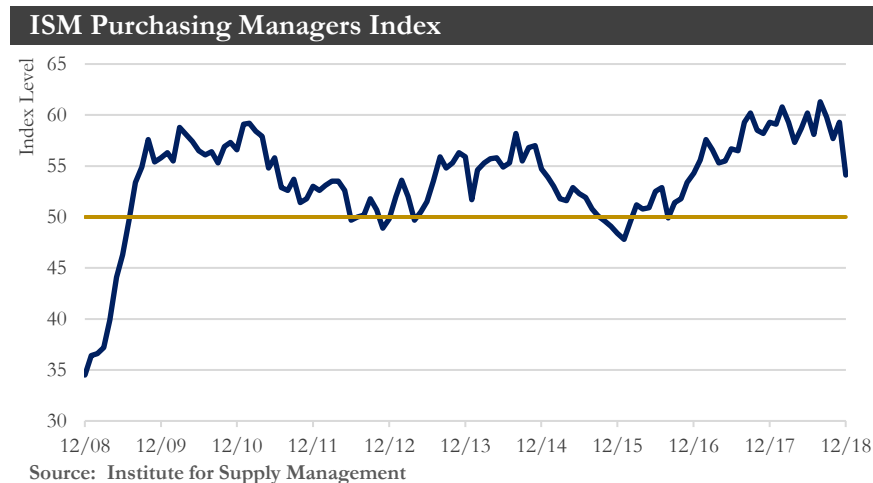


CMC UPDATE: Non-Manufacturing Index Still in the Expansionary Zone
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The U.S. service sector expanded at a slower pace in December, a potential sign of caution for the domestic economy. The Institute for Supply Management’s non-manufacturing purchasing-managers index fell to 57.6 in December from 60.7 in November. A reading above 50 indicates activity is expanding across service and other industries, while a number below 50 signals contraction.

December’s reading was a bit softer than expected, but it did not exhibit the same falloff as the ISM manufacturing index did in December. One reason may be that trade wars tend to have less effect on the service sector than on the factory sector.



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