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U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

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**ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND ORDERS
April 2002**

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

• **NEW ORDERS**, excluding semiconductors, for manufactured durable goods in April increased \$1.9 billion or 1.1 percent to \$176.6 billion, the Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau reported today. This followed a 0.2 percent March increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 2.9 percent. Year to date, new orders for 2002 were 3.9 percent below the same period a year ago.

Machinery had the largest increase, \$0.9 billion or 4.0 percent to \$22.7 billion, led by turbines and generators. Electrical equipment, appliances, and components increased \$0.7 billion or 7.6 percent to \$10.0 billion. Primary metals increased \$0.6 billion or 5.1 percent to \$11.6 billion. Transportation equipment decreased \$1.5 billion or 2.6 percent to \$54.8 billion; nondefense aircraft and parts decreased 22.3 percent to \$5.8 billion.

• **SHIPMENTS**, excluding semiconductors, of durable goods in April increased \$6.0 billion or 3.5 percent to \$179.1 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent March increase. Year to date, shipments for 2002 were 4.1 percent below the same period a year ago.

Transportation equipment had the largest increase, \$4.3 billion or 8.1 percent to \$57.1 billion; nondefense aircraft and parts decreased 3.2 percent to \$7.8 billion. Fabricated metal products increased \$0.5 billion or 2.3 percent to \$20.2 billion.

• **UNFILLED ORDERS**, excluding semiconductors, for durable goods in April decreased \$2.5 billion or 0.5 percent to \$522.5 billion. This followed a 0.3 percent March increase.

Transportation equipment had the largest decrease, \$2.2 billion or 0.8 percent to \$277.6 billion; nondefense aircraft and parts, down twelve consecutive months, decreased \$2.0 billion or 1.5 percent to \$127.9 billion. Machinery, down four consecutive months, decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.5 percent to \$54.0 billion.

• **INVENTORIES**, excluding semiconductors, for durable goods in April, down fifteen consecutive months, decreased \$0.8 billion or 0.3 percent to \$267.7 billion. This followed a 1.0 percent March decrease.

Machinery had the largest decrease, \$0.3 billion or 0.6 percent to \$47.3 billion, primarily due to metalworking machinery.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in April decreased \$3.6 billion or 33.3 percent to \$7.1 billion. Shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 1.2 percent to \$7.1 billion. Unfilled orders increased slightly to \$136.6 billion. Inventories increased \$0.1 billion or 0.3 percent to \$18.7 billion.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in April increased \$1.1 billion or 1.9 percent to \$56.6 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.1 percent to \$59.0 billion. Unfilled orders, down sixteen consecutive months, decreased \$2.4 billion or 1.0 percent to \$232.8 billion. Inventories, down fifteen consecutive months, decreased \$1.0 billion or 0.8 percent to \$114.9 billion.

• **REVISED MARCH DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted March figures for all manufacturing industries are: shipments, \$318.2 billion (revised from \$317.5 billion); new orders, \$319.8 billion (revised from \$318.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$525.0 billion (revised from \$524.5 billion); and total inventories, \$431.3 billion (revised from \$431.5 billion).

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

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

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted ¹			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change Apr 02/01
	Apr 2002 ²	Mar 2002 ¹	Feb 2002	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ¹	Jan - Feb	Apr 2002 ²	Mar 2002 ¹	Apr 2001	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total: ⁴										
Shipments.....	179,133	173,103	172,327	+ 3.5	+ 0.5	-3.0	176,840	187,893	172,881	+ 2.3
New Orders.....	176,593	174,672	174,298	+ 1.1	+ 0.2	+ 2.6	173,003	190,353	169,704	+ 1.9
Excluding transportation: ⁴										
Shipments.....	122,082	120,317	119,522	+ 1.5	+ 0.7	-2.2	119,676	129,603	123,709	-3.3
New Orders.....	121,744	118,333	117,447	+ 2.9	+ 0.8	-1.1	119,766	126,858	119,715	+ 0.0
Excluding defense: ⁴										
Shipments.....	170,725	164,827	164,683	+ 3.6	+ 0.1	-2.9	168,956	178,783	166,701	+ 1.4
New Orders.....	168,432	162,829	163,717	+ 3.4	-0.5	+ 0.1	165,705	175,486	163,425	+ 1.4
Primary metals:										
Shipments.....	11,582	11,328	10,865	+ 2.2	+ 4.3	-4.4	12,019	11,845	12,063	-0.4
New Orders.....	11,601	11,039	10,792	+ 5.1	+ 2.3	-2.1	11,974	11,614	11,697	+ 2.4
Fabricated metal products:										
Shipments.....	20,240	19,786	19,672	+ 2.3	+ 0.6	-2.8	20,392	20,349	20,123	+ 1.3
New Orders.....	20,208	19,944	19,306	+ 1.3	+ 3.3	-1.5	20,563	20,736	19,915	+ 3.3
Machinery:										
Shipments.....	22,906	22,848	23,508	+ 0.3	-2.8	+ 0.3	23,289	25,316	24,735	-5.8
New Orders.....	22,657	21,776	22,098	+ 4.0	-1.5	-0.3	23,224	23,828	23,944	-3.0
Computers and electronic products: ⁴										
Shipments.....	27,384	27,003	26,766	+ 1.4	+ 0.9	-2.8	24,184	31,431	26,582	-9.0
New Orders.....	27,348	26,678	26,553	+ 2.5	+ 0.5	-1.6	24,137	30,820	24,977	-3.4
Computers and related products:										
Shipments.....	7,775	7,586	7,866	+ 2.5	-3.6	-4.7	6,440	9,748	7,927	-18.8
New Orders.....	7,465	7,484	8,088	-0.3	-7.5	-3.6	6,020	9,643	7,808	-22.9
Communications equipment:										
Shipments.....	5,880	5,682	5,807	+ 3.5	-2.2	-0.7	5,135	6,535	6,218	-17.4
New Orders.....	5,975	5,337	5,996	+ 12.0	-11.0	+ 0.6	5,257	6,040	5,840	-10.0
Semiconductors: ⁵										
Shipments.....	(NA)	(NA)	5,844	(NA)	(NA)	-13.2	(NA)	(NA)	7,176	(NA)
New Orders.....	(NA)	(NA)	7,007	(NA)	(NA)	-5.7	(NA)	(NA)	5,731	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Shipments.....	9,784	9,585	9,354	+ 2.1	+ 2.5	-2.9	9,538	10,538	10,641	-10.4
New Orders.....	10,003	9,300	9,489	+ 7.6	-2.0	+ 4.8	9,746	9,940	10,146	-3.9
Transportation equipment:										
Shipments.....	57,051	52,786	52,805	+ 8.1	0.0	-5.0	57,164	58,290	49,172	+ 16.3
New Orders.....	54,849	56,339	56,851	-2.6	-0.9	+ 11.3	53,237	63,495	49,989	+ 6.5
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Shipments.....	40,464	36,014	36,562	+ 12.4	-1.5	-6.8	41,837	39,292	35,993	+ 16.2
New Orders.....	40,538	36,206	36,662	+ 12.0	-1.2	-6.3	41,798	39,371	36,084	+ 15.8
Aircraft and parts:										
Shipments.....	10,989	11,189	10,956	-1.8	+ 2.1	+ 4.3	9,964	12,709	8,793	+ 13.3
New Orders.....	8,339	13,252	12,453	-37.1	+ 6.4	+ 60.3	6,124	16,487	9,251	-33.8
All other durable goods:										
Shipments.....	30,186	29,767	29,357	+ 1.4	+ 1.4	-2.1	30,254	30,124	29,565	+ 2.3
New Orders.....	29,927	29,596	29,209	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	-2.4	30,122	29,920	29,036	+ 3.7
Capital goods: ³										
Shipments.....	66,070	66,039	65,468	0.0	+ 0.9	-2.1	62,537	74,638	65,845	-5.0
New Orders.....	63,725	66,205	66,040	-3.7	+ 0.2	+ 11.4	58,521	75,631	62,767	-6.8
Nondefense capital goods:										
Shipments.....	59,003	59,059	59,109	-0.1	-0.1	-1.2	55,833	66,948	60,387	-7.5
New Orders.....	56,610	55,540	57,329	+ 1.9	-3.1	+ 4.6	52,500	62,588	57,946	-9.4
Defense capital goods:										
Shipments.....	7,067	6,980	6,359	+ 1.2	+ 9.8	-9.4	6,704	7,690	5,458	+ 22.8
New Orders.....	7,115	10,665	8,711	-33.3	+ 22.4	+ 94.7	6,021	13,043	4,821	+ 24.9

(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 and total inventories 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(00), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1992-2000."

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

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Defense Capital Goods include : small arms and ordnance, communications equipment, aircraft; missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships and boats, and search and navigation equipment.

Table 2. DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' UNFILLED ORDERS AND TOTAL INVENTORIES
(Millions of Dollars)

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted ¹			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change Apr 02/01
	Apr 2002 ²	Mar 2002 ^r	Feb 2002	Mar - Apr ²	Feb - Mar ^r	Jan - Feb	Apr 2002 ²	Mar 2002 ^r	Apr 2001	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total: ⁴										
Unfilled Orders.....	522,499	525,039	523,470	-0.5	0.3	0.4	529,670	533,507	570,855	-7.2
Total Inventories.....	267,651	268,463	271,121	-0.3	-1.0	-0.7	268,284	266,216	298,606	-10.2
Excluding transportation: ⁴										
Unfilled Orders.....	244,920	245,258	247,242	-0.1	-0.8	-0.8	248,051	247,961	278,212	-10.8
Total Inventories.....	196,211	197,033	198,048	-0.4	-0.5	-0.8	197,168	195,960	222,820	-11.5
Excluding defense: ⁴										
Unfilled Orders.....	366,815	369,108	371,106	-0.6	-0.5	-0.3	369,773	373,024	424,329	-12.9
Total Inventories.....	245,070	246,021	248,526	-0.4	-1.0	-0.6	245,822	244,309	276,440	-11.1
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	16,537	16,518	16,807	+0.1	-1.7	-0.4	17,164	17,209	19,426	-11.6
Total Inventories.....	18,664	18,775	19,096	-0.6	-1.7	-1.3	18,629	18,713	21,792	-14.5
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	38,720	38,752	38,594	-0.1	+0.4	-0.9	39,092	38,921	42,687	-8.4
Total Inventories.....	31,846	31,983	32,072	-0.4	-0.3	-0.8	32,087	32,205	35,425	-9.4
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	53,988	54,237	55,309	-0.5	-1.9	-2.5	54,708	54,773	62,669	-12.7
Total Inventories.....	47,288	47,593	47,851	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	47,591	47,708	51,868	-8.2
Computers and electronic products: ⁴										
Unfilled Orders.....	109,554	109,590	109,915	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	110,738	110,785	123,793	-10.5
Total Inventories.....	40,594	40,650	40,974	-0.1	-0.8	-1.7	40,671	39,223	50,516	-19.5
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	9,489	9,799	9,901	-3.2	-1.0	+2.3	9,246	9,666	10,131	-8.7
Total Inventories.....	7,174	7,296	7,304	-1.7	-0.1	-1.6	7,350	6,946	9,630	-23.7
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	40,383	40,288	40,633	+0.2	-0.8	+0.5	41,019	40,897	48,823	-16.0
Total Inventories.....	8,159	8,121	8,221	+0.5	-1.2	-3.2	8,017	7,734	11,512	-30.4
Semiconductors: ⁵										
Unfilled Orders.....	(NA)	(NA)	16,291	(NA)	(NA)	+7.7	(NA)	(NA)	19,591	(NA)
Total Inventories.....	(NA)	(NA)	7,234	(NA)	(NA)	+1.8	(NA)	(NA)	8,691	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	15,936	15,717	16,002	+1.4	-1.8	+0.9	16,085	15,877	18,541	-13.2
Total Inventories.....	14,248	14,294	14,418	-0.3	-0.9	-0.7	14,554	14,378	16,295	-10.7
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	277,579	279,781	276,228	-0.8	+1.3	+1.5	281,619	285,546	292,643	-3.8
Total Inventories.....	71,440	71,430	73,073	0.0	-2.2	-0.2	71,116	70,256	75,786	-6.2
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	12,146	12,072	11,880	+0.6	+1.6	+0.8	12,574	12,613	13,564	-7.3
Total Inventories.....	20,007	19,723	19,525	+1.4	+1.0	-0.9	19,902	19,500	22,115	-10.0
Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	188,439	191,089	189,026	-1.4	+1.1	+0.8	190,451	194,291	198,709	-4.2
Total Inventories.....	39,479	39,758	41,422	-0.7	-4.0	-0.3	39,293	39,097	41,221	-4.7
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	10,185	10,444	10,615	-2.5	-1.6	-1.4	10,264	10,396	11,096	-7.5
Total Inventories.....	43,571	43,738	43,637	-0.4	+0.2	-0.2	43,636	43,733	46,924	-7.0
Capital goods: ³										
Unfilled Orders.....	369,481	371,826	371,660	-0.6	0.0	+0.2	374,176	378,192	407,233	-8.1
Total Inventories.....	133,635	134,560	136,963	-0.7	-1.8	-0.6	134,065	132,671	150,648	-11.0
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	232,840	235,233	238,752	-1.0	-1.5	-0.7	234,287	237,620	279,167	-16.1
Total Inventories.....	114,899	115,877	118,195	-0.8	-2.0	-0.8	115,306	114,380	131,636	-12.4
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	136,641	136,593	132,908	0.0	+2.8	+1.8	139,889	140,572	128,066	+9.2
Total Inventories.....	18,736	18,683	18,768	+0.3	-0.5	+0.4	18,759	18,291	19,012	-1.3

See footnotes at end of Table 1