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**ECONOMICS  
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**BUREAU OF THE  
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**ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS**  
May 2000

(All figures in text below are in seasonally adjusted current dollars)

• **NEW ORDERS** New orders for manufactured durable goods in May increased \$12.3 billion or 6.0 percent to \$218.9 billion, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reported today. This follows a 5.7 percent April decrease and is the largest increase since December 1999. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 6.6 percent. Year-to-date, new orders are 8.4 percent above the same period a year ago.

Electronic and other electrical equipment had the largest increase, \$9.6 billion or 26.0 percent to \$46.5 billion, due to electronic components. This is the largest increase since August 1997. Transportation equipment increased \$1.6 billion or 3.5 percent to \$46.9 billion, due to motor vehicles and parts and shipbuilding and tanks. Primary metals increased \$0.2 billion or 1.1 percent to \$15.9 billion. Industrial machinery and equipment decreased 0.1 percent to \$43.6 billion.

• **SHIPMENTS** Shipments of durable goods in May increased \$4.5 billion or 2.2 percent to \$213.9 billion, following a 1.0 percent April decrease. Year-to-date, shipments are 6.8 percent above the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$2.9 billion or 6.2 percent to \$49.5 billion; all components increased, led by aircraft and parts and motor vehicles and parts. This is the largest increase since August 1998. Electronic and other electrical equipment increased \$1.0 billion or 2.6 percent to \$40.0 billion. This is the sixth increase in the last seven months. Primary metals increased \$0.1 billion or 0.9 percent to \$16.0 billion. Industrial machinery and equipment decreased \$0.6 billion or 1.3 percent to \$42.2 billion.

• **UNFILLED ORDERS** Unfilled orders for durable goods in May increased \$5.0 billion or 1.0 percent to \$530.7 billion, following a 0.5 percent April decrease. This is the tenth increase in the last eleven months. Electronic and other electrical equipment had the largest increase, \$6.4 billion or 7.0 percent to \$98.1 billion, due to electronic components. This is the largest increase since August 1997. Industrial machinery and equipment, up eleven consecutive months, increased \$1.4 billion or 1.6 percent to \$87.2 billion. Transportation equipment, down fourteen of the last sixteen months, decreased \$2.6 billion or 1.1 percent to \$225.6 billion. Primary metals, down seven consecutive months, decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.2 percent to \$31.4 billion.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in May increased \$0.6 billion or 11.7 percent to \$6.1 billion. This is the first increase since December 1999. Shipments, down five of the last six months, decreased \$0.1 billion or 1.2 percent to \$6.2 billion. Unfilled orders, down three consecutive months, decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.1 percent to \$93.8 billion.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in May decreased \$1.0 billion or 1.6 percent to \$60.5 billion. Shipments, up three consecutive months, increased \$1.8 billion or 3.0 percent to \$62.3 billion. Unfilled orders, down for the first time since November 1999, decreased \$1.7 billion or 0.7 percent to \$263.0 billion. Excluding aircraft and parts, new orders decreased \$1.1 billion or 2.1 percent to \$53.3 billion; shipments, up three consecutive months, increased \$0.2 billion or 0.3 percent to \$52.9 billion; and unfilled orders, up nine consecutive months, increased \$0.4 billion or 0.4 percent to \$122.9 billion.

• **REVISED APRIL DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted April figures for all manufacturing industries are: shipments, \$372.9 billion (revised from \$373.0 billion); new orders, \$370.1 billion (revised from \$368.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$551.4 billion (revised from \$549.7 billion); and total inventories, \$477.9 billion (unrevised).

**Our internet site address is: <http://www.census.gov/indicator/www/m3>**

Table 1. DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS  
(Millions of dollars)

Item	Seasonally adjusted						Not seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent change May00/99
	May 2000 <sup>2</sup>	Apr. 2000 <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 2000	Apr.- May <sup>2</sup>	Mar.- Apr. <sup>1</sup>	Feb.- Mar.	May 2000 <sup>2</sup>	Apr. 2000 <sup>2</sup>	May 1999	
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>										
<b>Total :</b>										
Shipments	213,865	209,349	211,477	+2.2	-1.0	+2.4	213,107	205,189	198,773	+7.2
New orders	218,892	206,588	219,165	+6.0	-5.7	+4.2	215,249	204,732	192,553	+11.8
Unfilled orders	530,729	525,702	528,463	+1.0	-0.5	+1.5	532,670	530,528	500,124	+6.5
<b>Excluding defense :</b>										
Shipments	207,656	203,064	204,829	+2.3	-0.9	+2.1	207,097	199,287	192,290	+7.7
New orders	212,778	201,112	212,891	+5.8	-5.5	+4.6	210,389	199,711	187,599	+12.1
Unfilled orders	436,979	431,857	433,809	+1.2	-0.4	+1.9	437,763	434,471	403,915	+8.4
<b>With unfilled orders :</b>										
Shipments	177,775	174,420	174,194	+1.9	+0.1	+2.1	174,989	168,522	161,459	+8.4
New orders	182,802	171,659	181,882	+6.5	-5.6	+4.3	177,131	168,065	155,239	+14.1
<b>Primary metals :</b>										
Shipments	15,954	15,815	16,042	+0.9	-1.4	+0.5	16,295	16,327	14,894	+9.4
New orders	15,896	15,725	15,898	+1.1	-1.1	+0.5	15,661	15,967	14,691	+6.6
Unfilled orders	31,449	31,507	31,597	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	32,074	32,708	30,889	+3.8
<b>Industrial machinery and equipment:</b>										
Shipments	42,219	42,775	41,236	-1.3	+3.7	+2.6	40,806	41,235	36,517	+11.7
New orders	43,589	43,635	42,123	-0.1	+3.6	+1.8	42,200	41,997	36,763	+14.8
Unfilled orders	87,213	85,843	84,983	+1.6	+1.0	+1.1	87,400	86,006	79,222	+10.3
<b>Electronic and other electrical equipment :</b>										
Shipments	40,011	38,991	38,782	+2.6	+0.5	+2.1	38,368	35,814	32,345	+18.6
New orders	46,457	36,861	44,714	+26.0	-17.6	+8.9	43,328	35,577	30,303	+43.0
Unfilled orders	98,112	91,666	93,796	+7.0	-2.3	+6.8	97,351	92,391	64,966	+49.8
<b>Transportation equipment :</b>										
Shipments	49,498	46,611	48,787	+6.2	-4.5	+4.1	51,521	47,851	50,363	+2.3
New orders	46,877	45,282	48,355	+3.5	-6.4	+3.7	47,887	46,580	46,165	+3.7
Unfilled orders	225,618	228,239	229,568	-1.1	-0.6	-0.2	226,364	229,998	236,056	-4.1
<b>CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES<sup>3</sup></b>										
<b>Total :</b>										
Shipments	68,477	66,743	65,199	+2.6	+2.4	+2.9	65,659	62,082	59,391	+10.6
New orders	66,636	66,992	66,649	-0.5	+0.5	+3.5	62,731	62,318	55,353	+13.3
Unfilled orders	356,782	358,623	358,374	-0.5	+0.1	+0.4	358,306	361,234	352,613	+1.6
<b>Nondefense :</b>										
Shipments	62,268	60,458	58,551	+3.0	+3.3	+2.1	59,649	56,180	52,908	+12.7
New orders	60,522	61,516	60,375	-1.6	+1.9	+4.6	57,871	57,297	50,399	+14.8
Unfilled orders	263,032	264,778	263,720	-0.7	+0.4	+0.7	263,399	265,177	256,404	+2.7
<b>Excluding aircraft and parts :</b>										
Shipments	52,885	52,708	52,051	+0.3	+1.3	+3.9	50,035	48,447	44,039	+13.6
New orders	53,327	54,453	53,064	-2.1	+2.6	+4.1	50,445	50,251	43,713	+15.4
Unfilled orders	122,866	122,424	120,679	+0.4	+1.4	+0.8	123,233	122,823	112,106	+9.9
<b>Defense :</b>										
Shipments	6,209	6,285	6,648	-1.2	-5.5	+10.7	6,010	5,902	6,483	-7.3
New orders	6,114	5,476	6,274	+11.7	-12.7	-6.2	4,860	5,021	4,954	-1.9
Unfilled orders	93,750	93,845	94,654	-0.1	-0.9	-0.4	94,907	96,057	96,209	-1.4

(NA) Not available. <sup>1</sup> Revised.<sup>1</sup> Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.<sup>2</sup> Based on advance sample. Estimates of manufacturers' shipments, inventories, and orders are subject to survey error and revision. One major component of survey error is nonsampling error, which includes errors of coverage, response and nonreporting. Since the survey panel is not a probability sample, estimates of sampling error cannot be calculated. Further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations are contained in our most recent annual benchmark publication. Current Industrial Reports: M3-1(96). "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1987-1996."<sup>3</sup> The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense: ordnance and accessories, steam engines and turbines, internal combustion engines, construction mining and material handling equipment, metalworking machinery, special industry machinery, general industrial machinery, computer and office equipment, refrigeration, heating and service industry machinery, electrical transmission and distribution equipment, electrical industrial apparatus, communication equipment, complete aircraft, missiles, and space vehicles, aircraft missiles, and space vehicle engines and parts, ships and tank components, railroad equipment, and search and navigation equipment.

Defense capital goods include: ordnance, communication equipment, aircraft, missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships, tanks and tank components, search and navigation equipment.

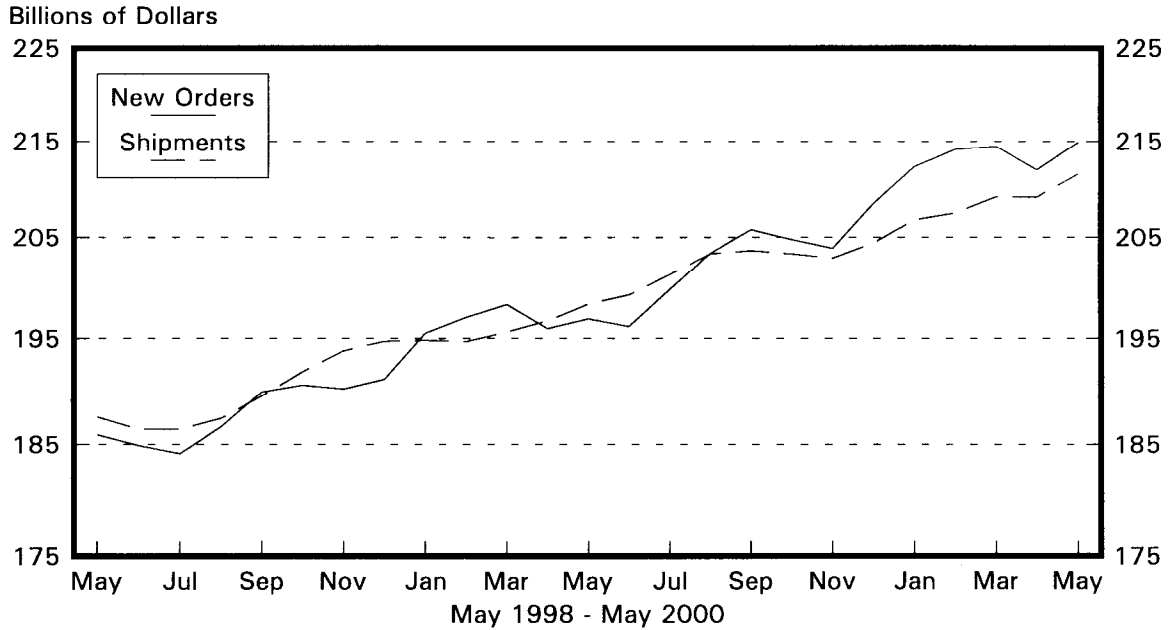
Table 2. AVERAGE REVISIONS TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGES  
(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

Industry	Shipments			New Orders			Unfilled Orders		
	Year ago May 1999	May 1995-1999	May 1999- Apr. 2000	Year ago May 1999	May 1995-1999	May 1999- Apr. 2000	Year ago May 1999	May 1995-1999	May 1999- Apr. 2000
Durable goods	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.6	0.5	2.3	0.2	0.1	0.6
Primary metals	1.2	0.4	1.1	0.2	0.5	1.6	0.4	0.3	1.1
Industrial machinery and equipment	1.6	0.9	3.3	2.0	1.2	2.7	1.8	0.5	0.9
Electronic and other electrical equipment	0.1	0.3	1.7	0.7	1.1	5.9	0.7	0.5	1.9
Transportation equipment	0.5	0.6	6.0	0.5	1.2	6.5	0.1	0.1	0.8
Nondefense capital goods	3.6	1.1	2.9	2.0	1.1	3.7	0.6	0.2	0.8
Defense capital goods	4.4	1.3	5.5	3.1	2.8	9.9	0.0	0.2	1.4

Note: The revisions are the differences between the month-to-month percent changes of the advance and final estimates. The monthly averages are the simple averages of the differences, without regard to sign, for the months specified.

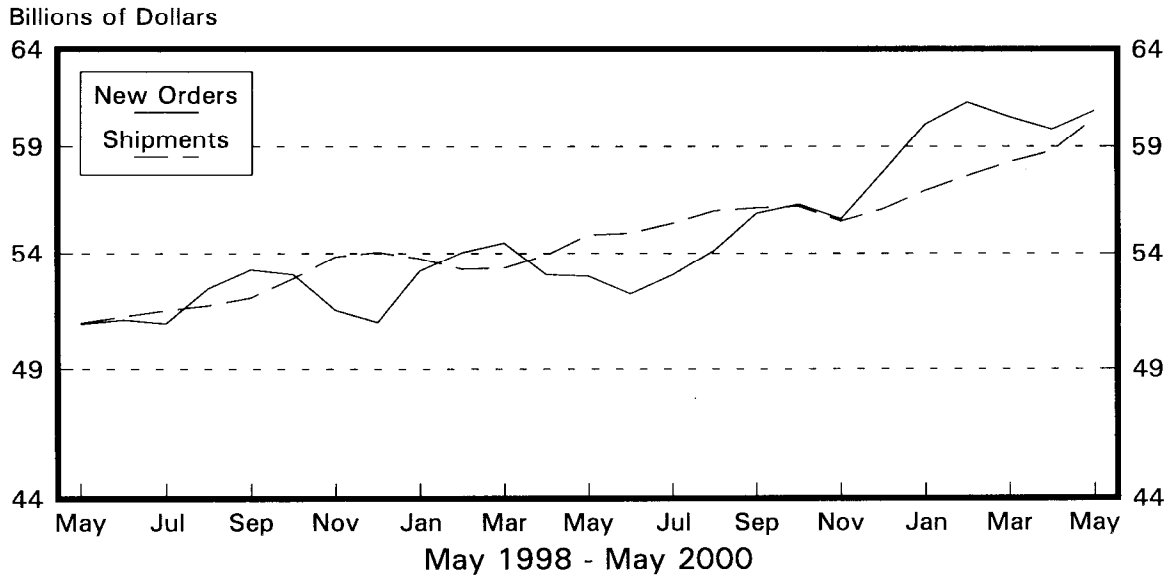
# Total Durable Goods

New Orders and Shipments  
Three Month Moving Averages



# Nondefense Capital Goods

New Orders and Shipments  
Three Month Moving Averages



Note: All Charts based on seasonally adjusted current dollars.