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Bureau of the Census
Gloria Cable or Lee Wentela
(301) 457-4804 or (301) 457-4814
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ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS
August 1995

(All figures in text below are in seasonally adjusted current dollars)

• **NEW ORDERS** New orders for manufactured durable goods in August, up for the first month since May, increased \$7.7 billion or 4.9 percent to \$163.9 billion, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reported today. The motor vehicle and parts industry, which was heavily affected by the growing practice of shutting down for two weeks in July, contributed to nearly half of this month's increase and over three quarters of last month's decline. The August increase follows decreases of 1.8 percent in July and 0.3 percent in June. Year to date, new orders are 8.1 percent above the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$5.2 billion or 15.7 percent to \$38.6 billion, mostly due to motor vehicles and parts and aircraft and aircraft parts. This is the first increase since May and the third this year. Industrial machinery and equipment increased \$1.4 billion or 4.6 percent to \$31.2 billion. This follows a 6.6 percent July decrease and is the third increase in the last four months. Primary metals, up for the first month since December, increased \$0.9 billion or 6.5 percent to \$15.2 billion. Electronic and other electrical equipment had the only decrease, \$1.5 billion or 5.1 percent to \$26.9 billion, due to electronic components and accessories and communication equipment. This follows a 7.7 percent July increase and is the fourth decline this year.

• **SHIPMENTS** Shipments of durable goods in August increased \$7.3 billion or 4.7 percent to \$163.2 billion, following a 3.0 percent July decrease. This is the third increase in the last four months and the eighth in the last ten months. Year to date, shipments are 8.1 percent above the same period last year.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$3.3 billion or 9.6 percent to \$38.1 billion, due to motor vehicles and parts. This follows an 8.0 percent July decline. Electronic and other electrical equipment increased \$1.3 billion or 5.2 percent to \$27.1 billion, the third increase in the last four months. Industrial machinery and equipment, up three of the last four months, increased \$1.0 billion or 3.3 percent to \$31.2 billion. This follows a 2.3 percent July decline. Primary metals, up for the first month since May, increased \$0.2 billion or 1.5 percent to \$14.9 billion. This follows decreases of 2.0 percent and 1.2 percent in July and June respectively.

• **UNFILLED ORDERS** Unfilled orders for durable goods in August increased \$0.7 billion or 0.2 percent to \$435.0 billion. This follows a 0.1 percent July increase and is the ninth increase in the last twelve months.

Transportation equipment, up for the first month since February, had the largest increase, \$0.4 billion or 0.2 percent to \$196.3 billion. Primary metals, also up for the first month since February, increased \$0.3 billion or 1.2 percent to \$27.7 billion. Industrial machinery and equipment increased slightly to \$72.9 billion, following a 0.5 percent July decline. This is the twenty-fourth increase in the last twenty-six months. Electronic and other electrical equipment had the largest decrease, \$0.3 billion or 0.5 percent to \$54.6 billion. This follows a 4.8 percent July increase, and is the second decline in the last twelve months.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in August increased \$1.8 billion or 37.3 percent to \$6.8 billion. This follows declines of 7.6 percent in July and 3.4 percent in June. Shipments were up \$0.1 billion or 0.9 percent to \$6.4 billion, following decreases of 1.3 percent and 2.9 percent in July and June respectively. Unfilled orders increased \$0.4 billion or 0.4 percent to \$108.1 billion, the first increase since March.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in August increased \$1.0 billion or 2.6 percent to \$41.3 billion. This follows decreases of 6.4 percent in July and 0.4 percent in June, and is the fifth increase this year. Shipments increased \$1.2 billion or 2.9 percent to \$42.2 billion. This follows a 4.7 percent July decrease and is the third increase in the last four months. Unfilled orders, down four of the last five months, decreased \$1.0 billion or 0.5 percent to \$202.6 billion. Excluding aircraft and parts, new orders increased \$0.6 billion or 1.7 percent to \$36.4 billion, the third increase in the last four months; shipments increased \$1.2 billion or 3.2 percent to \$37.4 billion, the third increase in the last four months; unfilled orders decreased \$1.0 billion or 1.0 percent to \$97.2 billion, the second consecutive monthly decline following twenty-five consecutive increases.

• **REVISED JULY DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted July figures for all manufacturing industries are: shipments, \$293.2 billion (revised from \$292.8 billion); new orders, \$293.6 billion (revised from \$292.9 billion); unfilled orders, \$460.3 billion (revised from \$460.1 billion); and total inventories, \$412.4 billion (revised from \$412.5 billion).

This report presents advance information on two key business indicators: durable goods manufacturers' shipments and orders. Revised and more detailed estimates plus nondurable goods and inventory data will be published October 4, 1995. The advance report on durable goods for September is scheduled for October 26, 1995. This report is available on the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's online Economic Bulletin Board (N-8-1) (202-482-3870) and through the Census Bureau's online information service-CENDATA. Further information about accessing CENDATA can be obtained from Dialog Information Services, Inc. (1-800-334-2564) and CompuServe (1-800-848-8199). The CENDATA staff at the Bureau of the Census (301-457-1214) can provide content information and general guidance.

Table 1. DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS
(Millions of dollars)

| Item | Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | Not seasonally adjusted ¹ | | | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| | Monthly | | | Percent Change | | | Monthly | | | Percent change Aug.95/94 |
| | Aug. 1995 ² | July 1995 ² | June 1995 | July- Aug. ² | June- July ² | May- June | Aug. 1995 ² | July 1995 ² | Aug. 1994 | |
| DURABLE GOODS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 163,224 | 155,939 | 160,828 | +4.7 | -3.0 | +0.8 | 160,698 | 132,448 | 152,591 | +5.3 |
| New orders | 163,877 | 156,225 | 159,031 | +4.9 | -1.8 | -0.3 | 159,782 | 133,434 | 149,592 | +6.8 |
| Unfilled orders | 434,951 | 434,298 | 434,012 | +0.2 | +0.1 | -0.4 | 434,014 | 434,930 | 423,003 | +2.6 |
| Excluding defense : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 156,809 | 149,583 | 154,389 | +4.8 | -3.1 | +0.9 | 154,500 | 126,728 | 145,740 | +6.0 |
| New orders | 157,073 | 151,270 | 153,669 | +3.8 | -1.6 | -0.2 | 153,840 | 129,553 | 145,028 | +6.1 |
| Unfilled orders | 326,866 | 326,602 | 324,915 | +0.1 | +0.5 | -0.2 | 327,013 | 327,673 | 313,013 | +4.5 |
| With unfilled orders : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 130,944 | 126,939 | 129,865 | +3.2 | -2.3 | +0.9 | 128,624 | 110,137 | 119,785 | +7.4 |
| New orders | 131,597 | 127,225 | 128,068 | +3.4 | -0.7 | -0.4 | 127,708 | 111,123 | 116,786 | +9.4 |
| Primary metals : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 14,910 | 14,687 | 14,983 | +1.5 | -2.0 | -1.2 | 14,947 | 13,183 | 13,535 | +10.4 |
| New orders | 15,235 | 14,310 | 14,329 | +6.5 | -0.1 | -0.9 | 14,645 | 12,486 | 13,059 | +12.1 |
| Unfilled orders | 27,729 | 27,404 | 27,781 | +1.2 | -1.4 | -2.3 | 27,242 | 27,544 | 25,817 | +5.5 |
| Industrial machinery and equipment: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 31,201 | 30,191 | 30,894 | +3.3 | -2.3 | +0.3 | 28,979 | 25,606 | 26,270 | +10.3 |
| New orders | 31,203 | 29,838 | 31,934 | +4.6 | -6.6 | +2.4 | 29,063 | 24,985 | 27,875 | +4.3 |
| Unfilled orders | 72,861 | 72,859 | 73,212 | 0.0 | -0.5 | +1.4 | 72,298 | 72,214 | 62,900 | +14.9 |
| Electronic and other electrical equipment : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 27,142 | 25,796 | 26,454 | +5.2 | -2.5 | +3.2 | 26,822 | 22,725 | 22,891 | +17.2 |
| New orders | 26,871 | 28,327 | 26,310 | -5.1 | +7.7 | -1.8 | 26,081 | 26,033 | 22,100 | +18.0 |
| Unfilled orders | 54,564 | 54,835 | 52,304 | -0.5 | +4.8 | -0.3 | 54,586 | 55,327 | 45,465 | +20.1 |
| Transportation equipment : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 38,112 | 34,786 | 37,812 | +9.6 | -8.0 | +1.3 | 36,827 | 25,021 | 38,786 | -5.1 |
| New orders | 38,562 | 33,321 | 36,082 | +15.7 | -7.7 | -1.1 | 36,816 | 23,265 | 35,970 | +2.4 |
| Unfilled orders | 196,306 | 195,856 | 197,321 | +0.2 | -0.7 | -0.9 | 195,698 | 195,709 | 203,346 | -3.8 |
| CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES³ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 48,626 | 47,369 | 49,473 | +2.7 | -4.3 | +2.0 | 45,630 | 40,847 | 42,339 | +7.8 |
| New orders | 48,059 | 45,168 | 48,326 | +6.4 | -6.5 | -0.7 | 44,519 | 37,945 | 39,930 | +11.5 |
| Unfilled orders | 310,700 | 311,267 | 313,468 | -0.2 | -0.7 | -0.4 | 309,222 | 310,333 | 308,877 | +0.1 |
| Nondefense : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 42,211 | 41,013 | 43,034 | +2.9 | -4.7 | +2.7 | 39,432 | 35,127 | 35,488 | +11.1 |
| New orders | 41,255 | 40,213 | 42,964 | +2.6 | -6.4 | -0.4 | 38,577 | 34,064 | 35,366 | +9.1 |
| Unfilled orders | 202,615 | 203,571 | 204,371 | -0.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 202,221 | 203,076 | 198,887 | +1.7 |
| Excluding aircraft and parts : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 37,406 | 36,252 | 37,988 | +3.2 | -4.6 | +2.4 | 35,103 | 31,088 | 31,145 | +12.7 |
| New orders | 36,441 | 35,823 | 38,979 | +1.7 | -8.1 | +3.0 | 34,239 | 30,396 | 32,345 | +5.9 |
| Unfilled orders | 97,218 | 98,183 | 98,612 | -1.0 | -0.4 | +1.0 | 96,824 | 97,688 | 85,880 | +12.7 |
| Defense : | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shipments | 6,415 | 6,356 | 6,439 | +0.9 | -1.3 | -2.9 | 6,198 | 5,720 | 6,851 | -9.5 |
| New orders | 6,804 | 4,955 | 5,362 | +37.3 | -7.6 | -3.4 | 5,942 | 3,881 | 4,564 | +30.2 |
| Unfilled orders | 108,085 | 107,696 | 109,097 | +0.4 | -1.3 | -1.0 | 107,001 | 107,257 | 109,990 | -2.7 |

(NA) Not available. ¹ Revised.¹ Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.² 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: M3-1(92), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1982-1992."³ The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense : ordnance and accessories, steam engines and turbines, internal combustion engines, construction mining and material handling equipment, metalworking machinery, special industrial machinery, general industrial machinery, computer and office equipment, refrigeration, heating and service industry machinery, electrical transmission and distribution equipment, electrical industrial apparatus, communication equipment complete aircraft, missiles, and space vehicles, aircraft missiles, and space vehicle engines and parts, ships and tank components, railroad equipment, and search and navigation equipment.

Defense capital goods include : ordnance, communication equipment, aircraft, missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships, tanks and tank components, search and navigation equipment.

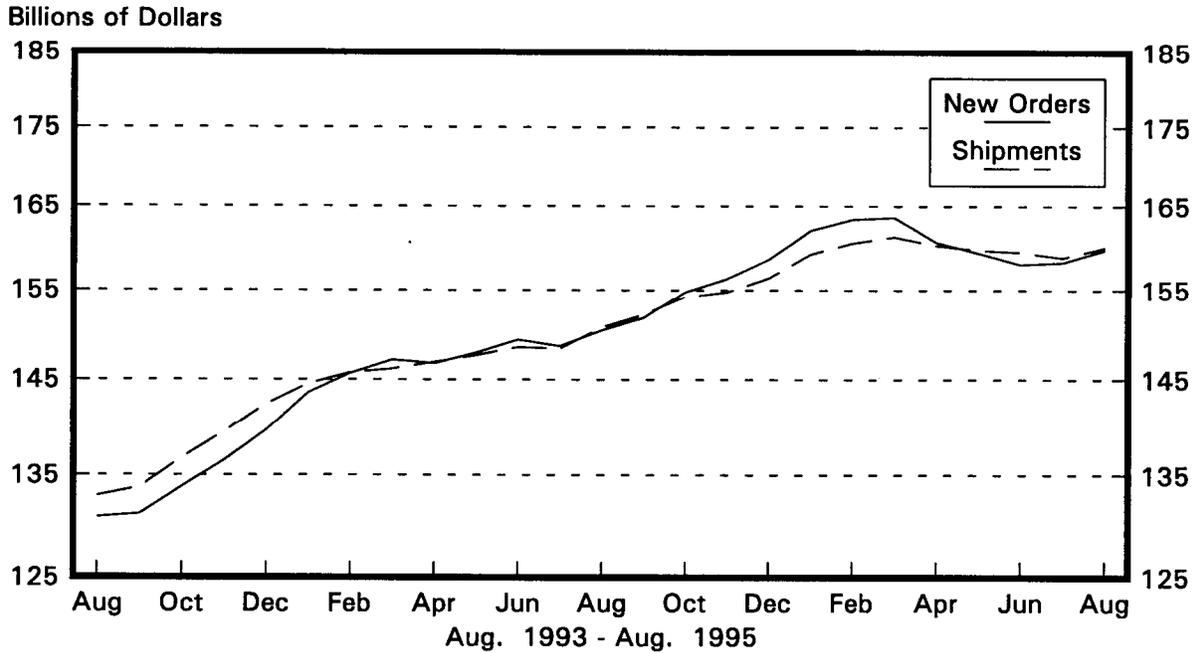
Table 2. AVERAGE REVISIONS TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGES
(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

| Industry | Shipments | | | New Orders | | | Unfilled Orders | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | Year ago Aug. 1994 | Aug. 1990-1994 | Aug. 1994- July 1995 | Year ago Aug. 1994 | Aug. 1990-1994 | Aug. 1994- July 1995 | Year ago Aug. 1994 | Aug. 1990-1994 | Aug. 1994- July 1995 |
| Durable goods | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Primary metals | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Industrial machinery and equipment | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Electronic and other electrical equipment | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Transportation equipment | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Nondefense capital goods | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Defense capital goods | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 3.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |

Note : The revisions are the differences between the month-to-month percent changes of the advance and final estimates. The monthly averages are the simple averages of the differences, without regard for the months specified.

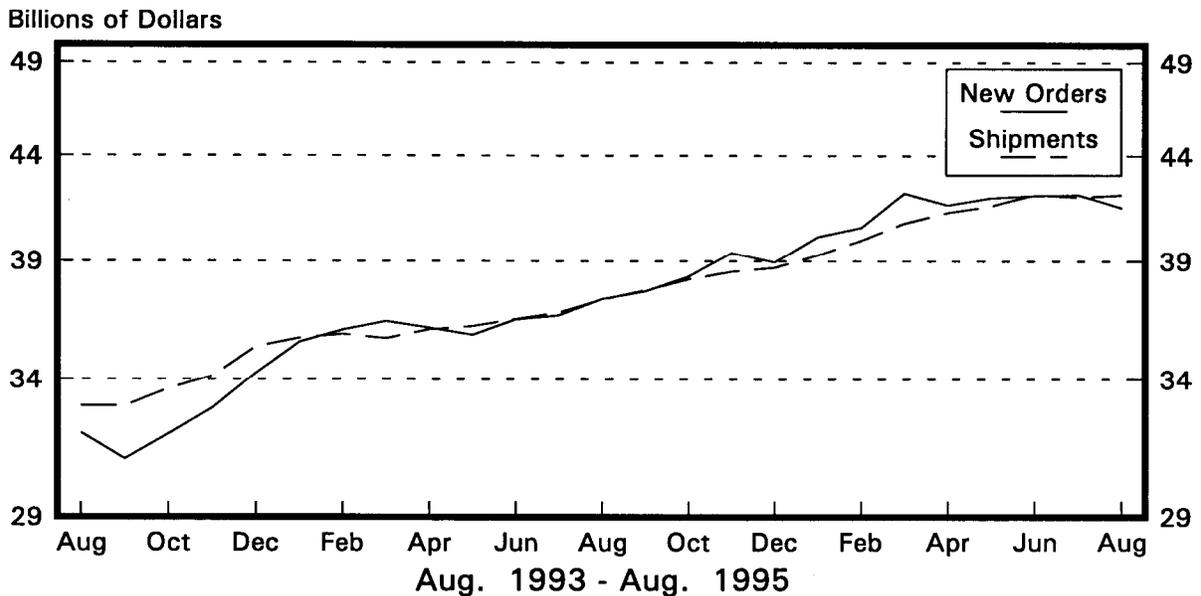
Total Durable Goods

New Orders and Shipments
Three Month Moving Averages



Nondefense Capital Goods

New Orders and Shipments
Three Month Moving Averages



Note: All Charts based on seasonally adjusted current dollars.