

Monthly Wholesale Trade: Sales and Inventories for April 2009

April 2009 wholesale revenues were \$309.4 billion, down 0.4 percent from March and 19.5 percent from April 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. April sales of durable goods were down 1.9 percent from last month and were down 23.4 percent from a year ago. Sales of motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts and supplies, were down 7.8 percent from last month and sales of metals and minerals, except petroleum were down 6.5 percent. Sales of nondurable goods were up 0.8 percent from last month, but were down 16.1 percent from last year. Sales of farm product raw materials were up 10.5 percent from last month and sales of beer, wine,

and distilled alcoholic beverages were up 2.6 percent.

Inventories

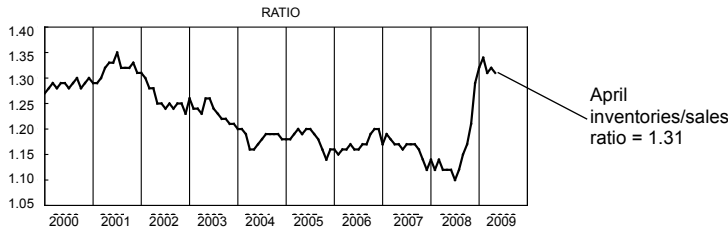
Total inventories were \$405.4 billion at the end of April, down 1.4 percent from the revised March level and were down 6.2 percent from a year ago. End-of-month inventories of durable goods were down 2.2 percent from last month and were down 5.9 percent from last April. Inventories of metals and minerals, except petroleum, were down 6.8 percent from last month and inventories of motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts and supplies were down 4.5 percent. End-of-month inventories of nondurable goods were virtually unchanged from March, but were down 6.6 percent compared to last April. Inventories of apparel, piece goods, and notions were down 2.6 percent from last month, while inventories of paper and paper products were up 2.8 percent.

Inventories/Sales Ratio

The April inventories/sales ratio was 1.31. The April 2008 ratio was 1.12.

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 April 2009

NAICS Code	Business Type	Sales \$ millions	Inventories \$ millions	Stock and Sales ratio	% Change in Sales 3/09-4/09	% Change in Sales 4/08-4/09	% Change Inventory 3/09-4/09	% Change Inventory 4/08-4/09
42	U.S. Total	309,352	405,449	1.31	-0.4	-19.5	-1.4	-6.2
423	Durable	136,600	249,853	1.83	-1.9	-23.4	-2.2	-5.9
4231	Automotive	16,945	35,457	2.09	-7.8	-36.2	-4.5	-14.3
4232	Furniture & Home Furnishings	4,308	6,974	1.62	0.0	-20.3	-2.9	-14.4
4233	Lumber & Other Construction Materials	7,601	12,930	1.70	-0.9	-26.2	-3.1	-10.6
4234	Prof. & Commercial Equip. & Supplies	28,528	30,083	1.05	0.9	-5.7	-1.0	-7.6
42343	Computer Equipment & Software	14,193	9,706	0.68	-0.6	-6.7	-0.6	-12.0
4235	Metals & Minerals	8,832	22,684	2.57	-6.5	-39.7	-6.8	-13.5
4236	Electrical Goods	24,580	31,608	1.29	4.1	-11.3	-1.7	-7.5
4237	Hardware, Plumbing, & Heating Equipment	5,975	13,695	2.29	-3.0	-18.8	-0.2	-4.6
4238	Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	25,635	71,795	2.80	-1.9	-15.4	-1.0	5.8
4239	Miscellaneous Durable	14,196	24,627	1.73	-7.4	-45.0	-0.5	-6.9
424	Nondurable Goods	172,752	155,596	0.90	0.8	-16.1	0.0	-6.6
4241	Paper & Paper Products	7,321	6,825	0.93	0.0	-12.0	2.8	-4.0
4242	Drugs	33,145	32,414	0.98	0.4	4.6	1.2	0.7
4243	Apparel, Piece Goods & Notions	10,261	16,092	1.57	-1.1	-2.1	-2.6	-3.1
4244	Groceries & Related Products	41,731	26,785	0.64	-1.9	-5.0	0.4	-0.4
4245	Farm-product Raw Materials	17,310	18,486	1.07	10.5	-14.0	1.5	-28.8
4246	Chemicals & Allied Products	6,779	8,028	1.18	1.5	-20.1	-1.3	-15.8
4247	Petroleum & Petroleum Products	28,697	13,702	0.48	2.1	-47.4	-1.3	-9.0
4248	Beer, Wine & Distilled Beverages	9,200	11,075	1.20	2.6	5.9	-2.1	6.0
4249	Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods	18,308	22,189	1.21	-2.3	-6.7	-0.1	-2.4

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.