

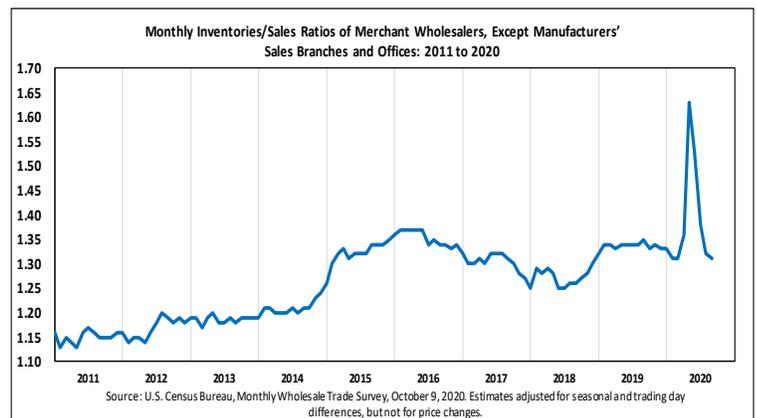
## MONTHLY WHOLESALE TRADE: SALES AND INVENTORIES, AUGUST 2020

Release Number: CB20-154

**Statement Regarding COVID-19 Impact:** The Census Bureau continues to monitor response and data quality and has determined that estimates in this release meet publication standards. For more information, see [<COVID-19 FAQs>](#).

**October 9, 2020** — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following new wholesale trade statistics for August 2020:

MONTHLY WHOLESALE INVENTORIES		
AUGUST 2020	\$635.5 billion	+0.4%
JULY 2020 (revised)	\$633.2 billion	-0.2%*
Next release: November 6, 2020		
* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero. Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, October 9, 2020.		



### Sales

August 2020 sales of merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices, after adjustment for seasonal variations and trading day differences but not for price changes, were \$486.6 billion, up 1.4 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) from the revised July level, but were down 2.3 percent ( $\pm 1.1$  percent) from the revised August 2019 level. The June 2020 to July 2020 percent change was revised from the preliminary estimate of up 4.6 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent) to up 4.8 percent ( $\pm 0.5$  percent).

### Inventories

Total inventories of merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices, after adjustment for seasonal variations but not for price changes, were \$635.5 billion at the end of August, up 0.4 percent ( $\pm 0.2$  percent) from the revised July level. Total inventories were down 5.2 percent ( $\pm 0.7$  percent) from the revised August 2019 level. The July 2020 to August 2020 percent change was revised from the advance estimate of up 0.5 percent ( $\pm 0.2$  percent) to up 0.4 percent ( $\pm 0.2$  percent).

#### Data Inquiries

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## Inventories/Sales Ratio

The August inventories/sales ratio for merchant wholesalers, except manufacturers' sales branches and offices, based on seasonally adjusted data, was 1.31. The August 2019 ratio was 1.35.

## General Information

The September 2020 Monthly Wholesale Trade Report is scheduled for release on November 6, 2020. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <[www.census.gov/economic-indicators/](http://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/)>.

For additional survey information, including customizable time series estimates by industry, visit <[www.census.gov/wholesale/](http://www.census.gov/wholesale/)>.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Reliability of the Estimates

Because the estimates presented in this report are based on a sample survey, they contain sampling error and nonsampling error.

Sampling error is the difference between the estimate and the result that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of the sampling frame conducted under the same survey conditions. This error occurs because only a subset of the entire sampling frame is measured in a sample survey. Standard errors and coefficients of variation, as given in Table 2 of this report, are estimated measures of sampling variation.

The margin of sampling error, as used on page 1, gives a range about the estimate, which can be used to construct a 90-percent confidence interval. If, for example, the percent change estimate is +1.2 percent and its estimated standard error is 0.8 percent, then the margin of sampling error is  $\pm 1.753 \times 0.8$  percent or  $\pm 1.4$  percent, and the 90 percent confidence interval is 1.2 +/-1.4 or -0.2 percent to +2.6 percent. If the interval contains 0, then one does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude at the 90 percent confidence level that the actual change is different from zero. Estimated changes shown in the text are statistically significant unless otherwise noted. For a monthly total, the estimated coefficient of variation is given. The resulting confidence interval is the estimated monthly total  $\pm 1.753 \times CV \times$  (the estimated monthly total). The Census Bureau recommends that individuals using estimates in this report incorporate this information into their analyses, as sampling error could affect the conclusions drawn from the estimates.

Nonsampling error encompasses all other factors that contribute to the total error of a sample survey estimate. This type of error can occur because of nonresponse, insufficient coverage of the universe of wholesale businesses, mistakes in the recording and coding of data, model error, and other errors of collection, response, coverage, or processing. Although nonsampling error is not measured directly, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the process to minimize this type of error.

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## Description of the Survey

The Census Bureau conducts the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey to provide national estimates of monthly sales, end-of-month inventories, and inventories-to-sales ratios by kind of business for wholesale firms located in the United States. Specifically, the MWTS covers wholesale merchants who sell goods on their own account and include such businesses as wholesale merchants or jobbers, industrial distributors, exporters, and importers. Sales offices and branches maintained by manufacturing, refining, or mining firms for the purpose of marketing their products are not covered in this report. Also excluded is NAICS Industry Group 4251: Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.

The MWTS sample was selected using a stratified, one-stage design with strata defined by kind of business (e.g., Automotive, Furniture, Lumber, etc.) and annual sales size. The sample includes firms of all sizes and is updated on a quarterly basis to account for new wholesale firms, deaths, and other changes to the wholesale universe. Each month, questionnaires are mailed to employer firms selected in a probability sample of approximately 4,200. For surveyed companies, approximately 61.6 percent provided data for this reporting period, resulting in a total quantity response rate of 62.8 percent for sales and 63.8 percent for inventories.

Monthly sales and inventories estimates are obtained by summing weighted data (either reported or imputed). The monthly estimates are benchmarked to annual survey estimates and are adjusted for seasonal variation and trading day differences. Individuals who use estimates in this report to create new estimates should cite the Census Bureau as the source of only the original estimates. Additional information on the MWTS can be found on the Census Bureau website at: <[www.census.gov/wholesale/](http://www.census.gov/wholesale/)>.

## RESOURCES

### API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before. <[www.census.gov/developers/](http://www.census.gov/developers/)>

### FRED Mobile App



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

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\* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

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**Table 1. Estimates of Monthly Sales, Inventories, and Inventories/Sales Ratios of Merchant Wholesalers, Except Manufacturers' Sales Branches and Offices**

[Total sales and inventories estimates are shown in millions of dollars. Estimates are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey.]

NAICS <sup>1</sup> code	Kind of Business	Sales						Inventories <sup>4</sup>						Inventories/Sales Ratios			
		Monthly			Percent change			Monthly			Percent change			Aug. 2020 (p)	Jul. 2020 (r)	Aug. 2019 (r)	
		Aug. 2020 (p)	Jul. 2020 (r)	Aug. 2019 (r)	Aug./Jul.	Jul./Jun.	Aug. 20/ Aug. 19	Aug. 2020 (p)	Jul. 2020 (r)	Aug. 2019 (r)	Aug./Jul.	Jul./Jun.	Aug. 20/ Aug. 19				
<b>Adjusted<sup>2</sup></b>																	
<b>42</b>	<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>486,636</b>	<b>479,882</b>	<b>497,892</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>635,525</b>	<b>633,155</b>	<b>670,065</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>1.35</b>	
<b>423</b>	<b>.Durable</b>	<b>238,245</b>	<b>235,286</b>	<b>237,534</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>381,351</b>	<b>379,037</b>	<b>409,386</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-6.8</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>1.61</b>	<b>1.72</b>	
4231	..Automotive	39,366	38,715	40,291	1.7	8.0	-2.3	63,948	61,320	69,385	4.3	1.0	-7.8	1.62	1.58	1.72	
4232	..Furniture	7,553	7,547	8,045	0.1	8.8	-6.1	11,608	11,839	14,014	-2.0	-3.0	-17.2	1.54	1.57	1.74	
4233	..Lumber	13,318	12,913	12,578	3.1	4.5	5.9	19,117	18,783	19,799	1.8	1.5	-3.4	1.44	1.45	1.57	
4234	..Prof. equip.	45,545	44,539	43,303	2.3	5.9	5.2	48,246	48,655	51,075	-0.8	-2.9	-5.5	1.06	1.09	1.18	
42343	...Comp. equip.	23,958	22,380	21,751	7.1	2.7	10.1	15,122	15,419	17,163	-1.9	-3.7	-11.9	0.63	0.69	0.79	
4235	..Metals	11,541	11,460	14,497	0.7	8.2	-20.4	29,125	29,474	32,759	-1.2	-2.6	-11.1	2.52	2.57	2.26	
4236	..Electrical	48,449	48,789	48,974	-0.7	2.2	-1.1	53,449	53,322	55,307	0.2	0.7	-3.4	1.10	1.09	1.13	
4237	..Hardware	14,266	14,450	13,015	-1.3	2.8	9.6	26,568	26,278	27,122	1.1	0.1	-2.0	1.86	1.82	2.08	
4238	..Machinery	37,664	36,878	37,348	2.1	-0.1	0.8	100,726	100,638	107,060	0.1	-1.1	-5.9	2.67	2.73	2.87	
4239	..Misc. Durable	20,543	19,995	19,483	2.7	5.5	5.4	28,564	28,728	32,865	-0.6	-1.4	-13.1	1.39	1.44	1.69	
<b>424</b>	<b>.Nondurable</b>	<b>248,391</b>	<b>244,596</b>	<b>260,358</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>254,174</b>	<b>254,118</b>	<b>260,679</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>1.00</b>	
4241	..Paper	7,377	7,252	7,458	1.7	6.9	-1.1	9,777	9,659	9,331	1.2	-0.2	4.8	1.33	1.33	1.25	
4242	..Drugs	64,687	63,580	59,528	1.7	3.3	8.7	70,349	70,526	66,690	-0.3	3.2	5.5	1.09	1.11	1.12	
4243	..Apparel	10,406	10,358	12,459	0.5	8.5	-16.5	25,561	26,364	28,929	-3.0	-4.8	-11.6	2.46	2.55	2.32	
4244	..Groceries	59,264	58,870	58,138	0.7	1.5	1.9	42,033	42,493	41,307	-1.1	0.4	1.8	0.71	0.72	0.71	
4245	..Farm products	17,484	16,170	17,568	8.1	1.0	-0.5	23,212	22,509	25,042	3.1	3.7	-7.3	1.33	1.39	1.43	
4246	..Chemicals <sup>3</sup>	9,407	9,807	11,056	-4.1	2.3	-14.9	12,300	12,079	13,098	1.8	-2.7	-6.1	1.31	1.23	1.18	
4247	..Petroleum	41,122	40,238	57,847	2.2	16.7	-28.9	19,162	19,137	21,908	0.1	3.5	-12.5	0.47	0.48	0.38	
4248	..Alcohol	15,688	15,494	13,490	1.3	10.4	16.3	17,451	17,004	18,788	2.6	-1.2	-7.1	1.11	1.10	1.39	
4249	..Misc. Nondur.	22,956	22,827	22,814	0.6	0.8	0.6	34,329	34,347	35,586	-0.1	-0.5	-3.5	1.50	1.50	1.56	
	<b>Not Adjusted</b>													<b>Sales to date</b>			
														<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>		
<b>42</b>	<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>482,378</b>	<b>485,100</b>	<b>509,890</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>626,381</b>	<b>626,988</b>	<b>660,413</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>3,692,891</b>	<b>3,954,554</b>		
<b>423</b>	<b>.Durable</b>	<b>237,699</b>	<b>235,777</b>	<b>244,666</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>382,674</b>	<b>382,277</b>	<b>410,886</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	<b>1,775,173</b>	<b>1,884,550</b>		
4231	..Automotive	39,523	38,289	41,258	3.2	3.1	-4.2	61,326	61,075	66,610	0.4	1.6	-7.9	276,407	316,778		
4232	..Furniture	7,787	7,796	8,552	-0.1	6.6	-8.9	11,991	12,135	14,462	-1.2	-0.4	-17.1	57,638	63,514		
4233	..Lumber	14,250	14,321	14,012	-0.5	4.2	1.7	19,289	18,971	19,997	1.7	0.7	-3.5	101,718	100,960		
4234	..Prof. equip.	43,678	45,385	43,130	-3.8	-2.0	1.3	49,259	49,433	52,097	-0.4	-1.1	-5.4	335,997	343,466		
42343	...Comp. equip.	22,257	23,857	21,272	-6.7	-3.9	4.6	15,576	15,619	17,695	-0.3	-2.8	-12.0	175,123	171,933		
4235	..Metals	11,426	11,494	15,019	-0.6	2.7	-23.9	29,475	29,916	33,185	-1.5	-2.0	-11.2	93,857	122,942		
4236	..Electrical	48,546	46,252	50,149	5.0	-5.6	-3.2	54,411	53,855	56,303	1.0	2.9	-3.4	362,431	375,764		
4237	..Hardware	14,751	15,736	13,913	-6.3	-1.0	6.0	26,674	26,462	27,230	0.8	0.2	-2.0	108,220	104,563		
4238	..Machinery	37,400	36,989	38,468	1.1	-6.0	-2.8	101,028	101,443	107,381	-0.4	-0.8	-5.9	288,808	302,407		
4239	..Misc. Durable	20,338	19,515	20,165	4.2	0.6	0.9	29,221	28,987	33,621	0.8	1.1	-13.1	150,097	154,156		
<b>424</b>	<b>.Nondurable</b>	<b>244,679</b>	<b>249,323</b>	<b>265,224</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>-7.7</b>	<b>243,707</b>	<b>244,711</b>	<b>249,527</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>1,917,718</b>	<b>2,070,004</b>		
4241	..Paper	7,392	7,455	7,756	-0.8	5.7	-4.7	9,709	9,678	9,238	0.3	-0.7	5.1	57,664	61,394		
4242	..Drugs	62,488	65,169	60,242	-4.1	2.3	3.7	69,927	69,609	66,156	0.5	2.2	5.7	493,220	471,278		
4243	..Apparel	11,176	10,617	13,966	5.3	15.6	-20.0	27,197	27,867	30,752	-2.4	-0.1	-11.6	75,562	103,514		
4244	..Groceries	59,797	60,459	59,940	-1.1	3.1	-0.2	41,949	42,196	41,224	-0.6	1.9	1.8	459,058	460,858		
4245	..Farm products	16,033	15,539	16,567	3.2	-3.0	-3.2	16,086	16,634	17,254	-3.3	-5.4	-6.8	127,505	128,460		
4246	..Chemicals	9,360	10,199	11,432	-8.2	1.3	-18.1	12,300	12,079	13,098	1.8	-2.7	-6.1	79,315	89,239		
4247	..Petroleum	41,574	41,324	59,351	0.6	14.6	-30.0	18,587	19,214	21,207	-3.3	2.4	-12.4	331,626	466,075		
4248	..Alcohol	15,280	15,757	14,205	-3.0	-2.8	7.6	17,399	17,140	18,713	1.5	-0.3	-7.0	109,116	103,701		
4249	..Misc. Nondur.	21,579	22,804	21,765	-5.4	-9.8	-0.9	30,553	30,294	31,885	0.9	-4.7	-4.2	184,652	185,485		

Footnotes:

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimate.

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimate.

<sup>1</sup> For a full description of the NAICS codes used in this table, see the 2012 NAICS manual or <www.census.gov/eos/www/naics>.

<sup>2</sup> Except where indicated, sales and inventories estimates are adjusted for seasonal variation. Estimates of sales are also adjusted for trading day differences and moving holidays. See Table 3 for the combined adjustment factors. Adjusted sales-to-date estimates are not tabulated.

<sup>3</sup> No significant seasonal pattern for this NAICS code was detected in the latest annual review of the seasonal adjustment for inventories. Consequently, the "Adjusted" inventories estimates are equal to the "Not Adjusted" estimates.

<sup>4</sup> Adjusted and not adjusted inventories for aggregate NAICS levels 42, 423, and 424 are revised from the Advance Economic Indicators Report.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how\_surveys\_are\_collected/monthly\_methodology.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, October 9, 2020.

**Table 2. Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability of Monthly Wholesale Sales and Inventory Estimates**

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

NAICS code	Kind of Business	Coefficient of variation for monthly total				Standard error for monthly total				Coefficient of variation for total		Standard error for percent change
		Preliminary estimates		Final estimates		Ratio of two consecutive months		Current month to current month last year		Sales to date		Current year sales to date to previous year sales to date
		Sales	Inv.	Sales	Inv.	Sales	Inv.	Sales	Inv.	Current year	Previous year	
<b>42</b>	<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>423</b>	<b>..Durable</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>
4231	..Automotive	3.2	4.1	3.4	4.2	0.5	0.3	1.4	1.2	3.4	2.9	1.1
4232	..Furniture	3.4	7.5	3.6	7.5	1.0	0.7	3.1	2.1	3.3	3.8	1.8
4233	..Lumber	4.9	5.6	4.9	5.8	1.1	0.4	3.4	2.3	4.7	3.9	2.6
4234	..Prof. equip.	3.9	6.7	3.8	6.6	1.0	0.4	1.3	1.5	3.9	3.5	1.3
42343	...Comp. equip.	4.5	3.8	3.8	4.1	1.4	0.9	2.1	2.1	4.1	4.2	1.7
4235	..Metals	5.9	4.6	6.0	4.6	0.7	0.3	2.1	2.1	5.0	4.1	1.6
4236	..Electrical	3.5	4.6	3.6	4.6	0.5	0.2	1.0	1.4	3.5	3.2	1.0
4237	..Hardware	4.9	8.6	5.3	8.4	0.7	0.3	2.1	2.2	4.7	5.2	2.2
4238	..Machinery	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.5	1.7	0.4	3.4	1.4	3.3	2.6	2.4
4239	..Misc. Durable	3.9	8.8	4.8	8.4	1.6	0.5	3.4	1.9	5.2	4.5	2.5
<b>424</b>	<b>..Nondurable</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>
4241	..Paper	12.6	13.5	12.9	13.1	0.9	0.5	3.4	4.2	12.4	7.1	3.4
4242	..Drugs	2.1	4.4	2.0	4.4	0.3	0.3	1.7	0.5	2.0	3.0	1.6
4243	..Apparel	4.9	4.8	6.2	4.6	2.0	0.5	2.6	2.2	5.4	4.3	2.3
4244	..Groceries	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.2	0.6	0.4	1.7	1.1	3.3	2.8	1.2
4245	..Farm products	4.1	3.6	4.6	3.3	1.5	0.8	3.6	3.7	4.2	3.6	3.2
4246	..Chemicals	4.1	9.0	4.1	8.2	1.0	1.4	1.9	4.1	4.2	4.8	2.0
4247	..Petroleum	2.9	2.8	3.1	2.8	1.6	0.5	0.8	2.1	3.0	3.2	0.9
4248	..Alcohol	8.1	9.5	7.9	9.2	0.7	0.5	1.9	2.3	7.6	6.4	1.9
4249	..Misc. Nondur.	7.0	5.3	6.6	5.3	1.1	0.5	2.3	2.9	5.8	4.6	1.9

Note:

Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on estimates not adjusted for seasonal variation, trading day differences, or moving holidays. 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](http://www.census.gov/wholesale/www/how_surveys_are_collected/monthly_methodology.html).

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at [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).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, October 9, 2020.

**Table 3. Combined<sup>1</sup> Adjustment Factors for Monthly Wholesale Sales and Inventory Estimates**

[Combined adjustment factors are computed using the Census Bureau's X-13 ARIMA-SEATS program and are based on data from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey.]

NAICS code	Kind of Business	Sales						Inventories					
		2020					2019	2020					2019
		Sep.	Aug.r	Jul.r	Jun.	May	Aug.r	Sep.	Aug.r	Jul.r	Jun.	May	Aug.r
<b>42</b>	<b>U.S. Total<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1.025</b>	<b>0.991</b>	<b>1.006</b>	<b>1.050</b>	<b>0.999</b>	<b>1.022</b>	<b>0.992</b>	<b>0.985</b>	<b>0.987</b>	<b>0.987</b>	<b>0.993</b>	<b>0.985</b>
<b>423</b>	<b>..Durable</b>	<b>1.050</b>	<b>0.996</b>	<b>0.999</b>	<b>1.061</b>	<b>0.969</b>	<b>1.030</b>	<b>1.006</b>	<b>1.005</b>	<b>1.008</b>	<b>0.999</b>	<b>0.999</b>	<b>1.005</b>
4231	..Automotive	0.991	1.004	0.989	1.036	0.995	1.024	0.978	0.959	0.996	0.990	0.988	0.960
4232	..Furniture	1.043	1.031	1.033	1.054	0.936	1.063	1.030	1.033	1.025	0.998	0.978	1.032
4233	..Lumber	1.056	1.070	1.109	1.112	1.012	1.114	0.993	1.009	1.010	1.018	1.023	1.010
4234	..Prof. equip.	1.084	0.959	1.019	1.101	0.928	0.996	1.017	1.021	1.016	0.998	0.984	1.020
42343	...Comp. equip.	1.106	0.929	1.066	1.139	0.910	0.978	1.049	1.030	1.013	1.004	0.976	1.031
4235	..Metals	1.016	0.990	1.003	1.056	1.006	1.036	1.002	1.012	1.015	1.009	1.002	1.013
4236	..Electrical	1.107	1.002	0.948	1.026	0.919	1.024	1.022	1.018	1.010	0.988	0.999	1.018
4237	..Hardware	1.049	1.034	1.089	1.131	1.013	1.069	0.999	1.004	1.007	1.006	1.014	1.004
4238	..Machinery	1.012	0.993	1.003	1.065	1.004	1.030	0.998	1.003	1.008	1.005	1.010	1.003
4239	..Misc. Durable	1.054	0.990	0.976	1.024	0.940	1.035	1.048	1.023	1.009	0.984	0.978	1.023
<b>424</b>	<b>..Nondurable</b>	<b>0.998</b>	<b>0.986</b>	<b>1.018</b>	<b>1.041</b>	<b>1.027</b>	<b>1.014</b>	<b>0.978</b>	<b>0.956</b>	<b>0.960</b>	<b>0.968</b>	<b>0.980</b>	<b>0.956</b>
4241	..Paper	1.018	1.002	1.028	1.040	0.986	1.040	0.995	0.993	1.002	1.007	0.998	0.990
4242	..Drugs	1.034	0.966	1.025	1.035	0.971	1.012	1.000	0.994	0.987	0.996	0.985	0.992
4243	..Apparel	1.125	1.074	1.025	0.962	0.937	1.121	1.063	1.064	1.057	1.008	0.964	1.063
4244	..Groceries	1.005	1.009	1.027	1.011	1.016	1.031	1.014	0.998	0.993	0.978	0.980	0.998
4245	..Farm products	0.909	0.917	0.961	1.001	0.981	0.943	0.773	0.693	0.739	0.810	0.884	0.689
4246	..Chemicals <sup>3</sup>	1.011	0.995	1.040	1.050	0.983	1.034	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
4247	..Petroleum	1.018	1.011	1.027	1.046	1.080	1.026	0.990	0.970	1.004	1.015	1.030	0.968
4248	..Alcohol	1.033	0.974	1.017	1.155	1.011	1.053	1.009	0.997	1.008	0.999	1.020	0.996
4249	..Misc. Nondur.	0.938	0.940	0.999	1.116	1.151	0.954	0.912	0.890	0.882	0.921	0.970	0.896

Footnotes:

<sup>r</sup> Revised factors.

<sup>1</sup> Combined factors for sales include the effects of seasonal variation, trading day differences, and moving holidays. Combined factors for inventories include only the effects of seasonal variation.

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted sales and inventories estimates for detailed kind-of-business levels in Table 1 are computed by dividing each "Not Adjusted" estimate by the combined adjustment factor for the corresponding kind of business and month. Adjusted estimates for broad kind-of-business levels are obtained by summing adjusted estimates at the appropriate detailed levels. Combined factors shown for broad kind-of-business levels may be used to approximate adjusted estimates at these levels, but the resulting estimates may differ slightly from the published estimates.

<sup>3</sup> No significant seasonal pattern for this NAICS code was detected in the latest annual review of the seasonal adjustment for inventories. Therefore, the combined adjustment factors for inventories are set to one for this NAICS code.

Note:

The seasonal adjustment factors shown are estimates derived from a model that uses sample survey data as input. Therefore, these estimates may contain sampling error and nonsampling error. Additional information on the general form of the model and the X-13 ARIMA-SEATS program may be found at <[www.census.gov/srd/www/x13as/](http://www.census.gov/srd/www/x13as/)>.

Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <[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)>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey, October 9, 2020.