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Duluth---Business activity in Duluth set an all-time high for the month of October, according to the newly released Duluth Business Index (DBI).

The index climbed 14 points from September to October, with 10 of the 15 index barometers registering gains. The unadjusted index for October was 151 compared to 137 the previous month. (1957-1959 equals 100).

Duluth's economy during October also showed a substantial improvement over the same month a year ago. Business activity was 11 points above October, 1967.

The DBI is compiled monthly by Dr. Cecil H. Meyers, professor and head of economics at UMD, and Glenn O. Gronseth, research analyst for the Minnesota State Employment Service in Duluth. It is published by the UMD Department of Economics in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Employment Security, the Duluth Chamber of Commerce and the Duluth Industrial Bureau.

A September to October analysis of the index showed increases in freight carloadings, bank debits, building permits, postal receipts, number of telephones, commercial and residential power usage, grain shipments, other lake cargo shipments and retail sales.

For the first 10 months of the year, the Duluth economy has run nearly 5 per cent above the same period a year ago. In all, 10 of the 15 barometers in October showed gains over a year ago.

For the first 10 months of 1968, retail sales have averaged 3 per cent higher than last year. For the same period, general merchandise stores were up 1 per cent, apparel stores were up 9 per cent and grocery sales advanced 3 per cent.