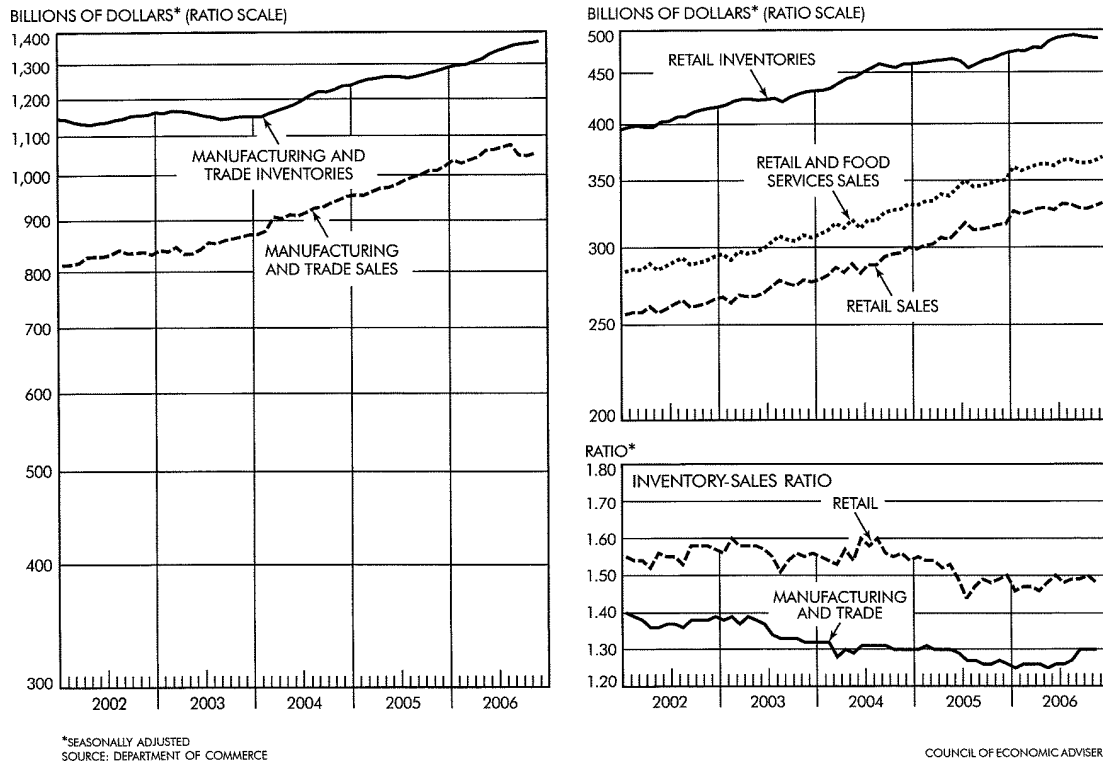


BUSINESS SALES AND INVENTORIES—Manufacturing and Trade

In November, according to preliminary estimates, manufacturing and trade sales rose 0.6 percent and inventories rose \$4.8 billion. According to advance estimates, retail sales rose 0.7 percent in December. Retail and food services sales rose 0.9 percent.



[Millions of dollars, except ratios; seasonally adjusted, except as noted]

Period	Manufacturing and trade ¹			Wholesale			Retail			Retail and food services sales ²
	Sales ²	Inventories ³	Inventory-sales ratio ⁴	Sales ²	Inventories ³	Inventory-sales ratio ⁴	Sales ²	Inventories ³	Inventory-sales ratio ⁴	
1997	723,879	1,046,857	1.42	198,154	258,496	1.26	206,167	344,593	1.64	227,670
1998	742,837	1,078,775	1.43	202,260	272,292	1.32	215,592	357,267	1.62	238,278
1999	786,634	1,139,249	1.40	216,597	290,418	1.30	234,046	385,087	1.59	257,797
2000	834,325	1,198,691	1.41	234,546	309,809	1.29	249,063	407,035	1.59	274,518
2001	822,982	1,141,227	1.43	232,096	298,380	1.32	255,644	394,966	1.58	282,131
2002	827,925	1,158,450	1.38	236,294	302,478	1.26	261,194	416,499	1.55	288,845
2003	849,990	1,147,101	1.35	246,857	308,017	1.23	272,123	432,268	1.56	301,264
2004	919,420	1,234,297	1.30	274,710	338,232	1.18	289,776	461,202	1.56	320,812
2005	984,511	1,287,998	1.28	295,843	362,084	1.19	309,932	473,865	1.50	342,985
2006 ^P .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	327,975	.....	.....	363,712
2005: Nov ^r	1,010,789	1,279,477	1.27	307,100	358,646	1.17	316,329	470,839	1.49	350,460
Dec ^r	1,021,258	1,287,998	1.26	309,975	362,084	1.17	316,798	473,865	1.50	351,025
2006: Jan	1,035,640	1,294,384	1.25	311,990	362,729	1.16	326,403	475,498	1.46	361,743
Feb	1,027,729	1,295,158	1.26	312,846	365,838	1.17	323,838	475,304	1.47	358,675
Mar	1,036,587	1,304,786	1.26	315,710	367,871	1.17	325,981	479,001	1.47	361,190
Apr	1,043,191	1,313,526	1.26	320,342	372,676	1.16	328,369	478,542	1.46	363,611
May	1,059,577	1,328,018	1.25	326,407	376,048	1.15	328,971	486,353	1.48	364,343
June	1,061,409	1,339,593	1.26	330,366	379,097	1.15	327,208	490,495	1.50	362,439
July	1,067,161	1,348,329	1.26	331,886	382,384	1.15	331,988	492,228	1.48	367,415
Aug	1,072,622	1,357,069	1.27	334,528	387,251	1.16	331,575	493,462	1.49	367,491
Sept	1,047,878	1,361,086	1.30	329,432	389,874	1.18	329,040	491,908	1.49	365,319
Oct ^r	1,045,932	1,363,316	1.30	328,188	391,575	1.19	328,091	490,877	1.50	364,538
Nov ^P	1,051,894	1,368,070	1.30	331,317	396,654	1.20	330,055	489,641	1.48	366,633
Dec ^P .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	332,441	.....	.....	369,865

¹ See page 21 for manufacturing.

² Annual data are averages of monthly not seasonally adjusted figures; monthly data are seasonally adjusted totals for month.

³ Seasonally adjusted, end of period.

⁴ Annual data are averages of seasonally adjusted monthly ratios.

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.