# U.S. Census Bureau News 

## U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE<br>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2006, AT 8:30 A.M. EST

Chris Savage or Patrick Kent
Manufacturing and Construction Division M3-1 (06)-10
(301) 763-4832

CB06-174

# Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders October 2006 

## New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in October decreased $\$ 19.0$ billion or 8.3 percent to $\$ 210.0$ billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This followed two consecutive monthly increases, including an 8.7 percent September increase. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 1.7 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 6.4 percent.

Transportation equipment, down following two consecutive monthly increases, had the largest decrease, $\$ 16.5$ billion or 21.7 percent to $\$ 59.7$ billion. This was led by nondefense aircraft and parts, which decreased $\$ 10.6$ billion.

## Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in October, up two of the last three months, increased $\$ 1.2$ billion or 0.6 percent to $\$ 210.0$ billion. This followed a 2.7 percent September decrease.

Machinery, up seven of the last eight months, had the largest increase, $\$ 0.5$ billion or 1.9 percent to $\$ 28.3$ billion.

## Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in October, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, increased $\$ 7.7$ billion or 1.2 percent to $\$ 666.0$ billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first stated on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 4.1 percent September increase.

Transportation equipment, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, had the largest increase, $\$ 5.0$ billion or 1.4 percent to $\$ 358.2$ billion.

## Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in October, up nine of the last ten months, increased $\$ 2.3$ billion or 0.8 percent to $\$ 293.8$ billion. This followed a 1.1 percent September increase.

Transportation equipment, up seven of the last eight months, had the largest increase, $\$ 0.9$ billion or 1.3 percent to $\$ 68.3$ billion.

## Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in October decreased $\$ 13.6$ billion or 15.6 percent to $\$ 73.2$ billion. Shipments decreased $\$ 1.6$ billion or 2.3 percent to $\$ 66.4$ billion. Unfilled orders increased $\$ 6.8$ billion or 2.0 percent to $\$ 350.8$ billion. Inventories increased $\$ 0.8$ billion or 0.7 percent to $\$ 113.7$ billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in October decreased $\$ 5.7$ billion or 42.1 percent to $\$ 7.8$ billion. Shipments increased $\$ 0.4$ billion or 4.7 percent to $\$ 8.2$ billion. Unfilled orders decreased $\$ 0.4$ billion or 0.3 percent to $\$ 135.6$ billion. Inventories decreased $\$ 0.1$ billion or 0.6 percent to $\$ 14.2$ billion.

## Revised September Data

Revised seasonally adjusted September figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$411.0 billion (revised from $\$ 411.2$ billion); shipments, $\$ 390.8$ billion (revised from $\$ 392.4$ billion); unfilled orders, $\$ 658.3$ billion (revised from $\$ 656.9$ billion); and total inventories, $\$ 479.6$ billion (revised from $\$ 479.4$ billion).

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. For data, call (301) 763-4673 or go to [http://www.census.gov/m3](http://www.census.gov/m3).

Revised and more detailed estimates, plus nondurable goods data, will be published on December 5, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The advance report on durable goods for November is scheduled for release on December 22, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. EST. See back page for survey description.

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 |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2006^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep } \\ 2006^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug } \\ 2006 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sep - } \\ & \text { Oct }{ }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | Aug Sep ${ }^{r}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jul - } \\ & \text { Aug } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2006^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep } \\ 2006^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2005 \end{gathered}$ | 2006 | 2005 | Percent Change 06/05 |
| DURABLE GOODS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments. | 209,941 | 208,769 | 214,555 | 0.6 | -2.7 | 2.1 | 213,590 | 220,456 | 206,589 | 2,105,097 | 1,974,022 | 6.6 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 209,974 | 229,021 | 210,645 | -8.3 | 8.7 | 0.0 | 212,375 | 235,420 | 207,005 | 2,120,454 | 1,957,810 | 8.3 |
| Excluding transportation: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments......................... | 155,211 | 154,375 | 157,774 | 0.5 | -2.2 | 0.8 | 156,656 | 162,842 | 147,484 | 1,544,718 | 1,423,011 | 8.6 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 150,229 | 152,752 | 151,951 | -1.7 | 0.5 | -1.3 | 151,709 | 158,451 | 144,016 | 1,509,034 | 1,385,084 | 8.9 |
| Excluding defense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................. | 200,037 | 199,366 | 204,689 | 0.3 | -2.6 | 1.9 | 203,972 | 210,359 | 197,902 | 2,011,806 | 1,886,603 | 6.6 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4} . . . \ldots \ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ~$ | 200,338 | 214,073 | 199,373 | -6.4 | 7.4 | -0.4 | 203,547 | 220,872 | 197,210 | 2,023,311 | 1,881,829 | 7.5 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments........................... | 146,370 | 147,698 | 150,590 | -0.9 | -1.9 | 2.1 | 146,996 | 155,834 | 138,676 | 1,455,898 | 1,334,953 | 9.1 |
|  | 154,112 | 173,843 | 153,476 | -11.3 | 13.3 | -0.8 | 153,453 | 177,313 | 145,419 | 1,539,199 | 1,381,150 | 11.4 |
| Primary metals: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................ | 19,045 | 19,297 | 19,958 | -1.3 | -3.3 | 0.0 | 19,446 | 19,431 | 16,848 | 189,772 | 163,299 | 16.2 |
| New Orders........................... | 19,115 | 18,908 | 19,503 | 1.1 | -3.1 | -2.7 | 18,891 | 18,600 | 17,408 | 190,037 | 164,346 | 15.6 |
| Fabricated metal products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................ | 24,661 | 24,610 | 25,037 | 0.2 | -1.7 | 1.3 | 25,649 | 25,519 | 24,121 | 248,580 | 230,555 | 7.8 |
| New Orders........................... | 24,425 | 25,044 | 25,595 | -2.5 | -2.2 | 2.7 | 24,917 | 25,555 | 24,401 | 254,375 | 236,855 | 7.4 |
| Machinery: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments.. | 28,343 | 27,817 | 28,169 | 1.9 | -1.2 | 1.7 | 28,252 | 28,249 | 25,159 | 273,495 | 244,859 | 11.7 |
| New Orders........................... | 30,018 | 29,602 | 28,608 | 1.4 | 3.5 | -1.0 | 30,417 | 29,058 | 26,373 | 284,977 | 251,857 | 13.2 |
| Computers and electronic products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments.......................... | 34,858 | 34,466 | 35,745 | 1.1 | -3.6 | 1.0 | 33,814 | 39,179 | 32,541 | 345,564 | 320,818 | 7.7 |
| New Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 27,575 | 30,722 | 30,040 | -10.2 | 2.3 | -2.1 | 26,860 | 34,780 | 26,158 | 287,315 | 264,910 | 8.5 |
| Computers and related products |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orders................................. | 4,766 | 6,410 | 6,354 | -25.6 | 0.9 | -10.1 | 4,713 | 7,253 | 6,386 | 62,049 | 63,249 | -1.9 |
| Communications equipment: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments <br> New Orders. | 5,944 5,526 | 5,974 6,652 | 5,910 6,700 | -0.5 -16.9 | 1.1 -0.7 | 12.5 | 5,632 5,548 | 7,075 8,077 | 4,979 5,341 | 57,768 60,476 | 49,834 52,374 | 15.9 15.5 |
| Semiconductors: <br> Shipments. <br> New Orders ${ }^{4}$ | 7,709 (NA) | 5,893 $(N A)$ | 6,796 (NA) | $\begin{aligned} & 30.8 \\ & \text { (NA) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -13.3 \\ (\mathrm{NA}) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -1.1 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7,672 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6,515 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ | 6,327 (NA) | 67,944 (NA) | 62,409 (NA) | $\begin{array}{r} 8.9 \\ \text { (NA) } \end{array}$ |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................ | 10,249 | 10,023 | 10,367 | 2.3 | -3.3 | 0.8 | 10,335 | 10,937 | 9,788 | 101,102 | 92,565 | 9.2 |
| New Orders........................... | 10,838 | 10,316 | 9,859 | 5.1 | 4.6 | -8.9 | 11,130 | 10,870 | 10,132 | 105,678 | 95,268 | 10.9 |
| Transportation equipment: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orders............................... | 59,745 | 76,269 | 58,694 | -21.7 | 29.9 | 3.6 | 60,666 | 76,969 | 62,989 | 611,420 | 572,726 | 6.8 |
| Motor vehicles and parts: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orders................................. | 37,434 | 36,932 | 39,301 | 1.4 | -6.0 | 3.7 | 40,889 | 38,587 | 44,708 | 398,060 | 407,647 | -2.4 |
| Nondefense aircraft and parts: Shipments. | 8,199 | 8,863 | 8,158 | -7.5 | 8.6 | 9.2 | 7,032 | 9,218 | 6,436 | 76,340 | 57,824 | 32.0 |
| New Orders........................... | 13,207 | 23,802 | 7,981 | -44.5 | 198.2 | -19.2 | 11,396 | 23,135 | 8,984 | 122,100 | 88,052 | 38.7 |
| Defense aircraft and parts: Shipments. | 3,717 | 3,427 | 3,614 | 8.5 | -5.2 | 6.4 | 3,487 | 3,842 | 3,035 | 33,724 | 32,285 | 4.5 |
| New Orders................................ | 3,546 | 2,976 | 3,301 | 19.2 | -9.8 | 8.2 | 3,034 | 2,733 | 5,632 | 30,224 | 26,625 | 13.5 |
| All other durable goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................. | 38,055 | 38,162 | 38,498 | -0.3 | -0.9 | 0.2 | 39,160 | 39,527 | 39,027 | 386,205 | 370,915 | 4.1 |
| New Orders........................... | 38,258 | 38,160 | 38,346 | 0.3 | -0.5 | -0.5 | 39,494 | 39,588 | 39,544 | 386,652 | 371,848 | 4.0 |
| Capital goods: ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................. | 74,575 | 75,773 | 76,398 | -1.6 | -0.8 | 2.4 | 72,629 | 80,943 | 68,640 | 738,164 | 668,135 | 10.5 |
| New Orders........................... | 80,978 | 100,237 | 79,237 | -19.2 | 26.5 | -0.8 | 79,262 | 102,828 | 74,488 | 803,122 | 704,220 | 14.0 |
| Nondefense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................ | 66,371 | 67,940 | 68,173 | -2.3 | -0.3 | 2.0 | 64,562 | 72,637 | 61,241 | 659,958 | 593,948 | 11.1 |
| New Orders........................... | 73,165 | 86,733 | 69,569 | -15.6 | 24.7 | -2.0 | 72,004 | 89,719 | 65,819 | 720,507 | 639,045 | 12.7 |
| Excluding aircraft: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments....................... | 61,010 | 61,928 | 62,940 | -1.5 | -1.6 | 1.3 | 60,317 | 66,525 | 57,438 | 611,158 | 563,685 | 8.4 |
| New Orders....................... | 63,289 | 66,662 | 64,617 | -5.1 | 3.2 | 1.1 | 63,733 | 70,258 | 59,463 | 632,960 | 577,127 | 9.7 |
| Defense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipments............................. | 8,204 | 7,833 | 8,225 | 4.7 | -4.8 | 5.9 | 8,067 | 8,306 | 7,399 | 78,206 | 74,187 | 5.4 |
| New Orders........................... | 7,813 | 13,504 | 9,668 | -42.1 | 39.7 | 9.1 | 7,258 | 13,109 | 8,669 | 82,615 | 65,175 | 26.8 |

## NA Not Available ${ }^{r}$ Revised

${ }^{1}$ Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders and total inventories are as of the end of the period and are no adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations
${ }^{2}$ 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, whic 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 desigr
methodology, and data limitations are contained in our most recent annual benchmark publication, Current Industrial Reports: M3-3(05), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1992-2005
${ }^{3}$ The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense : small arms and ordnance; farm machinery and equipment; construction machinery; mining, oil, and gas field machinery; industrial machinery; vendir laundry, and other machinery; photographic equipment, metalworking machinery; turbines and generators; other power transmission equipment; pumps and compressors, material handing equipment, control instruments; electrical equipment; other electrical equipment, appliances, and components; heavy duty trucks; aircraft; railroad rolling stock; ships and boats; office and institutional furniture; an
medical equipment and supplies
Defense Capital Goods include : small arms and ordnance, communications equipment, aircraft; missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships and boats, and search and navigation equipme
${ }^{4}$ 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 separatel

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

| Item | Seasonally Adjusted |  |  |  |  |  | Not Seasonally Adjusted ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly |  |  | Percent Change |  |  | Monthly |  |  | PercentChange$2006 /$2005 |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2006^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep } \\ 2006^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug } \\ 2006 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sep - } \\ & \text { Oct }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug - } \\ & \text { Sep }{ }^{\text {r }} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jul - } \\ & \text { Aug } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2006^{2} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep } \\ 2006^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 2005 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| DURABLE GOODS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 666,026 | 658,284 | 632,139 | 1.2 | 4.1 | 0.5 | 655,729 | 649,272 | 537,434 | 22.0 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 293,823 | 291,550 | 288,246 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 294,466 | 290,544 | 271,783 | 8.3 |
| Excluding transportation: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 307,847 | 305,120 | 300,850 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 303,548 | 300,823 | 267,872 | 13.3 |
| Total Inventories.......................... | 225,570 | 224,175 | 221,811 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 225,268 | 222,867 | 206,158 | 9.3 |
| Excluding defense: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$. | 517,683 | 509,673 | 489,073 | 1.6 | 4.2 | 0.3 | 511,332 | 504,085 | 399,527 | 28.0 |
| Total Inventories.......................... | 274,670 | 272,297 | 269,200 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 275,205 | 271,137 | 252,267 | 9.1 |
| Manufacturing with unfilled orders: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$...................... | 666,026 | 658,284 | 632,139 | 1.2 | 4.1 | 0.5 | 655,729 | 649,272 | 537,434 | 22.0 |
| Total Inventories.... | 229,073 | 227,000 | 223,688 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 229,596 | 225,998 | 210,471 | 9.1 |
| Primary metals: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories.......................... | 26,723 30,026 | 26,653 29,568 | 28,590 | 1.5 | -1.4 3.4 | -1.7 2.0 | 25,539 29,707 | 26,094 29,365 | 22,829 24,909 | 19.3 |
| Fabricated metal products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories......................... | 53,556 37,937 | 33,526 | 53,358 <br> 37,003 | -0.4 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 52,900 37,419 | 53,632 <br> 37,111 | 47,023 33,726 | 12.5 |
| Machinery: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders.... | 74,721 | 73,046 | 71,261 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 0.6 | 73,187 | 71,022 | 59,063 | 23.9 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 46,307 | 46,155 | 45,422 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 0.6 | 46,302 | 45,919 | 43,234 | 7.1 |
| Computers and electronic products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders ${ }^{4}$... | 118,275 | 117,849 | 115,700 | 0.4 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 117,270 | 116,552 | 107,821 | 8.8 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 45,940 | 45,648 | 45,675 | 0.6 | -0.1 | 1.5 | 46,697 | 45,590 | 42,849 | 9.0 |
| Computers and related products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories......................... | 4,221 | 4,457 | 4,249 | -5.3 | 4.9 | 1.1 | 4,400 | 4,461 | 4,453 | -1.2 |
| Communications equipment: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories..................... | 10,253 | 10,061 | 9,963 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 10,445 | 9,916 | 10,154 | 2.9 |
| Semiconductors: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories ${ }^{4}$. | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories......................... | 14,032 | 13,979 | 14,116 | 2.7 0.4 | -1.0 | -2.3 1.8 | 13,892 | 13,672 | 12,485 | 11.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories..................... | 68,253 | 67,375 | 66,435 | 1.3 | 1.4 | -1.1 | 69,198 | 67,677 | 65,625 | 5.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories..................... | 24,291 | 23,988 | 24,230 | 1.3 | -1.0 | 0.8 | 24,378 | 24,156 | 23,833 | 2.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories.......................... | 24,210 | 23,738 | 22,682 | 2.0 | 4.7 | -4.2 | 24,848 | 23,788 | 21,885 | 13.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories........................... | 11,925 | 12,065 | 11,798 | -1.2 | 2.3 | -0.3 | 12,042 | 12,170 | 11,822 | 1.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories......................... | 51,328 | 51,299 | 51,005 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 51,251 | 51,210 | 48,955 | 4.7 |
| Capital goods: ${ }^{3}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders...................... | 486,415 | 480,012 | 455,548 | 1.3 | 5.4 | 0.6 | 479,653 | 473,020 | 383,955 | 24.9 |
| Total Inventories.......................... | 127,886 | 127,177 | 125,084 | 0.6 | 1.7 | -0.2 | 128,890 | 126,701 | 120,967 | 6.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Inventories..................... | 113,668 | 112,871 | 110,797 | 0.7 | 1.9 | -0.1 | 114,681 | 112,346 | 106,116 | 8.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders................. | 162,692 | 160,413 | 155,679 | 1.4 | 3.0 | 1.1 | 161,008 | 157,592 | 138,464 | 16.3 |
| Total Inventories................. | 95,306 | 94,875 | 93,834 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 95,781 | 94,220 | 89,331 | 7.2 |
| Defense capital goods: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unfilled Orders....... | 135,637 | 136,028 | 130,357 | -0.3 | 4.4 | 1.1 | 132,190 | 132,999 | 126,886 | 4.2 |
| Total Inventories..................... | 14,218 | 14,306 | 14,287 | -0.6 | 0.1 | -0.4 | 14,209 | 14,355 | 14,851 | -4.3 |

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## 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), end-of-month total inventory (at current cost or market value), and inventories by stage of fabrication (materials and supplies, work-in-process, and finished goods). The M3 includes approximately 4,200 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-tomonth changes of the total operations of those companies in the monthly survey effectively represent the month-tomonth 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 62 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 4,200 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 4,200 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. Any corrections will be published in the full report. Corrections received after the full report will be released in the next month's advance report. Any revisions made later than two months will be reflected in the annual benchmark publication.

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

2007 Release Dates for M3 Survey

| Survey Month | Advance 8:30 A.M. | Preliminary 10:00 A.M. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov 2006 |  | January 4, 2007 |
| Dec 2006 | January 26, 2007 | February 2, 2007 |
| Jan 2007 | February 27, 2007 | March 6, 2007 |
| Feb 2007 | March 28, 2007 | April 4, 2007 |
| Mar 2007 | April 25, 2007 | May 2, 2007 |
| Apr 2007 | May 24, 2007 | June 4, 2007 |
| May 2007 | June 27, 2007 | July 3, 2007 |
| Jun 2007 | July 26, 2007 | August 2, 2007 |
| Jul 2007 | August 24, 2007 | August 31, 2007 |
| Aug 2007 | September 26, 2007 | October 4, 2007 |
| Sep 2007 | October 25, 2007 | November 2, 2007 |
| Oct 2007 | November 28, 2007 | December 5, 2007 |
| Nov 2007 | December 27, 2007 |  |


[^0]:    See footnotes at end of Table 1

