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Forecast Calendar

November 18, 2011

United States

Economic Indicators—Schedule and Forecasts
November 21 - December 2, 2011

Sinai/Ellis/Hooper

f= DE forecast c=consensus a=advance s=second t=third r=revised

21

Existing Home Sales (10:00)
(Units, Millions, SAAR)

Jun	4.840	Sep	4.910
Jul	4.670	**Oct (f)**	**4.790**
Aug	5.060	**Oct (c)**	**4.800**

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion

2-Year Note (13:00)
$35.0 Billion

Lochart Speech (14:30)
(Economic Outlook)

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales
(7:45) (11/19)

Gross Domestic Product (8:30)

(Second)	Real	Final Sales	Chain Prices
11:Q2	1.3%	1.6%	2.5%
11:Q3 (a)	2.5%	3.6%	2.5%
11:Q3 (f)	**2.5%**	**3.8%**	**2.5%**
11:Q3 (c)	**2.5%**		**2.5%**

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55)
(11/19)

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$35.0 Billion (f)

Kocherlakota Speech (13:00)
(Looking Back at Three Years of Federal Reserve Action)

5-Year Note (13:00)
$35.0 Billion

FOMC Minutes (14:00)
(November 1–2 meeting)

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Initial Claims (8:30)

11/5	390	**11/19 (f)**	**390**
11/12	388	**11/19 (c)**	**390**

Durable Goods (8:30)

	Orders	Ex-Def.	Ships.
Sep	-0.6%	-0.9%	-0.7%
Oct (f)	**-1.0%**	**-1.0%**	**0.3%**
Oct (c)	**-1.2%**		

Personal Income & Consumption
(8:30)

	Income	Cons.	Core Prices
Sep	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%
Oct (f)	**0.3%**	**0.3%**	**0.1%**
Oct (c)	**0.3%**	**0.3%**	**0.1%**

U of M Cons Sentiment Index
(9:55) (Final)

Oct	60.9	**Nov (f)**	**65.5**
Nov (p)	64.2	**Nov (c)**	**64.5**

U of M Inflation Expectations
(9:55) (Final)

	1-Year	5-Year
Oct	3.2%	2.7%
Nov (p)	3.2%	2.6%
Nov (f)	**3.2%**	**2.6%**

7-Year Note (13:00)
$29.0 Billion

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Holiday

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New Home Sales (10:00)
(Units, Thousands, SAAR)

May	308	Aug	296
Jun	303	Sep	313
Jul	297	**Oct (f)**	**310**

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion (f)

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales
(7:45) (11/26)

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55)
(11/26)

S&P/Case-Shiller Index (9:00)
(20 City Index) (Y/Y)

Apr	-4.2%	Jul	-4.2%
May	-4.5%	Aug	-3.8%
Jun	-4.5%	**Sep (f)**	**-3.1%**

Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey (10:00)

Jun	57.6	Sep	46.4
Jul	59.2	Oct	39.8
Aug	45.2	**Nov (f)**	**45.4**

Yellen Speech (TBA)
(SF Fed Conference)

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$35.0 Billion (f)

Kocherlakota Speech (20:00)
(Making Monetary Policy)

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ADP Employment Estimate (8:15)
(Nov)

Productivity and Costs (8:30)

(Revised)	Prod.	Comp.	ULC
11:Q2	-0.1%	2.7%	2.8%
11:Q3 (p)	3.1%	0.6%	-2.4%
11:Q3 (f)	**3.1%**	**0.6%**	**-2.4%**

Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey (9:45)

	Total	Prices Paid
Sep	60.4	62.3
Oct	58.4	66.0
Nov (f)	**59.2**	**60.2**

Pending Home Sales (10:00)

May	8.2%	Aug	-1.2%
Jun	2.4%	Sep	-4.6%
Jul	-1.3%	**Oct (f)**	**2.0%**

FOMC Beige Book (14:00)

1

Initial Claims (8:30)

11/5	390	**11/19 (f)**	**390**
11/12	388	**11/26 (f)**	**385**

Construction Expenditure (10:00)

May	2.5%	Aug	1.6%
Jun	1.5%	Sep	0.2%
Jul	-3.3%	**Oct (f)**	**0.3%**

ISM Manufacturing Survey (10:00)

	Total	Prices
Sep	51.6	56.0
Oct	50.8	41.0
Nov (f)	**50.2**	**50.5**

Monthly Chain Store Sales
(Nov)

Light Vehicle Sales
(Units, Millions, SAAR)

	Total	Domestic	Import
Sep	13.1	10.2	2.9
Oct	13.2	10.3	2.9
Nov (f)	**13.3**	**10.3**	**3.0**

2

Employment Report (8:30)

	Payrolls (Thous.)	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
Sep	158	34.3	0.3%
Oct	80	34.3	0.2%
Nov (f)	**105**	**34.3**	**0.2%**

Unemployment Rate (8:30)

Jun	9.2%	Sep	9.1%
Jul	9.1%	Oct	9.0%
Aug	9.1%	**Nov (f)**	**9.0%**

Recent History-Latest Results

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3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales
(7:45) (11/12)

Producer Price Index (8:30)

	Total	Ex-F&E
Sep	0.8%	0.2%
Oct	-0.3%	0.0%

Advance Retail Sales (8:30)

	Total	Ex-Auto
Sep	1.1%	0.5%
Oct	0.5%	0.6%

Empire State Manufacturing Survey

(8:30)	Total	Prices
Oct	-8.5	22.5
Nov	0.6	18.3

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55)

Business Inventories, Sales

(10:00)	Inven.	Sales	I/S
Aug	0.4%	0.4%	1.275
Sep	0.0%	0.6%	1.266

4-Week Bill - $35.0 Billion

52-Week Bill - $25.0 Billion

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Consumer Price Index (8:30)

	Total	Ex-F&E
Aug	0.4%	0.2%
Sep	0.3%	0.1%
Oct	-0.1%	0.1%

Monthly TIC flows (9:00) (Sep)

Industrial Production & Capacity Utilization (9:15)

	Prod.	Util.
Aug	0.2%	77.4%
Sep	-0.1%	77.3%
Oct	0.7%	77.8%

NAHB Housing Market Index
(10:00)

Jun	13	Sep	14
Jul	15	Oct	17
Aug	15	Nov	20

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Initial Claims (8:30)

10/22	406	11/5	393
10/29	400	11/12	388

Housing Starts (8:30)
(Units, Thousands, SAAR)

	Starts	Permits
Aug	585	625
Sep	630	589
Oct	628	653

Philadelphia Fed Survey (10:00)

	Total	Prices
Sep	-17.5	23.2
Oct	8.7	20.0
Nov	3.6	22.8

10-Year TIPS (13:00)
$11.0 Billion

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Leading Indicators (10:00)

May	0.7%	Aug	0.3%
Jun	0.3%	Sep	0.1%
Jul	0.6%	Oct	0.9%

Indicator Highlights

United States

Existing Home Sales (Mon., Nov. 21, 10:00 a.m.) and New Home Sales (Mon., Nov. 28, 10:00 a.m.) will offer a glimpse of demand conditions in the broad housing market. Underlying demand for homes appears to have stabilized, but at a low level. The Second Report on Gross Domestic Product (Tue., Nov. 22, 8:30 a.m.) will give an updated reading on the overall economy in Q3, and on the continued strength of the economic recovery. Personal Income & Consumption (Wed., Nov. 23, 8:30 a.m.) will provide a first-month reading of Q4 consumer spending, currently the largest source (over 70%) of real GDP. How goes the consumer, so goes the economy. A new growth trend for consumption has emerged: much lower than historically, hard to pin down exactly, but significantly weaker, at perhaps about 2½%, or 3% at the most. Modest income growth is expected. The Reuters/University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (Wed., Nov. 23, 9:55 a.m.) will provide an updated look at consumer attitudes in late-November. Consumer sentiment retreated sharply on concerns over the economic outlook and policy makers' wrangling over the debt ceiling, but appears to have bottomed. Inflation expectations in the survey are also important, particularly for Fed-watching.

The S&P/Case-Shiller Index (Tue., Nov. 29, 9:00 a.m.) is a key gauge of house prices for both year-on-year changes and on a running basis. Home prices in this index have double dipped but may be turning the corner. Productivity & Costs (Thu., Nov. 30, 8:30 a.m.) will provide a final look at Q3 unit labor costs and will be suggestive about corporate profits performance. The ISM Manufacturing Survey (Thurs., Dec. 1, 10:00 a.m.) is the definitive manufacturing activity diffusion index. A strong upturn in manufacturing continues to be a key element of economic recovery. Nonfarm Payroll Jobs and the Unemployment Rate (Fri., Nov. 4, 8:30 a.m.) are key data for a host of upcoming economic indicators, the prospect, and particularly the Fed. The Fed remains focused on the unemployment rate.

Indicator	Forecast	Consensus	Analysis
Existing Home Sales (Units, SAAR)	4.790 Million	4.800 Million	Three months of decline in pending home sales suggests steep decline in closings.
Gross Domestic Product (Second)			
Real	+2.5%	+2.5%	Offsetting component revisions, but final sales stronger.
Final Sales	+3.8%		
Chain Prices	+2.5%	+2.5%	
Durable Goods			
Orders	-1.0%	-1.2%	Commercial aircraft orders fall again.
Ex-Defense	-1.0%		
Shipments	+0.3%		
Personal Income & Consumption			
Income	+0.3%	+0.3%	Income a bit better, on wages and salaries
Consumption	+0.3%	+0.3%	
Core Prices	+0.1%	+0.1%	
U. of M. Consumer Sentiment Index (Final)	65.5	64.5	Underlying upward trend lifts late responses.
U. of M. Inflation Expectations (Final)			
1-Yr Ahead (Median)	3.2%		Longer-term expectations drift downward.
5-Yr Ahead (Median)	2.6%		
New Home Sales (Units, SAAR)	310,000		Small decline.
S&P/Case-Shiller Index	-3.1%		Year-on-year fall less severe, but main issue is month-to-month movement.
Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey	45.4		Rebound from recent low in October.
Productivity & Costs (Revised)			
Productivity	+3.1%		Little or no revision to first estimates.
Compensation	+0.6%		
Unit Labor Costs	-2.4%		
Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey			
Total	59.2		Activity strengthens slightly from October.
Prices Paid	60.2		Prices advance, but more slowly than a few months earlier.
Pending Home Sales	+2.0%		Perhaps bottoming. Affordable is extraordinary but access to credit still poor.
Construction Expenditure	+0.3%		Choppy sideways motion continues.
ISM Manufacturing Survey			
Total	50.2		Activity expands slowly.
Prices	50.5		Prices move upward, slowly.
Light-Vehicle Sales (Units, SAAR)			
Total	13.3		Demand no longer shaky, but not strong either.
Domestic	10.3		
Import	3.0 Million		
Employment Report			
Payrolls	+105,000		Reasonable firmness in private sector employment–but still too slow.
Weekly Hours	34.3		
Hourly Earnings	+0.2%		
Unemployment Rate	9.0%		Recent gains are held.

Assessment

Economy firming from late summer into early fall. Q4 start OK, perhaps 3%+. No imminent "Double-Dip" signs forthcoming for awhile but neither any big bounce. "Off-shore" risks to U.S. still, especially from a European downturn and weaker growth in Asia. Europe recession odds for Q4 and Q1 over 50%. Eurozone policy on debt crisis "Muddling Through" with some visibility now and implementation the issue. Still a "Wall Street – Main Street" disconnect on earnings, the stock market, and jobs. S&P500 EPS surprisingly good again. Main DE scenario remains uptilted "L". Now 65% odds; 55% before. Fed likely to continue pause on easing, neither easing more nor exiting for quite awhile.

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