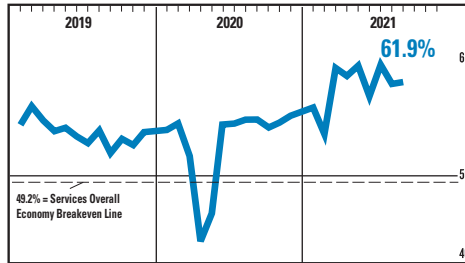


SERVICES PMI® at 61.9%

In September, the Services PMI® registered 61.9 percent, a 0.2-percentage point increase compared to the August figure of 61.7 percent. This reading indicates the services sector grew for the 16th consecutive month after two months of contraction and 122 months of growth before that. A reading above 50 percent indicates the services sector economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates the services sector is generally contracting.



Economic activity in the services sector grew in September for the 16th month in a row, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the latest Services ISM® Report On Business®.

The Services PMI® registered 61.9 percent in September. According to the Services PMI®, 17 services industries reported growth. The composite index indicated growth for the 16th consecutive month after a two-month contraction in April and May 2020. The slight uptick in the rate of expansion in the month of September continued the current period of strong growth for the services sector. However, ongoing challenges with labor resources, logistics, and materials are affecting the continuity of supply.

The 17 services industries reporting growth in September — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Management of Companies & Support Services; Educational Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Accommodation & Food Services; Construction; Mining; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Other Services**; Information; Health Care & Social Assistance; Utilities; Public Administration; Wholesale Trade; and Finance & Insurance. The only industry to report a decrease is Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting. ISM

Services at a Glance

INDEX	Sep Index	Aug Index	% Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (months)
Services PMI®	61.9	61.7	+0.2	Growing	Faster	16
Business Activity	62.3	60.1	+2.2	Growing	Faster	16
New Orders	63.5	63.2	+0.3	Growing	Faster	16
Employment	53.0	53.7	-0.7	Growing	Slower	3
Supplier Deliveries	68.8	69.6	-0.8	Slowing	Slower	28
Inventories	46.1	46.9	-0.8	Contracting	Faster	4
Prices	77.5	75.4	+2.1	Increasing	Faster	52
Backlog of Orders	61.9	61.3	+0.6	Growing	Faster	9
New Export Orders	59.5	60.6	-1.1	Growing	Slower	8
Imports	47.7	48.7	-1.0	Contracting	Faster	2
Inventory Sentiment	46.3	41.4	+4.9	Too Low	Slower	6
Overall Economy				Growing	Faster	16
Services Sector				Growing	Faster	16

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

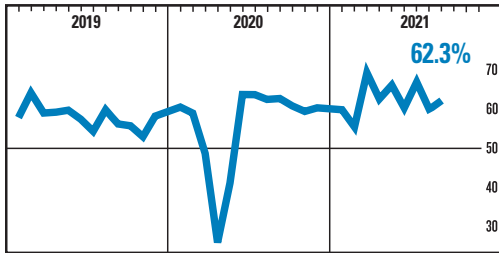
Commodities Reported

Commodities Up in Price: Aluminum (3); Aluminum Products; Bacon; Beef; Chemicals; Chicken; Construction Contractors (3); Copper Products (3); Corrugated Products; Diesel (10); Electrical Components (8); Electronics; Food; Food and Beverages (2); Freight (5); Fuel (9); Gasoline (10); Hardware; Labor (10); Labor — Construction (2); Labor — Temporary (9); Logistics Services; Ocean Freight; Paper Products (2); Plastic Products (2); Poly Film Products; Polyvinyl Chloride Products (PVC); Postage; Printing; Resin-Based Products (3); Steel — Stainless (2); and Steel Products (9).

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

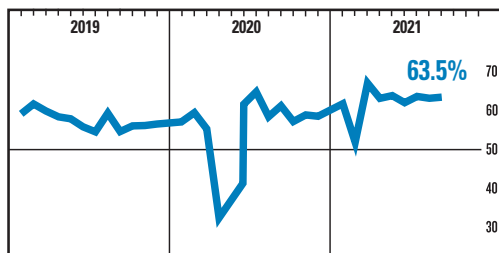
**Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services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

Note: The number of consecutive months the commodity is listed is indicated after each item. *Reported as both up and down in price.



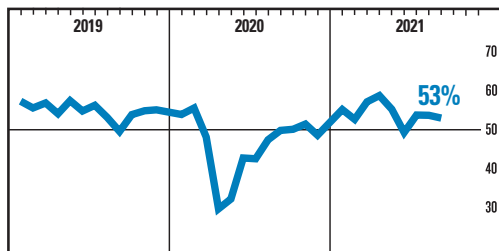
Business Activity

ISM's Business Activity Index registered 62.3 percent. The 17 industries reporting an increase in business activity for the month of September — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Educational Services; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Health Care & Social Assistance; Management of Companies & Support Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Information; Utilities; Finance & Insurance; Wholesale Trade; Accommodation & Food Services; Public Administration; Other Services[‡]; Construction; Mining; and Transportation & Warehousing.



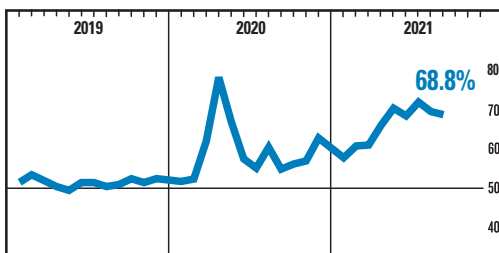
New Orders

ISM's New Orders Index registered 63.5 percent. The 17 industries that reported growth of new orders in September — listed in order — are: Retail Trade; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Other Services[‡]; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Educational Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Mining; Transportation & Warehousing; Public Administration; Construction; Management of Companies & Support Services; Utilities; Health Care & Social Assistance; Information; Finance & Insurance; Accommodation & Food Services; and Wholesale Trade.



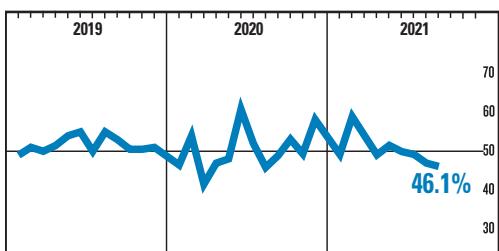
Employment

ISM's Services Employment Index registered 53 percent. The 14 industries reporting an increase in employment in September — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Retail Trade; Construction; Transportation & Warehousing; Educational Services; Management of Companies & Support Services; Finance & Insurance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Mining; Other Services[‡]; Accommodation & Food Services; Information; Utilities; and Wholesale Trade.



Supplier Deliveries

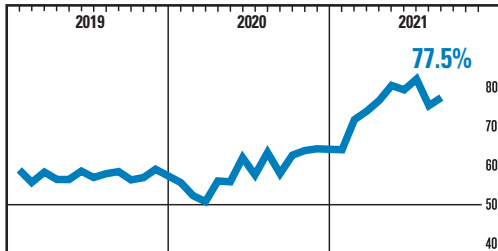
The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 68.8 percent. The 17 industries reporting slower deliveries in September — listed in order — are: Management of Companies & Support Services; Accommodation & Food Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Mining; Health Care & Social Assistance; Public Administration; Retail Trade; Wholesale Trade; Construction; Information; Educational Services; Utilities; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Other Services[‡]; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Finance & Insurance.



Inventories

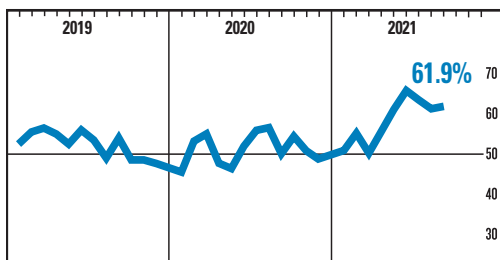
The Inventories Index registered 46.1 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in inventories in September — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Transportation & Warehousing; Construction; Educational Services; Utilities; Mining; Accommodation & Food Services; Wholesale Trade; and Health Care & Social Assistance.

[‡]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).



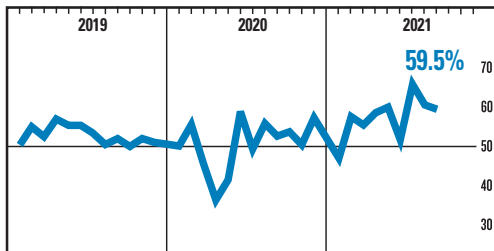
Prices

Prices paid by services organizations for materials and services increased in September, with the index registering 77.5 percent. All 18 services industries reported an increase in prices paid during the month of September, in the following order: Management of Companies & Support Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Retail Trade; Wholesale Trade; Other Services^{**}; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Public Administration; Construction; Utilities; Accommodation & Food Services; Information; Educational Services; Mining; Finance & Insurance; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; and Health Care & Social Assistance.



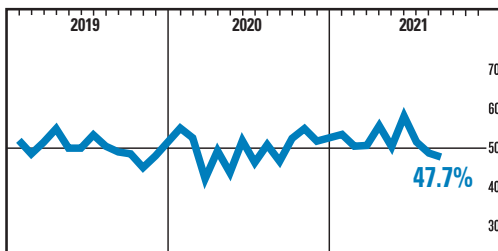
Backlog of Orders

The ISM Services Backlog of Orders Index registered 61.9 percent. The 13 industries reporting an increase in order backlogs in September — listed in order — are: Accommodation & Food Services; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Other Services^{**}; Transportation & Warehousing; Health Care & Social Assistance; Public Administration; Wholesale Trade; Utilities; Educational Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Finance & Insurance; Information; and Construction.



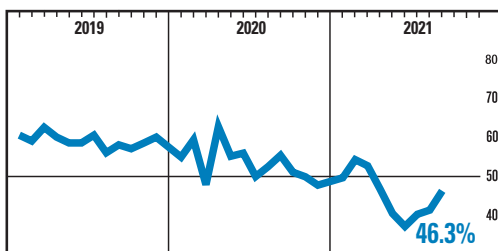
New Export Orders

The New Export Orders Index registered 59.5 percent. The 11 industries reporting an increase in new export orders in September — listed in order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Construction; Utilities; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Information; Accommodation & Food Services; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Finance & Insurance; Transportation & Warehousing; Wholesale Trade; and Health Care & Social Assistance.



Imports

The Imports Index contracted for the second consecutive month in September, as it registered 47.7 percent. The four industries reporting an increase in imports for the month of September are: Information; Educational Services; Accommodation & Food Services; and Wholesale Trade.



Inventory Sentiment

The ISM Services Inventory Sentiment Index contracted in September for the sixth consecutive month, registering 46.3 percent. The seven industries reporting sentiment that their inventories were too high in September — listed in order — are: Mining; Finance & Insurance; Accommodation & Food Services; Utilities; Construction; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Information.

^{**}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).