

Please note that there will be no release of the *Weekly Newsletter* from December 23, 2013 to January 3, 2014 inclusive

December 20, 2013

## The Federal Reserve begins tapering

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Federal Reserve begins tapering its securities purchases.
- Another upward revision to U.S. real GDP growth.
- United States: A strong surge in housing starts in November, but resales fell more than expected.
- U.S. industrial production surpassed its pre-recession peak.
- Canada: The annual inflation rate ticked up, from 0.7% to 0.9%.
- Canada: Both manufacturing and wholesaler sales rose in October, but retail sales edged down.

### A LOOK AHEAD

- Consumption in the U.S. should record healthy growth in November.
- United States: The aviation sector should give another boost to new orders for durable goods.
- Canada: Real GDP by industry could start off the fourth quarter on a positive note.

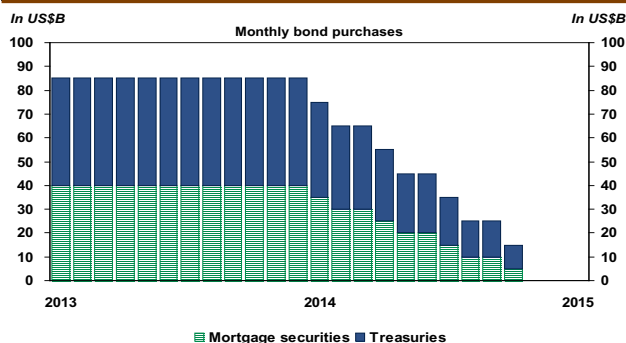
### FINANCIAL MARKETS

- Stock markets applauded the Federal Reserve's decision.
- Nervousness increases a notch for short-term bonds.
- Despite tapering, the loonie loses ground again.

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Graph of the week – The Federal Reserve's scaling down of its securities purchases will likely continue until fall 2014



Sources: Federal Reserve Board and Desjardins, Economic Studies

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NOTE TO READERS: The letters **K**, **M** and **B** are used in texts and tables to refer to thousands, millions and billions respectively.

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## KEY STATISTICS OF THE WEEK

### UNITED STATES

- After months of speculation that captured almost all of the financial markets' attention, the Federal Reserve announced that it would begin to taper its securities purchases in January. It will acquire US\$35B in mortgage securities (instead of US\$40B) and US\$40B in Treasuries (instead of US\$45B). At the post-meeting press conference, Ben Bernanke mentioned that securities purchases should normally be withdrawn at a moderate speed. A US\$10B reduction at each meeting seems compatible with this pace. The third wave of quantitative easing would therefore end in late 2014. The current target range for federal funds should remain appropriate well after the jobless rate falls below 6.5%, especially if inflation remains below the 2.0% target.
- The final estimate of national accounts for the third quarter of 2013 brought annualized real GDP growth to 4.1%. According to the advance estimate, this growth was 2.8%, then it was revised to 3.6%. It was mainly the real consumption of services whose growth was revised, from stagnation to 0.7%, generating this second upward revision to real GDP growth.
- Industrial production rose by 1.1% in November after weak growth in October (0.1%, revised from -0.1%). Manufacturing production was up by 0.6%, while energy production surged by 3.9%. This greatest monthly gain in industrial production since November 2012 has taken the level of production higher than its pre-recession peak.
- Housing starts are at their highest level since February 2008, surging from an annualized volume of 889,000 in October to 1,091,000 in November. This 22.7% jump follows a 1.8% increase in the previous month. The NAHB homebuilders' confidence index shot up in December.
- Sales of existing homes lost a bit more ground than expected in November, falling from 5,120,000 to 4,900,000 units at an annualized rate.
- The consumer price index was stable in November, and its annual change came in at 1.2%. The core index, which excludes food and energy, edged up by 0.2% after three months of 0.1% growth. Housing costs are one of the factors behind this modest acceleration. Core inflation held steady at 1.7%.

**Francis Généreux**  
Senior Economist

### CANADA

- The total consumer price index (CPI) stayed flat in November, slightly below what was expected. The downward seasonal effects were a little stronger than we normally see at this time of year. The total annual inflation rate nevertheless ticked up from 0.7% to 0.9%, thus moving closer to the lower end of the target range (1.0%). It will probably get back within that target by next month. The Bank of Canada's core index (CPIX), which excludes eight volatile components, dipped by 0.1% in November. Its annual change fell to 1.1%, versus 1.2% in October.
- Retail sales contracted by 0.1% in October. Significant reductions were recorded in automotive products, furniture and home furnishings, and service stations (which were affected by lower gas prices). Meanwhile, other sectors made headway during the month, with the result that retail sales excluding automobiles were up by 0.4%. Expressed in real terms, sales increased by 0.2%.
- While most forecasters were expecting a slight dip in October, manufacturing sales rose instead, by 1.0%, thanks especially to substantial gains in food, textiles, clothing and chemical products. Expressed in real terms, sales also increased by 1.0%, while inventories spiked by 2.1%. As a result, the manufacturing sector will make a significant contribution to economic growth in October.
- Wholesaler sales recorded stronger-than-expected growth in October, rising 1.4%. With the exception of automobile wholesalers and miscellaneous products, all the other sectors enjoyed an increase during the month. The volume of wholesaler sales advanced by 1.2%, while inventory volumes slipped by 0.2%.
- Sales of existing homes dipped by 0.1% in November, after a 3.3% drop in October. The annual change is nevertheless again quite high, at 5.9%; the regions with the strongest growth are still British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario. The average price of existing properties rose by 0.8% in November, almost entirely wiping out the 1.0% drop that occurred in October. The annual increase in prices stands at 9.8%, the highest level since April 2010. Clearly, these numbers do nothing to alleviate concerns about an overheated housing market.

**Benoit P. Durocher**  
Senior Economist

# FINANCIAL MARKETS

## The beginning of a new bond selloff?

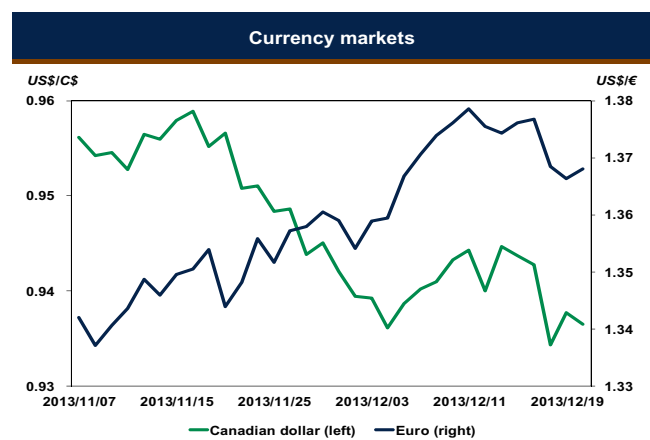
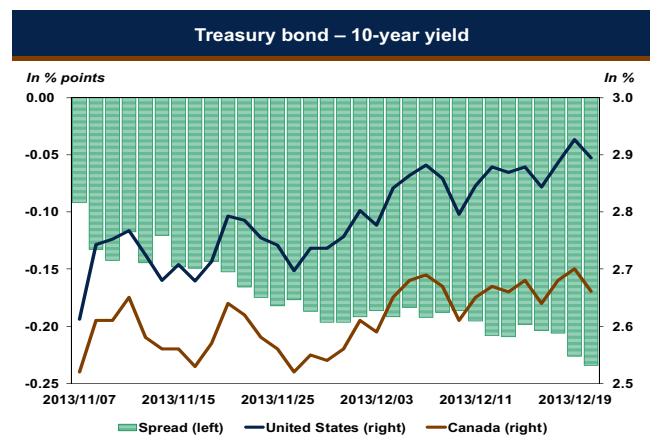
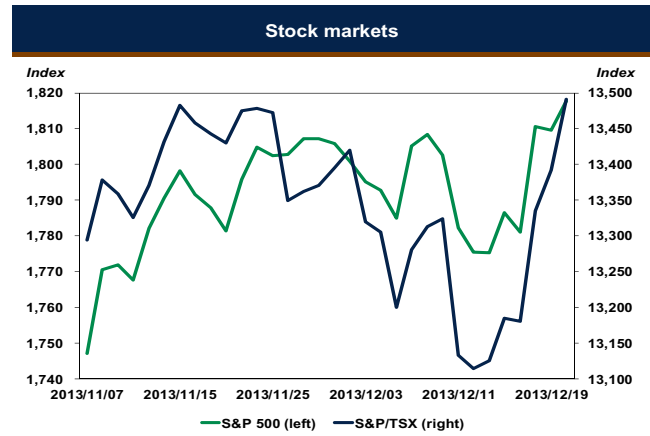
Little movement was seen in stock markets until the Federal Reserve (Fed) announced, on Wednesday, that it would start tapering its monthly bond purchases. Markets gave a warm welcome to the decision: the S&P 500 recorded a 1.7% gain on Wednesday. The more optimistic tone adopted by the Fed seemed to trigger a wave of confidence, especially since higher bond yields should support a rebalancing of portfolios towards riskier assets. A similar reaction was also observed in the European stock markets when they opened on Thursday. The upward revision to third-quarter U.S. economic growth gave an extra boost to stock markets on Friday morning.

As for bond yields in the United States, positive economic data had already pushed the 10-year yield to around 2.88% at the beginning of the week, and it stood close to this level on Friday. The strongest reaction to the Fed's announcement was seen in the shorter maturities. The 5-year yield surged by nearly 12 basis points between the time of the decision and Friday morning, flattening the curve considerably. The 2-year yield also shot up, standing at 0.38% on Friday morning, its highest level since September 18. The uncertainty regarding the precise timing of the first key interest rate hike in the United States seems to be making bond investors nervous. In Canada, a disappointing inflation figure for October sparked a decline in short-term bond yields on Friday morning. The spread between Canadian and U.S. 5-year yields narrowed sharply, by around 12 basis points, over the week.

After some hesitation, the U.S. dollar appreciated significantly following the Fed's decision. The euro, which was hovering around US\$1.375 at the start of the week, fell back to around US\$1.368 despite some advances on the banking union issue. The pound sterling remained relatively strong, with another drop in the unemployment rate hinting that the Bank of England may have to modify its position. The yen also depreciated, closing in on ¥105/US\$, and the Bank of Japan indicated that it would continue its very aggressive quantitative measures. The loonie had a more difficult week, even briefly falling below US\$0.932 on Friday morning, after the inflation figures were released.

**Jimmy Jean**  
Senior Economist

**Mathieu D'Anjou**  
Senior Economist



# A LOOK AHEAD



## UNITED STATES

Monday Dec. 23 - 8:30

<b>November</b>	m/m
Consensus	0.5%
Desjardins	0.4%
<b>October</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

**Consumer spending (November)** – Mainly due to stellar growth by non-durable goods, real consumption advanced 0.3% in October, its greatest increase since November 2012. Another solid gain is expected for November. Further growth by non-durable goods should be joined by a jump in durable goods consumption, primarily due to the auto sector. What’s more, a surge by energy production in November suggests that demand for heating has accelerated, together with real consumption of services. We therefore expect a 0.4% gain by real consumption. As the consumption expenditure deflator probably remained unchanged in November, nominal personal consumption should also post a 0.4% increase. The rise by employment and earnings in November signals 0.4% growth by personal income.

Tuesday Dec. 24 - 10:00

<b>November</b>	ann. rate
Consensus	440,000
Desjardins	430,000
<b>October</b>	<b>444,000</b>

**New home sales (November)** – New home sales jumped 25.4% in October, its highest monthly growth since May 1980. This increase occurred after three months of disappointing figures, so October’s 440,000 units are still less than what was posted in June. Housing starts for single-family dwellings increased dramatically in November, but building permits grew more timidly. Sales of existing homes pulled back, however. After October’s strong rise, a slight retreat to 430,000 is possible, although the uptrend should continue.



## CANADA

Monday Dec. 23 - 8:30

<b>October</b>	m/m
Consensus	0.2%
Desjardins	0.3%
<b>September</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

**Real GDP by industry (October)** – Overall, the results for economic indicators beat expectations in October. Among other things, manufacturing and wholesaler sales grew substantially. The number of hours worked also rose 0.4% for the economy as a whole in October. Hours worked even increased 0.6% for services, suggesting that many of these sectors did well over the month. Everything leads us to believe that real GDP by industry will grow by around 0.3% in October, allowing the fourth quarter to start on a positive note.





## OVERSEAS

Thursday Dec. 26

**Japan: Economic indicators** – Several interesting indicators on the Japanese economy will be released this Thursday. At midnight, November’s housing starts will be published; a monthly drop is expected, although the uptrend should continue. The consumer price indexes will come out that evening. Both the overall results and the indexes excluding food and energy recently moved into positive territory. Slightly faster annual changes are expected for November (national index) and December (Tokyo index). Up 1.0% in October, industrial production should continue to advance in November. Finally, retail sales should bounce back after falling 0.9% in October.


# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## Week of December 23 to 27, 2013

Day	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data
 <b>UNITED STATES</b>						
<b>MONDAY 23</b>						
	8:30	Personal income (m/m)	Nov.	0.5%	0.4%	-0.1%
	8:30	Personal consumption expenditures (m/m)	Nov.	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%
	8:30	Personal consumption expenditures deflator				
		Total (m/m)	Nov.	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
		Excluding food and energy (m/m)	Nov.	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
		Total (y/y)	Nov.	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%
		Excluding food and energy (y/y)	Nov.	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%
	9:55	Michigan's consumer sentiment index – final	Dec.	83.0	82.5	82.5
<b>TUESDAY 24</b>						
	8:30	Durable goods orders (m/m)	Nov.	2.0%	3.7%	-2.0%
	10:00	New home sales (ann. rate)	Nov.	440,000	430,000	444,000
<b>WEDNESDAY 25</b>						
	---	Markets closed (Christmas Day)				
<b>THURSDAY 26</b>						
	8:30	Initial unemployment claims	Dec. 16-20	349,000	350,000	379,000
<b>FRIDAY 27</b>						
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 **CANADA**

<b>MONDAY 23</b>						
	8:30	Real GDP by industry (m/m)	Oct.	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
	8:30	Average weekly earnings (y/y)	Oct.	n/a	1.7%	1.9%
	8:30	Number of salaried employees (m/m)	Oct.	n/a	0.1%	-0.2%
<b>TUESDAY 24</b>						
	---	---				
<b>WEDNESDAY 25</b>						
	---	Markets closed (Christmas Day)				
<b>THURSDAY 26</b>						
	---	Markets closed (Boxing Day)				
<b>FRIDAY 27</b>						
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NOTE: Desjardins, Economic Studies are involved every week in the Bloomberg survey for Canada and the United States. Approximately 15 economists are consulted for the Canadian survey and a hundred or so for the United States. The abbreviations m/m, q/q and y/y correspond to monthly, quarterly and yearly variation respectively. Following the quarter, the abbreviations f, s and t correspond to first estimate, second estimate and third estimate respectively. (SA): Seasonally adjusted, (NSA): Non seasonally adjusted. The times shown are Eastern Standard Time (GMT - 5 hours).  Forecast of Desjardins, Economic Studies of the Desjardins Group.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## Week of December 23 to 27, 2013

Country	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data			
				m/m (q/q)	y/y	m/m (q/q)	y/y		
 <b>OVERSEAS</b>									
<b>MONDAY 23</b>									
Italy	4:00	Consumer confidence	Dec.	98.7		98.3			
<b>TUESDAY 24</b>									
Japan	0:00	Release of the Bank of Japan's Monthly Economic Report for December							
France	2:45	Personal consumption expenditures	Nov.	0.4%	0.5%	-0.2%	-0.1%		
France	2:45	Real GDP – final	Q3	-0.1%	0.2%	-0.1%	0.2%		
<b>WEDNESDAY 25</b>									
---	---								
<b>THURSDAY 26</b>									
Japan	0:00	Small business confidence	Dec.	n/a		51.1			
Japan	0:00	Housing starts	Nov.		9.2%		7.1%		
Japan	18:30	Workers' household spending	Nov.		1.8%		0.9%		
Japan	18:30	Consumer price index	Nov.		1.5%		1.1%		
Japan	18:30	Consumer price index – Tokyo	Dec.		0.9%		0.9%		
Japan	18:30	Unemployment rate	Nov.	3.9%		4.0%			
Japan	18:50	Industrial production – preliminary	Nov.	0.4%	5.4%	1.0%	5.4%		
Japan	18:50	Retail sales	Nov.	1.0%	2.9%	-0.9%	2.4%		
Japan	23:00	Vehicle production	Nov.		n/a		10.1%		
<b>FRIDAY 27</b>									
France	2:45	Producer price index	Nov.	-0.1%	-1.2%	-0.2%	-1.4%		

NOTE: In contrast to the situation in Canada and the United States, disclosure of overseas economic figures is much more approximate. The day of publication is therefore shown for information purposes only. The abbreviations m/m, q/q and y/y correspond to monthly, quarterly and yearly variation respectively. (SA): Seasonally adjusted, (NSA): Non seasonally adjusted. The times shown are Eastern Standard Time (GMT - 5 hours).



## United States: Quarterly economic indicators

	Ref. quart.	Level	Variation (%)		Annual variation (%)			
			Quart. ann.	1 year	2012	2011	2010	2009
Gross domestic product (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	15,839	4.1	2.0	2.8	1.8	2.5	-2.8
Consumption (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	10,744	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.0	-1.6
Government spending (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	2,907	0.4	-2.7	-1.0	-3.2	0.1	3.1
Residential investment (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	499.2	10.3	14.2	12.9	0.5	-2.5	-21.2
Non-residential investment (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	1,995	4.8	3.5	7.3	7.6	2.5	-15.6
Business inventory change (2009 \$B) (1)	2013 Q3	115.7	---	---	57.6	33.6	58.2	-147.6
Exports (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	2,018	3.9	2.9	3.5	7.1	11.5	-9.1
Imports (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	2,437	2.4	1.6	2.2	4.9	12.8	-13.7
Final domestic demand (2009 \$B)	2013 Q3	16,131	2.3	1.6	2.4	1.8	1.5	-3.0
GDP deflator (2009 = 100)	2013 Q3	106.7	2.0	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.2	0.8
Labor productivity (2009 = 100)	2013 Q3	106.1	3.0	0.3	1.5	0.5	3.3	3.2
Unit labor cost (2009 = 100)	2013 Q3	103.1	-1.4	2.1	1.2	2.0	-1.2	-2.0
Employment cost index (Dec. 2005 = 100)	2013 Q3	119.5	1.7	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.7
Current account balance (\$B) (1)	2013 Q3*	-94.8	---	---	-440.4	-457.7	-449.5	-381.6

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) Statistics representing the level during the period.

## United States: Monthly economic indicators

	Ref. month	Level	Variation (%)			
			-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year
Leading indicator (2004 = 100)	Nov.*	98.3	0.8	2.0	3.1	5.2
ISM manufacturing index (1)	Nov.	57.3	56.4	55.7	49.0	49.9
ISM non-manufacturing index (1)	Nov.	53.9	55.4	58.6	53.7	54.8
Cons. confidence Conf. Board (1985 = 100) (1)	Nov.	70.4	72.4	81.8	74.3	71.5
Cons. confidence Michigan (1966 = 100) (1)	Dec.	82.5	75.1	77.5	84.1	72.9
Personal consumption expenditure (2009 \$B)	Oct.	10,776	0.3	0.6	0.9	2.1
Disposable personal income (2009 \$B)	Oct.	11,733	-0.2	0.7	1.1	1.8
Consumer credit (\$B)	Oct.	3,076	0.6	1.7	3.2	6.3
Retail sales (\$M)	Nov.	432,310	0.7	1.4	2.7	4.7
Excluding automobiles (\$M)	Nov.	349,023	0.4	1.3	2.1	3.5
Industrial production (2007 = 100)	Nov.*	101.3	1.1	1.8	2.3	3.2
Production capacity utilization rate (%) (1)	Nov.*	79.0	78.2	78.0	77.9	77.9
New machinery orders (\$M)	Oct.	486,948	-0.9	0.8	2.5	1.9
New durable good orders (\$M)	Oct.	231,362	-1.6	3.0	3.7	5.8
Business inventories (\$B)	Oct.	1,691	0.7	1.7	2.1	3.6
Housing starts (K) (1)	Nov.*	1,091.0	889.0	883.0	919.0	842.0
Building permits (K) (1)	Nov.*	1,007	1,039	926.0	985.0	933.0
New home sales (K) (1)	Oct.	444.0	354.0	373.0	446.0	365.0
Existing home sales (K) (1)	Nov.*	4,900	5,120	5,390	5,140	4,960
Construction spending (\$B)	Oct.	908.4	0.8	0.6	3.4	5.3
Commercial surplus (\$M) (1)	Oct.	-40,641	-42,969	-38,824	-39,599	-42,650
Nonfarm employment (K) (2)	Nov.	136,765	203.0	578.0	1,077	2,293
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	Nov.	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.6	7.8
Consumer price (1982-1984 = 100)	Nov.*	233.9	0.0	0.2	0.9	1.2
Excluding food and energy	Nov.*	235.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.7
Personal cons. expenditure deflator (2009 = 100)	Oct.	107.5	-0.0	0.2	0.8	0.7
Excluding food and energy	Oct.	106.3	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.1
Producer price (1982 = 100)	Nov.	197.4	-0.1	-0.3	0.9	0.7
Excluding food and energy	Nov.	186.0	0.1	0.3	0.5	1.3
Export prices (2000 = 100)	Nov.	131.7	0.1	-0.2	-0.9	-1.6
Import prices (2000 = 100)	Nov.	138.1	-0.6	-0.9	-0.9	-1.5

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; (2) Statistic shows the variation since the reference month.

## Canada: Quarterly economic indicators

	Ref. quart.	Level	Variation (%)		Annual variation (%)			
			Quart. ann.	1 year	2012	2011	2010	2009
Gross domestic product (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	1,695,542	2.7	1.9	1.7	2.5	3.4	-2.7
Household consumption (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	947,690	2.2	2.3	1.9	2.3	3.5	0.3
Government consumption (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	349,436	0.4	1.0	1.1	0.8	2.7	3.3
Residential investment (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	113,860	2.4	0.8	6.1	1.6	8.7	-7.0
Non-residential investment (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	185,202	2.2	1.9	6.2	11.1	14.5	-20.2
Business inventory change (2007 \$M) (1)	2013 Q3	10,244	---	---	6,831	7,440	-452.0	-5,104
Exports (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	512,157	-2.0	1.7	1.5	4.7	6.9	-13.1
Imports (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	555,256	-1.4	-0.1	3.1	5.7	13.6	-12.4
Final domestic demand (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	1,721,392	1.8	1.7	2.3	2.4	5.0	-1.9
GDP deflator (2007 = 100)	2013 Q3	111.3	2.6	1.6	1.7	3.2	2.7	-2.1
Labour productivity (2007 = 100)	2013 Q3	102.6	0.7	0.7	-0.0	0.9	1.8	0.2
Unit labour cost (2007 = 100)	2013 Q3	113.4	0.6	1.1	3.0	2.5	-0.4	2.3
Current account balance (\$M) (1)	2013 Q3	-15,466	---	---	-62,215	-48,467	-58,419	-45,750
Production capacity utilization rate (%) (1)	2013 Q3	81.7	---	---	81.5	80.6	78.5	73.3
Disposable personal income (\$M)	2013 Q3	1,084,724	5.0	4.0	3.9	4.6	3.7	2.0
Corporate net operating surplus (2007 \$M)	2013 Q3	236,932	23.2	-1.1	-4.9	11.3	31.6	-33.3

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) Statistics representing the level during the period.

## Canada: Monthly economic indicators

	Ref. month	Level	Variation (%)			
			-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year
Gross domestic product (2007 \$M)	Sept.	1,596,136	0.3	1.2	1.2	2.3
Industrial production (2007 \$M)	Sept.	342,715	0.7	2.2	0.6	3.2
Manufacturing sales (\$M)	Oct.*	50,086	1.0	1.5	3.7	2.6
Housing starts (K) (1)	Nov.	192.2	198.2	185.6	199.8	201.5
Building permits (\$M)	Oct.	7,194	7.4	-10.6	2.7	-6.2
Retail sales (\$M)	Oct.*	40,719	-0.1	1.1	2.8	3.0
Excluding automobiles (\$M)	Oct.*	31,209	0.4	1.1	2.3	1.8
Wholesale trade sales (\$M)	Oct.*	50,530	1.4	1.9	2.8	3.5
Commercial surplus (\$M) (1)	Oct.	74.5	-302.7	-1,177	-1,015	-203.2
Exports (\$M)	Oct.	40,470	-0.3	3.7	1.5	5.3
Imports (\$M)	Oct.	40,396	-1.2	0.5	-1.2	4.6
Employment (K) (2)	Nov.	17,816	21.6	15.6	11.0	14.9
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	Nov.	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.2
Average weekly earnings (\$)	Sept.	918.2	0.3	0.4	1.1	1.9
Number of salaried employees (K) (2)	Sept.	15,445	-30.2	35.5	16.2	9.7
Consumer price (2002 = 100)	Nov.*	123.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.9
Excluding food and energy	Nov.*	117.5	-0.3	0.3	0.2	0.7
Excluding 8 volatile items	Nov.*	121.5	-0.1	0.2	0.2	1.1
Industrial product price (2002 = 100)	Oct.	116.1	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.8
Raw materials price (2002 = 100)	Oct.	165.7	-2.3	-2.5	2.1	0.4
Money supply M1+ (\$M)	Oct.	710,140	0.4	2.0	2.4	8.7

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; (2) Statistic shows the variation since the reference month.



## Major financial indicators

	Previous data (%)						Last 52 weeks (%)		
	Dec. 20	Dec. 13	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
<b>United States</b>									
Federal funds – target	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.14	0.06	0.00
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.37	0.32	0.28	0.33	0.36	0.27	0.51	0.30	0.20
– 5 years	1.65	1.53	1.36	1.47	1.40	0.73	1.83	1.14	0.65
– 10 years	2.90	2.87	2.75	2.73	2.51	1.75	2.97	2.30	1.63
– 30 years	3.85	3.88	3.84	3.76	3.57	2.92	3.92	3.42	2.83
S&P 500 index	1,818	1,775	1,805	1,710	1,592	1,430	1,818	1,632	1,402
DJIA index	16,253	15,755	16,065	15,451	14,799	13,191	16,253	14,918	12,938
Gold price (US\$/ounce)	1,205	1,236	1,245	1,338	1,290	1,657	1,693	1,422	1,196
CRB index	282.86	279.67	275.21	287.44	278.08	294.13	305.07	287.87	272.47
WTI oil (US\$/barrel)	99.04	96.26	94.53	104.70	93.81	88.20	110.62	97.75	86.65
<b>Canada</b>									
Overnight – target	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.91	0.93	0.94	0.99	1.02	0.93	1.03	0.97	0.89
Treasury bonds – 2 years	1.10	1.11	1.11	1.23	1.23	1.12	1.31	1.11	0.92
– 5 years	1.83	1.82	1.76	2.00	1.81	1.35	2.17	1.61	1.15
– 10 years	2.66	2.66	2.58	2.69	2.45	1.80	2.82	2.24	1.67
– 30 years	3.18	3.21	3.14	3.21	2.90	2.37	3.28	2.81	2.34
Spread with the U.S. rate (% points)									
Overnight – target	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.84	0.86	0.87	0.98	0.97	0.87	0.99	0.91	0.78
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.73	0.79	0.83	0.90	0.87	0.85	0.96	0.82	0.68
– 5 years	0.18	0.29	0.40	0.53	0.41	0.62	0.69	0.48	0.18
– 10 years	-0.23	-0.21	-0.17	-0.04	-0.06	0.05	0.08	-0.06	-0.23
– 30 years	-0.67	-0.67	-0.70	-0.55	-0.67	-0.55	-0.48	-0.61	-0.74
S&P/TSX index	13,491	13,126	13,478	12,806	11,996	12,386	13,491	12,719	11,837
Exchange rate (C\$/US\$)	1.0678	1.0586	1.0515	1.0305	1.0458	0.9933	1.0703	1.0278	0.9365
Exchange rate (C\$/€)	1.4606	1.4548	1.4256	1.3936	1.3723	1.3099	1.4647	1.3641	1.2811
<b>Overseas</b>									
ECB – Refinancing rate	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.57	0.25
BoE – Base rate	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
BoJ – Overnight rate	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Germany: Bonds – 10 years	1.86	1.83	1.75	1.93	1.70	1.39	2.02	1.61	1.19
U.K.: Bonds – 10 years	2.94	2.90	2.79	2.93	2.41	1.90	3.03	2.34	1.62
Euro: Exchange rate (US\$/€)	1.3680	1.3743	1.3559	1.3524	1.3123	1.3188	1.3805	1.3271	1.2781
U.K.: Exchange rate (US\$/£)	1.6361	1.6299	1.6226	1.6006	1.5419	1.6173	1.6446	1.5640	1.4867

CRB: Commodity Research Bureau; WTI: West Texas Intermediate; ECB: European Central Bank; BoE: Bank of England; BoJ: Bank of Japan  
 Note: Data taken at markets closing, with the exception of the current day where they were taken at 11:00 a.m.