THE LOGISTICAL LOWDOWN MONTHLY

Economic Insights for the Logistics Professional

This is an interactive PDF. Hover over a statistic if you would like more detail.
**Not all data is updated monthly, the latest published data is reflected.*

Commentary provided by the "Bowtie Economist," Elliot Eisenberg, Ph.D., internationally acclaimed economist and public speaker who has been featured in Bloomberg, Business Week, Bureau of National Affairs, Forbes, Fortune, and many other publications. Click on the bowties for related posts from the Bowtie Economist's blog, ECON70.com

US MARKET

ECONOMIST INSIGHT

21Q1 GDP growth came in at a strong 6.4%, but the winning quarter of the year will undoubtedly be 21Q2, with GDP possibly hitting 10.0%! There will be modest slowing for the last half of the year, with 21Q3 likely at 8% and 21Q4 over 7%. I predict that GDP will steadily slow and by the end of 2023 resemble normal pre-pandemic growth of around 2%.

9.3%
Gross Domestic Product

$74.4 Billion
U.S. Trade Deficit

6.1%
Unemployment Rate

$274.5 Billion
Import Volumes

$200.00 Billion
Export Volumes

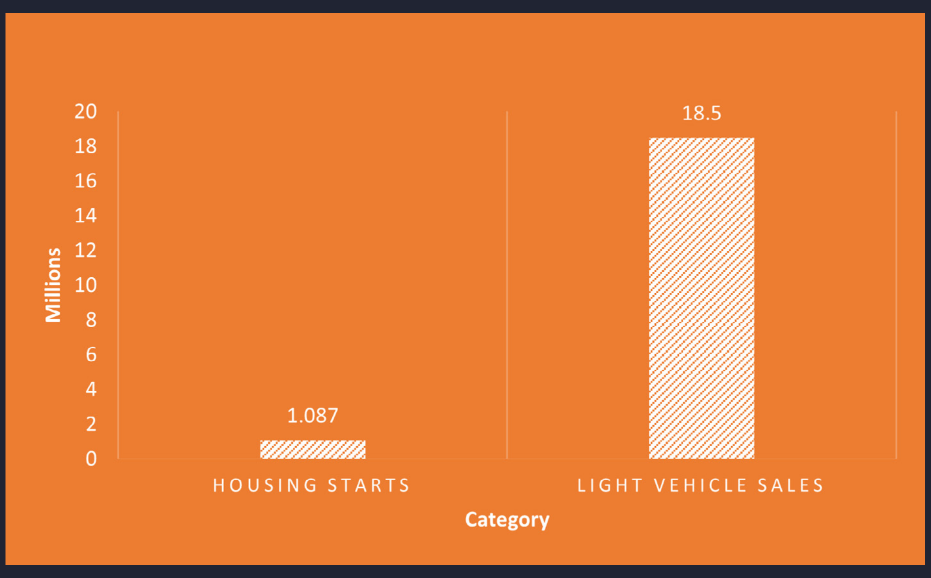
Imports + 0.7%
Exports + 0.8%
Import & Export Price Index

ECONOMIST INSIGHT

No matter how measured, the US economy is suffering from both "base-effect" and "bottleneck" inflation. Base-effect inflation will diminish as we begin comparing current prices to prices that prevailed a year ago as the US economy came out of the worst of the spring lockdown and began recovering. Bottleneck inflation results from a short-term imbalance between supply and demand. The demand surge will subside as consumers spend savings and stimulus funds. Supply shortages are also of a short-term nature and will dissipate as employment rises, production increases, and inventories are rebuilt. The Fed has been very consistent in messaging that they consider this burst of inflation, currently 3.1% to 3.6% depending on how measured, to be a short-term problem that they are monitoring and expect to subside. They continue to reassure markets that they have no intention of raising rates for the foreseeable future.

61.7%
Labor Force Partcipation

+1.6%
Leading Economic Index



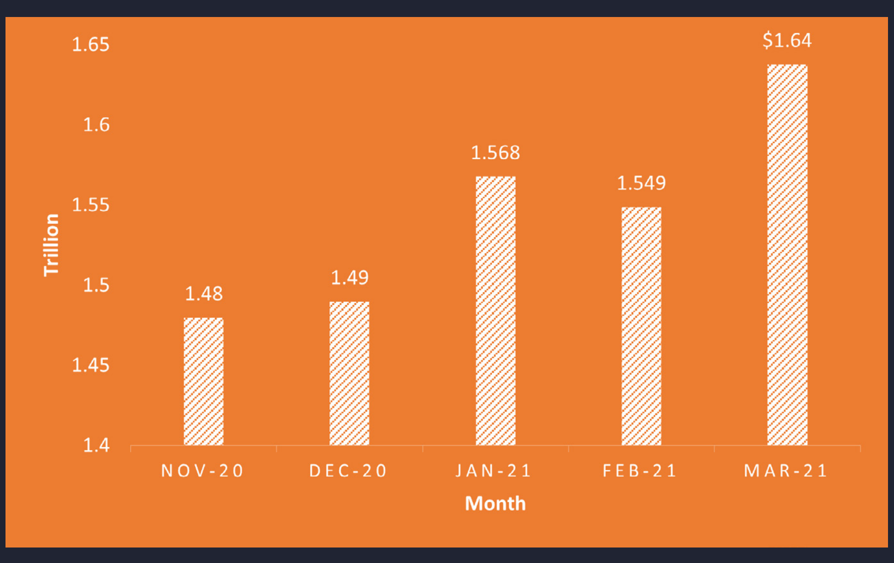
Personal Income
decreased 13.1%

Consumer Confidence
increased to 121.7

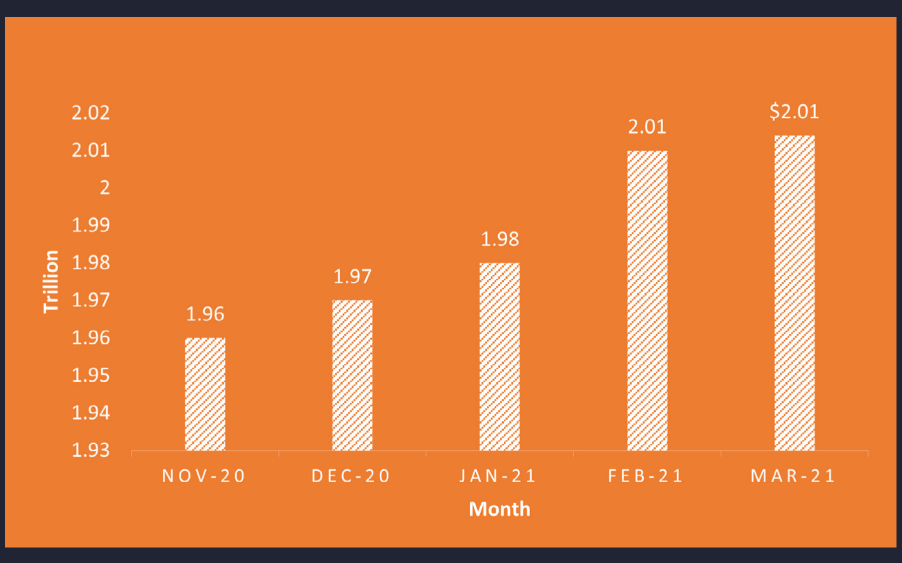
Consumer & Producer Price Index
267.05

ECONOMIST INSIGHT

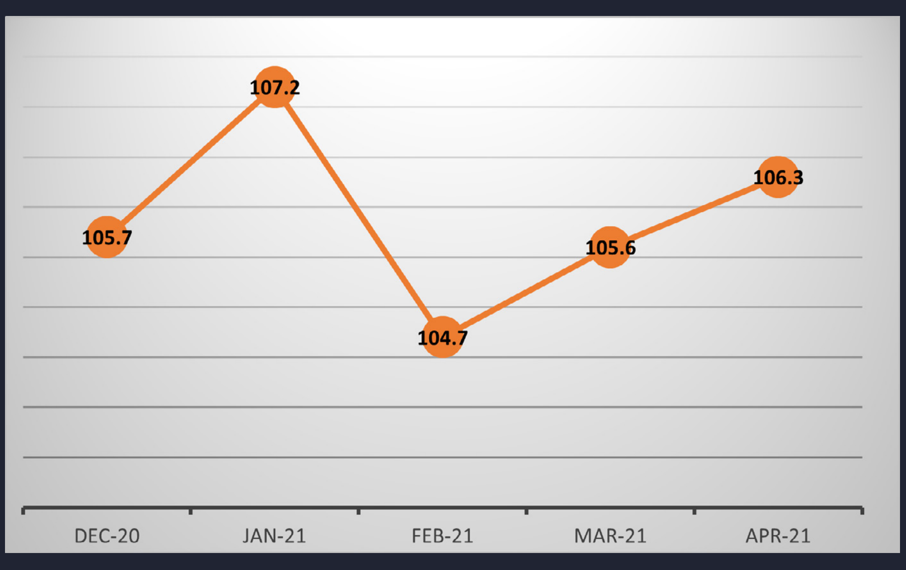
Inventories declined in 21Q1, and it looks as if rebuilding will be delayed into the second half of 2021. Corporate investment in capital goods remains very strong as manufacturers continue to adapt and respond to surging consumer demand. The key question for the next few months is how rapidly consumer spending shifts from goods to services, and I expect it will happen rather slowly given the large amount of cash available from savings and stimulus funds. I don't see any large shifts in energy prices in the near future. OPEC and Russia are still deliberately underproducing to keep prices propped up. At this point, oil prices are not high enough to trigger much net new exploration and production in the United States.



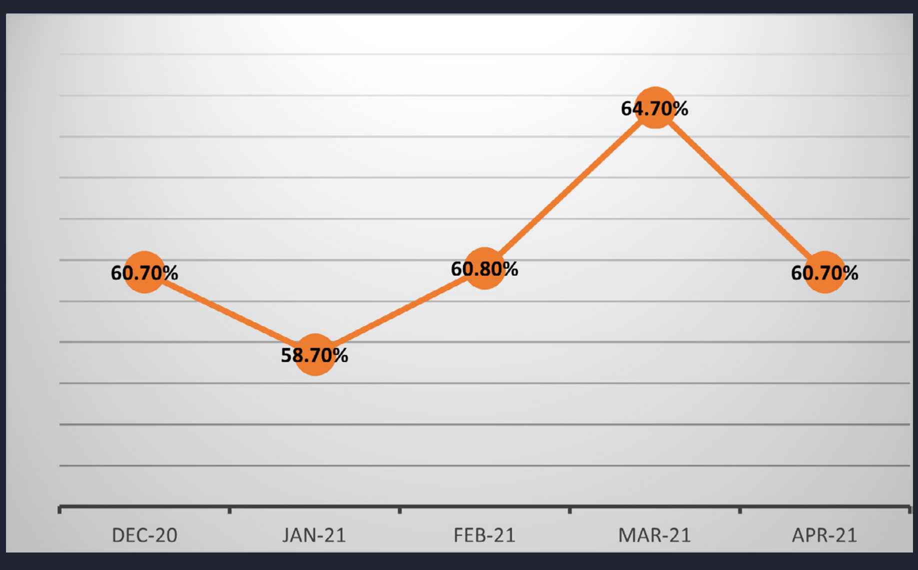
Manufacturing & Trade Sales



Manufacturing & Trade Inventory



Industrial Production & Capacity Utilization Index



Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)

THE LOGISTICAL LOWDOWN MONTHLY

Economic Insights for the Logistics Professional

This is an interactive PDF. Hover over a statistic if you would like more detail.
**Not all data is updated monthly, the latest published data is reflected.*

Small Business Optimism Index
up 1.6 points from the previous month

74.5%
Logistics Manager's Index (LMI)

MULTIMODAL

Dow Jones Transportation Index	15,492.60
NASDAQ Transportation Index	6,558.50
DOT Freight Transportation Service Index	130.0
Cass Freight Index	1.178
Shippers Conditions Index	-17.8
North American Transborder Freight	$114.6 BILLION
U.S. Freight Rail Traffic	242,227

TRUCKING

Truck Tonnage Index
For-Hire Truck Tonnage Index was 114.7 in April 2021

Truckload Freight
Decreased 4.3% compared to the previous month

Refrigerated Trucking
9.92 loads per truck

Trucking Conditions Index
Surged in March 2021 to a 16.27 reading

Diesel Prices
$3.25 per gallon

Trucking Employment
1,480,300 employees total

Trucking Earnings and Hours
$26.69/hour

U.S. Truck & Trailer Orders
34,600 units

WAREHOUSING & DISTRIBUTION

4.9%	$6.90/SF	82.3 MSF
INDUSTRIAL VACANCY	WAREHOUSE RENT RATES	INDUSTRIAL ABSORPTION
1,405,600	$21.99	40.5
WAREHOUSE EMPLOYMENT	WAREHOUSE AVERAGE WAGE	WAREHOUSE AVERAGE HOURS

Click Here to Receive the Logistical Lowdown Monthly in Your Inbox

Data courtesy of the Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics

HEADQUARTERS: 24862 Elliott Road | Defiance, OH 43512 | 866.276.9486 | kellerlogistics.com