

CHICAGO BUSINESS ACTIVITY INDEX – June 2021

**CBAI decreased in April**

The Chicago Business Activity Index (CBAI) slightly decreased to 103.4 in April from 103.9 in March. The decrease is mainly attributed to decline in expected retail sales. However, the CBAI still surpasses 100, which indicates that the economy is on a recovery path. Economic indicators explaining employment and production as well as the CBAI are anticipating an economic rejuvenation in the coming months.

In April, total industrial production increased 0.7 percent. Manufacturing output increased 0.4 percent, and at 106.3 percent of its 2012 average, total industrial production was 16.5 percent higher than it was a year earlier. Capacity utilization for the industrial sector increased 0.5 percentage point to 74.9 percent, a rate that is 4.7 percentage points below its long-run (1972–2020) average. The Chicago Fed reported that the Chicago Fed National Activity Index (CFNAI) moved down to 0.24 in April from 1.71 in March. In the Chicago region, employment in the manufacturing sector increased 0.21 percent and employment in the nonmanufacturing sector increased 2.49 percent in April. Employment in the construction sector increased 5.25 percent and retail sales are estimated to have decreased 8.84 percent during the same period.

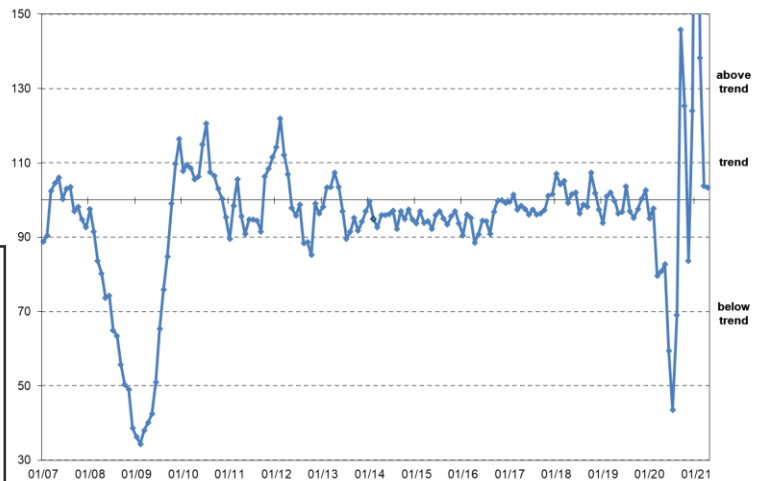
Total US nonfarm payroll employment increased by 559,000 in May, and the unemployment rate declined to 5.8 percent.

**Chicago Business Activity Index**

Release Date:  
*June 18, 2021*

Next Release Date:  
*July 18, 2021*

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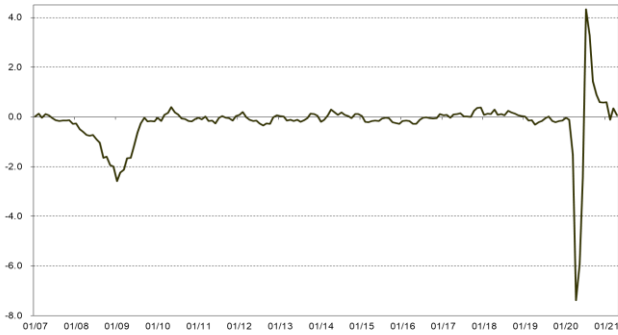


<b>CBAI (Current: 103.4)</b>			
	1 month	3 month	1 year
Historical (ago)	103.9	250.4	80.8
Forecast (ahead)	146.4	124.0	-

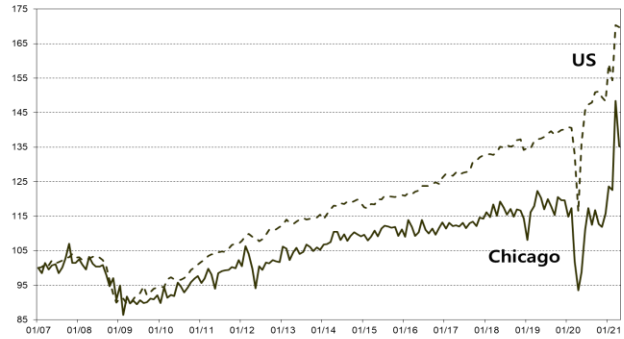
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\* January 2007 = 100

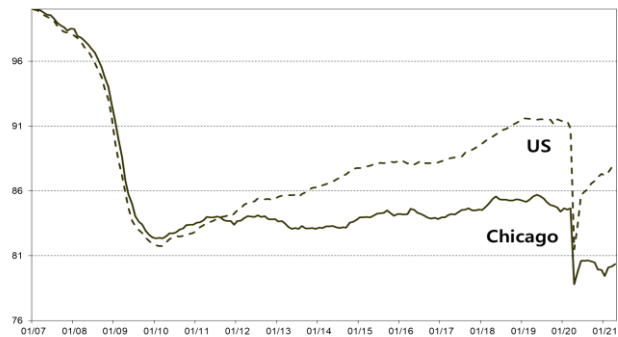
**Chicago Fed National Activity Index(CFNAI-MA3)**



**Retail Sales**



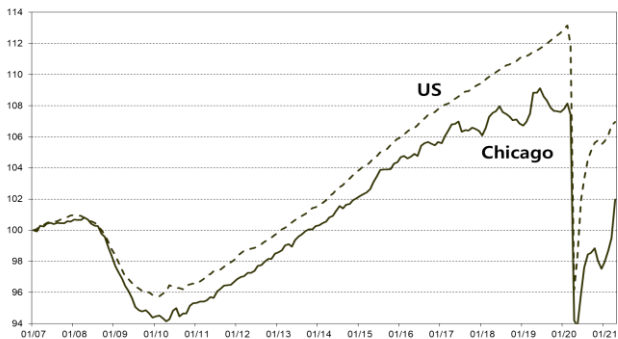
**Manufacturing Employment**



**Construction Employment**



**Non-manufacturing Employment**



**Economic Activity: Summary**

Months ago	National			Chicago		
	12	3	1	12	3	1
Mfgn	7.47	0.44	-0.26	1.95	1.13	0.21
NMfgn	11.22	1.18	0.24	8.24	4.08	2.49
Cons	13.89	0.42	-0.07	13.81	6.74	5.25
Retail	45.99	6.71	-0.31	44.61	9.43	-8.84

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.

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