

The NAPM – Metro Detroit Purchasing Managers Index 53.1

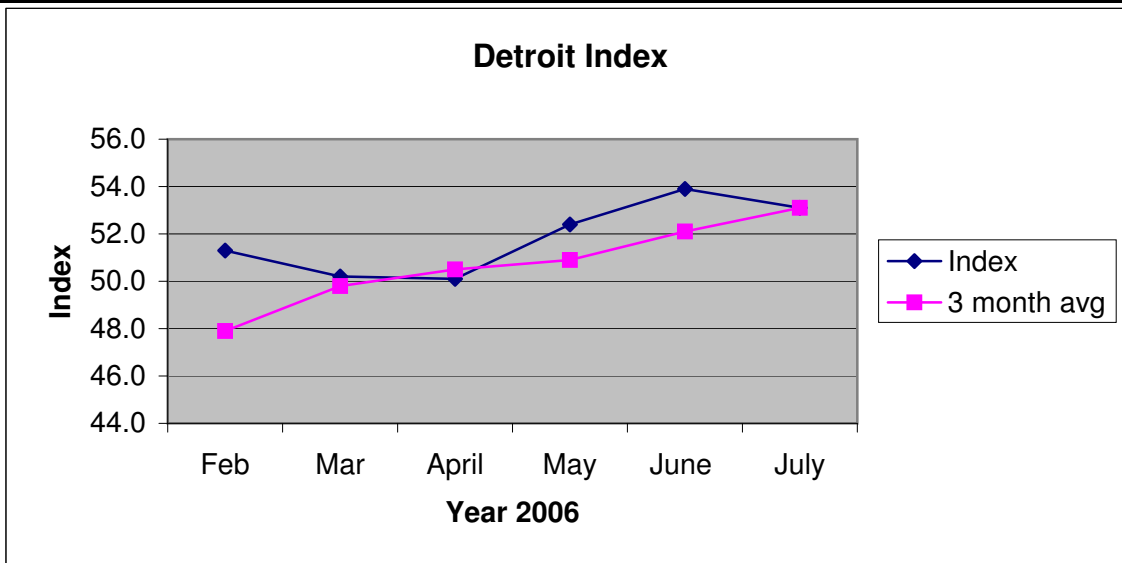
Detroit Index: The overall NAPM-MD Index showed modest economic growth in July at 53.1.

Employment: Employment appears stagnant in July at 50.0.

Prices: Commodity prices continued their upward movement in July at 77.6.

Items up or down in price: Those responding to the July survey indicate that price is high or rising for plastic, resins, nylon, zinc, petroleum products, aluminum, paper and corrugated, natural gas, plastics, steel, fasteners, certain classes of steel tubing, stainless, and freight charges.

Economic Issues: In July, the Detroit respondents indicate that price pressure and market uncertainties continue to impact supply chain decisions. There is some speculation that further price increases for steel are possible. Paper is noted by several respondents as being both high in price and short in supply. Raw material price increases continue to add to supplier cost pressures. This is leading to some concern regarding the stability of some firm's cash flow. One respondent indicated that uncertainty regarding the auto manufactures has caused the firm to significantly reduce inventories. Another cites bringing more work in-house to avoid price gouging, and improved cost control.



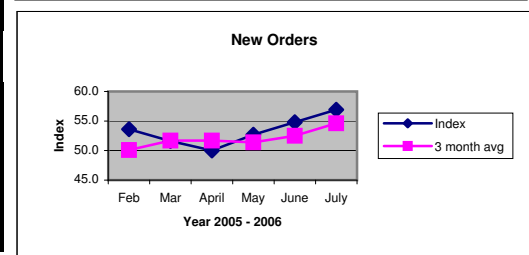
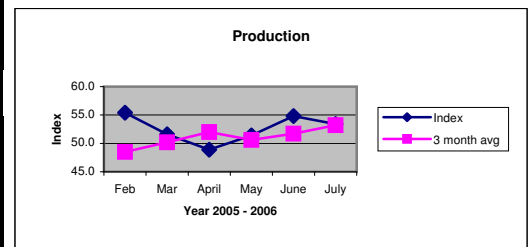
Next Release
1 September 2006

Detroit Index		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Index		51.3	50.2	50.1	52.4	53.9	53.1
Index	3 month average	47.9	49.8	50.5	50.9	52.1	53.1

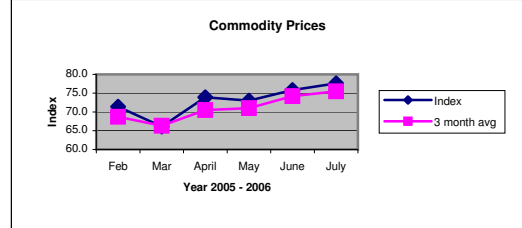
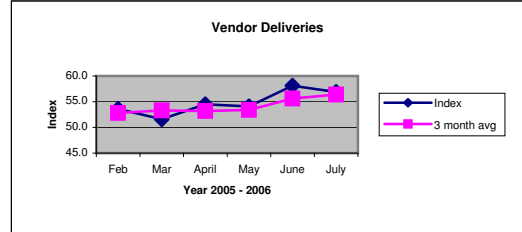
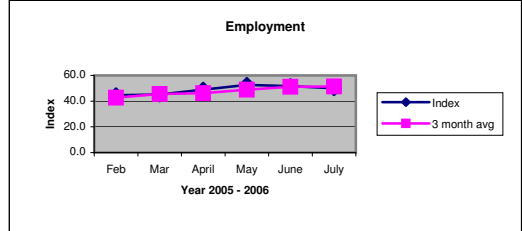
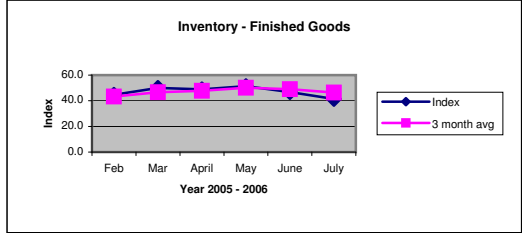
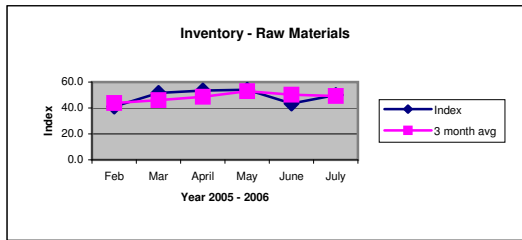
Production		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	46.0	23.0	30.0	30.0	45.2	31.0
	Same	18.0	58.0	39.0	43.0	19.4	37.9
	Lower	36.0	19.0	32.0	27.0	35.5	31.0
Index		55.4	51.6	48.9	51.4	54.8	53.4
Index	3 month average	48.5	50.2	52.0	50.6	51.7	53.2

Production expands in July

New Orders		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	46.0	29.0	33.0	35.1	41.9	37.9
	Same	14.0	45.0	35.0	35.1	25.8	37.9
	Lower	39.0	26.0	33.0	29.7	32.3	24.1
Index		53.6	51.6	50.0	52.7	54.8	56.9
Index	3 month average	50.1	51.7	51.7	51.4	52.5	54.6



New orders expand in July to a high for 2006							
Inventory - Raw Materials		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	14.0	3.0	25.0	32.0	16.1	20.7
	Same	54.0	58.0	57.0	43.0	54.8	58.6
	Lower	32.0	19.0	18.0	24.0	29.0	20.7
Index		41.1	51.6	53.4	54.1	43.5	50.0
Index	3 month average	43.8	46.0	48.7	53.0	50.3	49.2
Raw materials expand in July							
Inventory - Finished Goods		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	18.0	19.0	18.0	27.0	25.8	6.9
	Same	54.0	61.0	61.0	49.0	41.9	69.0
	Lower	29.0	19.0	20.0	24.0	32.3	24.1
Index		44.6	50.0	48.9	51.4	46.8	41.4
Index	3 month average	43.3	46.6	47.8	50.1	49.0	46.4
Finished goods inventories are contracting							
Employment		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	14.0	23.0	20.0	24.3	22.6	17.2
	Same	61.0	45.0	57.0	56.8	58.1	65.5
	Lower	25.0	32.0	23.0	18.9	19.4	17.2
Index		44.6	45.2	48.9	52.7	51.6	50.0
Index	3 month average	42.7	45.5	46.2	48.9	51.1	51.4
Employment is in neutral in July							
Vendor Deliveries		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Faster	4.0	10.0	9.0	0.0	3.2	6.9
	Same	86.0	77.0	73.0	8.0	77.4	72.4
	Slower	11.0	13.0	18.0	92.0	19.4	20.7
Index		53.6	51.6	54.5	54.1	58.1	56.9
Index	3 month average	52.8	53.3	53.2	53.4	55.6	56.4
Deliveries are slow							
Commodity Prices		2006					
		Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
	Higher	50.0	42.0	50.0	54.0	54.8	55.2
	Same	43.0	48.0	48.0	38.0	41.9	44.8
	Lower	7.0	10.0	2.0	8.0	3.2	0.0
Index		71.4	66.1	73.9	73.0	75.8	77.6
Index	3 month average	68.7	66.3	70.5	71.0	74.2	75.5
Commodity prices move up in July to high of 2006							



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