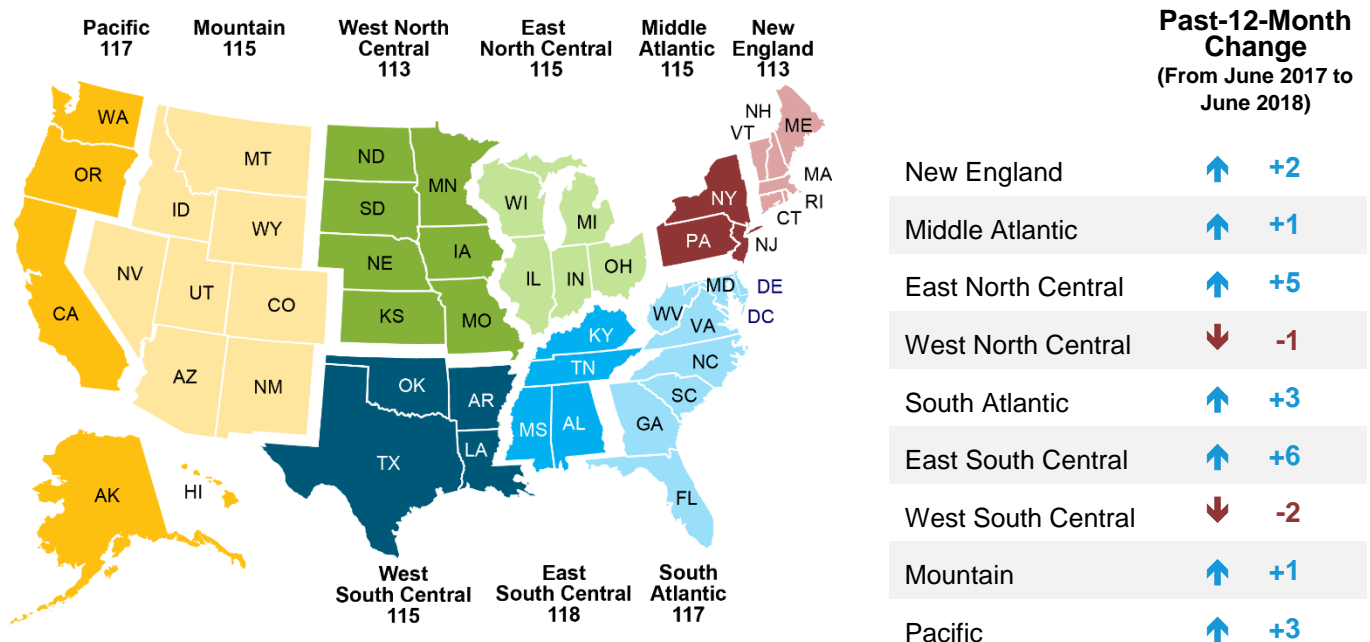# Decision Analyst Economic Index
United States Census Divisions
June 2018

Arlington, Texas—The West North Central and the West South Central Census Divisions saw declines in the past 12 months. All others increased. The East South Central Census Division had the highest score in June 2018 at **118**, an increase of 6 points in the past 12 months. The South Atlantic and Pacific Census Divisions each had an Index of **117**, and each increased 3 points in the past 12 months. The New England and the West North Central Census Divisions had the weakest scores in the U.S. in June 2018 with a score of 113 each.

United States Census Divisions Economic Indices
June 2018*

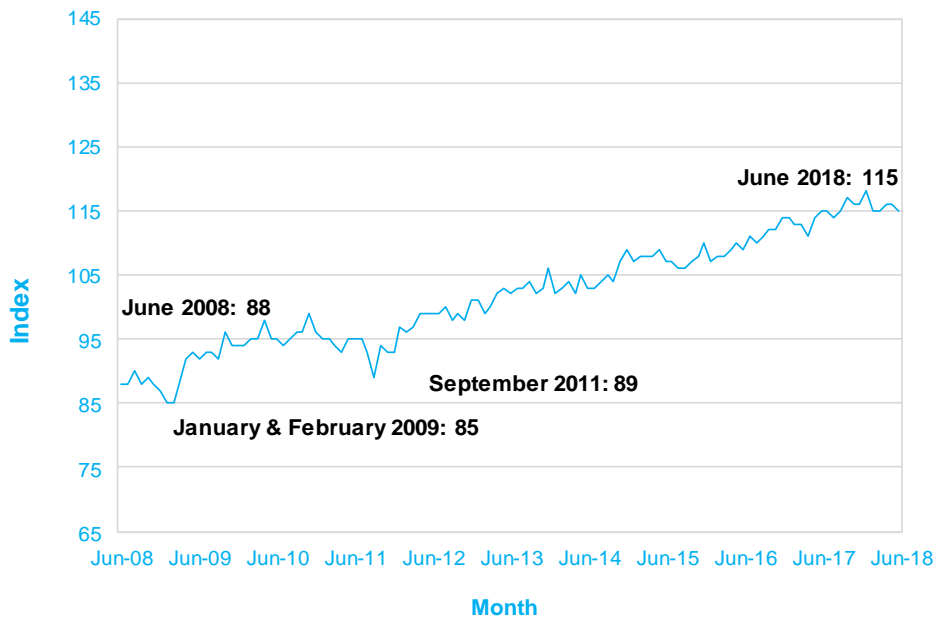| Past-12-Month Change (From June 2017 to June 2018)		
New England	↑	+2
Middle Atlantic	↑	+1
East North Central	↑	+5
West North Central	↓	-1
South Atlantic	↑	+3
East South Central	↑	+6
West South Central	↓	-2
Mountain	↑	+1
Pacific	↑	+3

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

Decision Analyst
strategic research ▪ analytics ▪ modeling ▪ optimization

Cristi Allen, Publicity, callen@decisionanalyst.com
604 Avenue H East, Arlington, Texas 76011-3100
Phone: 1-817-640-6166 ▪ www.decisionanalyst.com

United States Economic Index

The Decision Analyst U.S. Economic Index stands at **115 in June 2018**, the same Index score as June 2017. The June 2018 U.S. Index is down 1 point from May 2018. The overall trend of the Economic Index suggests that U.S. economic growth is leveling off and will grow more slowly during the second half of 2018 and the beginning 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
June 2018**

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

June 2018: 115

June 2008: 88

September 2011: 89

January & February 2009: 85

+/-0 Points

Index

Month

Jun-08   Jun-09   Jun-10   Jun-11   Jun-12   Jun-13   Jun-14   Jun-15   Jun-16   Jun-17   Jun-18

"The U.S. Economic Index is at a reasonably high level but appears to be trending sideways, an indicator that growth prospects might be stalling out," said Jerry W. Thomas, President/CEO of Decision Analyst. "Looking forward, the economic picture is muddled. Disruptions from tariffs, threats of tariffs, and the exacerbation of inflation related to the tariffs, are casting a pall over the U.S. economy.   Rising interest rates are also having a dampening effect on the U.S. economy. Rising U.S. interest rates could deflate U.S. asset bubbles (stock prices, real estate, etc.) and could trigger a rapid downturn in the economy. These threats to the U.S. economy are likely to negate some of the potential benefits from the recent federal tax cuts. Economic slowdowns in several European economies, as well as the possibility of recession in China, loom as potential negatives for the U.S. economy. Somewhere in the next 6-18 months, a recession lies in wait."

History

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

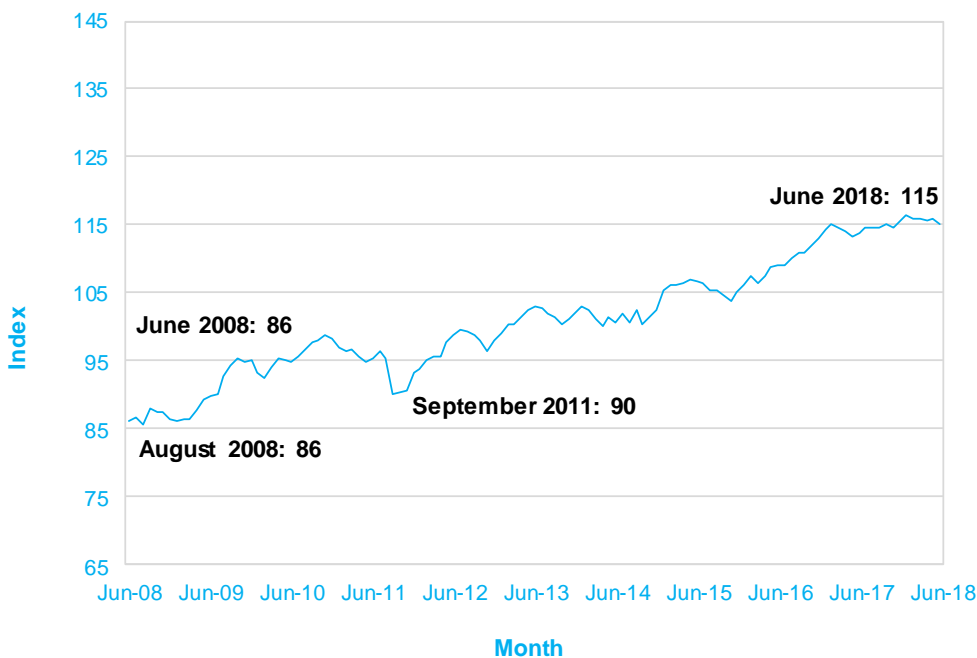**New England Census Division Economic Index***
June 2018

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+2 Points
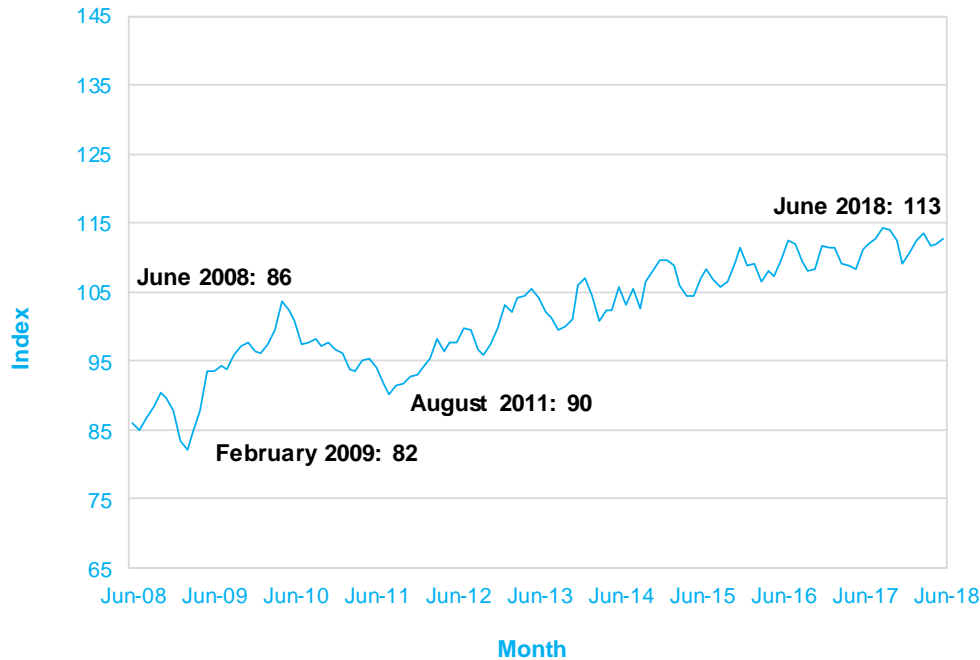
New England Census Division includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

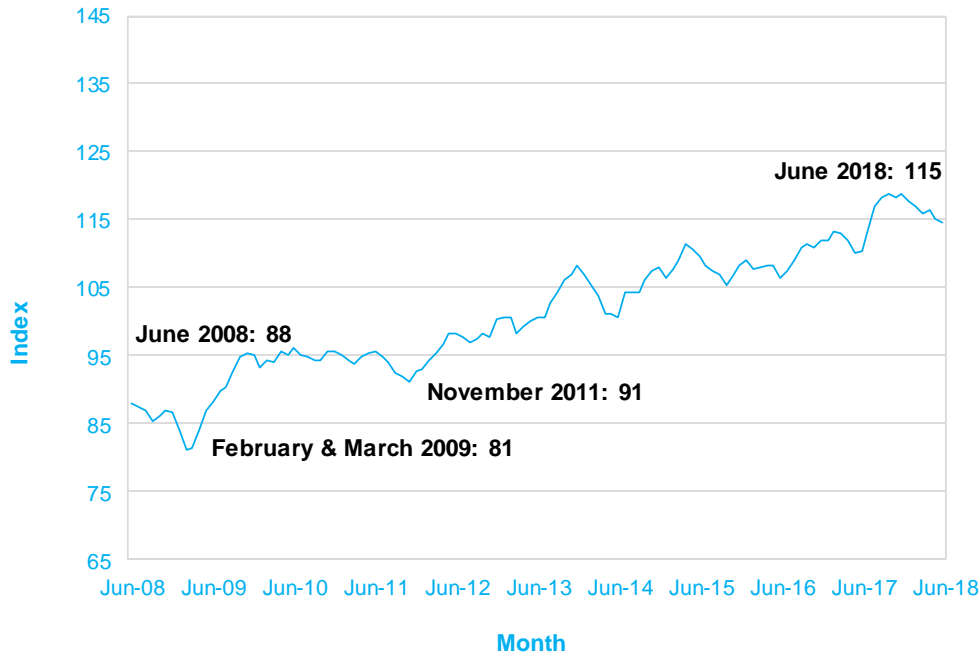**Middle Atlantic Census Division Economic Index***
June 2018

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+1 Point

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

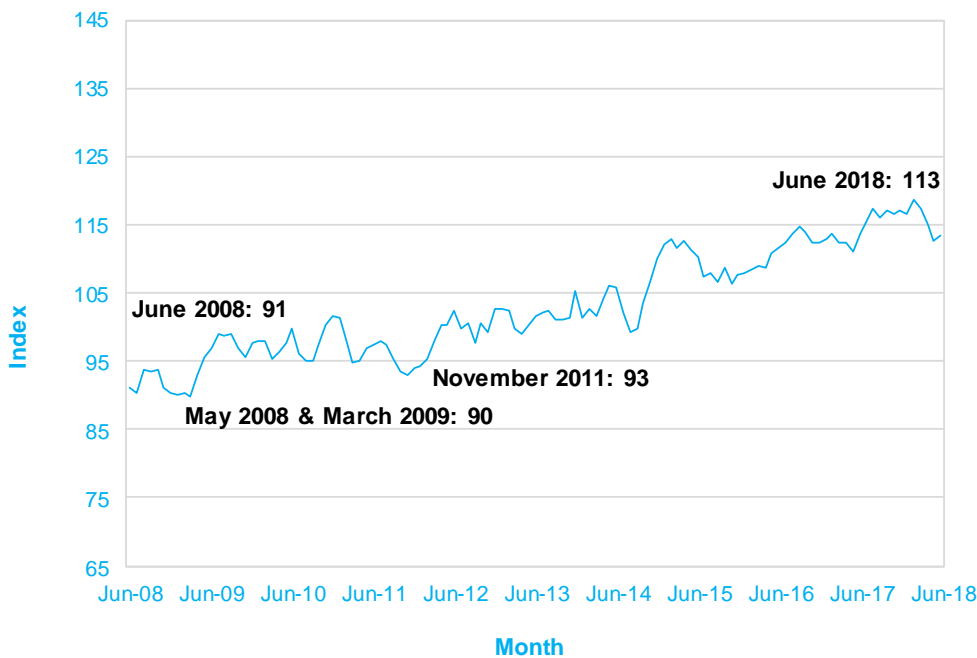## East North Central Census Division Economic Index*
June 2018

June 2018: 115

June 2008: 88

November 2011: 91

February & March 2009: 81

Index

Jun-08 Jun-09 Jun-10 Jun-11 Jun-12 Jun-13 Jun-14 Jun-15 Jun-16 Jun-17 Jun-18

Month

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+5 Points

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

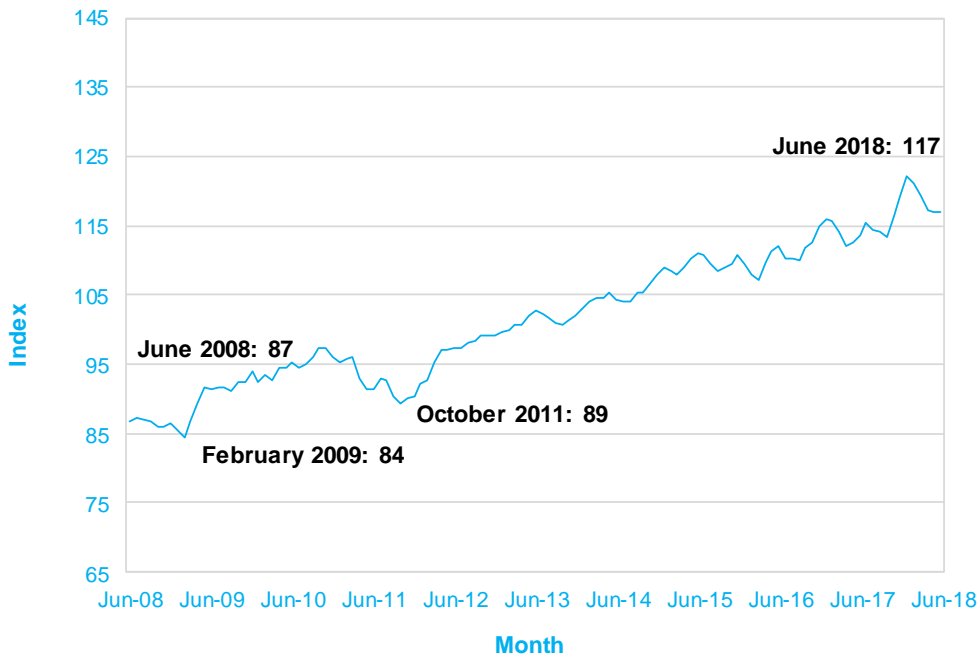## West North Central Census Division Economic Index*
June 2018

June 2018: 113

June 2008: 91

November 2011: 93

May 2008 & March 2009: 90

Index

Jun-08 Jun-09 Jun-10 Jun-11 Jun-12 Jun-13 Jun-14 Jun-15 Jun-16 Jun-17 Jun-18

Month

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

-1 Point

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

South Atlantic Census Division Economic Index*
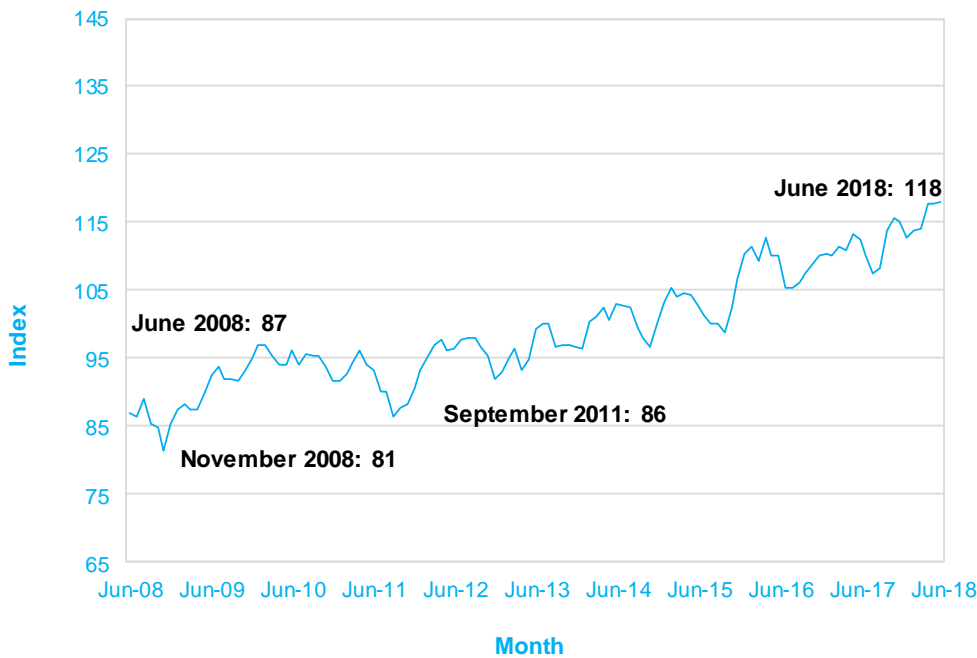## June 2018

June 2018: 117

June 2008: 87

October 2011: 89

February 2009: 84

Past-12-Month Change
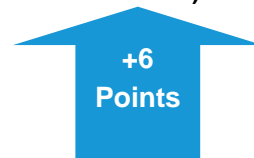(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+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*
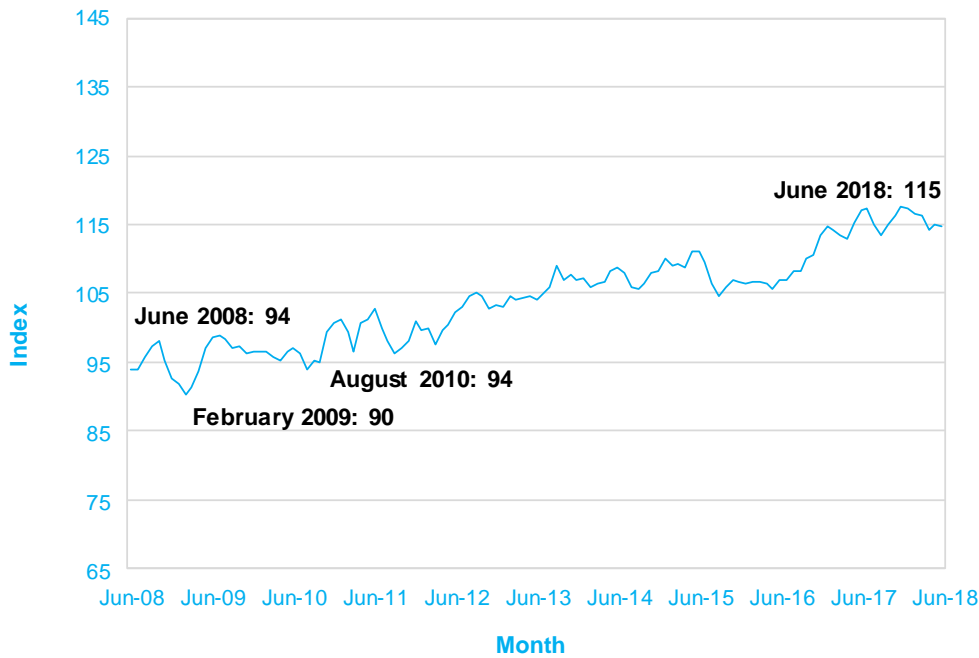## June 2018

June 2018: 118

June 2008: 87

September 2011: 86

November 2008: 81

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+6 Points

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

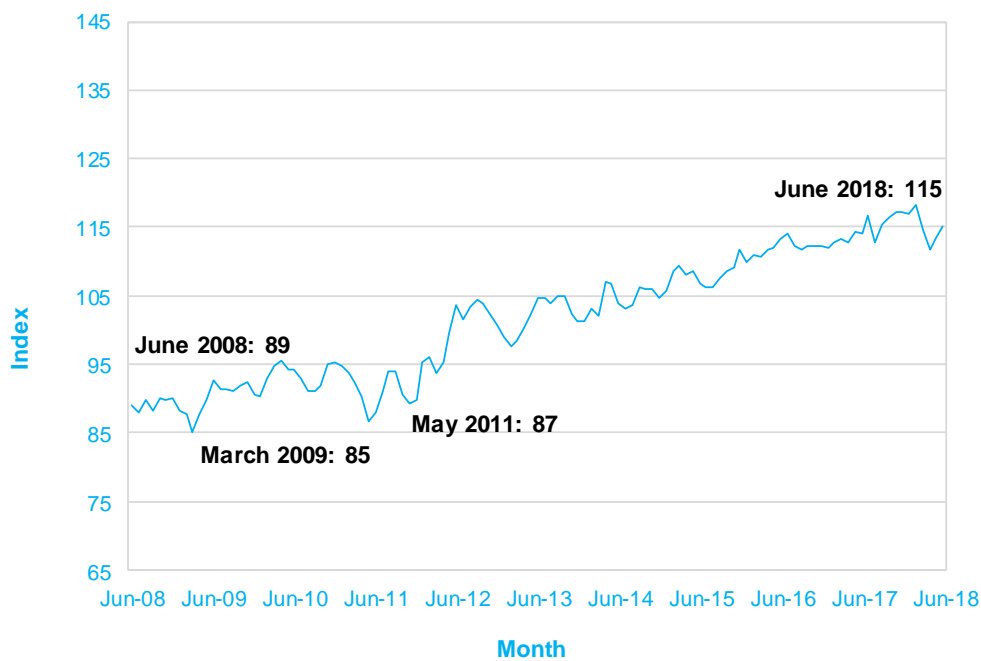## West South Central Census Division Economic Index*
June 2018

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)
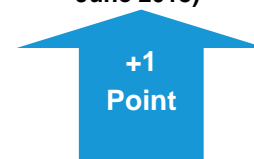
-2 Points

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

Mountain Census Division Economic Index*
June 2018

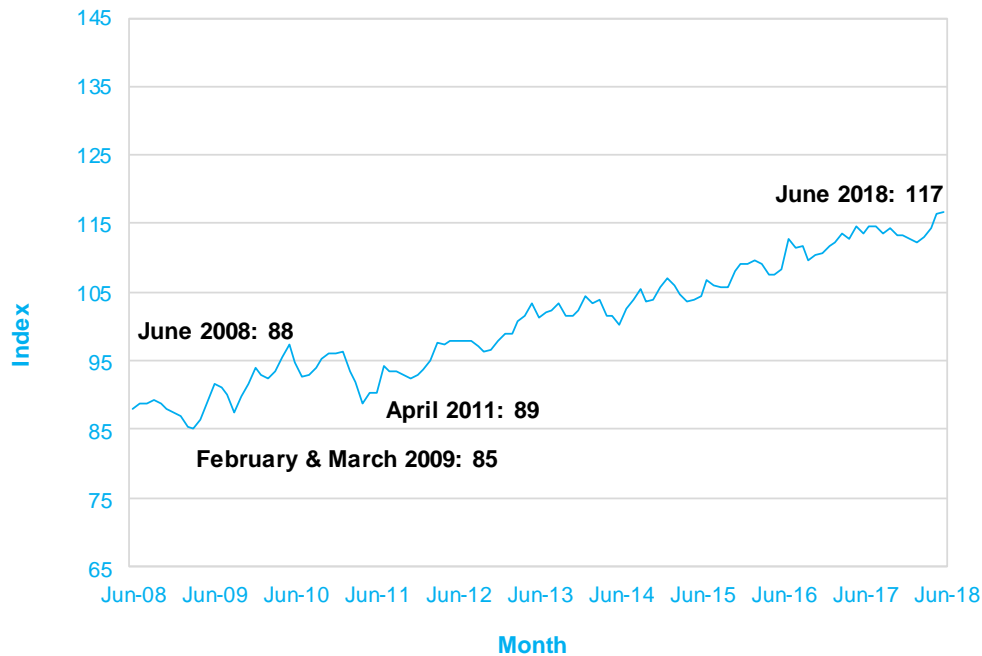**Past-12-Month Change**
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+1 Point

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

Pacific Census Division Economic Index*
June 2018

Past-12-Month Change
(From June 2017 to June 2018)

+3 Points

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, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Peru, the Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, 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) 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 35 years the firm has delivered competitive advantage to clients throughout the world in consumer packaged goods, high technology, retail, medical, automotive, and other industries.