

# U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2014, AT 8:30 A.M. EST

Adriana Stoica  
Economic Indicators Division  
(301) 763-4832

M3-1 (14)-11  
CB14-231

## Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders November 2014

**New Orders.** New orders for manufactured durable goods in November decreased \$1.7 billion or 0.7 percent to \$242.3 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This decrease, down three of the last four months, followed a 0.3 percent October increase. Excluding transportation, new orders decreased 0.4 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 0.1 percent. Transportation equipment, also down three of the last four months, led the decrease, \$0.9 billion or 1.2 percent to \$75.5 billion.

**Shipments.** Shipments of manufactured durable goods in November, down three of the last four months, decreased \$0.9 billion or 0.4 percent to \$245.3 billion. This followed a 0.1 percent October decrease. Transportation equipment, down following two consecutive monthly increases, led the decrease, \$0.7 billion or 1.0 percent to \$72.2 billion.

**Unfilled Orders.** Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in November, up nineteen of the last twenty months, increased \$4.4 billion or 0.4 percent to \$1,178.9 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.5 percent October increase. Transportation equipment, up fourteen of the last fifteen months, led the increase, \$3.3 billion or 0.4 percent to \$749.9 billion.

**Inventories.** Inventories of manufactured durable goods in November, up nineteen of the last twenty months, increased \$1.7 billion or 0.4 percent to \$408.2 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis and followed a 0.4 percent October increase. Transportation equipment, also up nineteen of the last twenty months, led the increase, \$1.2 billion or 0.9 percent to \$133.2 billion.

**Capital Goods.** Nondefense new orders for capital goods in November increased \$0.4 billion or 0.5 percent to \$82.8 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.5 billion or 0.6 percent to \$79.3 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$3.5 billion or 0.5 percent to \$739.2 billion. Inventories increased \$0.9 billion or 0.5 percent to \$186.5 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in November decreased \$0.8 billion or 8.1 percent to \$9.5 billion. Shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 1.1 percent to \$9.9 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.4 billion or 0.2 percent to \$158.0 billion. Inventories increased \$0.2 billion or 0.9 percent to \$24.1 billion.

**Revised October Data.** Revised seasonally adjusted October figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$496.2 billion (revised from \$496.6 billion); shipments, \$498.4 billion (revised from \$499.2 billion); unfilled orders, \$1,174.5 billion (revised from \$1,174.2 billion); and total inventories, \$655.8 billion (revised from \$655.6 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 January 6, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The Advance Report on durable goods for December is scheduled for release on January 27, 2015 at 8:30 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.

Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders <sup>1</sup>

[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		
	Nov 2014 <sup>2</sup>	Oct 2014 <sup>†</sup>	Sep 2014	Oct - Nov <sup>2</sup>	Sep - Oct <sup>†</sup>	Aug - Sep	Nov 2014 <sup>2</sup>	Oct 2014 <sup>†</sup>	Nov 2013	2014	2013	Percent Change 2014/2013
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>												
<b>Total:</b>												
Shipments.....	245,282	246,209	246,379	-0.4	-0.1	0.3	231,144	257,210	228,548	2,657,282	2,533,800	4.9
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	242,275	243,930	243,200	-0.7	0.3	-0.7	225,636	247,315	228,774	2,673,877	2,504,947	6.7
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>												
Shipments.....	173,050	173,233	173,806	-0.1	-0.3	0.3	162,047	179,065	157,356	1,874,827	1,779,242	5.4
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	166,775	167,491	169,238	-0.4	-1.0	0.3	152,909	170,175	149,122	1,817,368	1,724,906	5.4
<b>Excluding defense:</b>												
Shipments.....	233,275	234,241	234,648	-0.4	-0.2	0.4	218,519	245,680	215,095	2,528,661	2,400,590	5.3
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	230,335	230,507	232,009	-0.1	-0.6	-1.0	215,863	235,261	220,077	2,550,836	2,392,516	6.6
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>												
Shipments.....	173,623	174,151	174,150	-0.3	0.0	0.3	163,826	178,315	157,996	1,866,899	1,771,629	5.4
New Orders.....	178,008	179,418	178,494	-0.8	0.5	-1.4	165,540	177,742	165,568	1,968,233	1,819,910	8.2
<b>Primary metals:</b>												
Shipments.....	27,707	27,931	27,876	-0.8	0.2	0.7	25,297	28,842	24,480	299,872	280,823	6.8
New Orders.....	27,745	28,152	28,681	-1.4	-1.8	2.5	25,458	28,923	25,077	302,769	284,243	6.5
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>												
Shipments.....	30,480	30,431	30,515	0.2	-0.3	0.8	28,493	32,214	27,666	331,512	320,461	3.4
New Orders.....	30,834	31,029	30,926	-0.6	0.3	1.0	27,715	31,577	25,925	333,133	326,697	2.0
<b>Machinery:</b>												
Shipments.....	36,952	36,872	37,156	0.2	-0.8	0.4	33,761	37,259	32,883	397,611	375,438	5.9
New Orders.....	36,674	36,332	37,086	0.9	-2.0	-3.0	32,722	36,400	32,841	407,633	381,076	7.0
<b>Computers and electronic products<sup>4</sup>:</b>												
Shipments.....	28,693	28,869	28,939	-0.6	-0.2	-2.2	27,761	29,466	27,548	315,354	301,531	4.6
New Orders.....	22,042	22,452	22,425	-1.8	0.1	-2.0	20,202	21,396	20,596	239,220	230,488	3.8
<b>Computers and related products:</b>												
Shipments.....	1,941	1,961	1,975	-1.0	-0.7	-5.0	1,622	1,568	2,045	22,683	24,165	-6.1
New Orders.....	2,033	2,045	2,115	-0.6	-3.3	-1.9	1,714	1,652	2,064	23,522	24,313	-3.3
<b>Communications equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	3,402	3,636	3,784	-6.4	-3.9	1.2	3,169	3,400	3,629	40,505	42,610	-4.9
New Orders.....	3,821	3,802	3,503	0.5	8.5	-17.3	3,232	3,591	4,001	43,356	46,922	-7.6
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>												
Shipments.....	10,703	10,539	10,649	1.6	-1.0	0.0	10,387	10,719	10,127	114,936	113,250	1.5
New Orders.....	10,836	10,833	11,285	0.0	-4.0	3.4	10,255	11,195	9,852	117,923	114,174	3.3
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	72,232	72,976	72,573	-1.0	0.6	0.4	69,097	78,145	71,192	782,455	754,558	3.7
New Orders.....	75,500	76,439	73,962	-1.2	3.3	-3.1	72,727	77,140	79,652	856,509	780,041	9.8
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	47,716	47,729	47,368	0.0	0.8	0.2	44,913	53,669	46,961	519,591	501,649	3.6
New Orders.....	47,875	47,791	47,504	0.2	0.6	-0.2	45,264	53,428	47,102	520,266	500,875	3.9
<b>Nondefense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	12,550	13,133	13,414	-4.4	-2.1	1.7	12,103	12,619	11,106	133,296	120,567	10.6
New Orders.....	15,494	15,405	15,282	0.6	0.8	-16.0	17,224	11,383	23,002	209,520	166,242	26.0
<b>Defense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	4,477	4,546	4,526	-1.5	0.4	3.8	4,749	4,293	5,668	49,112	51,856	-5.3
New Orders.....	4,876	5,290	3,686	-7.8	43.5	-3.2	4,434	5,332	3,413	46,800	42,414	10.3
<b>All other durable goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	38,515	38,591	38,671	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	36,348	40,565	34,652	415,542	387,739	7.2
New Orders.....	38,644	38,693	38,835	-0.1	-0.4	1.9	36,557	40,684	34,831	416,690	388,228	7.3
<b>Capital goods<sup>3</sup>:</b>												
Shipments.....	89,227	89,603	90,527	-0.4	-1.0	1.0	84,263	88,713	82,224	953,490	909,693	4.8
New Orders.....	92,357	92,760	91,875	-0.4	1.0	-3.7	86,205	86,215	90,707	1,034,032	954,609	8.3
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	79,318	79,801	80,870	-0.6	-1.3	1.3	73,867	79,279	71,116	848,317	801,533	5.8
New Orders.....	82,844	82,409	82,464	0.5	-0.1	-4.8	78,729	77,659	83,454	935,347	864,129	8.2
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>												
Shipments.....	70,377	70,263	70,913	0.2	-0.9	0.7	65,469	70,005	63,553	755,009	718,325	5.1
New Orders.....	70,942	70,974	72,335	0.0	-1.9	-1.1	64,358	70,365	63,953	776,109	738,821	5.0
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	9,909	9,802	9,657	1.1	1.5	-1.5	10,396	9,434	11,108	105,173	108,160	-2.8
New Orders.....	9,513	10,351	9,411	-8.1	10.0	7.9	7,476	8,556	7,253	98,685	90,480	9.1

<sup>†</sup> Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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>.<sup>3</sup> 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, 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>

[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 2014/ 2013
	Nov 2014 <sup>2</sup>	Oct 2014 <sup>r</sup>	Sep 2014	Oct - Nov <sup>2</sup>	Sep - Oct <sup>r</sup>	Aug - Sep	Nov 2014 <sup>2</sup>	Oct 2014 <sup>r</sup>	Nov 2013	
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>										
<b>Total:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	1,178,925	1,174,540	1,169,273	0.4	0.5	0.4	1,161,612	1,159,898	1,039,145	11.8
Total Inventories.....	408,241	406,555	404,750	0.4	0.4	0.5	409,569	407,690	385,290	6.3
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	429,072	427,955	426,151	0.3	0.4	0.7	421,117	423,033	394,133	6.8
Total Inventories.....	275,038	274,522	273,956	0.2	0.2	0.3	275,843	274,999	264,136	4.4
<b>Excluding defense:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	989,140	984,688	980,876	0.5	0.4	0.5	976,288	971,722	849,570	14.9
Total Inventories.....	378,723	377,258	375,757	0.4	0.4	0.6	380,004	378,541	357,619	6.3
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,178,925	1,174,540	1,169,273	0.4	0.5	0.4	1,161,612	1,159,898	1,039,145	11.8
Total Inventories.....	335,879	334,253	332,493	0.5	0.5	0.5	336,657	335,131	315,024	6.9
<b>Primary metals:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	40,577	40,539	40,318	0.1	0.5	2.0	38,950	38,789	35,547	9.6
Total Inventories.....	38,001	37,708	37,498	0.8	0.6	0.9	37,816	37,534	34,535	9.5
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	88,106	87,752	87,154	0.4	0.7	0.5	85,418	86,196	85,188	0.3
Total Inventories.....	50,265	50,056	49,941	0.4	0.2	0.2	49,861	49,820	47,533	4.9
<b>Machinery:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	119,677	119,955	120,495	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	117,769	118,808	107,428	9.6
Total Inventories.....	67,645	67,879	67,813	-0.3	0.1	0.7	68,392	68,132	66,553	2.8
<b>Computers and electronic products<sup>4</sup>:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	146,728	145,987	144,858	0.5	0.8	0.7	145,576	145,913	136,753	6.5
Total Inventories.....	48,883	49,065	48,845	-0.4	0.5	0.3	49,699	49,750	47,670	4.3
<b>Computers and related products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	4,228	4,136	4,052	2.2	2.1	3.6	4,228	4,136	3,375	25.3
Total Inventories.....	4,617	4,668	4,711	-1.1	-0.9	1.1	4,846	4,835	4,824	0.5
<b>Communications equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	38,829	38,410	38,244	1.1	0.4	-0.7	38,378	38,315	34,742	10.5
Total Inventories.....	7,383	7,494	7,533	-1.5	-0.5	-1.1	7,567	7,564	7,768	-2.6
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	25,871	25,738	25,444	0.5	1.2	2.6	25,277	25,409	21,898	15.4
Total Inventories.....	16,628	16,407	16,560	1.3	-0.9	-1.1	16,587	16,476	16,885	-1.8
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	749,853	746,585	743,122	0.4	0.5	0.2	740,495	736,865	645,012	14.8
Total Inventories.....	133,203	132,033	130,794	0.9	0.9	0.7	133,726	132,691	121,154	10.4
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	17,553	17,394	17,332	0.9	0.4	0.8	17,191	16,840	16,011	7.4
Total Inventories.....	27,503	27,389	27,228	0.4	0.6	1.0	27,823	27,894	25,608	8.6
<b>Nondefense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	577,404	574,460	572,188	0.5	0.4	0.3	571,932	566,811	477,031	19.9
Total Inventories.....	75,355	74,602	73,812	1.0	1.1	1.1	75,456	74,773	67,410	11.9
<b>Defense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	63,658	63,259	62,515	0.6	1.2	-1.3	62,199	62,514	62,917	-1.1
Total Inventories.....	14,395	14,529	14,316	-0.9	1.5	-1.9	14,362	14,530	12,996	10.5
<b>All other durable goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	8,113	7,984	7,882	1.6	1.3	2.1	8,127	7,918	7,319	11.0
Total Inventories.....	53,616	53,407	53,299	0.4	0.2	0.1	53,488	53,287	50,960	5.0
<b>Capital goods<sup>3</sup>:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	897,252	894,122	890,965	0.4	0.4	0.2	884,987	883,045	786,130	12.6
Total Inventories.....	210,666	209,593	208,573	0.5	0.5	0.4	212,610	210,548	199,350	6.7
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	739,219	735,693	733,085	0.5	0.4	0.2	730,901	726,039	625,867	16.8
Total Inventories.....	186,544	185,675	184,950	0.5	0.4	0.7	188,408	186,779	176,885	6.5
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	253,553	252,988	252,277	0.2	0.3	0.6	249,745	250,856	228,335	9.4
Total Inventories.....	122,978	122,986	123,139	0.0	-0.1	0.3	124,764	124,050	121,531	2.7
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	158,033	158,429	157,880	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	154,086	157,006	160,263	-3.9
Total Inventories.....	24,122	23,918	23,623	0.9	1.2	-1.1	24,202	23,769	22,465	7.7

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>.

### Release Dates for the M3 Survey

Survey month	Advance Report (8:30 a.m. release time)	Full Report (10:00 a.m. release time)
October 2014	November 26, 2014	December 5, 2014
November 2014	December 23, 2014	January 6, 2015
December 2014	January 27, 2015	February 3, 2015
January 2015	February 26, 2015	March 5, 2015
February 2015	March 25, 2015	April 2, 2015
March 2015	April 24, 2015	May 4, 2015
April 2015	May 26, 2015	June 2, 2015
May 2015	June 23, 2015	July 2, 2015
June 2015	July 27, 2015	August 4, 2015
July 2015	August 26, 2015	September 2, 2015
August 2015	September 24, 2015	October 2, 2015
September 2015	October 27, 2015	November 3, 2015
October 2015	November 25, 2015	December 3, 2015
November 2015	December 23, 2015	Not available at this time