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Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders October 2011

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in October decreased \$1.4 billion or 0.7 percent to \$197.7 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This decrease, down two consecutive months, followed a 1.5 percent September decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.7 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 0.2 percent.

Transportation equipment, also down two consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$2.4 billion or 4.8 percent to \$47.2 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in October, up five of the last six months, increased \$2.6 billion or 1.3 percent to \$203.0 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent September decrease.

Transportation equipment, up following two consecutive monthly decreases, had the largest increase, \$2.4 billion or 5.2 percent to \$48.4 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in October, up eighteen of the last nineteen months, increased \$1.9 billion or 0.2 percent to \$886.0 billion. This followed a 0.6 percent September increase.

Machinery, up twenty one consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$1.8 billion or 1.5 percent to \$117.7 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.3 percent September increase.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in October, up twenty two consecutive months, increased \$1.8 billion or 0.5 percent to \$367.2 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a slight September increase.

Transportation equipment, also up twenty two consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$0.8 billion or 0.7 percent to \$113.6 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in October decreased \$3.5 billion or 4.6 percent to \$71.6 billion. Shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 0.2 percent to \$70.9 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$0.7 billion or 0.1 percent to \$521.9 billion. Inventories increased \$1.3 billion or 0.8 percent to \$168.6 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in October decreased \$1.7 billion or 19.8 percent to \$6.7 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.5 billion or 7.2 percent to \$7.0 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.3 billion or 0.2 percent to \$152.3 billion. Inventories increased \$0.2 billion or 1.0 percent to \$20.2 billion.

Revised September Data

Revised seasonally adjusted September figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$451.8 billion (revised from \$453.5 billion); shipments, \$453.1 billion (revised from \$452.7 billion); unfilled orders, \$884.1 billion (revised from \$886.3 billion); and total inventories, \$601.0 billion (revised from \$601.3 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 December 5, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The advance report on durable goods for November is scheduled for release on December 23, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. EST. 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.]												
	Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Percent Change						Not Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Year to Date					
Item	Oct 2011 ²	Sep 2011 ^r	Aug 2011	Sep - Oct ²	Aug - Sep ^r	Jul - Aug	Oct 2011 ²	Sep 2011 ^r	Oct 2010	2011	2010	Change 11/10
DURABLE GOODS												
Total: Shipments New Orders ⁴	203,042	200,410	201,505	1.3	-0.5	0.1	207,404	212,545	190,102	1,979,541	1,835,553	7.8
	197,676	199,085	202,215	-0.7	-1.5	0.1	195,143	210,562	182,501	1,957,355	1,793,172	9.2
Excluding transportation: Shipments New Orders ⁴	154,602	154,348	154,562	0.2	-0.1	1.7	157,832	162,069	143,794	1,513,547	1,387,877	9.1
	150,452	149,469	148,518	0.7	0.6	-0.2	149,733	157,324	134,119	1,476,808	1,351,829	9.2
Excluding defense: Shipments New Orders ⁴	193,844	190,667	191,605	1.7	-0.5	-0.2	198,466	201,866	179,470	1,880,996	1,716,258	9.6
	188,844	188,386	191,720	0.2	-1.7	-0.1	188,141	199,236	174,353	1,854,658	1,678,206	10.5
Manufacturing with unfilled orders: Shipments New Orders	145,732	145,323	144,855	0.3	0.3	0.8	145,788	154,965	133,872	1,423,719	1,318,443	8.0
	147,607	150,667	152,469	-2.0	-1.2	0.8	143,208	158,507	134,774	1,469,355	1,337,328	9.9
Primary metals: Shipments New Orders	25,298	24,573	24,217	3.0	1.5	-0.6	25,416	25,323	18,893	239,285	185,100	29.3
	25,615	24,878	24,432	3.0	1.8	0.0	24,727	25,112	17,820	238,527	189,202	26.1
Fabricated metal products: Shipments New Orders	25,264	25,323	25,055	-0.2	1.1	0.8	26,138	26,882	24,447	251,478	237,239	6.0
	25,762	25,838	25,477	-0.3	1.4	-0.7	25,941	27,069	23,097	257,110	238,109	8.0
Machinery: Shipments New Orders	29,968	30,841	31,461	-2.8	-2.0	5.8	29,397	31,984	26,064	292,606	260,847	12.2
	31,727	31,223	32,007	1.6	-2.4	-1.9	31,439	31,598	28,334	315,369	275,364	14.5
Computers and electronic products ⁴ : Shipments New Orders	31,311	30,927	31,185	1.2	-0.8	0.6	33,543	32,992	32,993	306,298	299,957	2.1
	24,488	24,507	24,075	-0.1	1.8	1.4	23,978	28,736	23,167	238,259	239,293	-0.4
Computers and related products:		·									·	
Shipments New Orders	6,111	5,986	5,794	2.1	3.3	-0.5	6,549	6,845	6,050	56,954	51,298	11.0
	6,081	6,105	5,773	-0.4	5.8	5.0	6,519	6,964	5,952	56,687	51,239	10.6
Communications equipment: Shipments New Orders	2,975	3,164	3,069	-6.0	3.1	1.2	2,627	3,797	3,122	30,536	36,188	-15.6
	2,971	3,018	2,929	-1.6	3.0	7.1	2,722	4,039	2,955	29,180	35,931	-18.8
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components: Shipments	10,203	10,280	10,305	-0.7	-0.2	3.9	10,213	11,089	9,869	101,303	95,327	6.3
New Orders Transportation equipment: Shipments New Orders	10,127	10,686	10,550	-5.2	1.3	3.8	10,153	11,136	9,924	104,393	99,157	5.3
	48,440	46,062	46,943	5.2	-1.9	-4.9	49,572	50,476	46,308	465,994	447,676	4.1
	47,224	49,616	53,697	-4.8	-7.6	0.8	45,410	53,238	48,382	480,547	441,343	8.9
Motor vehicles and parts: Shipments New Orders	30,176	28,371	28,870	6.4	-1.7	-9.1	32,619	30,943	29,589	294,523	268,716	9.6
	30,080	28,333	29,031	6.2	-2.4	-9.0	32,641	31,023	29,882	294.180	267,787	9.9
Nondefense aircraft and parts: Shipments	8,732	8,043	7,804	8.6	3.1	3.4	7,635	8,689	6,031	70,960	64,414	10.2
New Orders Defense aircraft and parts: Shipments	8,451	10,114	13,814	-16.4	-26.8	26.2	5,419	10,437	10,285	85,411	70,656	20.9
	3,779	3,795	4,053	-0.4	-6.4	6.1	3,667	4,335	4,400	40,198	49,047	-18.0
New Orders All other durable goods: Shipments	3,651 32,558	3,314 32,404	5,086 32,339	10.2 0.5	-34.8 0.2	24.3	3,167 33,125	3,535 33,799	4,061 31,528	41,800 322,577	48,888 309,407	-14.5 4.3
New Orders Capital goods ³ :	32,733	32,337	31,977	1.2	1.1	-0.7	33,495	33,673	31,777	323,150	310,704	4.0
Shipments New Orders Nondefense capital goods:	77,927	78,359	79,029	-0.6	-0.8	3.0	76,326	84,082	71,556	753,679	714,006	5.6
	78,297	83,430	86,199	-6.2	-3.2	4.7	73,804	88,623	74,517	792,243	727,693	8.9
Shipments New Orders Excluding aircraft:	70,880	70,766	71,470	0.2	-1.0	3.0	69,536	75,878	63,152	676,744	617,920	9.5
	71,579	75,056	78,159	-4.6	-4.0	5.4	68,788	80,008	68,377	711,055	636,509	11.7
Shipments New Orders	65,297	66,029	66,689	-1.1	-1.0	3.1	64,718	70,937	59,638	635,765	579,955	9.6
	66,907	68,120	67,495	-1.8	0.9	0.9	66,787	72,960	60,978	657,996	592,641	11.0
Defense capital goods: Shipments	7,047	7,593	7,559	-7.2	0.4	3.3	6,790	8,204	8,404	76,935	96,086	-19.9
	6,718	8,374	8,040	-19.8	4.2	-2.0	5,016	8,615	6,140	81,188	91,184	-11.0

r Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.

¹ 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; evending, laundry, and other machinery; photographic equipment; metalworking machinery; turbines and generators; other power transmission equipment; pumps and compressors; material handling equipment, and control instruments; electrical equipment; other machinery; electronic computers; computer sortings on the machinery; electrical equipment; other 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.

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 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 Inventories ¹

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

Estimates are shown in millions of dollars a	nd are based	on data from			ments, Inver	ntories, and			ly Adjusted	
		Monthly	Seasonan	y Adjusted Percent Change			Not Seasonally Adjusted Monthly			Percent
Item	Oct 2011 ²	Sep 2011 ^r	Aug 2011	Sep - Oct ²	Aug - Sep ^r	Jul - Aug	Oct 2011 ²	Sep 2011 ^r	Oct 2010	2011/ 2010
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴ Total Inventories	885,950 367,160	884,075 365,349	878,731 365,291	0.2 0.5	0.6 0.0	0.9 0.9	875,094 367,312	877,674 363,988	817,558 328,857	7.0 11.7
Excluding transportation:	275 205	272 244	270 404	0.0	0.5	0.0	074 004	200.000	329.977	40.5
Unfilled Orders ⁴ Total Inventories	375,305 253,603	372,214 252,629	370,424 252,922	0.8 0.4	0.5 -0.1	0.2 0.7	371,281 253,690	369,699 251,694	231,715	12.5 9.5
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴ Total Inventories	714,534 341,463	712,293 339,743	707,905 339,253	0.3 0.5	0.6 0.1	1.0 0.9	707,538 341,592	708,182 338,463	657,924 304,171	7.5 12.3
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders	885,950 300,827	884,075 299,494	878,731 299,976	0.2 0.4	0.6 -0.2	0.9 0.9	875,094 301,171	877,674 298,532	817,558 268,430	7.0 12.2
Primary metals:	00.407	00.400	04.045	4.0	4.0	0.7	00.000	04 500	07.000	
Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	32,437 34,432	32,120 34,434	31,815 34,512	1.0 0.0	1.0 -0.2	0.7 0.7	30,903 34,420	31,592 34,588	27,803 29,796	11.1 15.5
Fabricated metal products:	05.040	CE 245	04.000	0.0	0.0	0.7	04.000	05 447	50 505	0.4
Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	65,813 46,112	65,315 45,875	64,800 45,982	0.8 0.5	0.8 -0.2	0.7 0.6	64,920 45,801	65,117 45,756	59,525 41,245	9.1 11.0
Machinery: Unfilled Orders	117,650	115,891	115,509	1.5	0.3	0.5	117,041	114,999	90,799	28.9
Total Inventories	60,011	59,665	59,467	0.6	0.3	1.5	59,910	59,116	52,495	14.1
Computers and electronic products ⁴ : Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	124,422 48,207	124,004 48,146	123,755 48,447	0.3 0.1	0.2 -0.6	-0.2 -0.2	123,654 48,629	123,538 47,867	121,243 46,427	2.0 4.7
Computers and related products:	10,201	10,110	10,111	0	0.0	0.2	10,020	,001	10, 121	
Unfilled Orders	3,387 6,236	3,417 6,113	3,298 5,970	-0.9 2.0	3.6 2.4	-0.6 -1.5	3,387 6,338	3,417 6,211	3,485 5,760	-2.8 10.0
Communications equipment: Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	28,079 9,696	28,083 9,730	28,229 10,039	0.0 -0.3	-0.5 -3.1	-0.5 1.2	28,235 9,773	28,140 9,557	29,314 9,475	-3.7 3.1
Electrical equipment, appliances,										
and components: Unfilled Orders	26,615	26,691	26,285	-0.3	1.5	0.9	26,342	26,402	22,461	17.3
Total Inventories	15,443	15,356	15,570	0.6	-1.4	0.3	15,415	15,234	14,971	3.0
Transportation equipment: Unfilled Orders	510,645	511,861	508,307	-0.2	0.7	1.3	503,813	507,975	487,581	3.3
Total Inventories	113,557	112,720	112,369	0.7	0.3	1.4	113,622	112,294	97,142	17.0
Motor vehicles and parts: Unfilled Orders	13,752	13,848	13,886	-0.7	-0.3	1.2	13,453	13,431	12,971	3.7
Total Inventories	26,617	26,252	25,774	1.4	1.9	1.1	26,562	26,172	23,118	14.9
Nondefense Aircraft and parts: Unfilled Orders	355,450	355,731	353.660	-0.1	0.6	1.7	351,867	354,083	337,321	4.3
Total Inventories	61,911	61,200	61,412	1.2	-0.3	1.8	61,930	60,884	49,601	24.9
Defense Aircraft and parts: Unfilled Orders	55,051	55,179	55,660	-0.2	-0.9	1.9	53,707	54,207	50,912	5.5
Total Inventories	14,295	14,565	14,414	-1.9	1.0	0.3	14,365	14,661	13,804	4.1
All other durable goods: Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	8,368 49,398	8,193 49,153	8,260 48,944	2.1 0.5	-0.8 0.4	-4.2 0.7	8,421 49,515	8,051 49,133	8,146 46,781	3.4 5.8
Capital goods ³ :										
Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	674,170 188,853	673,800 187,325	668,729 187,564	0.1 0.8	0.8 -0.1	1.1 1.1	666,776 189,169	669,298 186,099	623,888 165,559	6.9 14.3
Nondefense capital goods:	F24 002	E04 004	E46 04 4	0.4	0.0	4.0	547.054	E40 E00	404 400	7.0
Unfilled Orders Total Inventories	521,903 168,611	521,204 167,287	516,914 167,042	0.1 0.8	0.8 0.1	1.3 1.2	517,851 168,974	518,599 166,238	481,429 146,099	7.6 15.7
Excluding aircraft: Unfilled Orders	209,197	207,587	205,496	0.8	1.0	0.4	208,325	206,256	182,307	14.3
Total Inventories	115,381	114,704	114,294	0.6	0.4	1.0	115,861	113,919	104,489	10.9
Defense capital goods: Unfilled Orders	152,267	152,596	151,815	-0.2	0.5	0.3	148,925	150,699	142,459	4.5
Total Inventories	20,242	20,038	20,522	1.0	-2.4	0.5	20,195		19,460	3.8
Con footnotes at and of Table 1										

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.

Survey month	Advance Report (8:30 a.m. release time)	Full Report (10:00 a.m. release time)
October 2011	November 23, 2011	December 5, 2011
November 2011	December 23, 2011	January 4, 2012
December 2011	January 26, 2012	February 3, 2012
January 2012	February 28, 2012	March 5, 2012
February 2012	March 28, 2012	April 3, 2012
March 2012	April 25, 2012	May 2, 2012
April 2012	May 24, 2012	June 4, 2012
May 2012	June 27, 2012	July 3, 2012
June 2012	July 26, 2012	August 2, 2012
July 2012	August 24, 2012	August 31, 2012
August 2012	September 27, 2012	October 4, 2012
September 2012	October 25, 2012	November 2, 2012
October 2012	November 27, 2012	December 5, 2012
November 2012	December 24, 2012	Not available at this time