

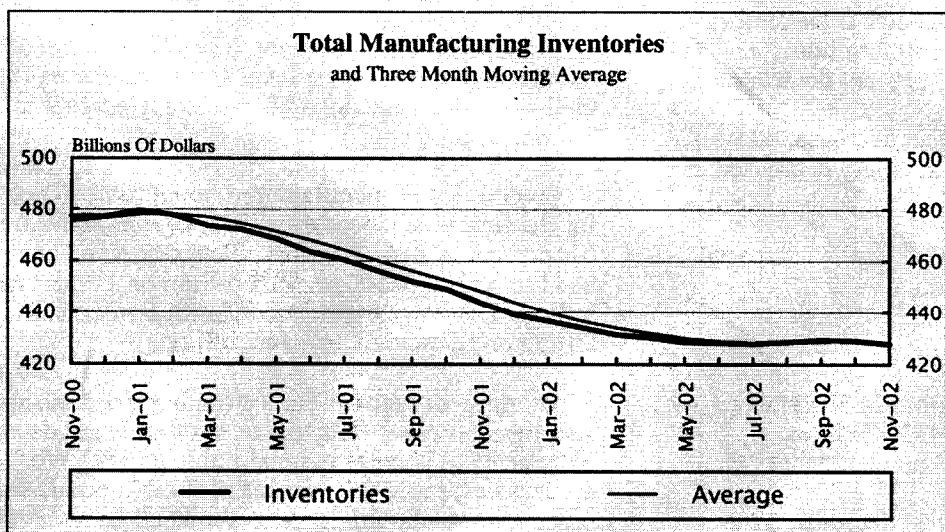
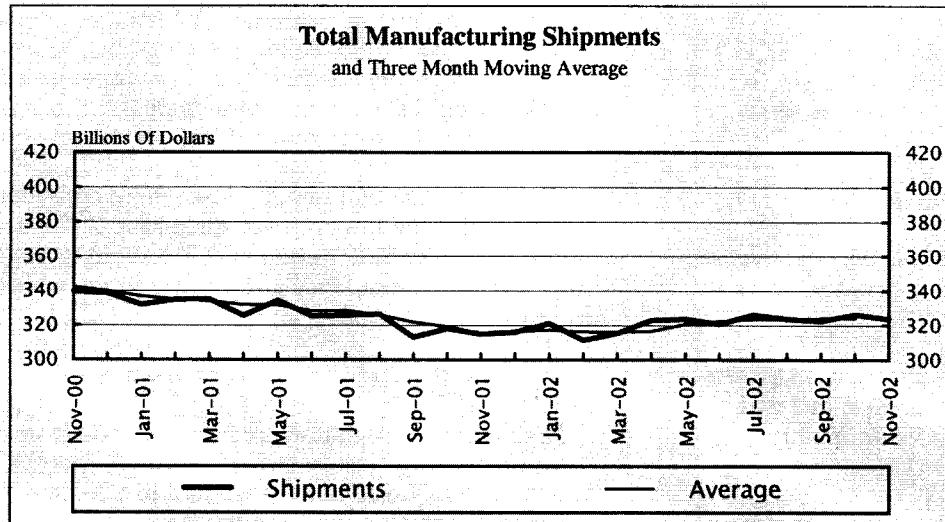
# Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders

November  
2002

M3-1(02)-11

For Wire Transmission 10:00 a.m. E.S.T., January 7, 2003

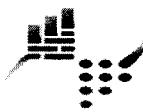
## Current Industrial Reports



For data, call 301-763-4673. For inquiries, contact Dan Sansbury or Derrick Roy, Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division (MCD), Washington, DC 20233-6900 or call 301-763-4832.

The advance report on durable goods for December is scheduled for January 28, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. and the full report on February 4, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.  
For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington DC, 20402

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All figures in text are in seasonally adjusted current dollars and **exclude data for semiconductor manufacturing**.

## Summary

New orders for manufactured goods in November decreased \$2.7 billion or 0.8 percent to \$319.3 billion, the Department of Commerce, Census Bureau reported today. This followed a 1.4 percent October increase. Year to date, new orders for 2002 were 1.1 percent below the same period year ago.

Shipments decreased \$2.6 billion or 0.8 percent to \$323.7 billion, following a 1.2 percent October increase. Year to date, shipments for 2002 were 1.3 percent below the same period a year ago.

Unfilled orders, down three consecutive months, decreased \$4.5 billion or 0.9 percent to \$476.9 billion, following a 0.9 percent October decrease; this was the lowest level since September 1996. The unfilled orders-to-shipments ratio was 3.92, unchanged from October.

Inventories decreased \$1.3 billion or 0.3 percent to \$427.8 billion, following a 0.1 percent October decrease; this was the lowest level since March 1997. The inventories-to-shipments ratio was 1.32, up from 1.31 in October.

## New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in November decreased \$2.6 billion or 1.5 percent to \$169.3 billion, revised from the previously published 1.4 percent decrease.

Transportation equipment had the largest decrease, \$0.9 billion or 1.9 percent to \$49.2 billion. Machinery decreased \$0.7 billion or 3.1 percent to \$21.8 billion.

New orders for manufactured nondurable goods decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.1 percent to \$149.9 billion.

## Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in November decreased \$2.4 billion or 1.4 percent to \$173.8 billion, revised from the previously published 1.3 percent decrease.

Transportation equipment had the largest decrease, \$2.2 billion or 4.0 percent to \$51.5 billion, led by light trucks and utility vehicles, which decreased by \$1.1 billion.

Shipments of manufactured nondurable goods decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.1 percent to \$149.9 billion. Petroleum and coal products had the largest decrease, \$0.5 billion or 2.3 percent to \$18.9 billion, due to petroleum refineries, which decreased \$0.5 billion.

## Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in November, down three consecutive months, decreased \$4.5 billion or 0.9 percent to \$476.9 billion, unrevised from the previously published 0.9 percent decrease; this was the lowest level since September 1996.

Transportation equipment, down three consecutive months and at the lowest level since May 2000, had the largest decrease, \$2.3 billion or 0.9 percent to \$246.1 billion, led by nondefense aircraft and parts, which decreased \$1.7 billion.

## Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in November, down twenty-two consecutive months, decreased \$0.7 billion or 0.3 percent to \$262.4 billion, revised from the previously published 0.2 percent decrease. This was the lowest level since November 1995.

Transportation equipment, down five consecutive months and at the lowest level since December 1997, had the largest decrease, \$0.8 billion or 1.1 percent to \$70.1 billion.

Inventories of manufactured nondurable goods, down for the first time since May 2002, decreased \$0.6 billion or 0.4 percent to \$165.4 billion. Petroleum and coal products had the largest decrease, \$0.3 billion or 2.0 percent to \$13.0 billion. Beverage and tobacco products decreased \$0.2 billion or 1.3 percent to \$14.2 billion.

By stage of fabrication, November materials and supplies decreased 0.8 percent in durable goods and increased 0.2 percent in nondurable goods. Work in process decreased 0.1 percent in durable goods and 1.6 percent in nondurable goods. Finished goods increased 0.1 percent in durable goods and decreased 0.3 percent in nondurable goods.

## SEE BACK PAGE FOR SURVEY DESCRIPTION

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**Table 3. Value of Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders for Industry Groups**

Millions of Dollars

Industry	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted				Percent Change Nov. 02/01	
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly					
	Nov. 2002 <sup>b</sup>	Oct. 2002 <sup>f</sup>	Sept. 2002	Oct. - Nov.	Sept. - Oct.	Aug. - Sept.	Nov. 2002 <sup>b</sup>	Oct. 2002 <sup>f</sup>	Sept. 2002	Nov. 2001		
All manufacturing industries <sup>1</sup> .....	476,944	481,405	485,751	-0.9	-0.9	-1.0	468,273	473,417	479,361	502,285	-6.8	
Excluding transportation <sup>1</sup> .....	230,873	233,051	233,879	-0.9	-0.4	-0.8	227,254	229,471	230,986	249,430	-8.9	
Excluding defense <sup>1</sup> .....	333,837	336,862	338,966	-0.9	-0.6	-1.7	329,285	332,719	335,946	364,430	-9.6	
Durable goods industries.....	476,944	481,405	485,751	-0.9	-0.9	-1.0	468,273	473,417	479,361	502,285	-6.8	
Primary metals.....	15,250	15,773	15,944	-3.3	-1.1	0.0	14,289	14,985	15,509	15,854	-9.9	
Iron and steel mills.....	8,574	8,935	9,071	-4.0	-1.5	0.4	7,872	8,365	8,815	7,641	3.0	
Aluminum and nonferrous metals.....	4,426	4,599	4,649	-3.8	-1.1	-1.4	4,248	4,442	4,550	5,864	-27.6	
Ferrous metal foundries.....	2,250	2,239	2,224	0.5	0.7	1.0	2,169	2,178	2,144	2,349	-7.7	
Fabricated metal products.....	38,607	38,808	38,689	-0.5	0.3	-0.6	37,893	38,322	38,720	40,386	-6.2	
Machinery.....	44,978	45,851	46,101	-1.9	-0.5	-1.7	44,657	45,475	45,697	54,108	-17.5	
Construction machinery.....	2,028	2,086	2,055	-2.8	1.5	-4.9	1,914	1,894	1,832	2,084	-8.2	
Mining, oil field, and gas field machinery.....	1,131	1,150	1,132	-1.7	1.6	1.6	1,131	1,150	1,132	1,303	-13.2	
Industrial machinery.....	8,809	9,105	9,032	-3.3	0.8	-1.8	8,877	9,156	8,774	9,182	-3.3	
Photographic equipment.....	960	950	920	1.1	3.3	0.0	971	951	917	882	10.1	
Ventilation, heating, air-conditioning, and refrigeration equipment.....	4,380	4,423	4,268	-1.0	3.6	-3.3	4,195	4,257	4,222	4,528	-7.4	
Metalworking machinery.....	3,840	3,803	3,709	1.0	2.5	1.1	3,804	3,775	3,687	4,092	-7.0	
Turbines, generators, and other power transmission equipment.....	9,744	10,234	10,967	-4.8	-6.7	-7.5	9,856	10,304	11,046	17,405	-43.4	
Material handling equipment.....	5,087	5,113	5,143	-0.5	-0.6	3.6	4,977	5,041	5,118	5,383	-7.5	
Computers and electronic products <sup>1</sup> .....	107,542	108,196	109,031	-0.6	-0.8	-1.1	106,056	106,387	107,221	113,517	-6.6	
Electronic computers.....	6,845	6,852	6,819	-0.1	0.5	10.3	7,051	6,667	6,614	7,244	-2.7	
Nondefense communications equipment.....	36,649	36,734	36,696	-0.2	0.1	-5.9	36,108	35,934	35,864	39,857	-9.4	
Defense communications equipment.....	2,431	2,516	2,417	-3.4	4.1	2.4	2,431	2,516	2,417	2,388	1.8	
Semiconductors <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	
Electronic components.....	14,297	14,533	14,522	-1.6	0.1	-7.2	14,146	14,667	14,681	16,474	-14.1	
Nondefense search and navigation equipment.....	4,126	4,117	4,007	0.2	2.7	-1.9	4,077	4,064	3,981	4,500	-9.4	
Defense search and navigation equipment.....	29,942	30,104	31,408	-0.5	-4.2	4.8	29,150	29,313	30,821	30,796	-5.3	
Electromedical, measuring, and control instruments.....	13,252	13,340	13,162	-0.7	1.4	0.9	13,093	13,226	12,843	12,258	6.8	
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components.....	14,516	14,698	14,755	-1.2	-0.4	1.6	14,337	14,539	14,446	15,224	-5.8	
Electric lighting equipment.....	1,662	1,662	1,683	0.0	-1.2	16.1	1,580	1,632	1,657	1,385	14.1	
Household appliances.....	922	1,084	1,050	-14.9	3.2	-0.6	917	968	920	1,212	-24.3	
Electrical equipment.....	8,282	8,369	8,519	-1.0	-1.8	-0.2	8,282	8,381	8,403	9,235	-10.3	
Transportation equipment.....	246,071	248,354	251,872	-0.9	-1.4	-1.2	241,019	243,946	248,375	252,855	-4.7	
Motor vehicle bodies, parts, and trailers.....	12,282	12,113	12,360	1.4	-2.0	-1.9	11,782	11,464	11,946	11,800	-0.2	
Nondefense aircraft and parts.....	111,029	112,696	114,386	-1.5	-1.5	-1.4	109,804	111,991	114,086	124,526	-11.8	
Defense aircraft and parts.....	57,069	57,441	57,730	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	54,830	55,603	56,654	51,114	7.3	
Ships and boats.....	21,128	21,534	21,713	-1.9	-0.8	1.6	20,782	21,211	21,014	20,321	2.3	
Furniture and related products.....	5,336	5,324	5,359	0.2	-0.7	-1.3	5,378	5,362	5,393	6,307	-14.7	

<sup>a</sup>Preliminary<sup>b</sup>Revised

NA Not available.

Aggregate estimates and percent changes exclude semiconductor industry data. Due to the number of large semiconductor manufacturers choosing not to participate in this voluntary monthly survey, the Census Bureau cannot currently produce monthly estimates of semiconductor shipments, orders, or inventories.

<sup>c</sup>Due to the number of large semiconductor manufacturers choosing not to participate in this voluntary monthly survey, the Census Bureau cannot currently produce monthly estimates of semiconductor shipments, orders, or inventories.

See note at end of Table 2 relating to survey error and revision.







**Table 7. Ratios of Manufacturers' Inventories to Shipments and Unfilled Orders to Shipments, by Industry Group**

[Based on Seasonally Adjusted data]

Industry	Inventory/Shipments ratio				Unfilled Orders/Shipments ratio <sup>1</sup>			
	Nov 2002 <sup>b</sup>	Oct 2002 <sup>f</sup>	Sep 2002	Aug 2002	Nov 2002 <sup>b</sup>	Oct 2002 <sup>f</sup>	Sep 2002	Aug 2002
All manufacturing industries <sup>2</sup> .....	1.32	1.31	1.33	1.32	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Durable goods industries <sup>2</sup> .....	1.51	1.49	1.51	1.50	3.92	3.92	3.97	4.02
Wood products.....	1.25	1.27	1.30	1.28	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nonmetallic mineral products.....	1.06	1.06	1.05	1.04	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Primary metals.....	1.66	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.36	1.39	1.41	1.40
Fabricated metal products.....	1.46	1.45	1.45	1.44	1.93	1.91	1.90	1.91
Machinery.....	1.95	1.95	1.96	1.94	2.18	2.22	2.22	2.23
Computers and electronic products <sup>2</sup> .....	1.62	1.61	1.63	1.62	4.88	4.85	4.91	4.93
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components.....	1.38	1.40	1.43	1.44	1.69	1.72	1.75	1.71
Transportation equipment.....	1.36	1.32	1.35	1.35	7.44	7.42	7.60	7.85
Furniture and related products.....	1.28	1.26	1.28	1.25	1.10	1.09	1.10	1.09
Miscellaneous products.....	1.70	1.74	1.83	1.77	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Nondurable goods industries.....	1.10	1.11	1.12	1.11	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Food products.....	0.84	0.85	0.86	0.84	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Beverage and tobacco products.....	1.58	1.61	1.63	1.57	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Textiles.....	1.35	1.40	1.44	1.43	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Textile products.....	1.44	1.46	1.48	1.48	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Apparel.....	1.53	1.63	1.60	1.58	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Leather and allied products.....	2.18	2.20	2.00	2.01	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Paper products.....	1.14	1.12	1.11	1.08	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Printing.....	0.75	0.74	0.72	0.72	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Petroleum and coal products.....	0.69	0.68	0.71	0.71	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Basic chemicals.....	1.38	1.39	1.38	1.44	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Plastics and rubber products.....	1.16	1.16	1.18	1.14	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)

<sup>b</sup> Preliminary

<sup>f</sup> Revised

X Not Applicable

<sup>1</sup> Excludes the following industries with no unfilled orders: Wood products; nonmetallic mineral products; medical equipment and supplies; office supplies; other miscellaneous manufacturing; cutlery and handtools; farm and garden machinery; computer storage and peripheral devices; audio and video equipment; manufacturing and reproducing magnetic and optical media; batteries; automobiles; light trucks and utility vehicles; heavy duty trucks; and miscellaneous furniture.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote at end of Table 2.

**Table 8. Revisions to Previously Published Monthly Percent Changes**

[Based on Seasonally Adjusted data]

Industry	Shipments			New Orders			Unfilled Orders			Inventories		
	Nov <sup>1</sup> 2002	Nov <sup>2</sup> 1997- 2001	Nov 2001- Oct 2002									
All manufacturing industries <sup>3</sup> .....	(X)	(NA)	0.2	(X)	(NA)	0.4	(X)	(NA)	0.2	(X)	(NA)	0.1
Durable goods industries <sup>3</sup> .....	-0.1	(NA)	0.2	-0.1	(NA)	0.6	0.0	(NA)	0.2	-0.1	(NA)	0.2
Wood products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.5	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.5
Nonmetallic mineral products.....	(X)	(NA)	1.2	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.4
Primary metals.....	0.0	(NA)	0.4	0.0	(NA)	0.8	0.0	(NA)	0.4	0.1	(NA)	0.1
Fabricated metal products.....	-0.1	(NA)	0.3	-0.9	(NA)	0.9	0.1	(NA)	0.4	-0.1	(NA)	0.3
Machinery.....	0.2	(NA)	0.5	0.1	(NA)	1.2	0.0	(NA)	0.4	-0.2	(NA)	0.2
Computers and electronic products <sup>3</sup> .....	0.0	(NA)	0.7	-0.1	(NA)	1.1	0.0	(NA)	0.3	-0.2	(NA)	0.3
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components.....	-0.1	(NA)	0.4	-0.1	(NA)	1.1	0.0	(NA)	0.6	0.1	(NA)	0.2
Transportation equipment.....	-0.5	(NA)	0.7	-0.3	(NA)	1.5	0.1	(NA)	0.3	-0.1	(NA)	0.3
Furniture and related products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.3	(X)	(NA)	0.9	(X)	(NA)	0.7	(X)	(NA)	0.2
Miscellaneous products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.5	(X)	(NA)	1.2	(X)	(NA)	2.0	(X)	(NA)	0.3
Nondurable goods industries.....	(X)	(NA)	0.5	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.2
Food products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.8	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.3
Beverage and tobacco products.....	(X)	(NA)	1.0	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.2
Textiles.....	(X)	(NA)	0.9	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.5
Textile products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.8	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.3
Apparel.....	(X)	(NA)	0.7	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.6
Leather and allied products.....	(X)	(NA)	4.9	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	1.1
Paper products.....	(X)	(NA)	1.2	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.4
Printing.....	(X)	(NA)	0.4	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.3
Petroleum and coal products.....	(X)	(NA)	1.1	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.7
Basic chemicals.....	(X)	(NA)	0.9	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.2
Plastics and rubber products.....	(X)	(NA)	0.4	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	0.4

X Not Applicable

NA Not Available

<sup>1</sup> The current month revisions are the difference between the advance percent change and the percent change as shown in this publication.

<sup>2</sup> Average revisions of the current month for the past five years.

<sup>3</sup> See footnote at end of Table 7

See note at end of Table 2 relating to survey error and revision. In Table 8, the second column for each item represents the average revisions of the current month for the past five years.

NOTE: The five year and the twelve month revisions are the differences between the month-to-month percent changes of the preliminary and final estimates. The monthly averages are the simple averages of the absolute values of the differences for the months specified. The advance to final percent change revisions for the durable goods industries are shown in the advance report for the month.

## 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 5,000 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 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 5,000 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 5,000 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.

Additional survey documentation can be found on our web site: <http://www.census.gov/m3>.

### 2003 Release Dates for M3 Survey

Survey Month	Advance 8:30	Preliminary 10:00
Dec 2002	1/28/03 TU	2/4/03 TU
Jan 2003	2/27/03 TH	3/6/03 TH
Feb 2003	3/26/03 WE	4/2/03 WE
Mar 2003	4/24/03 TH	5/2/03 FR
Apr 2003	5/28/03 WE	6/5/03 TH
May 2003	6/25/03 WE	7/2/03 WE
Jun 2003	7/25/03 FR	8/4/03 MO
Jul 2003	8/26/03 TU	9/4/03 TH
Aug 2003	9/25/03 TH	10/2/03 TH
Sep 2003	10/28/03 TU	11/5/03 WE
Oct 2003	11/26/03 WE	12/5/03 FR
Nov 2003	12/24/03 WE	