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Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders May 2011

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in May increased \$3.6 billion or 1.9 percent to \$195.6 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This increase, up two of the last three months, followed a 2.7 percent April decrease. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.6 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 1.9 percent.

Transportation equipment, also up two of the last three months, had the largest increase, \$2.7 billion or 5.8 percent to \$49.6 billion. This was due to nondefense aircraft and parts which increased \$2.7 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in May, up five of the last six months, increased \$0.6 billion or 0.3 percent to \$194.6 billion. This followed a 1.4 percent April decrease.

Machinery, up three of the last four months, had the largest increase, \$0.5 billion or 2.0 percent to \$28.3 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in May, up thirteen of the last fourteen months, increased \$7.4 billion or 0.9 percent to \$860.2 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent April increase.

Machinery, up sixteen consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$3.5 billion or 3.4 percent to \$108.7 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 3.7 percent April increase.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in May, up seventeen consecutive months, increased \$4.1 billion or 1.2 percent to \$355.4 billion. This was at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 1.2 percent April increase.

Transportation equipment, also up seventeen consecutive months, had the largest increase, \$1.7 billion or 1.6 percent to \$107.8 billion. This was also at the highest level since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.9 percent April increase.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in May increased \$4.0 billion or 5.8 percent to \$72.9 billion. Shipments increased \$0.7 billion or 1.0 percent to \$66.8 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$6.1 billion or 1.2 percent to \$502.8 billion. Inventories increased \$2.0 billion or 1.3 percent to \$160.2 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in May increased \$0.3 billion or 3.9 percent to \$8.7 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.1 billion or 1.1 percent to \$7.9 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$0.8 billion or 0.6 percent to \$149.2 billion. Inventories increased \$0.4 billion or 1.9 percent to \$20.8 billion.

Revised April Data

Revised seasonally adjusted April figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$442.1 billion (revised from \$440.4 billion); shipments, \$444.1 billion (revised from \$444.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$852.9 billion (revised from \$850.7 billion); and total inventories, \$588.7 billion (revised from \$587.8 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 July 5, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for June is scheduled for release on July 27, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. EDT. See back page for survey description.

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		
	May 2011 ²	Apr 2011 ^f	Mar 2011	Apr - May ²	Mar - Apr ^f	Feb - Mar	May 2011 ²	Apr 2011 ^f	May 2010	2011	2010	Change 11/10
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	194,622	194,031	196,879	0.3	-1.4	3.1	195,548	192,382	182,118	949,278	882,659	7.5
New Orders ⁴	195,565	191,952	197,329	1.9	-2.7	4.6	193,874	186,153	175,009	953,553	869,273	9.7
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	148,527	147,771	148,816	0.5	-0.7	2.5	149,985	148,409	139,551	723,292	666,123	8.6
New Orders ⁴	145,997	145,081	145,601	0.6	-0.4	2.6	146,959	144,294	135,682	717,921	655,443	9.5
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	184,580	183,873	186,258	0.4	-1.3	3.2	185,757	182,813	170,434	899,685	820,993	9.6
New Orders ⁴	184,625	181,242	186,578	1.9	-2.9	4.2	184,737	177,189	164,851	897,391	806,263	11.3
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	140,391	139,458	142,338	0.7	-2.0	3.6	141,803	136,633	131,511	683,052	633,807	7.8
New Orders.....	147,773	144,117	148,388	2.5	-2.9	5.0	145,818	138,985	129,683	720,066	649,927	10.8
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	22,927	22,558	22,519	1.6	0.2	3.7	24,396	23,380	19,158	113,105	89,422	26.5
New Orders.....	23,001	22,603	22,311	1.8	1.3	7.2	24,201	23,006	19,342	115,240	94,499	21.9
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	24,598	24,583	24,967	0.1	-1.5	2.4	25,244	24,422	24,198	120,012	113,966	5.3
New Orders.....	24,619	24,609	25,143	0.0	-2.1	-2.0	25,616	24,836	23,987	125,254	117,846	6.3
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	28,257	27,712	29,222	2.0	-5.2	6.3	28,954	28,262	26,915	139,968	126,441	10.7
New Orders.....	31,787	31,423	31,371	1.2	0.2	8.4	32,012	32,648	28,476	155,520	132,123	17.7
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments.....	30,688	31,071	29,787	-1.2	4.3	-1.5	28,392	30,837	28,069	146,655	141,970	3.3
New Orders.....	24,354	24,269	23,818	0.4	1.9	-3.4	21,617	21,802	22,069	114,432	112,357	1.8
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	5,569	5,706	5,631	-2.4	1.3	5.1	4,781	5,424	4,452	25,233	21,968	14.9
New Orders.....	5,714	5,639	5,715	1.3	-1.3	10.3	4,926	5,357	4,645	25,072	21,955	14.2
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	3,116	3,241	3,132	-3.9	3.5	-7.0	2,966	2,846	3,666	15,025	17,604	-14.7
New Orders.....	2,855	2,755	2,821	3.6	-2.3	-10.0	2,361	2,400	2,831	13,663	16,984	-19.6
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	10,181	9,986	10,238	2.0	-2.5	3.6	10,231	9,827	9,449	48,929	45,413	7.7
New Orders.....	10,437	10,117	10,669	3.2	-5.2	3.1	10,521	9,849	9,772	51,455	47,950	7.3
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	46,095	46,260	48,063	-0.4	-3.8	5.1	45,563	43,973	42,567	225,986	216,536	4.4
New Orders.....	49,568	46,871	51,728	5.8	-9.4	10.6	46,915	41,859	39,327	235,632	213,830	10.2
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	29,059	28,896	30,518	0.6	-5.3	6.9	28,903	27,870	25,760	143,656	128,639	11.7
New Orders.....	29,026	28,852	30,479	0.6	-5.3	6.6	28,727	27,819	25,589	143,479	128,141	12.0
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	6,654	6,820	6,959	-2.4	-2.0	2.5	6,397	6,131	5,638	32,102	29,892	7.4
New Orders.....	9,985	7,314	10,301	36.5	-29.0	2.3	8,791	4,650	5,189	38,869	30,306	28.3
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	4,252	4,196	4,412	1.3	-4.9	3.1	3,960	3,833	4,586	20,032	24,924	-19.6
New Orders.....	4,729	4,482	4,500	5.5	-0.4	7.0	3,896	3,570	3,935	22,480	25,551	-12.0
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	31,876	31,861	32,083	0.0	-0.7	1.9	32,768	31,681	31,762	154,623	148,911	3.8
New Orders.....	31,799	32,060	32,289	-0.8	-0.7	2.5	32,992	32,153	32,036	156,020	150,668	3.6
Capital goods³:												
Shipments.....	74,613	74,048	75,565	0.8	-2.0	3.6	73,474	71,652	69,634	359,703	343,589	4.7
New Orders.....	81,546	77,239	81,655	5.6	-5.4	6.1	77,881	72,449	68,771	386,654	350,048	10.5
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	66,758	66,104	67,097	1.0	-1.5	3.6	65,711	64,033	60,141	320,269	293,087	9.3
New Orders.....	72,869	68,885	72,979	5.8	-5.6	5.0	70,415	65,343	60,472	340,678	298,901	14.0
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	63,022	62,175	63,151	1.4	-1.5	3.7	62,051	60,516	56,962	302,468	275,799	9.7
New Orders.....	66,121	65,060	65,571	1.6	-0.8	5.4	64,551	63,659	57,785	317,463	280,958	13.0
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	7,855	7,944	8,468	-1.1	-6.2	3.5	7,763	7,619	9,493	39,434	50,502	-21.9
New Orders.....	8,677	8,354	8,676	3.9	-3.7	16.1	7,466	7,106	8,299	45,976	51,147	-10.1

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

⁵ 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
	May 2011 ²	Apr 2011 ^r	Mar 2011	Apr - May ²	Mar - Apr ^r	Feb - Mar	May 2011 ²	Apr 2011 ^r	May 2010	2011/2010
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	860,243	852,861	848,202	0.9	0.5	0.7	866,472	862,457	814,793	6.3
Total Inventories.....	355,428	351,364	347,292	1.2	1.2	1.7	359,251	353,642	317,170	13.3
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	363,036	359,127	355,079	1.1	1.1	0.7	367,566	364,903	323,585	13.6
Total Inventories.....	247,657	245,325	242,184	1.0	1.3	1.4	249,892	246,348	224,260	11.4
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	692,480	685,996	681,889	0.9	0.6	0.9	696,499	691,830	649,486	7.2
Total Inventories.....	329,316	325,636	321,379	1.1	1.3	1.6	333,086	327,767	291,986	14.1
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	860,243	852,861	848,202	0.9	0.5	0.7	866,472	862,457	814,793	6.3
Total Inventories.....	291,204	287,615	283,901	1.2	1.3	2.0	294,403	289,684	257,580	14.3
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	33,221	33,147	33,102	0.2	0.1	-0.6	33,796	33,991	28,778	17.4
Total Inventories.....	33,858	33,328	32,589	1.6	2.3	2.2	34,434	33,586	29,240	17.8
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	62,689	62,668	62,642	0.0	0.0	0.3	64,530	64,158	62,535	3.2
Total Inventories.....	44,760	44,113	43,442	1.5	1.5	1.4	44,992	44,347	40,248	11.8
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	108,739	105,209	101,498	3.4	3.7	2.2	109,830	106,772	81,964	34.0
Total Inventories.....	57,058	56,290	55,560	1.4	1.3	2.0	57,628	56,720	50,529	14.0
Computers and electronic products⁵:										
Unfilled Orders.....	124,163	124,058	124,122	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	124,387	125,473	120,534	3.2
Total Inventories.....	48,016	47,903	47,294	0.2	1.3	1.8	48,424	47,720	44,073	9.9
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	3,493	3,348	3,415	4.3	-2.0	2.5	3,493	3,348	3,531	-1.1
Total Inventories.....	5,772	5,803	5,424	-0.5	7.0	-0.6	6,033	5,709	5,888	2.5
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	28,141	28,402	28,888	-0.9	-1.7	-1.1	28,229	28,834	28,951	-2.5
Total Inventories.....	9,710	9,638	9,584	0.7	0.6	4.0	9,757	9,601	8,698	12.2
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	25,514	25,258	25,127	1.0	0.5	1.7	25,778	25,488	21,168	21.8
Total Inventories.....	15,466	15,393	15,247	0.5	1.0	0.8	15,649	15,560	14,254	9.8
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	497,207	493,734	493,123	0.7	0.1	0.7	498,906	497,554	491,208	1.6
Total Inventories.....	107,771	106,039	105,108	1.6	0.9	2.4	109,359	107,294	92,910	17.7
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	13,466	13,499	13,543	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	13,619	13,795	13,402	1.6
Total Inventories.....	24,850	24,584	24,436	1.1	0.6	0.3	25,292	24,904	22,594	11.9
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	344,328	340,997	340,503	1.0	0.1	1.0	344,183	341,789	331,493	3.8
Total Inventories.....	57,819	56,600	55,454	2.2	2.1	3.3	58,873	57,388	45,398	29.7
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	53,991	53,514	53,228	0.9	0.5	0.2	54,553	54,617	51,698	5.5
Total Inventories.....	14,574	14,259	14,371	2.2	-0.8	3.7	14,639	14,280	14,157	3.4
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	8,710	8,787	8,588	-0.9	2.3	2.5	9,245	9,021	8,606	7.4
Total Inventories.....	48,499	48,298	48,052	0.4	0.5	0.3	48,765	48,415	45,916	6.2
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	651,909	644,976	641,785	1.1	0.5	1.0	655,163	650,756	616,660	6.2
Total Inventories.....	181,014	178,632	176,148	1.3	1.4	2.5	183,263	179,871	158,216	15.8
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	502,756	496,645	493,864	1.2	0.6	1.2	503,949	499,245	468,654	7.5
Total Inventories.....	160,236	158,249	155,538	1.3	1.7	2.3	162,497	159,362	138,109	17.7
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	199,470	196,371	193,486	1.6	1.5	1.3	201,089	198,589	174,780	15.1
Total Inventories.....	110,613	109,775	108,225	0.8	1.4	1.6	111,953	110,185	100,709	11.2
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	149,153	148,331	147,921	0.6	0.3	0.1	151,214	151,511	148,006	2.2
Total Inventories.....	20,778	20,383	20,610	1.9	-1.1	4.2	20,766	20,509	20,107	3.3

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>.