

Buffalo-area manufacturing activity slowed down in April. The Buffalo-Niagara Manufacturing index (or PMI®) fell slightly to 78.4 in April from 86.8 in March. The PMI® is a weighted average of a set of sub-indices calculated from a survey of local supply executives administered by ISM-Buffero, Inc., and values of 50.0 or greater are generally consistent with increased business activity relative to the prior month.

MORB, Capital Equipment Buying Policy, Vendor Deliveries, and Commodity Prices increased compared to the levels in last month, while New Orders, Inventories of Produced Goods, and Equipment Levels went down. Production Level stayed the same as in March.

This month (seasonally adjusted)			
Index Name	Index	Direction	Change in Index From Last Month
PMI	78.4	Increasing	Lower growth rate
Production	70.6	Increasing	Lower growth rate
New Orders	79.9	Increasing	Lower growth rate
Inventories	68.5	Increasing	Lower growth rate
Employment	74.9	Increasing	Lower growth rate
Deliveries	98.3	Slower	More slowdown of deliveries
Prices	100.0	Increasing	Higher growth rate

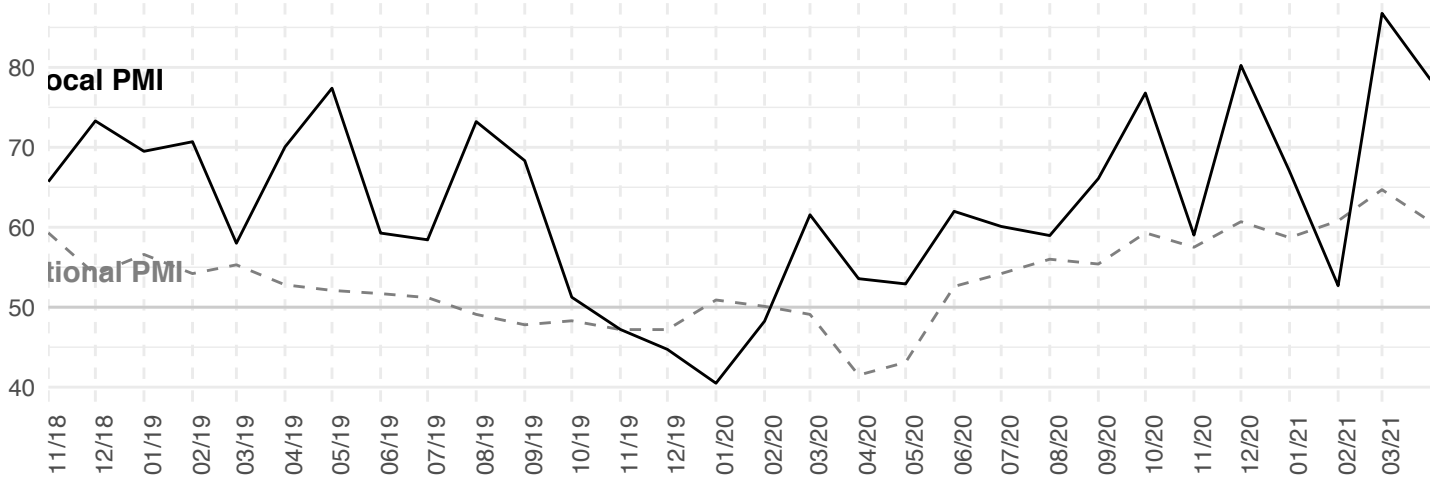


Figure 1: Local and National PMI over the last 2.5 years

Production Buying Policy

Days ahead production buying commitments among respondents increased dramatically at April's 97.5 from March's 52.5. Overall the level has been on an upward trend since May of 2019.

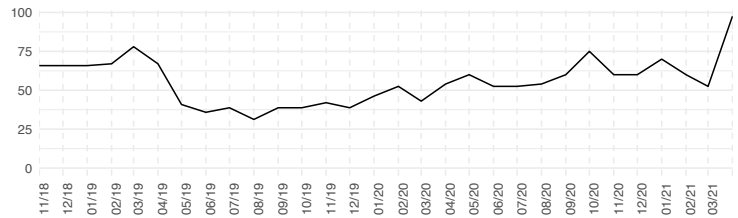


Figure 2: Production Buying Policy

Maintenance, Repair, and Operating Buying Policy

Maintenance, Repair, and Operating supplies (MORB) on hand among respondents rose in April from March's 23.8 days to 37.5 days.

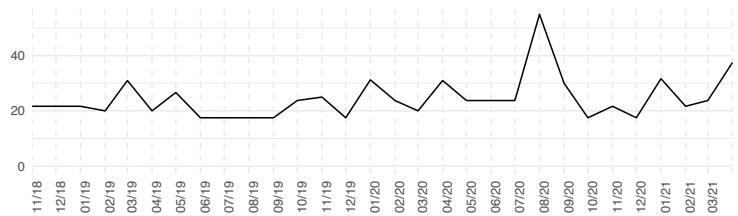


Figure 3: MRO Buying Policy

Capital Equipment Buying Policy

Manufacturers reported making capital equipment buying commitments an average of 201.7 days ahead in April, higher than the previous month's level.

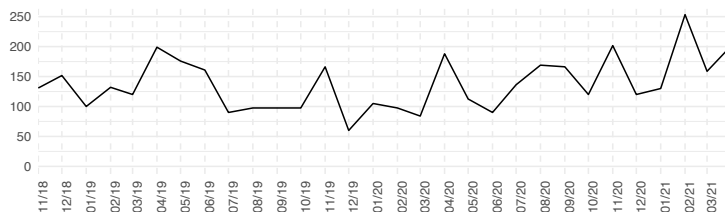


Figure 4: Capital Buying Policy

Production Level

Month	Higher	Same	Lower	Index
Apr 2021	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	75.0
Mar 2021	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	75.0
Feb 2021	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	66.7

The Production diffusion index is 75.0 in April, the same as last month's 75.0, with 0% of respondents reporting lower production relative to the previous month.

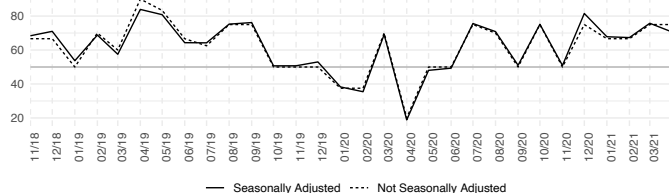


Figure 5: Production Diffusion Index

New Orders

Month	Higher	Same	Lower	Index
Apr 2021	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	87.5
Mar 2021	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0
Feb 2021	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	33.3

The non-seasonally-adjusted New Orders index dropped to 87.5 in April from March's 100.0. And 75% respondents indicated increasing new orders, while 25% respondents reported the same levels as before.

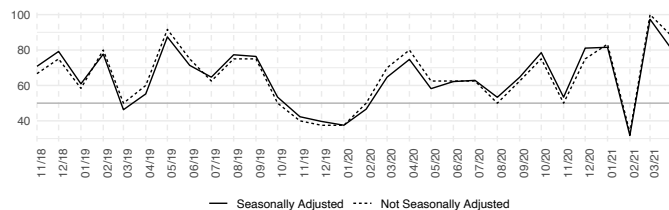


Figure 6: New Orders Diffusion Index

Inventories of Purchased Goods

Month	Higher	Same	Lower	Index
Apr 2021	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	75.0
Mar 2021	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0
Feb 2021	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	16.7

The Inventories of Purchased Goods index fell to 75.0 in April. 50% respondents reported a higher level of inventories and no respondents reported a lower level of inventories.

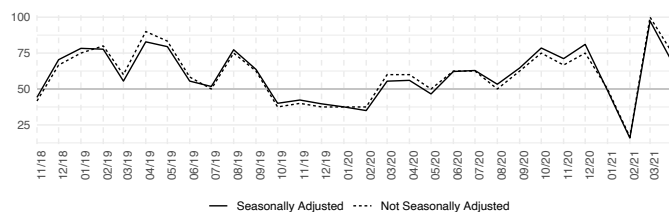


Figure 7: Purchased Inventories Diffusion Index

Employment Levels

Month	Higher	Same	Lower	Index
Apr 2021	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	75.0
Mar 2021	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	87.5
Feb 2021	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	66.7

The non-seasonally adjusted Employment index is 75.0 in April, lower than March's level of 87.5. The last two years have seen consistently-high employment growth both in the Buffalo region as well as nationally.

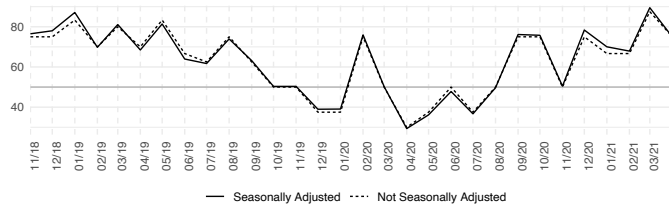


Figure 8: Employment Diffusion Index

Vendor Deliveries

Month	Slower	Same	Faster	Index
Apr 2021	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0
Mar 2021	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	75.0
Feb 2021	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	83.3

The Vendor Deliveries index was 100.0 in April, higher than last month's level. 100% of the respondents indicated that delivery times were slower than expected while no respondents reported deliveries as expected.

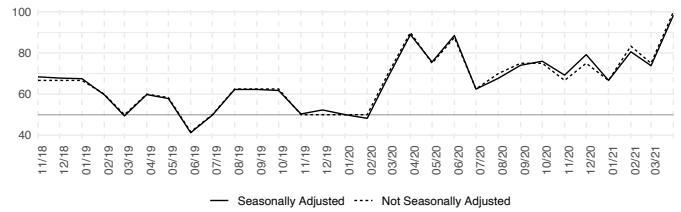


Figure 9: Vendor Deliveries Diffusion Index

Commodity Prices

Month	Higher	Same	Lower	Index
Apr 2021	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0
Mar 2021	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	87.5
Feb 2021	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0

Commodity Prices rose, with 75% respondents in April reported higher commodity prices. The inflation level trend has continued.

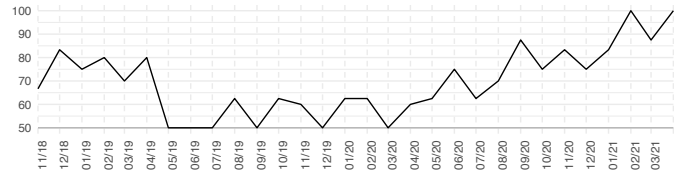


Figure 10: Commodity Prices Diffusion Index