

## 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		
	August 2016 (a)	July 2016 (r)	August 2015 (r)	August 2016/ July 2016	July 2016/ June 2016	August 2016/ August 2015
<b>Adjusted<sup>1</sup></b>						
Merchant wholesale <sup>2</sup> trade, total	589,311	590,193	589,507	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Durable goods	356,443	355,941	363,221	0.1	0.3	-1.9
Nondurable goods	232,868	234,252	226,286	-0.6	-0.8	2.9
Retail trade, total	605,156	601,950	578,307	0.5	-0.2	4.6
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	393,200	392,143	385,429	0.3	-0.4	2.0
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	211,956	209,807	192,878	1.0	0.0	9.9
<b>Not Adjusted</b>						
Merchant wholesale <sup>2</sup> trade, total	579,007	585,280	579,333	-1.1	0.1	-0.1
Durable goods	356,895	358,672	363,617	-0.5	1.1	-1.8
Nondurable goods	222,112	226,608	215,716	-2.0	-1.3	3.0
Retail trade, total	590,442	586,297	564,749	0.7	-1.5	4.5
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	388,541	383,445	380,932	1.3	-0.4	2.0
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	201,901	202,852	183,817	-0.5	-3.5	9.8

(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		
	August 2016 (a)	July 2016 (r)	August 2015 (r)	August 2016/ July 2016	July 2016/ June 2016	August 2016/ August 2015
Merchant wholesale <sup>2</sup> trade, total	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.2	0.2	1.0
Durable goods	1.7	1.8	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.9
Nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	1.6	0.3	0.3	1.7
Retail trade, total	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.3
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.3	0.2	1.0

(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 [http://www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how\\_surveys\\_are\\_collected/monthly\\_methodology.html](http://www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/monthly_methodology.html) for wholesale and at [http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how\\_surveys\\_are\\_collected.html](http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html) for retail.