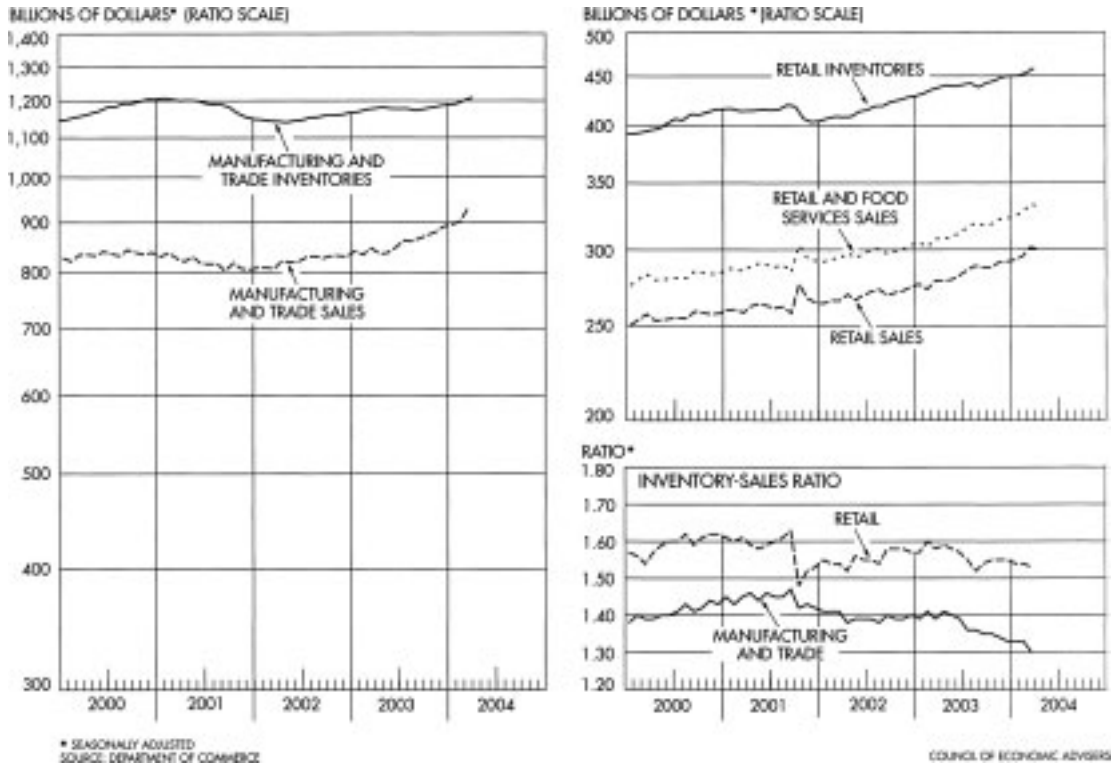
BUSINESS SALES AND INVENTORIES—Manufacturing and Trade

In March, according to preliminary estimates, manufacturing and trade sales rose 3.1 percent and inventories rose $8.4 billion. According to advance estimates, retail sales fell 0.5 percent in April. Retail and food services sales also fell 0.5 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]	
1994	610,669	930,681	1.47	161,133	218,119	1.29	179,693	312,227	1.66	198,496
1995	655,227	989,067	1.48	176,227	234,268	1.30	189,028	329,582	1.72	208,496
1996	687,472	1,008,623	1.46	186,649	237,186	1.28	201,058	340,621	1.67	221,299
1997	724,126	1,049,527	1.42	194,541	254,763	1.27	210,027	350,960	1.64	231,530
1998	743,702	1,081,988	1.44	198,319	267,689	1.32	220,399	365,068	1.62	243,119
1999	787,531	1,142,277	1.41	211,631	284,396	1.30	239,910	394,235	1.59	263,733
2000	835,194	1,200,666	1.41	228,630	301,618	1.29	255,849	417,652	1.59	281,385
2001	819,061	1,146,151	1.44	225,123	287,913	1.32	263,063	406,002	1.58	289,667
2002	822,013	1,163,690	1.40	228,524	288,990	1.25	269,177	430,512	1.56	296,965
2003	856,998	1,185,477	1.37	240,442	295,435	1.21	283,295	451,458	1.56	313,057
2003: Mar r	846,826	1,175,129	1.39	237,727	290,483	1.22	278,335	439,466	1.58	307,262
Apr r	836,003	1,177,569	1.41	234,998	290,655	1.24	278,397	441,707	1.59	307,389
May	837,117	1,174,141	1.40	234,073	289,756	1.24	279,124	440,336	1.58	308,644
June	847,662	1,174,533	1.39	237,209	289,727	1.22	281,810	442,140	1.57	311,525
July	861,781	1,174,519	1.36	239,113	290,210	1.21	285,420	443,542	1.55	315,366
Aug	860,151	1,169,030	1.36	240,029	289,961	1.21	288,446	439,437	1.52	318,942
Sept	866,774	1,173,444	1.35	241,527	291,248	1.21	287,649	443,902	1.54	317,464
Oct	873,519	1,177,496	1.35	246,430	292,549	1.19	287,264	446,267	1.55	318,064
Nov	879,925	1,181,735	1.34	247,737	293,534	1.18	290,734	450,075	1.55	321,798
Dec	891,329	1,185,477	1.33	251,526	295,435	1.17	291,318	451,458	1.55	322,342
2004: Jan	894,394	1,187,402	1.33	253,664	296,016	1.17	292,253	451,357	1.54	323,918
Feb r	902,285	1,197,124	1.33	259,109	299,712	1.16	295,019	454,614	1.54	326,996
Mar p	r 930,353	1,205,559	1.30	266,213	301,583	1.13	r 301,215	459,397	1.53	r 333,399
Apr p	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	299,693	.....	.....	331,842

[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.

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