

Wiring Devices and Supplies

1998

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Information about the scope of the survey, methodology, explanation of terms and historical notes for this survey may be found in the introduction of the 1997 Manufacturing Profiles, issued August 1999.

Current data are released electronically on Internet for all individual surveys as they become available. Use: <http://www.census.gov/econ/www/manumenu.html>. Individual reports can be accessed by choosing "Current Industrial Reports (CIR's)," clicking on "Report Number Index;" from the "Industrial Products by Numeric Index," choose the survey of interest. Follow the menu to view the PDF file or to download the worksheet file (WK format) to your personal computer.

These data are also available through the U.S. Department of Commerce and STAT-USA Electronic Bulletin Board by subscription. To access, dial 202-482-3870 and follow the prompts to register. Also, you may call 202-482-1986 or 1-800-STAT-USA, for further information. The Internet address is: www.stat-usa.gov/.

NOTE: Data are now published on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis and therefore are not always comparable to the old Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code. For further information on NAICS, see www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html.

Summary of Findings

During 1998, manufacturers' shipments of wiring devices and supplies totaled \$9.9 billion, an increase of 1.9 percent from \$9.7 billion in 1997. Current-carrying wiring devices accounted for \$5.4 billion, an increase of 2.8 percent from \$5.3 billion in 1997, while the noncurrent-carrying wiring devices accounted for \$4.5 billion, an increase of 0.9 percent from \$4.4 billion in 1997. The 1998 shipments included lampholders, valued at \$193.9 million, down 0.17 percent from \$194.3 million in 1997; convenience and power outlets, valued at \$460.7 million, up 5.7 percent from \$435.8 million in 1997; switches, valued at \$1.8 billion, unchanged from 1997; metal contacts valued at \$226 million, an increase of 5.4 percent from \$214.4 million in 1997; wire connectors, valued at \$1.45 billion, down 0.84 percent from \$1.46 billion in 1997; other current-carrying wiring devices valued at \$1.3 billion, up 4.7 percent from \$1.2 billion in 1997; pole line and transmission hardware, valued at \$852.4 million, down 0.4 percent from \$855.7 million in 1997; electrical conduit and conduit fittings, valued at \$2.1 billion, down 2.6 percent from \$2.2 billion in 1997; and other noncurrent-carrying devices, valued at \$1.5 billion, up 7.3 percent from \$1.4 billion in 1997.

Current
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Address inquiries concerning these data to Investment Goods Industries Branch, Manufacturing and Construction Division (MCD), Washington, DC 20233-6900, or call Vance Davis, 301-457-4790.

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Table 1. Value of Shipments of Wiring Devices and Supplies by Class of Product: 1989 to 1998
[Millions of current dollars]

Product code	Product description	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
335931	Current-carrying wiring devices.....	5,448	5,300	4,836	4,772	4,422	4,087	4,154	3,939	3,858	4,031
3359311	Lampholders.....	194	194	193	201	211	210	197	215	230	240
3359313	Convenience and power outlets, both general- and special-purpose, excluding pin and sleeve type.....	461	r/ 436	375	364	341	314	332	309	287	301
3359315	Switches for electrical circuitry.....	1,840	r/ 1,775	1,612	1,623	1,526	1,474	1,424	1,310	1,349	1,377
3359317	Metal contacts precious and other.....	226	214	239	259	245	208	240	332	317	375
3359319	Wire connectors for electrical circuitry.....	1,450	1,462	1,235	1,194	1,082	976	1,007	916	844	857
335931A	Other current-carrying wiring devices, including attachment plug caps, connector bodies, lightning arrestors, and pin and sleeve convenience power outlets.....	1,277	1,219	1,182	1,130	1,018	904	953	858	830	884
335932	Noncurrent-carrying wiring devices.....	4,464	4,424	3,938	3,915	3,622	3,251	3,140	2,930	3,096	3,115
3359321	Pole line and transmission hardware.....	852	r/ 856	704	673	641	618	542	494	517	526
3359323	Electrical conduit and conduit fittings.....	2,126	2,184	1,960	2,050	1,866	1,634	1,601	1,497	1,658	1,665
335932	Other noncurrent-carrying wiring devices and supplies.....	1,485	1,384	1,274	1,192	1,116	999	998	940	922	925

r/Revised by 5 percent or more from previously published data.

Table 2. Quantity and Value of Shipments of Wiring Devices and Supplies: 1998 and 1997
[Quantity in thousands of units. Value in thousands of dollars]

Product code	Product description	No. of cos.	1998		1997	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Wiring devices and supplies.....	(X)	(X)	9,912,153	(X)	9,725,466
335931	Current-carrying wiring devices.....	(X)	(X)	5,448,024	(X)	5,301,420
3359311	Lampholders.....	27	519,136	193,960	507,153	194,296
	Incandescent:					
3359311004	Outlet box, threaded, medium base only, pull and keyless types.....	4	17,496	19,278	18,281	19,934
3359311002	Push through and pull types, all materials, threaded, medium base only, excluding outlet box type and socket interiors 1/.....	5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359311006	Weatherproof, threaded, medium base only.....	6	3,655	3,929	3,578	3,839
3359311008	Candelabra base, all types.....	10	a/ 17,615	b/ 6,426	18,469	6,433
3359311011	Sign and fixture, medium base only.....	6	19,844	19,647	20,076	18,905
3359311012	All other incandescent, medium, admedium, intermediate, lumiline, miniature, including but not limited to pin-type, cleat, hasp, and socket interiors sold separately, all bases 1/.....	14	132,621	77,307	153,132	83,726
	Fluorescent:					
3359311014	Bi-pin.....	8	a/ 273,501	a/ 36,180	244,568	32,758
3359311016	Slimline 2/.....	4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359311018	Recessed double contact 2/.....	4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359311021	All other fluorescent, including but not limited to circline, panelescent and starter holders 2/.....	5	48,286	24,196	42,998	21,398
3359311022	All other lampholders, including cold cathode neon, and bases for quartz lamps.....	6	b/ 6,118	a/ 6,997	6,051	7,303
3359313	Convenience and power outlets, both general- and special-purpose, excluding pin and sleeve type.....	13	286,168	460,683	r/ 270,128	r/ 435,830
3359313002	Receptacles with GFIC (all types, all amperages).....	5	a/ 30,120	183,152	r/ 29,085	r/ 175,564
	Receptacles without GFIC:					
3359313004	2-pole, 2-wire (flush, all types) 3/.....	5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
	2-pole, 3-wire and up (flush):					
3359313006	Locking, 15 amperes and under 4/....	4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359313008	Locking, 20 amperes and over 4/.....	6	89,373	69,799	89,643	64,319
3359313011	Nonlocking, 15 amperes and under....	5	93,759	69,804	82,991	61,824
3359313012	Nonlocking, 20 amperes and over.....	7	28,760	54,272	r/ 26,250	r/ 49,060
3359313014	Appliance and special applications all amperages, all types.....	5	c/ 26,363	b/ 7,648	24,865	6,840
3359313016	All other types, including dust and explosion proof, surface and 2-pole/ 2-wire 3/.....	8	b/ 17,793	a/ 76,008	r/ 17,294	r/ 78,223
3359315	Switches for electrical circuitry.....	78	942,317	1,840,447	r/ 960,391	r/ 1,775,214
	General use flush-mounted switches, designed for mounting in switch or outlet boxes (except dimmers):					
	Ac (except mercury):					
3359315102	Single pole, 15 amperes and under....	9	86,097	67,386	84,173	63,879
3359315104	Single pole, over 15 amperes.....	6	10,424	27,337	9,354	24,673
3359315106	Other than single pole, including but not limited to double pole 3-way, 4-way.....	7	a/ 51,537	87,120	a/ 47,345	80,291
3359315108	Ac-dc (except mercury) 5/.....	3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359315111	All other general-use switches, including surface-mounted, mercury, etc. 5/.....	8	b/ 18,580	b/ 21,402	16,578	23,926
	Special-purpose switches:					
3359315312	Appliance and fixture, including pendant and canopy types and variable speed controls.....	18	b/ 102,118	a/ 155,892	95,335	144,250
3359315314	Precision (1/8-inch gap or less) snap-acting switches, excluding limit switches.....	8	a/ 89,655	b/ 62,127	78,929	53,395
3359315616	Aircraft types 6/.....	9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359315218	Automotive types.....	34	366,735	870,220	r/ 423,831	r/ 877,856

Table 2. Quantity and Value of Shipments of Wiring Devices and Supplies: 1998 and 1997
[Quantity in thousands of units. Value in thousands of dollars]

Product code	Product description	No. of cos.	1998				1997			
			Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
3359315321	All other special-purpose switches, including foot actuated, light sensing, and signal actuated 6/.....	29 b/	206,568	a/	429,749	a/	196,164		419,075	
	Dimmers:									
	Incandescent:									
3359315422	Infinitely variable, 600 watts or less.....	9 b/	7,934	a/	50,590	b/	6,697	a/	38,453	
3359315424	Infinitely variable, over 600 watts.....	8 a/	278		14,687	a/	263	a/	11,817	
3359315426	All other types, including but not limited to portable lamps and high-low switches.....	8 a/	2,391	b/	53,937	a/	1,722	b/r/	37,599	
3359317	Metal contacts, precious and other.....	14	(S)	a/	225,953		(S)		214,431	
3359319	Wire connectors, including connectors used under national electrical application.....	64	44,117,075		1,450,003	r/	41,527,386	r/	1,462,218	
3359319002	Pressure connectors, where pressure is applied by screw, cone, or other mechanical device.....	26	1,469,535	a/	193,079		1,362,303	r/	188,955	
3359319004	Compression connectors, uninsulated terminals and splicers, tool installed	26 b/	4,611,750	b/	194,193	r/	4,448,323	r/	192,525	
3359319006	Preinsulated terminals and splicers, tool installed.....	18	2,212,230		210,383	b/r/	2,327,648	r/	221,260	
3359319008	Banded or strip terminals and splicers, machine installed.....	12	6,027,351	a/	126,601	r/	7,865,038	a/r/	164,377	
3359319011	Pigtail connectors, including wire nuts 7/.....	13	(D)		(D)		(D)		(D)	
3359319012	Blade or pin type, separable terminations and splicers 7/.....	11	(D)		(D)		(D)		(D)	
3359319014	Other wire connectors, n.e.c., including solder type 7/.....	31	29,796,209		725,747	r/	25,524,074	r/	695,101	
335931A	Other current-carrying wiring devices, including attachment plug caps, connector bodies, lightning arrestors, pin and sleeve convenience power outlets, etc.	120	(X)		1,276,978		(X)		1,219,431	
	Attachment plug caps and flanged outlets, including motor bases, all types; including fused, fuseless, switch, and switchless:									
335931A002	2-pole, 2-wire, all types, general use locking and nonlocking, all amperages.....	13 a/	25,255		23,629		(S)		12,499	
	2-pole, 3-wire and up:									
335931A004	Locking, 15 amperes and under.....	8	1,859		6,238	r/	1,822		6,361	
335931A006	Locking, 20 amperes and over.....	7	2,287		20,236		2,203		18,543	
335931A008	Nonlocking, 15 amperes and under 8/.....	10	(D)		(D)		(D)		(D)	
335931A011	Nonlocking, 20 amperes and over 8/.....	10	(D)		(D)		(D)		(D)	
335931A012	All other types (except pin and sleeve), including dust and explosion-proof, appliance and other special application 8/.....	8	54,451		104,624	r/	47,910	r/	95,744	
	Connector bodies and flanged outlets, all types:									
335931A014	2-pole, 2-wire, all types, all amperages.....	6 b/	1,487	a/	1,439	b/r/	1,742	a/r/	1,666	
	2-pole, 3-wire and up:									
335931A016	Locking, 15 amperes and under.....	9	2,499		20,528		2,480		20,483	
335931A018	Locking, 20 amperes and over.....	9	1,208		17,309		1,154		16,794	
335931A021	Nonlocking, 15 amperes and under...	10	5,336		20,014	r/	5,049		19,740	
335931A022	Nonlocking, 20 amperes and over 9/.....	8	(D)		(D)		(D)		(D)	
335931A024	All other types, excluding pin and sleeve, including dust and explosion-proof, appliance, and other special application 9/.....	7	36,172		41,866		35,910		39,209	
	Pin and sleeve convenience and power outlets, attachment plug caps, and connector bodies:									

Table 2. Quantity and Value of Shipments of Wiring Devices and Supplies: 1998 and 1997
[Quantity in thousands of units. Value in thousands of dollars]

Product code	Product description	No. of cos.	1998		1997	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Pin and sleeve, general-purpose (120 volts and over, 20 amperes and over):					
335931A026	Convenience and power outlets 10/.....	9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
335931A028	Attachment plug caps.....	8	227	19,763	245	19,548
335931A031	Connector bodies.....	7	497	26,352	449	23,922
335931A032	All other pin and sleeve, including dust and explosion-proof 20-amperes types, etc. 10/.....	6	b/ 1,115	40,892	1,366	38,756
335931A034	Fluorescent starters.....	7	c/ 8,915	c/ 2,683	8,347	2,016
335931A036	Terminal blocks.....	21	a/ 118,201	a/ 130,209	124,480	123,021
335931A038	Lightning arrestors for alternating current power transmission systems and substations; U.S. designation, station and intermediate, I.E.C. designation 10 kA and 5 kA Series A.....	6	(X)	30,885	(X)	29,372
335931A041	Lightning arrestors for alternating current power distribution systems and substations; U.S. designation, distribution and secondary I.E.C. designation 5 kA Series B, 2.5 kA and 1.5 kA.....	4	(X)	129,803	(X)	139,953
335931A042	Surge suppressors, designed for equipment operating on 110/120 volt circuits.....	13	(X)	c/ 123,622	(X)	122,716
335931A044	Lightning rods	13	(X)	a/ 50,713	(X)	a/ 50,929
335931A046	Electric harnesses and assemblies, excluding engine harnesses (from purchased wire).....	20	(X)	174,255	(X)	r/ 151,998
335931A051	Miscellaneous, including combination devices, adapters, current taps, surface extensions, rosettes, choke coils, rail bonds, and overhead trolley line materials 11/.....	37	(X)	a/ 291,918	(X)	286,161
	All other wiring devices with integral ground fault circuit interrupting capabilities, excluding circuit breakers 11/.....	5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
335932	Noncurrent-carrying wiring devices.....	(X)	(X)	4,464,129	(X)	4,424,046
3359321	Pole and transmission line hardware.....	35	(X)	852,352	(X)	r/ 855,675
3359321002	Pole and transmission line construction materials, also known as overhead and underground line hardware for electric transmission, distribution, and communication lines	27	(X)	714,178	(X)	699,680
3359321004	Pole and transmission line anchors.....	5	(X)	16,231	(X)	17,078
3359321006	All other pole and transmission line hardware.....	12	(X)	121,943	(X)	r/ 138,917
3359323	Electrical conduit and conduit fittings	66	(X)	2,126,330	(X)	2,184,081
	Rigid metal conduit, excluding couplings, nipples, bends, and elbows:					
3359323102	Standard weights (steel) (short tons) 12/.....	6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
3359323104	Other metallic conduit (short tons) 12/.....	2	281,102	269,667	280,126	279,613
3359323106	Nonmetallic conduit (1,000 lbs.).....	5	755,764	263,729	a/ 710,415	a/ 306,322
3359323108	Electrical metallic (short tons)	5	458,529	386,389	441,735	383,180
3359323111	Flexible steel and aluminum conduit (1,000 feet).....	10	b/ 262,885	b/ 77,066	273,970	a/ 80,666
3359323112	Flexible nonmetallic conduit (1,000 pounds).....	10	b/ 52,383	47,035	52,083	44,369
3359323114	Raceways and wire ways, including fittings, metal.....	10	(X)	194,248	(X)	198,848
3359323116	Ventilated cable tray and accessories	6	(X)	61,301	(X)	68,280
3359323118	Cast conduit bodies, covers, and gaskets.....	8	(X)	133,193	(X)	124,957
	Rigid conduit fittings, including couplings, nipples, bends, and elbows:					
3359323221	Couplings, connectors, and unions.....	16	(X)	b/ 158,079	(X)	b/ 156,867

Continued

Table 2. Quantity and Value of Shipments of Wiring Devices and Supplies: 1998 and 1997
[Quantity in thousands of units. Value in thousands of dollars]

Product code	Product description	No. of cos.	1998		1997	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
3359323222	Locknuts and bushings.....	9	(X) b/	16,434	(X) b/	15,556
3359323224	All other rigid conduit fittings.....	7	(X) b/	48,466	(X) b/	53,106
3359323226	Nonmetallic conduit fittings.....	11	(X)	72,838	(X)	70,976
	EMT fittings (couplings and connectors):					
3359323228	Gland type.....	10	(X) b/	33,004	(X) a/	34,614
3359323231	Set-screw type.....	8	(X) b/	30,637	(X)	30,554
3359323232	All others.....	8	(X) b/	12,032	(X) b/	11,264
3359323234	Service entrance caps, ells, and connectors.....	10	(X) a/	9,158	(X)	9,798
	Cable, cord, and flexible conduit fittings:					
3359323236	Armored cable, metallic sheathed cable, and flexible conduit fittings	14	(X) a/	186,088	(X)	184,769
3359323238	Liquid-tight flexible conduit fittings.....	10	(X) c/	52,850	(X)	55,758
3359323241	Nonmetallic sheathed cable and cord fittings.....	12	(X) b/	29,420	(X) a/	29,219
3359323242	Other electric conduit fittings.....	14	(X) a/	44,696	(X) a/	45,365
3359325	Other noncurrent-carrying wiring devices and supplies.....	72	(X)	1,485,447	(X)	1,384,290
	Stamped metal boxes, covers, and accessories, including stamped conduit boxes:					
3359325102	Switch and receptacle boxes.....	12	(X)	415,136	(X)	424,458
3359325204	Outlet boxes.....	7	(X) b/	117,607	(X)	110,364
3359325206	Covers.....	9	(X) b/	56,965	(X)	55,335
3359325208	Supports, bar hangers, and other accessories.....	12	(X) b/	66,351	(X)	65,094
	Cast metal boxes, covers, gaskets, and accessories:					
3359325311	FS and FD switch and receptacle type.....	9	(X)	26,936	(X)	27,509
3359325312	Outlet type.....	6	(X)	50,742	(X)	49,124
3359325314	Junction type.....	17	(X)	87,379	(X)	81,786
	Switch, outlet, FM/TV, and telephone wall plates:					
3359325316	Metallic.....	8	54,147	26,677	45,155	23,266
3359325318	Nonmetallic.....	9	295,627	71,610	275,899	65,791
3359325321	Plastic boxes and covers.....	15	(X) a/	156,451	(X)	133,431
3359325322	Floor boxes and covers.....	7	(X) b/	38,450	(X)	37,903
3359325324	Other noncurrent-carrying wiring devices and supplies.....	32	(X)	371,143	(X)	310,229

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies. n.e.c. Not elsewhere classified. r/Revised by 5 percent or more from previously published data. S Does not meet publication standards. X Not applicable.

- 1/Product code 3359311002 is combined with product code 3359311012 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 2/Product codes 3359311016 and 3359311018 are combined with product code 3359311021 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 3/Product code 3359313004 is combined with product code 3359313016 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 4/Product code 3359313006 is combined with product code 3359313008 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 5/Product code 3359315108 is combined with product code 3359315111 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 6/Product code 3359315616 is combined with product code 3359315321 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 7/Product codes 3359319011 and 3359319012 are combined with product code 3359319014 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 8/Product codes 335931A008 and 335931A011 are combined with product code 335931A012 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 9/Product code 335931A022 is combined with product code 335931A024 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 10/Product code 335931A026 is combined with product code 335931A032 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 11/Product code 335931A048 is combined with product code 335931A051 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.
- 12/Product code 3359323102 is combined with product code 3359323104 to avoid disclosing data for individual companies.

Note: Percent of estimation of each item is indicated as follows: a/10 to 25 percent of this item is estimated. b/25 to 50 percent of this item is estimated. c/Over 50 percent of this item is estimated.

Table 3. Value of Shipments, Exports, and Imports of Selected Wiring Devices: 1998 and 1997
[Millions of dollars]

Product description	Manufacturers' shipments f.o.b. plant 1/	Exports of domestic merchandise at port 1/2/	Imports for consumption 1/3/
1998			
Lampholders.....	194.0	29.8	65.7
Metal contacts.....	226.0	132.4	65.8
1997			
Lampholders.....	193.3	18.3	65.7
Metal contacts.....	211.5	111.1	63.2

1/For comparison of the North American Industry Classification System-based product codes with Schedule B export numbers and HTSUSA import numbers, see Table 4.

2/Source: Census Bureau report EM 545, U.S. Exports.

3/Source: Census Bureau report IM 145, U.S. Imports for Consumption.

Table 4. Comparison of the North American Industry Classification System-Based Product Codes with Schedule B Export Numbers and HTSUSA Import Numbers: 1998

Product code	Production description	Export number 1/	Import number 2/
3359311	Lampholders.....	8536.61.0000	8536.61.0000
3359317	Metal contacts.....	8538.90.7040	8538.90.7040
3359315102	Switches, other than dimmers	*8536.50.8060	*8536.50.9065
3359315104		8535.30.0040	*8535.30.0040
3359315106			
3359315108			
3359315111			
3359315314			
3359315616			
3359315312			
3359315218			
3359315321			
3359315422	Dimmer switches.....	*8533.39.0040	*8533.39.0040
3359315426			
3359315426			
3359319	Wire connectors.....	*8536.69.0060	*8536.69.8000
3359323	Conduit fittings.....	*8547.90.0020	*8547.90.0020
		*8547.90.0030	*8547.90.0030
		*8547.90.0040	*8547.90.0040

* This code is partially correlated with the products described.

1/Source: 1998 edition, Harmonized System-Based Schedule B, Statistical Classification of Domestic and Foreign Commodities Exported for the United States.

2/Source: Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, Annotated (1998).