

**CHICAGO BUSINESS ACTIVITY INDEX – JUNE 2015**

**CBAI increased in June**

The Chicago Business Activity Index (CBAI) increased to 97.3 in June from 93.2 in May. The rise is attributed to the job growth in the nonmanufacturing sector and to improved retail activities in the Chicago area.

In June, the national and regional economies shared mixed features. The Federal Reserve Board announced that the industrial production index increased 0.1 percent in June after having fallen 0.3 percent in May. Capacity utilization for the industrial sector was little changed at 77.7 in June. The Chicago Fed reported that the Chicago Fed National Activity Index (CFNAI) moved up to +0.08 in June from -0.08 in May, led by a rise in the production and employment-related indicators. In the Chicago region, employment in the nonmanufacturing sector rose 0.06 percent in June. Employment in the manufacturing and construction sectors declined 0.09 percent and 2.23 percent, respectively, in June. Retail sales are estimated to have increased 0.89 percent.

In the coming months, the national economy is likely to stay on the expansion phase. The economic growth reflected in the CFNAI-MA3 suggests that growth in national economic activity was very close to historical trend. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 215,000 and the unemployment rate unchanged at 5.3 percent in July. Considering recent national economic conditions and movements of projected CBAI, the Chicago economy is expected to continue its recovery trend over the next several months.

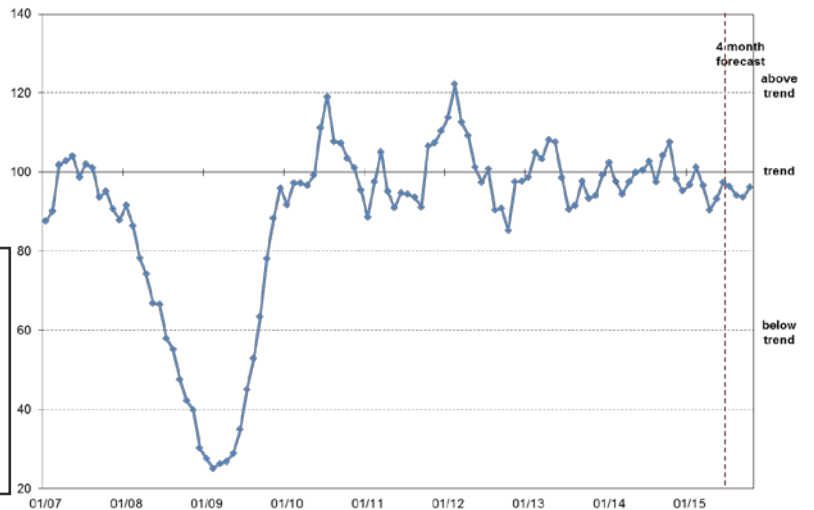
Release Date:  
*August 18, 2015*

Next Release Date:  
*September 18, 2015*

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**Chicago Business Activity Index**

<b>CBAI</b> (Current: 97.3)			
	1 month	3 month	1 year
Historical (ago)	93.2	96.6	100.5
Forecast (ahead)	96.3	93.6	-



\* January 2007 = 100

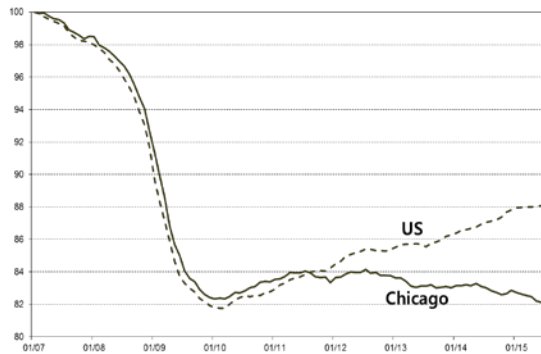
**Chicago Fed National Activity Index (CFNAI-MA3)**



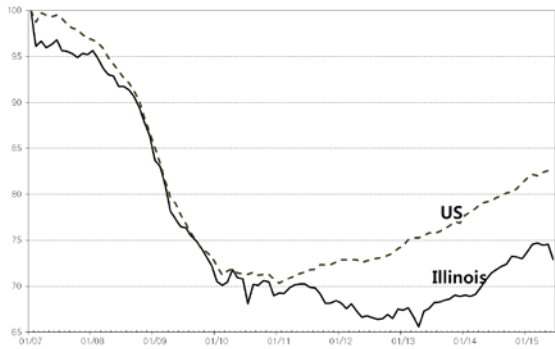
**Retail Sales**



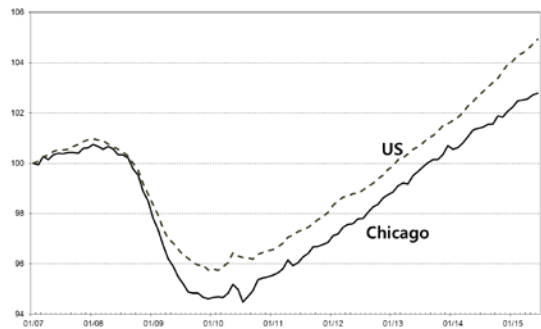
**Manufacturing Employment**



**Construction**



**Non-manufacturing Employment**



**Economic Activity: Summary**

Months ago	Percentage change compared to the previous period					
	National			Chicago		
	12	3	1	12	3	1
Mfgn	1.30	0.06	0.02	-1.17	-0.50	-0.09
NMfgn	2.20	0.52	0.18	1.37	0.26	0.06
Cons	4.18	0.66	0.00	2.02	-2.42	-2.23
Retail	1.12	1.12	-0.07	0.66	0.25	0.89

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted.

The Chicago Business Activity Index (CBAI) is a monthly statistic that measures the changes in the business cycle status of the Chicago metropolitan area. The CBAI leads the local business cycle by three-to-four months. REAL's approach to constructing this index, using the principal components regression method, directs attention to the relationship between local and national business cycle.