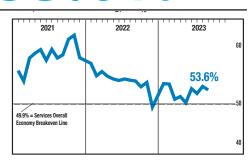
### Anthony Nieves, CPSM, C.P.M., A.P.P., CFPM

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

# PMI at 53.6%

In September, the Services PMI® registered 53.6 percent, a 0.9-percentage point decrease compared to the August reading of 54.5 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 September Services PMI® indicates the overall economy is growing for the ninth consecutive month after one month of contraction in December 2022.

### Services at a Glance

INDEX	Sep Index	Aug Index	% Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (months)
Services PMI®	53.6	54.5	-0.9	Growing	Slower	9
Business Activity	58.8	57.3	+1.5	Growing	Faster	40
New Orders	51.8	57.5	-5.7	Growing	Slower	9
Employment	53.4	54.7	-1.3	Growing	Slower	4
Supplier Deliveries	50.4	48.5	+1.9	Slowing	From Faster	1
Inventories	54.2	57.7	-3.5	Growing	Slower	5
Prices	58.9	58.9	0.0	Increasing	Same	76
Backlog of Orders	48.6	41.8	+6.8	Contracting	Slower	2
New Export Orders	63.7	62.1	+1.6	Growing	Faster	6
Imports	50.6	52.3	-1.7	Growing	Slower	4
Inventory Sentiment	54.8	61.5	-6.7	Too High	Slower	5
Overall Economy				Growing	Slower	9
Services Sector				Growing	Slower	9

\*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: Diesel Fuel (3); Electrical Equipment; Electrical Components (32); Fuel (2); Gasoline (8); Labor (34); Labor — Contract; Labor — Services; Lumber (4); Oil and Related Products; and Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Products. Commodities Down in Price: Steel Products (2).

Commodities in Short Supply: Construction Materials; Electrical Components (6); Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Equipment (2); Labor (11); Labor — Construction; Transformers (13); and Vehicles.

Economic activity in the services sector expanded in September for the ninth consecutive month as the Services PMI® registered 53.6 percent, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the latest Services ISM® Report On Business®.

The sector has grown in 39 of the last 40 months, with the lone contraction in December 2022. The Business Activity Index registered 58.8 percent, a 1.5-percentage point increase compared to the reading of 57.3 percent in August. The New Orders Index expanded in September for the ninth consecutive month after contracting in December for the first time since May 2020; the figure of 51.8 percent is 5.7 percentage points lower than the August reading of 57.5 percent. The Prices Index registered 58.9 percent in September, matching its August readina.

The 13 services industries reporting growth in September — listed in order - are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Retail Trade; Mining; Other Services "; Utilities; Health Care & Social Assistance; Finance & Insurance: Construction: Professional. Scientific & Technical Services: Public Administration; Information; Transportation & Warehousing; and Educational Services. The five industries reporting a decrease in the month of September are: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation: Accommodation & Food Services; Management of Companies & Support Services; and Wholesale Trade. ISM

\*-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).



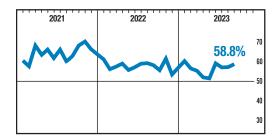
# ISM® Report On **Business®**

September 2023



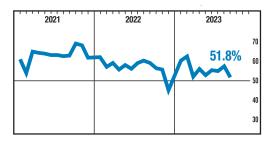
Services PMI®

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



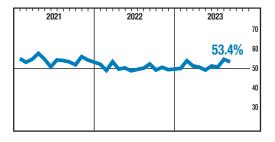
### **Business Activity**

ISM's Business Activity Index registered 58.8 percent. The 14 industries reporting an increase in business activity for the month of September — listed in order — are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Retail Trade; Utilities; Health Care & Social Assistance; Mining; Other Services<sup>17</sup>; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Finance & Insurance; Public Administration; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Educational Services; Wholesale Trade; and Management of Companies & Support Services.



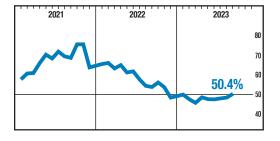
### **New Orders**

ISM's New Orders Index registered 51.8 percent. The 12 industries reporting an increase in new orders for the month of September — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Mining; Other Services ; Health Care & Social Assistance; Public Administration; Educational Services; Finance & Insurance; Utilities; Wholesale Trade; and Construction.



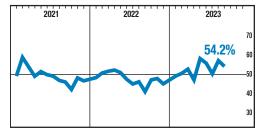
### **Employment**

The Employment Index registered 53.4 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in employment in September — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Mining; Other Services\*; Construction; Utilities; Finance & Insurance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Health Care & Social Assistance.



# **Supplier Deliveries**

The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 50.4 percent. The six industries reporting slower deliveries in September — listed in order — are: Mining; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Construction; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Utilities; and Public Administration.



### **Inventories**

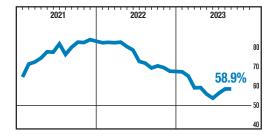
The Inventories Index registered 54.2 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in inventories in September — listed in order — are: Other Services<sup>1</sup>; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Retail Trade; Finance & Insurance; Transportation & Warehousing; Utilities; Educational Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Wholesale Trade.

<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).

# ISM® Report On **Business®**

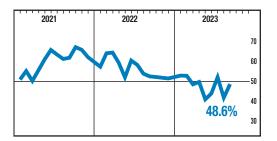
Services PMI®

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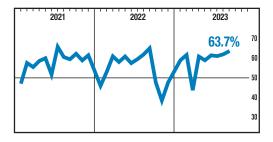
### **Prices**

The Prices Index registered 58.9 percent. Twelve services industries reported an increase in prices paid during the month of September, in the following order: Public Administration; Other Services 't; Utilities; Information; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Retail Trade; Wholesale Trade; and Construction.



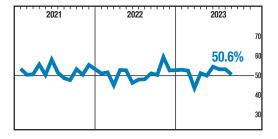
### **Backlog of Orders**

The ISM Services Backlog of Orders Index registered 48.6 percent. The six industries reporting an increase in order backlogs in September — listed in order — are: Mining; Finance & Insurance; Information; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Utilities; and Health Care & Social Assistance.



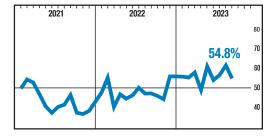
# **New Export Orders**

The New Export Orders Index registered 63.7 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in new export orders in September — listed in order — are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Construction; Information; Mining; Retail Trade; Finance & Insurance; Utilities; Transportation & Warehousing; and Wholesale Trade.



### **Imports**

The Imports Index registered 50.6 percent. The three industries reporting an increase in imports for the month of September are: Management of Companies & Support Services; Retail Trade; and Wholesale Trade.



### **Inventory Sentiment**

The ISM Services Inventory Sentiment Index registered 54.8 percent. The nine industries reporting sentiment that their inventories were too high in September — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Mining; Other Services '†'; Utilities; Wholesale Trade; Construction; Retail Trade; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; and Health Care & Social Assistance.

<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; Paper Products; Printing & Related Support Activities; Petroleum & Coal Products; Chemical Products; Plastics & Rubber Products; Nonmetallic Mineral Products; Frimary 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.

#### **ISM ROB Content**

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Institute for Supply Management® (ISM®) is the first and leading not-for-profit professional supply management organization worldwide. Its community of more than 50,000 in more than 100 countries manage about US\$1 trillion in corporate and government supply chain procurement annually. Founded in 1915 by practitioners, 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 empowers and leads the profession through the ISM® *Report On Business*®, its highly-regarded certification and training programs, corporate services, events, and assessments. The ISM® *Report On Business*®, Manufacturing, Services and Hospital, are three of the most reliable economic indicators available, providing guidance to supply management professionals, economists, analysts, and government and business leaders. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.ismworld.org">www.ismworld.org</a>.