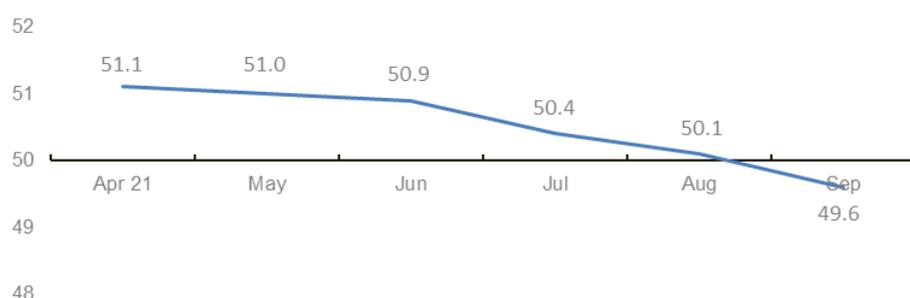


PMI Report on China Manufacturing

China’s manufacturing PMI drops to a 19-month low of 49.6 in September, indicating contraction in the manufacturing sector

China Manufacturing PMI, seasonally adjusted



China Manufacturing at a Glance – September 2021

Index	Seasonally Adjusted Index	Index Compared with the Previous Month	Direction
PMI	49.6	Lower ▼	Contracting
Output	49.5	Lower ▼	Contracting
New Orders	49.3	Lower ▼	Contracting
New Export Orders	46.2	Lower ▼	Contracting
Backlogs of Orders	45.6	Lower ▼	Contracting
Stocks of Finished Goods	47.2	Lower ▼	Contracting
Stocks of Major Inputs	48.2	Higher ▲	Contracting
Purchases of Inputs	49.7	Lower ▼	Contracting
Imports	46.8	Lower ▼	Contracting
Input Prices	63.5	Higher ▲	Rising
Ex-factory Prices	56.4	Higher ▲	Rising
Employment	49.0	Lower ▼	Contracting
Suppliers’ Delivery Time	48.1	Higher ▲	Slowing
Business Expectations	56.4	Lower ▼	Optimistic

9 of the 13 sub-indices were lower than their respective levels in the previous month. For example, the new orders index declined by 0.3 pts to 49.3 in September, pointing to contraction in the market demand. The new export orders index also dropped further to 46.2 in September, indicating that new export orders have dropped at a faster pace recently. Against this backdrop, the output index fell below the critical 50-mark in September, indicating that output has started to contract recently. Moreover, the purchase of inputs index dipped into the contractionary zone in September. Also noteworthy is that the input prices index continued to rise in September, suggesting heightened cost pressures on manufacturers.

Helen Chin
 Vice President
 E: helenchin@fung1937.com

William Kong
 Senior Research Manager
 E: williamkong@fung1937.com

Fung Business Intelligence
 1/F LiFung Tower
 888 Cheung Sha Wan Road
 Kowloon, Hong Kong
 T: (852) 2300 2470
 F: (852) 2635 1598
 E: fbicgroup@fung1937.com
 W: <http://www.fbicgroup.com>



By size of enterprises, the PMI of 'large enterprises' rose to 50.4 in September from 50.3 in August. Meanwhile, the PMI of 'medium enterprises' dropped to 49.7 in September from 51.2 in August, and the PMI of 'small enterprises' went down to 47.5 in September from 48.2 in August.

The output index came in at 49.5 in September, down from 50.9 in August. The output index of 'medium enterprises' stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 50.1 in September. Meanwhile, the output indices of 'large enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were below 50, registering 49.9 and 47.7 respectively in the month.

The new orders index came in at 49.3 in September, down from 49.6 in August. By size of enterprises, the new orders index of 'large enterprises' rose above the critical 50-mark, registering 51.0 in September. Meanwhile, the new orders indices of 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were in the contractionary zone, registering 48.8 and 46.3 respectively in the month.

The new export orders index went down to 46.2 in September from 46.7 in August. The new export orders indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed below the neutral level of 50, registering 46.5, 45.6 and 45.9 respectively in September.

The backlogs of orders index came in at 45.6 in September, down from 45.9 in August. The backlogs of orders indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained below the critical 50-mark, registering 46.9, 45.3 and 42.9 respectively in September.

The stocks of finished goods index fell to 47.2 in September from 47.7 in August. The stocks of finished goods indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained in the contractionary zone, registering 47.3, 46.5 and 47.8 respectively in September.

The stocks of major inputs index came in at 48.2 in September, up from 47.7 in August. The stocks of major inputs indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained below the critical 50-mark, registering 48.6, 49.2 and 45.9 respectively in September.

The purchases of inputs index went down to 49.7 in September from 50.3 in August. The purchases of inputs index of 'large enterprises' came in at 50.0 in September. The purchases of inputs index of 'medium enterprises' stayed in the expansionary zone, registering 50.2 in the month. Meanwhile, the purchases of inputs index of 'small enterprises' remained below 50, registering 48.4 in the month.

The imports index fell to 46.8 in September from 48.3 in August. The imports indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed below the critical 50-mark, registering 47.2, 46.6 and 44.8 in September.

The input prices index went up to 63.5 in September from 61.3 in August. The input prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained above the critical 50-mark, registering 63.1, 65.3 and 61.9 respectively in September.

The ex-factory prices index came in at 56.4 in September, up from 53.4 in August.¹ The ex-factory prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained in the expansionary zone, registering 57.1, 56.1 and 55.3 respectively in September.

The employment index was 49.0 in September, down from 49.6 in August. The employment index of 'large enterprises' stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 50.2 in September. Meanwhile, the employment indices of 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' remained in the contractionary zone, registering 48.6 and 46.9 respectively in the month.

The suppliers' delivery time index came in at 48.1 in September, up from 48.0 in August. A reading above 50 implies faster delivery; below 50, slower delivery. The suppliers' delivery time indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' registered 48.4, 47.5 and 48.4 respectively in September.

The business expectations index went down to 56.4 in September from 57.5 in August.² The business expectations indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were 57.9, 56.8 and 52.4 respectively in September.

¹ The ex-factory prices index has been published since January 2017.

² Since January 2017, a new method of seasonal adjustment to the business expectations index has been adopted; and accordingly, the historical readings of the index have been revised.

CFLP

中國物流與採購聯合會

China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing (CFLP) is the logistics and purchasing industry association approved by the State Council. CFLP's mission is to push forward the development of the logistics industry and the procurement businesses of both government and enterprises, as well as the circulation of factors of production in China. The government authorizes the CFLP to produce industry statistics and set industry standards. CFLP is also China's representative in the Asian-Pacific Logistics Federation (APLF) and the International Federation of Purchasing and Supply Management (IFPSM).

NBS

國家統計局

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), an agency directly under the State Council in China, is in charge of the country's statistics. It is responsible for formulating statistical policies and establishing the national statistical system, drafting and enforcing the statistical laws and regulations, setting up and improving the national economic accounting system, conducting censuses, as well as making statistical analyses and forecasts of the macroeconomy, social development, scientific advancement, resources and environment.

China Manufacturing PMI

中國製造業採購經理指數

China Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) provides an early indication each month of economic activities in the Chinese manufacturing sector. It is jointly published by China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing (CFLP) and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). Fung Business Intelligence is responsible for drafting and disseminating the English PMI report.

Every month questionnaires are sent to 3,000 manufacturing enterprises all over China. The data presented herein is compiled from the enterprises' responses about their purchasing activities and supply situations. CFLP makes no representation regarding the data collection procedures, nor does it disclose any data of individual enterprises. The PMI should be compared to other economic data sources when used in decision-making.

3,000 manufacturing enterprises in 31 industries from Eastern, Northeastern, Central and Western China are surveyed. The sampling of the enterprises involves the use of Probability Proportional to Size Sampling (PPS), which means the selection of enterprises surveyed is largely based on each industry's contribution to GDP, and the representation of each geographical region.

There are 13 sub-indicators in the survey: Output, New Orders, New Export Orders, Backlogs of Orders, Stocks of Finished Goods, Purchases of Inputs, Imports, Input Prices, Stocks of Major Inputs, Ex-factory Prices, Employment, Suppliers' Delivery Time and Business Expectations. An index reading above 50 indicates an overall positive change in a sub-indicator; below 50, an overall negative change.

The PMI is a composite index based on the seasonally adjusted indices for five of the sub-indicators with varying weights: New Orders—30%; Output—25%; Employment—20%; Suppliers' Delivery Time—15%; and Stocks of Major Inputs—10%. A PMI reading above 50 indicates an overall expansion in the manufacturing sector; below 50, an overall contraction.

Currently there are more than twenty countries and regions conducting the PMI survey and compilation, based on an internationally standardized methodology.

Fung Business Intelligence

Fung Business Intelligence collects, analyses and interprets global market data on sourcing, supply chains, distribution, retail and technology.

Headquartered in Hong Kong, it leverages unique relationships and information networks to monitor, research and report on these global issues with a particular focus on business trends and developments in China. Fung Business Intelligence makes its data, impartial analysis and specialist knowledge available to businesses, scholars and governments through regular research reports and business publications.

As the knowledge bank and think tank for the Fung Group, a Hong Kong-based multinational corporation, Fung Business Intelligence also provides expertise, advice and consulting services to the Group and its business partners on issues related to doing business in China, ranging from market entry and company structure, to tax, licensing and other regulatory matters.

Fung Business Intelligence was established in the year 2000.

Fung Group

Fung Holdings (1937) Limited, a privately-held business entity headquartered in Hong Kong, is the major shareholder of the Fung Group of companies, whose core businesses operate across the entire global supply chain for consumer goods including trading, logistics, distribution and retail. The Fung Group comprises over 26,000 people working in more than 40 economies worldwide. We have a rich history and heritage in export trading and global supply chain management that dates back to 1906 and traces the story of how Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta emerged as one of the world's foremost manufacturing and trading regions. We are focused on both creating the Supply Chain of the Future to help brands and retailers navigate the digital economy as well as creating new opportunities, product categories and market expansion for brands on a global scale.

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