

The NAPM - Metro Detroit Purchasing Managers index stood at 51.0 for October

Detroit Index: Overall business in the metropolitan Detroit area is expanding, but growth slows in October

Employment: At 46.4, employment is contracting, a pull back from September

Production: At 50.0, pulls back from September level of 55.6

Commodity Prices: Prices continue to grow rapidly, but at a slower rate than September

Commodities up/down in price: Price increases cited for: steel, natural gas, resins, plastic, packaging materials, bulk chlorine, aluminum, petroleum-based products, and paper. Purchasing manager concerns cited: Increasing prices for petroleum, resins, and steel and aluminum surcharges.

Commodity in short supply: Metals, steel, manganese castings, steel construction material

Detroit Index		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Index		53.5	51.0				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						

Production		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	28	29				
	Same	56	43				
	Lower	17	29				
Index		55.6	50.0				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						

Slowing from previous month

New Orders		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	25	33				
	Same	53	40				
	Lower	22	26				
Index		51.4	53.6				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						

Stronger growth over prior month

Inventory - Raw Materials		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	19	21				
	Same	58	62				
	Lower	22	17				
Index		48.6	52.4				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						

Raw materials inventory growing

Next Release
1 December 2004

Inventory - Finished Goods		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	17	26				
	Same	64	64				
	Lower	19	10				
Index		48.6	58.3				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						
Finished goods inventory rise							

Employment		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	31	17				
	Same	56	60				
	Lower	14	24				
Index		58.3	46.4				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						
Hiring pulls back and shows decline							

Vendor Deliveries		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Faster	17	17				
	Same	64	69				
	Slower	19	14				
Index		51.3	48.8				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						
Vendors less busy							

Commodity Prices		2004				2005	
	3 month average	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Higher	64	52				
	Same	36	48				
	Lower	0	0				
Index		81.9	76.2				
Index	Seasonally Adjusted						
Prices up strongly, but ease from prior month							

Buying Policy:		2004				2005	
Production Materials		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	less than 11 days	3					
	11-15 days						
	16-30 days		2				
	31-60 days	3	2				
	more than 60 days	3	2				
Average Days							
Days	Seasonally Adjusted						
93% report no change in current policy							

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