

News Release

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY
DENVER • OKLAHOMA CITY • OMAHA

One Memorial Drive • Kansas City, MO 64198 • Phone: 816.881.2683

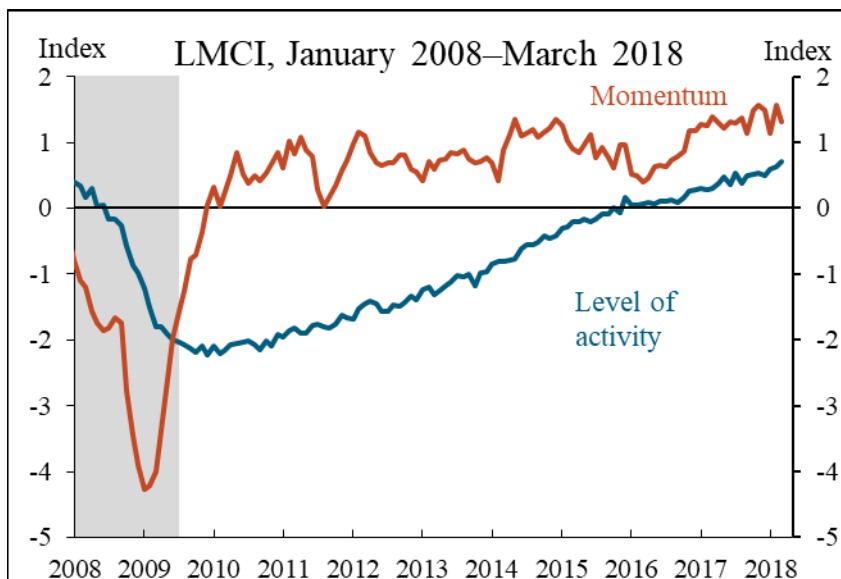
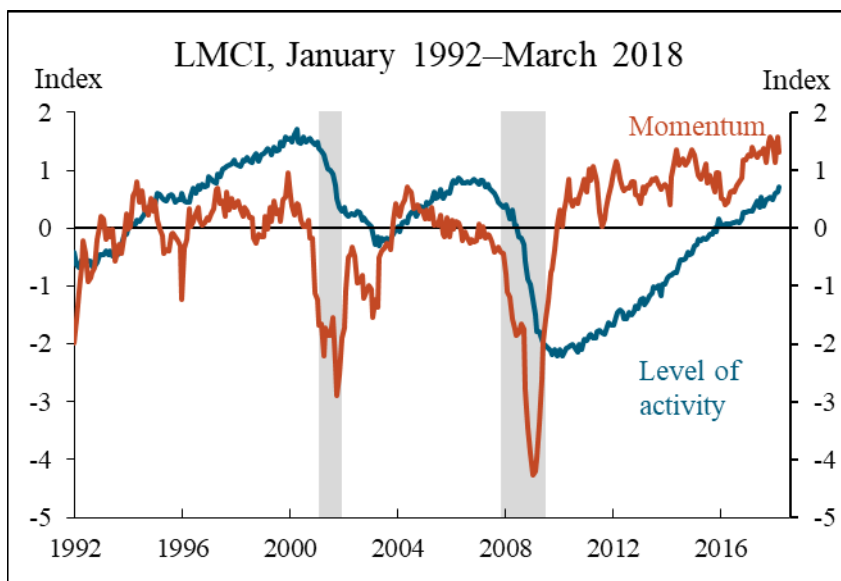
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 16, 2018

Contact: Bill Medley
816-881-2556
Bill.Medley@kc.frb.org

The KC Fed LMCI suggest the level of activity increased modestly and momentum remained high in March.

The Kansas City Fed Labor Market Conditions Indicators (LMCI) suggest the level of activity increased modestly and momentum remained high in March. The level of activity indicator increased modestly in March from 0.62 to 0.71, while the momentum indicator decelerated from 1.57 to 1.31.

The table on the following page shows the five labor market variables that made the largest contributions to the increase in the activity indicator over the last six months and the five variables that made the largest positive contributions to the momentum indicator in March 2018. The activity indicator increased 0.22 over the last six months. The largest contribution came from an increase in job leavers. Eighteen variables made a positive contribution, one variable made no contribution, and five variables made a negative contribution. The momentum indicator was 1.31 in March, where the largest contributor to momentum was expected job availability (University of Michigan). Sixteen variables made a positive contribution, and eight variables made a negative contribution.



Largest Contributions to the LMCI

Contributions to the increase in the <i>level of activity</i> indicator over the last six months	Positive contributions to the <i>momentum</i> indicator in March 2018
Job leavers	Expected job availability (U of Michigan)
Percent of firms with positions not able to fill right now (NFIB)	Initial claims
Unemployed 27 or more weeks	Manufacturing employment index (ISM)
Job availability index (Conference Board)	Labor force participation rate
Unemployment forecast (Blue Chip)	Expected job availability (Conference Board)

Note: Contributions are ordered from largest to smallest.

