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ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS
November 1998

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

• **NEW ORDERS** New orders for manufactured durable goods in November increased \$2.0 billion or 1.0 percent to \$190.7 billion, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reported today. This follows a 2.1 percent October decrease and is the fifth increase in the last six months. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 1.2 percent, the second increase in the last three months. Year-to-date, new orders are 3.4 percent above the same period a year ago.

Primary metals, up for the first month since August, had the largest increase, \$1.3 billion or 9.9 percent to \$14.7 billion, following a 3.9 percent October decrease. Industrial machinery and equipment, up two of the last three months, increased \$0.4 billion or 1.2 percent to \$36.0 billion. This follows an 8.7 percent October decrease. Transportation equipment, up for the first month since August, increased \$0.2 billion or 0.4 percent to \$45.0 billion; all component industries except shipbuilding and tanks increased. This follows a 0.6 percent October decrease. Electronic and other electrical equipment, down for the first month since August, decreased \$0.6 billion or 1.8 percent to \$32.8 billion, due to electronic components. This follows a 1.5 percent October increase.

• **SHIPMENTS** Shipments of durable goods in November increased \$1.2 billion or 0.6 percent to \$195.0 billion. This follows a 0.5 percent October increase and is the sixth consecutive monthly increase. Year-to-date, shipments are 5.3 percent above the same period a year ago.

Electronic and other electrical equipment, up five of the last six months, had the largest increase, \$0.5 billion or 1.7 percent to \$32.8 billion, following a 0.6 percent October decrease. Transportation equipment, up for the fourth consecutive month, increased \$0.4 billion or 0.9 percent to \$48.4 billion. This follows a 3.1 percent October increase. Industrial machinery and equipment, down for the first month since August, decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.6 percent to \$36.9 billion. This follows a 0.9 percent October increase. Primary metals, down eight of the last nine months, decreased \$0.2 billion or 1.3 percent to \$14.4 billion, following a 2.4 percent October decrease.

• **UNFILLED ORDERS** Unfilled orders for durable goods in November decreased \$4.4 billion or 0.9 percent to \$496.5 billion. This follows a 1.0 percent October decrease and is the sixth decline in the last seven months. Transportation equipment, down six of the last seven months, had the largest decrease, \$3.4 billion or 1.4 percent to \$244.8 billion. This follows a 1.3 percent October decrease. Industrial machinery and equipment, down for the second consecutive month, decreased \$0.8 billion or 1.1 percent to \$73.3 billion, following a 2.0 percent October decrease. Electronic and other electrical equipment, down for the first month since August, decreased slightly to \$60.3 billion. This follows a 1.9 percent October increase. Primary metals, up for the first month since February, increased \$0.3 billion or 1.0 percent to \$29.7 billion. This follows a 4.0 percent October decrease.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in November, down four of the last five months, decreased \$0.4 billion or 5.6 percent to \$6.0 billion, following a 10.1 percent October decrease. Shipments, down two of the last three months, decreased \$0.2 billion or 2.2 percent to \$6.9 billion, following a 7.0 percent October increase. Unfilled orders, down six of the last seven months, decreased \$0.9 billion or 1.0 percent to \$95.4 billion, following a 0.8 percent October decrease.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in November, up for the first month since August, increased \$1.1 billion or 2.2 percent to \$51.3 billion, following a 6.2 percent October decrease. Shipments, up for the third consecutive month, increased \$0.7 billion or 1.2 percent to \$54.6 billion. This follows a 1.0 percent October increase. Unfilled orders, down for the second consecutive month, decreased \$3.3 billion or 1.3 percent to \$259.7 billion, following a 1.4 percent October decrease. Excluding aircraft and parts, new orders increased \$1.4 billion or 3.2 percent to \$44.5 billion, the third increase in the last four months; shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 0.2 percent to \$45.1 billion, the third consecutive monthly increase; unfilled orders decreased \$0.6 billion or 0.6 percent to \$105.4 billion, the second consecutive monthly decline.

• **REVISED OCTOBER DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted October figures for all manufacturing industries are: shipments, \$340.7 billion (revised from \$340.1 billion); new orders, \$335.3 billion (revised from \$335.1 billion); unfilled orders, \$524.9 billion (revised from \$525.3 billion); and total inventories, \$470.8 billion (revised from \$471.5 billion).

Our internet site address is: <http://www.census.gov/indicator/www/m3>

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

Item	Seasonally adjusted						Not seasonally adjusted ¹			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent change Nov.98/97
	Nov. 1998 ²	Oct. 1998 ²	Sept. 1998	Oct.-Nov. ²	Sept.-Oct. ²	Aug.-Sept.	Nov. 1998 ²	Oct. 1998 ²	Nov. 1997	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total :										
Shipments	195,039	193,877	192,842	+0.6	+0.5	+2.1	195,102	199,238	181,893	+7.3
New orders	190,659	188,697	192,783	+1.0	-2.1	+1.3	188,557	197,668	191,215	-1.4
Unfilled orders	496,494	500,874	506,054	-0.9	-1.0	0.0	492,997	499,542	507,877	-2.9
Excluding defense :										
Shipments	188,124	186,810	186,236	+0.7	+0.3	+2.3	187,986	192,237	174,912	+7.5
New orders	184,683	182,367	185,741	+1.3	-1.8	+0.2	182,361	191,955	185,091	-1.5
Unfilled orders	401,118	404,559	409,002	-0.9	-1.1	-0.1	399,763	405,388	408,358	-2.1
With unfilled orders :										
Shipments	161,915	160,630	159,516	+0.8	+0.7	+2.1	162,022	162,522	150,242	+7.8
New orders	157,535	155,450	159,457	+1.3	-2.5	+1.1	155,477	160,952	159,564	-2.6
Primary metals :										
Shipments	14,407	14,599	14,951	-1.3	-2.4	-0.7	14,040	14,934	15,420	-8.9
New orders	14,712	13,381	13,917	+9.9	-3.9	-3.4	14,269	13,146	15,763	-9.5
Unfilled orders	29,722	29,417	30,635	+1.0	-4.0	-3.3	28,103	27,874	33,445	-16.0
Industrial machinery and equipment:										
Shipments	36,870	37,091	36,775	-0.6	+0.9	+0.2	34,700	35,555	32,592	+6.5
New orders	36,020	35,583	38,983	+1.2	-8.7	+4.1	34,497	34,832	33,326	+3.5
Unfilled orders	73,272	74,122	75,630	-1.1	-2.0	+3.0	73,921	74,124	75,001	-1.4
Electronic and other electrical equipment :										
Shipments	32,783	32,239	32,422	+1.7	-0.6	+3.8	34,210	32,455	30,891	+10.7
New orders	32,759	33,363	32,870	-1.8	+1.5	+5.6	32,081	37,706	28,781	+11.5
Unfilled orders	60,349	60,373	59,249	0.0	+1.9	+0.8	60,668	62,797	55,596	+9.1
Transportation equipment :										
Shipments	48,435	48,009	46,588	+0.9	+3.1	+4.9	49,941	51,677	43,769	+14.1
New orders	45,034	44,839	45,101	+0.4	-0.6	-3.5	46,500	47,990	54,127	-14.1
Unfilled orders	244,823	248,224	251,394	-1.4	-1.3	-0.6	242,998	246,439	253,617	-4.2
CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES³										
Total :										
Shipments	61,517	61,010	60,025	+0.8	+1.6	+3.7	60,434	58,485	53,141	+13.7
New orders	57,270	56,540	60,582	+1.3	-6.7	+0.5	56,705	54,206	63,776	-11.1
Unfilled orders	355,039	359,286	363,756	-1.2	-1.2	+0.2	353,334	357,063	363,803	-2.9
Nondefense :										
Shipments	54,602	53,943	53,419	+1.2	+1.0	+4.3	53,318	51,484	46,160	+15.5
New orders	51,294	50,210	53,540	+2.2	-6.2	-3.3	50,509	48,493	57,652	-12.4
Unfilled orders	259,663	262,971	266,704	-1.3	-1.4	0.0	260,100	262,909	264,284	-1.6
Excluding aircraft and parts :										
Shipments	45,140	45,059	45,021	+0.2	+0.1	+3.0	43,614	43,080	39,515	+10.4
New orders	44,490	43,103	47,663	+3.2	-9.6	+6.4	43,463	41,866	40,397	+7.6
Unfilled orders	105,415	106,065	108,021	-0.6	-1.8	+2.5	105,852	106,003	104,010	+1.8
Defense :										
Shipments	6,915	7,067	6,606	-2.2	+7.0	-1.2	7,116	7,001	6,981	+1.9
New orders	5,976	6,330	7,042	-5.6	-10.1	+42.8	6,196	5,713	6,124	+1.2
Unfilled orders	95,376	96,315	97,052	-1.0	-0.8	+0.5	93,234	94,154	99,519	-6.3

(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(96), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1987-1996."

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 industry 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.

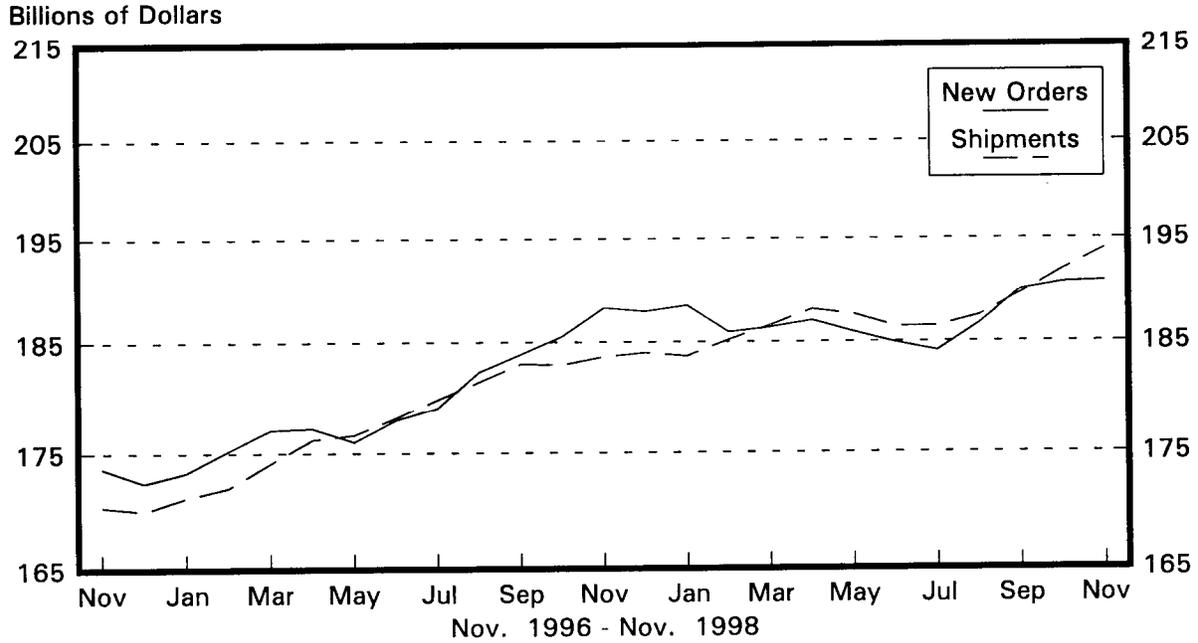
Table 2. AVERAGE REVISIONS TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGES
(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

Industry	Shipments			New Orders			Unfilled Orders		
	Year ago	Nov. 1997-	Nov. 1997-	Year ago	Nov.	Nov. 1997-	Year ago	Nov.	Nov. 1997-
	Nov. 1997	1993-1997	Oct. 1998	Nov. 1997	1993-1997	Oct. 1998	Nov. 1997	1993-1997	Oct. 1998
Durable goods	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2
Primary metals	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.3
Industrial machinery and equipment	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.3	1.2	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.2
Electronic and other electrical equipment	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.7	2.3	0.7	0.5	0.7
Transportation equipment	0.9	0.5	1.5	1.5	0.8	1.7	0.1	0.2	0.2
Nondefense capital goods	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.2	1.1	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.2
Defense capital goods	0.9	0.8	0.8	2.2	3.0	6.1	0.2	0.2	0.3

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 to the months specified.

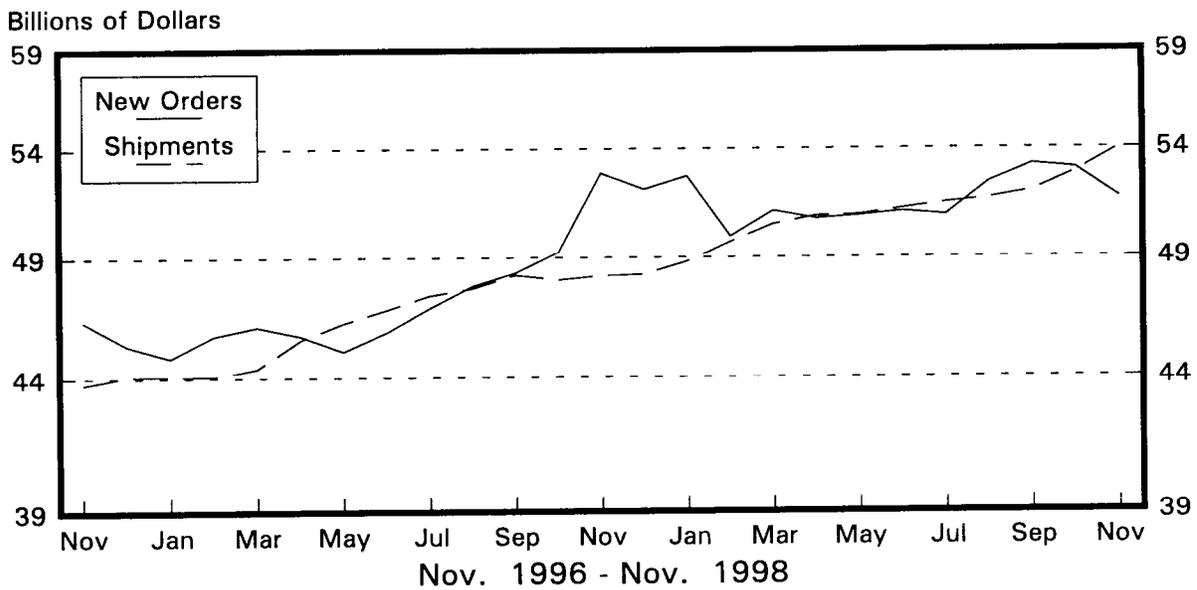
Total Durable Goods

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.

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**PUBLICATION DATES FOR THE 1998/1999 MONTHLY "M3" SURVEY
 MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS**

RELEASE DATES		
REPORT COVERING	ADVANCE REPORT (8:30 a.m. release time)	REGULAR REPORT (10:00 a.m. release time)
November 1998	Wed., Dec. 23 (10 A.M.)	Thurs., Jan 7, 1999
December 1998	Thur., Jan. 28	Thur., Feb 4
January 1999	Thur., Feb. 25	Thur., Mar. 4
February 1999	Wed., Mar. 24	Wed., Mar. 31
March 1999	Wed., Apr. 28	Wed., May 5
April 1999	Wed., May 26	Thur., June 3
May 1999	Thur, June 24	Fri, July 2
June 1999	Wed., July 28	Wed., Aug. 4
July 1999	Wed., Aug. 25	Thur., Sep. 2
August 1999	Wed., Sept. 29	Wed., Oct. 6
September 1999	Wed., Oct. 27	Wed., Nov. 3
October 1999	Tues., Nov. 23	Fri., Dec. 3
November 1999	Thur, Dec. 23	