

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2025

Manufacturing Technology Orders Post Strongest January Since 2022

McLean, Va. (March 10, 2025) — Orders of manufacturing technology, measured by the U.S. Manufacturing Technology Orders Report published by AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, totaled \$357.3 million in January 2025, a 29.8% decline from December but a 5.7% increase from January 2024. Compared to an average January, the value of orders placed in January 2025 was 16.2% higher, making it the highest January since 2022. However, the number of units was 12.2% lower than the average January – the lowest level for any January since 2016.

Orders from **contract machine shops**, the largest customer industry, [underperformed the market for much of 2024](#) but rebounded in the last four months of the year. That momentum did not carry into 2025, with machine shop orders in January declining by nearly one-third from December. While the monthly decline was the largest in any December-to-January period since 2020, the year-over-year decline from January 2024 was half the decline seen between January 2023 and 2024.

Aerospace orders in January hit their lowest monthly order level since the machinist strike at Boeing began in September 2024, coming in at nearly half of December 2024's level. Despite the decline, orders were up 11% from January 2024, and output increased, indicating the potential for future demand. While the aerospace sector increased output in January 2025, [overall manufacturing output fell modestly](#) as output of motor vehicles and parts fell sharply. In this environment of falling output, **automotive** manufacturers reduced orders in January 2025 to almost two-thirds below their December 2024 levels. While most customer industries saw month-over-month declines, **medical** manufacturers increased their orders in January 2025 to the highest level since September 2023, underscoring the industry's growing importance as a manufacturing technology customer.

After the shallow downturn of the last two years, order activity – measured both in value and units – seems to have found a bottom. In the recovery after the manufacturing downturn of 2015 and 2016, the market expanded from its bottom for 31 months to its next peak, which resulted in a cumulative 42% growth in orders. Thus far in 2025, [industrial production](#) remains flat, with [capacity utilization](#) dipping modestly in January after increasing for the final two months of 2024. If the data begins to show rising capacity utilization in February 2025 and beyond, we can expect order activity to gain momentum as the first quarter of 2025 comes to a close.

While the possibility of a strong opening to 2025 remains in sight, and rising utilization rates generally indicate an impending increase in order activity, [Oxford Economics modestly downgraded their global growth forecast](#) recently. They cited the rising uncertainty of global trade, which has caused hesitation among those making capital investments. Although we can see the ingredients for an impressive recovery before us, the actual outcome could be as flat as the table upon which they sit.

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The United States Manufacturing Technology Orders (USMTO) Report is based on the totals of actual data reported by companies participating in the USMTO program. This report, compiled by AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, provides regional and national U.S. orders data of domestic and imported machine tools and related equipment. Analysis of manufacturing technology orders provides a reliable leading economic indicator as manufacturing industries invest in capital metalworking equipment to increase capacity and improve productivity. [USMTO.com](https://www.usmto.com).

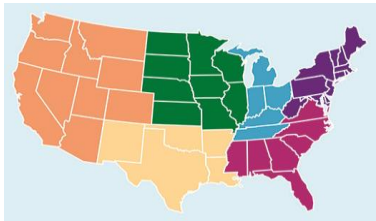
AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology represents U.S.-based providers of manufacturing technology – the advanced machinery, devices, and digital equipment that U.S. manufacturing relies on to be productive, innovative, and competitive. Located in McLean, Virginia, near the nation’s capital, AMT acts as the industry’s voice to speed the pace of innovation, increase global competitiveness, and develop manufacturing’s advanced workforce of tomorrow. With extensive expertise in industry data and intelligence, as well as a full complement of international business operations, AMT offers its members an unparalleled level of support. AMT also produces IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show, the premier manufacturing technology event in North America. [AMTonline.org](https://www.amtonline.org).

IMTS – The International Manufacturing Technology Show is where the creators, builders, sellers, and drivers of manufacturing technology come to connect and be inspired. Attendees discover advanced manufacturing solutions that include innovations in CNC machining, automation, robotics, additive, software, inspection, and transformative digital technologies that drive our future forward. Powered by AMT – The Association For Manufacturing Technology, IMTS is the largest manufacturing technology show and marketplace in the Western Hemisphere. With more than 1.2 million square feet of exhibit space, the show attracts visitors from more than 110 countries. IMTS 2024 had 89,020 registrants, featured 1,737 exhibiting companies, and included a Student Summit that attracted 14,713 visitors. Be the change at IMTS 2026, Sept. 14-20, 2026. Inspiring the Extraordinary. [IMTS.com](https://www.imts.com).

(USMTO data is also available at [www.AMTonline.org](https://www.amtonline.org).)

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| | JAN 2025 | Previous Month | % Change | Year Ago Month | % Change | YTD 25 | YTD 24 | % Change YTD |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| National | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 353.08 | 496.56 | -28.9% | 334.44 | 5.6% | 353.08 | 334.44 | 5.6% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | 4.23 | 12.59 | -66.4% | 3.66 | 15.6% | 4.23 | 3.66 | 15.6% |
| Total | 357.31 | 509.15 | -29.8% | 338.10 | 5.7% | 357.31 | 338.10 | 5.7% |
| Regional | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 48.78 | 101.74 | -52.1% | 46.06 | 5.9% | 48.78 | 46.06 | 5.9% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | D | D | -80.6% | #DIV/0! | D | D | D | D |
| Total | D | D | -52.9% | D | 7.3% | 49.41 | 46.06 | 7.3% |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 38.28 | 79.99 | -52.1% | 48.66 | -21.3% | 38.28 | 48.66 | -21.3% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | D | D | -22.8% | D | -46.6% | D | D | -46.6% |
| Total | D | D | -52.0% | D | -21.7% | 38.65 | 49.33 | -21.7% |
| North Central-East | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 92.86 | 93.48 | -0.7% | 93.58 | -0.8% | 92.86 | 93.58 | -0.8% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | D | 6.54 | D | D | -39.1% | D | 1.36 | D |
| Total | D | 100.02 | D | D | -1.3% | 93.68 | 94.94 | -1.3% |
| North Central-West | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 58.32 | 79.24 | -26.4% | 61.93 | -5.8% | 58.32 | 61.93 | -5.8% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | 1.48 | D | D | 1.51 | -1.8% | 1.48 | D | D |
| Total | 59.80 | D | D | 63.44 | -5.7% | 59.80 | 63.44 | -5.7% |
| South Central | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 29.08 | 48.21 | -39.7% | 32.43 | -10.3% | 29.08 | 32.43 | -10.3% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | D | D | -13.6% | D | D | D | D | D |
| Total | D | D | -39.3% | D | -8.4% | 29.69 | 32.43 | -8.4% |
| West | | | | | | | | |
| Metal Cutting | 85.75 | 93.90 | -8.7% | 51.79 | 65.6% | 85.75 | 51.79 | 65.6% |
| Metal Forming & Fabricating | D | D | 72.1% | D | 174.8% | D | D | 174.8% |
| Total | D | D | -8.5% | D | 65.8% | 86.08 | 51.91 | 65.8% |



■ Northeast
■ Southeast
■ North Central - East
■ North Central - West
■ South Central
■ West

\$ = millions of dollars
 P – preliminary
 R – revised
 * – percent change greater than 1,000%
 Totals may not match due to rounding

Note on fields marked D: Dollar values are not disclosed (as well as percent changes which would reveal a dollar value not disclosed), in accordance with established confidentiality rules, when necessary to protect the confidentiality of individual participant data.