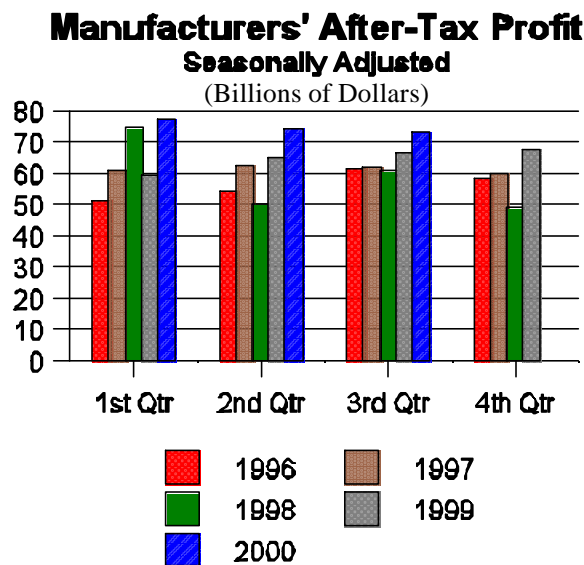


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**ADVANCE DATA FROM THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT
 FOR MANUFACTURING, MINING, AND TRADE CORPORATIONS—THIRD QUARTER 2000**

Sales and after-tax profits data for all manufacturing are presented in Table 1 on both a seasonally adjusted and an unadjusted basis. Seasonally adjusted historical data for this series, as well as for total durable and total nondurable manufacturing, are presented in Table 3. Data for individual manufacturing industries are



Sales for durable goods were \$620.7 billion, with profits averaging 5.9 cents per dollar of sales, up 0.3 (± 0.2) cents from the prior quarter. Nondurable goods manufacturers had after-tax profits of \$36.7 billion, down \$2.9 (± 1.2) billion or 7.3 percent ($\pm 2.9\%$) from the second quarter. Sales for nondurable goods manufacturers were \$519.7 billion, with profits averaging 7.1 cents per dollar of sales, down 0.7 cents from last quarter.

After-Tax Profits and Sales - Not Seasonally Adjusted

On an unadjusted basis, manufacturers' after-tax profits in the third quarter of 2000 were up \$6.1 (± 1.6) billion or 9.2 percent ($\pm 2.4\%$) from the third quarter of 1999 to \$72.5 billion. Sales at \$1,137.5 billion were up \$88.4 (± 10.8) billion or 8.4 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$) from the same quarter a year ago. Profits averaged 6.4 cents per dollar of sales for the third quarter, unchanged from the same quarter a year ago. After-tax profits for durable goods manufacturers were \$34.3 billion, up \$1.1 (± 1.0) billion from the third quarter 1999. Sales at \$612.2 billion were up \$29.8 (± 7.9) billion or 5.1 percent ($\pm 1.4\%$) from the same quarter a year ago. Profits averaged 5.6 cents per dollar of sales for the third quarter. Nondurable goods manufacturers reported after-tax profits of \$38.2 billion, 15.1 percent ($\pm 3.7\%$) above the same quarter last year, and sales of \$525.2 billion, up \$58.6 (± 6.5) billion or 12.6 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) from third quarter of 1999. Their profits averaged 7.3 cents per dollar of sales compared with 7.1 cents, from the same quarter a year ago.

After-Tax Profits and Sales - Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing corporations' seasonally adjusted after-tax profits for the third quarter of 2000 at \$73.3 billion and sales at \$1,140.5 billion showed no statistically significant change from the second quarter, the Commerce Department's Census Bureau reported. Third quarter profits averaged 6.4 cents per dollar of sales, also about the same as second quarter. Increases in profits of durable goods manufacturers nearly offset decreases by nondurable goods manufacturers. Durable goods manufacturers after-tax profits were \$36.6 billion, an increase of \$2.2 (± 1.2) billion or 6.5 percent ($\pm 2.9\%$) over the second quarter.

Industry Detail - Not Seasonally Adjusted

Unadjusted durable manufacturers' after-tax profits for the third quarter of 2000 were up \$1.1 (± 1.0) billion from the third quarter of 1999, with underlying industry categories showing mixed results. Machinery's \$3.3 (± 0.5) billion improvement was due to improved operating profits in the domestic operations as well as in equity investments. Electrical machinery's \$2.4 (± 0.6) billion increase was also due to improved operating profits and equity earnings but also showed a net gain on asset sale. Motor vehicles' decline of \$2.2 (± 0.1) billion was mainly a result of decreased operating profits. Lumber, stone, clay and glass, fabricated metals and aircraft all showed slight declines from the third quarter of 1999.

When compared to the second quarter of 2000, unadjusted durable manufacturers' after-tax profits were down \$4.6 (± 1.2) billion, with most of the underlying industry categories showing decreases. Motor vehicles' \$1.7 (± 0.1) billion drop resulted from declining operating profits. Aircraft's \$1.3 (± 0.1) billion downturn was due to fluctuations in nonoperating activities. Electrical machinery's \$1.2 (± 0.7) billion decline mainly resulted from operations. Lumber, instruments and nonferrous metals also reported slight declines when compared to last quarter. Machinery reported a \$0.8 (± 0.7) billion improvement, the only statistically significant increase over last quarter.

Unadjusted nondurable manufacturers' after-tax profits for the third quarter of 2000 were up \$5.0 (± 1.2) billion or 15.1 percent ($\pm 3.7\%$) from the third quarter of 1999. Petroleum continued to lead the industry in profits with a \$4.4 (± 0.1) billion increase which was due to improvements in operating profits as well as equity earnings. Residual of chemicals reported a \$1.4 (± 0.2) billion increase mainly due to improved equity earnings. Printing's increase of \$0.9 (± 0.3) billion was mainly due to gains on asset sales. Food and industrial chemicals also reported increases. Textiles, apparel, and paper all reported slight declines when compared to the third quarter of 1999.

When compared to the second quarter of 2000, unadjusted nondurable manufacturers' after-tax profits were down \$2.1 (± 1.2) billion or 5.1 percent ($\pm 2.9\%$), with underlying industry categories showing mixed results. Drugs' profits declined \$1.5 (± 1.0) billion due to a decrease in nonoperating income and an absence of gains reported last quarter.

Industrial chemicals' \$0.9 (± 0.1) billion decline was due to operating losses which were partly offset by gains from asset sales. Rubber reported a decrease of \$0.7 (± 0.4) billion which were due to operations and nonrecurring losses. Textiles loss of \$0.5 billion resulted from nonrecurring charges. Paper also reported decreases when compared to the second quarter. Printing showed the best improvement over the last quarter with an increase of \$0.9 (± 0.5) billion while petroleum's growth slowed, reporting only \$0.5 (± 0.1) billion improvement as a result of operations. Food's \$0.5 (± 0.3) billion increase mainly resulted from gains in asset sales.

Also included in this release are third quarter 2000 data for large mining and wholesale trade corporations.

These advance data, based on quarterly financial reports from about 8,200 corporations, were released today from the Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing, Mining, and Trade Corporations—Third quarter 2000 (QFR-00-3). The publication includes statements of income and retained earnings, balance sheets, and related financial and operating ratios. The aggregated data are classified by industry and asset size.

The publication becomes available for sale approximately two weeks from the date of this release from the Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954 (202-512-1800). The cost for an annual subscription is \$34 domestic and \$42.50 foreign. Remittances from foreign countries must be by international money order or by draft on a U.S. bank.

Files are also available on 3.5 inch flexible diskettes from U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau (MS1921), P.O. Box 277943, Atlanta, GA 30384-7943 (301-457-4100). The annual subscription cost is \$80; \$50 for the programs and documentation. Fourth quarter 2000 advance data are scheduled for release on April 5, 2001.

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

This quarter's publication contains data revised due to the reclassification of corporations by industry, and revisions that reflect respondents' corrections of submitted data subsequent to original publication.

The data presented in this report are estimated from a sample survey and therefore are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling variability such as response error, nonreporting, and coverage errors. Estimates of sampling variability are presented in the publication. A statement such as "up 2.5 (± 0.15) cents," appearing in the text, indicates the range (+2.35 to +2.65 cents) in which the actual change is likely to have occurred. The range given for the change is a 90 percent confidence interval that accounts only for sampling variability. If the range had contained zero (0), it would have been uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease; that is, the change would not have been statistically significant. For any comparison cited without a confidence interval, the change is statistically significant. The quarterly publication includes more detailed explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability, along with additional measures of sampling variability.

**This press release is available on the day of issue on the
Department of Commerce's Internet site at
<http://www.census.gov/csd/qfr>**

TABLE 1. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MANUFACTURING CORPORATIONS

Item	Seasonally Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	3Q 2000	2Q 2000 ¹	3Q 1999 ¹	3Q 2000	2Q 2000 ¹	3Q 1999 ¹
Rate of return (after taxes):						
Cents per dollar of sales	6.4	6.6	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.3
Percent on equity (annual rate)	NA	NA	NA	15.7	17.4	16.7
	(million dollars)					
Sales	1,140,455	1,121,485	1,051,206	1,137,456	1,141,642	1,049,070
Income after income taxes	73,313	73,957	66,720	72,473	79,106	66,364
Dividends paid (cash)	NA	NA	NA	31,204	36,316	23,513

TABLE 2. SALES AND PROFITS OF CORPORATIONS ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING, MINING, AND TRADE--NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Industry Group	Sales			Operating Profits*			After-Tax Profits		
	3Q 2000	2Q 2000 ¹	3Q 1999 ¹	3Q 2000	2Q 2000 ¹	3Q 1999 ¹	3Q 2000	2Q 2000 ¹	3Q 1999 ¹
	(million dollars)								
All manufacturing corporations	1,137,456	1,141,642	1,049,070	90,719	98,380	83,094	72,473	79,106	66,364
Nondurable goods	525,207	513,893	466,588	49,149	49,670	42,706	38,178	40,236	33,177
Food and tobacco	124,269	122,697	117,298	12,166	12,137	11,720	8,234	7,697	7,482
Textiles	14,464	15,222	15,553	661	739	743	(535)	65	331
Apparel ²	18,730	17,908	20,400	1,333	1,116	1,882	747	626	1,110
Paper	46,256	47,458	43,977	4,304	4,726	4,004	1,809	2,320	2,084
Printing	50,842	50,083	49,367	6,096	5,862	5,629	4,063	3,207	3,151
Chemicals	125,473	125,548	114,519	12,269	12,588	10,787	11,755	13,951	11,172
Industrial chemicals and synthetics ³ ..	42,812	44,042	37,725	2,293	3,848	2,936	2,081	2,998	1,892
Drugs ³	48,584	47,504	43,109	6,679	6,106	5,039	7,248	8,717	8,214
Residual of chemicals ³	34,076	34,002	33,685	3,297	2,634	2,811	2,427	2,236	1,066
Petroleum	112,848	102,322	75,468	10,419	9,744	6,074	11,322	10,870	6,897
Rubber	32,324	32,654	30,006	1,901	2,757	1,867	782	1,501	950
Durable goods	612,249	627,749	582,482	41,570	48,711	40,388	34,295	38,870	33,187
Stone, clay, and glass	25,419	24,104	23,462	3,115	2,969	3,193	1,451	1,308	2,074
Primary metals	40,482	41,606	38,391	2,013	2,675	1,841	896	1,162	919
Iron and steel ³	20,359	21,773	19,000	720	1,137	627	136	129	45
Nonferrous metals ³	20,123	19,832	19,392	1,293	1,538	1,214	760	1,032	874
Fabricated metals	48,443	48,407	46,548	4,507	4,680	4,442	2,855	2,857	3,368
Machinery	119,087	120,353	114,264	7,002	7,626	5,096	9,156	8,313	5,847
Electrical machinery	138,750	135,885	121,670	11,468	12,397	10,251	11,416	12,590	8,975
Transportation equipment	164,325	179,015	162,300	6,782	11,087	8,516	4,425	7,567	7,093
Motor vehicles and equipment ³	116,411	125,984	114,498	2,410	6,273	4,300	2,738	4,394	4,917
Aircraft, guided missiles, and parts ³ ..	36,288	40,515	36,849	3,217	3,407	3,122	1,132	2,436	1,614
Instruments	31,635	32,241	29,547	4,140	3,816	3,404	2,726	3,191	2,743
Other durable goods	44,107	46,138	46,300	2,541	3,461	3,644	1,370	1,883	2,167
Lumber and wood products ³	17,590	18,783	19,586	618	1,307	1,603	353	892	1,090
Furniture and fixtures ³	17,660	18,678	17,715	1,375	1,452	1,404	619	716	611
Miscellaneous manufacturing ³	8,857	8,676	8,998	548	702	637	398	275	466
Mining ⁴	26,368	23,637	20,123	4,741	3,159	1,994	3,347	2,466	1,637
Wholesale trade ⁴	325,064	321,511	291,516	10,219	10,318	7,827	5,376	4,756	4,829
Retail trade ⁴	NA	324,405	299,742	NA	14,056	13,942	NA	6,396	7,900

*Operating profits are profits before nonoperating income and expense items and income taxes.

¹Revised.

²Includes leather industry (previously titled "Other Nondurables").

³Included in major industry above.

⁴Mining and trade data are the quarterly results of companies in those divisions with assets over \$50 million; whereas, data for manufacturing corporations represent the quarterly results of companies with assets over \$250,000.

TABLE 3. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MANUFACTURING CORPORATIONS--SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Industry Group and Year	Sales ¹				After-Tax Profits ¹			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	(million dollars)				(million dollars)			
All manufacturing:								
1995	871,335	872,794	883,551	899,665	52,773	52,076	49,383	44,049
1996	914,310	932,690	948,407	960,853	51,163	54,170	61,254	58,484
1997	966,179	972,353	987,209	993,877	60,623	62,229	61,913	59,890
1998	990,632	981,812	987,452	990,468	74,481	49,923	61,016	49,109
1999	1,004,132	1,027,268	1,051,206	1,067,179	59,501	64,862	66,720	67,267
2000	1,114,417	1,121,485	1,140,455		77,251	73,957	73,313	
All nondurable manufacturing:								
1995	425,636	427,675	430,816	435,975	25,879	28,243	27,667	22,108
1996	442,163	452,399	457,645	463,137	28,011	28,411	32,221	30,243
1997	463,131	456,618	461,138	463,665	33,345	30,882	30,664	28,320
1998	452,045	446,566	443,513	439,549	29,684	29,002	30,882	17,075
1999	444,885	454,384	461,337	474,458	26,352	29,695	31,339	30,455
2000	498,340	508,496	519,749		37,633	39,603	36,731	
All durable manufacturing:								
1995	445,699	445,119	452,735	463,690	26,894	23,833	21,716	21,941
1996	472,147	480,291	490,762	497,716	23,152	25,759	29,033	28,241
1997	503,048	515,735	526,071	530,212	27,278	31,347	31,249	31,570
1998	538,587	535,246	543,939	550,919	44,797	20,921	30,134	32,034
1999	559,247	572,884	589,869	592,721	33,149	35,167	35,381	36,812
2000	616,077	612,989	620,706		39,618	34,354	36,582	

¹Revised.