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MONTHLY ADVANCE REPORT ON MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES AND ORDERS APRIL 2019

Release Number: CB 19-70 M3-1 (19)-04

May 24, 2019 — The U.S. Census Bureau announces the April advance report on manufacturers' shipments, inventories and orders:

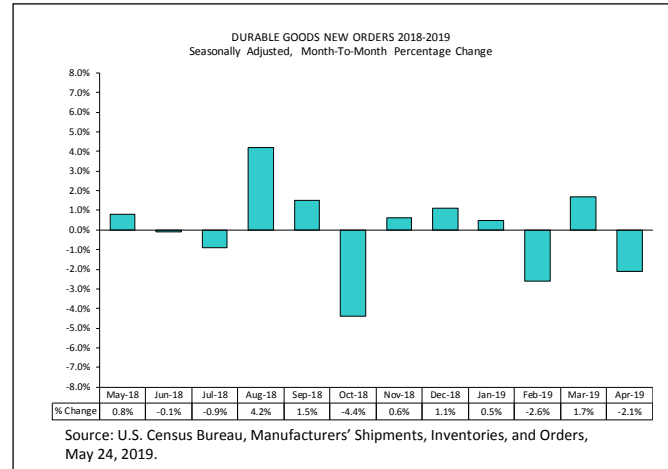


DURABLE GOODS – NEW ORDERS

APRIL 2019	\$248.4 billion	-2.1%°
MARCH 2019 (revised)	\$253.8 billion	+1.7%°

Next release: June 26, 2019

Data adjusted for seasonal variation but not for price changes.
°Statistical significance is not measurable for this survey. The Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders estimates are not based on a probability sample, so the sampling error of these estimates cannot be measured nor can the confidence intervals be computed.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders, May 24, 2019.



New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in April decreased \$5.4 billion or 2.1 percent to \$248.4 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This decrease, down two of the last three months, followed a 1.7 percent March increase. Excluding transportation, new orders were virtually unchanged. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 2.5 percent. Transportation equipment, also down two of the last three months, drove the decrease, \$5.4 billion or 5.9 percent to \$85.4 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in April, down three of the last four months, decreased \$4.0 billion or 1.6 percent to \$253.3 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent March decrease. Transportation equipment, down four consecutive months, led the decrease, \$3.7 billion or 4.1 percent to \$85.8 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in April, down two of the last three months, decreased \$0.7 billion or 0.1 percent to \$1,179.1 billion. This followed a 0.1 percent March increase. Transportation

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equipment, also down two of the last three months, led the decrease, \$0.4 billion or 0.1 percent to \$810.6 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in April, up nine of the last ten months, increased \$1.8 billion or 0.4 percent to \$422.6 billion. This followed a 0.3 percent March increase. Transportation equipment, also up nine of the last ten months, led the increase, \$1.5 billion or 1.1 percent to \$136.1 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in April decreased \$3.9 billion or 5.0 percent to \$74.0 billion. Shipments decreased \$2.4 billion or 3.0 percent to \$75.9 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$2.0 billion or 0.3 percent to \$705.3 billion. Inventories increased \$0.9 billion or 0.5 percent to \$185.9 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in April increased \$0.7 billion or 4.8 percent to \$14.7 billion. Shipments increased \$0.3 billion or 2.6 percent to \$12.8 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$1.9 billion or 1.2 percent to \$159.2 billion. Inventories increased \$0.1 billion or 0.6 percent to \$23.4 billion.

Revised March Data

Revised seasonally adjusted March figures for all manufacturing industries, based on updated seasonal adjustment models, were: new orders, \$503.5 billion (revised from \$506.2 billion); shipments, \$507.1 billion (revised from \$508.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$1,179.8 billion (revised from \$1,181.1 billion) and total inventories, \$691.3 billion (revised from \$690.7 billion).

Revised and more detailed estimates, plus nondurable goods data, will be published on June 4, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The Advance Report on durable goods for May is scheduled for release on June 26, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. EDT. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/> The full text and tables of this release can be found at www.census.gov/m3.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Figures in text are adjusted for seasonality, but not for inflation. Figures on new and unfilled orders exclude data for semiconductor manufacturing.

“Virtually unchanged” indicates that the change is less than 0.05 percent for a percent increase or decrease.

Description of the survey

This report is compiled from results of the U.S. Census Bureau’s Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey, which is a voluntary survey authorized by Title 13 of the United States Code. This survey provides statistics on a calendar-month basis for manufacturers’ value of shipments, new orders

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(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). Data published from the M3 survey are based on a panel of approximately 5,000 reporting units that represent approximately 3,100 companies and provide an indication of month-to-month change for the Manufacturing Sector. These reporting units may be divisions of diversified large companies, large homogenous companies, or single-unit manufacturers in 92 industry categories, which are combined into 65 publication levels due to the small monthly panel size. The survey methodology assumes that the month-to-month changes of the total operations of the reporting units in the M3 panel effectively represent the month-to-month movements of all establishments that make up the category. The companies for which shipments data are currently reported or imputed in the M3 survey represent approximately 64 percent of the total value of shipments for manufacturing establishments in the 2012 Economic Census, and these companies include almost two-thirds of the manufacturing companies with \$500 million or more in shipments in the 2012 Economic Census. The companies for which shipments data are currently reported in the M3 survey represent approximately 57 percent of the total value of shipments for manufacturing establishments in the 2012 Economic Census. Statistics based on the M3 panel differ from the results that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of all manufacturing companies. The M3 panel is not based on 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:

www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3/how_the_data_are_collected/index.html.

RESOURCES

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface (API) lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before.

www.census.gov/developers/

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NEW TIME SERIES

Beginning with the release of June 2018 data on July 26, 2018, historical estimates of the Monthly Advance Report on Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders are available on a seasonally adjusted basis as well as a not seasonally adjusted basis at: <<https://www.census.gov/econ/currentdata/>>.

FRED Mobile App



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

Notice of Revisions and Changes Due to Updated Seasonal Adjustment Models

On May 16, 2019, monthly seasonally adjusted data for Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders, based on the North American Industry Classification System, were revised for January 2002 through March 2019. There was no accompanying press release containing revised seasonally adjusted data for January through March of 2019, and historical data not seasonally adjusted were unchanged. These revisions to the historical seasonally adjusted data were based on the results of the recent annual review of the seasonal adjustment models. Based on this review, the lists of series that are seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted were updated. Three unfilled orders series and one total inventories series that have been adjusted are no longer seasonally adjusted. Conversely, two stage of fabrication series that have not been adjusted are now seasonally adjusted. These changes were implemented on May 16, 2019 and were used to produce seasonally adjusted data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey, beginning with the April 2019 Advance Report on Durable Goods released on May 24, 2019 and the full report scheduled for release on June 4, 2019.

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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		
	Apr 2019 ²	Mar 2019 ¹	Feb 2019	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ¹	Jan - Feb	Apr 2019 ²	Mar 2019 ¹	Apr 2018	2019	2018	Percent Change 2019/2018
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	253,302	257,328	258,592	-1.6	-0.5	0.0	251,736	272,938	243,975	999,971	960,233	4.1
New Orders ⁴	248,395	253,762	249,569	-2.1	1.7	-2.6	244,930	278,963	245,152	990,386	970,610	2.0
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	167,501	167,825	168,963	-0.2	-0.7	0.7	167,659	174,339	162,948	652,024	632,849	3.0
New Orders ⁴	163,018	163,001	163,901	0.0	-0.5	-0.3	165,604	172,821	163,307	647,032	635,187	1.9
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	238,355	242,836	244,179	-1.8	-0.6	0.4	238,309	256,485	231,458	943,965	910,068	3.7
New Orders ⁴	231,298	237,175	236,896	-2.5	0.1	-2.1	230,978	257,330	233,548	932,412	920,799	1.3
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	176,248	178,624	179,655	-1.3	-0.6	-0.4	173,592	190,341	167,448	692,756	665,147	4.2
New Orders.....	175,522	179,237	175,106	-2.1	2.4	-3.7	170,626	199,957	172,254	699,442	690,871	1.2
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	21,016	21,116	21,408	-0.5	-1.4	0.8	21,777	21,976	21,732	85,193	82,986	2.7
New Orders.....	20,864	21,042	21,455	-0.8	-1.9	0.4	21,767	22,425	22,392	86,724	86,025	0.8
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	33,324	33,698	33,907	-1.1	-0.6	0.5	33,790	34,400	32,677	131,493	125,529	4.8
New Orders.....	33,278	33,145	33,668	0.4	-1.6	-2.1	34,804	34,752	34,631	135,286	132,115	2.4
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	32,881	32,966	33,439	-0.3	-1.4	0.4	33,642	35,765	32,539	131,048	127,385	2.9
New Orders.....	32,603	32,560	33,221	0.1	-2.0	0.8	33,662	35,265	33,063	132,777	131,088	1.3
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments.....	28,101	27,787	28,074	1.1	-1.0	1.7	25,752	29,331	24,359	104,469	99,201	5.3
New Orders.....	23,946	24,047	23,555	-0.4	2.1	-0.5	22,041	27,113	21,158	90,491	86,392	4.7
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	1,836	1,750	1,849	4.9	-5.4	3.4	1,523	1,913	1,598	6,207	6,203	0.1
New Orders.....	1,822	1,752	1,841	4.0	-4.8	0.7	1,509	1,915	1,608	6,227	6,331	-1.6
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	3,838	3,835	3,813	0.1	0.6	0.2	3,479	4,346	3,117	13,992	12,457	12.3
New Orders.....	3,704	3,920	3,556	-5.5	10.2	-3.5	3,320	4,559	3,244	14,100	13,407	5.2
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	11,566	11,549	11,547	0.1	0.0	0.8	11,365	12,016	10,972	44,248	42,806	3.4
New Orders.....	11,687	11,585	11,531	0.9	0.5	1.3	11,580	12,157	11,087	45,179	43,598	3.6
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	85,801	89,503	89,629	-4.1	-0.1	-1.1	84,077	98,599	81,027	347,947	327,384	6.3
New Orders.....	85,377	90,761	85,668	-5.9	5.9	-6.7	79,326	106,142	81,845	343,354	335,423	2.4
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	60,244	62,356	61,706	-3.4	1.1	0.1	61,374	67,168	58,910	246,683	230,625	7.0
New Orders.....	60,020	62,119	61,880	-3.4	0.4	-0.1	60,499	67,146	58,446	246,944	231,112	6.9
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	10,991	13,083	13,549	-16.0	-3.4	-1.4	9,148	15,476	9,181	46,025	46,666	-1.4
New Orders.....	9,182	12,254	11,367	-25.1	7.8	-29.2	5,277	18,286	11,528	40,576	55,242	-26.5
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	4,769	4,516	4,636	5.6	-2.6	-14.0	4,005	5,201	3,653	17,214	16,055	7.2
New Orders.....	5,456	5,590	4,697	-2.4	19.0	-6.8	4,895	6,728	3,418	18,745	13,493	38.9
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	40,613	40,709	40,588	-0.2	0.3	0.2	41,333	40,851	40,669	155,573	154,942	0.4
New Orders.....	40,640	40,622	40,471	0.0	0.4	-0.3	41,750	41,109	40,976	156,575	155,969	0.4
Capital goods³:												
Shipments.....	88,763	90,805	91,393	-2.2	-0.6	-0.6	84,865	99,425	81,889	346,326	332,956	4.0
New Orders.....	88,684	91,896	86,489	-3.5	6.3	-7.3	82,317	107,886	84,161	347,918	346,940	0.3
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	75,919	78,286	78,985	-3.0	-0.9	0.1	73,120	85,263	70,780	297,791	289,990	2.7
New Orders.....	73,958	77,840	75,890	-5.0	2.6	-5.9	70,695	89,138	74,125	297,340	303,914	-2.2
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	69,390	69,378	69,821	0.0	-0.6	0.3	68,094	74,692	65,378	269,282	259,944	3.6
New Orders.....	68,766	69,396	69,166	-0.9	0.3	0.3	68,179	75,630	66,515	273,000	266,074	2.6
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	12,844	12,519	12,408	2.6	0.9	-5.0	11,745	14,162	11,109	48,535	42,966	13.0
New Orders.....	14,726	14,056	10,599	4.8	32.6	-16.5	11,622	18,748	10,036	50,578	43,026	17.6

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 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			Percent Change 2019/2018
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			
	Apr 2019 ²	Mar 2019 ¹	Feb 2019	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ¹	Jan - Feb	Apr 2019 ²	Mar 2019 ¹	Apr 2018	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	1,179,098	1,179,824	1,179,211	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	1,186,320	1,189,286	1,162,136	2.1
Total Inventories.....	422,579	420,750	419,350	0.4	0.3	0.4	424,949	419,780	404,268	5.1
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	368,492	368,794	369,439	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	374,336	372,551	364,258	2.8
Total Inventories.....	286,491	286,158	285,137	0.1	0.4	0.0	287,753	285,816	274,908	4.7
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	977,333	980,209	981,691	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	984,037	987,528	982,309	0.2
Total Inventories.....	394,800	393,137	391,968	0.4	0.3	0.4	397,094	392,182	377,555	5.2
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,179,098	1,179,824	1,179,211	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	1,186,320	1,189,286	1,162,136	2.1
Total Inventories.....	344,681	343,028	341,635	0.5	0.4	0.3	346,618	341,787	329,071	5.3
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	31,529	31,681	31,755	-0.5	-0.2	0.1	32,634	32,644	30,917	5.6
Total Inventories.....	36,533	36,431	36,661	0.3	-0.6	-0.1	36,401	36,242	34,274	6.2
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	85,772	85,818	86,371	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3	87,357	86,343	83,960	4.0
Total Inventories.....	54,880	54,978	54,886	-0.2	0.2	0.2	55,136	54,986	52,501	5.0
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	104,366	104,644	105,050	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2	105,529	105,509	105,040	0.5
Total Inventories.....	71,748	71,624	70,934	0.2	1.0	-0.2	72,165	71,710	68,208	5.8
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	118,116	118,090	117,651	0.0	0.4	0.0	119,336	119,207	115,008	3.8
Total Inventories.....	43,375	43,397	43,231	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	43,683	42,893	43,630	0.1
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	2,215	2,229	2,227	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	2,215	2,229	2,006	10.4
Total Inventories.....	3,734	3,869	3,834	-3.5	0.9	3.6	3,674	3,729	3,611	1.7
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	25,935	26,069	25,984	-0.5	0.3	-1.0	26,201	26,360	26,009	0.7
Total Inventories.....	5,574	5,544	5,482	0.5	1.1	0.3	5,589	5,461	5,373	4.0
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	19,525	19,404	19,368	0.6	0.2	-0.1	19,886	19,671	19,824	0.3
Total Inventories.....	20,237	20,171	20,079	0.3	0.5	1.2	20,503	20,265	18,658	9.9
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	810,606	811,030	809,772	-0.1	0.2	-0.5	811,984	816,735	797,878	1.8
Total Inventories.....	136,088	134,592	134,213	1.1	0.3	1.1	137,196	133,964	129,360	6.1
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	27,054	27,278	27,515	-0.8	-0.9	0.6	27,453	28,328	26,994	1.7
Total Inventories.....	38,049	37,758	37,839	0.8	-0.2	1.2	38,126	37,663	35,624	7.0
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	591,927	593,736	594,565	-0.3	-0.1	-0.4	592,739	596,610	601,686	-1.5
Total Inventories.....	69,139	68,223	67,988	1.3	0.3	1.3	70,181	67,815	66,555	5.4
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	83,364	82,677	81,603	0.8	1.3	0.1	83,720	82,830	69,932	19.7
Total Inventories.....	13,400	13,197	13,335	1.5	-1.0	0.1	13,425	13,140	12,748	5.3
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	9,184	9,157	9,244	0.3	-0.9	-1.2	9,594	9,177	9,509	0.9
Total Inventories.....	59,718	59,557	59,346	0.3	0.4	0.0	59,865	59,720	57,637	3.9
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	864,538	864,617	863,526	0.0	0.1	-0.6	868,789	871,337	863,077	0.7
Total Inventories.....	209,246	208,205	206,757	0.5	0.7	0.2	210,474	207,360	199,703	5.4
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	705,336	707,297	707,743	-0.3	-0.1	-0.4	708,969	711,394	716,736	-1.1
Total Inventories.....	185,867	184,963	183,735	0.5	0.7	0.2	187,044	184,076	177,409	5.4
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	220,560	221,184	221,166	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	223,063	222,978	220,620	1.1
Total Inventories.....	129,041	128,983	128,099	0.0	0.7	0.0	129,348	128,403	122,993	5.2
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	159,202	157,320	155,783	1.2	1.0	-1.1	159,820	159,943	146,341	9.2
Total Inventories.....	23,379	23,242	23,022	0.6	1.0	0.3	23,430	23,284	22,294	5.1

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 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.