

## Economic Highlights

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### Manufacturing

ISM Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index 1

### Real Estate

Construction Spending 2

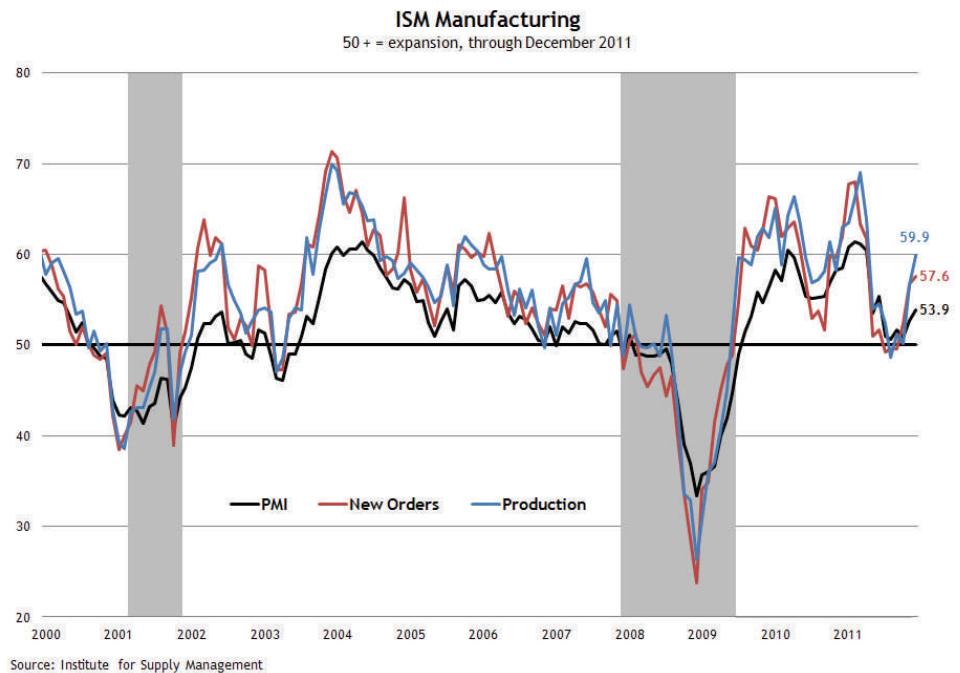
Pending Home Sales Index 3

# Manufacturing

## Summary

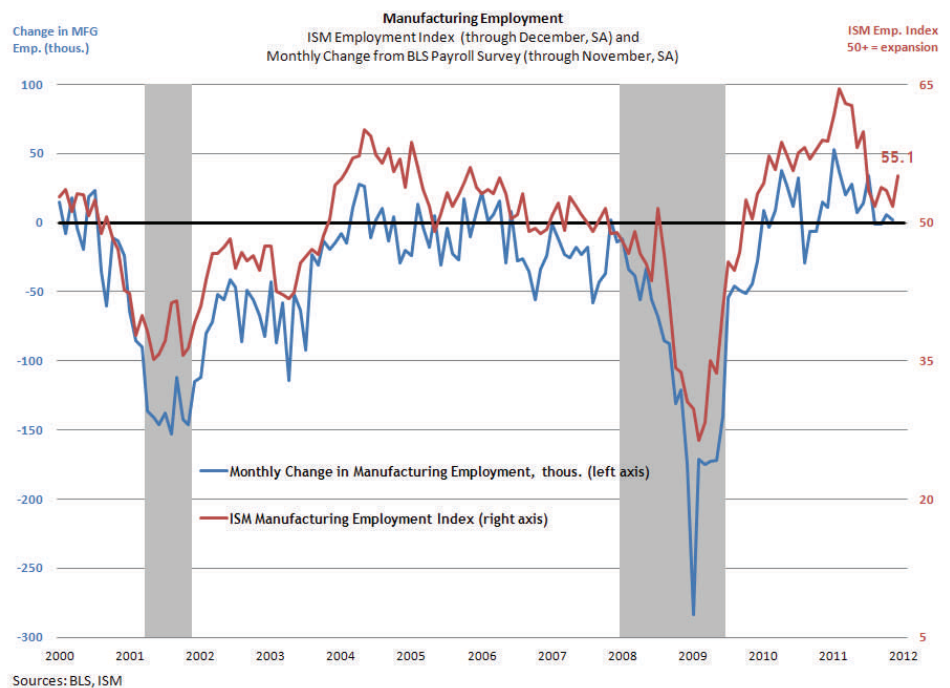
In December, the Institute for Supply Management's (ISM) Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) gained 1.2 index points to reach 53.9 points.

The production and new orders components gained 3.3 and 0.9 index points, respectively, to put the December new orders reading at 57.6 points, and the production reading came in at 59.9 points. In December, the ISM new orders reading was its highest since April 2011.



The ISM employment index also had a healthy increase in December; it added 3.3 index points to reach 55.1 points for the month.

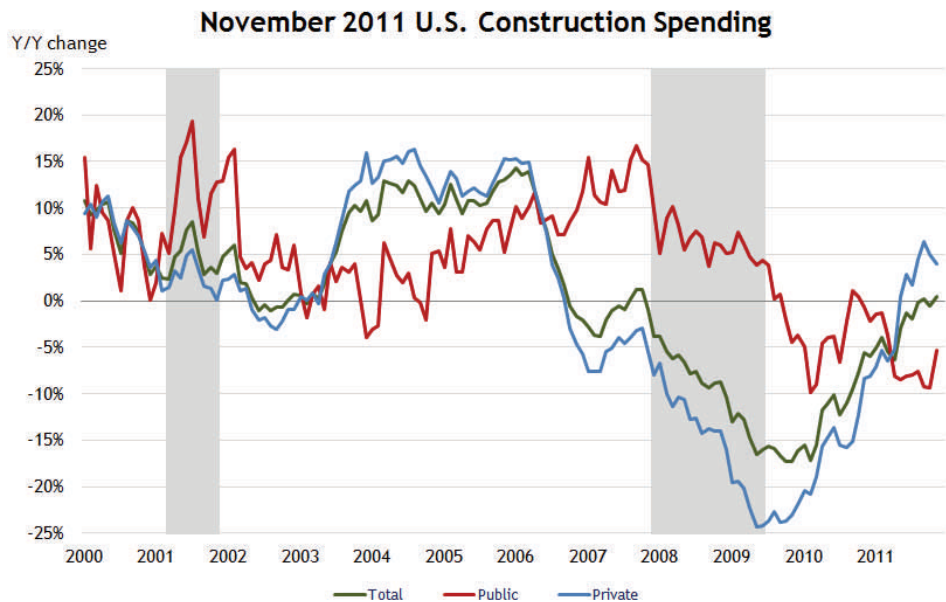
November's lower ISM employment reading of 51.8 points corresponded with a gain of 6,000 manufacturing jobs in November. Friday's payroll survey report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics will show if the correlation between the two indicators holds for December and a greater number of manufacturing jobs are added for the month.



- The Institute for Supply Management's (ISM) employment index is highly correlated with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) payroll survey's measure of manufacturing employment. The ISM employment index can be considered a leading indicator of manufacturing employment. The BLS payroll survey is released on the first Friday of each month.

## Summary

The U.S. Census reported total construction spending continued to improve on a year-over-year basis, up 0.5 percent. The gain was largely driven by private construction spending.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

### November 2011 Construction Spending Put in Place

	billions, SAAR	mo/mo % change	yr/yr % change
Total:	807.1	1.2	0.5
Total Private:	522.3	1.0	4.0
Total Public:	284.9	1.7	-5.3
Total Nonresidential:	555.7	0.9	-0.1
Private Nonresidential:	278.6	0.0	4.5
Public Nonresidential:	277.1	1.8	-4.4
Total Residential:	251.4	1.8	2.0
Private Residential:	243.7	2.0	3.4

## Summary

The National Association of Realtors reported that its November pending home sales index rose sharply, up 7 percent from October.

