

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

A Series of Bad Data Released in the United States

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ United States: The ISM indexes fell in March.
- ▶ United States: Very disappointing job creation.
- ▶ Canada: More job creation in March.
- ▶ Canada: The trade balance deteriorated in February.
- ▶ Canadian businesses are more optimistic.

A LOOK AHEAD

- ▶ U.S. consumer confidence is expected to decline.
- ▶ United States: Automobile sales should drag down retail sales.
- ▶ Gas prices could drive down the U.S. consumer price index.
- ▶ The Bank of Canada will leave its target rate at 0.50% and release its *Monetary Policy Report*.
- ▶ Canada: The drop in exports for certain goods could rein in manufacturing sales.
- ▶ Canada: The number of housing starts should remain high in March.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

- ▶ A host of surprises keep U.S. stock markets on the defensive.
- ▶ Bond yields barely react to new signals from the Federal Reserve on its balance sheet.
- ▶ The greenback continues to appreciate slightly, despite the disappointing jobs data in the United States.

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Key Statistics of the Week

UNITED STATES

- ▶ The establishment survey shows that only 98,000 net hires were recorded in March after gains of 219,000 jobs in February (downgraded from 235,000) and 216,000 in January (downgraded from 238,000). This is the weakest job creation since May 2016. Construction gained 6,000 jobs and manufacturing added 11,000 new hires. The resources sector also made 11,000 net hires. A total of 61,000 jobs were created in the private services sector, less than half of the 125,000 hires made in February.
- ▶ The jobless rate fell from 4.7% to 4.5%, its lowest level since May 2007. The household survey showed 472,000 new jobs while 145,000 people joined the labour force.
- ▶ After six months of successive increases, the ISM manufacturing index shed 0.5 of a point in March; it declined from 57.7 to 57.2, which is still relatively high. Five of the ten sub-indexes declined, with current production posting the biggest drop. However, we note a sharp rise in the employment component. The ISM non-manufacturing index, for its part, also declined in March to 55.2, its lowest level since October. Once again, the current production component declined the most. But it was not alone, new orders and employment kept it company.
- ▶ For the first time since the start of 2015, automobile sales declined for the third straight month in March. The monthly change was 5.5%, the worst in a year.
- ▶ Weekly jobless claims declined for the week ending April 1st, from 259,000 to only 234,000.
- ▶ Construction spending was up 0.8% in February, after a 0.4% (upgraded from -1.0%) decline in January. Construction spending on the residential side jumped 1.8% while private, non-residential construction was down 0.3%. Public construction advanced by 0.6%.
- ▶ In line with the preliminary numbers on the trade in goods, the U.S. goods and services trade balance improved in February, moving from -US\$48.2B in January to -US\$43.6B. Nominal exports rose 0.2%, while imports declined 1.8%.

Francis Généreux, Senior economist

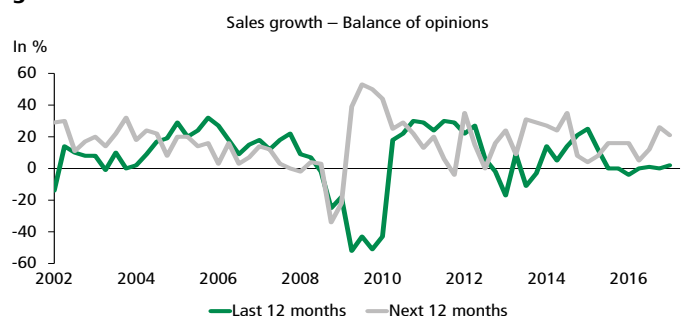
CANADA

- ▶ The Canadian labour market saw 19,400 jobs created in March. While most forecasters expected some lost momentum after strong advances in recent months, the labour market once again demonstrated resilience with greater-than-expected job creation. The participation rate ticked up from 65.8% to 65.9%, nudging the unemployment rate up from 6.6% to 6.7%.
- ▶ Merchandise exports declined 2.4% in February, due to the fairly widespread declines in most areas of activity. This decline stems mainly from exports to the United States (-1.2%), Japan (-7.6%) and China (-17.3%). In line with the rise in domestic demand, imports continued their ascent, with a 0.6% gain. As such, the trade balance fell from +\$0.42B to -\$0.97B.
- ▶ According to the Bank of Canada's *Business Outlook Survey*, businesses are fairly neutral about the pace of their sales growth in the past 12 months, but most of them expect their sales growth to keep accelerating in the next 12 months. Intentions with regard to investments in machinery and equipment have greatly improved while the balance of opinions reached its highest level since the summer of 2010. Hiring intentions have also stayed quite strong.

Benoit P. Durocher, Senior economist

CANADA

The outlooks for future business sales growth are still quite good



Sources: Bank of Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

Financial Markets

The Federal Reserve lays the groundwork to reduce its balance sheet

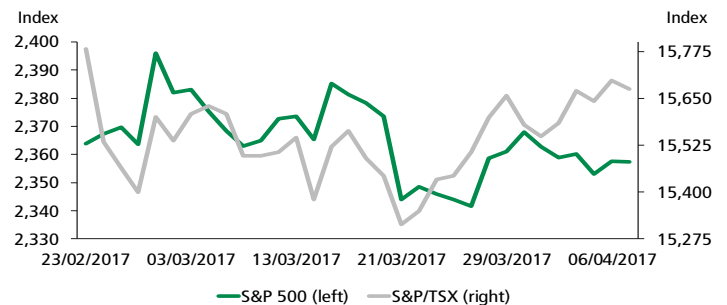
The new quarter got off to a bumpy start. On Monday, the S&P 500 tumbled 0.7% on the decline in the ISM manufacturing index and very disappointing vehicle sales. Volatility was back on Wednesday. The ADP employment indicator, which exceeded expectations by far, renewed the optimism at first, but the stock markets retreated once the Federal Reserve (Fed) signalled that it could start reducing its securities holdings this year. Paul Ryan, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, indicated that discussions on tax reform could be difficult, which also hindered confidence. The U.S. airstrikes in Syria on Thursday evening did not rattle the markets too much. In the end, the S&P 500 was heading toward a weekly loss of 0.2%. Canada's stock market took advantage of the sustained run-up in oil prices, ending the week with close to a 1.0% gain.

With the stock market's momentum trading water in the United States, bond yields are trending downward. The minutes of the Fed meeting, viewed as slightly hawkish, did not manage to reverse the trend. Geopolitical tensions and the disappointing data on U.S. jobs temporarily pushed the 10-year bond yields below 2.30% on Friday morning, a level not reached since last November. In Canada, the job market data instead exceeded expectations, and Canadian yields fell slightly less than their U.S. counterparts.

The week was relative calm in the currency markets. A little more volatility was seen on Friday, following the U.S. bombing raid in Syria and the release of jobs data in the United States. At the time of writing, the greenback is benefiting from the safe haven effect. The disappointing job numbers weakened the U.S. dollar only temporarily. Markets also seemed to be comforted by the new cyclical low of 4.5% for the jobless rate. The euro fell below US\$1.06, and the pound below US\$1.24. This week, the loonie crossed under US\$0.75 once again, despite the rise in oil prices. The solid jobs data released in Canada on Friday helped the loonie gain some of the ground lost earlier.

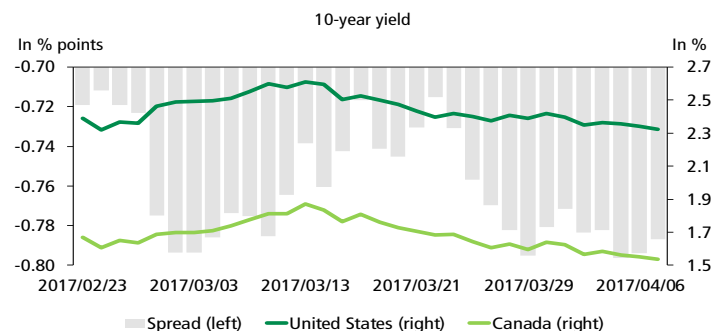
Jimmy Jean, CFA, Senior economist
Hendrix Vachon, Senior economist

GRAPH 1
Stock markets



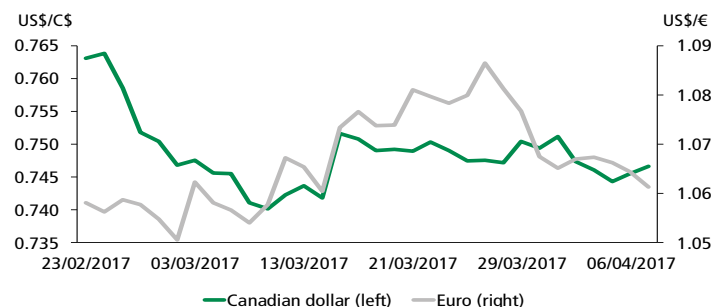
Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

GRAPH 2
Bond markets



Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

GRAPH 3
Currency markets



Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

A Look Ahead

THURSDAY April 13 - 10:00

April	
Consensus	96.5
Desjardins	94.0
March	96.9

FRIDAY April 14 - 8:30

March	m/m
Consensus	0.0%
Desjardins	-0.1%
February	0.1%

FRIDAY April 14 - 8:30

March	m/m
Consensus	0.1%
Desjardins	-0.1%
February	0.1%

MONDAY April 10 - 8:15

March	ann. rate
Consensus	215,500
Desjardins	205,000
February	210,210

WEDNESDAY April 12 - 10:00

April	
Consensus	0.50%
Desjardins	0.50%
March 1st	0.50%

UNITED STATES

University of Michigan consumer confidence index (April – preliminary) – After falling in February, the University of Michigan consumer confidence index improved slightly in March. It is still at a relatively high level, even though it has not reached the heights of the Conference Board consumer confidence index. However, we expect confidence to decline sharply during April. A decrease in optimism seems to want to take hold. We already see this in the April IBD/TIPP tracking index. In addition, the Bloomberg weekly index is also down since mid-March. This also reflects poorer performance of stock indexes during the same period. Lastly, we note a recent increase in gas prices. All these elements should mean that the University of Michigan confidence index could go from 96.9 to 94.0, which would be its lowest level since November.

Consumer price index (March) – After its strong 0.6% jump in January, the consumer price index (CPI) experienced a lull in February, only rising 0.1%. This deceleration should continue in March. We also expect a significant negative contribution from gas prices. Prices at the pump increased 0.7% last month, but a monthly increase of over 7% is normally recorded during March. Therefore, seasonal adjustments will cause gas and, by extension, energy prices to post a sharp decrease. We expect food prices to increase slightly. We expect the core CPI, which excludes food and energy, to have a monthly gain of 0.2%, as it did in January and February. Total CPI should shrink 0.1%, pushing its annual change from 2.7% to 2.6%. However, core inflation could tick up from 2.2% to 2.3%.

Retail sales (March) – The advance in retail sales has been fairly disappointing for a few months now, particularly compared against the good performance of consumer confidence indexes since the fall. We even expect sales to fall 0.1% in March. Auto sales should post a notable decrease if we rely on data released at the beginning of the month on the number of new vehicles. The seasonally adjusted decrease in prices at the pump should lead to a decrease in the value of service station sales. We nevertheless expect a rebound in food services after a disappointing February. However, the storm that hit the eastern United States in mid-March introduces some risk in that respect. Excluding autos and gas, sales are expected to go up 0.4%, which would outperform February. Total retail sales should post a 0.1% decrease.

CANADA

Housing starts (March) – Since last fall, the number of housing starts has remained very high, and all signs point to a continuation of the trend in March. That said, the number of housing starts reached an exceptionally high level in February. As such, despite the favourable trend, a small dip in housing starts is likely in March. This adjustment toward the trend could be observed especially among single-family dwellings in urban areas.

Bank of Canada meeting (April) – Similar to recent months, the monetary authorities should again opt for the status quo on their key interest rates next Wednesday. Attention will be more focused on the release of the *Monetary Policy Report*, which will include an update of the Bank of Canada's (BoC) economic scenario. Recent movement in economic indicators largely exceeded expectations, and it will be interesting to see to what extent monetary authorities are taking note. Recently, the BoC's governor nonetheless suggested that the good results of recent months may be attributable to some volatility, and that he was not convinced that the Canadian economy's trend had really improved. One thing is certain: we will have to wait for the BoC to continue emphasizing the number of downside risks that are weighing on the outlook for Canadian economic growth.

THURSDAY April 13 - 8:30

February	m/m
Consensus	-0.7%
Desjardins	0.2%
January	0.6%

Manufacturing sales (February) – Based on international merchandise trade data, export of automobile products and industrial machinery, equipment and parts advanced in February. This suggests an increase in manufacturing sales for these sectors. However, manufacturing sales could suffer from the sharp decrease in exports of aviation and energy products. If we take into account the slightly upward trend for the other components, total manufacturing sales could tick up slightly in February.


OVERSEAS**TUESDAY April 11 - 4:30**


March	m/m
Consensus	0.3%
February	0.7%

United Kingdom: Consumer price index (March) – Consumer prices have accelerated almost everywhere in the world in recent months, but the effect is even more pronounced in the United Kingdom. The pound's depreciation following the results of the Brexit referendum triggered an increase in the price of imports, which is increasingly appearing in consumer prices. The monthly 0.7% increase in February was the sharpest gain since December 2010. The data for March will tell us if this trend continued.

Economic Indicators

Week of April 10 to 14, 2017

Day	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data
UNITED STATES						
MONDAY 10	16:00	Speech of the Federal Reserve Chairman, J. Yellen				
TUESDAY 11	13:45	Speech of the Minneapolis Fed President, N. Kashkari				
WEDNESDAY 12	8:30	Export prices (m/m)	March	n/a	-0.2%	0.3%
	8:30	Import prices (m/m)	March	-0.3%	-0.6%	0.2%
	10:00	Speech of the Dallas Fed President, R. Kaplan				
	14:00	Federal budget (US\$B)	March	-150.0	n/a	-108.0
THURSDAY 13	8:30	Initial unemployment claims	April 3-7	245,000	245,000	234,000
	8:30	Producer price index				
		Total (m/m)	March	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
		Excluding food and energy (m/m)	March	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	10:00	Michigan's consumer sentiment index – preliminary	April	96.5	94.0	96.9
FRIDAY 14	8:30	Consumer price index				
		Total (m/m)	March	0.0%	-0.1%	0.1%
		Excluding food and energy (m/m)	March	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
		Total (y/y)	March	2.6%	2.6%	2.7%
		Excluding food and energy (y/y)	March	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%
	8:30	Retail sales				
		Total (m/m)	March	0.1%	-0.1%	0.1%
		Excluding automobiles (m/m)	March	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
	10:00	Business inventories (m/m)	Feb.	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
CANADA						
MONDAY 10	8:15	Housing starts (ann. rate)	March	215,500	205,000	210,210
TUESDAY 11	---	---				
WEDNESDAY 12	10:00	Bank of Canada meeting	April	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
	10:00	Release of the Bank of Canada <i>Monetary Policy Report</i>				
THURSDAY 13	8:30	New housing price index (m/m)	Feb.	n/a	0.1%	0.1%
	8:30	Manufacturing sales (m/m)	Feb.	-0.7%	0.2%	0.6%
FRIDAY 14	---	Markets closed (Good Friday)				

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. The times shown are Daylight Saving Time (GMT - 4 hours).  Forecast of Desjardins, Economic Studies of the Desjardins Group.

Economic Indicators

Week of April 10 to 14, 2017

Country	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data		
				m/m (q/q)	y/y	m/m (q/q)	y/y	
OVERSEAS								
DURING THE WEEK								
China	---	Trade balance (US\$B)	March	12.50		-9.15		
SUNDAY 9								
Japan	19:50	Current account (¥B)	Feb.	1,788.8		1,259.8		
MONDAY 10								
Italy	4:00	Industrial production	Feb.	1.4%	2.6%	-2.3%	-0.5%	
TUESDAY 11								
United Kingdom	4:30	Consumer price index	March	0.3%	2.3%	0.7%	2.3%	
United Kingdom	4:30	Producer price index	March	0.1%	3.4%	0.2%	3.7%	
Euro zone	5:00	Industrial production	Feb.	0.1%	1.9%	0.9%	0.6%	
Germany	5:00	ZEW survey – Current situation	April	77.5		77.3		
Germany	5:00	ZEW survey – Expectations	April	14.0		12.8		
Japan	19:50	Machinery orders	Feb.	3.7%	2.5%	-3.2%	-8.2%	
Japan	19:50	Producer price index	March	0.3%	1.4%	0.2%	1.0%	
China	21:30	Consumer price index	March		1.0%		0.8%	
China	21:30	Producer price index	March		7.5%		7.8%	
WEDNESDAY 12								
Brazil	---	Bank of Brazil meeting	April	11.25%		12.25%		
United Kingdom	4:30	ILO unemployment rate	Feb.	4.7%		4.7%		
Mexico	10:00	Minutes of the Bank of Mexico meeting						
THURSDAY 13								
South Korea	---	Bank of Korea meeting	April	1.25%		1.25%		
Germany	2:00	Consumer price index – final	March	0.2%	1.6%	0.2%	1.6%	
France	2:45	Consumer price index – final	March	0.6%	1.1%	0.6%	1.1%	
FRIDAY 14								
Japan	0:30	Industrial production – final	Feb.	n/a	n/a	2.0%	4.8%	

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. The times shown are Daylight Saving Time (GMT - 4 hours).

UNITED STATES
Quarterly economic indicators

	REF. QUART.	LEVEL	VARIATION (%)		ANNUAL VARIATION (%)		
			Quart. ann.	1 year	2016	2015	2014
Gross domestic product (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	16,813	2.1	2.0	1.6	2.6	2.4
Consumption (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	11,670	3.5	3.1	2.7	3.2	2.9
Government spending (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	2,908	0.2	0.2	0.8	1.8	-0.9
Residential investment (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	596.0	9.6	1.1	4.9	11.7	3.5
Non-residential investment (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	2,197	0.9	-0.1	-0.5	2.1	6.0
Business inventory change (2009 \$B) ¹	2016 Q4	49.6	---	---	22.0	84.0	57.7
Exports (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	2,137	-4.5	1.5	0.4	0.1	4.3
Imports (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	2,742	8.9	2.6	1.2	4.6	4.4
Final domestic demand (2009 \$B)	2016 Q4	17,351	2.8	2.1	2.1	3.1	2.6
GDP deflator (2009 = 100)	2016 Q4	112.2	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.8
Labor productivity (2009 = 100)	2016 Q4	107.4	1.5	1.0	0.3	0.9	0.8
Unit labor cost (2009 = 100)	2016 Q4	111.2	1.7	2.0	2.6	2.0	2.0
Employment cost index (Dec. 2005 = 100)	2016 Q4	128.0	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
Current account balance (\$B) ¹	2016 Q4	-112.4	---	---	-481.2	-463.0	-392.1

¹ Statistics representing the level during the period; * New statistic in comparison with last week.

UNITED STATES
Monthly economic indicators

	REF. MONTH	LEVEL	VARIATION (%)			
			-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year
Leading indicator (2010 = 100)	Feb.	126.2	0.6	1.8	2.3	3.1
ISM manufacturing index ¹	March*	57.2	57.7	54.5	51.7	51.7
ISM non-manufacturing index ¹	March*	55.2	57.6	56.6	56.6	54.9
Cons. confidence Conference Board (1985 = 100) ¹	March	125.6	116.1	113.3	103.5	96.1
Personal consumption expenditure (2009 \$B)	Feb.	11,676	-0.1	0.1	1.1	2.6
Disposable personal income (2009 \$B)	Feb.	12,831	0.2	0.2	0.8	2.3
Consumer credit (\$B)	Jan.	3,773	0.2	1.3	3.1	6.3
Retail sales (\$M)	Feb.	473,991	0.1	1.7	3.6	5.7
<i>Excluding automobiles (\$M)</i>	Feb.	376,276	0.2	1.8	3.5	5.7
Industrial production (2007 = 100)	Feb.	103.7	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.4
Production capacity utilization rate (%) ¹	Feb.	75.9	75.9	75.6	75.8	75.9
New machinery orders (\$M)	Feb.*	476,493	1.0	3.9	4.9	7.3
New durable good orders (\$M)	Feb.	235,964	1.8	3.4	3.7	5.3
Business inventories (\$B)	Jan.	1,841	0.3	1.5	1.6	2.3
Housing starts (k) ¹	Feb.	1,288	1,251	1,149	1,164	1,213
Building permits (k) ¹	Feb.	1,216	1,293	1,212	1,152	1,162
New home sales (k) ¹	Feb.	592.0	558.0	573.0	559.0	525.0
Existing home sales (k) ¹	Feb.	5,480	5,690	5,600	5,340	5,200
Commercial surplus (\$M) ¹	Feb.*	-43,557	-48,173	-45,484	-40,513	-45,588
Nonfarm employment (k) ²	March*	145,858	98.0	533.0	976.0	2,185
Unemployment rate (%) ¹	March*	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.9	5.0
Consumer price (1982-1984 = 100)	Feb.	244.5	0.1	0.9	1.7	2.8
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Feb.	251.3	0.2	0.7	1.2	2.2
Personal cons. expenditure deflator (2009 = 100)	Feb.	112.2	0.1	0.7	1.2	2.1
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Feb.	112.6	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.8
Producer price (2009 = 100)	Feb.	112.2	0.3	1.1	1.7	2.2
Export prices (2000 = 100)	Feb.	121.9	0.3	0.9	1.5	3.1
Import prices (2000 = 100)	Feb.	122.6	0.2	1.2	1.7	4.6

¹ Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; ² Statistic shows the variation since the reference month; * New statistic in comparison with last week.

CANADA
Quarterly economic indicators

	REF. QUART.	LEVEL	VARIATION (%)		ANNUAL VARIATION (%)		
			Quart. ann.	1 year	2016	2015	2014
Gross domestic product (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	1,811,213	2.6	1.9	1.4	0.9	2.6
Household consumption (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	1,034,553	2.6	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.8
Government consumption (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	351,614	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.5	0.8
Residential investment (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	125,127	4.8	2.4	2.9	3.8	2.7
Non-residential investment (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	160,851	-17.4	-7.0	-8.4	-11.5	3.2
Business inventory change (2007 \$M) ¹	2016 Q4	-4,365	---	---	-1,038	3,861	9,392
Exports (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	582,790	1.3	0.8	1.1	3.4	5.8
Imports (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	559,480	-13.5	-1.3	-1.0	0.3	2.2
Final domestic demand (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	1,783,789	0.4	1.2	0.9	0.3	1.9
GDP deflator (2007 = 100)	2016 Q4	114.2	4.3	1.9	0.6	-0.8	1.9
Labour productivity (2007 = 100)	2016 Q4	108.0	1.4	1.6	0.7	-0.5	2.6
Unit labour cost (2007 = 100)	2016 Q4	116.4	2.7	0.6	0.9	2.2	0.9
Current account balance (\$M) ¹	2016 Q4	-10,726	---	---	-67,695	-67,553	-48,207
Production capacity utilization rate (%) ¹	2016 Q4	82.2	---	---	81.0	80.8	82.4
Disposable personal income (\$M)	2016 Q4	1,190,700	6.3	4.0	3.8	4.4	3.2
Corporate net operating surplus (2007 \$M)	2016 Q4	239,580	28.8	12.0	-4.5	-19.5	8.2

¹ Statistics representing the level during the period; * New statistic in comparison with last week.

CANADA
Monthly economic indicators

	REF. MONTH	LEVEL	VARIATION (%)			
			-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year
Gross domestic product (2007 \$M)	Jan.	1,709,738	0.6	1.5	2.0	2.3
Industrial production (2007 \$M)	Jan.	364,768	1.5	3.3	4.6	3.4
Manufacturing sales (\$M)	Jan.	53,816	0.6	5.0	6.0	2.7
Housing starts (k) ¹	Feb.	210.2	208.9	187.5	183.7	218.6
Building permits (\$M)	Feb.*	7,450	-2.5	-1.5	-0.6	3.9
Retail sales (\$M)	Jan.	45,952	2.2	2.0	4.2	4.5
<i>Excluding automobiles (\$M)</i>	Jan.	34,098	1.7	1.1	3.0	4.6
Wholesale trade sales (\$M)	Jan.	59,089	3.3	3.6	4.9	4.7
Commercial surplus (\$M) ¹	Feb.*	-972.1	421.4	1,088	-1,952	-2,259
<i>Exports (\$M)</i>	Feb.*	45,340	-2.4	-1.8	3.7	4.4
<i>Imports (\$M)</i>	Feb.*	46,312	0.6	2.7	1.4	1.4
Employment (k) ²	March*	18,308	19.4	27.7	28.9	23.0
Unemployment rate (%) ¹	March*	6.7	6.6	6.9	7.0	7.1
Average weekly earnings (\$)	Jan.	967.2	-0.4	1.4	1.5	1.8
Number of salaried employees (k) ²	Jan.	16,090	-5.4	27.3	18.8	20.5
Consumer price (2002 = 100)	Feb.	129.7	0.2	0.9	0.8	2.0
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Feb.	124.8	0.4	0.6	0.8	2.0
<i>Excluding 8 volatile items</i>	Feb.	129.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.7
Industrial product price (2002 = 100)	Feb.	113.0	0.1	1.0	2.7	3.5
Raw materials price (2002 = 100)	Feb.	101.1	1.2	9.7	11.3	23.7
Money supply M1+ (\$M)	Feb.	902,086	-0.3	1.6	4.2	9.0

¹ Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; ² Statistic shows the variation since the reference month; * New statistic in comparison with last week.

UNITED STATES, CANADA, OVERSEAS
Major financial indicators

IN % (EXPECTED IF INDICATED)	ACTUAL	PREVIOUS DATA					LAST 52 WEEKS		
	April 7	March 31	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
United States									
Federal funds – target	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.60	0.50
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.80	0.75	0.73	0.52	0.32	0.23	0.80	0.41	0.18
Treasury bonds – 2 years	1.25	1.24	1.35	1.22	0.85	0.71	1.38	0.94	0.56
– 5 years	1.85	1.92	2.10	1.92	1.27	1.16	2.13	1.49	0.94
– 10 years	2.32	2.40	2.58	2.42	1.73	1.72	2.61	1.98	1.36
– 30 years	2.97	3.02	3.16	3.00	2.47	2.56	3.19	2.69	2.11
S&P 500 index (level)	2,357	2,363	2,373	2,277	2,154	2,048	2,396	2,193	2,001
DJIA index (level)	20,656	20,663	20,903	19,964	18,240	17,577	21,116	18,913	17,140
Gold price (US\$/ounce)	1,266	1,247	1,200	1,174	1,253	1,242	1,369	1,258	1,127
CRB index (level)	186.93	185.88	182.65	193.54	188.32	171.04	195.82	186.95	171.83
WTI oil (US\$/barrel)	52.23	50.54	48.05	53.98	49.76	39.74	54.48	48.13	39.50
Canada									
Overnight – target	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.55	0.52	0.49	0.44	0.50	0.47	0.56	0.50	0.42
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.72	0.75	0.84	0.77	0.59	0.57	0.88	0.65	0.47
– 5 years	1.07	1.12	1.27	1.13	0.73	0.72	1.32	0.86	0.53
– 10 years	1.54	1.62	1.81	1.73	1.17	1.23	1.87	1.39	0.95
– 30 years	2.21	2.30	2.48	2.32	1.82	1.95	2.53	2.02	1.55
<u>Spread with the U.S. rate (% points)</u>									
Overnight – target	-0.50	-0.50	-0.25	-0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-0.50
Treasury bill – 3 months	-0.25	-0.23	-0.24	-0.08	0.18	0.24	0.35	0.09	-0.30
Treasury bonds – 2 years	-0.52	-0.49	-0.51	-0.45	-0.25	-0.14	-0.06	-0.30	-0.55
– 5 years	-0.79	-0.80	-0.83	-0.79	-0.54	-0.44	-0.38	-0.63	-0.89
– 10 years	-0.79	-0.77	-0.76	-0.69	-0.57	-0.49	-0.31	-0.60	-0.82
– 30 years	-0.76	-0.71	-0.68	-0.69	-0.65	-0.61	-0.52	-0.67	-0.88
S&P/TSX index (level)	15,674	15,548	15,507	15,496	14,566	13,397	15,922	14,778	13,423
Exchange rate (C\$/US\$)	1.3394	1.3313	1.3471	1.3237	1.3298	1.2988	1.3575	1.3112	0.7466
Exchange rate (C\$/€)	1.4212	1.4181	1.4376	1.3942	1.4895	1.4808	1.4929	1.4332	0.0000
Overseas									
<u>Euro zone</u>									
ECB – Refinancing rate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Exchange rate (US\$/€)	1.0613	1.0652	1.0672	1.0533	1.1201	1.1402	1.1532	1.0957	1.0387
<u>United Kingdom</u>									
BoE – Base rate	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.33	0.25
Bonds – 10 years	1.07	1.07	1.16	1.39	0.97	1.37	1.66	1.17	0.61
FTSE index (level)	7,336	7,323	7,343	7,210	7,044	6,204	7,430	6,818	5,924
Exchange rate (US\$/£)	1.2391	1.2550	1.2172	1.2287	1.2434	1.4127	1.4879	1.3037	1.2049
<u>Germany</u>									
Bonds – 10 years	0.23	0.33	0.49	0.22	-0.05	0.10	0.49	0.11	-0.22
DAX index (level)	12,203	12,313	11,963	11,599	10,491	9,622	12,313	10,784	9,269
<u>Japan</u>									
BoJ – Overnight rate	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10
Nikkei index (level)	18,665	18,909	19,605	19,454	16,860	15,822	19,634	17,581	14,952
Exchange rate (US\$/¥)	110.72	111.40	114.75	116.93	102.92	108.06	118.18	108.38	99.89

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.