

## Chicago Business Barometer™

### September 2023 Chicago Report™ Softened

- The Chicago Business Barometer™, produced with MNI, fell back -4.6 points to 44.1 from 48.7 in August, partially reversing the rebound seen in last month's data.

- New Orders, Production and Employment were the biggest downside drivers while Order Backlogs limited the downward move and Supplier Deliveries also moved a little higher.

- New Orders dropped -17.6 points. This was the sixth biggest decline since the series began in 1967, and the largest since April 2020. We have also only seen one reading lower than this since June 2020.

- Production fell -6.0 points to 51.1, just about remaining in expansive territory and reversing half of the increase seen in August.

- Employment fell -3.8 points to 44.5.

- Order Backlogs increased +10.5 points to its highest level since April 2023.

- Supplier Deliveries improved +2.6 points.

- Prices Paid more than reversed last month's large increase, falling -14.5 points to 59.5. With the exception of June 2023, this is the lowest Prices Paid reading since August 2020.

- Inventories marginally increased by +0.2 points.

- The survey ran from September 1 to September 18.

For more details on the Chicago Business Barometer™, including the subindices and historical data, please contact [sales@marketnews.com](mailto:sales@marketnews.com)

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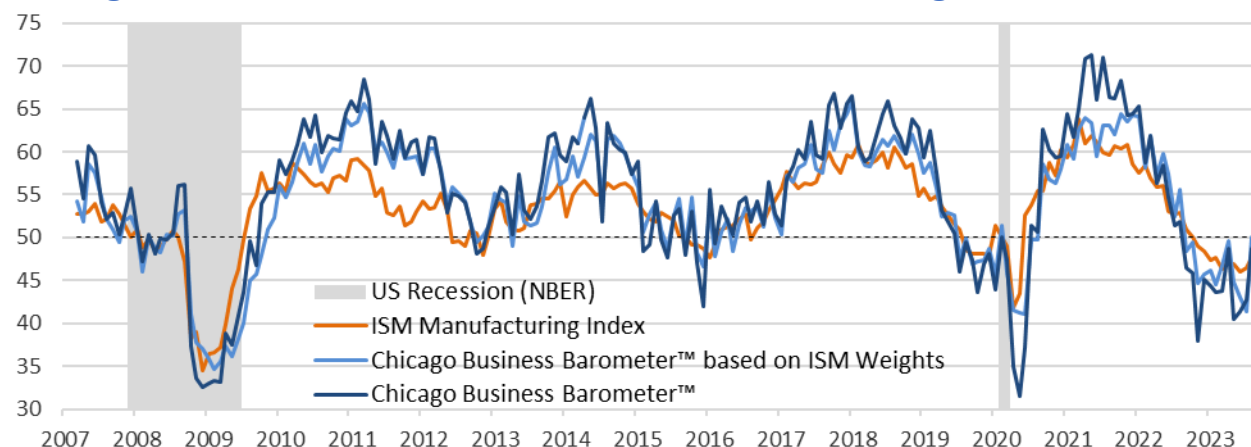
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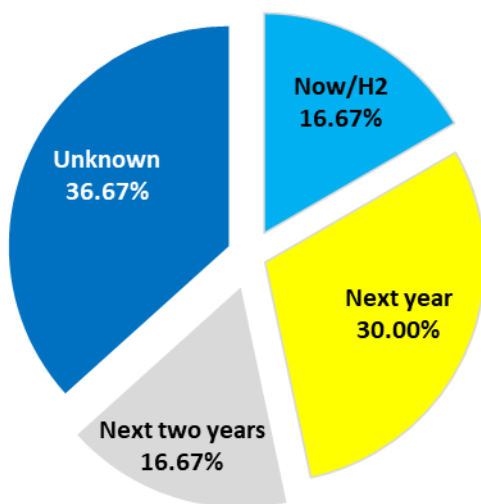
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### Chicago Business Barometer™ and ISM Manufacturing Index



Special Question in September 2023

**When are you planning to make your next  
(major) capital investments for growth?**



## About MNI Indicators

MNI Indicators specializes in producing business and consumer surveys designed to present an advance picture of the economic landscape and highlight changing trends in business and consumer activity. MNI Indicators produces the renowned Chicago Business Barometer™, a key leading indicator of the US economy. MNI Indicators is part of Market News International, Inc., a leading provider of news and intelligence.

## Notes to Editors

**Production:** MNI Indicators, part of Market News International Inc.

**Date range:** Monthly since 1946

**Release Date:** Last working day of the month

**Bloomberg ticker:** <CHPMINDX>

**Collection method:** Survey data is collected online each month from manufacturing and non-manufacturing firms in the Chicago area. Respondents are purchasing/supply-chain professionals, primarily drawn from the membership of the ISM-Chicago (Institute for Supply Management – Chicago).

**Calculation method:** Respondents are asked their opinion on whether a particular business activity has increased, decreased or remained the same compared with the previous month. E.g. Is Production Higher/Same/Lower compared with a month ago?

A diffusion indicator is then calculated by adding the percentage share of positive responses to half the percentage of those respondents reporting no change. The three questions related to Buying Policy are measured in days and are not diffusion indicators. The Chicago Business Barometer™ and all sub-indicators are then seasonally adjusted. An indicator reading above 50 shows expansion compared with a month earlier while below 50 indicates contraction. A result of 50 is neutral. The farther an indicator is above or below 50, the greater or smaller the rate of change.

**Headline indicator:** The Chicago Business Barometer™ is a weighted composite indicator made up of five sub-indicators, namely New Orders, Production, Employment, Order Backlogs and Supplier Deliveries. It is designed to predict future changes in U.S. gross domestic product (GDP).

**Other indicators:** The survey also asks companies about changes in their input prices, inventories and lead times to source production material, MRO supplies and capital equipment.

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