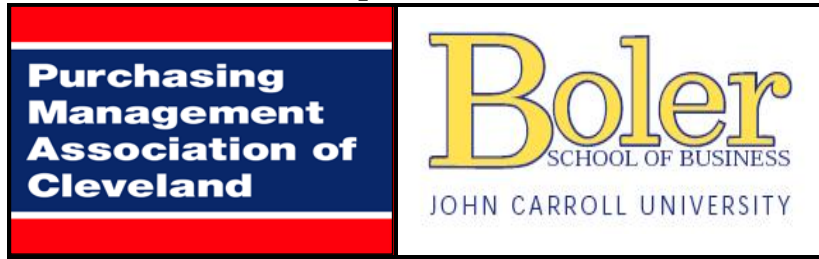


Northeast Ohio Business Survey Report
for
April, 2011



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GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The barometer index of 50.88 indicates that economic activity is higher than in previous months, and higher than it was a year ago.

The forecast index of 42.50 indicates that manufacturing activity should increase for the next month.

Barometer readings above "0" indicate that the manufacturing sector of the economy is generally expanding.

Readings below "0" mean generally contracting.

Month	Apr-11	Mar-11	Feb-11	Apr-10
Cleveland Barometer-%	50.88	50.81	46.44	31.47
Cleveland Forecast-%	42.50	47.00	52.78	11.44

PRODUCTION

Production activity continues to rise as it has for the past two months

The Production Index is now 16

Production	%Better	%Same	%Worse	Net	Index
April 2011	33	67	0	33	16
March 2011	50	50	0	50	44
February 2011	33	67	0	33	28

NEW ORDERS

New orders continue to increase, but at a slower rate

The New Order Index is now 8

New Orders	%Better	%Same	%Worse	Net	Index
April 2011	27	73	0	27	8
March 2011	50	38	12	38	30
February 2011	55	45	0	55	50

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EMPLOYMENT

Employment continues to increase
The Employment Index is 25

Employment	%Greater	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2011	45	45	10	35	25
March 2011	39	46	15	24	20
February 2011	17	67	17	0	5

INVENTORIES

RAW MATERIALS

Raw material inventories are rising at a faster rate
The Raw Material Index is 33

Raw Material

Inventories	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2011	46	46	8	38	33
March 2011	39	46	15	24	14
February 2011	18	73	9	9	9

FINISHED GOODS

Finished goods inventories continue to rise
The Finished Goods Index is 27

Finished Goods

Inventories	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2011	36	55	9	27	27
March 2011	39	46	15	24	21
February 2011	18	73	9	9	13

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BUYING POLICIES

Buying policies for Production Materials remain spread out
 Buying policies for MRO Supplies are somewhat more short term
 Capital expenditure decisions are evenly spread

PERCENT REPORTING

PRODUCTION MATERIALS	Hand to Mouth	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	6 Mos	1 Year
April 2011	33	17	33	17	0	0
March 2011	23	31	31	8	0	8
February 2011	36	9	45	9	0	0
MRO SUPPLIES						
April 2011	55	27	18	0	0	0
March 2011	42	33	25	0	0	0
February 2011	30	50	20	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
April 2011	20	0	20	20	20	20
March 2011	18	0	18	18	18	27
February 2011	11	11	22	11	11	33

COMMODITY PRICES

The commodity prices continue to increase, but at a slower rate
 The Commodity Price Index is now 25

Commodity Prices	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2011	45	45	10	35	25
March 2011	85	15	0	85	78
February 2011	73	27	0	73	71

COMMODITY CHANGES:

Prices Up:

- Gas, oil, copper, steel, 316SS steel, carbon, aluminum ingot
- fuel, lubricants, surcharges, adhesives, valeron, HDPE

Prices Down:

none mentioned

Items in Short Supply:

- Acetylene gas.
- Transformers 20 VAC for electrical assembly
- Fiberglass yarn, polyester lead times better.

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FROM GENERAL REMARKS:

- Still up and down.
- Weather has been a killer. Hope it breaks soon.
- I keep hearing about things getting better.
- Price increases continue at alarming percentages. Suppliers are adding freight surcharges to invoices.
- Not sure what planet our President is on. We have plenty of fuel resources here if allowed to use them.
- When will this all end.
- Business remains strong.
- Demand is increasing faster than we and are suppliers can keep up with. Don't know if this is just short term pick up or an indication of better times ahead.

Region	Economy	Main Index
Cleveland	Manufacturing	+8.0

Comments

Manufacturing Economy expansion continued to flatten. Inventories and prices continued to rise. Barometer results above zero indicate an expanding manufacturing economy.
