

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## Canadian Economy Showed Great Resilience at the End of 2020

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ United States: Economy sputters in the fourth quarter.
- ▶ The Federal Reserve seems increasingly concerned about the current situation.
- ▶ Canada: Real GDP by industry rose 0.7% in November.

### A LOOK AHEAD

- ▶ United States: Modest job creation is expected for January.
- ▶ United States: ISM index decreases are expected.
- ▶ Canada: Further job losses are expected in January, pushing the unemployment rate higher.

### FINANCIAL MARKETS

- ▶ The stock markets were down after a week marked by speculation.
- ▶ The positive economic figures are pulling Canadian bond yields up.
- ▶ The U.S. dollar did not gain much from the turbulence on the market.

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# Key Statistics of the Week

## UNITED STATES

- ▶ The Federal Reserve did not change its monetary policy at its meeting ended Wednesday. However, it seems more worried about the economic situation in the very short term and has reiterated its willingness to do more if necessary.
- ▶ U.S. real GDP rose 4.0% annualized between the third and fourth quarters of 2020. For 2020 as a whole, real GDP fell 3.5%, the worst decline since 1946.
- ▶ U.S. real household consumption dropped 0.6% in December after falling 0.7% in November. Households' real disposable income nevertheless rose 0.2%.
- ▶ According to the Conference Board index, U.S. consumer confidence improved in January. The index was up from 87.1 in December to 89.3 the following month, which is still low.
- ▶ New durable goods orders rose just 0.2% in December, after gaining 1.2% in November. The transportation sector saw a 1.0% decrease, while civil aviation orders missed forecasts by plunging 51.8%. Excluding transportation, orders were up 0.7%.
- ▶ New single-family home sales rose 1.6% in December, their first increase since July. Annualized sales climbed from 829,000 in November to 842,000 in December.
- ▶ The S&P/Case-Shiller Index in the 20 largest cities saw strong growth of 1.4% in November after gains of 1.6% in October, 1.5% in September and 1.4% in August. This is the first time since 2013 that the index posted four consecutive increases of more than 1%. The annual variation jumped from 8.0% to 9.1%, the highest since May 2014.
- ▶ The Conference Board's leading indicator was up 0.3% in December after gaining 0.7% in November. The main positive contribution came from the ISM index, followed by the stock market. For the first time since April, new jobless claims were a drain on the monthly variation in the leading indicator.

Francis Généreux, Senior economist

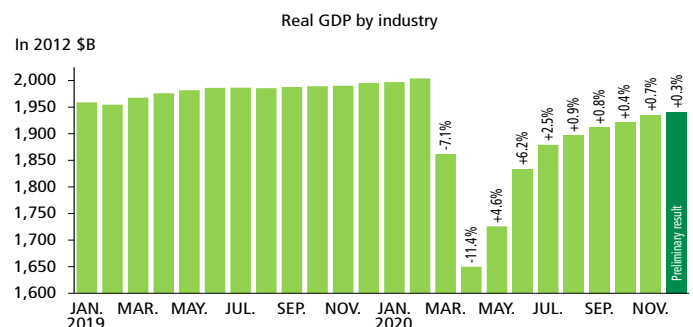
## CANADA

- ▶ Real GDP by industry climbed 0.7% in November, surpassing the preliminary result of 0.4% for the month. According to Statistics Canada, the preliminary results indicate that real GDP by industry increased about 0.3% in December. Statistics Canada's preliminary results also indicate that the fourth quarter ended with real GDP growth of about 1.9%, which works out to a 7.8% annualized quarterly gain. On average, 2020 could wrap up with a 5.1% decline.

Benoit P. Durocher, Senior economist

## CANADA

### Real GDP continued rising throughout the fourth quarter of 2020



Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

# Financial Markets

## A Strange Frenzy Has Taken Hold of the Financial Markets

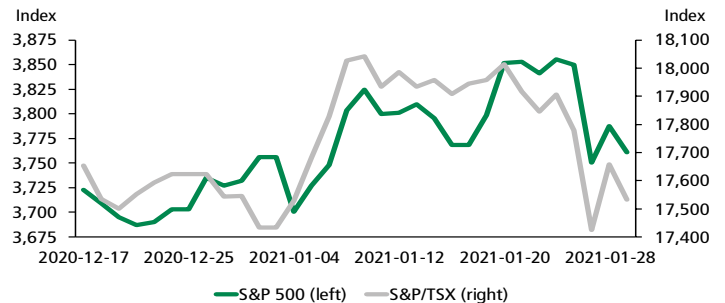
The financial markets made the headlines this week as speculation pushed certain securities to absurd heights. This turmoil is perhaps best exemplified by what is happening with the stock of GameStop (GME), a video game retailer posting losses, over which a real tug-of-war is taking place between buyers and sellers. A number of investors, including a large group of small players organized on a Reddit discussion group, pounced on the security hoping to take advantage of the woes of short sellers who were counting on it to collapse. At the time of writing, the buyers had the upper hand, as the security gained close to 500% over the week, despite the imposition of restrictions by a number of brokerage firms. This type of speculative activity did not reassure the markets and brought back memories of the frenzy that preceded the burst of the tech bubble in 2000. The major stock markets posted weekly drops on Friday morning, also pulled down by the disappointing results regarding the effectiveness of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The S&P 500, Dow Jones and NASDAQ indexes were all down more than 2%, while the drop in the Canadian S&P/TSX index was slightly below that mark.

U.S. bond markets ended the week on a standstill. The drops of several basis points in long-term rates at the beginning of the week, and in the wake of the Federal Reserve meeting, were made up on Thursday and Friday. In Canada, the positive surprise regarding GDP growth in November pulled up 10-year bond yields to 0.90% on Friday morning, for a gain of nearly 7 basis points over the week.

Helped by greater volatility in the financial markets, the U.S. dollar rebounded during Wednesday's session. It then resumed a downward trajectory, but nevertheless was up somewhat on Friday over last week's closing level. The euro, which started the week at close to US\$1.22, dropped again to under US\$1.21 on Wednesday. It was hovering slightly below US\$1.215 at the time of writing. The pound sterling recovered better after Wednesday's shock. It was back at over US\$1.37 on Friday morning. The Canadian dollar fell to its lowest level since the beginning of the year, at under US\$0.78. However, it made back some of the ground it had lost at the time of writing, likely helped by the good economic data in Canada.

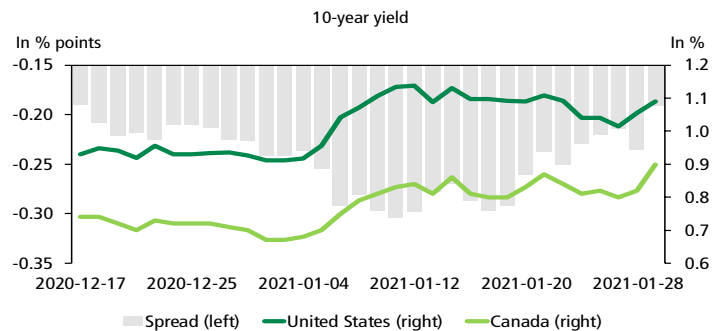
**Hendrix Vachon**, Senior Economist  
**Lorenzo Tessier-Moreau**, Senior Economist

**GRAPH 1**  
**Stock markets**



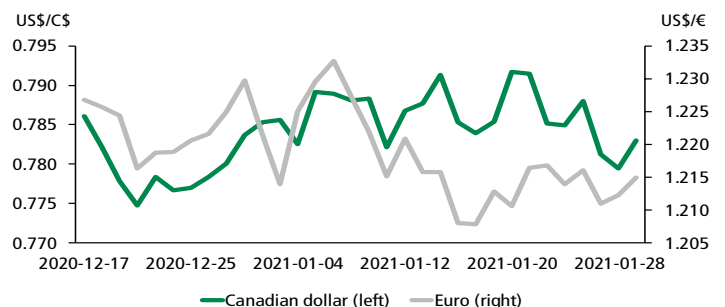
Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

**GRAPH 2**  
**Bond markets**



Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

**GRAPH 3**  
**Currency markets**



Sources: Datastream and Desjardins, Economic Studies

# A Look Ahead

**MONDAY February 1 - 10:00**
**January**

Consensus	60.0
Desjardins	60.0

**December 60.7**
**WEDNESDAY February 3 - 10:00**
**January**

Consensus	56.8
Desjardins	55.3

**December 57.2**
**FRIDAY February 5 - 8:30**
**January**

Consensus	55,000
Desjardins	50,000

**December -140,000**
**FRIDAY February 5 - 8:30**
**January**

Consensus	-37,900
Desjardins	-300,000

**December -62,600**
**FRIDAY February 5 - 8:30**
**December \$B**

Consensus	-3.20
Desjardins	-2.00

**November -3.34**

## UNITED STATES

**ISM manufacturing index (January)** – Much to everyone’s surprise in early January, the ISM index jumped from 57.5 in November to 60.7 in December, its highest level since August 2018. In contrast, January saw the regional manufacturing indexes sending mixed signals. Still, it would be even more surprising to see the ISM manufacturing index rise once again. The components that relate to current production (a peak since 2011) and new orders (highest since 2004) are extremely high and likely to fall, but with the decrease expected to be modest. We therefore expect the ISM manufacturing index to go to 60.0.

**ISM services index (January)** – In another twist, the ISM services index recorded an increase in December. This was in stark contrast to the other news from several service-related industries that were affected by the downturn in the fall due to the pandemic, including the loss of 188,000 jobs in private services and the decline in some household confidence indexes. The ISM services index is expected to be lower in January. Several regional manufacturing indicators fell during the month. The drop in the ISM index is expected to be rather modest, as the construction industry remains fairly strong. The federal aid program passed at the end of 2020 may also give it a bit of a boost. Lastly, some of the regions that had implemented strict public health measures in late fall announced that some of them would be eased. The ISM services index should go from 57.2 to 55.3, which is still high under the circumstances.

**Job creation according to the establishment survey (January)** – For the first time since the worst of the pandemic’s first wave, the United States saw employment fall in December. Of course, the 140,000 net layoffs recorded for the month are far from the 22,160,000 jobs lost in March and April. Employment may fall again in January, albeit modestly. Jobless claims were higher in mid-January than in mid-December. The holiday season tends to muddle the way this variable changes in December and January (as will the enhanced unemployment insurance measures passed at the very end of 2020). The Conference Board confidence index’s employment component shows a deterioration in January. On the other hand, the low level of employment among retailers in December should mean fewer layoffs in January, which could counter the seasonal adjustments and lead to an increase. As a result, the total number of nonfarm jobs is expected to edge up slightly in January. Keep in mind that January’s figures will be released together with the establishment survey annual revision, and that may change things. The unemployment rate should stay put at 6.7%.

## CANADA

**Labour Force Survey (January)** – In December, employment pulled back for the first time in eight months. Still, expectations are that the full force of the adverse effects of COVID-19’s second wave and the new public health restrictions will be felt in January and lead to a fairly steep drop in employment. However, the extent of the decrease should be much less than the corrections seen last spring during the first wave. The unemployment rate could go from 8.8% to 9.7%.

**International merchandise trade (December)** – Seasonally adjusted and expressed in Canadian dollars, commodity prices rose approximately 4% in December, which will inflate the value of exports. Furthermore, U.S. industrial production increased 1.6% during the month, which suggests that Canadian exports could see sustained growth. Under these circumstances, the growth in exports should exceed that of imports and lead to a better trade balance.

**TUESDAY February 2 - 5:00**

<b>Q4 2020</b>	<b>q/q</b>
Consensus	-1.2%
<b>Q3 2020</b>	<b>12.5%</b>

**THURSDAY February 4 - 7:00**

<b>February</b>	
Consensus	0.10%
Desjardins	0.10%
<b>December 17</b>	<b>0.10%</b>


**OVERSEAS**


**Euro zone: Real GDP (Q4 – preliminary estimate)** – The euroland economic rebound, which saw real GDP grow 12.5% (non-annualized) in the third quarter after plunging 11.7% in the second quarter, has probably come to an end. The introduction of new public health restrictions—albeit less stringent than in the spring—adversely affected economic activity at the end of 2020. We already know that France’s real GDP pulled back 1.3%, which, all things considered, is not as serious as anticipated. Germany squeaked by with a meagre 0.1% growth, while Spain’s real GDP managed to reach 0.4%. That said, the entire eurozone is expected to see a drop. This initial estimate won’t contain any detailed information on each GDP component or growth for each country. Some of the other indicators to be released include December’s unemployment rate on Monday and December’s retail sales on Thursday.

**United Kingdom: Bank of England meeting (February)** – Last November, the Bank of England (BoE) boosted its asset buying program by £150B. The economic situation has worsened considerably since then because of the pandemic’s second wave, which continues to pummel the United Kingdom. It will be interesting to see the BoE’s latest forecasts when it publishes its quarterly report on inflation. Even if it is more pessimistic in the very short term, the BoE may prefer to hold off for now before announcing new measures. The vaccination campaign is well underway in the United Kingdom, and the benefits should become increasingly obvious. The uncertainty surrounding Brexit subsided considerably thanks to the trade agreement with the European Union reached at the end of December.

# Economic Indicators

## Week of February 1 to 5, 2021

Day	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data
<b>UNITED STATES</b>						
<b>MONDAY 1</b>	10:00	Construction spending (m/m)	Dec.	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%
	10:00	ISM manufacturing index	Jan.	60.0	60.0	60.7
	14:00	Speech of the Atlanta Fed President, R. Bostic				
	14:00	Speech of the Boston Fed President, E. Rosengren				
<b>TUESDAY 2</b>	---	Total vehicle sales (ann. rate)	Jan.	16,100,000	16,000,000	16,270,000
	14:00	Speech of the Cleveland Fed President, L. Mester				
<b>WEDNESDAY 3</b>	10:00	ISM services index	Jan.	56.8	55.3	57.2
	13:00	Speech of the St. Louis Fed President, J. Bullard				
	14:00	Speech of the Philadelphia Fed President, P. Harker				
	17:00	Speech of the Chicago Fed President, C. Evans				
	17:00	Speech of the Cleveland Fed President, L. Mester				
<b>THURSDAY 4</b>	8:30	Initial unemployment claims	Jan. 25-29	840,000	830,000	847,000
	8:30	Nonfarm productivity – preliminary (ann. rate)	Q4	-3.2%	-3.7%	4.6%
	8:30	Unit labor costs – preliminary (ann. rate)	Q4	3.7%	1.7%	-6.6%
	10:00	Factory orders (m/m)	Dec.	0.7%	0.4%	1.0%
	14:00	Speech of the San Francisco Fed President, M. Daly				
<b>FRIDAY 5</b>	8:30	Trade balance – Goods and services (US\$B)	Dec.	-65.8	-65.4	-68.1
	8:30	Change in nonfarm payrolls	Jan.	55,000	50,000	-140,000
	8:30	Unemployment rate	Jan.	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%
	8:30	Weekly worked hours	Jan.	34.7	34.7	34.7
	8:30	Average hourly earnings (m/m)	Jan.	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%
	15:00	Consumer credit (US\$B)	Dec.	15.500	6.000	15.274
<b>CANADA</b>						
<b>MONDAY 1</b>	---	---				
<b>TUESDAY 2</b>	---	---				
<b>WEDNESDAY 3</b>	---	---				
<b>THURSDAY 4</b>	---	---				
<b>FRIDAY 5</b>	8:30	International trade (\$B)	Dec.	-3.20	-2.00	-3.34
	8:30	Net change in employment	Jan.	-37,900	-300,000	-52,700
	8:30	Unemployment rate	Jan.	8.9%	9.7%	8.8%
	10:00	PMI-Ivey index	Jan.	n/a	42.0	46.7

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 Eastern Standard Time (GMT - 5 hours).  Forecast of Desjardins, Economic Studies of the Desjardins Group.

# Economic Indicators

## Week of February 1 to 5, 2021

Country	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data		
				m/m (q/q)	y/y	m/m (q/q)	y/y	
<b>OVERSEAS</b>								
<b>SUNDAY 31</b>								
Japan	19:30	PMI manufacturing index – final	Jan.	n/a		49.7		
<b>MONDAY 1</b>								
Germany	2:00	Retail sales	Dec.	-2.0%	4.5%	1.9%	5.6%	
Italy	3:45	PMI manufacturing index	Jan.	52.4		52.8		
France	3:50	PMI manufacturing index – final	Jan.	51.5		51.5		
Germany	3:55	PMI manufacturing index – final	Jan.	57.0		57.0		
Euro zone	4:00	PMI manufacturing index – final	Jan.	54.7		54.7		
Italy	4:00	Unemployment rate	Dec.	9.0%		8.9%		
United Kingdom	4:30	PMI manufacturing index – final	Jan.	52.9		52.9		
Euro zone	5:00	Unemployment rate	Dec.	8.3%		8.3%		
Australia	22:30	Reserve Bank of Australia meeting	Feb.	0.10%		0.10%		
<b>TUESDAY 2</b>								
United Kingdom	2:00	Nationwide house prices	Jan.	0.3%	6.9%	0.8%	7.3%	
France	2:45	Consumer price index – preliminary	Jan.	-0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	
Italy	4:00	Real GDP – preliminary	Q4	-2.2%	-6.8%	15.9%	-5.0%	
Euro zone	5:00	Real GDP – preliminary	Q4	-1.2%	-5.4%	12.5%	-4.3%	
Japan	19:30	PMI composite index – final	Jan.	n/a		46.7		
Japan	19:30	PMI services index – final	Jan.	n/a		45.7		
<b>WEDNESDAY 3</b>								
Italy	3:45	PMI composite index	Jan.	42.0		43.0		
Italy	3:45	PMI services index – final	Jan.	39.5		39.7		
France	3:50	PMI composite index – final	Jan.	47.0		47.0		
France	3:50	PMI services index – final	Jan.	46.5		46.5		
Germany	3:55	PMI composite index – final	Jan.	50.8		50.8		
Germany	3:55	PMI services index – final	Jan.	46.8		46.8		
Euro zone	4:00	PMI composite index – final	Jan.	47.5		47.5		
Euro zone	4:00	PMI services index – final	Jan.	45.0		45.0		
United Kingdom	4:30	PMI composite index – final	Jan.	40.6		40.6		
United Kingdom	4:30	PMI services index – final	Jan.	38.8		38.8		
Euro zone	5:00	Consumer price index – preliminary	Jan.	-0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	-0.3%	
Italy	5:00	Consumer price index – preliminary	Jan.	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	-0.1%	
<b>THURSDAY 4</b>								
Euro zone	5:00	Retail sales	Dec.	1.8%	0.4%	-6.1%	-2.9%	
United Kingdom	7:00	Bank of England meeting	Feb.	0.10%		0.10%		
<b>FRIDAY 5</b>								
India	1:15	Reserve Bank of India meeting	Feb.	4.00%		4.00%		
France	2:45	Trade balance (€M)	Dec.	n/a		-3,559		
Germany	2:00	Factory orders	Dec.	-1.0%	6.2%	2.3%	6.3%	
Italy	4:00	Retail sales	Dec.	1.6%	-4.8%	-6.9%	-8.1%	

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 Eastern Standard Time (GMT - 5 hours).

**UNITED STATES**
**Quarterly economic indicators**

	REF. QUART.	LEVEL	VARIATION (%)		ANNUAL VARIATION (%)		
			Quart. ann.	1 year	2020	2019	2018
Gross domestic product (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	18,780	4.0	-2.5	-3.5	2.2	3.0
Consumption (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	13,005	2.5	-2.6	-3.9	2.4	2.7
Government spending (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	3,317	-1.2	-0.6	1.1	2.3	1.8
Residential investment (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	693.9	33.5	13.7	5.9	-1.7	-0.6
Non-residential investment (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	2,746	13.8	-1.3	-4.0	2.9	6.9
Business inventory change (2012 \$B) <sup>1</sup>	2020 Q4*	44.6	---	---	-81.8	48.5	53.4
Exports (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	2,277	22.0	-11.0	-13.0	-0.1	3.0
Imports (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	3,398	29.5	-0.6	-9.3	1.1	4.1
Final domestic demand (2012 \$B)	2020 Q4*	19,776	4.4	-1.5	-2.7	2.3	3.0
GDP deflator (2012 = 100)	2020 Q4*	114.4	2.0	1.3	1.2	1.8	2.4
Labor productivity (2012 = 100)	2020 Q3	112.3	4.6	4.0	1.7	1.4	1.2
Unit labor cost (2012 = 100)	2020 Q3	115.7	-6.6	4.0	1.9	1.9	2.2
Employment cost index (Dec. 2005 = 100)	2020 Q4*	142.4	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8
Current account balance (\$B) <sup>1</sup>	2020 Q3	-178.5	---	---	-480.2	-449.7	-365.3

<sup>1</sup> 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 (2016 = 100)	Dec.*	109.5	0.3	2.0	6.5	-1.7
ISM manufacturing index <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	60.5	57.7	55.7	52.2	47.7
ISM non-manufacturing index <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	57.7	56.8	57.2	56.5	55.6
Cons. confidence Conference Board (1985 = 100) <sup>1</sup>	Jan.*	89.3	87.1	101.4	91.7	130.4
Personal consumption expenditure (2012 \$B)	Dec.*	12,922	-0.6	-1.1	2.2	-3.3
Disposable personal income (2012 \$B)	Dec.*	15,458	0.2	-2.1	-4.3	3.3
Consumer credit (\$B)	Nov.	4,177	0.4	0.8	1.4	0.5
Retail sales (\$M)	Dec.	540,915	-0.7	-2.1	2.1	2.9
<i>Excluding automobiles (\$M)</i>	Dec.	425,693	-1.4	-2.8	1.5	1.1
Industrial production (2012 = 100)	Dec.	105.7	1.6	3.0	8.1	-3.6
Production capacity utilization rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	74.5	73.4	72.3	68.9	77.2
New machinery orders (\$M)	Nov.	487,240	1.0	3.7	18.3	-0.4
New durable good orders (\$M)	Dec.*	245,325	0.2	3.2	18.2	1.4
Business inventories (\$B)	Nov.	1,960	0.5	2.1	1.4	-3.2
Housing starts (k) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	1,669	1,578	1,437	1,265	1,587
Building permits (k) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	1,704	1,635	1,545	1,258	1,457
New home sales (k) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.*	842.0	829.0	965.0	840.0	731.0
Existing home sales (k) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	6,760	6,710	6,570	4,700	5,530
Commercial surplus (\$M) <sup>1</sup>	Nov.	-68,142	-63,111	-64,918	-55,594	-41,054
Nonfarm employment (k) <sup>2</sup>	Dec.	142,624	-140.0	850.0	4,815	-9,374
Unemployment rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	6.7	6.7	7.8	11.1	3.6
Consumer price (1982-1984 = 100)	Dec.	261.8	0.4	0.6	1.8	1.3
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Dec.	270.1	0.1	0.3	1.5	1.6
Personal cons. expenditure deflator (2012 = 100)	Dec.*	112.2	0.4	0.5	1.2	1.3
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Dec.*	114.4	0.3	0.3	1.1	1.5
Producer price (2009 = 100)	Dec.	119.8	0.3	0.8	2.0	0.8
Export prices (2000 = 100)	Dec.	125.2	1.1	2.0	4.1	0.2
Import prices (2000 = 100)	Dec.	124.6	0.9	1.0	3.3	-0.3

<sup>1</sup> Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; <sup>2</sup> 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	2019	2018	2017
Gross domestic product (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	2,003,084	40.5	-5.2	1.9	2.4	3.0
Household consumption (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	1,133,623	62.8	-4.5	1.6	2.5	3.8
Government consumption (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	425,273	13.5	0.0	2.0	2.9	2.1
Residential investment (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	157,232	187.3	9.5	-0.2	-1.7	2.3
Non-residential investment (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	158,297	25.8	-14.8	1.1	3.1	1.9
Business inventory change (2012 \$M) <sup>1</sup>	2020 Q3	-35,960	---	---	18,766	15,486	19,200
Exports (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	613,818	71.8	-9.7	1.3	3.7	1.4
Imports (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	605,869	113.7	-9.9	0.4	3.4	4.6
Final domestic demand (2012 \$M)	2020 Q3	2,023,141	50.8	-3.2	1.4	2.5	3.3
GDP deflator (2012 = 100)	2020 Q3	111.6	10.7	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.5
Labour productivity (2012 = 100)	2020 Q3	111.8	-35.2	4.0	0.7	0.4	2.0
Unit labour cost (2012 = 100)	2020 Q3	115.0	-5.9	4.3	2.9	2.8	0.7
Current account balance (\$M) <sup>1</sup>	2020 Q3	-7,528	---	---	-47,384	-52,224	-59,999
Production capacity utilization rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	2020 Q3	76.5	---	---	82.6	83.7	80.8
Disposable personal income (\$M)	2020 Q3	1,416,188	-12.0	10.6	3.8	3.1	5.0
Corporate net operating surplus (\$M)	2020 Q3	285,368	182.9	-1.8	0.6	3.8	19.3

<sup>1</sup> 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 (2012 \$M)	Nov.*	1,934,643	0.7	2.0	12.1	-2.8
Industrial production (2012 \$M)	Nov.*	378,417	1.9	3.2	13.4	-5.1
Manufacturing sales (\$M)	Nov.	53,664	-0.6	1.8	32.3	-4.8
Housing starts (k) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	228.3	261.2	209.0	212.0	196.7
Building permits (\$M)	Dec.*	9,083	-4.1	-4.9	12.6	1.7
Retail sales (\$M)	Nov.	55,193	1.3	3.2	28.8	7.5
<i>Excluding automobiles (\$M)</i>	Nov.	40,717	2.1	3.8	20.7	9.0
Wholesale trade sales (\$M)	Nov.	67,417	0.7	2.6	28.3	7.7
Commercial surplus (\$M) <sup>1</sup>	Nov.	-3,340	-3,728	-3,089	-1,719	-129.0
<i>Exports (\$M)</i>	Nov.	46,763	0.5	3.6	38.3	-4.7
<i>Imports (\$M)</i>	Nov.	50,103	-0.3	3.9	41.0	1.8
Employment (k) <sup>2</sup>	Dec.	18,485	-52.7	32.1	183.2	-49.1
Unemployment rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Dec.	8.8	8.6	9.2	12.5	5.7
Average weekly earnings (\$)	Nov.*	1,110	0.6	0.1	-2.5	6.6
Number of salaried employees (k) <sup>2</sup>	Nov.*	15,922	-79.5	155.3	370.0	-93.7
Consumer price (2002 = 100)	Dec.	137.4	-0.2	0.4	0.1	0.7
<i>Excluding food and energy</i>	Dec.	132.2	-0.4	0.2	0.1	1.1
<i>Excluding 8 volatile items</i>	Dec.	136.0	-0.4	0.2	0.3	1.5
Industrial product price (2010 = 100)	Dec.*	101.8	1.5	1.0	3.9	1.8
Raw materials price (2010 = 100)	Dec.*	100.5	3.5	4.6	11.2	-0.7
Money supply M1+ (\$M)	Nov.	1,395,122	1.1	4.5	13.3	30.0

<sup>1</sup> Statistic shows the level of the month of the column; <sup>2</sup> 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		
	Jan. 29	Jan. 22	-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	1.75	1.75	0.41	0.25
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.05	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.52	1.56	0.24	-0.05
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.16	0.12	1.34	1.45	0.27	0.11
– 5 years	0.44	0.43	0.35	0.38	0.21	1.33	1.46	0.44	0.19
– 10 years	1.09	1.09	0.91	0.86	0.54	1.52	1.65	0.83	0.50
– 30 years	1.85	1.86	1.64	1.64	1.20	2.01	2.13	1.52	1.03
S&P 500 index (level)	3,761	3,841	3,756	3,270	3,271	3,226	3,855	3,261	2,237
DJIA index (level)	30,408	30,997	30,606	26,502	26,428	28,256	31,188	27,061	18,592
Gold price (US\$/ounce)	1,859	1,854	1,898	1,881	1,975	1,587	2,053	1,798	1,475
CRB index (level)	175.53	172.85	167.80	144.73	143.69	170.31	176.77	147.46	106.29
WTI oil (US\$/barrel)	52.78	53.08	48.28	35.99	39.77	51.56	53.88	38.83	-37.63
<b>Canada</b>									
Overnight – target	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.75	1.75	0.43	0.25
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.17	1.64	1.65	0.30	0.05
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.16	0.18	0.20	0.26	0.26	1.43	1.51	0.39	0.15
– 5 years	0.43	0.44	0.39	0.40	0.31	1.29	1.41	0.50	0.30
– 10 years	0.90	0.84	0.67	0.66	0.46	1.27	1.39	0.69	0.43
– 30 years	1.49	1.47	1.21	1.25	0.92	1.42	1.51	1.20	0.71
<u>Spread with the U.S. rate (% points)</u>									
Overnight – target	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.02	0.00
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.01	-0.02	-0.03	0.00	0.08	0.12	0.53	0.07	-0.04
Treasury bonds – 2 years	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.14	0.09	0.31	0.11	0.00
– 5 years	-0.01	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.10	-0.04	0.29	0.06	-0.15
– 10 years	-0.19	-0.25	-0.24	-0.20	-0.08	-0.25	0.09	-0.13	-0.30
– 30 years	-0.36	-0.39	-0.43	-0.39	-0.28	-0.59	0.06	-0.33	-0.63
S&P/TSX index (level)	17,532	17,846	17,433	15,581	16,169	17,318	18,042	16,055	11,228
Exchange rate (C\$/US\$)	1.2771	1.2737	1.2729	1.3319	1.3415	1.3236	1.4513	1.3382	1.2632
Exchange rate (C\$/€)	1.5517	1.5498	1.5452	1.5515	1.5798	1.4684	1.5903	1.5381	1.4286
<b>Overseas</b>									
<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\$/€)	1.2149	1.2168	1.2139	1.1649	1.1776	1.1094	1.2327	1.1508	1.0692
<u>United Kingdom</u>									
BoE – Base rate	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.75	0.75	0.17	0.10
Bonds – 10 years	0.34	0.32	0.24	0.30	0.07	0.52	0.78	0.27	0.04
FTSE index (level)	6,450	6,695	6,461	5,577	5,898	7,286	7,534	6,196	4,994
Exchange rate (US\$/£)	1.3729	1.3686	1.3673	1.2943	1.3090	1.3201	1.3736	1.2883	1.1487
<u>Germany</u>									
Bonds – 10 years	-0.51	-0.54	-0.58	-0.62	-0.56	-0.47	-0.17	-0.50	-0.84
DAX index (level)	13,544	13,874	13,719	11,556	12,313	12,982	14,050	12,364	8,442
<u>Japan</u>									
BoJ – Main policy rate	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10
Nikkei index (level)	27,663	28,631	27,444	22,977	21,710	23,205	28,822	23,048	16,553
Exchange rate (US\$/¥)	104.70	103.79	103.21	104.66	105.90	108.40	112.13	106.30	102.36

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.