

Monthly Wholesale Trade: Sales and Inventories for September 2009

Wholesale revenues in September 2009 were up 0.7 percent to \$320.2 billion from August, but down 15.2 percent from September 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

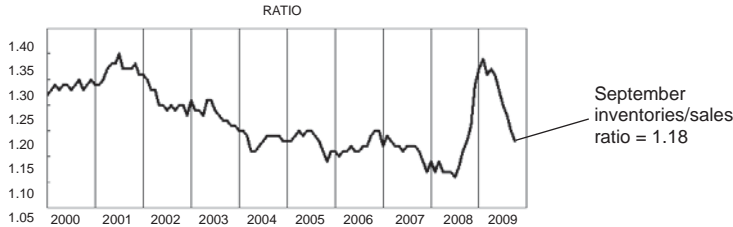
September sales of durable goods were up 0.7 percent from last month, but were down 16.2 percent from a year ago. Sales of nondurable goods were up 0.6 percent from last month, but were down 14.3 percent from last year.

Inventories. Inventories of wholesalers were \$377.7 billion at the end of September, down 0.9 percent from August and down 15 percent from a year ago. End-of-month inventories of durable goods were down 0.9 percent from last month and were down 16.6 percent from last September. Inventories of metals and minerals, except petroleum, were down 2.5 percent from last month and inventories of machinery, equipment, and supplies were down 1.4 percent. End-of-month inventories of nondurable goods were down 0.9 percent from August and were down 12.4 percent compared to last September. Inventories of farm product raw materials were down 5.6 percent from last month and inventories of beer, wine, and distilled alcoholic beverages were down 4.8 percent.

Inventories-Sales Ratio. September inventories/sales ratio was 1.18. The September 2008 ratio was 1.18.

Monthly Inventories/Sales Ratios of Merchant Wholesalers: 2000-2009

(Estimates adjusted for seasonal and trading-day differences, but not for price changes)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Monthly wholesale trade: Sales and inventories September 2009

NAICS Code	Business Type	Sales \$ millions	Inventories \$ millions	Stock and Sales ratio	% Change in Sales 8/09-9/09	% Change in Sales 9/08-9/09	% Change Inventory 8/09-9/09	% Change Inventory 9/08-9/09
42	U.S. Total	320,189	377,722	1.18	0.7	-15.2	-0.9	-15.0
423	Durable	142,612	231,497	1.62	0.7	-16.2	-0.9	-16.6
4231	Automotive	19,945	32,803	1.64	-3.6	-15.8	0.3	-23.8
4232	Furniture & Home Furnishings	4,396	6,441	1.47	1.3	-14.7	-0.1	-18.5
4233	Lumber & Other Construction Materials	7,456	11,702	1.57	-1.8	-23.2	-1.1	-21.4
4234	Prof. & Commercial Equip. & Supplies	27,807	28,363	1.02	-0.7	-7.9	0.6	-14.2
42343	Computer Equipment & Software	14,429	9,371	0.65	0.5	-6.1	2.3	-15.8
4235	Metals & Minerals	8,121	18,177	2.24	0.6	-45.7	-2.5	-38.7
4236	Electrical Goods	24,415	29,676	1.22	-1.0	-9.0	-0.2	-16.3
4237	Hardware, Plumbing, & Heating Equipment	5,932	12,802	2.16	-0.6	-12.4	-1.2	-11.7
4238	Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	25,123	67,142	2.67	1.9	-16.7	-1.4	-6.0
4239	Miscellaneous Durable	19,417	24,391	1.26	9.7	-14.2	-2.4	-12.0
424	Nondurable Goods	177,577	146,225	0.82	0.6	-14.3	-0.9	-12.4
4241	Paper & Paper Products	7,371	6,366	0.86	0.9	-8.0	-2.0	-13.6
4242	Drugs	33,996	31,273	0.92	2.3	4.0	2.0	-2.0
4243	Apparel, Piece Goods & Notions	9,847	14,896	1.51	-1.1	-7.4	-1.2	-12.3
4244	Groceries & Related Products	41,222	25,212	0.61	0.9	-5.5	0.3	-10.4
4245	Farm-product Raw Materials	15,343	15,049	0.98	-1.2	-20.2	-5.6	-32.3
4246	Chemicals & Allied Products	7,244	7,717	1.07	0.8	-17.6	0.6	-23.0
4247	Petroleum & Petroleum Products	35,567	15,266	0.43	1.0	-35.5	0.3	-4.0
4248	Beer, Wine & Distilled Beverages	9,098	10,362	1.14	0.2	-0.4	-4.8	-5.3
4249	Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods	17,889	20,084	1.12	-1.0	-10.6	-1.9	-14.3

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.