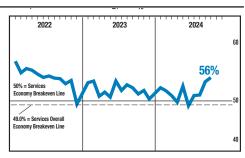
### Analysis by

### Steve Miller, CPSM, CSCP

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

# PMI® at 56%

In October, the Services PMI® registered 56 percent, a 1.1-percentage point increase compared to the September reading of 54.9 percent. This is the index's highest level since a figure of 56.4 percent in July 2022. A reading above 50 percent indicates the services sector economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates it is generally contracting. The past relationship between the Services PMI®



and the overall economy indicates that the Services PMI® for October (56 percent) corresponds to a 2.3-percentage point increase in real gross domestic product (GDP) on an annualized basis.

### Services at a Glance

INDEX	Oct Index	Sep Index	% Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (months)
Services PMI®	56.0	54.9	+1.1	Growing	Faster	4
Business Activity	57.2	59.9	-2.7	Growing	Slower	4
New Orders	57.4	59.4	-2.0	Growing	Slower	4
Employment	53.0	48.1	+4.9	Growing	From Contracting	1
Supplier Deliveries	56.4	52.1	+4.3	Slowing	Faster	2
Inventories	57.2	58.1	-0.9	Growing	Slower	3
Prices	58.1	59.4	-1.3	Increasing	Slower	89
Backlog of Orders	47.7	48.3	-0.6	Contracting	Faster	3
New Export Orders	51.7	56.7	-5.0	Growing	Slower	6
Imports	50.2	52.7	-2.5	Growing	Slower	4
Inventory Sentiment	53.0	54.0	-1.0	Too High	Slower	18
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.

Economic activity in the services sector expanded for the fourth consecutive month in October, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the latest Services ISM® Report On Business®.

The Services PMI® registered 56 percent, which is the highest reading since July 2022 and indicates sector expansion for the 50th time in 53 months. The Business Activity Index registered 57.2 percent in October, 2.7 percentage points lower than the 59.9 percent recorded in September, indicating a fourth month of expansion after a contraction in June. The New Orders Index decreased to 57.4 percent in October, 2 percentage points lower than September's figure of 59.4 percent. The Employment Index landed in expansion territory for its third time in four months; the reading of 53 percent is a 4.9-percentage point increase compared to the 48.1 percent recorded in September. The Prices Index registered 58.1 percent in October, a 1.3-percentage point decrease from September's reading of 59.4 percent.

The 14 services industries reporting growth in October — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Information; Transportation & Warehousing; Accommodation & Food Services; Finance & Insurance; Construction; Mining; Public Administration; Utilities; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Educational Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Wholesale Trade. ISM



## **Commodities Reported**

Commodities Up in Price: Containers; Copper Wire; Labor (47); Lumber\* (2); and Steel Products.

Commodities Down in Price: Diesel Fuel; Fuel (2); Lumber\* (2); and Oil Based Products.

Commodities in Short Supply: Construction Contractors; Electrical Equipment (5); High Voltage Breakers; IV Solutions; Labor (2); Labor — Technical; and Transformers (5).

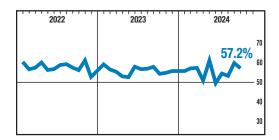
+Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services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



# ISM® Report On **Business®**

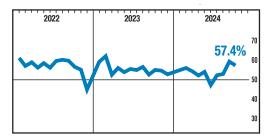
Services PMI®

Analysis by **Steve Miller, CPSM, CSCP** Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee



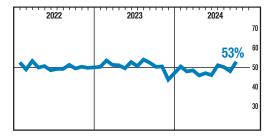
### **Business Activity**

ISM's Business Activity Index registered 57.2 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in business activity for the month of October — listed in order — are: Finance & Insurance; Retail Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Construction; Public Administration; Educational Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Utilities.



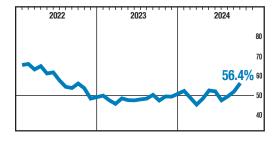
### **New Orders**

ISM's New Orders Index registered 57.4 percent. The 12 industries reporting an increase in new orders for the month of October — listed in order — are: Accommodation & Food Services; Finance & Insurance; Information; Transportation & Warehousing; Other Services\*; Retail Trade; Public Administration; Management of Companies & Support Services; Construction; Educational Services; Utilities; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.



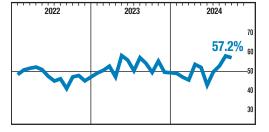
### **Employment**

The Employment Index registered 53 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in employment in October — listed in order — are: Mining; Accommodation & Food Services; Retail Trade; Utilities; Construction; Wholesale Trade; Information; Public Administration; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.



### **Supplier Deliveries**

The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 56.4 percent. The 12 industries reporting slower deliveries in October — in the following order — are: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Health Care & Social Assistance; Educational Services; Retail Trade; Utilities; Public Administration; Transportation & Warehousing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Wholesale Trade; Construction; and Information.



### **Inventories**

The Inventories Index registered 57.2 percent. The eight industries reporting an increase in inventories in October — in the following order — are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Transportation & Warehousing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Retail Trade; Health Care & Social Assistance; Utilities; Educational Services; and Information.

<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®**

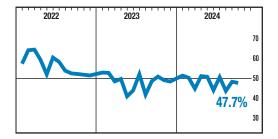
Services PMI®

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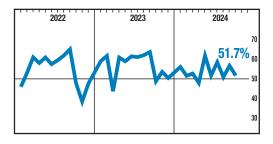
### **Prices**

The Prices Index registered 58.1 percent. Fifteen of the 18 services industries reported an increase in prices paid during the month of October, in the following order: Accommodation & Food Services; Construction; Mining; Other Services<sup>4</sup>; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Retail Trade; Information; Educational Services; Utilities; Wholesale Trade; Public Administration; Finance & Insurance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Transportation & Warehousing.



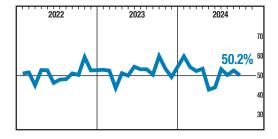
### **Backlog of Orders**

The ISM Services Backlog of Orders Index registered 47.7 percent. The four industries reporting an increase in order backlogs in October are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Information; Finance & Insurance; and Transportation & Warehousing.



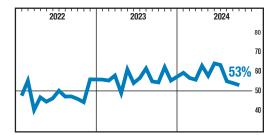
# **New Export Orders**

The New Export Orders Index registered 51.7 percent. The six industries reporting an increase in new export orders in October — in the following order — are: Information; Management of Companies & Support Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Utilities; Wholesale Trade; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.



### **Imports**

The Imports Index expanded for the fourth consecutive month in October, registering 50.2 percent. The five industries reporting an increase in imports for the month of October are: Accommodation & Food Services; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Construction; Transportation & Warehousing; and Wholesale Trade.



### **Inventory Sentiment**

The ISM Services Inventory Sentiment Index registered 53 percent. The seven industries reporting sentiment that their inventories were too high in October — listed in order — are: Other Services 'I'; Mining; Wholesale Trade; Utilities; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services: Construction; 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 Panel is stratified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and each of the following NAICS-based industries' 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: 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 BEA estimates (the average of the fourth quarter 2022 GDP estimate and the GDP estimates for first, second, and third quarter 2023, as released on December 21, 2023), the six largest manufacturing industries are: Chemical Products; Transportation Equipment; Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; Computer & Electronic Products: Machinery: and Fabricated Metal 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 Panel (formerly Non-Manufacturing Business Survey Panel) is diversified by NAICS-based industries' contribution to gross domestic product (GDP). The Services Business Survey Panel 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 BEA estimates (the average of the fourth quarter 2022 GDP estimate and the GDP estimates for first, second, and third quarter 2023, as released on December 21, 2023), the six largest services sectors are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Public Administration; 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 42.5 percent, over a period of time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 42.5 percent, it is generally declining.

The distance from 50 percent or 42.5 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 percent, over time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 49 percent, it is generally declining. The distance from 50 percent or 49 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 Panel 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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### About Institute for Supply Management® (ISM®)

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>.