

2013 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey

Summary of Changes

The following changes were made with the release of the 2013 AWTS estimates:

Changes to Estimates

- AWTS estimates were revised to reflect historical corrections to current sample data. Corrections are made to replace previously reported data with more accurate data received at a later date or to replace imputed data with reported data obtained from the company. For more information, refer to the benchmarking section of the Annual Methodology link located below:
http://www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/annual_methodology.html
- AWTS estimates were revised to reflect benchmarking to preliminary results of the 2012 Economic Census. Previously, estimates were benchmarked to results of the 2007 Economic Census. For more information, refer to the benchmarking section of the Annual Methodology link located below:
http://www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/annual_methodology.html
- AWTS estimates were revised for NAICS 4247 and the corresponding aggregate totals from 2003 through the present to reflect revisions to the 2007 Economic Census.
- Detailed expense estimates for 2012 (Table 5.1), collected as part of the Business Expenses Supplement (BES) to the 2012 AWTS, and corresponding measures of sampling variability (Table 5.1A) were revised to reflect benchmarking to preliminary results of the 2012 Economic Census.

Changes to Table Layout and Contents

- All data tables displaying a time series have been reformatted to display data in descending order from left to right beginning with the most recent data year. Previously data tables displaying a time series had been displayed in ascending order from left to right beginning with the oldest available year.
- The contents of Table 1 have changed. Table 1 now contains all estimates of total sales previously contained in tables 1, 2, and 3. Total inventories of U.S. merchant wholesalers (previously in table 1), are now published as part of Table 3. See the table on the following page for a summary of all table content changes.
- The contents of Table 2 have changed. Table 2 now contains estimates of total e-commerce sales previously contained in tables 8.0H, 8.1H, and 8.2H. Total sales of U.S. merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices (previously in table 2) are now published as part of Table 1. Total inventories of U.S. merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices (previously in table 2) are now published as part of Table 3. See the table on the following page for a summary of all table content changes.
- The contents of Table 3 have changed. Table 3 now contains estimates of total inventories previously contained in tables 1, 2, and 3. Total sales of U.S. manufacturers' sales branches and offices (previously in table 3), are now published as part of Table 1. See the table on the following page for a summary of all table content changes.
- Estimates of total e-commerce previously contained in tables 8.0H, 8.1H and 8.2H are now published as part of Table 2. See the table on the following page for a summary of all table content changes.

Summary of Table Content Changes

Data Item	Type of Wholesale	Previous Table	Current Table
Total Sales	Merchant Wholesale	1	1
	Merchant Wholesale, except MSBOs ¹	2	1
	Manufacturers' Sales Branches and Offices	3	1
E-Commerce Sales	Merchant Wholesale	8.0H	2
	Merchant Wholesale, except MSBOs ¹	8.1H	2
	Manufacturers' Sales Branches and Offices	8.2H	2
Total Inventories	Merchant Wholesale	1	3
	Merchant Wholesale, except MSBOs ¹	2	3
	Manufacturers' Sales Branches and Offices	3	3

Footnotes:

¹ Manufacturers' sales branches and offices