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## Advance Report on Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders August 2009

### New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in August decreased \$4.0 billion or 2.4 percent to \$164.4 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This was the second decrease in the last three months. This followed a 4.8 percent July increase. Excluding transportation, new orders were down slightly. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 2.4 percent.

Transportation equipment, also down two of the last three months, had the largest decrease, \$4.0 billion or 9.3 percent to \$39.5 billion. This was led by nondefense aircraft and parts, which decreased \$3.7 billion.

### Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in August, down following two consecutive monthly increases, decreased \$2.4 billion or 1.4 percent to \$171.3 billion. This followed a 2.2 percent July increase.

Transportation equipment, also down following two consecutive monthly increases, had the largest decrease, \$0.9 billion or 2.0 percent to \$42.1 billion.

### Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in August, down eleven consecutive months, decreased \$2.8 billion or 0.4 percent to \$737.1 billion. This was the longest streak of consecutive monthly decreases since the series was first published on a NAICS basis in 1992 and followed a 0.1 percent July decrease.

Transportation equipment, down ten of the last eleven months, had the largest decrease, \$2.7 billion or 0.6 percent to \$431.4 billion.

### Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in August, down eight consecutive months, decreased \$4.2 billion or 1.3 percent to \$308.9 billion. This followed a 1.1 percent July decrease.

Transportation equipment, down following two consecutive monthly increases, had the largest decrease, \$2.8 billion or 2.9 percent to \$91.2 billion.

### Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in August decreased \$4.0 billion or 7.1 percent to \$52.7 billion. Shipments decreased \$1.4 billion or 2.4 percent to \$55.5 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$2.7 billion or 0.6 percent to \$422.8 billion. Inventories decreased \$2.3 billion or 1.7 percent to \$135.3 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in August increased \$0.1 billion or 1.1 percent to \$9.9 billion. Shipments increased \$0.3 billion or 2.9 percent to \$10.8 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$0.8 billion or 0.6 percent to \$140.7 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.3 percent to \$20.2 billion.

### Revised July Data

Revised seasonally adjusted July figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$354.9 billion (revised from \$355.5 billion); shipments, \$360.0 billion (revised from \$359.7 billion); unfilled orders, \$740.0 billion (revised from \$740.6 billion); and total inventories, \$502.4 billion (revised from \$503.1 billion).

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Figures in text are in seasonally adjusted current dollars. 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 October 2, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for September is scheduled for release on October 28, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. EDT. See back page for survey description.

**Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders**  
[Millions of Dollars]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted <sup>1</sup>					
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Year to Date		
	Aug 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Jul 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2009	Jul - Aug <sup>2</sup>	Jun - Jul <sup>r</sup>	May - Jun	Aug 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Jul 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 2008	2009	2008	Percent Change 09/08
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>												
<b>Total:</b>												
Shipments.....	171,256	173,657	169,836	-1.4	2.2	0.8	175,081	164,742	210,847	1,373,189	1,693,270	-18.9
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	164,442	168,480	160,821	-2.4	4.8	-1.1	165,888	156,300	204,937	1,276,918	1,700,733	-24.9
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>												
Shipments.....	129,115	130,657	127,146	-1.2	2.8	0.6	131,929	129,224	159,714	1,031,285	1,270,804	-18.8
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	124,989	124,996	123,867	0.0	0.9	2.6	125,674	122,709	152,352	975,052	1,252,967	-22.2
<b>Excluding defense:</b>												
Shipments.....	157,465	160,020	155,658	-1.6	2.8	0.4	161,424	152,342	199,367	1,269,244	1,602,859	-20.8
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	151,490	155,183	148,863	-2.4	4.2	0.8	154,305	146,331	194,170	1,181,293	1,608,791	-26.6
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>												
Shipments.....	123,094	124,502	123,467	-1.1	0.8	1.6	125,909	117,826	152,372	989,720	1,214,159	-18.5
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	120,283	123,768	117,408	-2.8	5.4	-1.4	120,639	115,002	150,721	923,695	1,262,296	-26.8
<b>Primary metals:</b>												
Shipments.....	13,326	13,121	12,277	1.6	6.9	1.7	14,363	13,456	23,845	106,555	182,274	-41.5
New Orders.....	13,747	13,491	13,074	1.9	3.2	12.2	14,947	13,917	22,223	103,741	183,408	-43.4
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>												
Shipments.....	23,832	23,823	23,439	0.0	1.6	0.9	25,597	23,952	29,590	192,761	223,557	-13.8
New Orders.....	23,512	23,314	22,516	0.8	3.5	0.5	24,735	23,304	28,545	185,276	226,292	-18.1
<b>Machinery:</b>												
Shipments.....	22,101	22,421	23,327	-1.4	-3.9	0.7	21,592	21,962	27,975	186,655	233,828	-20.2
New Orders.....	21,621	21,477	23,307	0.7	-7.9	4.6	20,753	21,456	28,759	174,519	249,054	-29.9
<b>Computers and electronic products:</b>												
Shipments.....	29,251	30,047	27,879	-2.6	7.8	0.6	28,071	28,493	29,516	221,039	250,409	-11.7
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	25,387	25,573	25,138	-0.7	1.7	1.5	23,286	22,442	25,042	188,992	211,342	-10.6
<b>Computers and related products:</b>												
Shipments.....	4,265	4,443	4,366	-4.0	1.8	0.3	3,891	3,965	4,323	33,351	39,526	-15.6
New Orders.....	4,379	4,489	4,660	-2.5	-3.7	0.5	4,005	4,011	4,404	33,231	39,713	-16.3
<b>Communications equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	5,197	5,336	5,114	-2.6	4.3	11.7	4,953	4,510	5,211	37,329	43,902	-15.0
New Orders.....	5,474	5,390	4,923	1.6	9.5	-0.6	4,700	4,420	5,309	37,881	44,684	-15.2
<b>Semiconductors:</b>												
Shipments.....	4,003	4,443	2,956	-9.9	50.3	-14.9	3,923	5,618	4,259	30,246	40,674	-25.6
New Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>												
Shipments.....	8,237	8,523	8,318	-3.4	2.5	0.3	8,514	8,281	10,823	67,241	84,982	-20.9
New Orders.....	8,380	8,424	8,081	-0.5	4.2	1.7	8,509	8,472	10,300	65,996	87,008	-24.1
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>												
Shipments.....	42,141	43,000	42,690	-2.0	0.7	1.5	43,152	35,518	51,133	341,904	422,466	-19.1
New Orders.....	39,453	43,484	36,954	-9.3	17.7	-11.9	40,214	33,591	52,585	301,866	447,766	-32.6
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	23,225	23,600	22,834	-1.6	3.4	0.2	24,590	18,534	31,827	189,906	268,795	-29.3
New Orders.....	23,094	23,003	22,641	0.4	1.6	-0.2	24,249	18,342	31,428	188,143	267,422	-29.6
<b>Nondefense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	7,045	7,492	7,304	-6.0	2.6	1.2	6,707	6,384	7,946	59,492	66,140	-10.1
New Orders.....	5,084	8,796	4,437	-42.2	98.2	-30.5	5,172	6,523	7,868	33,351	90,291	-63.1
<b>Defense aircraft and parts:</b>												
Shipments.....	5,583	5,446	6,194	2.5	-12.1	8.8	5,558	4,825	4,669	42,092	34,990	20.3
New Orders.....	5,019	5,613	7,081	-10.6	-20.7	30.3	4,357	4,775	4,557	40,997	36,879	11.2
<b>All other durable goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	32,368	32,722	31,906	-1.1	2.6	-0.2	33,792	33,080	37,965	257,034	295,754	-13.1
New Orders.....	32,342	32,717	31,751	-1.1	3.0	0.2	33,444	33,118	37,483	256,528	295,863	-13.3
<b>Capital goods:<sup>3</sup></b>												
Shipments.....	66,224	67,310	67,412	-1.6	-0.2	1.8	64,661	62,580	73,646	529,107	603,871	-12.4
New Orders.....	62,679	66,575	61,502	-5.9	8.2	-5.6	58,935	59,051	73,472	473,359	643,302	-26.4
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	55,470	56,860	56,529	-2.4	0.6	1.1	53,895	52,885	64,611	448,573	533,741	-16.0
New Orders.....	52,735	56,735	53,014	-7.1	7.0	-0.2	49,961	51,927	64,772	400,343	572,449	-30.1
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>												
Shipments.....	51,922	52,937	52,774	-1.9	0.3	1.4	50,546	49,753	60,457	417,418	498,149	-16.2
New Orders.....	51,395	51,576	52,237	-0.4	-1.3	3.8	48,388	48,497	60,479	397,717	514,280	-22.7
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>												
Shipments.....	10,754	10,450	10,883	2.9	-4.0	5.3	10,766	9,695	9,035	80,534	70,130	14.8
New Orders.....	9,944	9,840	8,488	1.1	15.9	-29.5	8,974	7,124	8,700	73,016	70,853	3.1

NA Not Available <sup>r</sup> Revised

<sup>1</sup> Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders and total inventories are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.

<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. Further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations are contained in our most recent annual benchmark publication, Current Industrial Reports: M3-3(07), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 2004-2007."

<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; 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>4</sup> Data on new and unfilled orders are not available for the semiconductor industry. Estimates and percent changes for new orders and unfilled orders exclude semiconductor industry data. Inventories for semiconductor industry data are included in computers and electronic products and total durable goods industries, but are not shown separately.

**Table 2. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Total Inventories**  
 [Millions of Dollars]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted <sup>1</sup>			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change 2009/2008
	Aug 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Jul 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2009	Jul - Aug <sup>2</sup>	Jun - Jul <sup>r</sup>	May - Jun	Aug 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Jul 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 2008	
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>										
<b>Total:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	737,140	739,951	740,685	-0.4	-0.1	-0.8	732,728	737,998	819,953	-10.6
Total Inventories.....	308,883	313,089	316,667	-1.3	-1.1	-1.5	310,783	313,946	341,870	-9.1
<b>Excluding transportation:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	305,764	305,887	307,105	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	304,931	307,263	357,858	-14.8
Total Inventories.....	217,651	219,093	223,434	-0.7	-1.9	-2.2	218,693	219,165	251,996	-13.2
<b>Excluding defense:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	580,073	582,045	582,439	-0.3	-0.1	-0.7	578,492	581,688	667,113	-13.3
Total Inventories.....	282,653	286,839	290,643	-1.5	-1.3	-1.6	284,510	287,647	317,210	-10.3
<b>Manufacturing with unfilled orders:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	737,140	739,951	740,685	-0.4	-0.1	-0.8	732,728	737,998	819,953	-10.6
Total Inventories.....	248,396	252,213	254,527	-1.5	-0.9	-1.6	250,115	253,098	274,853	-9.0
<b>Primary metals:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	15,124	14,703	14,333	2.9	2.6	5.9	15,513	14,929	28,397	-45.4
Total Inventories.....	25,260	25,479	26,193	-0.9	-2.7	-3.2	25,602	25,674	35,367	-27.6
<b>Fabricated metal products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	49,006	49,326	49,835	-0.6	-1.0	-1.8	49,250	50,112	62,154	-20.8
Total Inventories.....	37,390	37,896	38,684	-1.3	-2.0	-2.4	37,397	38,007	44,907	-16.7
<b>Machinery:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	86,133	86,613	87,557	-0.6	-1.1	0.0	85,775	86,614	105,613	-18.8
Total Inventories.....	49,602	49,655	50,742	-0.1	-2.1	-1.6	49,488	49,129	54,576	-9.3
<b>Computers and electronic products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	124,149	124,010	124,041	0.1	0.0	0.2	122,778	123,640	123,374	-0.5
Total Inventories.....	43,501	43,619	44,275	-0.3	-1.5	-2.9	44,239	43,822	47,923	-7.7
<b>Computers and related products:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	3,970	3,856	3,810	3.0	1.2	8.4	3,970	3,856	3,904	1.7
Total Inventories.....	4,195	4,240	4,330	-1.1	-2.1	-1.7	4,424	4,277	5,311	-16.7
<b>Communications equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	37,796	37,519	37,465	0.7	0.1	-0.5	37,306	37,559	37,199	0.3
Total Inventories.....	9,254	9,303	9,531	-0.5	-2.4	-9.2	9,282	9,226	10,050	-7.6
<b>Semiconductors:</b>										
Unfilled Orders <sup>4</sup> .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Total Inventories <sup>4</sup> .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	20,150	20,007	20,106	0.7	-0.5	-1.2	20,354	20,359	25,090	-18.9
Total Inventories.....	12,578	12,750	12,917	-1.3	-1.3	-2.1	12,548	12,780	15,199	-17.4
<b>Transportation equipment:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	431,376	434,064	433,580	-0.6	0.1	-1.3	427,797	430,735	462,095	-7.4
Total Inventories.....	91,232	93,996	93,233	-2.9	0.8	0.0	92,090	94,781	89,874	2.5
<b>Motor vehicles and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	13,840	13,971	14,568	-0.9	-4.1	-1.3	13,886	14,227	17,192	-19.2
Total Inventories.....	18,380	18,593	18,760	-1.1	-0.9	-0.9	18,527	18,790	23,407	-20.8
<b>Nondefense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	283,773	285,734	284,430	-0.7	0.5	-1.0	281,969	283,504	304,766	-7.5
Total Inventories.....	45,978	48,200	47,672	-4.6	1.1	1.2	46,496	48,655	40,720	14.2
<b>Defense Aircraft and parts:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	47,800	48,364	48,197	-1.2	0.3	1.9	47,132	48,333	45,191	4.3
Total Inventories.....	15,888	15,794	15,530	0.6	1.7	0.3	15,972	15,873	14,308	11.6
<b>All other durable goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	11,202	11,228	11,233	-0.2	0.0	-1.4	11,261	11,609	13,230	-14.9
Total Inventories.....	49,320	49,694	50,623	-0.8	-1.8	-1.3	49,419	49,753	54,024	-8.5
<b>Capital goods:<sup>3</sup></b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	563,522	567,067	567,802	-0.6	-0.1	-1.0	558,187	563,913	614,888	-9.2
Total Inventories.....	155,471	157,822	159,466	-1.5	-1.0	-1.2	156,536	157,995	160,623	-2.5
<b>Nondefense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	422,845	425,580	425,705	-0.6	0.0	-0.8	420,040	423,974	477,523	-12.0
Total Inventories.....	135,305	137,596	139,419	-1.7	-1.3	-1.2	136,411	137,799	141,549	-3.6
<b>Excluding aircraft:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	174,617	175,144	176,505	-0.3	-0.8	-0.3	173,481	175,639	204,915	-15.3
Total Inventories.....	98,877	99,317	101,312	-0.4	-2.0	-2.2	99,561	99,114	109,601	-9.2
<b>Defense capital goods:</b>										
Unfilled Orders.....	140,677	141,487	142,097	-0.6	-0.4	-1.7	138,147	139,939	137,365	0.6
Total Inventories.....	20,166	20,226	20,047	-0.3	0.9	-1.0	20,125	20,196	19,074	5.5

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 59 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 61 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>.