

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		
	October 2016 (a)	September 2016 (r)	October 2015 (r)	October 2016/ September 2016	September 2016/ August 2016	October 2016/ October 2015
Adjusted¹						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	586,877	589,030	590,057	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5
Durable goods	354,024	354,100	360,825	0.0	-0.6	-1.9
Nondurable goods	232,853	234,930	229,232	-0.9	0.7	1.6
Retail trade, total	603,317	605,964	584,832	-0.4	0.0	3.2
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	391,843	392,946	388,696	-0.3	-0.1	0.8
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	211,474	213,018	196,136	-0.7	0.2	7.8
Not Adjusted						
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	592,700	586,157	596,329	1.1	1.2	-0.6
Durable goods	356,014	355,797	362,978	0.1	-0.4	-1.9
Nondurable goods	236,686	230,360	233,351	2.7	3.7	1.4
Retail trade, total	630,005	609,125	612,180	3.4	3.0	2.9
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	417,996	402,233	415,344	3.9	3.4	0.6
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	212,009	206,892	196,836	2.5	2.0	7.7

(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		
	October 2016 (a)	September 2016 (r)	October 2015 (r)	October 2016/ September 2016	September 2016/ August 2016	October 2016/ October 2015
Merchant wholesale ² trade, total	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.2	0.1	0.8
Durable goods	1.6	1.7	1.9	0.2	0.2	0.8
Nondurable goods	2.4	2.3	1.7	0.4	0.3	1.2
Retail trade, total	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3
Total (excl. motor veh. & parts)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.3
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.2	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 for wholesale and at http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/how_surveys_are_collected.html for retail.