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Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders September 2009

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in September increased \$1.6 billion or 1.0 percent to \$165.7 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This was the second increase in the last three months. This followed a 2.6 percent August decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.9 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 0.5 percent.

Machinery, up five of the last six months, had the largest increase, \$1.7 billion or 7.9 percent to \$23.4 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in September, up three of the last four months, increased \$1.3 billion or 0.8 percent to \$172.6 billion. This followed a 1.4 percent August decrease.

Transportation equipment, also up three of the last four months, had the largest increase, \$2.4 billion or 5.6 percent to \$44.9 billion. This was led by nondefense aircraft and parts, which increased \$1.4 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in September, down twelve consecutive months, decreased \$3.3 billion or 0.4 percent to \$733.6 billion. This was the longest streak of consecutive monthly decreases since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.4 percent August decrease.

Transportation equipment, down eleven of the last twelve months, had the largest decrease, \$4.8 billion or 1.1 percent to \$426.3 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in September, down nine consecutive months, decreased \$3.1 billion or 1.0 percent to \$305.0 billion. This followed a 1.5 percent August decrease.

Transportation equipment, down two consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$2.0 billion or 2.2 percent to \$89.1 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in September increased \$1.3 billion or 2.5 percent to \$53.6 billion. Shipments increased \$1.2 billion or 2.2 percent to \$56.6 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$3.0 billion or 0.7 percent to \$419.6 billion. Inventories decreased \$2.3 billion or 1.7 percent to \$132.4 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in September increased \$1.0 billion or 10.0 percent to \$10.9 billion. Shipments increased \$0.5 billion or 5.1 percent to \$11.3 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.4 billion or 0.3 percent to \$140.3 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.4 billion or 1.8 percent to \$19.8 billion.

Revised August Data

Revised seasonally adjusted August figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$352.8 billion (revised from \$352.9 billion); shipments, \$360.0 billion (unchanged); unfilled orders, \$736.8 billion (unchanged); and total inventories, \$497.9 billion (revised from \$498.2 billion).

Figures in text 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>.

Revised and more detailed estimates, plus nondurable goods data, will be published on November 3, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The advance report on durable goods for October is scheduled for release on November 25, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. EST. See back page for survey description and 2010 release schedule.

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		
	Sep 2009 ²	Aug 2009 ^r	Jul 2009	Aug - Sep ²	Jul - Aug ^r	Jun - Jul	Sep 2009 ²	Aug 2009 ^r	Sep 2008	2009	2008	Percent Change 09/08
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	172,574	171,257	173,744	0.8	-1.4	2.3	185,889	174,918	220,680	1,558,940	1,913,950	-18.5
New Orders ⁴	165,668	164,058	168,512	1.0	-2.6	4.8	176,505	165,313	213,741	1,452,894	1,914,474	-24.1
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	127,710	128,773	130,680	-0.8	-1.5	2.8	137,372	131,583	166,931	1,168,311	1,437,735	-18.7
New Orders ⁴	125,645	124,479	124,964	0.9	-0.4	0.9	135,281	124,851	158,919	1,109,543	1,411,886	-21.4
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	158,024	157,465	160,091	0.4	-1.6	2.8	170,278	161,291	207,798	1,439,397	1,810,657	-20.5
New Orders ⁴	151,881	151,182	155,207	0.5	-2.6	4.3	162,585	153,715	198,342	1,343,325	1,807,133	-25.7
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	125,428	123,221	124,566	1.8	-1.1	0.9	136,025	125,860	160,182	1,125,719	1,374,341	-18.1
New Orders ⁴	122,178	120,109	123,803	1.7	-3.0	5.4	129,700	120,238	156,704	1,053,038	1,419,000	-25.8
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	13,675	13,389	13,136	2.1	1.9	7.0	14,735	14,407	22,850	121,351	205,124	-40.8
New Orders.....	13,809	13,766	13,506	0.3	1.9	3.3	14,486	14,998	19,850	118,294	203,258	-41.8
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	23,505	23,703	23,823	-0.8	-0.5	1.6	25,029	25,431	29,301	217,623	252,858	-13.9
New Orders.....	23,379	23,390	23,282	0.0	0.5	3.4	24,486	24,546	28,335	209,565	254,627	-17.7
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	22,368	22,031	22,405	1.5	-1.7	-4.0	23,249	21,447	30,832	209,747	264,660	-20.7
New Orders.....	23,400	21,692	21,517	7.9	0.8	-7.7	24,412	20,473	30,496	198,689	279,550	-28.9
Computers and electronic products:												
Shipments.....	28,192	29,236	30,075	-3.6	-2.8	7.9	31,598	28,206	34,668	252,766	285,077	-11.3
New Orders ⁴	25,182	25,223	25,544	-0.2	-1.3	1.6	29,569	23,246	31,811	218,511	243,153	-10.1
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	4,266	4,251	4,443	0.4	-4.3	1.8	4,984	3,886	5,542	38,330	45,068	-15.0
New Orders.....	4,382	4,365	4,489	0.4	-2.8	-3.7	5,100	4,000	5,562	38,326	45,275	-15.3
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	4,813	5,101	5,335	-5.6	-4.4	4.3	5,949	4,973	7,101	43,298	51,003	-15.1
New Orders.....	4,978	5,354	5,385	-7.0	-0.6	9.4	6,417	4,682	6,984	44,280	51,668	-14.3
Semiconductors:												
Shipments.....	3,656	4,087	4,469	-10.5	-8.5	51.2	3,059	3,983	3,461	33,365	44,135	-24.4
New Orders ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	8,185	8,249	8,527	-0.8	-3.3	2.5	9,033	8,512	11,374	76,274	96,356	-20.8
New Orders.....	8,210	8,287	8,413	-0.9	-1.5	4.1	8,693	8,375	10,651	74,558	97,659	-23.7
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	44,864	42,484	43,064	5.6	-1.3	0.9	48,517	43,335	53,749	390,629	476,215	-18.0
New Orders.....	40,023	39,579	43,548	1.1	-9.1	17.8	41,224	40,462	54,822	343,351	502,588	-31.7
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	23,528	23,446	23,651	0.3	-0.9	3.6	25,167	24,759	32,634	215,250	301,429	-28.6
New Orders.....	23,410	23,437	23,062	-0.1	1.6	1.9	24,874	24,477	32,079	213,249	299,501	-28.8
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	8,483	7,091	7,486	19.6	-5.3	2.5	9,280	6,669	7,979	68,734	74,119	-7.3
New Orders.....	4,800	4,902	8,790	-2.1	-44.2	98.1	4,532	5,129	8,764	37,840	99,055	-61.8
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	6,529	5,636	5,463	15.8	3.2	-11.8	7,212	5,573	5,623	49,336	40,613	21.5
New Orders.....	5,563	4,945	5,622	12.5	-12.0	-20.6	5,503	4,365	5,617	46,517	42,496	9.5
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	31,785	32,165	32,714	-1.2	-1.7	2.5	33,728	33,580	37,906	290,550	333,660	-12.9
New Orders.....	31,665	32,121	32,702	-1.4	-1.8	3.0	33,635	33,213	37,776	289,926	333,639	-13.1
Capital goods:³												
Shipments.....	67,882	66,112	67,293	2.7	-1.8	-0.2	73,868	64,473	82,737	602,764	686,608	-12.2
New Orders.....	64,534	62,260	66,564	3.7	-6.5	8.2	68,318	58,529	82,827	541,293	726,129	-25.5
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	56,592	55,371	56,844	2.2	-2.6	0.6	61,938	53,752	73,180	510,345	606,921	-15.9
New Orders.....	53,640	52,352	56,725	2.5	-7.7	7.0	57,559	49,548	71,141	457,511	643,590	-28.9
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	51,631	51,751	52,921	-0.2	-2.2	0.3	56,484	50,403	69,075	473,736	567,224	-16.5
New Orders.....	52,144	51,135	51,566	2.0	-0.8	-1.3	56,580	47,975	67,017	453,906	581,297	-21.9
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	11,290	10,741	10,449	5.1	2.8	-4.0	11,930	10,721	9,557	92,419	79,687	16.0
New Orders.....	10,894	9,908	9,839	10.0	0.7	15.9	10,759	8,981	11,686	83,782	82,539	1.5

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 not 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, 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: M3-3(07), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 2004-2007."

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; vending, laundry, and other machinery; photographic equipment; metalworking machinery; turbines and generators; other power transmission equipment; pumps and compressors; material handling equipment; all other machinery; electronic computers; computer storage devices; other computer peripheral equipment; communications equipment; search and navigation equipment; electromedical, measuring, and control instruments; electrical equipment; other electrical equipment, appliances, and components; heavy duty trucks; aircraft; railroad rolling stock; ships and boats; office and institutional furniture; and 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 equipment.

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 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			Percent Change 2009/2008
	Sep 2009 ²	Aug 2009 ^r	Jul 2009	Aug - Sep ²	Jul - Aug ^r	Jun - Jul	Sep 2009 ²	Aug 2009 ^r	Sep 2008	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	733,560	736,810	739,922	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	726,072	732,397	816,475	-11.1
Total Inventories.....	305,037	308,165	312,884	-1.0	-1.5	-1.2	303,762	309,954	338,638	-10.3
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	307,242	305,651	305,858	0.5	-0.1	-0.4	305,515	304,547	353,307	-13.5
Total Inventories.....	215,949	217,054	218,889	-0.5	-0.8	-2.0	214,900	217,915	249,997	-14.0
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	577,341	579,828	582,024	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	573,490	578,124	661,118	-13.3
Total Inventories.....	279,149	281,965	286,630	-1.0	-1.6	-1.4	277,871	283,742	314,255	-11.6
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	733,560	736,810	739,922	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	726,072	732,397	816,475	-11.1
Total Inventories.....	245,078	247,844	252,037	-1.1	-1.7	-1.0	244,272	249,449	271,925	-10.2
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	15,214	15,080	14,703	0.9	2.6	2.6	15,270	15,519	25,397	-39.9
Total Inventories.....	25,392	25,339	25,475	0.2	-0.5	-2.7	25,679	25,581	35,268	-27.2
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	48,855	48,981	49,294	-0.3	-0.6	-1.1	48,677	49,220	61,188	-20.4
Total Inventories.....	36,913	37,352	37,888	-1.2	-1.4	-2.1	36,806	37,317	44,847	-17.9
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	87,362	86,330	86,669	1.2	-0.4	-1.0	86,853	85,690	105,277	-17.5
Total Inventories.....	48,723	49,118	49,528	-0.8	-0.8	-2.4	48,119	48,961	54,225	-11.3
Computers and electronic products:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	124,699	124,053	123,979	0.5	0.1	0.0	123,689	122,659	123,978	-0.2
Total Inventories.....	43,456	43,370	43,562	0.2	-0.4	-1.6	43,236	44,091	46,739	-7.5
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	4,086	3,970	3,856	2.9	3.0	1.2	4,086	3,970	3,924	4.1
Total Inventories.....	4,087	4,191	4,240	-2.5	-1.2	-2.1	4,045	4,438	5,021	-19.4
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	37,933	37,768	37,515	0.4	0.7	0.1	37,736	37,268	37,082	1.8
Total Inventories.....	9,309	9,260	9,303	0.5	-0.5	-2.4	9,176	9,287	9,510	-3.5
Semiconductors:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Total Inventories ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	20,055	20,030	19,992	0.1	0.2	-0.6	19,883	20,223	24,367	-18.4
Total Inventories.....	12,395	12,577	12,759	-1.4	-1.4	-1.2	12,103	12,571	14,918	-18.9
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	426,318	431,159	434,064	-1.1	-0.7	0.1	420,557	427,850	463,168	-9.2
Total Inventories.....	89,088	91,111	93,995	-2.2	-3.1	0.8	88,862	92,039	88,641	0.2
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	13,852	13,970	13,979	-0.8	-0.1	-4.0	13,648	13,941	16,637	-18.0
Total Inventories.....	18,208	18,401	18,594	-1.0	-1.0	-0.9	18,225	18,558	22,867	-20.3
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	279,862	283,545	285,734	-1.3	-0.8	0.5	277,216	281,964	305,551	-9.3
Total Inventories.....	44,463	45,873	48,199	-3.1	-4.8	1.1	44,328	46,476	40,657	9.0
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	46,699	47,665	48,356	-2.0	-1.4	0.3	45,408	47,117	45,185	0.5
Total Inventories.....	15,434	15,900	15,797	-2.9	0.7	1.7	15,482	15,972	14,035	10.3
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	11,057	11,177	11,221	-1.1	-0.4	-0.1	11,143	11,236	13,100	-14.9
Total Inventories.....	49,070	49,298	49,677	-0.5	-0.8	-1.9	48,957	49,394	54,000	-9.3
Capital goods:³										
Unfilled Orders.....	559,873	563,221	567,073	-0.6	-0.7	-0.1	552,464	558,014	614,978	-10.2
Total Inventories.....	152,191	154,844	157,648	-1.7	-1.8	-1.1	151,147	155,962	158,534	-4.7
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	419,615	422,567	425,586	-0.7	-0.7	0.0	415,436	419,815	475,484	-12.6
Total Inventories.....	132,430	134,720	137,421	-1.7	-2.0	-1.4	131,431	135,898	139,664	-5.9
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	175,047	174,534	175,150	0.3	-0.4	-0.8	173,352	173,256	202,857	-14.5
Total Inventories.....	97,705	98,383	99,142	-0.7	-0.8	-2.1	96,744	99,048	107,804	-10.3
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	140,258	140,654	141,487	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4	137,028	138,199	139,494	-1.8
Total Inventories.....	19,761	20,124	20,227	-1.8	-0.5	0.9	19,716	20,064	18,870	4.5

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), 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 4,300 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 61 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 4,300 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 4,300 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-to-month 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>.

2010 Release Dates for M3 Survey

Survey Month	Advance 8:30 A.M.	Preliminary 10:00 A.M.
November 2009	Dec. 24, 2009	Jan. 5, 2010
December 2009	Jan. 28, 2010	Feb. 4, 2010
January 2010	Feb. 25, 2010	Mar. 4, 2010
February 2010	Mar. 24, 2010	Mar. 31, 2010
March 2010	Apr. 23, 2010	May 4, 2010
April 2010	May 26, 2010	Jun. 3, 2010
May 2010	Jun. 24, 2010	Jul. 2, 2010
June 2010	Jul. 28, 2010	Aug. 3, 2010
July 2010	Aug. 25, 2010	Sep. 2, 2010
August 2010	Sep. 24, 2010	Oct. 4, 2010
September 2010	Oct. 27, 2010	Nov. 3, 2010
October 2010	Nov. 24, 2010	Dec. 3, 2010
November 2010	Dec. 23, 2010	