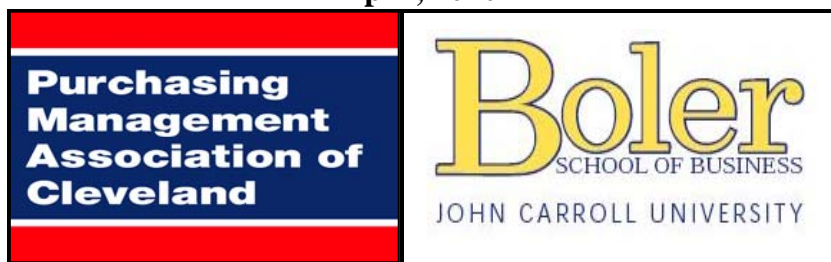


Northeast Ohio Business Survey Report
for
April, 2010



Published by: Boler School of Business, John Carroll University
In conjunction with: Purchasing Management Association of Cleveland

To view this report on-line, please go to www.PMAC.org

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The barometer index of 41.38 indicates that economic activity is greater than last month. A year ago, the economic activity was lower.

The forecast index of 27.50 indicates that manufacturing activity should increase. This is an improvement over the forecast from a year ago.

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

Month	Apr-10	Mar-10	Feb-10	Apr-09
Cleveland Barometer-%	41.38	39.81	32.56	-10.86
Cleveland Forecast-%	27.50	22.25	6.22	-51.00

PRODUCTION

Production activity increased with few respondents reporting lower

The Production Index is now at 24

Production	%Better	%Same	%Worse	Net	Index
April 2010	47	47	6	41	24
March 2010	56	33	11	45	39
February 2010	33	60	7	26	21

NEW ORDERS

New orders are increasing alongside production

The New Order Index is now 28

New Orders	%Better	%Same	%Worse	Net	Index
April 2010	59	29	12	47	28
March 2010	67	28	5	62	54
February 2010	46	39	15	31	26

Northeast Ohio Business Survey Report
for
April, 2010

EMPLOYMENT

Employment is stable to increasing.
The Employment Index is -5

Employment	%Greater	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2010	25	56	19	6	-5
March 2010	22	56	22	0	-4
February 2010	20	73	7	13	18

INVENTORIES

RAW MATERIALS

Raw material inventories remain relatively constant
The Raw Material Index is 0

Raw Material

Inventories	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2010	23	59	18	5	0
March 2010	22	39	39	-17	-27
February 2010	7	67	26	-19	-19

FINISHED GOODS

Finished goods inventories are lower, with more respondees reporting lower inventory
The Finished Goods Index is -6

Finished Goods

Inventories	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2010	19	56	25	-6	-6
March 2010	18	53	29	-11	-14
February 2010	7	60	33	-26	-22

**Northeast Ohio Business Survey Report
for
April, 2010**

BUYING POLICIES

Buying policies for Production Materials and MRO are less "hand to mouth."

Capital expenditures are trending toward long term

PERCENT REPORTING

PRODUCTION MATERIALS	Hand to Mouth	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	6 Mos	1 Year
April 2010	28	22	33	17	0	0
March 2010	33	22	22	6	17	0
February 2010	50	25	19	6	0	0
MRO SUPPLIES						
April 2010	50	50	0	0	0	0
March 2010	53	41	6	0	0	0
February 2010	64	36	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
April 2010	27	7	13	13	13	27
March 2010	25	13	19	6	6	31
February 2010	32	15	15	15	0	23

COMMODITY PRICES

The commodity prices increased with no reports of lower prices

The Commodity Price Index is now 48

Commodity Prices	%Higher	%Same	%Lower	Net	Index
April 2010	53	47	0	53	48
March 2010	47	47	6	41	34
February 2010	47	38	7	40	38

COMMODITY CHANGES:

Prices Up:

PVC, Lodine, solvents, Polyester, cores, LDPE

Copper, Steel, scrap, allow surcharges

Prices Down:

Items in Short Supply:

bearings, photo multiplier tubes, polyester, some alloy steel bar grades

Northeast Ohio Business Survey Report
for
April, 2010

FROM GENERAL REMARKS:

- " - Keeping our fingers crossed.
- " - Expect seasonal pick up.
- " - Lead times are getting extended some.
- " - Looking for inflation increase 2nd half 2010.
- " - The economy is slowly improving although we-like others-are hesitant to bring back many people.
- " - There is a tangible fear that higher taxes from the new health care, cap and trade, etc., will stifle the economy.
- " - Business while up still seems to be about the same as it was last month. Future-who knows now???