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

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in May increased \$2.8 billion or 1.8 percent to \$163.9 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This was the third increase in the last four months and followed a 1.8 percent April increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 1.1 percent. Excluding defense, new orders also increased 1.4 percent.

Machinery, up three of the last four months, had the largest increase, \$1.6 billion or 7.7 percent to \$22.5 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in May, down ten consecutive months, decreased \$3.6 billion or 2.1 percent to \$169.9 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 0.5 percent April decrease.

Transportation equipment, down two consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$2.7 billion or 6.0 percent to \$42.2 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in May, down eight consecutive months, decreased \$2.0 billion or 0.3 percent to \$747.5 billion. This followed a 1.1 percent April decrease.

Machinery, down eight consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$0.8 billion or 0.9 percent to \$87.7 billion.

Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in May, down five consecutive months, decreased \$2.5 billion or 0.8 percent to \$323.3 billion. This followed a 1.1 percent April decrease.

Primary metals, down eight consecutive months, had the largest decrease, \$0.9 billion or 3.0 percent to \$27.1 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in May increased \$4.9 billion or 10.0 percent to \$53.8 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.3 percent to \$56.3 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$2.5 billion or 0.6 percent to \$429.7 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.5 billion or 0.3 percent to \$142.1 billion.

Defense new orders for capital goods in May increased \$0.8 billion or 7.4 percent to \$12.0 billion. Shipments increased \$0.1 billion or 1.0 percent to \$10.4 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$1.7 billion or 1.2 percent to \$144.4 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.4 percent to \$20.2 billion.

Revised April Data

Revised seasonally adjusted April figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$344.7 billion (revised from \$344.4 billion); shipments, \$357.1 billion (revised from \$357.3 billion); unfilled orders, \$749.5 billion (revised from \$748.7 billion); and total inventories, \$516.5 billion (revised from \$517.6 billion).

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 July 2, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The advance report on durable goods for June is scheduled for release on July 29, 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 ¹					
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Year to Date		
	May 2009 ²	Apr 2009 ^r	Mar 2009	Apr - May ²	Mar - Apr ^r	Feb - Mar	May 2009 ²	Apr 2009 ^r	May 2008	2009	2008	Percent Change 09/08
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	169,885	173,469	174,417	-2.1	-0.5	-1.9	169,855	170,883	215,193	850,007	1,053,058	-19.3
New Orders ⁴	163,920	161,098	158,279	1.8	1.8	-2.2	160,867	154,329	213,150	784,272	1,072,012	-26.8
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	127,666	128,546	129,366	-0.7	-0.6	-2.9	127,275	127,323	161,351	633,715	781,966	-19.0
New Orders ⁴	121,733	120,374	119,932	1.1	0.4	-2.8	121,423	118,563	157,800	595,982	778,145	-23.4
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	156,454	160,104	161,209	-2.3	-0.7	-2.1	156,472	158,003	203,217	787,211	997,778	-21.1
New Orders ⁴	148,948	146,921	146,065	1.4	0.6	-2.4	148,220	142,497	203,004	722,696	1,014,258	-28.7
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	122,277	124,228	126,704	-1.6	-2.0	-1.7	122,206	120,842	154,443	612,002	749,339	-18.3
New Orders ⁴	120,291	116,023	113,457	3.7	2.3	-2.1	117,016	109,641	156,974	565,175	795,088	-28.9
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	12,105	12,492	13,111	-3.1	-4.7	-7.5	12,591	12,837	23,487	65,780	110,676	-40.6
New Orders.....	11,727	11,701	11,641	0.2	0.5	-9.2	12,166	12,073	22,781	61,395	113,384	-45.9
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	23,463	23,856	24,455	-1.6	-2.4	-2.1	23,954	23,804	28,841	118,582	136,117	-12.9
New Orders.....	22,670	23,253	22,249	-2.5	4.5	-3.0	23,921	23,371	29,618	114,475	141,224	-18.9
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	23,296	22,868	23,710	1.9	-3.6	-3.5	23,451	23,525	29,615	117,979	145,992	-19.2
New Orders.....	22,465	20,857	20,730	7.7	0.6	-7.3	22,297	21,896	30,739	108,512	156,894	-30.8
Computers and electronic products:												
Shipments.....	28,360	28,565	27,616	-0.7	3.4	-1.0	26,425	26,936	30,431	134,077	156,156	-14.1
New Orders ⁴	24,855	24,314	25,060	2.2	-3.0	1.5	22,206	21,212	25,172	115,118	131,498	-12.5
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	4,404	4,333	4,395	1.6	-1.4	-2.8	3,849	3,623	4,657	20,190	24,669	-18.2
New Orders.....	4,410	4,030	4,316	9.4	-6.6	-4.6	3,855	3,320	4,862	19,413	24,563	-21.0
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	4,525	4,685	4,788	-3.4	-2.2	0.0	4,250	3,907	5,423	21,607	26,606	-18.8
New Orders.....	4,960	5,002	4,663	-0.8	7.3	-2.1	4,514	4,318	5,445	23,055	28,024	-17.7
Semiconductors:												
Shipments.....	3,979	4,166	2,891	-4.5	44.1	-3.7	3,798	5,353	4,574	18,908	26,795	-29.4
New Orders ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	8,358	8,616	8,486	-3.0	1.5	-2.9	8,376	8,454	10,926	41,483	52,203	-20.5
New Orders.....	8,092	8,178	8,182	-1.1	0.0	0.1	8,240	8,143	11,379	40,688	54,146	-24.9
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	42,219	44,923	45,051	-6.0	-0.3	1.1	42,580	43,560	53,842	216,292	271,092	-20.2
New Orders.....	42,187	40,724	38,347	3.6	6.2	-0.1	39,444	35,766	55,350	188,290	293,867	-35.9
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	22,912	25,025	24,545	-8.4	2.0	-0.8	23,301	24,957	34,012	122,175	177,587	-31.2
New Orders.....	22,764	24,767	24,465	-8.1	1.2	-0.7	22,920	24,873	33,712	121,222	176,656	-31.4
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	7,244	7,765	7,963	-6.7	-2.5	0.4	7,246	7,087	8,196	37,609	40,396	-6.9
New Orders.....	6,684	3,976	4,034	68.1	-1.4	7.5	5,208	1,007	11,181	16,805	62,585	-73.1
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	5,647	5,302	5,527	6.5	-4.1	7.1	5,550	4,968	4,444	24,952	20,680	20.7
New Orders.....	5,328	5,418	5,355	-1.7	1.2	6.6	4,512	4,650	4,626	24,401	22,461	8.6
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	32,084	32,149	31,988	-0.2	0.5	-2.9	32,478	31,767	38,051	155,814	180,822	-13.8
New Orders.....	31,924	32,071	32,070	-0.5	0.0	-1.1	32,593	31,868	38,111	155,794	180,999	-13.9
Capital goods: ³												
Shipments.....	66,724	66,803	68,085	-0.1	-1.9	-1.1	65,300	64,143	76,346	327,859	373,812	-12.3
New Orders.....	65,866	60,154	59,150	9.5	1.7	-2.6	60,944	54,272	78,580	290,353	409,645	-29.1
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	56,348	56,530	58,067	-0.3	-2.6	-0.9	54,786	54,156	67,187	279,072	330,623	-15.6
New Orders.....	53,831	48,944	50,424	10.0	-2.9	-1.0	50,684	45,107	71,011	242,011	365,203	-33.7
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	52,447	52,306	53,780	0.3	-2.7	-1.7	50,702	50,327	62,463	258,998	308,783	-16.1
New Orders.....	50,858	48,537	49,989	4.8	-2.9	-1.4	48,868	47,146	63,532	245,275	322,935	-24.0
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	10,376	10,273	10,018	1.0	2.5	-2.3	10,514	9,987	9,159	48,787	43,189	13.0
New Orders.....	12,035	11,210	8,726	7.4	28.5	-11.1	10,260	9,165	7,569	48,342	44,442	8.8

NA Not Available ^r 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: M3-3(07), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 2004-2007."

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.

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

⁴ 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 ¹			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change 2009/2008
	May 2009 ²	Apr 2009 ^r	Mar 2009	Apr - May ²	Mar - Apr ^r	Feb - Mar	May 2009 ²	Apr 2009 ^r	May 2008	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	747,501	749,487	757,692	-0.3	-1.1	-1.7	751,926	757,116	817,565	-8.0
Total Inventories.....	323,251	325,725	329,460	-0.8	-1.1	-1.7	324,457	326,530	333,452	-2.7
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	308,121	310,075	314,081	-0.6	-1.3	-2.0	312,093	314,147	357,995	-12.8
Total Inventories.....	230,074	232,234	236,252	-0.9	-1.7	-2.0	230,476	232,480	246,167	-6.4
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	587,119	590,646	599,663	-0.6	-1.5	-2.0	590,590	595,044	663,782	-11.0
Total Inventories.....	297,005	299,450	303,450	-0.8	-1.3	-1.9	298,081	300,155	308,799	-3.5
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	747,501	749,487	757,692	-0.3	-1.1	-1.7	751,926	757,116	817,565	-8.0
Total Inventories.....	260,266	262,181	264,930	-0.7	-1.0	-1.9	261,478	262,839	267,117	-2.1
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	13,596	13,974	14,765	-2.7	-5.4	-9.1	13,942	14,367	29,971	-53.5
Total Inventories.....	27,116	27,968	29,012	-3.0	-3.6	-3.9	26,932	27,690	33,112	-18.7
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	50,970	51,763	52,366	-1.5	-1.2	-4.0	52,628	52,661	64,526	-18.4
Total Inventories.....	39,910	40,441	41,408	-1.3	-2.3	-2.9	39,809	40,518	43,354	-8.2
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	87,661	88,492	90,503	-0.9	-2.2	-3.2	88,444	89,598	101,289	-12.7
Total Inventories.....	52,098	52,454	53,161	-0.7	-1.3	-2.3	52,291	52,807	54,053	-3.3
Computers and electronic products:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	123,905	123,431	123,516	0.4	-0.1	0.3	124,528	124,949	123,904	0.5
Total Inventories.....	46,175	46,077	46,298	0.2	-0.5	-1.5	46,523	45,955	46,892	-0.8
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	3,313	3,307	3,610	0.2	-8.4	-2.1	3,313	3,307	3,611	-8.3
Total Inventories.....	4,623	4,675	4,694	-1.1	-0.4	-0.1	4,770	4,666	5,351	-10.9
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	37,725	37,290	36,973	1.2	0.9	-0.3	38,202	37,938	37,835	1.0
Total Inventories.....	10,524	10,332	10,295	1.9	0.4	-0.1	10,600	10,328	9,950	6.5
Semiconductors:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Total Inventories ⁴	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	20,491	20,757	21,195	-1.3	-2.1	-1.4	20,804	20,940	25,007	-16.8
Total Inventories.....	13,323	13,449	13,687	-0.9	-1.7	-1.2	13,487	13,650	15,375	-12.3
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	439,380	439,412	443,611	0.0	-0.9	-1.5	439,833	442,969	459,570	-4.3
Total Inventories.....	93,177	93,491	93,208	-0.3	0.3	-1.0	93,981	94,050	87,285	7.7
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	14,696	14,844	15,102	-1.0	-1.7	-0.5	14,696	15,077	17,634	-16.7
Total Inventories.....	18,984	19,328	19,783	-1.8	-2.3	-3.3	19,046	19,431	23,850	-20.1
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	287,567	288,127	291,916	-0.2	-1.3	-1.3	287,306	289,344	302,804	-5.1
Total Inventories.....	47,040	47,038	46,655	0.0	0.8	-0.7	47,566	47,311	37,643	26.4
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	47,250	47,569	47,453	-0.7	0.2	-0.4	47,676	48,714	45,083	5.8
Total Inventories.....	15,487	15,543	15,205	-0.4	2.2	1.4	15,586	15,571	14,316	8.9
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	11,498	11,658	11,736	-1.4	-0.7	0.7	11,747	11,632	13,298	-11.7
Total Inventories.....	51,452	51,845	52,686	-0.8	-1.6	-0.4	51,434	51,860	53,381	-3.6
Capital goods:³										
Unfilled Orders.....	574,177	575,035	581,684	-0.1	-1.1	-1.5	576,429	580,785	611,290	-5.7
Total Inventories.....	162,313	162,889	163,184	-0.4	-0.2	-1.1	163,332	163,405	156,345	4.5
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	429,741	432,258	439,844	-0.6	-1.7	-1.7	431,209	435,311	473,395	-8.9
Total Inventories.....	142,105	142,602	143,109	-0.3	-0.4	-1.4	143,093	143,046	136,966	4.5
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	177,392	178,981	182,750	-0.9	-2.1	-2.0	179,459	181,293	202,936	-11.6
Total Inventories.....	104,630	105,058	106,048	-0.4	-0.9	-1.6	105,270	105,335	107,777	-2.3
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	144,436	142,777	141,840	1.2	0.7	-0.9	145,220	145,474	137,895	5.3
Total Inventories.....	20,208	20,287	20,075	-0.4	1.1	0.9	20,239	20,359	19,379	4.4

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>.