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

### New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in October increased slightly to \$216.9 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This increase, up five of the last six months, followed a 9.2 percent September increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 1.5 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 0.1 percent.

Machinery, up two consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$0.9 billion or 2.9 percent to \$30.9 billion.

### Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in October, down two of the last three months, decreased \$1.2 billion or 0.6 percent to \$222.2 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent September increase.

Transportation equipment, also down two of the last three months, had the largest decrease, \$0.8 billion or 1.3 percent to \$63.5 billion. This followed a 0.7 percent September increase.

### Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in October, up four of the last five months, increased \$2.3 billion or 0.2 percent to \$982.5 billion. This increase followed a 0.1 percent September increase.

Transportation equipment, also up four of the last five months, had the largest increase, \$2.9 billion or 0.5 percent to \$576.6 billion.

### Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in October, up thirty-three of the last thirty-four months, increased \$1.6 billion or 0.4 percent to \$374.4 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.2 percent September increase.

Transportation equipment, also up thirty-three of the last thirty-four months, had the largest increase, \$1.2 billion or 1.0 percent to \$113.9 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 October increased \$0.5 billion or 0.8 percent to \$71.6 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.3 billion or 0.5 percent to \$69.9 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$1.7 billion or 0.3 percent to \$583.4 billion. Inventories increased \$0.6 billion or 0.4 percent to \$173.4 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in October decreased \$0.6 billion or 7.1 percent to \$7.8 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.2 billion or 2.4 percent to \$8.4 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.6 billion or 0.3 percent to \$164.9 billion. Inventories decreased slightly or 0.2 percent to \$21.0 billion.

### Revised September Data

Revised seasonally adjusted September figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$474.0 billion (revised from \$475.4 billion); shipments, \$480.6 billion (revised from \$481.3 billion); unfilled orders, \$980.2 billion (revised from \$981.0 billion); and total inventories, \$615.6 billion (revised from \$615.7 billion).

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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 December 5, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The advance report on durable goods for November is scheduled for release on December 24, 2012, 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.

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		
	Oct 2012 <sup>2</sup>	Sep 2012 <sup>1</sup>	Aug 2012	Sep - Oct <sup>2</sup>	Aug - Sep <sup>1</sup>	Jul - Aug	Oct 2012 <sup>2</sup>	Sep 2012 <sup>1</sup>	Oct 2011	2012	2011	Percent Change 12/11
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>												
<b>Total:</b>												
Shipments.....	222,214	223,455	222,397	-0.6	0.5	-2.9	232,429	230,054	219,047	2,247,721	2,092,597	7.4
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	216,948	216,900	198,693	0.0	9.2	-13.1	221,207	223,019	210,041	2,178,240	2,076,971	4.9
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>												
Shipments.....	158,666	159,090	158,503	-0.3	0.4	-0.7	165,155	162,777	157,487	1,608,433	1,516,343	6.1
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	150,517	148,338	145,822	1.5	1.7	-2.0	152,916	151,280	153,110	1,529,811	1,484,858	3.0
<b>Excluding defense:</b>												
Shipments.....	211,336	212,608	211,535	-0.6	0.5	-3.2	222,053	217,968	209,244	2,141,049	1,981,545	8.0
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	206,002	205,871	189,789	0.1	8.5	-12.3	212,477	210,521	202,477	2,074,554	1,960,298	5.8
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>												
Shipments.....	157,047	157,167	156,043	-0.1	0.7	-2.3	160,054	162,866	151,403	1,579,245	1,477,551	6.9
New Orders.....	159,357	158,048	139,495	0.8	13.3	-16.4	159,179	162,641	151,149	1,582,990	1,530,121	3.5
<b>Primary metals:</b>												
Shipments.....	27,859	28,227	28,029	-1.3	0.7	-0.4	28,346	27,834	27,013	290,005	253,005	14.6
New Orders.....	28,436	27,957	26,908	1.7	3.9	-2.5	28,573	26,583	26,514	284,068	251,971	12.7
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>												
Shipments.....	27,238	27,221	27,239	0.1	-0.1	0.3	28,873	27,947	27,743	278,147	265,670	4.7
New Orders.....	27,316	27,024	27,421	1.1	-1.4	-0.9	28,103	27,369	27,510	282,333	271,353	4.0
<b>Machinery:</b>												
Shipments.....	32,211	32,226	32,458	0.0	-0.7	-1.1	32,835	32,677	30,154	323,433	295,784	9.3
New Orders.....	30,855	29,991	27,778	2.9	8.0	-6.1	31,672	29,572	33,983	313,534	324,363	-3.3
<b>Computers and electronic products<sup>4</sup>:</b>												
Shipments.....	28,057	28,088	27,439	-0.1	2.4	-3.5	30,179	30,014	29,763	281,606	282,757	-0.4
New Orders.....	20,509	20,335	20,428	0.9	-0.5	-4.0	19,449	24,060	21,758	214,130	214,589	-0.2
<b>Computers and related products:</b>												
Shipments.....	2,461	2,707	2,669	-9.1	1.4	-9.1	2,385	3,421	3,490	27,166	30,239	-10.2
New Orders.....	2,478	2,733	2,724	-9.3	0.3	-4.4	2,402	3,447	3,491	27,216	30,126	-9.7
<b>Communications equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	3,298	3,012	3,085	9.5	-2.4	3.0	3,066	3,535	2,829	30,411	32,088	-5.2
New Orders.....	3,116	2,796	2,981	11.4	-6.2	-8.6	2,992	3,937	3,467	33,205	31,504	5.4
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>												
Shipments.....	9,756	9,768	9,887	-0.1	-1.2	-0.6	9,968	10,288	9,773	99,779	97,310	2.5
New Orders.....	9,798	9,416	9,815	4.1	-4.1	2.6	10,024	9,632	10,106	99,609	100,350	-0.7
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	63,548	64,365	63,894	-1.3	0.7	-8.0	67,274	67,277	61,560	639,288	576,254	10.9
New Orders.....	66,431	68,562	52,871	-3.1	29.7	-33.7	68,291	71,739	56,931	648,429	592,113	9.5
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	42,197	43,006	43,516	-1.9	-1.2	-11.7	47,226	43,514	43,254	437,552	389,682	12.3
New Orders.....	41,990	42,679	43,497	-1.6	-1.9	-11.7	46,944	43,331	43,145	435,759	389,123	12.0
<b>Nondefense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	10,406	10,425	9,177	-0.2	13.6	-5.9	9,499	11,392	8,273	93,118	76,550	21.6
New Orders.....	13,815	14,667	533	-5.8	2,651.8	-97.2	12,356	15,638	6,102	110,910	91,216	21.6
<b>Defense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	4,517	4,454	4,587	1.4	-2.9	5.9	4,158	5,204	3,968	44,991	44,671	0.7
New Orders.....	5,674	5,930	4,490	-4.3	32.1	-1.4	5,006	6,499	3,649	47,000	46,426	1.2
<b>All other durable goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	33,545	33,560	33,451	0.0	0.3	1.2	34,954	34,017	33,041	335,463	321,817	4.2
New Orders.....	33,603	33,615	33,472	0.0	0.4	1.1	35,095	34,064	33,239	336,137	322,232	4.3
<b>Capital goods<sup>3</sup>:</b>												
Shipments.....	78,227	78,758	77,324	-0.7	1.9	-1.8	77,805	83,103	74,458	778,590	736,558	5.7
New Orders.....	79,361	79,422	63,861	-0.1	24.4	-25.8	76,920	84,446	74,301	789,324	783,766	0.7
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	69,871	70,196	69,199	-0.5	1.4	-1.8	69,789	73,694	66,796	695,937	647,671	7.5
New Orders.....	71,566	71,027	57,756	0.8	23.0	-23.9	71,086	74,988	68,891	709,887	689,346	3.0
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>												
Shipments.....	62,601	62,864	63,065	-0.4	-0.3	-1.1	63,175	65,897	61,528	634,648	602,645	5.3
New Orders.....	61,054	60,044	60,305	1.7	-0.4	0.3	61,795	63,100	66,456	632,500	632,549	0.0
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	8,356	8,562	8,125	-2.4	5.4	-1.5	8,016	9,409	7,662	82,653	88,887	-7.0
New Orders.....	7,795	8,395	6,105	-7.1	37.5	-40.0	5,834	9,458	5,410	79,437	94,420	-15.9

<sup>1</sup> Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.<sup>2</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>3</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>4</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; 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

<sup>5</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 2012/ 2011
	Oct 2012 <sup>2</sup>	Sep 2012 <sup>1</sup>	Aug 2012	Sep - Oct <sup>2</sup>	Aug - Sep <sup>1</sup>	Jul - Aug	Oct 2012 <sup>2</sup>	Sep 2012 <sup>1</sup>	Oct 2011	
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>										
<b>Total:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	982,495	980,185	979,304	0.2	0.1	-1.7	969,668	970,543	928,844	4.4
Total Inventories.....	374,443	372,825	371,952	0.4	0.2	0.6	374,434	371,073	355,734	5.3
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	405,856	406,429	409,745	-0.1	-0.8	-1.3	399,861	401,753	398,716	0.3
Total Inventories.....	260,572	260,112	259,762	0.2	0.1	0.2	260,254	258,802	252,520	3.1
<b>Excluding defense:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	792,530	790,288	789,589	0.3	0.1	-1.8	783,139	782,368	738,270	6.1
Total Inventories.....	348,683	347,053	345,628	0.5	0.4	0.5	348,657	345,460	329,703	5.7
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	982,495	980,185	979,304	0.2	0.1	-1.7	969,668	970,543	928,844	4.4
Total Inventories.....	303,683	302,314	301,397	0.5	0.3	0.6	303,616	300,888	287,236	5.7
<b>Primary metals:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	31,989	31,412	31,682	1.8	-0.9	-3.4	30,065	29,838	32,116	-6.4
Total Inventories.....	34,660	34,290	34,105	1.1	0.5	0.0	34,304	34,332	34,832	-1.5
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	82,927	82,849	83,046	0.1	-0.2	0.2	81,557	82,327	77,083	5.8
Total Inventories.....	46,260	46,082	45,966	0.4	0.3	0.2	46,015	45,986	44,936	2.4
<b>Machinery:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	126,326	127,682	129,917	-1.1	-1.7	-3.5	124,563	125,726	131,505	-5.3
Total Inventories.....	66,994	67,006	66,997	0.0	0.0	0.6	66,789	66,363	61,392	8.8
<b>Computers and electronic products<sup>4</sup>:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	136,450	136,422	136,739	0.0	-0.2	0.1	135,862	136,245	130,940	3.8
Total Inventories.....	46,344	46,555	46,503	-0.5	0.1	0.1	46,753	46,214	46,176	1.2
<b>Computers and related products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,206	1,189	1,163	1.4	2.2	5.0	1,206	1,189	1,151	4.8
Total Inventories.....	3,806	3,786	3,939	0.5	-3.9	-1.5	3,895	3,759	4,200	-7.3
<b>Communications equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	33,344	33,526	33,742	-0.5	-0.6	-0.3	33,755	33,829	31,818	6.1
Total Inventories.....	8,427	8,609	8,553	-2.1	0.7	-0.2	8,531	8,501	9,052	-5.8
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	20,796	20,754	21,106	0.2	-1.7	-0.3	20,558	20,502	20,169	1.9
Total Inventories.....	15,599	15,530	15,435	0.4	0.6	-0.2	15,523	15,253	15,048	3.2
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	576,639	573,756	569,559	0.5	0.7	-1.9	569,807	568,790	530,128	7.5
Total Inventories.....	113,871	112,713	112,190	1.0	0.5	1.5	114,180	112,271	103,214	10.6
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	15,897	16,104	16,431	-1.3	-2.0	-0.1	15,325	15,607	15,984	-4.1
Total Inventories.....	25,582	25,264	25,155	1.3	0.4	0.9	25,815	25,226	24,601	4.9
<b>Nondefense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	407,213	403,804	399,562	0.8	1.1	-2.1	403,549	400,692	356,220	13.3
Total Inventories.....	61,986	61,183	60,259	1.3	1.5	2.0	61,956	60,833	53,245	16.4
<b>Defense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	62,870	61,713	60,237	1.9	2.5	-0.2	61,365	60,517	57,892	6.0
Total Inventories.....	13,162	13,167	13,615	0.0	-3.3	2.0	13,266	13,254	12,958	2.4
<b>All other durable goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	7,368	7,310	7,255	0.8	0.8	0.3	7,256	7,115	6,903	5.1
Total Inventories.....	50,715	50,649	50,756	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	50,870	50,654	50,136	1.5
<b>Capital goods<sup>3</sup>:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	748,330	747,196	746,532	0.2	0.1	-1.8	740,180	741,065	701,423	5.5
Total Inventories.....	194,435	193,826	193,524	0.3	0.2	0.9	194,743	192,466	180,710	7.8
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	583,420	581,725	580,894	0.3	0.1	-1.9	578,065	576,768	534,360	8.2
Total Inventories.....	173,392	172,746	171,930	0.4	0.5	0.8	173,787	171,632	159,948	8.7
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	233,469	235,016	237,836	-0.7	-1.2	-1.1	231,259	232,639	231,014	0.1
Total Inventories.....	121,531	121,463	121,424	0.1	0.0	0.3	122,083	120,557	115,560	5.6
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	164,910	165,471	165,638	-0.3	-0.1	-1.2	162,115	164,297	167,063	-3.0
Total Inventories.....	21,043	21,080	21,594	-0.2	-2.4	1.4	20,956	20,834	20,762	0.9

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>.

### 2013 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 2012	November 27, 2012	December 5, 2012
November 2012	December 24, 2012	January 4, 2013
December 2012	January 28, 2013	February 4, 2013
January 2013	February 27, 2013	March 6, 2013
February 2013	March 26, 2013	April 2, 2013
March 2013	April 24, 2013	May 3, 2013
April 2013	May 24, 2013	June 5, 2013
May 2013	June 25, 2013	July 2, 2013
June 2013	July 25, 2013	August 2, 2013
July 2013	August 26, 2013	September 5, 2013
August 2013	September 25, 2013	October 3, 2013
September 2013	October 25, 2013	November 4, 2013
October 2013	November 27, 2013	December 5, 2013
November 2013	December 24, 2013	Not available at this time