

# Ontario Economic Update

## As of October 22, 2010



|                                                      | Monthly |         |         |        | Quarterly |         |        | Year to Date* | Annual  |         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|---------|--------|---------------|---------|---------|
|                                                      | 2010    |         |         |        | 2010      |         |        |               | 2008    | 2009    |
|                                                      | Jun     | Jul     | Aug     | Sep    | Q1        | Q2      | Q3     |               |         |         |
| <b>Economy</b>                                       |         |         |         |        |           |         |        |               |         |         |
| Real Gross Domestic Product (\$2002 millions)        | -       | -       | -       | -      | 527,156   | 530,288 | NA     | 528,722       | 529,502 | 513,594 |
| Per cent change                                      |         |         |         |        | 1.4       | 0.6     | NA     | 3.3           | -0.6    | -3.0    |
| Current Dollar Gross Domestic Product (\$ millions)  | -       | -       | -       | -      | 591,041   | 595,515 | NA     | 593,278       | 585,838 | 566,531 |
| Per cent change                                      |         |         |         |        | 2.1       | 0.8     | NA     | 5.7           | 0.2     | -3.3    |
| <b>Employment</b>                                    |         |         |         |        |           |         |        |               |         |         |
| Employment (000's)                                   | 6,694   | 6,679   | 6,685   | 6,662  | 6,566     | 6,648   | 6,675  | 6,625         | 6,687   | 6,526   |
| Net New Jobs (000's)                                 | 60.3    | -15.0   | 6.3     | -22.9  | 29.4      | 81.6    | 27.7   | 109.3         | 93.5    | -161.2  |
| Per cent change                                      | 0.9     | -0.2    | 0.1     | -0.3   | 0.5       | 1.2     | 0.4    | 1.7           | 1.4     | -2.4    |
| Unemployment Rate (per cent)                         | 8.3     | 8.5     | 8.8     | 8.8    | 9.0       | 8.7     | 8.7    | 9.0           | 6.5     | 9.0     |
| Average Weekly Wage Rate (\$), nsa                   | 838.13  | 843.26  | 849.59  | 859.69 | 843.11    | 840.61  | 850.85 | 844.85        | 816.41  | 832.64  |
| Per cent change                                      | 0.8     | 1.5     | 2.6     | 2.3    | 1.8       | 1.3     | 2.1    | 1.7           | 3.8     | 2.0     |
| Employment Insurance Beneficiaries (regular)         | 214,840 | 209,200 | 205,290 | NA     | 220,363   | 215,463 | NA     | 237,005       | 142,598 | 246,694 |
| Per cent change                                      | -1.5    | -2.6    | -1.9    | NA     | -15.9     | -2.2    | NA     | -10.8         | 8.9     | 73.0    |
| <b>Consumers</b>                                     |         |         |         |        |           |         |        |               |         |         |
| Retail Sales (\$ millions)                           | 12,822  | 12,797  | 12,833  | NA     | 38,419    | 38,518  | NA     | 99,907        | 151,672 | 147,920 |
| Per cent change                                      | 0.1     | -0.2    | 0.3     | NA     | 1.9       | 0.3     | NA     | 5.0           | 3.9     | -2.5    |
| New Motor Vehicle Sales (units)                      | 49,197  | 51,201  | 46,659  | NA     | 144,623   | 145,107 | NA     | 399,246       | 592,088 | 542,609 |
| Per cent change                                      | 1.5     | 4.1     | -8.9    | NA     | 2.5       | 0.3     | NA     | 9.1           | -2.3    | -8.4    |
| Consumer Price Index (CPI), nsa                      | 116.0   | 117.0   | 117.0   | 117.1  | 115.0     | 116.0   | 117.0  | 116.0         | 113.3   | 113.7   |
| Per cent change                                      | 1.6     | 2.9     | 2.9     | 2.9    | 1.7       | 1.9     | 2.9    | 2.2           | 2.3     | 0.4     |
| <b>Housing</b>                                       |         |         |         |        |           |         |        |               |         |         |
| Housing Starts (000's)                               | 56.7    | 55.7    | 64.4    | 57.9   | 64.1      | 62.7    | 59.3   | 42.6          | 75.1    | 50.4    |
| Per cent change                                      | -14.7   | -1.8    | 15.6    | -10.1  | 5.1       | -2.1    | -5.4   | 29.3          | 10.2    | -32.9   |
| MLS Home Resales (units)                             | 14,488  | 13,276  | 14,276  | 14,633 | 57,818    | 49,213  | 42,185 | 157,150       | 181,001 | 195,840 |
| Per cent change                                      | -10.3   | -8.4    | 7.5     | 2.5    | 1.8       | -14.9   | -14.3  | 3.8           | -15.2   | 8.2     |
| <b>Business</b>                                      |         |         |         |        |           |         |        |               |         |         |
| Manufacturing Sales (\$ millions)                    | 20,717  | 20,646  | 21,247  | NA     | 60,518    | 61,817  | NA     | 163,446       | 273,086 | 222,310 |
| Per cent change                                      | -0.4    | -0.3    | 2.9     | NA     | 3.6       | 2.1     | NA     | 14.0          | -5.8    | -18.6   |
| International Merchandise Exports (\$ millions), nsa | 12,847  | 10,333  | 12,471  | NA     | 34,491    | 37,037  | NA     | 94,332        | 163,836 | 125,607 |
| Per cent change                                      | 29.9    | 12.0    | 25.6    | NA     | 7.9       | 24.1    | NA     | 16.5          | -7.6    | -23.3   |
| International Merchandise Imports (\$ millions), nsa | 20,916  | 18,661  | 20,584  | NA     | 54,365    | 59,780  | NA     | 153,390       | 242,314 | 208,282 |
| Per cent change                                      | 24.7    | 13.2    | 17.2    | NA     | 8.0       | 18.1    | NA     | 13.6          | 0.7     | -14.0   |
| Wholesale Trade (\$ millions)                        | 22,628  | 22,557  | 22,899  | NA     | 67,734    | 67,720  | NA     | 178,304       | 262,174 | 248,951 |
| Per cent change                                      | 0.4     | -0.3    | 1.5     | NA     | 1.7       | 0.0     | NA     | 12.4          | -0.4    | -5.0    |
| Non-residential Building Permits (\$ millions)       | 1,310   | 1,370   | 863     | NA     | 2,657     | 3,668   | NA     | 8,469         | 10,912  | 9,447   |
| Per cent change                                      | 19.5    | 4.6     | -37.0   | NA     | 13.5      | 38.1    | NA     | 34.5          | -1.6    | -13.4   |
| Private and Public Investment (\$ millions)          | -       | -       | -       | -      | -         | -       | -      | -             | 105,597 | 96,252  |
| Per cent change                                      | -       | -       | -       | -      | -         | -       | -      | -             | 2.3     | -8.8    |

### For further information, please contact us at:

Ministry of Finance  
Economic and Revenue Forecasting and Analysis Branch  
Current Analysis Unit  
6th Floor, Frost Building North  
95 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto ON M7A 1Z1  
416 325-0755  
e-mail: macroeconomics.fin@ontario.ca

Notes: All data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified with "nsa".

Per cent change for seasonally unadjusted (nsa) data is calculated on a year-to-year basis.

Year-to-date averages are generally calculated using unadjusted monthly data. Year-to-date per cent change is calculated on a year-to-year basis.

International merchandise trade is reported on a customs basis.

GDP levels are expressed at annual rates. Monthly and quarterly housing starts are expressed at seasonally adjusted annual rates.

Year-to-date housing starts are based on actual unadjusted urban-area data.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Ontario Ministry of Finance, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Canadian Real Estate Association.