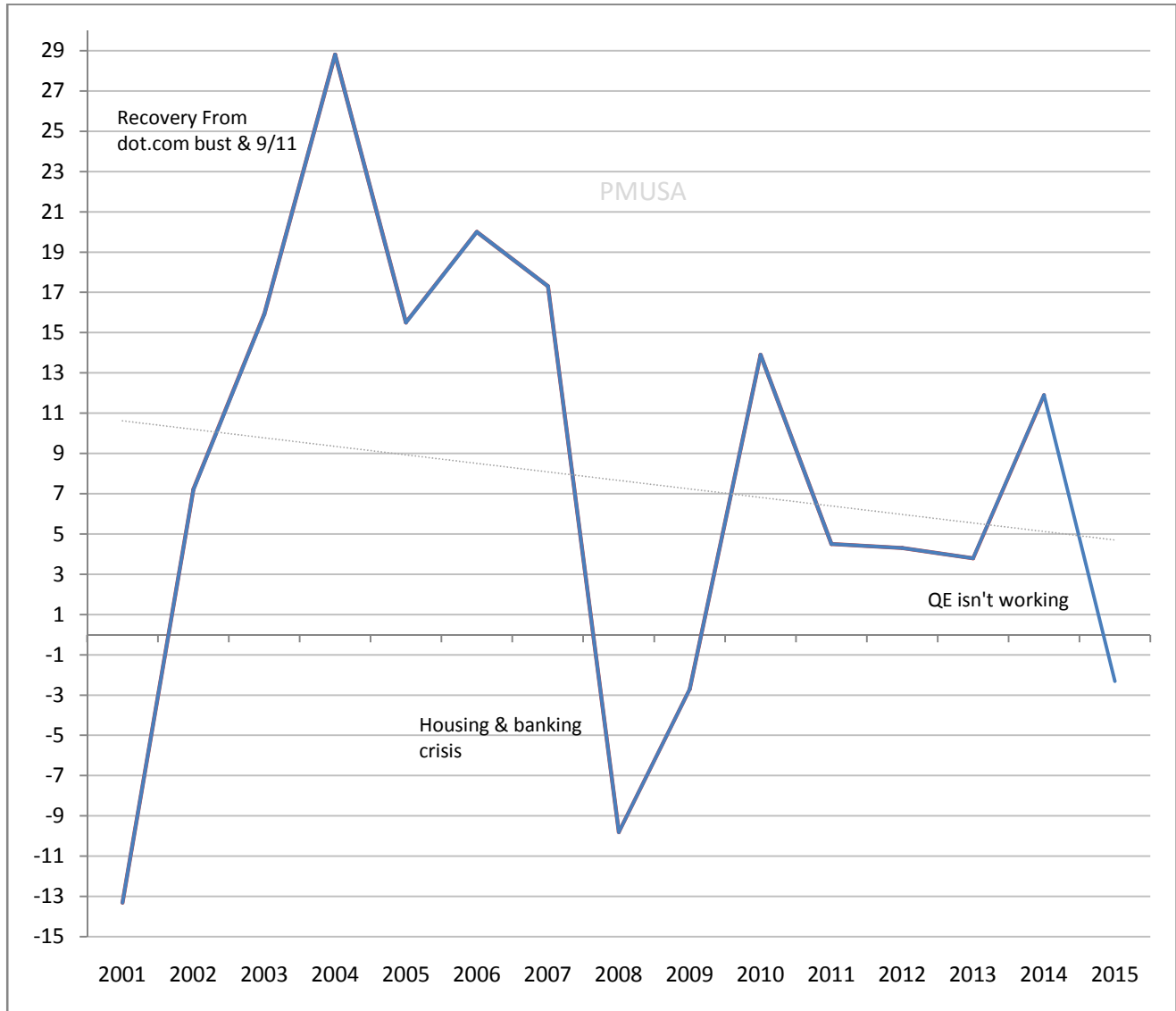


EMPIRE STATE MANUFACTURING INDEX 2001-2015 (MONTHLY, DIFFUSION INDEX)



2016 (diffusion index)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
-19.37	-16.64	.62	9.56	-9	6	.55	-4.2	-2	-6.8	1.5	9

The Empire State Manufacturing Index (ESMI), a diffusion index, is conducted by the New York Federal Reserve Bank and measures overall business conditions for manufacturers in New York state. The trend for this short data series is obviously downward, having turned more so in 2015. Manufacturing in New York has been under attack since the mid 1970's, and the assault continues today. There is some indication the outflow of capacity to Asia has slowed and some new manufacturers are establishing operations in the Empire State. America's trade policy continues to disadvantage U.S. manufacturers, add in the Affordable Care Act and a yearly wave of new regulations, and there is little hope for robust expansion. The level of capital stock continues to decline. ESMI is released on a monthly basis and has several components including orders, shipments, number of employees, prices paid, and prices received.