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 30 November 2005  
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# the CHICAGO Report

National Association of Purchasing Management—Chicago

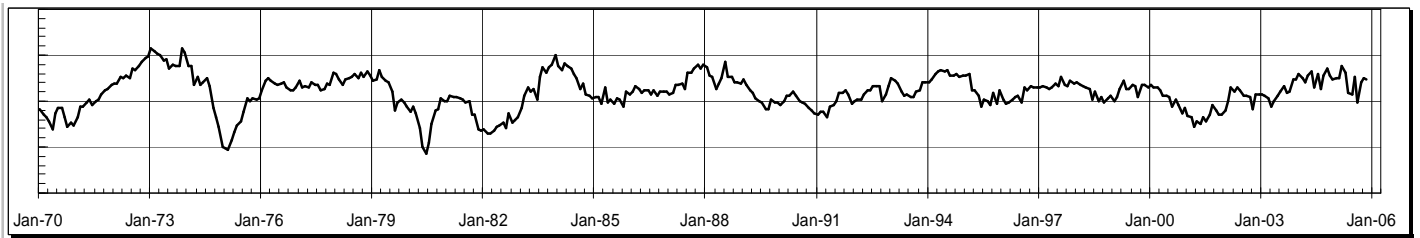
**2005**  
**November**

## CHICAGO BUSINESS BAROMETER™ Slips Slightly

The Chicago Purchasing Managers report the Chicago Business Barometer slipped slightly to 61.7, exactly the average of the prior two months.

- PRODUCTION and NEW ORDERS rate of growth slowed;
- PRICES PAID exploded with help from seasonal adjustment;
- BUYING POLICY: CAPITAL EQUIPMENT lead-times shortened again.

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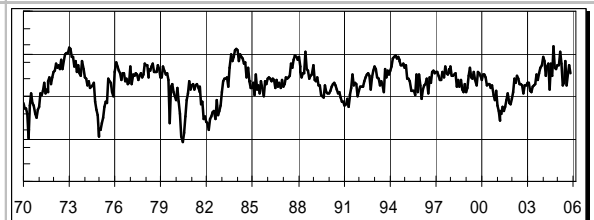
Note: readings in **red** (below) indicate values worse than the prior month

Business Barometer		2005					
	3 month average ↑	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Index		57.7	62.3	51.3	59.3	60.7	59.3
Index	Seasonally Adjusted	53.6	63.5	49.2	60.5	62.9	61.7

Next Release:  
**29 December 2005**

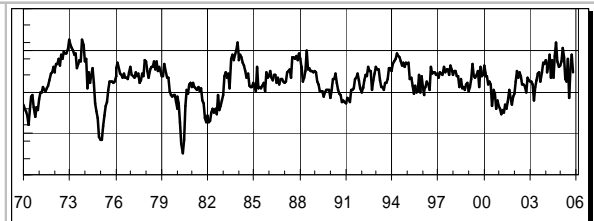
Production		2005					
	3 month average ↑	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Higher		41	47	40	40	43	44
Same		46	42	32	47	38	36
Lower		13	11	28	13	19	20
Index		64.0	68.0	56.0	63.5	62.0	62.0
Index	Seasonally Adjusted	57.8	70.5	56.2	62.4	68.3	63.8

Gives up some of last month's gain



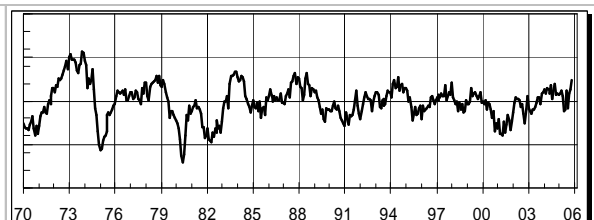
New Orders		2005					
	3 month average ↑	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
More		40	53	34	42	50	44
Same		42	31	31	40	28	31
Fewer		18	16	35	18	22	25
Index		61.0	68.5	49.5	62.0	64.0	59.5
Index	Seasonally Adjusted	56.5	69.6	46.5	63.4	72.6	61.6

Significant drop



Order Backlogs		2005					
	3 month average ↑	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Larger		22	31	24	31	38	36
Same		54	51	50	44	39	42
Smaller		24	18	26	25	23	22
Index		49.0	56.5	49	53	57.5	57
Index	Seasonally Adjusted	45.3	56.1	45.7	54.3	56.9	62.0

Highest since July 1994

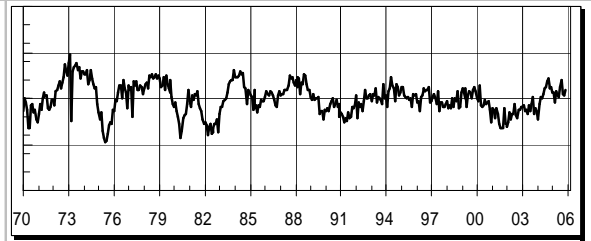


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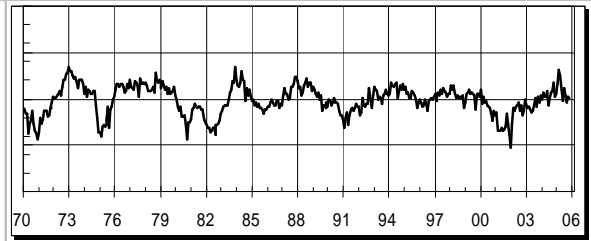
Inventories		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	3 month average ↓						
	Larger	27	24	36	29	19	30
	Same	49	62	50	47	52	47
	Smaller	24	14	14	24	29	23
	Index	51.5	55.0	61.0	52.5	45.0	53.5
	Index Seasonally Adjusted	50.9	56.4	60.3	52.3	51.7	54.4

Modest increase



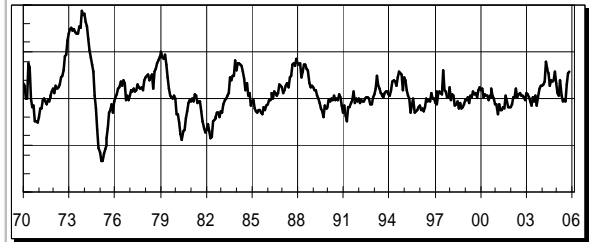
Employment		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	3 month average ↓						
	More	29	24	21	17	12	17
	Same	52	58	61	65	73	66
	Fewer	19	18	18	18	15	17
	Index	55.0	53.0	51.5	49.5	48.5	50.0
	Index Seasonally Adjusted	48.9	56.1	51.7	48.4	51.3	50.3

Essentially flat



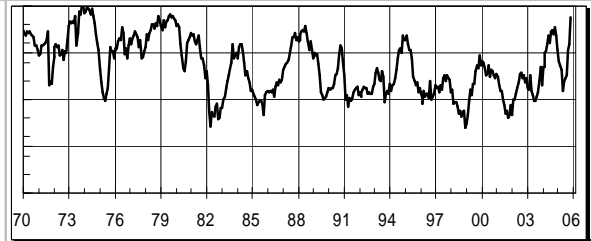
Supplier Deliveries		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	3 month average ↑						
	Faster	13	8	10	2	4	6
	Same	74	84	80	79	68	62
	Slower	13	8	10	19	28	32
	Index	50.0	50.0	50.0	58.5	62.0	63.0
	Index Seasonally Adjusted	48.5	49.6	48.7	57.4	63.6	64.2

Minimal advance



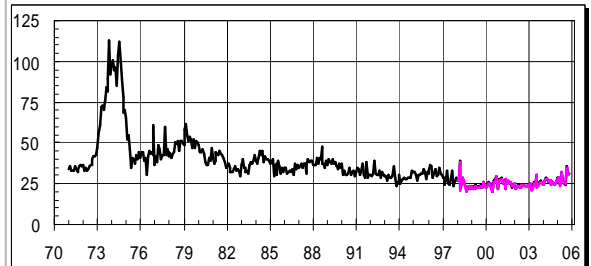
Prices Paid		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	3 month average ↑						
	Higher	36	30	34	52	62	67
	Same	49	59	55	43	32	30
	Lower	15	11	11	5	6	3
	Index	60.5	59.5	61.5	73.5	78.0	82.0
	Index Seasonally Adjusted	59.7	61.3	62.9	76.3	79.6	94.1

Hits 26 year high



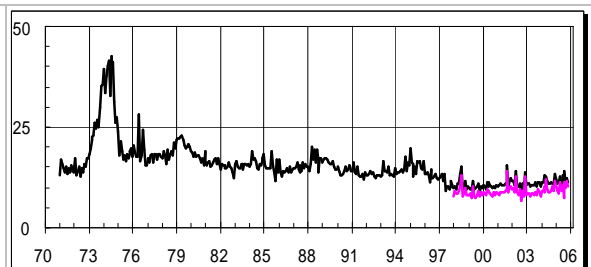
Buying Policy: Production Materials		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	less than 11 days ↓	44	36	31	37	30	35
	11-15 days	15	17	9	5	11	14
	16-30 days	17	23	24	27	23	22
	31-60 days	15	17	21	19	25	19
	more than 60 days	9	7	15	12	11	10
	Average Days	26.4	24.0	33.8	33.8	31.0	28.2
	Days Seasonally Adjusted	24.9	24.9	34.6	34.7	30.2	31.5

Small increase



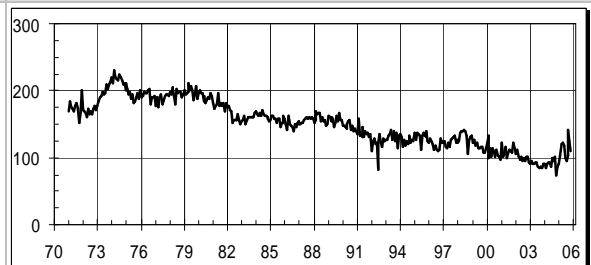
M.R.O. Supplies		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	0-1 day ↓	18	17	10	7	13	12
	2-3 days	26	27	20	23	18	16
	4-5 days	26	18	24	29	16	22
	6-10 days	13	19	16	13	21	22
	more than 10 days	17	19	30	28	32	28
	Average Days	9.8	7.8	12.0	10.8	11.7	9.3
	Days Seasonally Adjusted	10.5	7.6	11.3	10.0	11.5	10.3

Gives up October gain



Capital Equipment		2005					
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	15 days ↑	11	14	5	4	6	9
	30 days	16	7	7	5	7	3
	60 days	18	13	23	13	18	21
	90 days	23	42	36	34	25	36
	6mths-1year	32	24	29	44	44	31
	Average Days	103.1	95.2	105.7	133.4	129.5	109.0
	Days Seasonally Adjusted	99.2	95.2	104.3	142.3	125.5	110.2

Continues to fall



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