

Markets Update Supplement p. 2

December 2018 | Monthly Wholesale Trade Data

Wholesale revenues in December were \$497.2 billion, up 1.0% from December 2017 and down 1.0% from November. December sales of durable goods were down 0.7% over last month and up 3.6% from a year ago. Sales of nondurable goods were down 2.5% over November and down 1.5% from last December.

Inventories were \$661.8 billion at the end of December, up 1.1% from the revised November level and up 7.3% from last year. December inventories of durable goods were up 1.5% from last month and up 10.6% from a year ago. Inventories of non-durable goods were down 0.3% from November and up 2.3% from last December.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Inventories/Sales Ratio. The December inventories/sales ratio for merchant wholesalers was 1.33. The December 2017 ratio was 1.25.

Sales and Inventories Trends: December 2018

NAICS Code	Business Type	Sales \$Millions	Inventory \$Millions	Stock/ Sales Ratio	% Change Sales 11/18-12/18	% Change Sales 12/17-12/18	% Change Inventory 11/18-12/18	% Change Inventory 12/17-12/18
42	U.S. Total	497,162	661,843	1.33	-1.0	1.0	1.1	7.3
423	Durable	245,630	410,639	1.67	0.7	3.6	1.5	10.6
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4231	Automotive	40,666	69,901	1.72	-2.2	-0.3	0.9	7.3
4232	Furniture & Home Furnishings	7,045	13,811	1.96	4.4	2.1	2.4	8.9
4233	Lumber & Other Construction Materials	11,556	18,851	1.63	-1.2	-5.3	2.0	14.9
4234	Prof. & Commercial Equip. & Supplies	43,028	48,639	1.13	0.1	4.8	1.3	11.5
42343	Computer Equipment & Software	22,873	18,484	0.81	-0.5	9.0	0.6	16.0
4235	Metals & Minerals	15,884	35,348	2.23	-0.9	10.1	2.8	21.2
4236	Electrical Goods	53,217	58,189	1.09	4.2	3.4	2.2	6.5
4237	Hardware, Plumbing, & Heating Equipment	11,742	26,304	2.24	-2.8	-4.4	1.7	12.1
4238	Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	41,068	108,409	2.64	0.8	8.9	1.3	12.7
4239	Miscellaneous Durable	21,424	31,187	1.46	1.6	5.5	0.5	4.1
424	Nondurable Goods	251,532	251,204	1.00	-2.5	-1.5	0.3	2.3
4241	Paper & Paper Products	8,314	10,448	1.26	-0.4	2.2	1.6	7.3
4242	Drugs	60,512	62,864	1.04	0.0	4.3	-1.2	0.8
4243	Apparel, Piece Goods & Notions	12,317	28,458	2.31	0.4	-5.2	3.8	7.6
4244	Groce ries &Related Products	54,362	38,063	0.70	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.4
4245	Farm-product Raw Materials	16,191	25,944	1.60	1.4	-9.5	0.3	8.3
4246	Chemicals & Allied Products	10,994	13,091	1.19	-2.4	-0.4	2.0	4.5
4247	Petroleum & Petroleum Products	54,075	20,360	0.38	-11.1	-6.5	-4.8	-12.6
4248	Beer, Wine & Distilled Beverages	13,638	17,230	1.26	2.2	8.8	0.7	2.4
4249	Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods	21,129	34,746	1.64	-2.0	-7.6	2.4	6.0

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Business Reports, Monthly Wholesale Trade, Sales and Inventories Series: MDM compilation and analysis. Adjusted for seasonal and trading day differences. Figures for sales and inventories are preliminary adjusted estimates.