### Anthony Nieves, CPSM, C.P.M., A.P.P., CFPM

Economic activity in the services sector expanded in April for the

fourth consecutive month as the Services PMI® registered 51.9 percent, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the

latest Services ISM® Report On

the last 35 months, with the lone

ness Activity Index registered 52

percent, a 3.4-percentage point

decrease compared to the reading

of 55.4 percent in March. The New

Orders Index expanded in April for

the fourth consecutive month after contracting in December for the

first time since May 2020; the figure of 56.1 percent is 3.9 percentage points higher than the March reading of 52.2 percent. The Prices Index was up 0.1 percentage point in April, to 59.6 percent. The Inventories Index contracted in April after two consecutive months of growth preceded by eight straight months of contraction; the reading of 47.2 percent is down 5.6 percentage points from March's figure of

The 14 services industries reporting growth in April — listed in order - are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation: Other Services: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Accommodation & Food Services: Utilities: Public Administration; Transporta-

tion & Warehousing; Professional,

Scientific & Technical Services: Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance: Retail Trade: Construction; Finance & Insurance;

and Information. ISM

The sector has grown in 34 of

contraction in December. The Busi-

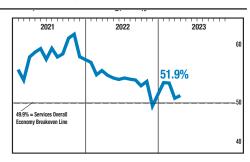
Business®.

52.8 percent.

Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee

# **SERVICES** 1I<sup>®</sup> at 51.9%

In April, the Services PMI® registered 51.9 percent, a 0.7-percentage point increase compared to the March reading of 51.2 percent. A reading above 50 percent indicates the services sector economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates it is generally contracting. A Services PMI® above 49.9 percent, over time, generally indicates an expansion of the overall economy. Therefore,



the April Services PMI® indicates the overall economy is growing for the fourth consecutive month after one month of contraction in December.

### Services at a Glance

INDEX	Apr Index	Mar Index	% Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (months)
Services PMI®	51.9	51.2	+0.7	Growing	Faster	4
Business Activity	52.0	55.4	-3.4	Growing	Slower	35
New Orders	56.1	52.2	+3.9	Growing	Faster	4
Employment	50.8	51.3	-0.5	Growing	Slower	3
Supplier Deliveries	48.6	45.8	+2.8	Faster	Slower	3
Inventories	47.2	52.8	-5.6	Contracting	From Growing	1
Prices	59.6	59.5	+0.1	Increasing	Faster	71
Backlog of Orders	49.7	48.5	+1.2	Contracting	Slower	2
New Export Orders	60.9	43.7	+17.2	Growing	From Contracting	1
Imports	51.3	43.6	+7.7	Growing	From Contracting	1
Inventory Sentiment	48.9	57.9	-9.0	Too Low	From Too High	1
Overall Economy				Growing	Faster	4
Services Sector				Growing	Faster	4

\*Number of months moving in current direction. Services ISM® Report On Business® data has been seasonally adjusted for the Business Activity, New Orders, Employment and Prices indexes



## Commodities Reported

Commodities Up in Price: Aluminum Products (2); Chemicals; Electrical Components (27); Electronic Components (4); Fuel (2); Gasoline (3); Labor (29); Labor — Construction; Labor — Skilled (3); Maintenance, Repair and Operating (MRO) Supplies; Pharmaceuticals (2); Resins; Steel; and Steel Products\* (2).

Commodities Down in Price: Chicken Products; Copper Based Products; Eggs; and Steel Products\*. Commodities in Short Supply: Appliances (5); Construction Materials; Electrical Components; Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Equipment; Labor (6); Labor — Construction (3); Needles and Syringes (4); Semiconductors (4); Tourniquets (3); Transformers (8); and Vehicles (10).

-: Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services



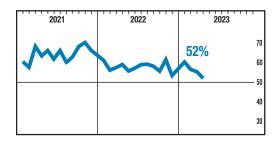
Note: To view the full report, visit the ISM® Report On Business® website at ismrob.org

The number of consecutive months the commodity has been listed is indicated after each item, \*Indicates both up and down in price,

## ISM® Report On **Business®**

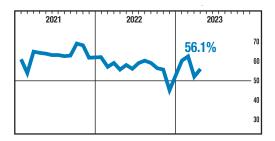
Services PMI®

Analysis by Anthony Nieves, CPSM, C.P.M., A.P.P., CFPM, Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee



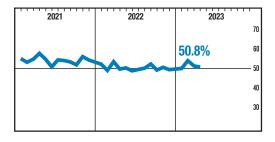
### **Business Activity**

ISM's Business Activity Index registered 52 percent. The 14 industries reporting an increase in business activity for the month of April — listed in order — are: Other Services\*; Accommodation & Food Services; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Educational Services; Public Administration; Transportation & Warehousing; Utilities; Retail Trade; Wholesale Trade; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Information; Construction; and Finance & Insurance.



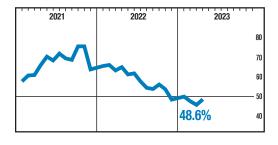
### **New Orders**

ISM's New Orders Index registered 56.1 percent. The 16 industries reporting an increase in new orders for the month of April — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Other Services\*; Accommodation & Food Services; Retail Trade; Health Care & Social Assistance; Public Administration; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Educational Services; Finance & Insurance; Wholesale Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Utilities; Management of Companies & Support Services; Information; and Construction.



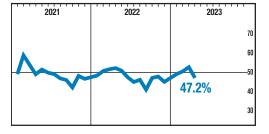
### **Employment**

Employment activity in the services sector grew in April for the third consecutive month registering 50.8 percent. The eight industries reporting an increase in employment in April — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Accommodation & Food Services; Construction; Utilities; Other Services<sup>17</sup>; Transportation & Warehousing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Public Administration.



### **Supplier Deliveries**

The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 48.6 percent. The only industry reporting slower deliveries in April is Real Estate, Rental & Leasing. The 11 industries reporting faster supplier deliveries for the month of April — listed in order — are: Wholesale Trade; Accommodation & Food Services; Construction; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Information; Retail Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Utilities; Educational Services; Public Administration; and Health Care & Social Assistance. Six industries reported no change in supplier deliveries.



### **Inventories**

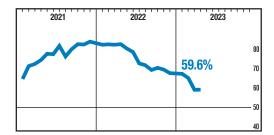
The Inventories Index registered 47.2 percent. The four industries reporting an increase in inventories in April are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Public Administration; Utilities; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services).

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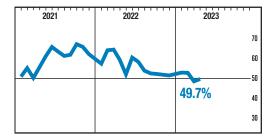
Services PMI®

Analysis by Anthony Nieves, CPSM, C.P.M., A.P.P., CFPM, Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee



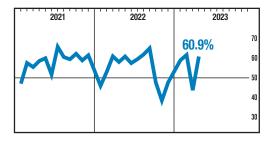
### **Prices**

Prices paid by services organizations for materials and services increased in April for the 71st consecutive month, with the index registering 59.6 percent. Fifteen services industries reported an increase in prices paid during the month of April, in the following order: Utilities; Other Services<sup>17</sup>; Public Administration; Information; Construction; Health Care & Social Assistance; Mining; Retail Trade; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Management of Companies & Support Services; Finance & Insurance; Wholesale Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; and Educational Services.



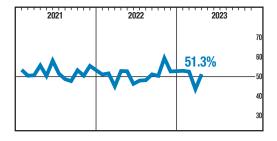
### **Backlog of Orders**

The ISM Services Backlog of Orders Index registered 49.7 percent. The five industries reporting an increase in order backlogs in April are: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Information; Health Care & Social Assistance; Management of Companies & Support Services; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.



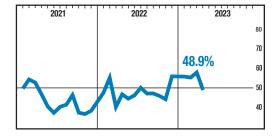
## **New Export Orders**

The New Export Orders Index registered 60.9 percent. The six industries reporting an increase in new export orders in April — listed in order — are: Construction; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Retail Trade; Information; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Wholesale Trade.



### **Imports**

The Imports Index grew in April after contracting in March and growing for six straight months prior to that, registering 51.3 percent. The five industries reporting an increase in imports for the month of April are: Retail Trade; Information; Utilities; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Wholesale Trade.



### **Inventory Sentiment**

The ISM Services Inventory Sentiment Index registered 48.9 percent. The 11 industries reporting sentiment that their inventories were too high in April — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Wholesale Trade; Mining; Information; Other Services <sup>17</sup>; Utilities; Construction; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Retail Trade; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Management of Companies & Support Services.

<sup>\*\*\*\*\*</sup>Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services).

#### **About This Report**

**DO NOT CONFUSE THIS NATIONAL REPORT** with the various regional purchasing reports released across the country. The national report's information reflects the entire U.S., while the regional reports contain primarily regional data from their local vicinities. Also, the information in the regional reports is not used in calculating the results of the national report.

The data presented herein is obtained from a survey of manufacturing and services supply executives based on information they have collected within their respective organizations. ISM® makes no representation, other than that stated within this release, regarding the individual company data collection procedures. The data should be compared to all other economic data sources when used in decision-making.

#### Data and Method of Presentation

The Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business® is based on data compiled from purchasing and supply executives nationwide. The composition of the Manufacturing Business Survey Committee is stratified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and each of the following NAICS-based industry's contribution to gross domestic product (GDP): Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; Textile Mills; Apparel, Leather & Allied Products; Wood Products; Printing & Related Support Activities; Petroleum & Coal Products; Chemical Products; Plastics & Rubber Products; Nonmetallic Mineral Products; Primary Metals; Fabricated Metal Products; Machinery; Computer & Electronic Products; Electrical Equipment, Appliances & Components; Transportation Equipment; Furniture & Related Products; and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (products such as medical equipment and supplies, jewelry, sporting goods, toys and office supplies). The data are weighted based on each industry's contribution to GDP. According to the BEA estimates for 2021 GDP (released December 22, 2022), the six largest manufacturing subsectors are: Computer & Electronic Products; Chemical Products; Transportation Equipment; Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; Machinery; and Petroleum & Coal Products.

The Services ISM® Report On Business® (formerly the Non-Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business®) is based on data compiled from purchasing and supply executives nationwide. Membership of the Services Business Survey Committee (formerly Non-Manufacturing Business Survey Committee) is diversified by NAICS, based on each industry's contribution to gross domestic product (GDP). The Services Business Survey Committee responses are divided into the following NAICS code categories: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Mining; Utilities; Construction; Wholesale Trade; Retail Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Finance & Insurance; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Management of Companies & Support Services; Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Arts. Entertainment & Recreation; Accommodation & Food Services: Public Administration: and Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services. Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services, and Dating Services). The data are weighted based on each industry's contribution to GDP. According to the BEA estimates for 2021 GDP (released December 22, 2022), the six largest services sectors are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Government; Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Information; and Finance & Insurance.

Survey responses reflect the change, if any, in the current month compared to the previous month. Responses are raw data and are never changed. The diffusion index includes the percent of positive responses plus one-half of those responding the same (considered positive).

The resulting single index number for those meeting the criteria for seasonal adjustments (for Manufacturing: New Orders, Production, Employment, and Inventories) (for Services: Business Activity, New Orders, Employment and Prices) is then seasonally adjusted to allow for the effects of repetitive intra-year variations resulting primarily from normal differences in weather conditions, various institutional arrangements, and differences attributable to non-moveable holidays. The remaining indexes have not indicated significant seasonality. All seasonal adjustment factors are subject annually to relatively minor changes when conditions warrant them.

The Manufacturing PMI® is a composite index based on the diffusion indexes of five of the indexes with equal weights: New Orders (seasonally adjusted), Production (seasonally adjusted), Employment (seasonally adjusted), Supplier Deliveries, and Inventories (seasonally adjusted). The Services PMI® is a composite index based on the diffusion indexes for four of the indicators with equal weights: Business Activity (seasonally adjusted), New Orders (seasonally adjusted), Employment (seasonally adjusted) and Supplier Deliveries.

Diffusion indexes have the properties of leading indicators and are convenient summary measures showing the prevailing direction of change and the scope of change.

A Manufacturing PMI® reading above 50 percent indicates that the manufacturing economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates that it is generally declining. A Manufacturing PMI® above 48.7 percent, over a period of time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 48.7 percent, it is generally declining.

The distance from 50 percent or 48.7 percent is indicative of the extent of the expansion or decline. A Services PMI® reading above 50 percent indicates that the services economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates that it is generally declining. A Services PMI® above 49.9 percent, over time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 49.9 percent, it is generally declining. The distance from 50 percent or 49.9 percent is indicative of the strength of the expansion or decline. With some of the indicators within the Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business®, ISM® has indicated the departure point between expansion and decline of comparable government series, as determined by regression analysis.

The Report On Business® surveys are sent out to Manufacturing and Services Business Survey Committee respondents the first part of each month. Respondents are asked to report on information for the current month for U.S. operations only. ISM® receives survey responses throughout most of any given month, with the majority of respondents generally waiting until late in the month to submit responses to give the most accurate picture of current business activity.

The industries reporting growth, as indicated in the monthly reports, are listed in the order of most growth to least growth. For the industries reporting contraction or decreases, those are listed in the order of the highest level of contraction/decrease to the least level of contraction/decrease

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Institute for Supply Management® (ISM®) serves supply management professionals in more than 90 countries. Its 50,000 members around the world manage about US\$1 trillion in corporate and government supply chain procurement annually. Founded in 1915 as the first supply management institute in the world, ISM is committed to advancing the practice of supply management to drive value and competitive advantage for its members, contributing to a prosperous and sustainable world. ISM leads the profession through the ISM® Report On Business®, its highly regarded certification programs and the ISM Advance® Digital Platform. This report has been issued by the association since 1931, except for a four-year interruption during World War II.