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Chris Savage or Jessica Young
Manufacturing and Construction Division
(301) 763-4832

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Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders April 2010

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in April increased \$5.6 billion or 2.9 percent to \$193.9 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This was the fourth increase in the last five months and followed a slight March decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 1.0 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 3.4 percent.

Transportation equipment, up following two consecutive monthly decreases, had the largest increase, \$7.0 billion or 16.1 percent to \$50.7 billion. This was due to nondefense aircraft and parts which increased \$7.3 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in April, up two consecutive months, increased \$2.7 billion or 1.4 percent to \$196.0 billion. This followed a 2.1 percent March increase.

Computers and electronic products, up following two consecutive monthly decreases, had the largest increase, \$2.5 billion or 8.1 percent to \$33.4 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in April, up three of the last four months, increased \$3.5 billion or 0.4 percent to \$801.3 billion. This followed a 0.1 percent March decrease.

Transportation equipment, also up three of the last four months, had the largest increase, \$2.3 billion or 0.5 percent to \$480.2 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in April, up four consecutive months, increased \$1.9 billion or 0.7 percent to \$301.4 billion. This followed a 0.6 percent March increase.

Primary metals, up six consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$1.2 billion or 4.2 percent to \$29.9 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in April increased \$5.5 billion or 9.2 percent to \$66.1 billion. Shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 0.2 percent to \$62.4 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$3.7 billion or 0.8 percent to \$483.7 billion. Inventories increased \$1.2 billion or 0.9 percent to \$125.3 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in April decreased \$0.2 billion or 2.1 percent to \$10.7 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.4 billion or 3.8 percent to \$10.6 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$0.1 billion or 0.1 percent to \$139.6 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.3 billion or 1.6 percent to \$17.9 billion.

Revised and Recently Benchmarked March Data

Revised and recently benchmarked seasonally adjusted March figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$414.7 billion (revised from \$412.4 billion); shipments, \$419.6 billion (revised from \$418.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$797.8 billion (revised from \$796.5 billion); and total inventories, \$519.1 billion (revised from \$518.3 billion).

Figures in text are adjusted for seasonality but not for inflation. 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 June 3, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for May is scheduled for release on June 24, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. EDT. See back page for survey description.

Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders ¹

[Estimates are shown in millions of dollars and are based on data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Year to Date		
	Apr 2010 ²	Mar 2010 ¹	Feb 2010	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ¹	Jan - Feb	Apr 2010 ²	Mar 2010 ¹	Apr 2009	2010	2009	Change 10/09
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	195,966	193,224	189,328	1.4	2.1	-1.5	196,605	206,936	177,918	751,478	707,484	6.2
New Orders ⁴	193,888	188,334	188,346	2.9	0.0	0.5	190,653	206,388	156,796	743,692	636,550	16.8
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	147,583	144,954	142,297	1.8	1.9	1.1	149,497	153,502	131,720	561,700	523,268	7.3
New Orders ⁴	143,183	144,670	138,090	-1.0	4.8	2.1	143,460	156,777	120,241	553,440	484,009	14.3
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	182,666	179,554	175,515	1.7	2.3	-1.1	184,086	192,134	165,229	698,863	658,816	6.1
New Orders ⁴	180,762	174,808	174,986	3.4	-0.1	1.4	179,314	189,470	145,280	688,062	588,415	16.9
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	142,951	142,551	138,690	0.3	2.8	-0.2	140,788	154,060	126,524	546,474	513,731	6.4
New Orders.....	146,475	141,753	142,729	3.3	-0.7	1.8	142,924	156,597	112,067	562,212	461,684	21.8
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	19,945	19,979	18,886	-0.2	5.8	3.1	20,562	21,105	14,006	76,458	58,219	31.3
New Orders.....	19,708	20,105	19,405	-2.0	3.6	2.2	20,266	21,313	13,177	78,593	53,900	45.8
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	27,373	27,085	26,686	1.1	1.5	1.9	27,326	28,195	25,542	103,761	101,637	2.1
New Orders.....	27,699	27,523	27,106	0.6	1.5	3.9	27,838	29,758	24,898	107,157	97,043	10.4
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	23,628	24,349	23,393	-3.0	4.1	4.8	24,840	26,973	23,393	93,919	94,896	-1.0
New Orders.....	24,631	26,183	23,690	-5.9	10.5	7.1	26,414	29,291	21,257	99,315	85,244	16.5
Computers and electronic products ⁴:												
Shipments.....	33,350	30,837	31,546	8.1	-2.2	-3.1	33,396	33,108	28,143	125,307	110,750	13.1
New Orders.....	27,688	27,089	25,744	2.2	5.2	-1.1	25,044	31,060	20,556	102,102	91,131	12.0
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	6,504	6,023	5,502	8.0	9.5	-2.4	6,251	6,519	4,555	22,150	19,715	12.4
New Orders.....	6,206	6,396	5,414	-3.0	18.1	5.5	5,953	6,892	3,840	21,631	18,230	18.7
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	3,715	3,752	3,637	-1.0	3.2	-1.8	3,025	4,399	2,918	13,309	12,997	2.4
New Orders.....	3,644	3,403	3,510	7.1	-3.0	-7.6	3,147	4,068	3,227	13,557	13,879	-2.3
Semiconductors ⁴:												
Shipments.....	NA	4,092	5,021	NA	-18.5	-14.8	NA	3,085	6,665	NA	NA	NA
New Orders.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	9,600	9,418	9,147	1.9	3.0	1.3	9,765	10,010	8,979	36,176	35,192	2.8
New Orders.....	9,698	10,415	9,163	-6.9	13.7	-1.8	9,973	10,862	8,531	38,680	34,418	12.4
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	48,383	48,270	47,031	0.2	2.6	-8.4	47,108	53,434	46,198	189,778	184,216	3.0
New Orders.....	50,705	43,664	50,256	16.1	-13.1	-3.7	47,193	49,611	36,555	190,252	152,541	24.7
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	29,233	28,773	27,584	1.6	4.3	-10.8	29,425	31,298	26,895	116,128	106,776	8.8
New Orders.....	29,119	28,651	27,425	1.6	4.5	-10.9	29,378	30,930	26,768	115,779	106,241	9.0
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	6,954	6,972	6,672	-0.3	4.5	-3.5	6,216	8,442	7,296	25,617	31,093	-17.6
New Orders.....	10,534	3,212	11,135	228.0	-71.2	51.1	8,271	4,609	-94	26,542	7,167	270.3
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	5,631	5,754	5,741	-2.1	0.2	-5.2	5,150	6,225	4,769	21,512	18,675	15.2
New Orders.....	5,257	5,501	5,425	-4.4	1.4	-20.3	4,409	6,444	4,465	22,587	19,326	16.9
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	33,687	33,286	32,639	1.2	2.0	0.7	33,608	34,111	31,657	126,079	122,574	2.9
New Orders.....	33,759	33,355	32,982	1.2	1.1	0.7	33,925	34,493	31,822	127,593	122,273	4.4
Capital goods: ³												
Shipments.....	72,992	73,311	71,944	-0.4	1.9	0.6	71,203	81,386	66,751	281,418	273,535	2.9
New Orders.....	76,813	71,501	75,907	7.4	-5.8	6.9	73,423	81,608	53,954	289,632	231,798	25.0
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	62,365	62,263	60,703	0.2	2.6	1.6	61,061	69,475	56,449	238,456	234,060	1.9
New Orders.....	66,075	60,530	64,937	9.2	-6.8	9.0	64,003	67,843	44,628	244,483	192,602	26.9
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	58,244	58,139	56,832	0.2	2.3	2.3	57,426	64,344	51,784	223,753	214,576	4.3
New Orders.....	58,481	59,910	56,233	-2.4	6.5	3.0	58,251	66,421	47,172	228,632	199,003	14.9
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	10,627	11,048	11,241	-3.8	-1.7	-4.5	10,142	11,911	10,302	42,962	39,475	8.8
New Orders.....	10,738	10,971	10,970	-2.1	0.0	-4.3	9,420	13,765	9,326	45,149	39,196	15.2

NA Not Available ¹ Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment¹ Estimates of shipments and new orders are for the duration of the period, while estimates of unfilled orders and total inventories are for the end of the period. Not seasonally adjusted estimates of shipments and new orders include adjusted data for non-calendar reporters. Seasonally adjusted estimates include concurrent adjustments for holiday and trading-day differences, where appropriate, as well as seasonal variation, based on the results of the latest annual review of the model parameters. Estimates are not adjusted for price changes.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. For further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations, see <http://www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3>.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 equipment⁴ Estimates of shipments for the semiconductor industry are no longer shown separately. Estimates and percent changes of shipments and inventories for the semiconductor industry are included in computers and electronic products, and all other applicable aggregate totals. Estimates and percent changes for new orders and unfilled orders exclude semiconductor industry data.

Table 2. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Total Inventories¹

[Estimates are shown in millions of dollars and are based on data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent
	Apr 2010 ²	Mar 2010 ^f	Feb 2010	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ^f	Jan - Feb	Apr 2010 ²	Mar 2010 ^f	Apr 2009	2010/ 2009
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	801,278	797,754	798,552	0.4	-0.1	0.5	808,424	806,288	840,603	-3.8
Total Inventories.....	301,423	299,476	297,545	0.7	0.6	0.7	303,722	299,273	320,567	-5.3
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	321,084	319,882	316,074	0.4	1.2	0.3	324,993	322,942	322,319	0.8
Total Inventories.....	223,216	221,440	219,999	0.8	0.7	0.4	224,196	221,342	239,337	-6.3
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Order ⁴	648,062	644,364	645,018	0.6	-0.1	0.7	651,857	648,541	672,822	-3.1
Total Inventories.....	278,239	275,909	273,882	0.8	0.7	0.7	280,454	275,641	297,249	-5.7
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	801,278	797,754	798,552	0.4	-0.1	0.5	808,424	806,288	840,603	-3.8
Total Inventories.....	244,929	242,687	240,987	0.9	0.7	0.7	246,727	242,102	257,924	-4.3
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	18,241	18,478	18,352	-1.3	0.7	2.9	18,506	18,802	15,617	18.5
Total Inventories.....	29,892	28,675	28,006	4.2	2.4	1.7	29,682	28,193	29,105	2.0
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	54,465	54,139	53,701	0.6	0.8	0.8	55,470	54,958	57,519	-3.6
Total Inventories.....	40,828	40,555	40,061	0.7	1.2	1.0	40,972	40,824	43,463	-5.7
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	91,576	90,573	88,739	1.1	2.1	0.3	92,562	90,988	90,806	1.9
Total Inventories.....	49,368	49,339	49,335	0.1	0.0	-0.4	49,832	49,872	55,660	-10.5
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	120,582	120,642	120,298	0.0	0.3	-0.6	121,828	122,092	124,113	-1.8
Total Inventories.....	43,496	43,179	43,134	0.7	0.1	0.3	43,567	42,434	45,981	-5.2
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	4,852	5,150	4,777	-5.8	7.8	-1.8	4,852	5,150	4,033	20.3
Total Inventories.....	4,696	4,509	4,569	4.1	-1.3	0.7	4,692	4,369	4,732	-0.8
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	28,620	28,691	29,040	-0.2	-1.2	-0.4	29,022	28,900	29,394	-1.3
Total Inventories.....	7,467	7,401	7,812	0.9	-5.3	1.7	7,511	7,311	8,493	-11.6
Semiconductors⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Inventories.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	23,383	23,285	22,288	0.4	4.5	0.1	23,605	23,397	22,515	4.8
Total Inventories.....	13,609	13,595	13,507	0.1	0.7	0.2	13,903	13,752	15,083	-7.8
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	480,194	477,872	482,478	0.5	-1.0	0.7	483,431	483,346	518,284	-6.7
Total Inventories.....	78,207	78,036	77,546	0.2	0.6	1.5	79,526	77,931	81,230	-2.1
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	14,122	14,236	14,358	-0.8	-0.8	-1.1	14,299	14,346	15,693	-8.9
Total Inventories.....	19,966	19,863	19,726	0.5	0.7	7.0	20,502	20,018	20,597	-0.5
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	323,670	320,090	323,850	1.1	-1.2	1.4	324,490	322,435	342,092	-5.1
Total Inventories.....	35,451	34,912	34,381	1.5	1.5	0.6	36,084	34,691	35,598	1.4
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	47,813	48,187	48,440	-0.8	-0.5	-0.6	48,823	49,564	51,684	-5.5
Total Inventories.....	12,198	12,271	12,382	-0.6	-0.9	1.2	12,190	12,204	12,094	0.8
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	12,837	12,765	12,696	0.6	0.5	2.8	13,022	12,705	11,749	10.8
Total Inventories.....	46,023	46,097	45,956	-0.2	0.3	0.3	46,240	46,267	50,045	-7.6
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	623,231	619,410	621,220	0.6	-0.3	0.6	628,666	626,446	663,728	-5.3
Total Inventories.....	143,188	142,307	142,478	0.6	-0.1	0.3	144,494	142,186	152,621	-5.3
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	483,666	479,956	481,689	0.8	-0.4	0.9	486,196	483,254	510,337	-4.7
Total Inventories.....	125,279	124,103	124,254	0.9	-0.1	0.2	126,493	123,850	134,587	-6.0
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	189,669	189,432	187,661	0.1	0.9	-0.3	191,741	190,916	198,293	-3.3
Total Inventories.....	97,977	97,467	97,997	0.5	-0.5	0.1	98,645	97,303	107,307	-8.1
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	139,565	139,454	139,531	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	142,470	143,192	153,391	-7.1
Total Inventories.....	17,909	18,204	18,224	-1.6	-0.1	0.8	18,001	18,336	18,034	-0.2

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 65 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 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>.