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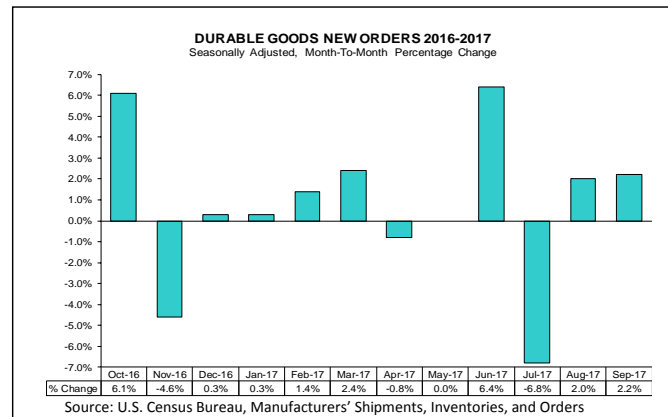
MONTHLY ADVANCE REPORT ON MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES AND ORDERS SEPTEMBER 2017

Release Number: CB 17-173 M3-1 (17)-09

Notice: For information on the impact of recent hurricanes on the compilation of this report, please see the [Frequently Asked Questions document on our website](#).

October 25, 2017 — The U.S. Census Bureau announces the September advance report on manufacturers' shipments, inventories and orders:

DURABLE GOODS – NEW ORDERS		
SEPTEMBER 2017	\$238.7 billion	+2.2%°
AUGUST 2017 (revised)	\$233.6 billion	+2.0%°
Next release: November 22, 2017		
<small>Data adjusted for seasonal variation but not for price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders. °Statistical significance is not measurable for this survey. The Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders estimates are not based on a probability sample, so the sampling error of these estimates cannot be measured nor can the confidence intervals be computed.</small>		



New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in September increased \$5.1 billion or 2.2 percent to \$238.7 billion, the U.S. Census Bureau announced today. This increase, up three of the last four months, followed a 2.0 percent August increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.7 percent. Excluding defense, new orders increased 2.0 percent. Transportation equipment, also up three of the last four months, led the increase, \$4.0 billion or 5.1 percent to \$81.2 billion.

Shipments

Shipments of manufactured durable goods in September, up four of the last five months, increased \$2.4 billion or 1.0 percent to \$240.5 billion. This followed a 0.7 percent August increase. Transportation equipment, up two of the last three months, led the increase, \$1.1 billion or 1.4 percent to \$79.7 billion.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for manufactured durable goods in September, up following two consecutive monthly decreases, increased \$2.8 billion or 0.2 percent to \$1,135.1 billion. This followed a virtually unchanged August decrease. Transportation equipment, also up following two consecutive monthly decreases, led the increase, \$1.5 billion or 0.2 percent to \$772.1 billion.

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Inventories

Inventories of manufactured durable goods in September, up fourteen of the last fifteen months, increased \$2.4 billion or 0.6 percent to \$403.6 billion. This followed a 0.5 percent August increase. Transportation equipment, up three consecutive months, led the increase, \$0.8 billion or 0.7 percent to \$130.8 billion.

Capital Goods

Nondefense new orders for capital goods in September increased \$4.3 billion or 6.1 percent to \$74.9 billion. Shipments increased \$1.7 billion or 2.4 percent to \$73.5 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$1.3 billion or 0.2 percent to \$704.8 billion. Inventories increased \$1.4 billion or 0.8 percent to \$179.9 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in September increased \$0.5 billion or 4.1 percent to \$11.5 billion. Shipments increased \$0.2 billion or 1.7 percent to \$10.6 billion. Unfilled orders increased \$0.9 billion or 0.7 percent to \$143.9 billion. Inventories decreased \$0.1 billion or 0.3 percent to \$23.4 billion.

Revised August Data

Revised seasonally adjusted August figures for all manufacturing industries were: new orders, \$471.8 billion (revised from \$471.7 billion); shipments, \$476.3 billion (revised from \$475.9 billion); unfilled orders, \$1,132.3 billion (revised from \$1,132.6 billion) and total inventories, \$655.9 billion (revised from \$655.6 billion).

Revised and more detailed estimates, plus nondurable goods data, will be published on November 3, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. EDT. The Advance Report on durable goods for October is scheduled for release on November 22, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. EST. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables of this release can be found at <www.census.gov/m3>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Figures in text are adjusted for seasonality, but not for inflation. Figures on new and unfilled orders exclude data for semiconductor manufacturing.

“Virtually unchanged” indicates that the change is less than 0.05 percent for a percent increase or decrease.

Description of the survey

This report is compiled from results of the U.S. Census Bureau’s Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey, which is a voluntary survey authorized by Title 13 of the United States Code. This survey provides statistics on a calendar-month basis for 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). Data published from the M3 survey are based on a panel of approximately 5,000 reporting units that represent approximately 3,100 companies and provide an indication of month-to-month change for

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the Manufacturing Sector. These reporting units may be divisions of diversified large companies, large homogenous companies, or single-unit manufacturers in 92 industry categories, which are combined into 65 publication levels due to the small monthly panel size. The survey methodology assumes that the month-to-month changes of the total operations of the reporting units in the M3 panel effectively represent the month-to-month movements of all establishments that make up the category. The companies for which shipments data are currently reported or imputed in the M3 survey represent approximately 64 percent of the total value of shipments for manufacturing establishments in the 2012 Economic Census, and these companies include almost two-thirds of the manufacturing companies with \$500 million or more in shipments in the 2012 Economic Census. The companies for which shipments data are currently reported in the M3 survey represent approximately 57 percent of the total value of shipments for manufacturing establishments in the 2012 Economic Census. Statistics based on the M3 panel differ from the results that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of all manufacturing companies. The M3 panel is not based on 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:

www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3/how_the_data_are_collected/index.html.

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface (API) lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before.

www.census.gov/developers/.

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2018 Release Dates for the M3 Survey

Survey month	Advance Report (8:30 a.m. release time)	Full Report (10:00 a.m. release time)
Sep-17	Wed 10/25/2017	Fri 11/3/2017
Oct-17	Wed 11/22/2017	Mon 12/4/2017
Nov-17	Fri 12/22/2017	Fri 1/5/2018
Dec-17	Fri 1/26/2018	Fri 2/2/2018
Jan-18	Tue 2/27/2018	Tue 3/6/2018
Feb-18	Fri 3/23/2018	Wed 4/4/2018
Mar-18	Thu 4/26/2018	Thu 5/3/2018
Apr-18	Fri 5/25/2018	Mon 6/4/2018
May-18	Wed 6/27/2018	Tue 7/3/2018
Jun-18	Thu 7/26/2018	Thu 8/2/2018
Jul-18	Fri 8/24/2018	Thu 9/6/2018
Aug-18	Thu 9/27/2018	Thu 10/4/2018
Sep-18	Thu 10/25/2018	Fri 11/2/2018
Oct-18	Wed 11/21/2018	Thu 12/6/2018
Nov-18	Fri 12/21/2018	Not available at this time

Source:

https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/reports/pei_schedule_release_dates_2018_all_v2.pdf

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Table 1. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders ¹

[Estimates are shown in millions of dollars and are based on data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Year to Date		
	Sep 2017 ²	Aug 2017 ¹	Jul 2017	Aug - Sep ²	Jul - Aug ¹	Jun - Jul	Sep 2017 ²	Aug 2017 ¹	Sep 2016	2017	2016	Percent Change 2017/2016
DURABLE GOODS												
Total:												
Shipments.....	240,532	238,141	236,492	1.0	0.7	0.1	252,600	250,360	244,404	2,128,922	2,059,218	3.4
New Orders ⁴	238,695	233,641	228,981	2.2	2.0	-6.8	248,120	237,218	233,803	2,093,327	1,989,457	5.2
Excluding transportation:												
Shipments.....	160,808	159,495	157,645	0.8	1.2	0.0	168,027	166,930	159,036	1,422,001	1,355,288	4.9
New Orders ⁴	157,446	156,346	155,185	0.7	0.7	0.8	163,088	159,831	153,206	1,398,194	1,325,132	5.5
Excluding defense:												
Shipments.....	227,869	225,723	224,192	1.0	0.7	0.0	238,643	237,994	231,251	2,020,370	1,957,661	3.2
New Orders ⁴	225,343	220,849	215,320	2.0	2.6	-7.8	233,338	226,924	220,280	1,987,167	1,891,408	5.1
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:												
Shipments.....	169,570	167,512	167,231	1.2	0.2	0.5	178,833	175,313	171,995	1,498,199	1,435,104	4.4
New Orders.....	172,331	167,459	164,050	2.9	2.1	-9.1	178,723	166,832	165,434	1,501,594	1,401,446	7.1
Primary metals:												
Shipments.....	19,835	19,723	19,341	0.6	2.0	0.3	19,986	21,012	18,042	176,737	159,984	10.5
New Orders.....	19,895	19,919	19,635	-0.1	1.4	0.8	19,274	20,729	17,382	177,431	159,867	11.0
Fabricated metal products:												
Shipments.....	32,401	32,190	31,796	0.7	1.2	-0.4	33,587	34,747	31,326	287,489	268,231	7.2
New Orders.....	33,273	32,718	32,620	1.7	0.3	0.7	33,793	34,365	29,965	294,164	269,278	9.2
Machinery:												
Shipments.....	31,893	31,526	31,032	1.2	1.6	-0.1	32,546	31,811	30,685	280,306	270,219	3.7
New Orders.....	31,761	31,824	31,854	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	31,527	31,934	29,832	284,573	267,680	6.3
Computers and electronic products⁴:												
Shipments.....	27,315	27,108	26,901	0.8	0.8	1.1	30,350	27,297	28,678	237,485	227,080	4.6
New Orders.....	23,323	22,947	22,550	1.6	1.8	2.4	27,317	21,474	25,513	200,926	195,325	2.9
Computers and related products:												
Shipments.....	1,914	2,031	2,088	-5.8	-2.7	8.0	2,433	1,829	2,366	17,507	17,596	-0.5
New Orders.....	1,948	2,061	2,129	-5.5	-3.2	7.7	2,467	1,859	2,357	17,738	17,584	0.9
Communications equipment:												
Shipments.....	3,027	2,959	2,947	2.3	0.4	-0.7	3,772	2,799	3,660	26,512	25,846	2.6
New Orders.....	3,429	3,272	3,038	4.8	7.7	-0.5	4,330	2,729	3,934	28,464	27,662	2.9
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:												
Shipments.....	10,143	10,040	9,993	1.0	0.5	-1.6	10,742	10,604	10,626	90,526	89,018	1.7
New Orders.....	10,040	10,053	9,885	-0.1	1.7	1.9	10,474	10,480	10,778	90,722	91,017	-0.3
Transportation equipment:												
Shipments.....	79,724	78,646	78,847	1.4	-0.3	0.1	84,573	83,430	85,368	706,921	703,930	0.4
New Orders.....	81,249	77,295	73,796	5.1	4.7	-19.6	85,032	77,387	80,597	695,133	664,325	4.6
Motor vehicles and parts:												
Shipments.....	54,537	54,562	53,197	0.0	2.6	-1.7	56,366	59,437	57,146	489,324	485,529	0.8
New Orders.....	54,645	54,608	53,104	0.1	2.8	-2.1	56,525	59,584	57,043	490,209	484,166	1.2
Nondefense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	12,531	11,482	12,999	9.1	-11.7	8.0	14,127	11,419	14,212	105,060	109,091	-3.7
New Orders.....	12,752	9,701	7,267	31.5	33.5	-71.1	13,401	7,002	9,705	95,433	76,305	25.1
Defense aircraft and parts:												
Shipments.....	3,978	4,054	4,065	-1.9	-0.3	-1.0	4,568	4,033	4,577	34,990	34,483	1.5
New Orders.....	3,848	3,756	5,429	2.4	-30.8	45.7	3,497	2,823	2,903	35,691	34,913	2.2
All other durable goods:												
Shipments.....	39,221	38,908	38,582	0.8	0.8	0.1	40,816	41,459	39,679	349,458	340,756	2.6
New Orders.....	39,154	38,885	38,641	0.7	0.6	0.2	40,703	40,849	39,736	350,378	341,965	2.5
Capital goods³:												
Shipments.....	84,143	82,268	82,923	2.3	-0.8	2.2	91,161	82,803	86,297	727,642	704,272	3.3
New Orders.....	86,417	81,635	79,638	5.9	2.5	-16.0	91,837	75,772	82,146	725,978	675,303	7.5
Nondefense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	73,540	71,838	72,612	2.4	-1.1	2.0	79,529	72,417	75,587	636,716	621,021	2.5
New Orders.....	74,876	70,553	67,861	6.1	4.0	-19.7	78,580	66,786	69,995	637,196	593,817	7.3
Excluding aircraft:												
Shipments.....	65,144	64,702	63,942	0.7	1.2	1.0	69,652	65,167	65,753	569,566	551,380	3.3
New Orders.....	65,935	65,083	64,258	1.3	1.3	1.3	69,656	63,644	65,116	576,013	554,985	3.8
Defense capital goods:												
Shipments.....	10,603	10,430	10,311	1.7	1.2	3.2	11,632	10,386	10,710	90,926	83,251	9.2
New Orders.....	11,541	11,082	11,777	4.1	-5.9	15.3	13,257	8,986	12,151	88,782	81,486	9.0

¹ Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.

² Estimates of shipments and new orders are for the duration of the period, while estimates of unfilled orders and total inventories are for the end of the period. Not seasonally adjusted estimates of shipments and new orders include adjusted data for non-calendar reporters. Seasonally adjusted estimates include concurrent adjustments for holiday and trading-day differences, where appropriate, as well as seasonal variation, based on the results of the latest annual review of the model parameters. Estimates are not adjusted for price changes.

³ 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. For further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations, see <http://www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3>.

⁴ 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; and defense : 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.

⁵ Estimates and percent changes of shipments and inventories for the semiconductor industry are included in computers and electronic products, and all other applicable aggregate totals. Estimates and percent changes for new orders and unfilled orders exclude semiconductor industry data.

Table 2. Durable Goods Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders and Total Inventories ¹

[Estimates are shown in millions of dollars and are based on data from the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders Survey.]

Item	Seasonally Adjusted						Not Seasonally Adjusted			
	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent Change 2017/2016
	Sep 2017 ²	Aug 2017 ¹	Jul 2017	Aug - Sep ²	Jul - Aug ¹	Jun - Jul	Sep 2017 ²	Aug 2017 ¹	Sep 2016	
DURABLE GOODS										
Total:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	1,135,073	1,132,312	1,132,365	0.2	0.0	-0.3	1,126,137	1,126,247	1,110,279	1.4
Total Inventories.....	403,569	401,176	399,312	0.6	0.5	0.5	402,318	404,594	388,903	3.4
Excluding transportation:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	362,958	361,722	360,424	0.3	0.4	0.5	359,846	360,415	344,759	4.4
Total Inventories.....	272,750	271,203	269,506	0.6	0.6	0.4	271,827	274,244	258,688	5.1
Excluding defense:										
Unfilled Orders ⁴	955,998	953,926	954,353	0.2	0.0	-0.5	948,641	949,576	937,523	1.2
Total Inventories.....	376,007	373,496	371,822	0.7	0.5	0.3	374,781	376,911	362,839	3.3
Manufacturing with unfilled orders:										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,135,073	1,132,312	1,132,365	0.2	0.0	-0.3	1,126,137	1,126,247	1,110,279	1.4
Total Inventories.....	328,029	326,030	324,483	0.6	0.5	0.4	327,375	329,039	317,223	3.2
Primary metals:										
Unfilled Orders.....	30,619	30,559	30,363	0.2	0.6	1.0	29,636	30,348	27,462	7.9
Total Inventories.....	33,598	33,439	33,304	0.5	0.4	0.7	33,758	33,672	31,218	8.1
Fabricated metal products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	80,174	79,302	78,774	1.1	0.7	1.1	79,934	79,728	74,939	6.7
Total Inventories.....	50,373	50,058	49,745	0.6	0.6	0.8	50,223	50,227	47,730	5.2
Machinery:										
Unfilled Orders.....	100,959	101,091	100,793	-0.1	0.3	0.8	99,916	100,935	96,386	3.7
Total Inventories.....	69,779	69,138	68,500	0.9	0.9	0.1	69,691	70,038	65,792	5.9
Computers and electronic products⁴:										
Unfilled Orders.....	118,599	117,993	117,707	0.5	0.2	0.0	118,339	117,002	115,177	2.7
Total Inventories.....	45,087	44,887	44,636	0.4	0.6	0.3	44,590	45,918	43,020	3.6
Computers and related products:										
Unfilled Orders.....	1,920	1,886	1,856	1.8	1.6	2.3	1,920	1,886	1,667	15.2
Total Inventories.....	4,407	4,366	4,355	0.9	0.3	0.1	4,375	4,571	4,150	5.4
Communications equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	27,840	27,438	27,125	1.5	1.2	0.3	27,725	27,167	25,301	9.6
Total Inventories.....	4,554	4,648	4,644	-2.0	0.1	0.2	4,479	4,778	4,416	1.4
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components:										
Unfilled Orders.....	22,221	22,324	22,311	-0.5	0.1	-0.5	21,833	22,101	20,841	4.8
Total Inventories.....	17,817	17,731	17,640	0.5	0.5	0.0	17,636	18,065	16,899	4.4
Transportation equipment:										
Unfilled Orders.....	772,115	770,590	771,941	0.2	-0.2	-0.7	766,291	765,832	765,520	0.1
Total Inventories.....	130,819	129,973	129,806	0.7	0.1	0.6	130,491	130,350	130,215	0.2
Motor vehicles and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	23,931	23,823	23,777	0.5	0.2	-0.4	23,785	23,626	22,948	3.6
Total Inventories.....	35,008	34,704	34,773	0.9	-0.2	1.2	34,919	35,068	34,893	0.1
Nondefense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	578,104	577,883	579,664	0.0	-0.3	-1.0	574,152	574,878	577,507	-0.6
Total Inventories.....	66,713	66,041	65,925	1.0	0.2	-0.5	66,342	65,862	67,611	-1.9
Defense Aircraft and parts:										
Unfilled Orders.....	73,590	73,720	74,018	-0.2	-0.4	1.9	72,101	73,172	67,514	6.8
Total Inventories.....	13,225	13,428	13,143	-1.5	2.2	3.3	13,266	13,469	11,831	12.1
All other durable goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	10,386	10,453	10,476	-0.6	-0.2	0.6	10,188	10,301	9,954	2.4
Total Inventories.....	56,096	55,950	55,681	0.3	0.5	0.4	55,929	56,324	54,029	3.5
Capital goods³:										
Unfilled Orders.....	848,676	846,402	847,035	0.3	-0.1	-0.4	842,513	841,837	831,303	1.3
Total Inventories.....	203,291	202,016	200,851	0.6	0.6	0.3	202,479	203,972	196,411	3.1
Nondefense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	704,788	703,452	704,737	0.2	-0.2	-0.7	699,169	700,118	691,732	1.1
Total Inventories.....	179,892	178,538	177,638	0.8	0.5	-0.1	179,146	180,532	175,160	2.3
Excluding aircraft:										
Unfilled Orders.....	227,742	226,951	226,570	0.3	0.2	0.1	226,012	226,008	220,269	2.6
Total Inventories.....	124,666	123,817	123,206	0.7	0.5	0.1	124,276	126,053	118,945	4.5
Defense capital goods:										
Unfilled Orders.....	143,888	142,950	142,298	0.7	0.5	1.0	143,344	141,719	139,571	2.7
Total Inventories.....	23,399	23,478	23,213	-0.3	1.1	3.5	23,333	23,440	21,251	9.8

¹ Revised data due to late receipts and concurrent seasonal adjustment.

² Estimates of shipments and new orders are for the duration of the period, while estimates of unfilled orders and total inventories are for the end of the period. Not seasonally adjusted estimates of shipments and new orders include adjusted data for non-calendar reporters. Seasonally adjusted estimates include concurrent adjustments for holiday and trading-day differences, where appropriate, as well as seasonal variation, based on the results of the latest annual review of the model parameters. Estimates are not adjusted for price changes.

³ 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. For further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations, see <http://www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3>.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Estimates and percent changes of shipments and inventories for the semiconductor industry are included in computers and electronic products, and all other applicable aggregate totals. Estimates and percent changes for new orders and unfilled orders exclude semiconductor industry data.