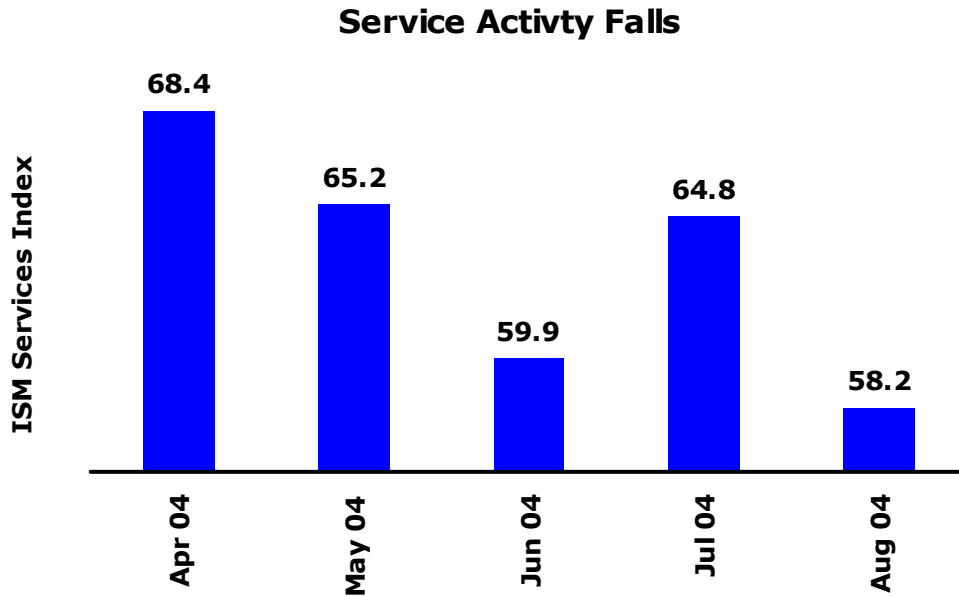


Economic Indicators Tumble

No matter where you turn these days, the lousy economic numbers are tumbling in. Take the ISM Services index – a key measure of economic health in the massive services sector...



As you can see from this chart, service sector activity fell to 58.2 in August, 6.6 points *worse than July*. August's reading was also *the lowest this year!*

But that's not all. The ISM Manufacturing Index – a measure of *manufacturing* health -- also took it on the chin in August, falling 3 points to 59. Plus, the economy's 144,000 job additions in August is still well below 200,000 – the benchmark for a robust labor market.

Bottom line: Keep your eyes on economic indicators down the road and the *trend* they make. They can be a good window into where economic growth may be headed.

Related article: [U.S. Services Growth Slower in August](#)