

Finding the Dark Cloud Behind the Silver Lining in US Economy American Copper Council

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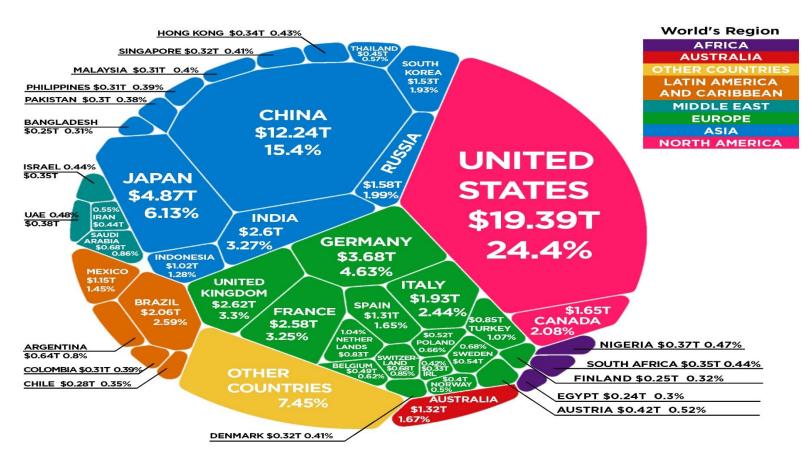
We Told You So





We ARE a Big Country





Article and Sources:

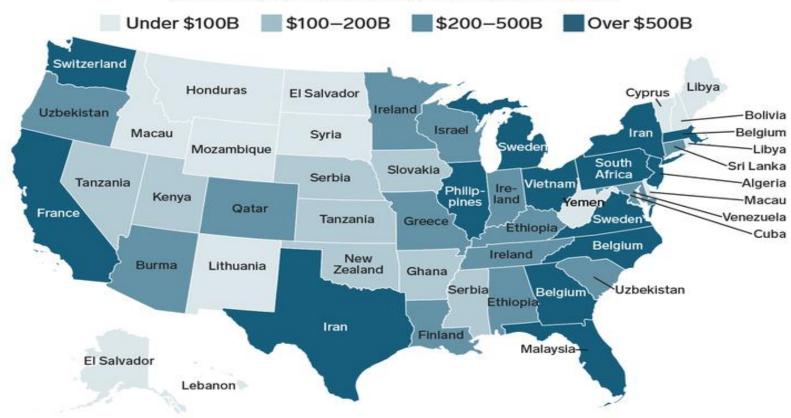
https://howmuch.net/articles/the-world-economy-2017 http://databank.worldbank.org/data/download/GDP.pdf



States as Compared to Countries







Note: Map shows the country with the closest 2017 GDP to that of the state

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; CIA World Factbook

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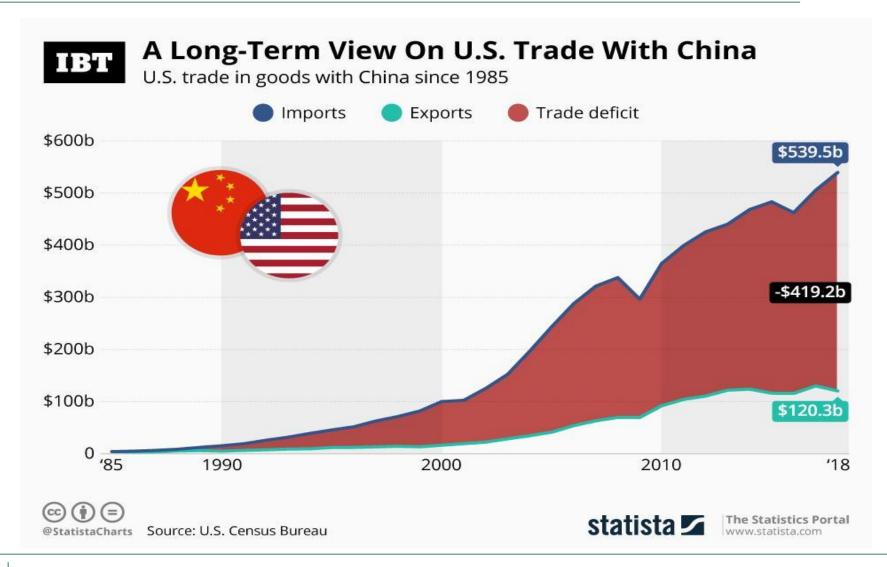
Tariff Politics



- Issue Number One In most every respect the US and China are enemies and have been for many years.
 Connected by mutual dependence.
- Issue Number Two Bashing China is popular with Trump's base and bashing the US is popular in China.
- Considerations
 - China is the more directly vulnerable of the two as there are no real substitutes for the US consumer while the US can (and will) find alternative sources.
 - US impact will be indirect as countries that sell to China are the ones that buy from the US and will be slowed if China slows.
 - Tariffs do not work at all if they are temporary. Companies wil not invest in becoming a new supplier if they think the tariffs will be lifted later.

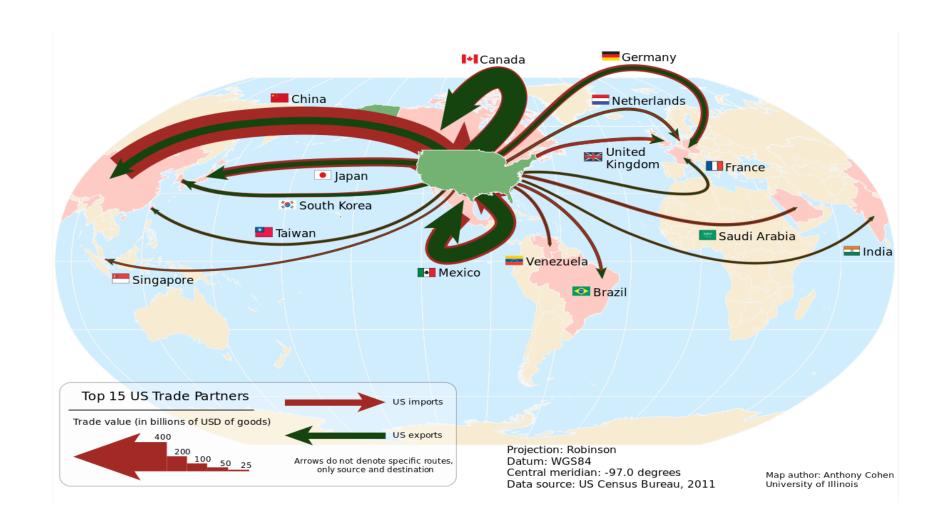
It is a Relatively New Problem





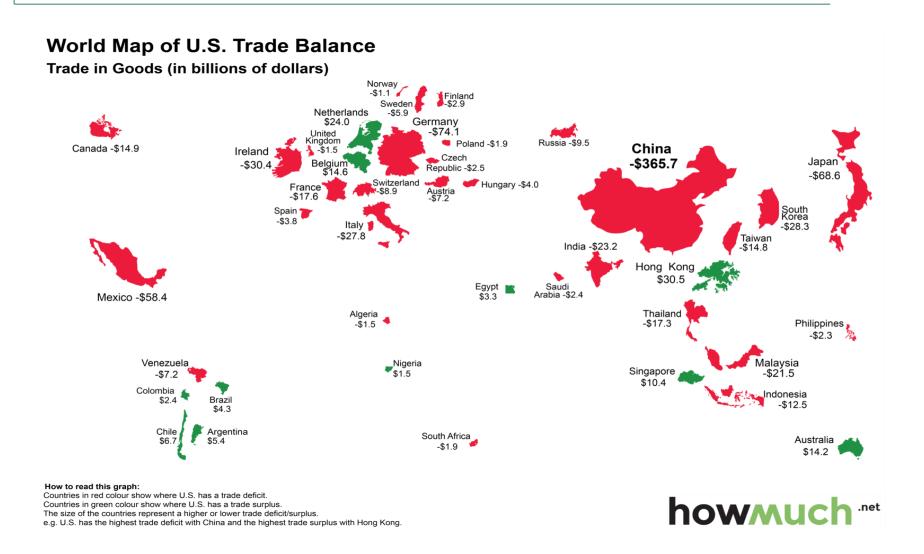
Who Buys From the US and Who Sells





Not Many Surplus Readings





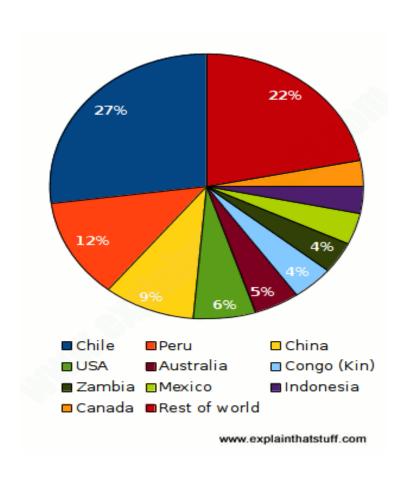
Import Dependence





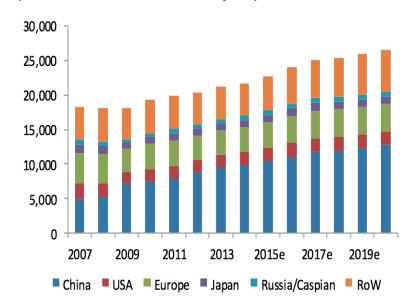
Supply and Demand for Copper





Copper Demand by Region

(Global refined demand, MT/year)

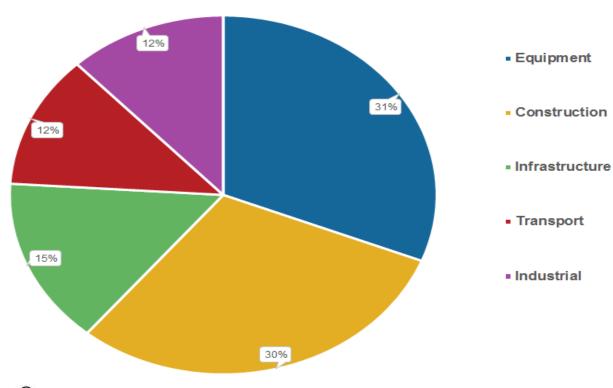


Source: WMBH, Morgan Stanley Commodity Research estimates

Copper Consumers





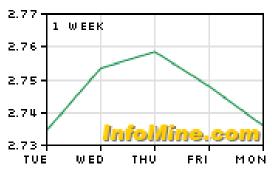


Market Realist[®] Source: ICS

Copper Prices







COPPER PRICE 2.74 USD/LB 20 May '19



COPPER PRICE 2.74 USD/LB



COPPER PRICE 2.74 USD/LB



COPPER PRICE 2.74 USD/LB 20 MAY '19



COPPER PRICE 2.74 USD/LB 20 May '19



Slide Attributed to China Tensions



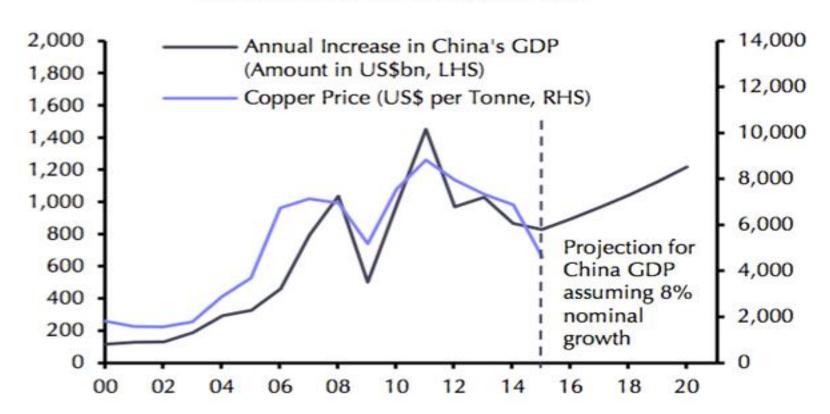


SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | OTC

China and Copper Prices



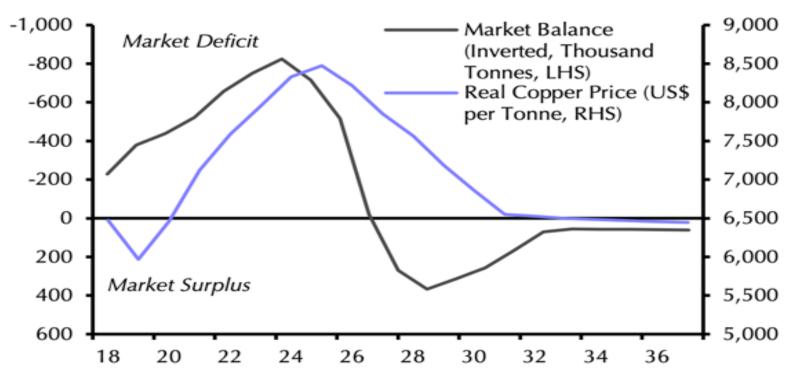
CHINA GDP & COPPER PRICE



Big Rise and Big Fall Predicted



Chart 9: Copper Market Balance & Real Copper Price



Sources: ICSG, Capital Economics

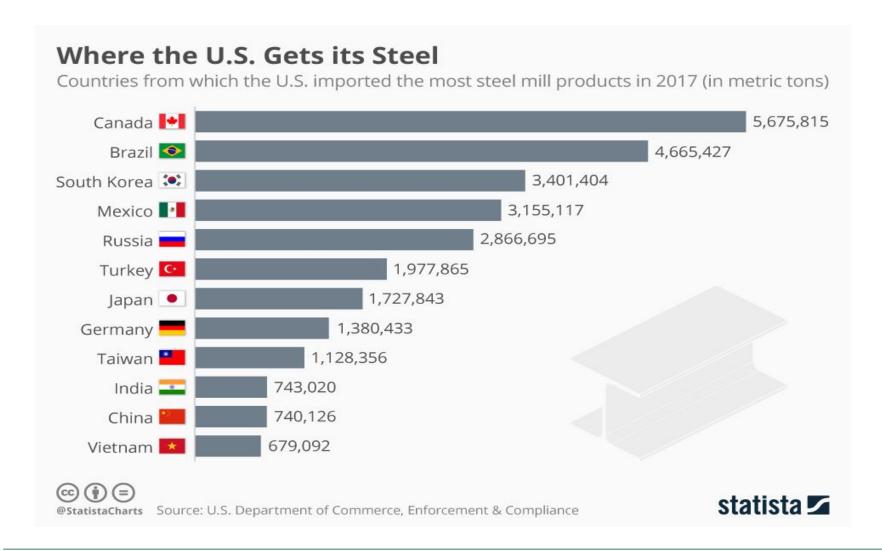
Steel Tariffs



- Decades of neglect in the steel industry
- Original tariff system included everybody then almost everybody was exempted. Then they were not. Today Brazil, Argentina and South Korea have exemptions. Canada and Mexico likely are next and so is Europe
- Steel makers once bit, twice shy
- Manufacturers feeling pinch already unless they could use the 232 exemptions
- China is not a factor as far as exporting to US. They sell aggressively to everybody else and that pushes other nations to sell aggressively to the US

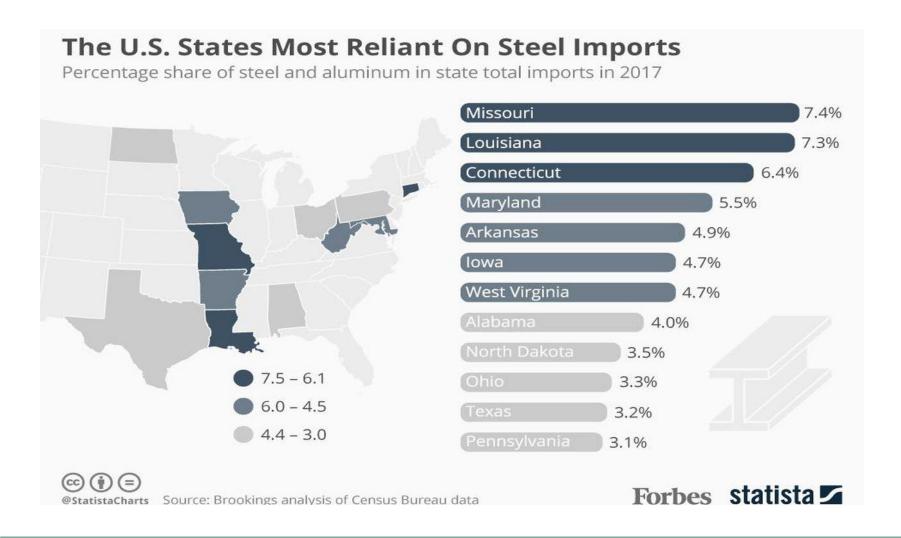
Where Does it Come From?





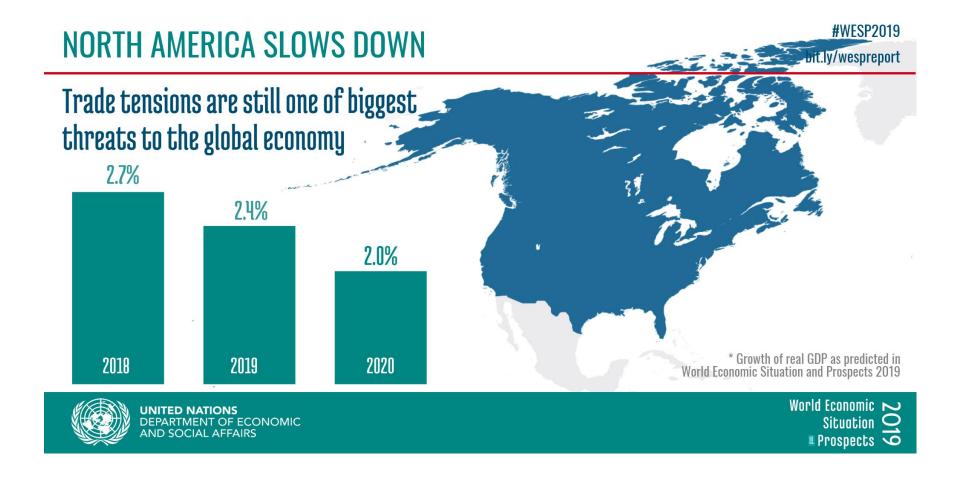
Manufacturing States





As US Goes - So Goes the World





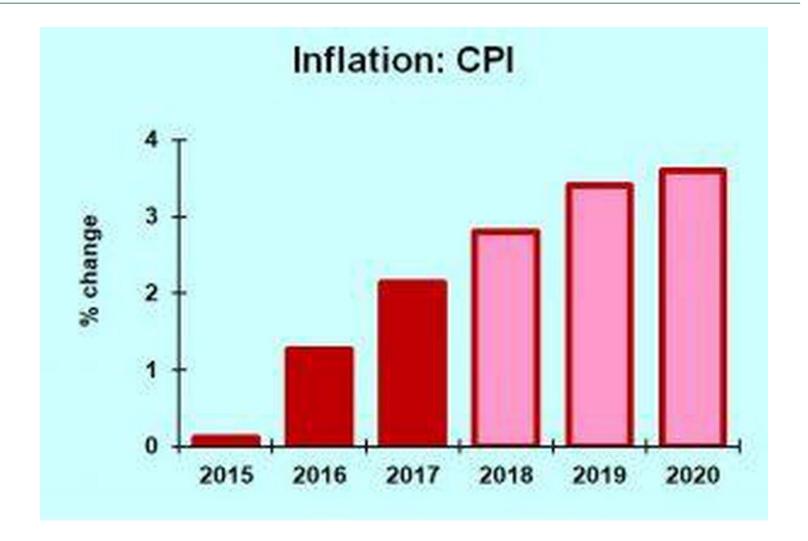
Five Issues to Worry About



- Return of Inflation and Likely Fed Reaction
 - Commodities and Labor
 - Importance of FOMC personalities
- Trade War Impact
 - China tariffs, structural reform and global growth
 - Drift away from Europe
- Labor Shortage
 - Hiring and productivity
- Political Stalemate
 - Shutdown impact
 - Neglecting big issues coming off "sugar rush"
- Consumer Confidence and Retail Shifts
 - On-line vs. brick and mortar

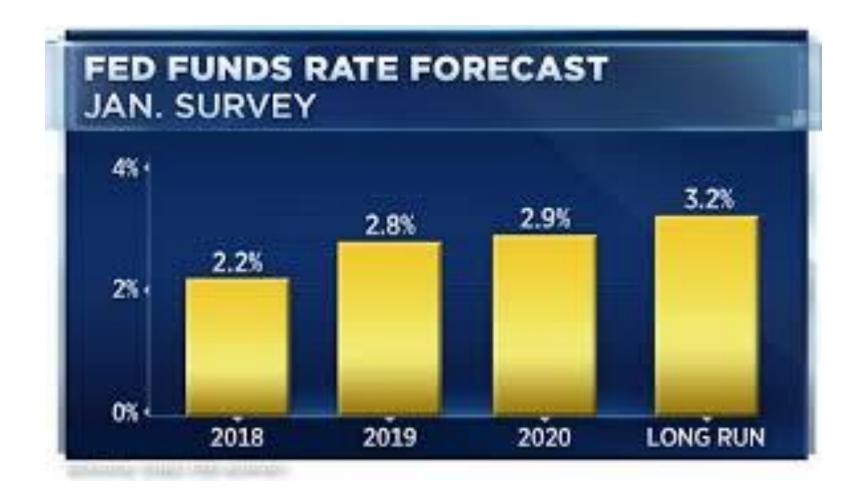
Projections





Small Hikes



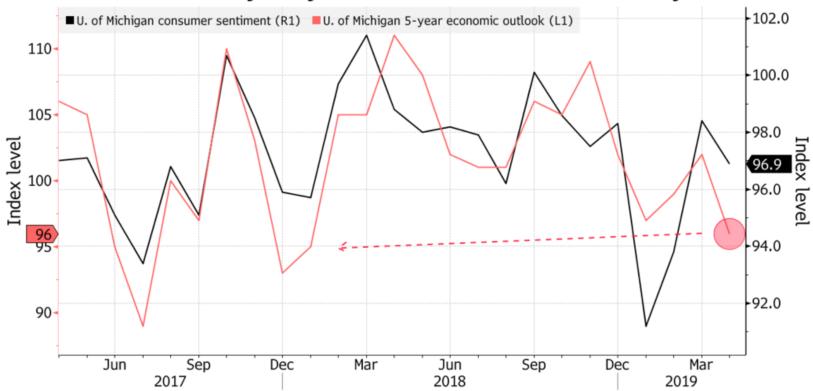


Future Looks a Little Dimmer



Fading Outlook

Views of the U.S. economy five years out hit lowest level since January 2018



Source: University of Michigan

People Needed - Now!!!



Manufacturing Facts



largest economy in the world contributing

\$2.18 trillion

to the U.S. economy in 2016.



3,749 firms have more than 500 employees.



248,152 firms have less than 500 employees.

Out of those 248,152 firms, 186,114 have less than 20 employees.

80%

of manufacturers reported a moderate or serious shortage for qualified applicants.



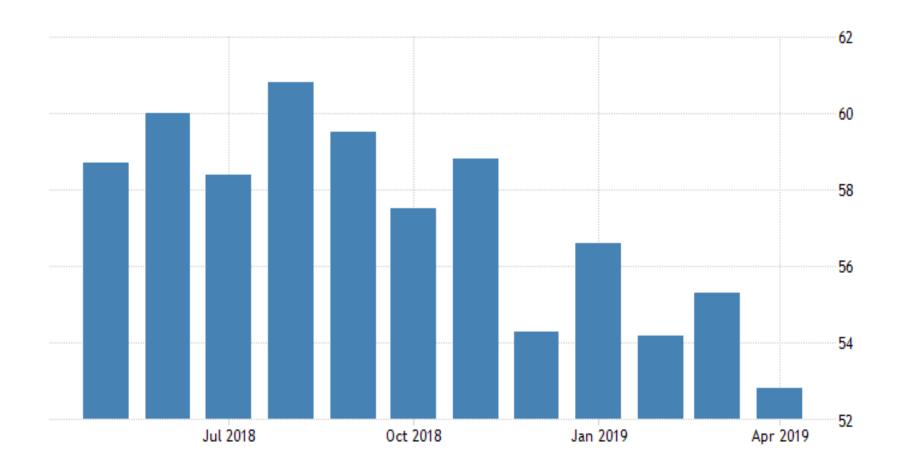
With 3.5 million manufacturing jobs needed to be filled, 2 million are expected to stay unfilled due to a skills gap.



Source: National Association of Manufacturers

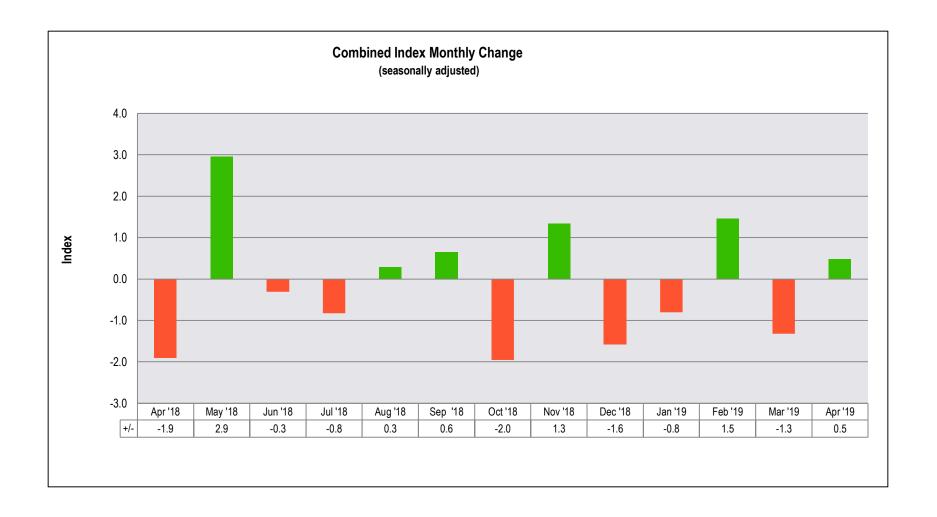
PMI Declines





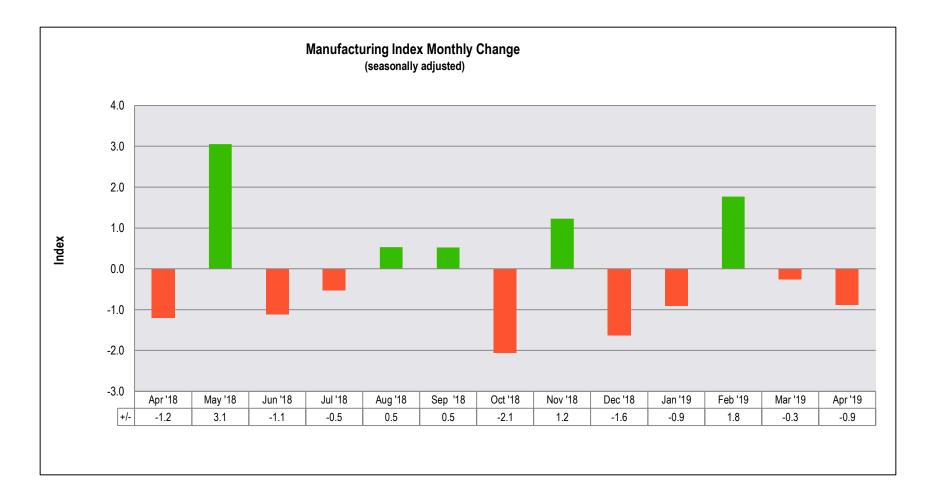
Overall CMI





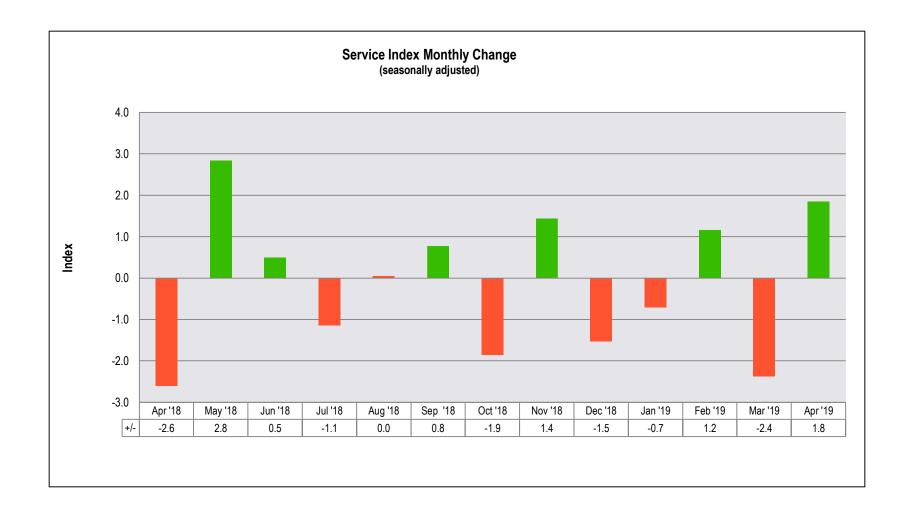
Manufacturing CMI





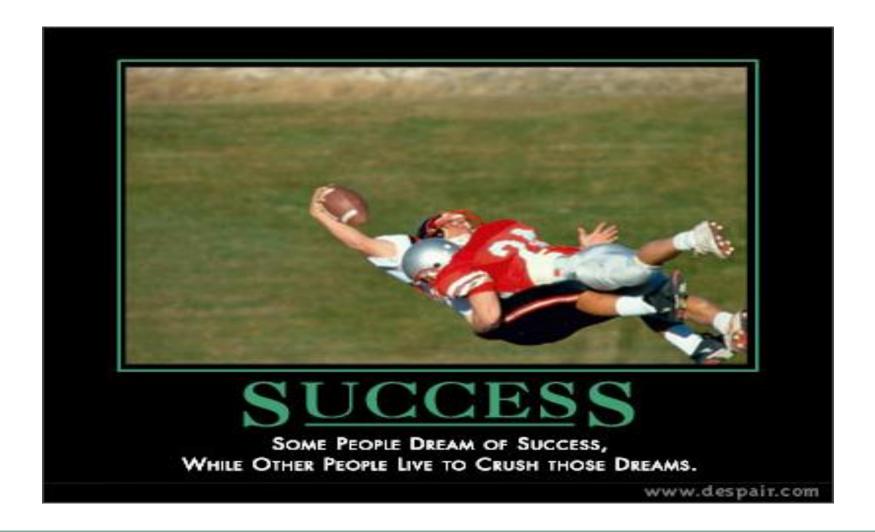
Service CMI





So True!





For Those that Can't Get Enough of This





- <u>chris.kuehl@armadaci.com</u>
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 Owl Report in a FREE one
 month trial.
- We are "economists for rent". We just love to help with strategic planning by pointing out all the potential pitfalls and challenges!