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MONTHLY ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES AND ORDERS DECEMBER 2019

Release Number: CB 20-16 M3-1 (19)-12

January 28, 2020 — The U.S. Census Bureau announces the December advance report on durable goods manufacturers' shipments, inventories and orders:

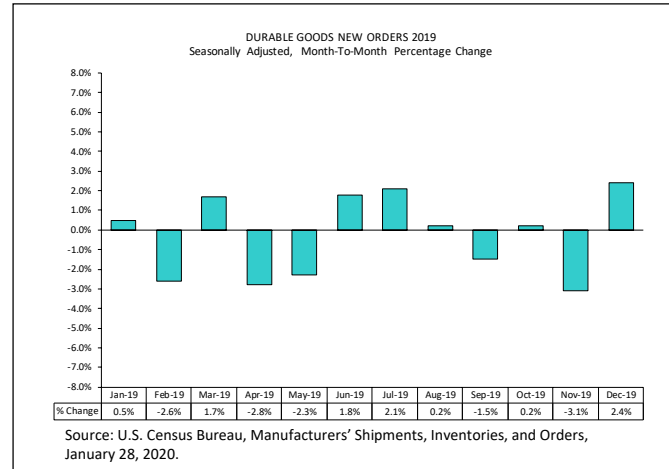


DURABLE GOODS – NEW ORDERS

DECEMBER 2019	\$245.5 billion	+2.4%°
NOVEMBER 2019 (revised)	\$239.8 billion	-3.1%°

Next release: February 27, 2020

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, January 28, 2020.



New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in December increased \$5.7 billion or 2.4 percent to \$245.5 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This increase, up two of the last three months, followed a 3.1 percent November decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 0.1 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 2.5 percent. Transportation equipment, up following three consecutive monthly decreases, drove the increase, \$5.9 billion or 7.6 percent to \$82.9 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in December, down six consecutive months, decreased \$0.5 billion or 0.2 percent to \$250.4 billion. This followed a 0.1 percent November decrease. Transportation equipment, also down six consecutive months, led the decrease, \$0.4 billion or 0.4 percent to \$83.2 billion.

Data Inquiries

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301-763-4832
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Media Inquiries

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Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in December, down three of the last four months, decreased \$0.8 billion or 0.1 percent to \$1,156.0 billion. This followed a 0.6 percent November decrease. Machinery, down fourteen consecutive months, led the decrease, \$0.5 billion or 0.5 percent to \$101.6 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in December, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, increased \$2.2 billion or 0.5 percent to \$436.0 billion. This followed a 0.4 percent November increase. Transportation equipment, also up seventeen of the last eighteen months, led the increase, \$1.7 billion or 1.2 percent to \$151.2 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in December decreased \$4.5 billion or 6.5 percent to \$64.5 billion. Shipments increased \$0.4 billion or 0.5 percent to \$74.8 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$10.3 billion or 1.5 percent to \$671.6 billion. Inventories increased \$2.2 billion or 1.1 percent to \$199.2 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in December increased \$9.1 billion or 90.2 percent to \$19.2 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.3 billion or 2.5 percent to \$12.4 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$6.8 billion or 4.3 percent to \$165.0 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.3 billion or 1.3 percent to \$24.0 billion.

Revised November Data

Revised seasonally adjusted November figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$490.6 billion (revised from \$493.0 billion); shipments, \$501.7 billion (revised from \$502.2 billion); unfilled orders, \$1,156.7 billion (revised from \$1,158.7 billion) and total inventories, \$701.1 billion (revised from \$701.0 billion).

Revised and more detailed estimates, plus nondurable goods data, will be published on February 4, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The Advance Report on durable goods for January is scheduled for release on February 27, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. EST. 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>.

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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 (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

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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.

BENCHMARK NOTICE

Revised historical data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey will be issued on May 15, 2020. These revisions result from

- benchmarking the M3 shipments and inventories data to the 2017 Economic Census data on a 2017 NAICS basis;
- incorporating the unfilled orders to shipments ratios obtained for 2017 and 2016 from the Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (M3UFO) Survey by applying these ratios to the respective 2017 Economic Census data and 2016 ASM shipments data;
- adjusting the new orders data to be consistent with the benchmarked shipments and unfilled orders data;
- correcting monthly data for late receipts, reclassifications of reported data, and revisions to previously reported data;
- updating the seasonally adjusted data based on the results of benchmarking and the recent annual review of the seasonal adjustment models.

These revisions will span the seasonally adjusted data for January 2007 through March 2020 and the data not seasonally adjusted for January 2012 through March 2020. An updated Press Release will contain revised monthly tables for January 2020 through March 2020. Please call M3 staff on (301) 763-4832 with any questions.

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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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.

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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		
	Dec 2019 ²	Nov 2019 ^r	Oct 2019	Nov - Dec ²	Oct - Nov ^r	Sep - Oct	Dec 2019 ²	Nov 2019 ^r	Dec 2018	2019	2018	Percent Change 2019/2018
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	250,420	250,924	251,286	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	246,076	240,766	252,945	3,043,747	3,017,198	0.9
New Orders ⁴	245,484	239,808	247,442	2.4	-3.1	0.2	247,595	229,781	257,011	2,966,690	3,012,085	-1.5
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	167,213	167,347	167,541	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	165,035	159,313	163,558	2,011,954	1,984,874	1.4
New Orders ⁴	162,545	162,732	163,407	-0.1	-0.4	0.2	159,294	152,999	158,880	1,959,356	1,953,023	0.3
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	236,248	236,305	236,521	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	230,355	225,268	236,763	2,867,695	2,853,858	0.5
New Orders ⁴	222,776	228,548	229,761	-2.5	-0.5	0.0	221,253	218,350	237,670	2,780,587	2,828,611	-1.7
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	173,850	173,725	174,216	0.1	-0.3	0.3	174,042	166,392	179,832	2,107,562	2,101,318	0.3
New Orders.....	173,100	166,829	174,593	3.8	-4.4	0.7	179,270	160,231	187,609	2,081,369	2,144,540	-2.9
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	19,817	19,869	20,042	-0.3	-0.9	-1.0	17,888	18,396	19,084	245,464	255,144	-3.8
New Orders.....	19,678	19,795	20,129	-0.6	-1.7	-1.7	18,182	18,943	19,670	245,776	258,369	-4.9
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	33,727	33,864	33,809	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	31,345	32,084	30,845	404,377	393,199	2.8
New Orders.....	33,507	33,416	33,698	0.3	-0.8	1.1	30,517	31,039	30,603	404,240	399,389	1.2
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	32,714	32,625	33,014	0.3	-1.2	0.8	33,250	29,968	33,065	396,371	391,475	1.3
New Orders.....	32,222	32,577	32,904	-1.1	-1.0	0.8	31,933	29,569	31,724	392,220	393,938	-0.4
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments.....	27,818	27,905	27,803	-0.3	0.4	0.3	31,589	27,900	31,498	333,633	323,402	3.2
New Orders.....	23,785	23,598	23,595	0.8	0.0	0.4	28,250	22,436	28,799	283,601	279,640	1.4
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	1,756	1,908	1,753	-8.0	8.8	6.0	2,387	1,759	2,337	21,069	21,929	-3.9
New Orders.....	1,757	1,945	1,783	-9.7	9.1	5.2	2,388	1,796	2,341	21,087	22,246	-5.2
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	3,922	3,816	3,823	2.8	-0.2	-1.3	5,264	3,512	4,992	46,071	42,465	8.5
New Orders.....	4,046	3,812	3,705	6.1	2.9	-0.1	5,336	3,411	4,713	44,957	43,499	3.4
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	11,818	11,768	11,509	0.4	2.3	-2.1	11,621	11,324	11,073	140,067	135,689	3.2
New Orders.....	11,832	11,901	11,669	-0.6	2.0	-1.5	11,442	11,320	10,793	141,120	135,612	4.1
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	83,207	83,577	83,745	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	81,041	81,453	89,387	1,031,793	1,032,324	-0.1
New Orders.....	82,939	77,076	84,035	7.6	-8.3	0.0	88,301	76,782	98,131	1,007,334	1,059,062	-4.9
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	58,966	59,265	58,840	-0.5	0.7	-2.0	53,182	56,803	55,076	728,296	707,009	3.0
New Orders.....	58,925	59,438	58,515	-0.9	1.6	-1.8	54,080	57,370	55,999	727,000	707,694	2.7
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	9,904	9,379	10,023	5.6	-6.4	7.4	12,545	9,263	18,979	128,203	162,554	-21.1
New Orders.....	1,454	5,736	8,016	-74.7	-28.4	9.2	9,033	7,240	24,166	97,967	167,632	-41.6
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	3,766	4,126	4,358	-8.7	-5.3	3.1	4,521	4,256	5,576	53,186	54,644	-2.7
New Orders.....	5,887	2,194	7,110	168.3	-69.1	14.7	8,484	2,346	6,529	58,197	64,339	-9.5
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	41,319	41,316	41,364	0.0	-0.1	0.2	39,342	39,641	37,993	492,042	485,965	1.3
New Orders.....	41,521	41,445	41,412	0.2	0.1	0.5	38,970	39,692	37,291	492,399	486,075	1.3
Capital goods³:												
Shipments.....	87,212	87,164	87,896	0.1	-0.8	1.1	95,908	84,223	101,306	1,061,712	1,068,095	-0.6
New Orders.....	83,681	79,052	88,043	5.9	-10.2	3.6	95,963	76,102	107,454	1,029,886	1,086,199	-5.2
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	74,780	74,409	75,045	0.5	-0.8	1.3	82,324	70,566	87,373	909,297	928,374	-2.1
New Orders.....	64,493	68,962	72,456	-6.5	-4.8	2.0	74,123	65,737	90,465	870,007	934,982	-6.9
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	68,823	69,065	69,285	-0.4	-0.3	0.7	73,868	65,280	72,883	831,767	815,851	2.0
New Orders.....	68,618	69,257	69,215	-0.9	0.1	1.0	72,141	64,732	70,839	826,916	820,706	0.8
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	12,432	12,755	12,851	-2.5	-0.7	0.0	13,584	13,657	13,933	152,415	139,721	9.1
New Orders.....	19,188	10,090	15,587	90.2	-35.3	11.9	21,840	10,365	16,989	159,879	151,217	5.7

^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; 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 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.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change 2019/2018
	Dec 2019 ²	Nov 2019 ^r	Oct 2019	Nov - Dec ²	Oct - Nov ^r	Sep - Oct	Dec 2019 ²	Nov 2019 ^r	Dec 2018	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	1,155,976	1,156,726	1,163,622	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	1,153,441	1,148,213	1,179,634	-2.2
Total Inventories.....	436,027	433,828	432,095	0.5	0.4	0.3	423,970	433,226	404,973	4.7
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	367,840	368,322	368,717	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	361,323	363,355	363,057	-0.5
Total Inventories.....	284,829	284,357	284,609	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	277,651	283,479	277,207	0.2
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	946,644	955,930	959,467	-1.0	-0.4	-0.3	943,075	948,468	979,319	-3.7
Total Inventories.....	407,543	405,049	403,357	0.6	0.4	0.3	395,678	404,471	378,123	4.6
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,155,976	1,156,726	1,163,622	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	1,153,441	1,148,213	1,179,634	-2.2
Total Inventories.....	357,027	354,526	352,943	0.7	0.4	0.4	347,096	354,097	329,705	5.3
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	31,829	31,968	32,042	-0.4	-0.2	0.3	31,415	31,121	31,103	1.0
Total Inventories.....	35,424	34,993	34,798	1.2	0.6	-0.3	35,078	34,721	36,359	-3.5
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	85,698	85,918	86,366	-0.3	-0.5	-0.1	83,427	84,255	83,564	-0.2
Total Inventories.....	53,652	53,814	54,246	-0.3	-0.8	-0.2	52,768	53,294	53,795	-1.9
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	101,552	102,044	102,092	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	99,649	100,966	103,800	-4.0
Total Inventories.....	71,640	71,624	71,952	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	69,187	72,093	68,188	1.5
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	118,666	118,513	118,600	0.1	-0.1	0.0	117,875	117,505	117,043	0.7
Total Inventories.....	43,910	43,788	43,489	0.3	0.7	-0.2	42,366	43,862	41,733	1.5
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	2,213	2,212	2,175	0.0	1.7	1.4	2,213	2,212	2,195	0.8
Total Inventories.....	3,976	3,882	3,836	2.4	1.2	-1.1	3,738	3,938	3,534	5.8
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	25,224	25,100	25,104	0.5	0.0	-0.5	24,979	24,907	26,093	-4.3
Total Inventories.....	5,522	5,465	5,546	1.0	-1.5	-0.5	5,239	5,584	5,140	1.9
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	20,488	20,474	20,341	0.1	0.7	0.8	20,008	20,187	18,955	5.6
Total Inventories.....	20,378	20,374	20,414	0.0	-0.2	0.7	19,422	20,011	18,803	3.3
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	788,136	788,404	794,905	0.0	-0.8	0.0	792,118	784,858	816,577	-3.0
Total Inventories.....	151,198	149,471	147,486	1.2	1.3	1.3	146,319	149,747	127,766	14.5
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	25,897	25,938	25,765	-0.2	0.7	-1.2	25,896	24,998	27,192	-4.8
Total Inventories.....	38,906	39,011	38,981	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	37,402	38,945	35,744	4.6
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	565,146	573,596	577,239	-1.5	-0.6	-0.3	567,952	571,464	598,188	-5.1
Total Inventories.....	82,294	80,073	78,348	2.8	2.2	2.0	79,219	80,360	64,333	23.1
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	85,805	83,684	85,616	2.5	-2.3	3.3	87,200	83,237	82,189	6.1
Total Inventories.....	13,430	13,445	13,528	-0.1	-0.6	0.2	13,359	13,521	12,814	4.3
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	9,607	9,405	9,276	2.1	1.4	0.5	8,949	9,321	8,592	4.2
Total Inventories.....	59,825	59,764	59,710	0.1	0.1	0.0	58,830	59,498	58,329	0.9
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	836,628	840,159	848,271	-0.4	-1.0	0.0	835,371	835,316	867,197	-3.7
Total Inventories.....	223,174	221,257	219,990	0.9	0.6	0.8	215,770	222,170	198,326	8.8
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	671,621	681,908	687,355	-1.5	-0.8	-0.4	670,130	678,331	709,420	-5.5
Total Inventories.....	199,174	196,934	195,701	1.1	0.6	0.6	191,891	197,947	175,718	9.2
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	217,800	218,005	217,813	-0.1	0.1	0.0	214,494	216,221	219,345	-2.2
Total Inventories.....	130,078	129,584	129,814	0.4	-0.2	-0.2	125,878	130,368	123,310	2.1
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	165,007	158,251	160,916	4.3	-1.7	1.7	165,241	156,985	157,777	4.7
Total Inventories.....	24,000	24,323	24,289	-1.3	0.1	1.6	23,879	24,223	22,608	5.6

^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; 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 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.