

The NAPM - Metro Detroit Purchasing Managers index stood at 51.8 for November

Detroit Index: Overall the upward business expansion continues for the Detroit Metropolitan Area.

Employment: Employment continues to pull back and declines from October.

Production: Production is up in November from the prior month.

Commodity Prices: Prices remain high, but there has been a slight downward trend since September.

Commodities up/down in price: A large number of reporters cite continued upward price pressure on steel products; energy and energy based products (e.g. resins) continued to be under price pressure; several reporters cited price increases for copper and higher freight costs.

Commodities in short supply: Steel, steel forgings, manganese castings, steel plate, petroleum based products, specialty resins and certain electronic components.

Next Release
3 January 2005

Detroit Index		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Index		53.5	51.0	51.8			
Index	3 month average			52.1			

Production		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	28	29	27			
	Same	56	43	52			
	Lower	17	29	20			
Index		55.6	50.0	53.4			
Index	3 month average			53.0			

Production moves up from prior month

New Orders		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	25	33	32			
	Same	53	40	45			
	Lower	22	26	23			
Index		51.4	53.6	54.5			
Index	3 month average			53.2			

3 months of growth in New Orders

Inventory - Raw Materials		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	19	21	20			
	Same	58	62	57			
	Lower	22	17	23			
Index		48.6	52.4	48.9			
Index	3 month average			50.0			

Raw materials inventory has declined

Inventory - Finished Goods		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	17	26	20			
	Same	64	64	68			
	Lower	19	10	11			
Index		48.6	58.3	54.5			
Index	3 month average			53.8			

Finished goods inventory decreased from prior month

Employment		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	31	17	18			
	Same	56	60	55			
	Lower	14	24	27			
Index		58.3	46.4	45.5			
Index	3 month average			50.1			

Hiring pulls back and shows continued softness

Vendor Deliveries		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Faster	17	17	11			
	Same	64	69	77			
	Slower	19	14	11			
Index		51.3	48.8	50.0			
Index	3 month average			50.0			

Vendor deliveries slow slightly

Commodity Prices		2004				2005	
		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	64	52	50			
	Same	36	48	43			
	Lower	0	0	7			
Index		81.9	76.2	71.6			
Index	3 month average			76.6			

Prices up strongly, but trend down for past 3 months

Buying Policy:		2004				2005	
Production Materials		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	less than 11 days	3		1			
	11-15 days						
	16-30 days		2				
	31-60 days	3	2	1			
	more than 60 days	3	2				
Average Days							
Days	3 month average						

95% report no change in current policy

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