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

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in August decreased \$2.5 billion or 1.3 percent to \$191.2 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. Down three of the last four months, this decrease followed a 0.7 percent July increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 2.0 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 1.2 percent.

Transportation equipment, also down three of the last four months, had the largest decrease, \$5.3 billion or 10.3 percent to \$46.6 billion. This was due to nondefense aircraft and parts, which decreased \$3.6 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in August, down following two consecutive monthly increases, decreased \$3.1 billion or 1.5 percent to \$197.9 billion. This followed a 2.5 percent July increase.

Transportation equipment, also down following two consecutive monthly increases, had the largest decrease, \$3.1 billion or 5.9 percent to \$49.5 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in August, down two consecutive months, decreased \$0.8 billion or 0.1 percent to \$802.4 billion. This followed a 0.1 percent July decrease.

Transportation equipment, down four consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$3.0 billion or 0.6 percent to \$473.1 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in August, up eight consecutive months, increased \$1.3 billion or 0.4 percent to \$312.4 billion. This followed a 0.6 percent July increase.

Transportation equipment, also up eight consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$0.6 billion or 0.7 percent to \$80.9 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in August decreased \$0.6 billion or 0.9 percent to \$64.9 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.3 percent to \$65.4 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.5 billion or 0.1 percent to \$487.2 billion. Inventories increased \$1.1 billion or 0.8 percent to \$130.8 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in August decreased \$0.1 billion or 1.5 percent to \$9.4 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.4 billion or 4.2 percent to \$9.2 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$0.2 billion or 0.1 percent to \$139.8 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.3 billion or 1.9 percent to \$17.6 billion.

Revised July Data

Revised seasonally adjusted July figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$410.0 billion (revised from \$409.5 billion); shipments, \$417.4 billion (revised from \$417.1 billion); unfilled orders, \$803.2 billion (revised from \$802.8 billion); and total inventories, \$525.8 billion (revised from \$526.0 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 October 4, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for September is scheduled for release on October 27, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. EDT. See back page for survey description.

Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders¹

[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		
	Aug 2010 ²	Jul 2010 ¹	Jun 2010	Jul - Aug ²	Jun - Jul ¹	May - Jun	Aug 2010 ²	Jul 2010 ¹	Aug 2009	2010	2009	Change 10/09
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments	197,941	201,054	196,120	-1.5	2.5	0.2	203,302	187,989	185,082	1,548,985	1,429,930	8.3
New Orders ⁴	191,174	193,664	192,327	-1.3	0.7	-0.2	194,331	177,114	173,273	1,509,935	1,310,661	15.2
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments	148,422	148,439	146,850	0.0	1.1	-1.1	152,289	145,707	136,209	1,166,172	1,063,562	9.6
New Orders ⁴	144,616	141,776	145,817	2.0	-2.8	0.2	146,964	137,210	127,833	1,139,629	993,931	14.7
Excluding defense:												
Shipments	186,083	188,889	183,885	-1.5	2.7	0.2	191,804	176,891	171,562	1,448,403	1,327,413	9.1
New Orders ⁴	179,254	181,472	180,199	-1.2	0.7	0.2	183,960	167,975	162,035	1,411,498	1,216,709	16.0
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments	143,952	145,454	143,816	-1.0	1.1	0.6	147,487	135,586	133,778	1,128,082	1,039,254	8.5
New Orders	143,137	144,737	144,635	-1.1	0.1	-0.4	144,533	132,919	126,902	1,135,178	957,718	18.5
Primary metals:												
Shipments	19,855	19,828	19,830	0.1	0.0	-1.4	21,281	19,447	15,898	159,403	116,956	36.3
New Orders	19,796	19,339	19,289	2.4	0.3	-3.9	21,636	19,206	16,501	161,323	113,975	41.5
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments	27,125	27,012	27,413	0.4	-1.5	-0.8	29,304	26,737	27,381	217,275	207,097	4.9
New Orders	27,356	27,083	27,489	1.0	-1.5	1.6	28,959	26,563	26,329	219,305	198,397	10.5
Machinery:												
Shipments	25,359	24,403	25,157	3.9	-3.0	1.4	24,706	23,247	21,184	194,880	185,185	5.2
New Orders	26,609	25,614	28,336	3.9	-9.6	4.1	25,609	24,723	20,117	206,616	171,177	20.7
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments	33,639	34,361	31,672	-2.1	8.5	-3.0	32,513	33,606	29,204	254,783	226,878	12.3
New Orders	28,376	27,347	27,486	3.8	-0.5	-0.9	26,778	24,411	22,762	208,190	184,955	12.6
Computers and related products:												
Shipments	6,607	6,351	6,062	4.0	4.8	1.4	6,026	6,302	4,686	45,967	40,609	13.2
New Orders	6,661	5,945	6,352	12.0	-6.4	1.2	6,080	5,896	4,574	45,928	38,966	17.9
Communications equipment:												
Shipments	3,458	3,560	3,464	-2.9	2.8	-6.2	3,368	3,125	3,732	27,639	28,001	-1.3
New Orders	3,933	3,601	3,228	9.2	11.6	1.4	3,982	2,884	3,508	26,884	28,396	-5.3
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments	9,579	9,559	9,515	0.2	0.5	0.7	9,913	9,280	8,960	75,095	71,268	5.4
New Orders	9,601	9,557	10,082	0.5	-5.2	3.8	9,706	9,468	8,839	78,692	69,907	12.6
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments	49,519	52,615	49,270	-5.9	6.8	4.1	51,013	42,282	48,873	382,813	366,368	4.5
New Orders	46,558	51,888	46,510	-10.3	11.6	-1.1	47,367	39,904	45,440	370,306	316,730	16.9
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments	30,973	32,620	31,200	-5.0	4.6	4.8	32,982	25,160	29,671	236,154	208,973	13.0
New Orders	30,880	32,310	30,899	-4.4	4.6	3.9	32,669	25,007	29,390	234,761	207,332	13.2
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments	7,455	8,616	6,644	-13.5	29.7	7.3	7,313	7,074	6,762	54,102	60,817	-11.0
New Orders	5,354	8,949	5,292	-40.2	69.1	-25.3	5,333	6,913	4,781	50,450	27,794	81.5
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments	4,987	5,010	5,217	-0.5	-4.0	3.6	4,727	4,487	5,458	41,387	40,782	1.5
New Orders	4,665	4,795	5,295	-2.7	-9.4	5.7	3,786	4,067	4,141	40,647	39,734	2.3
All other durable goods:												
Shipments	32,865	33,276	33,263	-1.2	0.0	-1.6	34,572	33,390	33,582	264,736	256,178	3.3
New Orders	32,878	32,836	33,135	0.1	-0.9	-2.1	34,276	32,839	33,285	265,503	255,520	3.9
Capital goods³:												
Shipments	74,622	75,242	73,494	-0.8	2.4	1.3	72,996	69,922	67,162	575,437	549,833	4.7
New Orders	74,288	74,988	75,628	-0.9	-0.8	0.2	70,720	67,365	60,020	578,323	481,205	20.2
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments	65,447	65,667	63,759	-0.3	3.0	1.8	63,943	61,106	56,040	494,464	466,661	6.0
New Orders	64,928	65,487	65,965	-0.9	-0.7	1.1	62,430	60,541	50,930	499,642	405,891	23.1
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments	60,879	59,902	59,847	1.6	0.1	0.9	59,545	56,579	51,959	462,649	428,700	7.9
New Orders	62,402	59,935	63,279	4.1	-5.3	3.6	59,922	56,637	49,031	471,292	402,979	17.0
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments	9,175	9,575	9,735	-4.2	-1.6	-1.9	9,053	8,816	11,122	80,973	83,172	-2.6
New Orders	9,360	9,501	9,663	-1.5	-1.7	-5.8	8,290	6,824	9,090	78,681	75,314	4.5

¹ Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.² 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.³ 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>.⁴ 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.

⁵ 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
	Aug 2010 ²	Jul 2010 ^r	Jun 2010	Jul - Aug ²	Jun - Jul ^r	May - Jun	Aug 2010 ²	Jul 2010 ^r	Aug 2009	2010/2009
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	802,365	803,180	803,897	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	799,782	802,736	811,114	-1.4
Total Inventories.....	312,444	311,138	309,396	0.4	0.6	1.2	314,975	313,106	301,459	4.5
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	329,299	327,153	327,143	0.7	0.0	1.1	329,332	328,640	310,793	6.0
Total Inventories.....	231,495	230,767	229,322	0.3	0.6	1.3	233,006	231,775	223,767	4.1
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	648,863	649,740	650,484	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	648,375	650,202	651,365	-0.5
Total Inventories.....	289,558	287,909	286,256	0.6	0.6	1.3	292,148	289,906	278,533	4.9
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	802,365	803,180	803,897	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	799,782	802,736	811,114	-1.4
Total Inventories.....	253,894	252,778	251,239	0.4	0.6	1.3	256,049	254,586	242,787	5.5
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	17,492	17,551	18,040	-0.3	-2.7	-2.9	18,291	17,936	16,955	7.9
Total Inventories.....	30,635	30,891	30,888	-0.8	0.0	0.7	31,015	31,270	26,919	15.2
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	54,108	53,877	53,806	0.4	0.1	0.1	54,104	54,449	53,413	1.3
Total Inventories.....	42,123	41,971	41,722	0.4	0.6	1.3	42,120	42,266	39,964	5.4
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	99,130	97,880	96,669	1.3	1.3	3.4	98,902	97,999	86,450	14.4
Total Inventories.....	51,659	51,289	50,468	0.7	1.6	0.9	51,723	51,086	51,583	0.3
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	121,964	121,275	121,616	0.6	-0.3	0.4	121,062	120,780	120,655	0.3
Total Inventories.....	45,506	45,253	45,198	0.6	0.1	2.5	46,201	45,409	43,956	5.1
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	5,332	5,278	5,684	1.0	-7.1	5.4	5,332	5,278	3,875	37.6
Total Inventories.....	4,785	4,859	4,963	-1.5	-2.1	5.8	5,019	4,831	4,338	15.7
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	28,178	27,703	27,662	1.7	0.1	-0.8	28,019	27,405	28,907	-3.1
Total Inventories.....	8,099	8,054	7,936	0.6	1.5	4.1	8,117	8,000	7,650	6.1
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	24,368	24,346	24,348	0.1	0.0	2.4	24,698	24,905	21,928	12.6
Total Inventories.....	14,578	14,430	14,211	1.0	1.5	2.2	14,732	14,602	13,974	5.4
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	473,066	476,027	476,754	-0.6	-0.2	-0.6	470,450	474,096	500,321	-6.0
Total Inventories.....	80,949	80,371	80,074	0.7	0.4	1.1	81,969	81,331	77,692	5.5
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	13,385	13,478	13,788	-0.7	-2.2	-2.1	13,255	13,568	14,587	-9.1
Total Inventories.....	21,056	20,934	20,750	0.6	0.9	1.3	21,194	20,991	18,174	16.6
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	321,080	323,181	322,848	-0.7	0.1	-0.4	319,913	321,893	332,995	-3.9
Total Inventories.....	37,380	36,682	36,500	1.9	0.5	1.3	38,132	37,556	34,999	9.0
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	47,391	47,713	47,928	-0.7	-0.4	0.2	47,008	47,949	49,985	-6.0
Total Inventories.....	12,020	12,106	12,033	-0.7	0.6	-0.9	12,091	12,168	12,402	-2.5
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	12,237	12,224	12,664	0.1	-3.5	-1.0	12,275	12,571	11,392	7.8
Total Inventories.....	46,994	46,933	46,835	0.1	0.2	0.6	47,215	47,142	47,371	-0.3
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	627,029	627,363	627,617	-0.1	0.0	0.3	623,338	625,614	636,837	-2.1
Total Inventories.....	148,351	147,609	146,629	0.5	0.7	1.3	149,802	148,445	145,049	3.3
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	487,189	487,708	487,888	-0.1	0.0	0.5	485,347	486,860	491,025	-1.2
Total Inventories.....	130,763	129,672	128,737	0.8	0.7	1.5	132,344	130,599	127,524	3.8
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	196,280	194,757	194,724	0.8	0.0	1.8	195,505	195,128	188,145	3.9
Total Inventories.....	101,719	101,274	100,466	0.4	0.8	1.4	102,639	101,363	100,866	1.8
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	139,840	139,655	139,729	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	137,991	138,754	145,812	-5.4
Total Inventories.....	17,588	17,937	17,892	-1.9	0.3	0.3	17,458	17,846	17,525	-0.4

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 64 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>.