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M3-1(04)-06

## U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

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## ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS June 2004

(Figures in text, other than year-to-date, are in seasonally adjusted current dollars. Figures on new and unfilled orders exclude data for semiconductor manufacturing.)

- NEW ORDERS for manufactured durable goods in June increased $\$ 1.4$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 191.7$ billion, the Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau reported today. This followed a 0.9 percent May decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 0.6 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 0.4 percent. Year-to-date, new orders for 2004 were 12.2 percent above the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, $\$ 2.2$ billion or 4.2 percent to $\$ 55.5$ billion, due to defense aircraft and parts, which increased $\$ 2.2$ billion. Fabricated metal products increased $\$ 0.7$ billion or 3.3 percent to $\$ 23.3$ billion.

- SHIPMENTS of manufactured durable goods in June increased $\$ 1.3$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 195.7$ billion. This followed a 0.6 percent May decrease. Year-to-date, shipments for 2004 were 10.8 percent above the same period a year ago.

Machinery had the largest increase, $\$ 0.7$ billion or 3.1 percent to $\$ 24.0$ billion. Primary metals increased $\$ 0.4$ billion or 2.9 percent to $\$ 13.6$ billion.

- UNFILLED ORDERS for manufactured durable goods in June, up ten of the last eleven months, increased $\$ 3.1$ billion or 0.6 percent to $\$ 527.5$ billion. This followed a 0.6 percent May increase.

Transportation equipment, up three of the last four months, had the largest increase, $\$ 1.4$ billion or 0.6 percent to $\$ 252.2$ billion. Computers and electronic products, up five consecutive months, increased $\$ 1.0$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 136.0$ billion.

- INVENTORIES of manufactured durable goods in June, up seven consecutive months, increased $\$ 1.9$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 271.1$ billion. This followed a 0.7 percent May increase.

Computers and electronic products, up four consecutive months, had the largest increase, $\$ 0.7$ billion or 1.4 percent to $\$ 48.2$ billion. Machinery, up seven consecutive months, increased $\$ 0.3$ billion or 0.8 percent to $\$ 43.6$ billion.

- CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE New orders in June increased $\$ 2.2$ billion or 30.4 percent to $\$ 9.4$ billion. This was the largest percent increase in defense capital goods since August 2003. Shipments decreased $\$ 0.4$ billion or 4.9 percent to $\$ 8.0$ billion. Unfilled orders increased $\$ 1.4$ billion or 1.0 percent to $\$ 141.6$ billion. Inventories increased 0.2 percent to $\$ 19.7$ billion.
- CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE New orders in June increased $\$ 0.7$ billion or 1.1 percent to $\$ 63.7$ billion. Shipments increased $\$ 0.8$ billion or 1.4 percent to $\$ 62.1$ billion. Unfilled orders increased $\$ 1.6$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 227.8$ billion. Inventories increased $\$ 0.8$ billion or 0.8 percent to $\$ 107.2$ billion.
- REVISED MAY DATA Revised seasonally adjusted May figures for all manufacturing industries are: new orders, \$360.9 billion (revised from $\$ 358.2$ billion); shipments, $\$ 365.0$ billion (revised from $\$ 363.6$ billion); unfilled orders, $\$ 524.4$ billion (revised from $\$ 523.1$ billion); and total inventories, $\$ 449.5$ billion (revised from $\$ 448.7$ billion).


## SEE BACK PAGE FOR SURVEY DESCRIPTION

## Our internet site address is: $\underline{\text { http://www.census.gov/m3 }}$

[^0]Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders
[Millions of Dollars]

| Item | Seasonally Adjusted |  |  |  |  |  | Not Seasonally Adjusted ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly |  |  | Percent Change |  |  | Monthly |  |  | Year to Date |  |  |
|  | $\underset{2004^{2}}{ }$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2004^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Apr } \\ 2004 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May - } \\ & \text { Jun }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | Apr - <br> May ${ }^{r}$ | Mar Apr | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ 2004^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2004^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ 2003 \end{gathered}$ | 2004 | 2003 | Percent Change 04/03 |
| DURABLE GOODS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: $\begin{aligned} & \\ & \text { Shipme } \\ & \text { New Or }\end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 195,711 | 194,372 | 195,512 | 0.7 | -0.6 | -0.8 | 214,407 | 194,686 | 192,530 | 1,170,915 | 1,056,958 | 10.8 |
|  | 191,659 | 190,250 | 192,067 | 0.7 | -0.9 | -2.7 | 204,732 | 189,509 | 183,096 | 1,156,891 | 1,031,303 | 12.2 |
| Excluding transportation: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments... | 141,608 | 140,634 | 141,965 | 0.7 | -0.9 | 0.7 | 155,485 | 139,688 | 137,327 | 835,869 | 744,766 | 12.2 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 136,166 | 136,974 | 137,790 | -0.6 | -0.6 | -1.7 | 145,974 | 136,507 | 128,439 | 819,940 | 715,048 | 14.7 |
| Excluding defense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments | 186,131 | 184,602 | 186,086 | 0.8 | -0.8 | -0.6 | 204,104 | 184,960 | 182,693 | 1,112,821 | 1,005,387 | 10.7 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 180,843 | 181,609 | 182,748 | -0.4 | -0.6 | -2.1 | 194,424 | 182,700 | 173,735 | 1,094,510 | 971,017 | 12.7 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 135,911 | 135,076 | 136,010 | 0.6 | -0.7 | -2.8 | 143,290 | 134,007 | 127,425 | 819,311 | 725,707 | 12.9 |
| Primary metals: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments. | 13,621 | 13,231 | 13,248 | 2.9 | -0.1 | -0.5 | 14,473 | 13,659 | 10,934 | 79,987 | 67,067 | 19.3 |
|  | 13,638 | 13,689 | 13,337 | -0.4 | 2.6 | -4.4 | 14,286 | 14,093 | 11,024 | 83,087 | 66,923 | 24.2 |
| Fabricated metal products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments New Orders. | 22,741 23,310 | 22,564 | 22,612 23,963 | 0.8 3.3 | -0.2 -5.8 | -0.7 -1.1 | 24,069 23,880 | 22,915 23,561 | 21,088 20,568 | 132,861 139,953 | 122,040 121,512 | 8.9 15.2 |
| Machinery: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments.. | 23,976 | 23,248 | 23,904 | 3.1 | -2.7 | -0.1 | 26,756 | 24,141 | 23,110 | 144,659 | 127,467 | 13.5 |
| New Orders | 24,273 | 24,195 | 24,192 | 0.3 | 0.0 | -4.1 | 26,017 | 24,913 | 21,833 | 150,179 | 126,376 | 18.8 |
| Computers and electronic products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments | 38,357 | 38,153 | 38,766 | 0.5 | -1.6 | 2.5 | 43,829 | 35,551 | 39,941 | 224,799 | 196,310 | 14.5 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$ | 32,175 | 32,501 | 32,443 | -1.0 | 0.2 | -1.9 | 35,909 | 29,796 | 32,768 | 190,978 | 167,308 | 14.1 |
| Computers and related products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 8,800 | 8,689 | 8,615 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 7.4 | 10,420 | 7,728 | 9,411 | 48,554 | 42,456 | 14.4 |
| Communications equipment: Shipments | 6,750 | 6,955 | 7,068 | -2.9 | -1.6 | 5.2 | 7,737 | 6,815 | 7,692 | 40,607 | 35,708 | 13.7 |
| New Orders.............................................. | 6,298 | 6,589 | 7,887 | -4.4 | -16.5 | 20.2 | 6,274 | 6,333 | 6,564 | 41,360 | 40,473 | 2.2 |
| Semiconductors: <br> Shipments <br> New Orders ${ }^{4}$ | 7,135 (NA) | 7,295 (NA) | 7,071 (NA) | $\begin{gathered} -2.2 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3.2 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3.5 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ | 7,666 (NA) | 6,921 (NA) | 6,670 (NA) | 41,278 (NA) | 34,421 (NA) | $\begin{aligned} & 19.9 \\ & \text { (NA) } \end{aligned}$ |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments | 8,698 8,543 | 8,768 | 8,806 | -0.8 | -0.4 | 2.0 | 9,545 | 8,794 | 9,059 | 51,725 | 49,747 | 4.0 |
| New Orders.................. | 8,543 | 8,934 | 9,383 | -4.4 | -4.8 | 4.7 | 9,125 | 8,994 | 8,945 | 53,132 | 49,768 | 6.8 |
| Transportation equipment: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orders................ | 55,493 | 53,276 | 54,277 | 4.2 | 0.4 -1.8 | -4.7 | 58,758 | 53,002 | 54,657 | 336,951 | 316,255 | 6.5 |
| Motor vehicles and parts: Shipments. New Orders | 38,210 38,495 | 37,580 37,986 | 38,605 39,012 | 1.7 1.3 | -2.7 -2.6 | -4.5 -3.8 | 41,302 41,266 | 38,918 38,998 | 38,294 38,016 | 241,933 243,075 | 226,656 226,204 | 6.7 7.5 |
| Nondefense aircraft and parts: <br> Shipments <br> New Orders. | 6,326 6,209 | 6,608 6,751 | 5,487 5,889 | -4.3 -8.0 | 20.4 14.6 | -6.7 -7.8 | 7,348 7,204 | 6,342 6,357 | 7,060 7,024 | 35,241 34,229 | 33,550 28,207 | 5.0 21.3 |
| Defense aircraft and parts: <br> Shipments. <br> New Orders. | 3,677 5,087 | 3,664 2,841 | 3,514 2,295 | 0.4 79.1 | 4.3 23.8 | -11.2 -9.7 | 4,018 5,016 | 3,523 2,248 | 3,920 3,651 | 22,380 20,458 | 18,937 24,912 | 18.2 -17.9 |
| All other durable goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............ New Orders......... | 34,215 34,227 | 34,670 35,087 | 34,629 34,472 | -1.3 -2.5 | 0.1 1.8 | 0.4 -0.7 | 36,813 36,757 | 34,628 35,150 | 33,195 33,301 | 201,838 | 182,135 183,161 | 10.8 10.6 |
| Capital goods: ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments. | 70,115 | 69,683 | 70,679 | 0.6 | -1.4 | 0.6 | 78,976 | 68,249 | 72,431 | 419,051 | 373,646 | 12.2 |
| New Orders | 73,054 | 70,185 | 72,097 | 4.1 | $-2.7$ | -2.7 | 78,676 | 67,264 | 70,536 | 432,548 | 385,350 | 12.2 |
| Nondefense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments | 62,122 | 61,278 | 62,529 | 1.4 | -2.0 | 0.8 | 70,548 | 59,847 | 64,336 | 369,465 | 329,880 | 12.0 |
| New Orders.................... | 63,699 | 63,013 | 63,908 | 1.1 | -1.4 | -1.3 | 69,863 | 61,718 | 62,497 | 378,018 | 333,114 | 13.5 |
| Excluding aircraft: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments <br> New Orders. | 59,709 60,664 | 58,539 59,940 | 60,199 61,128 | 2.0 | -2.8 -1.9 | 1.4 -2.1 | 67,608 66,328 | 56,998 58,663 | 60,649 59,398 | 354,513 364,087 | 314,612 322,788 | 12.7 12.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments | 7,993 | 8,405 | 8,150 | -4.9 | 3.1 | -0.7 | 8,428 | 8,402 | 8,095 | 49,586 | 43,766 | 13.3 |
| New Orders................ | 9,355 | 7,172 | 8,189 | 30.4 | -12.4 | -12.8 | 8,813 | 5,546 | 8,039 | 54,530 | 52,236 | 4.4 |

NA Not Available ${ }^{r}$ Revised
 adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.


 other machinery; electronic computers; computer storage devices; other computer peripheral equipment; communications equipment; search and navigation equipment; electromedical, measuring, and;
 medical equipital and supplies.

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Data on new and unfilled orders are not available for the semiconductor industry. Estimates and percent changes for new orders and unfilled orders exclude semiconductor industry data. Inventories for semiconductor industry data are included in computers and electronic products and total durable goods industries, but are not shown separately.

Table 2. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Total Inventories [Millions of Dollars]

| Item | Seasonally Adjusted |  |  |  |  |  | Not Seasonally Adjusted ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly |  |  | Percent Change |  |  | Monthly |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Percent } \\ \text { Change } \\ \text { 2004/ } \\ 2003 \end{gathered}$ |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ 2004^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2004^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Apr } \\ 2004 \end{gathered}$ | May Jun ${ }^{2}$ | Apr - <br> May ${ }^{r}$ | Mar - <br> Apr | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ 2004^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2004^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ 2003 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| DURABLE GOODS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$ | 527,467 | 524,384 | 521,211 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 529,670 | 531,679 | 489,445 | 8.2 |
| Total Inventories. | 271,087 | 269,169 | 267,206 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 270,354 | 272,023 | 264,092 | 2.4 |
| Excluding transportation: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$... | 275,224 | 273,531 | 269,896 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 276,484 | 278,329 | 240,966 | 14.7 |
| Total Inventories.......... | 202,732 | 200,938 | 198,876 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 202,386 | 203,427 | 196,754 | 2.9 |
| Excluding defense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$.. | 367,173 | 365,326 | 361,024 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 367,426 | 369,440 | 336,185 | 9.3 |
| Total Inventories. | 246,809 | 244,804 | 242,998 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 245,915 | 247,656 | 241,040 | 2.0 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$.. | 527,467 | 524,384 | 521,211 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 529,670 | 531,679 | 489,445 | 8.2 |
| Total Inventories. | 211,229 | 209,787 | 208,497 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 210,759 | 211,732 | 207,548 | 1.5 |
| Primary metals: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders... | 18,737 | 18,720 | 18,262 | 0.1 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 19,102 | 19,289 | 14,315 | 33.4 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 18,776 | 18,522 | 18,342 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 18,733 | 18,452 | 18,056 | 3.7 |
| Fabricated metal products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories.... | 32,708 | 32,414 | 31,929 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 32,833 | 32,732 | 31,403 | 4.6 |
| Machinery: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders... | 48,392 | 48,095 | 47,148 | 0.6 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 48,402 | 49,141 | 41,329 | 17.1 |
| Total Inventories. | 43,568 | 43,225 | 42,632 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 43,263 | 43,567 | 41,590 | 4.0 |
| Computers and electronic products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$..................... | 135,958 | 135,005 | 133,362 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 136,613 | 136,867 | 124,236 | 10.0 |
| Total Inventories.............. | 48,216 | 47,537 | 47,411 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 47,892 | 48,412 | 47,257 | 1.3 |
| Computers and related products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories...................... | 6,101 | 5,884 | 5,777 | 3.7 | 1.9 | -1.8 | 6,036 | 6,153 | 6,104 | -1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories. | 10,670 | 10,722 | 10,766 | -0.5 | -0.4 | 1.9 | 10,480 | 10,965 | 11,123 | -5.8 |
| Semiconductors: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories ${ }^{4}$. | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders.................. | 14,926 | 15,081 | 14,915 | -1.0 | 1.1 | 4.0 | 14,822 | 15,242 | 13,813 | 7.3 |
| Total Inventories.. | 12,612 | 12,501 | 12,310 | 0.9 | 1.6 | -0.2 | 12,674 | 12,916 | 12,507 | 1.3 |
| Transportation equipment: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders.... | 252,243 | 250,853 | 251,315 | 0.6 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 253,186 | 253,350 | 248,479 | 1.9 |
| Total Inventories. | 68,355 | 68,231 | 68,330 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.5 | 67,968 | 68,596 | 67,338 | 0.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders. | 15,036 | 14,751 | 14,345 | 1.9 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 14,762 | 14,798 | 11,681 | 26.4 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 21,458 | 21,181 | 21,131 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 21,234 | 21,314 | 20,053 | 5.9 |
| Nondefense Aircraft and parts: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories................... | 23,476 | 23,498 | 23,793 | -0.1 | -1.2 | 0.8 | 23,185 | 23,721 | 25,211 | -8.0 |
| Defense Aircraft and parts: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders <br> Total Inventories | 57,726 11,659 | 56,316 11,584 | 57,139 11,595 | 2.5 0.6 | -1.4 -0.1 | -2.1 -0.3 | 58,848 11,778 | 57,850 11,460 | 61,939 10,739 | -5.0 9.7 |
| All other durable goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories.... | 46,852 | 46,739 | 46,252 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 46,991 | 47,348 | 45,941 | 2.3 |
| Capital goods: ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders | 369,412 | 366,473 | 365,971 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 371,294 | 371,594 | 350,415 | 6.0 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 126,925 | 126,080 | 125,060 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 126,260 | 127,401 | 125,412 | 0.7 |
| Nondefense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders................ | 227,837 <br> 107,193 | 226,260 | 224,525 105,556 | 0.7 0.8 | 0.8 0.8 | 0.6 0.2 | 228,100 | 228,785 <br> 107,644 | 216,636 106,594 | 5.3 -0.2 |
| Excluding aircraft: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders.................. | 148,266 | 147,311 | 145,910 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 148,858 | 150,138 | 136,447 | 9.1 |
| Total Inventories................. | 90,360 | 89,449 | 88,414 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 89,850 | 90,724 | 88,533 | 1.5 |
| Defense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders......... | 141,575 | 140,213 | 141,446 | 1.0 | -0.9 | 0.0 | 143,194 | 142,809 | 133,779 | 7.0 |
| Total Inventories...... | 19,732 | 19,699 | 19,504 | 0.2 | 1.0 | -1.1 | 19,850 | 19,757 | 18,818 | 5.5 |

See footnotes at end of Table 1

## Survey Description

This report is compiled from results of the U.S. Census Bureau's Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey. This survey provides statistics on manufacturers' value of shipments, new orders (net of cancellations), end-of-month order backlog (unfilled orders), and end-of-month total inventory (at current cost or market value).
The M3 includes approximately 3,500 reporting units. Units may be divisions of diversified large companies, large homogenous companies, or single-unit manufacturers in 89 industry categories. Due to the small monthly sample, these 89 categories have been combined into 59 publication levels. The survey methodology assumes that the month-to-month changes of the total operations of those companies in the monthly survey effectively represent the month-to-month movements of all establishments that make up the category. The current coverage levels in the survey show that reported data in the monthly survey represent approximately 60 percent of the shipments estimates at the total manufacturing level. Data published represent manufacturing in a calendar month. The data collection is based on a voluntary survey authorized by Title 13 of the United States Code.

The data presented in this release are based on data obtained from a panel of 3,500 reporting units and provide an indication of the activity within the manufacturing sector. The results differ from what would be obtained from a complete enumeration of all manufacturing companies. In addition, a different panel of 3,500 companies would yield different results. The M3 panel is comprised of companies with $\$ 500$ million or more in shipments and a limited number of smaller companies. From a statistical perspective, the panel is not a probability sample; therefore, the sampling errors that are normally provided with sample surveys cannot be measured. Nonsampling errors are attributable to many sources. The use of company or divisional reports to estimate the monthly change for establishments is one source of nonsampling error. The use of primarily large companies to represent the month-tomonth movement of all companies is another potential source.

Additional survey documentation can be found on our web site: http://www.census.gov/m3/.


[^0]:    Revised and more detailed estimates plus nondurable goods data will be published August 4, 2004 at 10:00 A.M. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for July is scheduled for August 25 at 8:30 A.M. EDT.

