

# Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index

## Midwest Manufacturing Output Increased in April

The Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI) increased 1.2% in April, to a seasonally adjusted level of 85.2 (2002 = 100). Revised data show the index rose 1.5% in March to 84.2. The Federal Reserve Board's industrial production index for manufacturing (IPMFG) increased 1.1% in April. Regional output in April edged up 7.5% from a year earlier, and national output increased 6.5%. April marks the first time since February 2008 that the CFMMI's year-over-year change has exceeded the IPMFG's.

All four regional industry sectors increased in April:

- Regional steel sector output grew 2.9%;
- Regional machinery sector production rose 1.8%;
- Regional resource sector output moved up 1.0%; and
- Regional auto sector production ticked up 0.1%.

The region's steel sector output grew 2.9% in April after increasing 2.2% in March. The nation's steel output was up 1.9% in April. Regional steel output rose 15.8% from its April 2009 level, and national steel output was up 11.0%.

The Midwest's machinery sector production rose 1.8% in April after increasing 1.3% in March. The nation's machinery production increased 0.9% in April. Regional machinery output in April was down 0.7% from year-earlier levels, but national machinery output was up 8.1%.

The Midwest resource sector's output moved up 1.0% in April after increasing 1.1% in March. The national resource sector's output was up 0.7% in April. All five subsectors of the regional resource sector—food, wood, paper, chemical, and nonmetallic production—increased from March to April. Compared with a year ago, regional resource output was up 7.5% in April and national resource output was up 5.4%.

Regional auto sector production ticked up 0.1% in April after rising 2.4% in March. National auto output inched down 0.2% in April. The Midwest's automotive output was up 15.8% in April relative to its year-ago level, and the nation's auto output was up 10.0%.

— *William A. Strauss* • Senior Economist and Economic Advisor • 312-322-8151

**Embargoed for release:**  
**May 27, 2010**  
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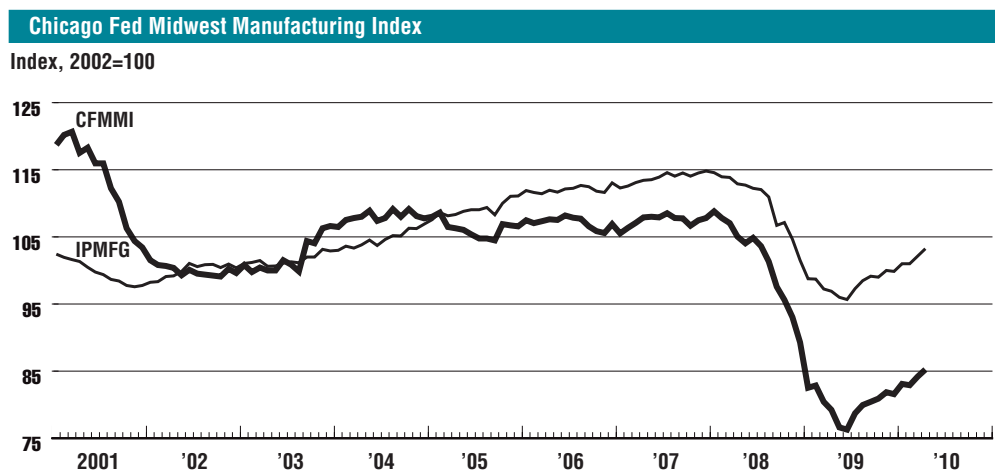
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**2010 Release Dates:**  
**June 28, 2010**  
**July 27, 2010**  
**August 26, 2010**  
**September 27, 2010**  
**October 27, 2010**  
**November 29, 2010**  
**December 27, 2010**

**The next CFMMI will be released:**  
**June 28, 2010**  
**Noon Eastern Time**  
**11:00 am Central Time**

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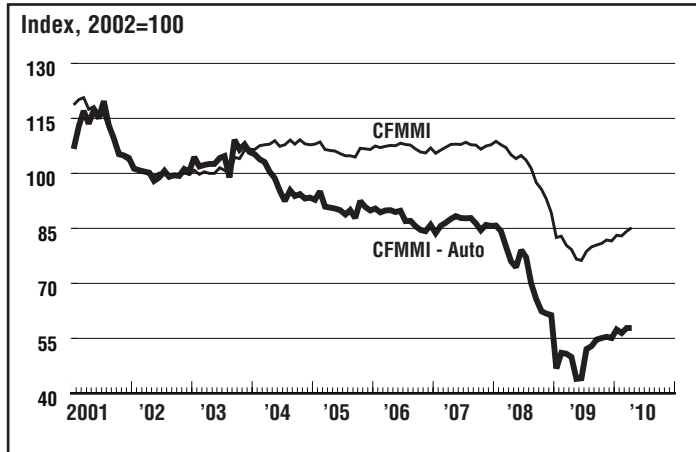


### Manufacturing output indexes—April

	percent change from		
	1 month ago	3 months ago	1 year ago
Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI)	1.2	2.6	7.5
US Industrial Production-Manufacturing (IPMFG)	1.1	2.2	6.5

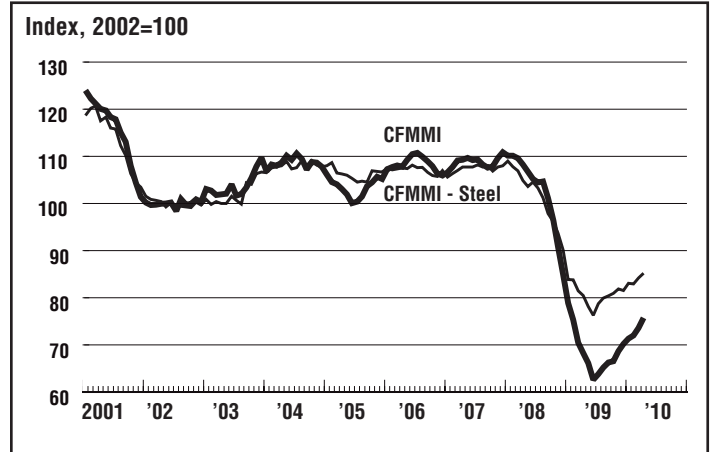
# Tracking Midwest Manufacturing Activity by Sectors — April 2010

## Auto Sector



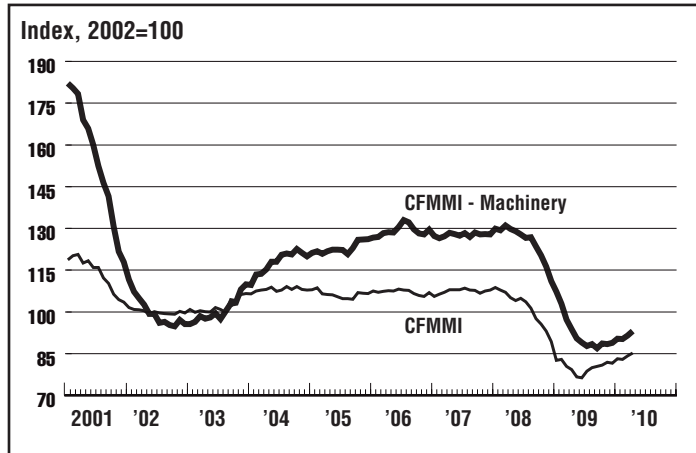
Auto Sector CFMMI Components:  
Plastics and Rubber Products; Transportation Equipment

## Steel Sector



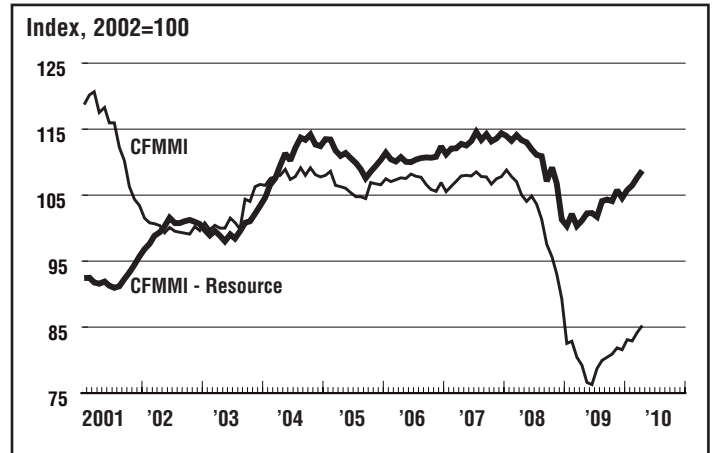
Steel Sector CFMMI Components:  
Primary Metal Industries; Fabricated Metal Products

## Machinery Sector



Machinery Sector CFMMI Components:  
Machinery; Computer and Electronic Products; Electrical Equipment, Appliance,  
and Components Manufacturing

## Resource Sector



Resource Sector CFMMI Components:  
Food; Wood Products; Paper; Chemicals; Nonmetallic Mineral Products

## Manufacturing Activity: Summary Table

	Index, 2002=100			Percent change			
	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	Monthly			Annual Apr 09–Apr 10
				Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	
CFMMI	82.9	84.2	85.2	-0.2	1.5	1.2	7.5
CFMMI - Auto	56.4	57.8	57.8	-1.7	2.4	0.1	15.8
CFMMI - Steel	72.0	73.6	75.7	0.9	2.2	2.9	15.8
CFMMI - Machinery	90.3	91.5	93.1	-0.1	1.3	1.8	-0.7
CFMMI - Resource	106.5	107.7	108.7	0.7	1.1	1.0	7.5
IPMFG	101.0	102.1	103.2	0.0	1.1	1.1	6.5

The Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI) is a monthly estimate of manufacturing output in the region by major industry. The Midwest is defined as the five states comprising the Seventh Federal Reserve District: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The CFMMI is a composite index of 15 manufacturing industries (identified by 3-digit NAICS codes) that uses hours worked data to measure monthly changes in regional activity. The CFMMI provides a regional comparison with the manufacturing component of the Industrial Production Index (IPMFG) compiled by the Federal Reserve Board. Although the IPMFG is constructed differently than the CFMMI, it also uses hours worked data as measures of industry output for about 60 percent of its total production index.

CFMMI and IPMFG historical data are available on the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's Web site at <http://www.chicagofed.org>.