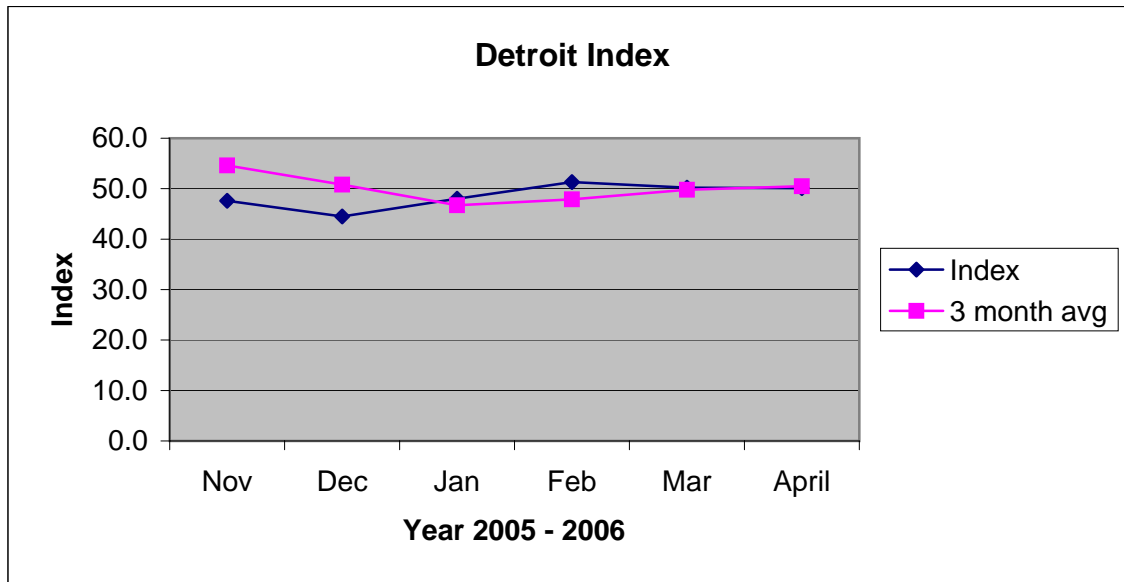


THE DETROIT REPORT

National Association of Purchasing Management - Metro Detroit

The NAPM – Metro Detroit Purchasing Managers Index 50.1

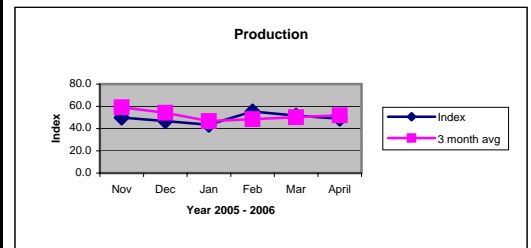
Detroit Index: The overall NAPM-MD Index indicates a continued sluggish economy in the region at 50.1
Employment: Employment continues to contract, April at 48.9.
Prices: Commodity prices move ahead in April to 73.9.
Items up or down in price: Respondents indicate that prices continue to rise for a wide range of products. Products cited in the April survey include: aluminum, precious metals, fuel and oil, copper, zinc, brass, resins, paints and adhesives, motor freight charges, belts and bearings, and general shop supplies. Several noted paper and packaging costs are rising. Items in short supply include: particle board, electronic transistors, titanium, tapered roller bearings, valves, and certain stainless steel products.
Economic Issues: The major issue of concern affecting the economic outlook is energy. The energy price increases are causing a concern as it spills into higher transportation costs and product prices. Concern was expressed that fuel charges will ultimately impact employment costs. High energy prices are impacting products that are more energy intensive. One respondent called for more regulation of oil company profits.



Next Release
1 June 2006

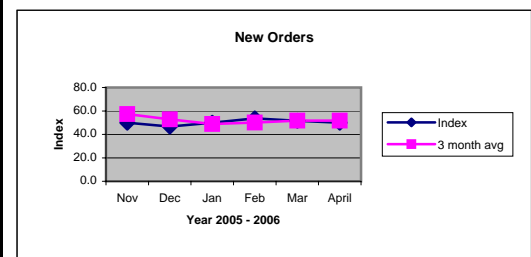
Detroit Index	2005		2006			
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Index	47.6	44.5	48.0	51.3	50.2	50.1
Index 3 month average	54.6	50.8	46.7	47.9	49.8	50.5

Production	2005		2006			
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Higher	25.0	27.0	26.0	46.0	23.0	30.0
Same	50.0	40.0	35.0	18.0	58.0	39.0
Lower	25.0	33.0	39.0	36.0	19.0	32.0
Index	50.0	46.7	43.5	55.4	51.6	48.9
Index 3 month average	59.2	54.3	46.7	48.5	50.2	52.0

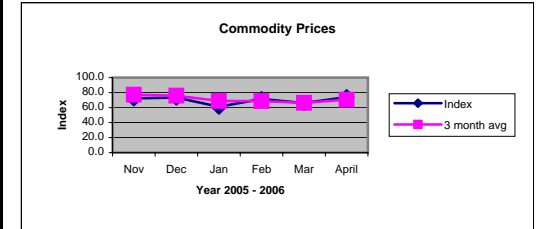
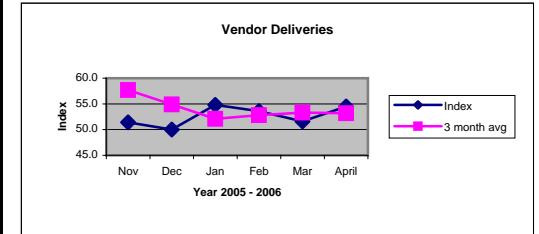
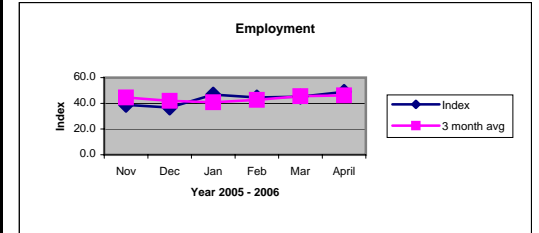
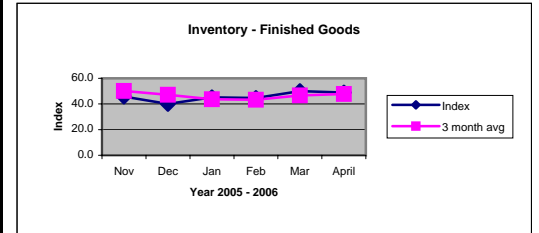
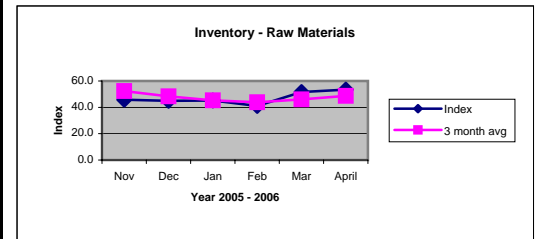


Production falls back in April						
New Orders	2005		2006			
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Higher	33.0	30.0	32.0	46.0	29.0	33.0
Same	33.0	33.0	35.0	14.0	45.0	35.0
Lower	33.0	37.0	32.0	39.0	26.0	33.0
Index	50.0	46.7	50.0	53.6	51.6	50.0
Index 3 month average	57.3	52.8	48.9	50.1	51.7	51.7

New orders show slow growth



Inventory - Raw Materials		2005		2006			
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
	Higher	17.0	23.0	13.0	14.0	3.0	25.0
	Same	58.0	43.0	65.0	54.0	58.0	57.0
	Lower	25.0	33.0	23.0	32.0	19.0	18.0
Index		45.8	45.0	45.2	41.1	51.6	53.4
Index	3 month average	52.4	48.4	45.3	43.8	46.0	48.7
Raw materials inventories expanding							
Inventory - Finished Goods		2005		2006			
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
	Higher	17.0	10.0	19.0	18.0	19.0	18.0
	Same	58.0	60.0	52.0	54.0	61.0	61.0
	Lower	25.0	30.0	29.0	29.0	19.0	20.0
Index		45.8	40.0	45.2	44.6	50.0	48.9
Index	3 month average	50.1	47.2	43.7	43.3	46.6	47.8
Finished goods inventories are declining							
Employment		2005		2006			
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
	Higher	19.0	3.0	23.0	14.0	23.0	20.0
	Same	39.0	67.0	48.0	61.0	45.0	57.0
	Lower	42.0	30.0	29.0	25.0	32.0	23.0
Index		38.9	36.7	46.8	44.6	45.2	48.9
Index	3 month average	44.6	42.0	40.8	42.7	45.5	46.2
Employment contracts in April							
Vendor Deliveries		2005		2006			
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
	Faster	14.0	0.0	10.0	4.0	10.0	9.0
	Same	69.0	100.0	71.0	86.0	77.0	73.0
	Slower	17.0	0.0	19.0	11.0	13.0	18.0
Index		51.4	50.0	54.8	53.6	51.6	54.5
Index	3 month average	57.7	54.9	52.1	52.8	53.3	53.2
Deliveries are slower							
Commodity Prices		2005		2006			
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
	Higher	50.0	50.0	35.0	50.0	42.0	50.0
	Same	44.0	47.0	52.0	43.0	48.0	48.0
	Lower	6.0	3.0	13.0	7.0	10.0	2.0
Index		72.2	73.3	61.3	71.4	66.1	73.9
Index	3 month average	77.2	76.0	68.9	68.7	66.3	70.5
Commodity prices move ahead in April							



NOTICE:

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