October - 2015 (FOR RELEASE: November 3, 2015 - 6 am EST)

The ISM - Southeast Michigan Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) at 58.4 ↑

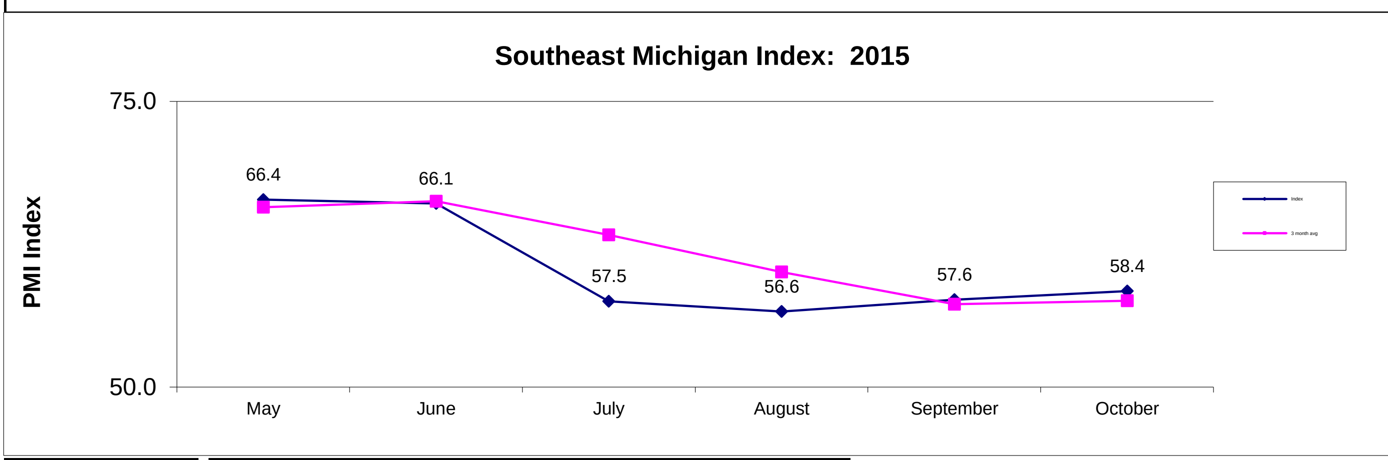
ISM-SEM Index: In October the PMI continued a steady climb upward, from 57.6 to 58.4. The 3 month average is nearly unchanged at 57.6. With a nearly identical score 3 months in a row, this index continues to reflect economic stability from a procurement perspective.

Employment: The Employment index dropped back down to where it was in August, to 60.0, while the 3 month average rose slightly, from 61.1 to 62.2. It is interesting to note the volitility of numbers over the last six months, ranging from 56.7 to 82.1, reflecting demand for labor at varying levels of intensity.

Commodity Prices: The Commodity PRice index rose a small amount in September, from 41.1 to 43.8. The continued trend of low numbers has pushed the 3 month down from 49.5 to 45.0.

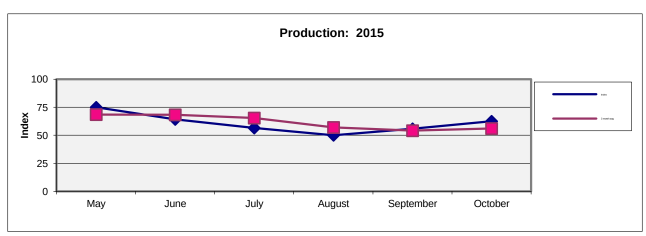
Items up or down in price: *October shows transit costs are up in price, while resin, copper, and seasonal rock / road salt are down in price.*

Economic Issues: *The October survey shows the Southeast Michigan Purchasing Managers Index increased slightly to 58.4, continuing the evidence of the region's continuously expanding economy. The 3 month moving average for the PMI is a healthy 57.6. Index values above 50 generally indicate an expanding economy, while index values below 50 indicate a contracting economy. Specific indices behind this month's value was New Orders, which expanded from 58.8 to 59.4; Production, which expanded from 55.9 to 62.5; and Employment, which decreased from 67.6 to 60.0. The Employment index of 60.0 still suggests that hiring is healthy in Southeast Michigan. The Finished Goods Inventory index dropped from 50.0 to 40.6. Given that New Orders and Production Indices are up, the contracting Finished Goods should not be of concern. Comments from respondents indicated optimism: "Our outlook is good for the next 18 months," and "trajectory is good," Also, there were comments of "too much debt in the system", and concern about interest rates. Over the next six months, 93.4% of the respondents beleive that the economy will remain stable or improve, 6.7% responded that the economy will become less stable.*



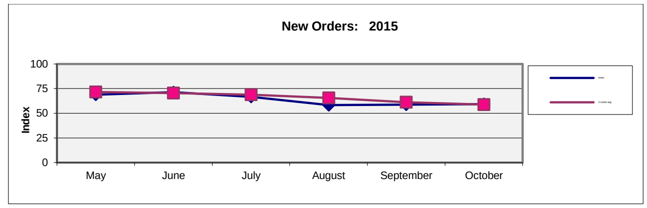
ISM-SEM Index		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
Index		66.4	66.1	57.5	56.6	57.6	58.4
Index	3 month average	65.7	66.3	63.3	60.1	57.3	57.6

Production		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	56.3	42.9	33.3	25.0	29.4	37.5
	Same	37.5	42.9	46.7	50.0	52.9	50.0
	Lower	6.3	14.3	20.0	25.0	17.6	12.5
Index		75.0	64.3	56.7	50.0	55.9	62.5
Index	3 month average	68.5	68.4	65.3	57.0	54.2	56.1
		Production continues solid expansion, increasing sharply to 62.5.					



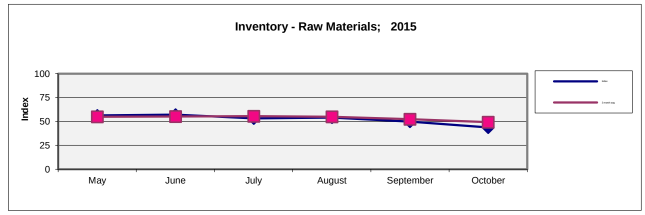
New Orders		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	56.3	50.0	46.7	33.3	29.4	31.3
	Same	25.0	42.9	40.0	50.0	58.8	56.3
	Lower	18.8	7.1	13.3	16.7	11.8	12.5
Index		68.8	71.4	66.7	58.3	58.8	59.4
Index	3 month average	71.6	70.4	68.9	65.5	61.3	58.8

New orders continues solid expansion, at 59.4.



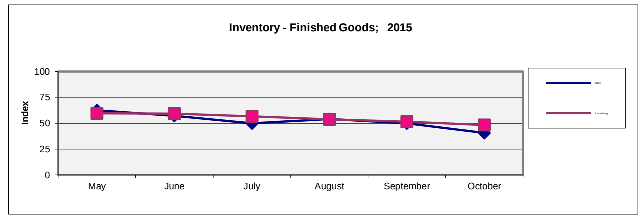
Inventory - Raw Materials		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	25.0	28.6	20.0	16.7	11.8	18.8
	Same	62.5	57.1	66.7	75.0	76.5	50.0
	Lower	12.5	14.3	13.3	8.3	11.8	31.3
Index		56.3	57.1	53.3	54.2	50.0	43.8
Index	3 month average	55.0	55.3	55.6	54.9	52.5	49.3

Raw materials inventories dropped form 52.5 to 48.3.



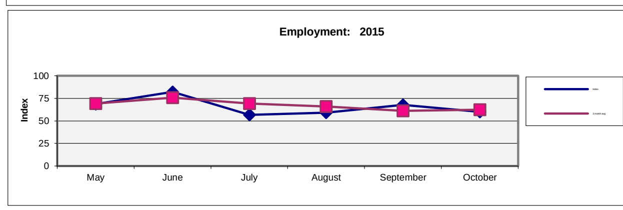
Inventory - Finished Goods		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	31.3	28.6	13.3	8.3	11.8	0.0
	Same	62.5	57.1	73.3	91.7	76.5	81.3
	Lower	6.3	14.3	13.3	0.0	11.8	18.8
Index		62.5	57.1	50.0	54.2	50.0	40.6
Index	3 month average	59.6	59.2	56.5	53.8	51.4	48.3

Finished goods inventories declined sharply to 40.6.



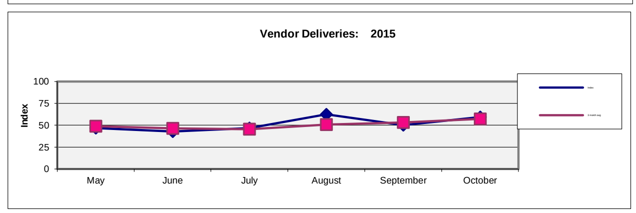
Employment		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	50.0	64.3	33.3	27.3	47.1	33.3
	Same	37.5	35.7	46.7	63.6	41.2	53.3
	Lower	12.5	0.0	20.0	9.1	11.8	13.3
Index		68.8	82.1	56.7	59.1	67.6	60.0
Index	3 month average	69.2	75.7	69.2	66.0	61.1	62.2

Employment continues health expansion, falling this month to 60.0.



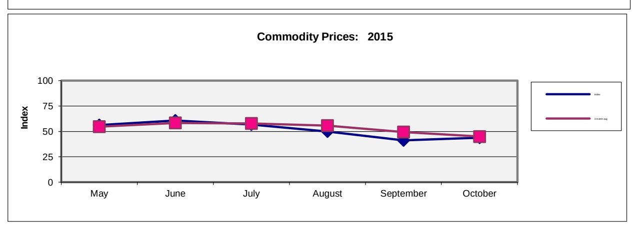
Vendor Deliveries		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Faster	12.5	21.4	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Same	81.3	71.4	93.3	75.0	100.0	81.3
	Slower	6.3	7.1	0.0	25.0	0.0	18.8
Index		46.9	42.9	46.7	62.5	50.0	59.4
Index	3 month average	49.0	46.6	45.5	50.7	53.1	57.3

Deliveries Index improves this month to 59.4.



Commodity Prices		2015					
		May	June	July	August	September	**October**
	Higher	18.8	21.4	13.3	25.0	5.9	6.3
	Same	75.0	78.6	86.7	50.0	70.6	75.0
	Lower	6.3	0.0	0.0	25.0	23.5	18.8
Index		56.3	60.7	56.7	50.0	41.2	43.8
Index	3 month average	54.7	58.3	57.9	55.8	49.3	45.0

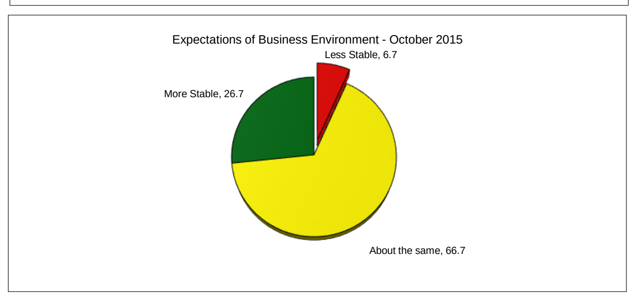
Commodity prices, while contracting, increased slightly to 43.8.



Expectations of Business Environment - October 2015

6 months into the future:

Less Stable	6.7	percent
About the same	66.7	percent
More Stable	26.7	percent



For more information about the Survey or to obtain copies of previous surveys, visit our website at www.ism-sem.org and click on "Economic Surveys"

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Next Release: **December 1, 2015**

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