## June Durable Goods

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- New orders for durable goods declined $1.0 \%$ in June versus a consensus expected gain of $1.0 \%$. Excluding transportation, orders declined $0.6 \%$, also short of the consensus expected increase of $0.4 \%$. Orders are up $15.9 \%$ versus a year ago, $15.0 \%$ excluding transportation.
- The drop in orders in June can be almost all attributed to civilian aircraft, which are very volatile. Computers/electronics also declined, while motor vehicles increased for the 4th straight month.
- The government calculates business investment for GDP purposes by using shipments of non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft. That measure increased $0.2 \%$ in June, is up $10.1 \%$ in the past year, and increased at a $15.8 \%$ annual rate in Q2 versus the Q1 average.
- Unfilled orders were unchanged in June, but were up $0.8 \%$ excluding the transportation sector.

Implications: Overall orders declined 1\% in June but the details of the report show capital spending is stronger than the headline suggests. Orders for civilian aircraft, which are extremely volatile from month to month, fell $25.6 \%$. Excluding that single category, orders were essentially unchanged for the month, with increases in orders for motor vehicles/parts, fabricated metals, and electronic equipment/appliances roughly offsetting declines in orders for primary metals, machinery, and computers/electronics. Notably, all of the declining categories in June are ones where orders are still up substantially in the past year, with primary metals up $40 \%$, machinery up $19 \%$, and computers/electronics up 11\%. Meanwhile, shipments of "core" capital goods, which exclude defense and aircraft, increased $0.2 \%$ in June, the ninth increase in the last ten months. This is the number the government uses to estimate business investment in equipment. Gains in these shipments should continue; new orders for core capital goods increased $0.6 \%$ in June and unfilled orders increased 1.1\%. In other recent news, the Richmond Fed index, a measure of manufacturing in the mid-Atlantic, came in at +16 in July. That's a decline versus +23 in June but was higher than the consensus anticipated and suggests continued healthy growth in the factory sector. The Case-Shiller index, a measure of home prices in the 20 largest metro areas, increased $0.5 \%$ in May and is up $4.6 \%$ in the past year.

| Durable Goods <br> All Data Seasonally Adjusted | Jun-10 | May-10 | Apr-10 | 3-mo \% ch. <br> annualized | 6-mo \% ch. <br> annualized | Yr to Yr <br> \% Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New Orders for Durable Goods | $\mathbf{- 1 . 0 \%}$ | $-0.8 \%$ | $2.9 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | $13.7 \%$ | $15.9 \%$ |
| Ex Defense | $\mathbf{- 0 . 7 \%}$ | $-0.7 \%$ | $3.4 \%$ | $8.1 \%$ | $13.4 \%$ | $17.1 \%$ |
| Ex Transportation | $\mathbf{- 0 . 6 \%}$ | $1.2 \%$ | $-0.9 \%$ | $-0.9 \%$ | $12.7 \%$ | $15.0 \%$ |
| Primary Metals | $\mathbf{- 2 . 0 \%}$ | $-0.6 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $-10.1 \%$ | $11.9 \%$ | $39.6 \%$ |
| Industrial Machinery | $\mathbf{- 0 . 7 \%}$ | $11.1 \%$ | $-6.9 \%$ | $11.6 \%$ | $21.7 \%$ | $18.5 \%$ |
| Computers and Electronic Products | $\mathbf{- 1 . 9 \%}$ | $0.1 \%$ | $2.1 \%$ | $1.2 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ | $10.7 \%$ |
| Transportation Equipment | $\mathbf{- 2 . 4 \%}$ | $-6.6 \%$ | $15.4 \%$ | $22.6 \%$ | $16.9 \%$ | $18.8 \%$ |
| Capital Goods Orders | $\mathbf{- 2 . 3 \%}$ | $-0.9 \%$ | $6.3 \%$ | $12.1 \%$ | $30.6 \%$ | $17.9 \%$ |
| Capital Goods Shipments | $\mathbf{0 . 6 \%}$ | $-0.7 \%$ | $-0.4 \%$ | $-2.1 \%$ | $-0.7 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ |
| Defense Shipments | $\mathbf{- 1 . 5 \%}$ | $-6.3 \%$ | $-4.4 \%$ | $-39.5 \%$ | $-19.0 \%$ | $-\mathbf{- 1 3 . 2 \%}$ |
| Non-Defense, Ex Aircraft | $\mathbf{0 . 2 \%}$ | $1.5 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ | $11.3 \%$ | $10.1 \%$ |
| Unfilled Orders for Durable Goods | $\mathbf{0 . 0} \%$ | $0.3 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $2.6 \%$ | $2.4 \%$ | $-2.2 \%$ |

## Source: Bureau of the Census

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