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Full Report on Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders September 2014

Summary

New orders for manufactured goods in September, down two consecutive months, decreased \$2.8 billion or 0.6 percent to \$499.4 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau reported today. This followed a 10.0 percent August decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased slightly.

Shipments, up three of the last four months, increased \$0.7 billion or 0.1 percent to \$503.4 billion. This followed a 1.1 percent August decrease.

Unfilled orders, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, increased \$3.7 billion or 0.3 percent to \$1,168.7 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.6 percent August increase. The unfilled orders-to-shipments ratio was 6.71, unchanged from August.

Inventories, up twenty-two of the last twenty-three months, increased \$1.5 billion or 0.2 percent to \$655.2 billion. This was also at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 0.1 percent August increase. The inventories-to-shipments ratio was 1.30, unchanged from August.

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in September, down two consecutive months, decreased \$2.8 billion or 1.1 percent to \$242.2 billion, revised from the previously published 1.3 percent decrease. This followed an 18.3 percent August decrease.

Transportation equipment, also down two consecutive months, led the decrease, \$2.7 billion or 3.5 percent to \$73.6 billion.

New orders for manufactured nondurable goods increased \$0.1 billion or slightly to \$257.2 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in September, up three of the last four months, increased \$0.7 billion or 0.3 percent to \$246.2 billion, revised from the previously published 0.1 percent increase. This followed a 1.7 percent August decrease.

Transportation equipment, also up three of the last four months, led the increase, \$0.4 billion or 0.5 percent to \$72.7 billion.

Shipments of manufactured nondurable goods, up following two consecutive monthly decreases, increased \$0.1 billion or slightly to \$257.2 billion. This followed a 0.4 percent August decrease. Chemical products, up five of the last six months, drove the increase, \$0.1 billion or 0.1 percent to \$63.3 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in September, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, increased \$3.7 billion or 0.3 percent to \$1,168.7 billion, unchanged from the previously published increase. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 0.6 percent August increase.

Computers and electronic products, up twelve of the last thirteen months, led the increase, \$1.0 billion or 0.7 percent to \$144.8 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in September, up seventeen of the last eighteen months, increased \$1.7 billion or 0.4 percent to \$404.6 billion, unchanged from the previously published increase. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 0.4 percent August increase.

Transportation equipment, also up seventeen of the last eighteen months, led the increase, \$1.0 billion or 0.8 percent to \$130.9 billion.

Inventories of manufactured nondurable goods, down four consecutive months, decreased \$0.1 billion or slightly to \$250.6 billion. This followed a 0.4 percent August decrease. Petroleum and coal products, also down four consecutive months, drove the decrease, \$0.5 billion or 1.0 percent to \$46.6 billion.

By stage of fabrication, September materials and supplies decreased 0.5 percent in durable goods and increased 0.3 percent in nondurable goods. Work in process increased 0.6 percent in durable goods and decreased 0.8 percent in nondurable goods. Finished goods increased 1.3 percent in durable goods and 0.1 percent in nondurable goods.

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 www.census.gov/m3. The Advance Report on durable goods for October is scheduled for release on November 26, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. EST and the Full Report on December 5, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. EST. 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. The U.S. Census Bureau updated its Application Programming Interface (API) with monthly and quarterly economic indicators. The API allows developers to combine Census Bureau statistics with other data sets to create tools for research on a variety of topics.