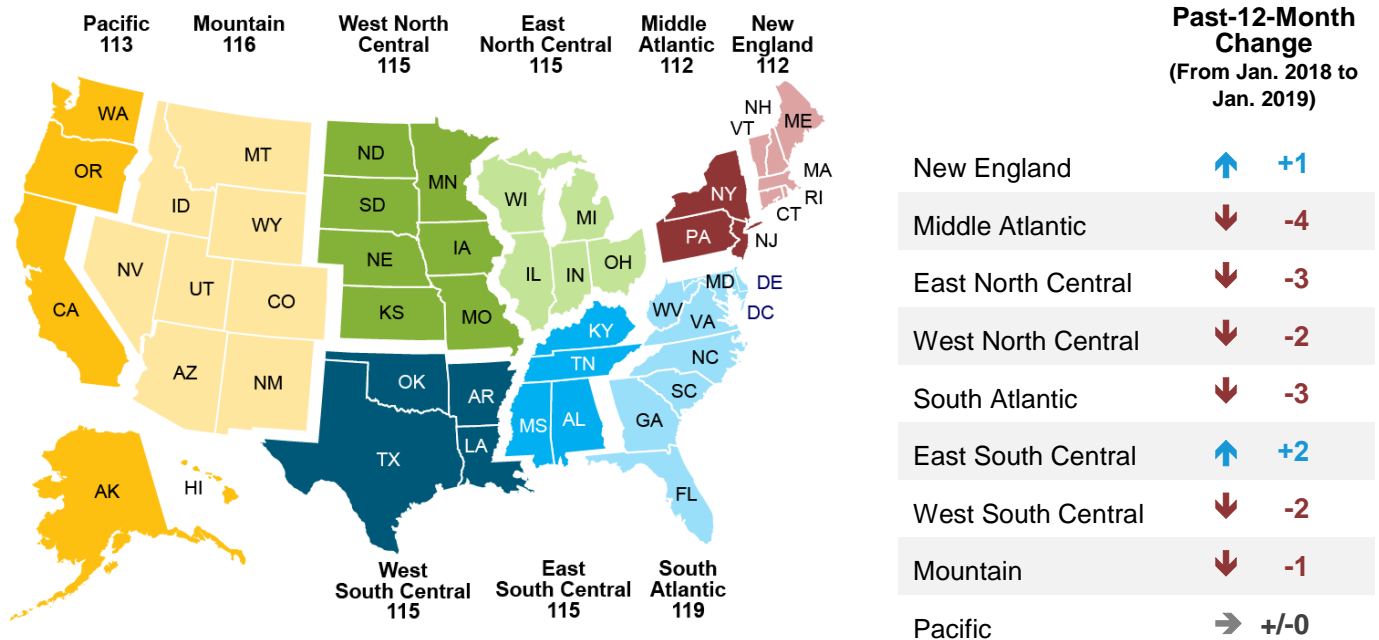


# Decision Analyst Economic Index United States Census Divisions

January 2019

Arlington, Texas—Only two of the Census Divisions have increased in the past 12 months. The East South Central Census Division increased 2 points, and the New England Census Division increased 1 point. The East North Central Census Division and the South Atlantic Census Division each decreased 3 points in the past 12 months.

## United States Census Divisions Economic Indices January 2019\*

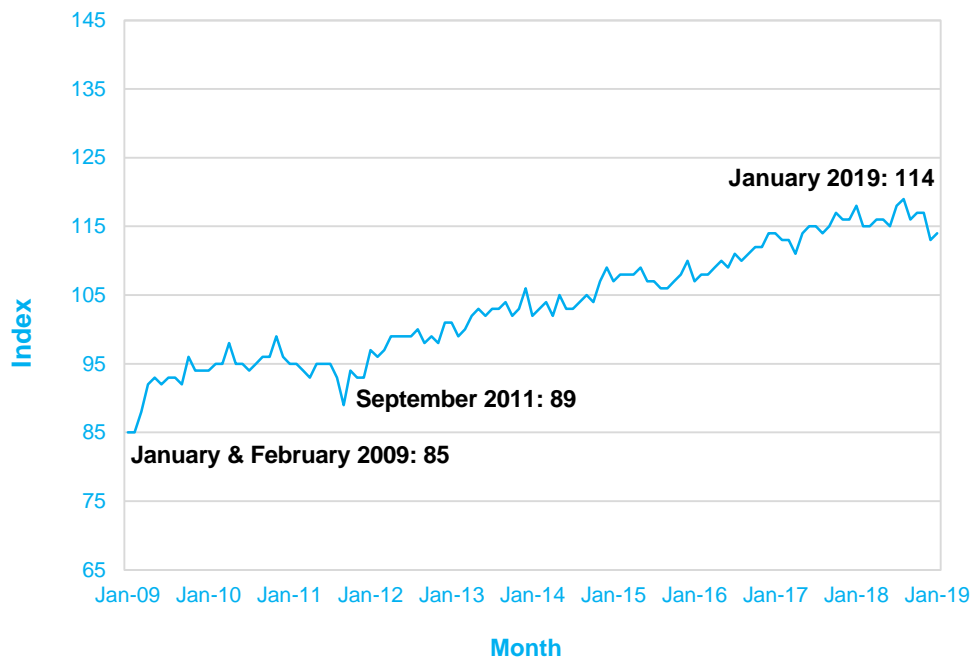


\* The Index scores for the Census Divisions are 3-month moving averages to smooth out fluctuations due to smaller sample sizes. The reported Index score for each division averages the current month with the previous 2 months.

## United States Economic Index

The Decision Analyst U.S. Economic Index stands at **114 for January 2019**, a 4-point decline from January 2018, but a 1-point increase from December 2018. The overall trend of the Economic Index is tilting downward and might indicate a turning point in overall economic activity. The decline in the Index over the past year suggests that the U.S. economy is starting to slow at the start of 2019. The Economic Index tends to lead overall U.S. economic activity by 6 to 12 months. Below is the past-10-year history of the U.S. Economic Index.

### United States Economic Index January 2019



**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)

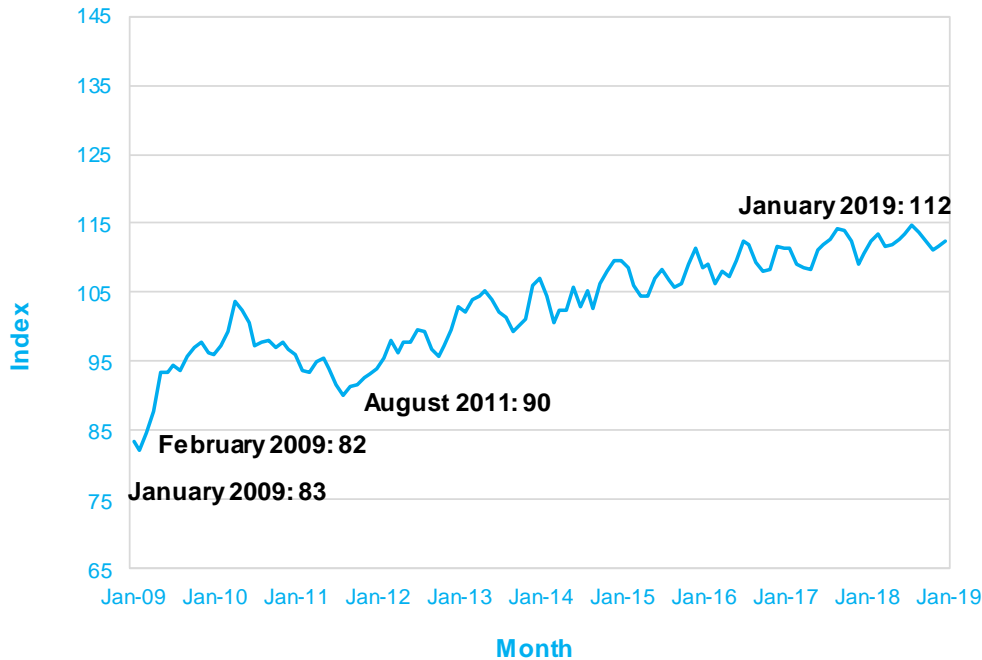
**-4  
Points**

“The overall pattern of the U.S. Economic Index over the past few months is suggesting slower economic growth in coming quarters. Decisions and actions coming out of Washington, D.C., are dampening the U.S. economy. Trade disputes, immigration crackdowns, the government shutdown, and rising interest rates all tend to weaken the U.S. economy and increase uncertainty for consumers and business executives. Corporations are contributing to the economic weakness by not investing sufficiently in research and development, new products, and new plants and equipment—as they chase short-term profits at the expense of long-term gains. Low unemployment and the imposition of tariffs mean that the threat of inflation is ever present, along with the risk that inflation might reduce consumer spending,” said Jerry W. Thomas, President/CEO of Decision Analyst. “Weakness in Europe and China are also a concern. All in all, 2019 looks like a challenging year for the U.S. economy.”

## History

The division-by-division results are presented in the following graphs. Remember, the Census Division graphs portray 3-month moving averages.

### New England Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

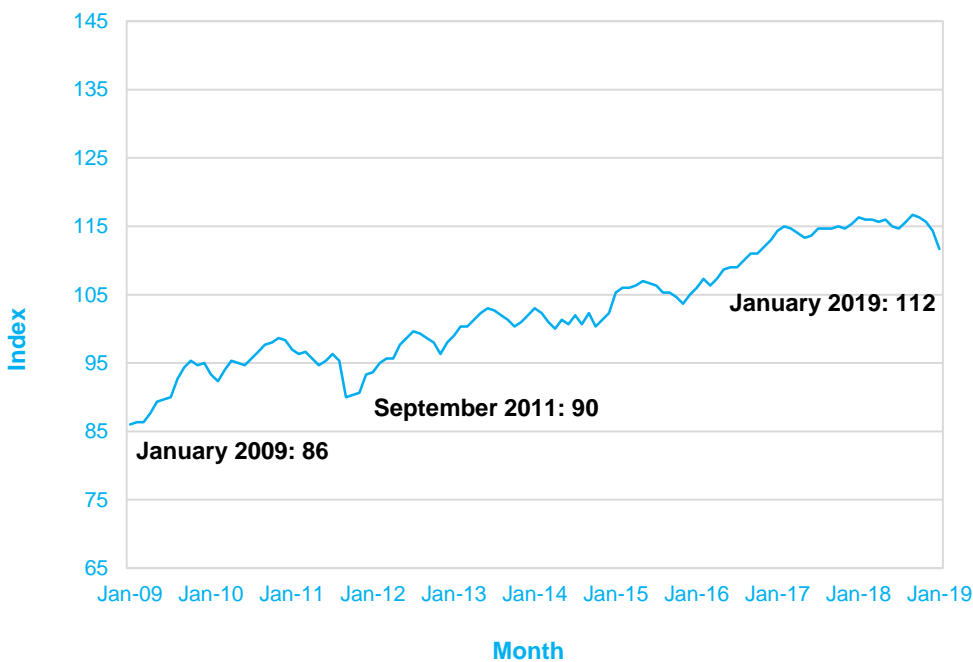


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)



*New England Census  
Division includes  
Connecticut, Maine,  
Massachusetts,  
New Hampshire, Rhode  
Island, and Vermont*

### Middle Atlantic Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

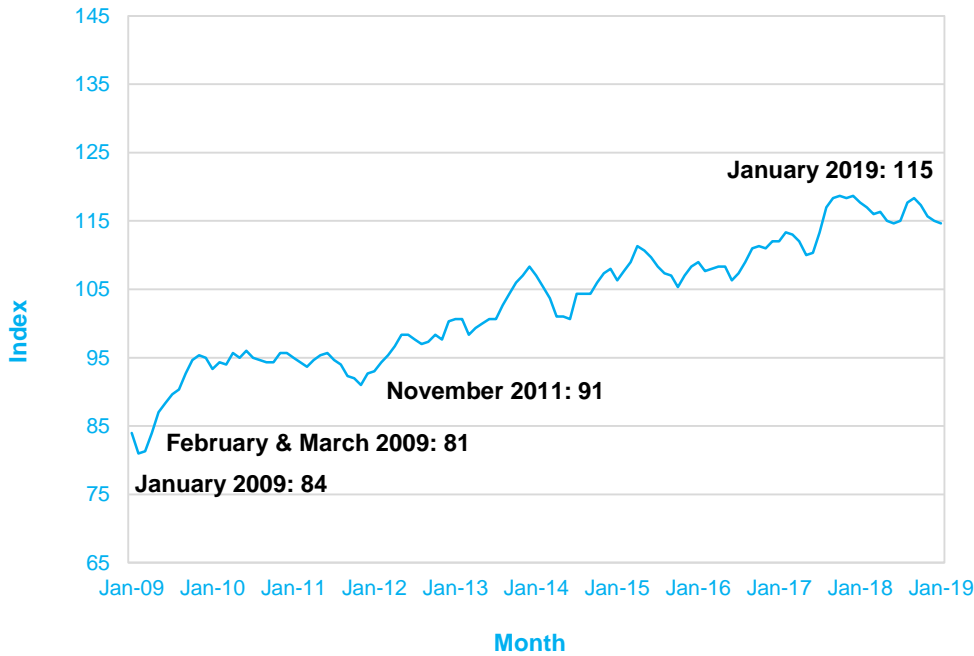


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)



*Middle Atlantic Census  
Division includes  
New Jersey,  
New York,  
and Pennsylvania*

### East North Central Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

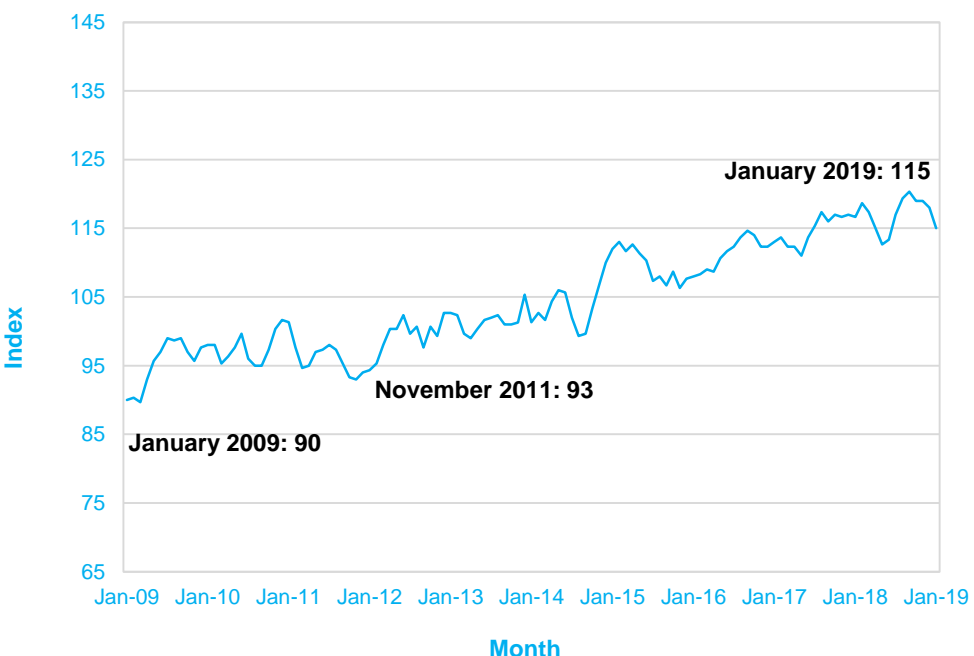


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)

**-3  
Points**

*East North Central  
Census Division  
includes Illinois,  
Indiana, Michigan,  
Ohio, and Wisconsin*

### West North Central Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

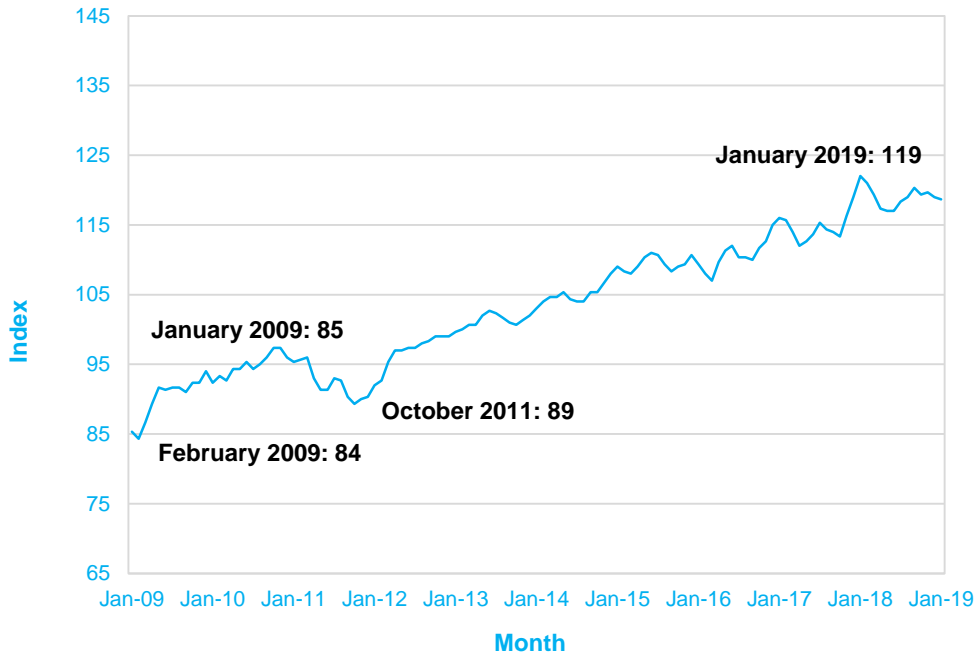


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)

**-2  
Points**

*West North Central  
Census Division  
includes Iowa, Kansas,  
Minnesota, Missouri,  
Nebraska,  
North Dakota, and  
South Dakota*

### South Atlantic Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

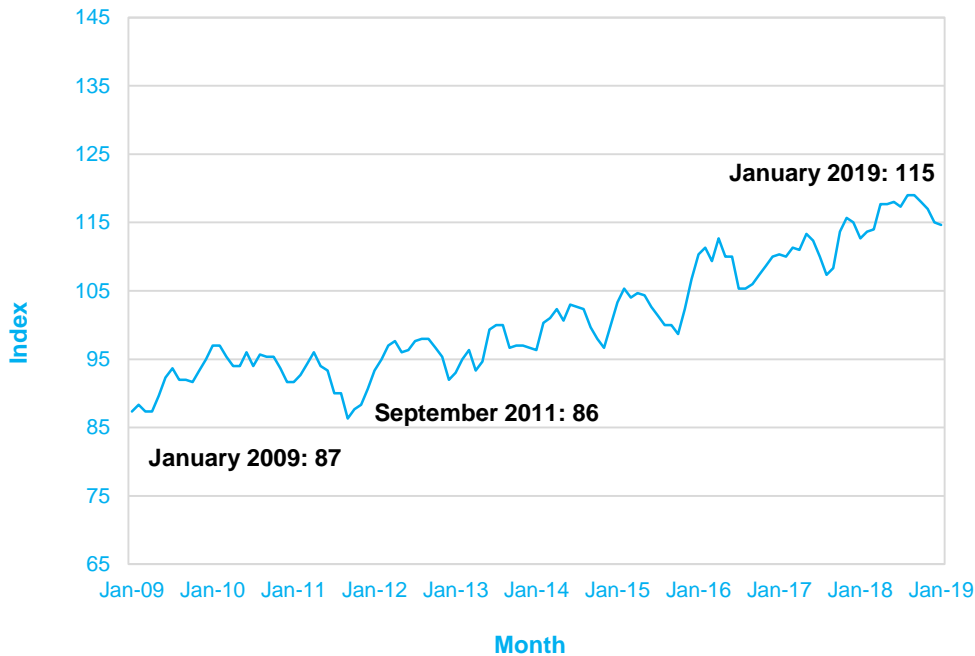


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)

**-3  
Points**

*South Atlantic Census  
Division includes  
Delaware, District of  
Columbia, Florida,  
Georgia, Maryland,  
North Carolina, South  
Carolina, Virginia, and  
West Virginia*

### East South Central Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

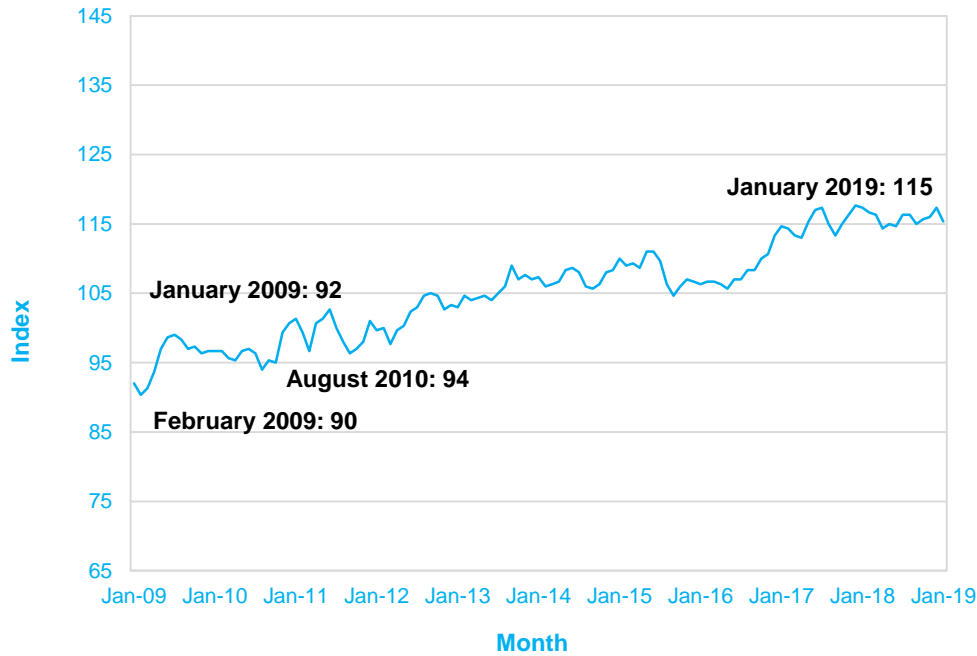


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)

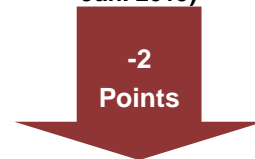
**+2  
Points**

*East South Central  
Census Division  
includes Alabama,  
Kentucky, Mississippi,  
and Tennessee*

### West South Central Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

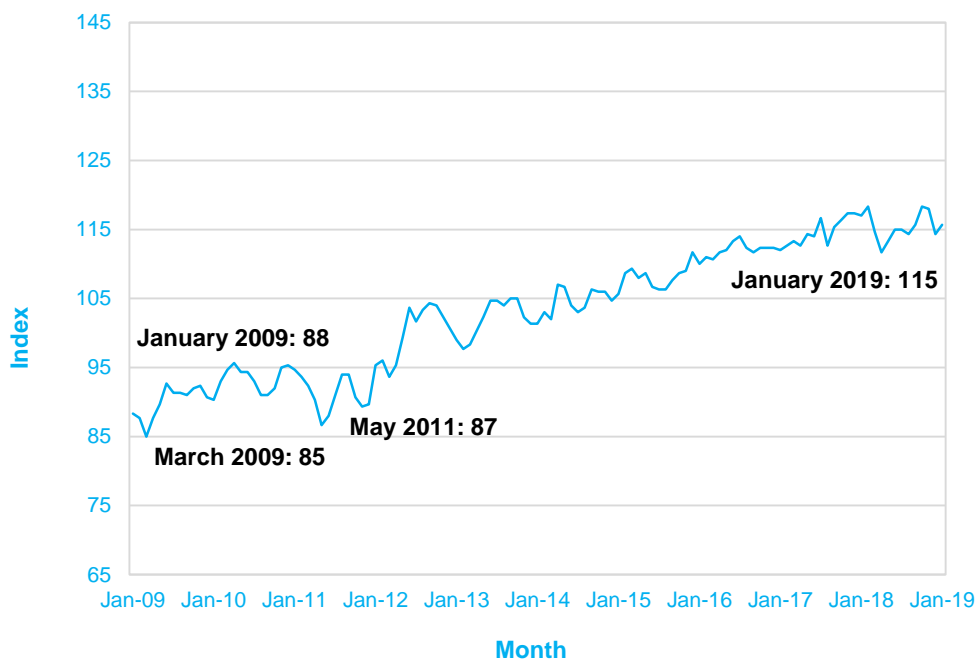


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)



*West South Central  
Census Division  
includes Arkansas,  
Louisiana, Oklahoma,  
and Texas*

### Mountain Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019

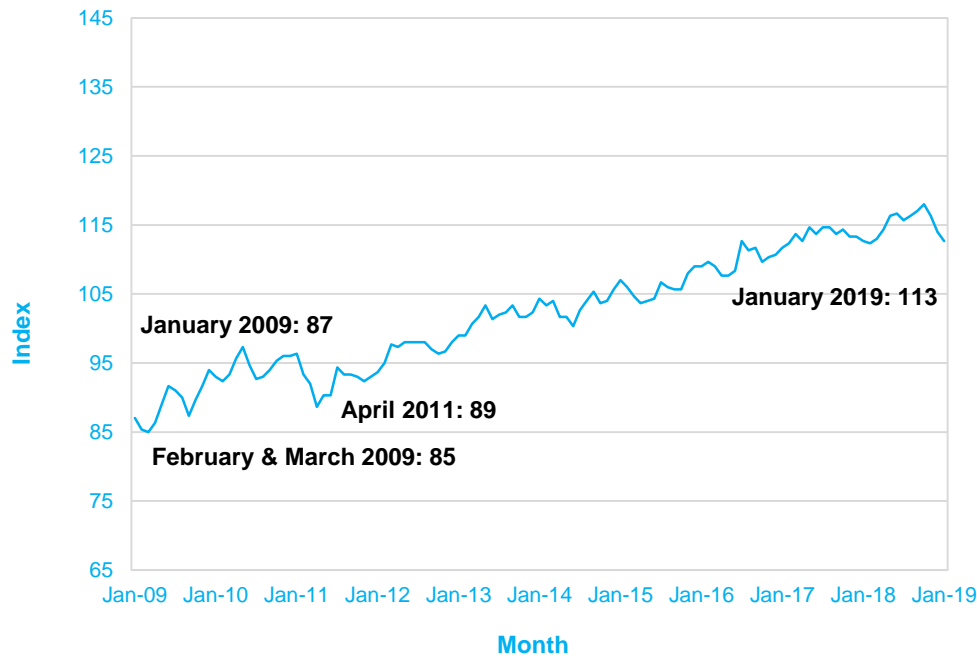


**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)



*Mountain Census  
Division includes  
Arizona, Colorado,  
Idaho, Montana,  
Nevada, New Mexico,  
Utah, and Wyoming*

## Pacific Census Division Economic Index\* January 2019



**Past-12-Month  
Change**  
(From Jan. 2018 to  
Jan. 2019)



*Pacific Census Division  
includes Alaska,  
California, Hawaii,  
Oregon, and  
Washington*

### \*Three-Month Moving Average

The Index numbers for U.S. Census Divisions are 3-month moving averages to smooth out month-to-month fluctuations. The reported Index number for each division averages the current month with the 2 previous months.

### Methodology

The Decision Analyst Economic Index is based on a monthly online survey of several thousand households balanced by gender, age, and geography. The scientific survey is conducted in the last 10 days of each month. The Economic Index is calculated from 9 different economic measurements using a sophisticated econometric model. The result is a snapshot of coming economic activity in each country surveyed, as seen through the eyes of representative consumers living in the respective countries.

Decision Analyst conducts its concurrent economic surveys each month in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Peru, the Russian Federation, Spain, and the United States. Whenever the Decision Analyst Economic Index is greater than 110, it tends to signal an expanding economy. An Index value of 90 to 110 suggests a no-growth or slow-growth economy, and near or below 90 generally indicates economic contraction. These guidelines vary by country, however.

### About Decision Analyst

Decision Analyst ([www.decisionanalyst.com](http://www.decisionanalyst.com)) is a global research and analytical consulting firm specializing in strategy research, new product development, advertising testing, and advanced modeling for marketing decision optimization. For more than 40 years the firm has delivered competitive advantage to clients throughout the world in consumer packaged goods, high technology, retail, medical, automotive, and other industries.