

# Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index

## Midwest Manufacturing Output Decreased in February

The Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI) decreased 0.4% in February, to a seasonally adjusted level of 83.8 (2002 = 100). Revised data show the index declined 6.7% in January, to 84.2. The Federal Reserve Board's industrial production index for manufacturing (IPMFG) fell 0.7% in February. Regional output in February was down 22.2% from a year earlier—lower than the 13.8% decrease in national output.

Three of the four regional industry sectors decreased in February:

- Regional steel sector output moved down 4.7%;
- Regional machinery sector output decreased 4.2%;
- Regional resource sector output edged down 0.1%; and
- Regional auto sector production rose 7.7%.

The region's steel sector output moved down 4.7% in February after declining 6.2% in January. The nation's steel output was down 2.7% in February. Regional steel output dropped 30.8% from its February 2008 level, and national steel output fell 21.2%.

The Midwest's machinery sector output decreased 4.2% in February after moving down 3.1% in January. The nation's machinery output decreased 2.8% in February. Regional machinery output in February was 18.9% below year-earlier levels, and national machinery output was down 14.2%.

The Midwest resource sector's output edged down 0.1% in February after decreasing 0.8% in January. The increase from January to February in food production was offset by decreases in the other four subsectors—chemical, paper, wood, and nonmetallic mineral production. The national resource sector's output ticked down 0.1% in February. Compared with a year ago, regional resource output was down 10.9% in February, and the national resource output declined 9.5%.

Regional auto sector production rose 7.7% in February after dropping 21.7% in January. The nation's auto output increased 2.1% in February. The Midwest's automotive output was down 38.0% in February relative to its year-ago value, and the nation's auto output was down 22.5%.

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

**Embargoed for release:  
April 6, 2009  
Noon Eastern Time  
11:00 am Central Time**

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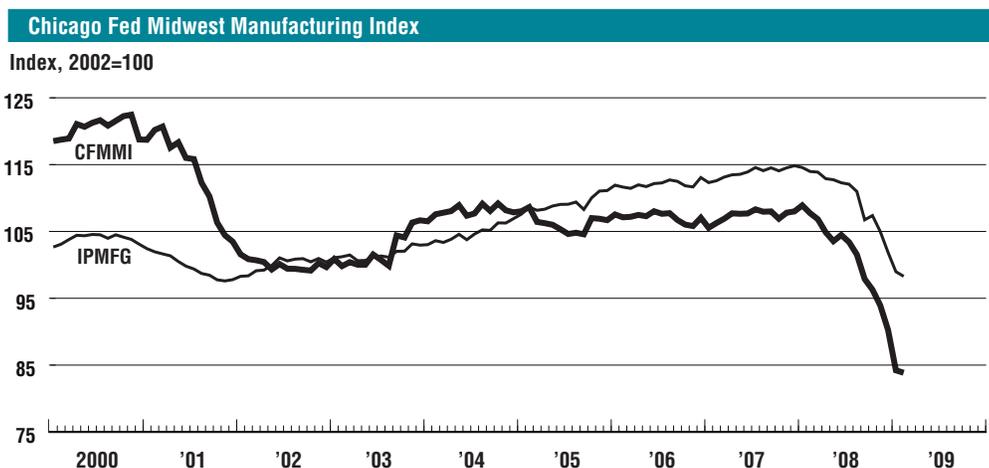
**Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago  
230 South LaSalle Street  
Chicago, IL 60604**

**2009 Release Dates:  
April 27, 2009  
May 28, 2009  
June 29, 2009  
July 27, 2009  
August 24, 2009  
September 30, 2009  
October 26, 2009  
November 30, 2009  
December 28, 2009**

NOTE: The Chicago Fed's Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI) has been revised due to changing availability of data.

**The next CFMMI will be released:  
April 27, 2009  
Noon Eastern Time  
11:00 am Central Time**

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OF CHICAGO**

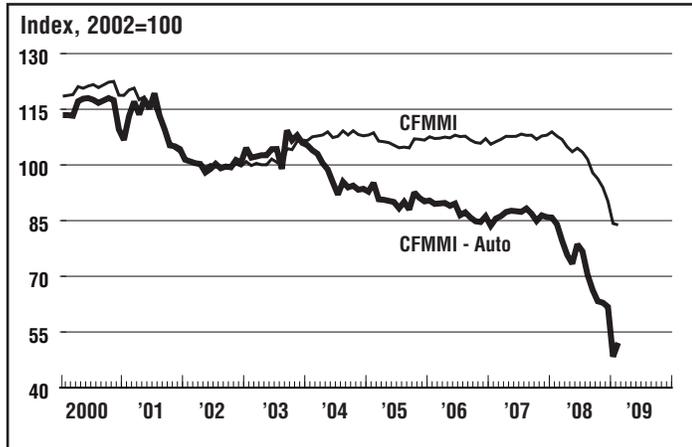


### Manufacturing output indexes—February

	percent change from		
	1 month ago	3 months ago	1 year ago
Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI)	-0.4	-10.7	-22.2
US Industrial Production-Manufacturing (IPMFG)	-0.7	-6.4	-13.8

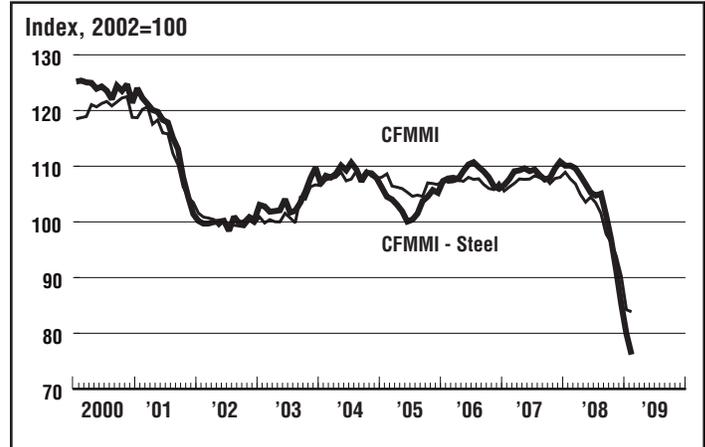
# Tracking Midwest Manufacturing Activity by Sectors — February 2009

## Auto Sector



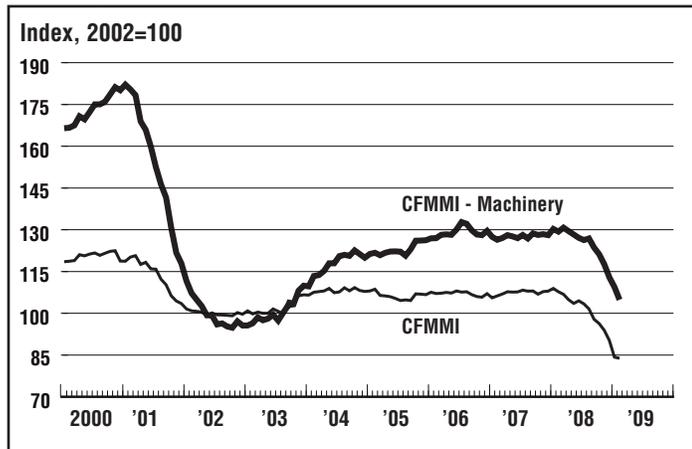
Auto Sector CFMMI Components:  
Plastics and Rubber Products; Transportation Equipment

## Steel Sector



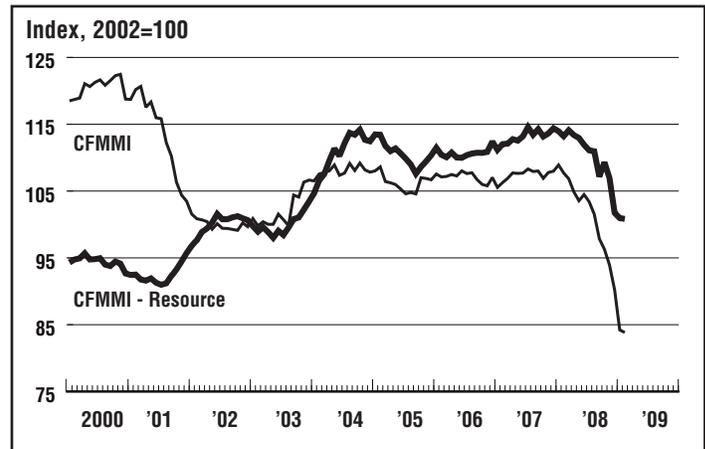
Steel Sector CFMMI Components:  
Primary Metal Industries; Fabricated Metal Products

## 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			
	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Monthly			Annual Feb 08–Feb 09
				Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	
CFMMI	90.2	84.2	83.8	-3.9	-6.7	-0.4	-22.2
CFMMI - Auto	61.7	48.3	52.1	-1.8	-21.7	7.7	-38.0
CFMMI - Steel	85.2	79.9	76.2	-6.7	-6.2	-4.7	-30.8
CFMMI - Machinery	112.9	109.4	104.8	-4.0	-3.1	-4.2	-18.9
CFMMI - Resource	101.7	100.9	100.8	-4.9	-0.8	-0.1	-10.9
IPMFG	101.8	99.0	98.3	-3.0	-2.8	-0.7	-13.8

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>.