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Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders July 2012

New Orders. New orders for manufactured durable goods in July increased \$9.4 billion or 4.2 percent to \$230.7 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This increase, up three consecutive months, followed a 1.6 percent June increase. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 0.4 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 5.7 percent. Transportation equipment, up five of the last six months, had the largest increase, \$9.9 billion or 14.1 percent to \$80.4 billion.

Shipments. Shipments of manufactured durable goods in July, up seven of the last eight months, increased \$5.9 billion or 2.6 percent to \$231.1 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a slight June increase. Transportation equipment, up four of the last five months, had the largest increase, \$5.4 billion or 8.4 percent to \$69.7 billion. This was also at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 1.0 percent June decrease.

Unfilled Orders. Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in July, up two consecutive months, increased \$7.8 billion or 0.8 percent to \$996.3 billion. This followed a 0.4 percent June increase. Transportation equipment, also up two consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$10.7 billion or 1.9 percent to \$581.0 billion.

Inventories. Inventories of manufactured durable goods in July, up thirty of the last thirty-one months, increased \$2.7 billion or 0.7 percent to \$369.3 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 0.3 percent June increase. Transportation equipment, also up thirty of the last thirty-one months, had the largest increase, \$1.4 billion or 1.3 percent to \$110.5 billion. This was also at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis.

Capital Goods. Nondefense new orders for capital goods in July increased \$4.9 billion or 6.8 percent to \$77.7 billion. Shipments increased \$0.8 billion or 1.2 percent to \$71.6 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$6.1 billion or 1.0 percent to \$592.9 billion. Inventories increased \$1.6 billion or 0.9 percent to \$170.1 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in July decreased \$1.6 billion or 13.6 percent to \$10.2 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.4 billion or 4.6 percent to \$8.3 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$2.0 billion or 1.2 percent to \$167.6 billion. Inventories increased \$0.6 billion or 2.7 percent to \$21.4 billion.

Revised June Data. Revised seasonally adjusted June figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$465.1 billion (revised from \$465.8 billion); shipments, \$468.9 billion (revised from \$469.9 billion); unfilled orders, \$988.5 billion (revised from \$988.1 billion); and total inventories, \$604.4 billion (revised from \$605.4 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 August 31, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for August is scheduled for release on September 27, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. EDT. See back page for survey description. To receive the latest updates on the Nation's key economic indicators, download the America's Economy app for Apple and Android smartphones and tablets.

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		
	Jul 2012 ²	Jun 2012 ^f	May 2012	Jun - Jul ²	May - Jun ^f	Apr - May	Jul 2012 ²	Jun 2012 ^f	Jul 2011	2012	2011	Percent Change 12/11
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	231,081	225,158	225,096	2.6	0.0	1.1	209,885	241,100	194,830	1,553,238	1,426,590	8.9
New Orders ⁴	230,733	221,377	217,864	4.2	1.6	1.5	205,451	229,615	192,467	1,530,945	1,423,875	7.5
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	161,385	160,855	160,128	0.3	0.5	1.0	157,407	170,685	146,394	1,116,671	1,035,448	7.8
New Orders ⁴	150,339	150,903	154,244	-0.4	-2.2	0.7	142,830	157,174	142,662	1,077,912	1,021,729	5.5
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	220,565	213,962	214,154	3.1	-0.1	0.8	200,681	228,866	185,391	1,479,796	1,348,083	9.8
New Orders ⁴	218,479	206,739	208,138	5.7	-0.7	0.9	196,240	213,786	184,888	1,455,747	1,337,949	8.8
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	160,821	157,538	157,716	2.1	-0.1	1.3	146,438	169,940	137,371	1,094,159	1,009,121	8.4
New Orders.....	168,595	161,417	157,609	4.4	2.4	2.2	152,184	165,152	142,775	1,121,009	1,052,831	6.5
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	28,274	27,967	28,384	1.1	-1.5	-0.3	27,545	29,276	25,054	204,254	171,451	19.1
New Orders.....	27,720	27,000	27,402	2.7	-1.5	-3.5	26,798	27,482	25,212	200,595	171,240	17.1
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	27,264	27,355	27,519	-0.3	-0.6	-0.1	26,667	28,687	25,633	191,875	180,742	6.2
New Orders.....	27,564	27,685	28,161	-0.4	-1.7	0.7	26,575	27,883	25,990	197,860	186,781	5.9
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	33,118	33,303	31,934	-0.6	4.3	1.2	31,723	35,568	28,050	225,045	201,889	11.5
New Orders.....	30,393	31,530	32,333	-3.6	-2.5	5.0	28,790	32,101	32,315	225,907	226,843	-0.4
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments.....	29,624	29,098	28,974	1.8	0.4	3.8	29,052	30,745	26,899	195,138	193,647	0.8
New Orders.....	21,905	21,697	22,854	1.0	-5.1	-0.4	18,591	23,644	18,172	151,582	145,912	3.9
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	3,077	2,838	2,938	8.4	-3.4	2.5	2,627	3,659	2,762	19,118	19,713	-3.0
New Orders.....	2,957	2,852	2,992	3.7	-4.7	4.5	2,507	3,673	2,710	19,036	19,617	-3.0
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	2,967	3,080	3,299	-3.7	-6.6	7.8	2,636	3,586	2,892	20,846	22,284	-6.5
New Orders.....	3,233	3,368	3,636	-4.0	-7.4	2.1	2,701	3,666	2,238	23,294	20,384	14.3
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	9,986	10,000	10,033	-0.1	-0.3	1.2	9,433	10,762	8,959	69,194	66,539	4.0
New Orders.....	9,589	9,792	10,249	-2.1	-4.5	1.9	9,083	10,518	9,258	69,756	68,769	1.4
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	69,696	64,303	64,968	8.4	-1.0	1.4	52,478	70,415	48,436	436,567	391,142	11.6
New Orders.....	80,394	70,474	63,620	14.1	10.8	3.6	62,621	72,441	49,805	453,033	402,146	12.7
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	49,485	43,953	44,231	12.6	-0.6	0.1	35,578	47,033	32,243	298,855	263,246	13.5
New Orders.....	49,449	43,855	44,172	12.8	-0.7	0.2	35,442	46,598	32,448	297,756	262,975	13.2
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	9,774	9,175	9,652	6.5	-4.9	2.2	7,984	10,909	6,822	63,164	50,533	25.0
New Orders.....	19,552	12,708	9,593	53.9	32.5	7.6	18,539	10,386	9,572	82,861	59,046	40.3
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	4,366	4,646	4,664	-6.0	-0.4	12.2	3,661	5,405	3,689	31,092	31,609	-1.6
New Orders.....	4,706	5,143	4,156	-8.5	23.7	11.1	3,560	5,781	3,205	32,259	33,955	-5.0
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	33,119	33,132	33,284	0.0	-0.5	0.6	32,987	35,647	31,799	231,165	221,180	4.5
New Orders.....	33,168	33,199	33,245	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	32,993	35,546	31,715	232,212	222,184	4.5
Capital goods³:												
Shipments.....	79,902	79,487	78,663	0.5	1.0	1.8	73,650	86,290	68,367	540,610	503,039	7.5
New Orders.....	87,962	84,631	78,246	3.9	8.2	3.2	79,690	85,586	72,156	567,898	539,911	5.2
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	71,633	70,817	70,167	1.2	0.9	0.9	66,300	77,031	60,806	483,472	439,747	9.9
New Orders.....	77,732	72,790	71,016	6.8	2.5	2.3	71,755	73,043	65,978	508,808	469,332	8.4
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	64,933	64,919	63,947	0.0	1.5	1.0	60,840	70,090	56,625	442,774	410,744	7.8
New Orders.....	61,577	63,716	65,464	-3.4	-2.7	2.3	56,427	66,452	60,158	449,975	434,425	3.6
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	8,269	8,670	8,496	-4.6	2.0	9.7	7,350	9,259	7,561	57,138	63,292	-9.7
New Orders.....	10,230	11,841	7,230	-13.6	63.8	12.8	7,935	12,543	6,178	59,090	70,579	-16.3

^f 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 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.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change 2012/ 2011
	Jul 2012 ²	Jun 2012 ^r	May 2012	Jun - Jul ²	May - Jun ^r	Apr - May	Jul 2012 ²	Jun 2012 ^r	Jul 2011	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	996,296	988,522	984,643	0.8	0.4	0.0	992,773	987,027	919,984	7.9
Total Inventories.....	369,342	366,628	365,566	0.7	0.3	0.4	372,924	365,796	353,530	5.5
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	415,343	418,267	420,559	-0.7	-0.5	0.3	415,641	420,038	394,711	5.3
Total Inventories.....	258,858	257,567	257,477	0.5	0.0	0.1	261,127	257,198	251,632	3.8
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	804,631	798,595	798,158	0.8	0.1	0.1	801,502	795,763	727,612	10.2
Total Inventories.....	343,144	341,027	339,946	0.6	0.3	0.4	346,695	340,282	327,141	6.0
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	996,296	988,522	984,643	0.8	0.4	0.0	992,773	987,027	919,984	7.9
Total Inventories.....	299,225	297,354	296,518	0.6	0.3	0.5	302,589	297,030	286,423	5.6
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	32,812	33,366	34,333	-1.7	-2.8	-2.8	32,343	33,090	32,939	-1.8
Total Inventories.....	33,862	34,084	34,420	-0.7	-1.0	-0.3	34,571	34,598	35,500	-2.6
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	82,639	82,339	82,009	0.4	0.4	0.8	83,356	83,448	77,439	7.6
Total Inventories.....	45,871	45,894	45,973	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	46,446	46,131	45,373	2.4
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	135,098	137,823	139,596	-2.0	-1.3	0.3	135,324	138,257	127,880	5.8
Total Inventories.....	66,479	65,721	65,678	1.2	0.1	0.7	66,664	65,148	59,744	11.6
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	136,378	135,975	135,716	0.3	0.2	0.7	135,699	135,980	129,602	4.7
Total Inventories.....	46,572	46,127	45,819	1.0	0.7	-0.9	47,120	45,633	46,616	1.1
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,074	1,194	1,180	-10.1	1.2	4.8	1,074	1,194	1,168	-8.0
Total Inventories.....	4,001	3,919	4,033	2.1	-2.8	-2.8	4,077	3,830	4,118	-1.0
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	33,835	33,569	33,281	0.8	0.9	1.0	33,409	33,344	30,502	9.5
Total Inventories.....	8,646	8,627	8,400	0.2	2.7	-1.8	8,653	8,440	9,108	-5.0
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	21,172	21,569	21,777	-1.8	-1.0	1.0	21,290	21,640	19,359	10.0
Total Inventories.....	15,358	15,403	15,465	-0.3	-0.4	0.3	15,565	15,478	15,301	1.7
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	580,953	570,255	564,084	1.9	1.1	-0.2	577,132	566,989	525,273	9.9
Total Inventories.....	110,484	109,061	108,089	1.3	0.9	1.3	111,797	108,598	101,898	9.7
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	16,465	16,501	16,599	-0.2	-0.6	-0.4	16,019	16,155	16,272	-1.6
Total Inventories.....	24,874	24,612	24,467	1.1	0.6	0.9	25,145	24,078	23,970	4.9
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	408,543	398,765	395,232	2.5	0.9	0.0	405,454	394,899	350,067	15.8
Total Inventories.....	58,946	58,431	57,671	0.9	1.3	1.6	59,885	58,642	52,447	14.2
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	60,449	60,109	59,612	0.6	0.8	-0.8	60,523	60,624	58,483	3.5
Total Inventories.....	13,343	13,221	13,211	0.9	0.1	1.4	13,431	13,233	13,037	3.0
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	7,244	7,195	7,128	0.7	0.9	-0.5	7,629	7,623	7,492	1.8
Total Inventories.....	50,716	50,338	50,122	0.8	0.4	0.2	50,761	50,210	49,098	3.4
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	760,560	752,500	747,356	1.1	0.7	-0.1	756,734	750,694	691,087	9.5
Total Inventories.....	191,586	189,421	188,231	1.1	0.6	0.8	193,087	188,874	178,020	8.5
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	592,916	586,817	584,844	1.0	0.3	0.1	589,451	583,996	522,270	12.9
Total Inventories.....	170,144	168,548	167,402	0.9	0.7	0.8	171,702	168,100	156,991	9.4
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	240,859	244,215	245,418	-1.4	-0.5	0.6	240,608	245,021	224,791	7.0
Total Inventories.....	120,915	119,647	119,223	1.1	0.4	0.5	121,649	118,759	113,115	7.5
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	167,644	165,683	162,512	1.2	2.0	-0.8	167,283	166,698	168,817	-0.9
Total Inventories.....	21,442	20,873	20,829	2.7	0.2	0.6	21,385	20,774	21,029	1.7

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>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey