191,613	232,100	-2.3	-0.4	-19.3

(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		
February 2021 (a)	January 2021 (r)	February 2020 (r)	February 2021/ January 2021	January 2021/ December 2020	February 2021/ February 2020	
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	1.8	1.7	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.6
Durable goods	2.5	2.4	2.5	0.2	0.6	0.6
Nondurable goods	1.6	1.5	1.5	0.3	0.6	1.0
Retail trade, total	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.3
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.6

(a) Advance estimate

(r) Revised estimate

(1) Estimates are concurrently adjusted for seasonal variation, but not for price changes. Wholesale inventory estimates are also adjusted for trading day differences. 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 2012 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.