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Joint Release

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NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION IN DECEMBER 2002

BUILDING PERMITS

Privately-owned housing units authorized by building permits in December were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,880,000, according to estimates reported today by the U.S. Commerce Department's Census Bureau. This is 8.2 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$) above the revised November rate of 1,738,000 and is 10.5 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$) above the December 2001 estimate of 1,702,000.

Single-family authorizations in December 2002 were at a rate of 1,401,000; this is 2.5 percent ($\pm 0.9\%$) above the November figure of 1,367,000. Authorizations of units in buildings with five units or more were at a rate of 405,000 in December.

An estimated 1,726,300 housing units were authorized by building permits in 2002. This is 5.5 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) percent above the 2001 figure of 1,636,700.

HOUSING STARTS

Privately-owned housing starts in December were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,835,000. This is 5.0 percent ($\pm 7.0\%$) above the revised November estimate of 1,747,000 and is 15.9 percent ($\pm 8.0\%$) above the December 2001 rate of 1,583,000.

Single-family housing starts in December 2002 were at a rate of 1,473,000; this is 4.9 percent ($\pm 7.4\%$) above the November figure of 1,404,000. The December estimate for units in buildings with five units or more was 321,000.

An estimated 1,704,900 housing units were started in 2002. This is 6.4 percent ($\pm 1.4\%$) above the 2001 figure of 1,602,700.

HOUSING COMPLETIONS

Privately-owned housing completions in December were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,683,000, according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is 2.6 percent ($\pm 8.2\%$) below the revised November estimate of 1,728,000 and is 1.3 percent ($\pm 7.6\%$) below the December 2001 rate of 1,705,000.

Single-family housing completions in December 2002 were at a rate of 1,377,000; this is 2.6 percent ($\pm 8.6\%$) below the November figure of 1,414,000. The December rate for units in buildings with five units or more was 275,000.

An estimated 1,650,700 housing units were completed in 2002. This is 5.1 percent ($\pm 2.2\%$) above the 2001 figure of 1,570,800.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In interpreting changes in the statistics in this release, note that month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show movements which may be irregular. It may take 4 months to establish an underlying trend for building permit authorizations, 5 months for total starts, and 6 months for total completions. The statistics in this release are estimated from sample surveys and are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling error including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. Estimated relative standard errors of the most recent data are shown in the tables. Whenever a statement such as "2.5 percent ($\pm 3.2\%$) above" appears in the text, this indicates the range (-0.7 to +5.7 percent) in which the actual percent change is likely to have occurred. All ranges given for percent changes are 90-percent confidence intervals and account only for sampling variability. If a range contains zero, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease; that is, the change is not statistically significant. The same applies to the confidence intervals for percent changes shown in the tables. On average, the preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates of total building permits, housing starts and housing completions are revised about one percent. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our web site listed below.

New Residential Construction data for January 2003 will be released on Wednesday, February 19, 2003, at 8:30 A.M. EST.

Our Internet site is: <http://www.census.gov/newresconst>

Table 1. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Authorized in Permit-Issuing Places

[Thousands of units. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

Period	United States				Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Total	In structures with --			Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
		1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more								
Seasonally adjusted annual rate												
2001: December	1,702	1,266	71	365	170	126	369	258	767	585	396	297
2002: January	1,686	1,296	75	315	165	129	366	278	769	596	386	293
February	1,766	1,374	69	323	201	143	349	276	812	628	404	327
March	1,629	1,248	74	307	143	113	319	244	764	577	403	314
April	1,631	1,258	71	302	157	119	334	247	733	581	407	311
May	1,676	1,268	69	339	173	115	332	251	754	577	417	325
June	1,706	1,293	82	331	168	119	338	250	795	597	405	327
July	1,712	1,278	72	362	172	117	337	244	799	590	404	327
August	1,666	1,297	73	296	154	111	341	244	764	604	407	338
September	1,733	1,339	82	312	177	127	344	263	750	609	462	340
October	1,772	1,370	72	330	164	121	348	262	783	614	477	373
November ^f	1,738	1,367	66	305	155	117	335	270	761	619	487	361
December^p	1,880	1,401	74	405	173	127	405	278	851	645	451	351
Average RSE (%) ¹	1	1	4	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Percent Change:												
<i>December 2002 from November 2002</i>	<i>8.2%</i>	<i>2.5%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>11.6%</i>	<i>8.5%</i>	<i>20.9%</i>	<i>3.0%</i>	<i>11.8%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>-7.4%</i>	<i>-2.8%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval³</i>	<i>± 1.1</i>	<i>± 0.9</i>	<i>± 2.9</i>	<i>± 4.4</i>	<i>± 3.2</i>	<i>± 3.8</i>	<i>± 4.6</i>	<i>± 5.7</i>	<i>± 1.7</i>	<i>± 1.9</i>	<i>± 1.3</i>	<i>± 1.4</i>
<i>December 2002 from December 2001</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>11.0%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>0.8%</i>	<i>9.8%</i>	<i>7.8%</i>	<i>11.0%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>13.9%</i>	<i>18.2%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval³</i>	<i>± 1.2</i>	<i>± 0.9</i>	<i>± 5.7</i>	<i>± 3.2</i>	<i>± 3.0</i>	<i>± 3.6</i>	<i>± 4.2</i>	<i>± 5.2</i>	<i>± 1.5</i>	<i>± 1.6</i>	<i>± 1.7</i>	<i>± 1.8</i>
Not seasonally adjusted												
2001	1,636.7	1,235.6	66.0	335.2	159.8	117.7	333.6	252.5	730.3	556.9	413.0	308.5
2002 ^{p2}	1,726.3	1,319.1	73.4	333.7	168.3	121.3	343.4	258.5	785.9	604.8	428.8	334.6
RSE (%)	(Z)	(Z)	2	(Z)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Year to Date Percent Change⁴	5.5%	6.8%	11.3%	-0.4%	5.3%	3.1%	2.9%	2.4%	7.6%	8.6%	3.8%	8.5%
<i>90% Confidence Interval³</i>	<i>± 0.7</i>	<i>± 0.8</i>	<i>± 3.3</i>	<i>± 1.0</i>	<i>± 2.1</i>	<i>± 2.5</i>	<i>± 0.9</i>	<i>± 1.0</i>	<i>± 0.6</i>	<i>± 0.7</i>	<i>± 1.0</i>	<i>± 1.1</i>
2001: December	113.6	79.7	4.9	29.0	11.4	8.0	21.4	14.4	52.7	37.7	28.1	19.6
2002: January	115.1	87.9	4.7	22.6	10.1	7.5	18.8	14.0	58.8	45.6	27.4	20.7
February	121.0	94.6	4.6	21.8	11.1	7.9	19.9	15.2	61.6	49.0	28.3	22.5
March	139.6	108.3	6.3	25.0	11.5	9.1	26.2	20.5	67.7	51.4	34.2	27.4
April	154.5	124.1	6.7	23.8	14.8	11.6	33.8	26.5	68.1	55.7	37.8	30.3
May	161.0	126.2	6.3	28.5	17.0	12.1	33.9	26.4	70.6	55.5	39.5	32.3
June	156.0	118.2	7.7	30.2	16.4	11.3	31.6	24.0	69.1	52.1	39.0	30.7
July	157.3	120.1	6.2	31.0	16.7	11.6	32.5	24.0	70.5	53.5	37.6	31.1
August	150.4	117.5	6.7	26.2	14.5	10.3	31.7	23.2	67.7	54.0	36.6	30.1
September	143.5	107.4	7.1	29.0	14.6	10.7	30.9	22.4	60.4	47.1	37.5	27.3
October	159.5	121.8	7.1	30.6	15.3	11.3	35.1	25.7	67.3	52.1	41.9	32.7
November ^f	124.5	94.8	5.0	24.8	12.0	8.6	24.6	19.3	54.6	42.8	33.4	24.0
December^p	132.3	92.4	5.4	34.5	12.2	8.5	25.5	16.5	62.1	43.7	32.5	23.8
Average RSE (%) ¹	1	1	4	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards.

X Not applicable. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

¹Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

²Reflects revisions not distributed to months.

³See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

⁴Computed using unrounded data.

Table 2. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Authorized, but Not Started, at End of Period

[Not seasonally adjusted. Thousands of units. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

Period	United States				Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Total	In structures with --			Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
		1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more								
2001: December	130.5	76.8	6.0	47.7	14.0	7.9	16.9	12.1	67.9	37.5	31.7	19.3
2002: January	137.2	84.9	4.2	48.1	14.2	8.9	19.0	14.0	70.7	41.4	33.4	20.5
February	135.8	83.6	5.7	46.5	16.6	10.1	17.8	12.7	70.3	41.6	31.1	19.3
March	141.3	90.0	4.3	47.0	15.9	9.8	17.9	14.2	76.8	46.9	30.8	19.0
April	150.6	97.8	4.1	48.7	18.7	12.3	24.5	18.2	75.5	47.7	32.0	19.6
May	145.4	94.4	4.3	46.6	18.3	12.4	26.3	18.8	69.1	43.4	31.6	19.9
June	142.8	90.0	4.5	48.3	17.0	10.2	22.5	16.2	70.9	43.2	32.4	20.4
July	140.8	90.7	4.8	45.2	18.3	12.4	17.4	13.8	73.0	44.4	32.1	20.2
August	150.1	101.3	5.6	43.2	16.6	11.1	23.1	18.0	74.7	48.2	35.7	24.0
September	140.9	92.1	3.1	45.7	14.8	10.4	19.9	16.2	71.5	45.6	34.8	19.9
October ^f	155.1	100.9	4.5	49.8	16.5	11.5	23.6	18.6	78.4	48.3	36.5	22.4
November ^r	150.3	96.0	4.8	49.6	16.8	11.6	18.5	15.5	77.2	46.7	37.7	22.1
December^d	153.7	94.7	4.9	54.1	16.6	11.7	18.7	14.5	81.9	47.8	36.5	20.8
Average RSE (%) ¹	4	4	18	8	10	12	10	10	6	5	5	8
Percent Change:²												
<i>December 2002 from November 2002</i>	2.2%	-1.3%	2.1%	9.1%	-1.2%	0.4%	0.6%	-6.4%	6.0%	2.2%	-3.2%	-6.2%
<i>90% Confidence Interval³</i>	± 3.5	± 4.6	± 21.7	± 7.4	± 5.4	± 7.5	± 10.7	± 12.8	± 5.1	± 5.2	± 7.4	± 12.9
<i>December 2002 from December 2001</i>	17.8%	23.4%	-19.4%	13.5%	18.9%	48.7%	10.5%	19.7%	20.5%	27.4%	15.3%	7.5%
<i>90% Confidence Interval³</i>	± 8.2	± 9.8	± 33.2	± 15.0	± 18.5	± 30.2	± 18.1	± 16.3	± 11.9	± 12.6	± 18.6	± 23.6

^fPreliminary. ^rRevised. RSE Relative Standard Error. Z Less than 0.5 percent.¹Average RSE for the latest 6-month period. ²Computed using unrounded data.³See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

Note: These data represent the number of housing units authorized in all months up to and including the last day of the reporting period and not started as of that date without regard to the months of original permit issuance. Cancelled, abandoned, expired, and revoked permits are excluded.

Table 3. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Started

[Thousands of units. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

Period	United States				Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Total	In structures with --			Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
		1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more								
Seasonally adjusted annual rate												
2001: December	1,583	1,294	(S)	272	141	111	342	275	708	596	392	312
2002: January	1,713	1,344	(S)	302	162	126	352	286	814	630	385	302
February	1,788	1,472	(S)	273	143	125	371	319	832	675	442	353
March	1,675	1,298	(S)	328	165	126	343	268	767	579	400	325
April	1,566	1,261	(S)	278	132	108	277	245	786	607	371	301
May	1,742	1,380	(S)	325	163	126	366	270	800	651	413	333
June	1,692	1,344	(S)	302	176	131	339	288	771	594	406	331
July	1,652	1,319	(S)	302	158	96	362	287	748	610	384	326
August	1,631	1,249	(S)	351	169	120	334	230	768	604	360	295
September	1,808	1,452	(S)	320	175	118	386	289	809	675	438	370
October ^f	1,660	1,375	(S)	253	144	115	321	252	706	621	489	387
November ^f	1,747	1,404	(S)	309	143	108	375	300	800	657	429	339
December^p	1,835	1,473	(S)	321	169	117	390	329	805	647	471	380
Average RSE (%) ¹	3	3	(X)	10	9	8	7	7	4	5	6	6
Percent Change:												
<i>December 2002 from November 2002</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>18.2%</i>	<i>8.3%</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>9.7%</i>	<i>0.6%</i>	<i>-1.5%</i>	<i>9.8%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 7.0</i>	<i>± 7.4</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 18.2</i>	<i>± 17.4</i>	<i>± 21.1</i>	<i>± 14.7</i>	<i>± 13.3</i>	<i>± 10.0</i>	<i>± 9.1</i>	<i>± 18.5</i>	<i>± 22.7</i>
<i>December 2002 from December 2001</i>	<i>15.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>18.0%</i>	<i>19.9%</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>	<i>13.7%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>20.2%</i>	<i>21.8%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 8.0</i>	<i>± 8.2</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 23.5</i>	<i>± 17.1</i>	<i>± 17.2</i>	<i>± 19.1</i>	<i>± 20.2</i>	<i>± 11.4</i>	<i>± 11.1</i>	<i>± 18.0</i>	<i>± 19.7</i>
Not seasonally adjusted												
2001	1,602.7	1,273.3	36.6	292.8	149.2	110.8	330.4	269.3	732.0	590.3	391.1	303.0
2002 ^p	1,704.9	1,359.7	38.8	306.3	158.7	117.8	349.1	276.9	781.6	628.4	415.5	336.6
RSE (%)	1	1	12	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2
Year to Date Percent Change³	6.4%	6.8%	6.2%	4.6%	6.4%	6.4%	5.7%	2.8%	6.8%	6.4%	6.2%	11.1%
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 1.4</i>	<i>± 1.4</i>	<i>± 15.8</i>	<i>± 5.8</i>	<i>± 4.2</i>	<i>± 2.7</i>	<i>± 2.8</i>	<i>± 3.3</i>	<i>± 2.2</i>	<i>± 2.2</i>	<i>± 2.6</i>	<i>± 2.7</i>
2001: December	104.6	83.6	1.2	19.7	10.1	7.9	21.0	16.1	47.6	39.5	25.8	20.1
2002: January	110.4	84.7	4.7	21.1	8.9	6.4	18.1	13.4	57.0	44.2	26.4	20.6
February	120.4	99.1	2.9	18.4	7.8	6.6	20.6	17.1	61.7	51.2	30.2	24.2
March	138.2	109.5	3.7	25.0	13.1	10.1	25.6	19.9	65.0	50.7	34.5	28.8
April	148.8	122.2	2.3	24.2	11.3	9.1	27.4	24.6	74.4	58.9	35.7	29.6
May	165.5	133.7	3.2	28.5	15.5	12.3	36.0	27.6	74.8	61.8	39.1	32.1
June	160.3	130.1	4.0	26.2	17.5	13.6	35.4	31.0	70.3	54.9	37.1	30.5
July	155.9	125.2	2.9	27.8	14.9	9.2	35.5	28.5	68.2	55.6	37.2	31.9
August	147.0	111.4	2.9	32.6	16.5	12.0	31.0	21.4	67.3	52.0	32.1	26.0
September	155.6	124.0	3.2	28.4	15.9	10.8	34.5	25.9	67.5	55.6	37.8	31.7
October ^f	146.8	118.8	3.2	24.9	13.4	10.5	30.7	23.9	60.7	52.4	42.0	32.0
November ^f	132.1	103.1	2.9	26.2	11.8	8.9	30.2	23.9	59.2	47.1	30.9	23.3
December^p	123.9	98.0	2.9	23.0	12.1	8.3	24.2	19.8	55.3	44.0	32.4	25.9
Average RSE (%) ¹	3	3	23	10	9	8	7	7	4	5	6	6

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards.

X Not applicable. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

¹Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

² See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

³ Computed using unrounded data.

Table 4. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Under Construction at End of Period

[Thousands of units. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

Period	United States				Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Total	In structures with --			Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
		1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more								
Seasonally adjusted												
2001: December	997	671	(S)	297	117	71	202	148	416	287	262	165
2002: January	1,004	675	(S)	299	114	71	205	150	422	288	263	166
February	1,011	681	(S)	299	114	71	205	151	428	292	264	167
March	1,015	676	(S)	306	118	72	203	147	431	291	263	166
April	1,011	682	(S)	298	116	72	200	148	430	291	265	171
May	1,014	683	(S)	303	117	73	201	147	428	291	268	172
June	1,017	685	(S)	304	118	74	206	152	430	290	263	169
July	1,025	694	(S)	302	121	73	211	157	429	292	264	172
August	1,010	681	(S)	303	120	73	205	150	428	290	257	168
September	1,024	691	(S)	307	124	73	207	150	432	294	261	174
October ^f	1,031	699	(S)	306	126	74	210	150	426	294	269	181
November ^f	1,028	695	(S)	307	125	73	210	149	428	296	265	177
December^p	1,040	705	(S)	308	127	74	213	152	433	299	267	180
Average RSE (%) ¹	2	2	(X)	3	3	4	4	5	3	3	3	3
Percent Change:												
<i>December 2002 from November 2002</i>	<i>1.2%</i>	<i>1.4%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>0.3%</i>	<i>1.6%</i>	<i>1.4%</i>	<i>1.4%</i>	<i>2.0%</i>	<i>1.2%</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>0.8%</i>	<i>1.7%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 1.0</i>	<i>± 1.2</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 1.4</i>	<i>± 1.6</i>	<i>± 2.3</i>	<i>± 3.1</i>	<i>± 3.7</i>	<i>± 1.3</i>	<i>± 1.5</i>	<i>± 1.8</i>	<i>± 1.8</i>
<i>December 2002 from December 2001</i>	<i>4.3%</i>	<i>5.1%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>8.5%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>2.7%</i>	<i>4.1%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>1.9%</i>	<i>9.1%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 2.0</i>	<i>± 2.3</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 5.2</i>	<i>± 5.2</i>	<i>± 6.7</i>	<i>± 5.4</i>	<i>± 5.3</i>	<i>± 3.3</i>	<i>± 3.7</i>	<i>± 3.0</i>	<i>± 4.0</i>
Not seasonally adjusted												
2001: December	959.4	638.3	28.4	292.6	116.1	70.9	195.9	143.0	396.5	269.1	250.9	155.3
2002: January	957.3	631.3	30.1	295.9	111.4	68.4	194.2	139.3	401.3	268.7	250.4	154.9
February	960.7	635.9	30.8	294.0	109.0	67.0	191.1	138.0	408.7	274.8	251.8	156.1
March	979.8	643.3	33.0	303.5	114.1	68.1	192.0	136.3	419.3	280.6	254.3	158.3
April	999.8	666.8	30.9	302.1	113.6	68.7	193.4	140.8	430.2	290.0	262.6	167.3
May	1,024.6	690.3	28.1	306.2	117.4	72.6	200.2	145.9	436.4	297.9	270.6	173.9
June	1,045.7	710.3	28.7	306.7	119.6	75.2	213.3	159.1	442.7	301.1	270.2	174.9
July	1,064.9	730.4	28.9	305.6	123.3	75.1	221.5	167.2	444.7	306.2	275.3	181.9
August	1,045.5	719.2	25.4	300.9	123.0	76.3	214.8	160.4	440.7	303.8	266.9	178.6
September	1,053.8	722.8	25.7	305.3	127.4	76.5	215.7	158.9	441.6	304.3	269.1	183.1
October ^f	1,057.0	723.0	26.6	307.3	129.8	77.0	217.5	157.6	434.5	301.3	275.3	187.1
November ^f	1,038.5	700.8	26.8	311.0	127.9	75.5	213.9	152.1	429.9	295.9	266.8	177.3
December^p	1,001.4	670.8	26.4	304.1	125.3	73.4	207.2	146.9	413.5	281.0	255.4	169.6
Average RSE (%) ¹	2	2	10	3	3	4	4	5	3	3	3	3

^pPreliminary. ^fRevised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards.

X Not applicable. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

¹Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

²See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

Table 5. New Privately-Owned Housing Units Completed

[Thousands of units. Detail may not add to total because of rounding]

Period	United States				Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
	Total	In structures with --			Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit	Total	1 unit
		1 unit	2 to 4 units	5 units or more								
Seasonally adjusted annual rate												
2001: December	1,705	1,363	(S)	300	175	130	314	247	806	657	410	329
2002: January	1,607	1,302	(S)	270	183	123	283	254	745	616	396	309
February	1,669	1,372	(S)	270	141	119	387	308	745	618	396	327
March	1,576	1,336	(S)	223	137	121	342	308	676	566	421	341
April	1,650	1,280	(S)	329	156	111	337	272	805	631	352	266
May	1,702	1,353	(S)	283	143	108	352	278	818	657	389	310
June	1,587	1,275	(S)	278	161	121	247	201	747	603	432	350
July	1,614	1,274	(S)	308	140	116	311	237	766	608	397	313
August	1,710	1,324	(S)	339	163	115	361	289	756	599	430	321
September	1,652	1,335	(S)	285	134	111	342	277	759	629	417	318
October ^f	1,579	1,276	(S)	277	130	106	308	260	759	610	382	300
November ^f	1,728	1,414	(S)	285	158	112	359	304	740	615	471	383
December^p	1,683	1,377	(S)	275	136	102	331	281	747	627	469	367
Average RSE (%) ¹	3	4	(X)	10	11	11	9	8	5	5	7	7
Percent Change:												
<i>December 2002 from November 2002</i>	<i>-2.6%</i>	<i>-2.6%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>-3.5%</i>	<i>-13.9%</i>	<i>-8.9%</i>	<i>-7.8%</i>	<i>-7.6%</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>2.0%</i>	<i>-0.4%</i>	<i>-4.2%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 8.2</i>	<i>± 8.6</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 24.1</i>	<i>± 21.6</i>	<i>± 20.7</i>	<i>± 20.2</i>	<i>± 19.8</i>	<i>± 11.2</i>	<i>± 12.5</i>	<i>± 17.6</i>	<i>± 18.1</i>
<i>December 2002 from December 2001</i>	<i>-1.3%</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>(S)</i>	<i>-8.3%</i>	<i>-22.3%</i>	<i>-21.5%</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>-7.3%</i>	<i>-4.6%</i>	<i>14.4%</i>	<i>11.6%</i>
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 7.6</i>	<i>± 8.0</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>± 24.4</i>	<i>± 15.5</i>	<i>± 20.0</i>	<i>± 26.3</i>	<i>± 26.6</i>	<i>± 9.7</i>	<i>± 10.8</i>	<i>± 14.0</i>	<i>± 13.1</i>
Not seasonally adjusted												
2001	1,570.8	1,255.9	33.9	281.0	144.8	113.7	316.4	261.1	726.3	578.2	383.3	302.9
2002 ^p	1,650.7	1,328.4	35.1	287.3	148.2	113.2	329.6	271.6	757.9	616.6	415.1	327.0
RSE (%)	1	1	11	3	3	4	3	3	1	2	1	1
Year to Date Percent Change³	5.1%	5.8%	3.6%	2.2%	2.3%	-0.4%	4.2%	4.0%	4.3%	6.6%	8.3%	8.0%
<i>90% Confidence Interval²</i>	<i>± 2.2</i>	<i>± 2.0</i>	<i>± 22.1</i>	<i>± 7.5</i>	<i>± 5.4</i>	<i>± 6.2</i>	<i>± 6.6</i>	<i>± 4.6</i>	<i>± 2.8</i>	<i>± 2.9</i>	<i>± 4.2</i>	<i>± 4.2</i>
2001: December	162.3	131.1	3.9	27.3	17.1	13.0	29.3	23.2	76.7	63.1	39.2	31.8
2002: January	112.3	91.0	2.4	18.8	12.9	8.7	18.9	16.9	53.2	44.2	27.2	21.2
February	115.2	94.9	1.8	18.5	9.4	7.9	24.0	18.6	53.7	45.1	28.0	23.3
March	121.2	103.0	1.3	16.8	9.8	8.6	24.3	21.7	54.0	45.7	33.0	27.0
April	127.3	98.3	3.2	25.8	11.9	8.4	25.4	20.3	62.3	48.7	27.7	20.9
May	139.4	110.5	5.4	23.5	11.2	8.3	28.8	22.6	67.7	54.3	31.7	25.2
June	138.2	110.2	3.0	25.0	14.3	10.7	21.8	17.7	64.8	51.8	37.4	30.0
July	136.6	105.1	2.9	28.6	11.7	9.4	26.8	20.0	65.2	50.5	33.0	25.2
August	158.3	117.9	4.9	35.4	15.5	10.4	33.4	25.9	69.0	52.5	40.5	29.0
September	146.6	119.8	2.7	24.1	12.3	10.4	31.9	26.5	66.2	55.2	36.1	27.8
October ^f	143.2	117.4	2.2	23.6	11.8	9.7	29.5	25.4	67.4	54.7	34.6	27.6
November ^f	150.3	125.9	2.2	22.2	13.8	10.2	33.9	29.6	61.9	52.2	40.7	33.9
December^p	162.1	134.2	2.9	25.0	13.5	10.4	30.9	26.3	72.5	61.6	45.2	35.9
Average RSE (%) ¹	3	4	23	10	11	11	9	8	5	5	7	7

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. RSE Relative standard error. S Does not meet publication standards because tests for identifiable and stable seasonality do not meet reliability standards.

X Not applicable. Z Less than 0.5 percent.

¹Average RSE for the latest 6-month period.

²See the Explanatory Notes in the accompanying text for an explanation of 90% confidence intervals.

³Computed using unrounded data.