The Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index (CFMMI) decreased 0.1% in November, to a seasonally adjusted level of 85.8 (2007 = 100). Revised data show the index increased 1.0% in October. The Federal Reserve Board’s industrial production index for manufacturing (IPMFG) decreased 0.3% in November. Regional output in November rose 7.1% from a year earlier, and national output increased 4.2%.

Production in two of the four regional sectors decreased in November:
- Regional resource sector output declined 0.8%;
- Regional machinery sector production decreased 0.3%;
- Regional auto sector production moved up 0.3%; and
- Regional steel sector output increased 1.6%.

The Midwest resource sector’s output declined 0.8% in November after increasing 0.8% in the previous month. The national resource sector’s output decreased 0.6% in November. The food, wood, and chemical subsectors of the regional resource sector decreased from October to November, but the paper and nonmetallic subsectors increased. Compared with a year ago, regional resource output was down 0.5% in November, but national resource output was up 0.3%.

The Midwest’s machinery sector production decreased 0.3% in November after increasing 0.8% in October. The nation’s machinery production moved down 0.2% in November. Regional machinery output in November was up 10.3% from its year-earlier level, and national machinery output was up 4.4%.

The region’s auto sector production moved up 0.3% in November after increasing 2.7% in October. National auto output decreased 0.6% in November. The Midwest’s automotive output was up 12.4% in November relative to its year-ago level, and national automotive output was up 9.9%.

The region’s steel sector output increased 1.6% in November after decreasing 0.3% in the previous month. The nation’s steel output increased 1.0% in November. Regional steel output was up 13.5% from its November 2010 level, and national steel output was up 8.3%.

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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.