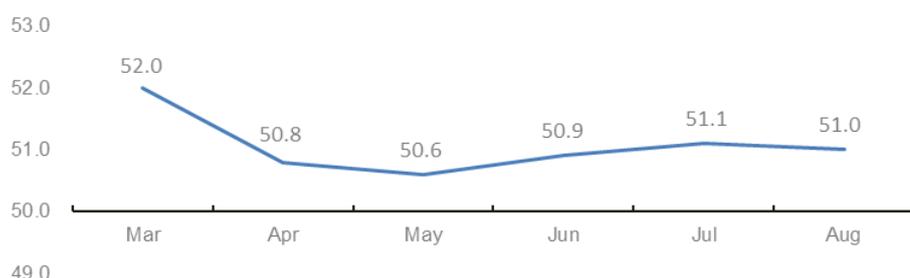


PMI Report on China Manufacturing

China’s manufacturing PMI eased to 51.0 in August from 51.1 in July, indicating that the manufacturing sector recovered at a slightly slower pace in August

China Manufacturing PMI, seasonally adjusted



China Manufacturing at a Glance – August 2020

Index	Seasonally Adjusted Index	Index Compared with the Previous Month	Direction
PMI	51.0	Lower ▼	Expanding
Output	53.5	Lower ▼	Expanding
New Orders	52.0	Higher ▲	Expanding
New Export Orders	49.1	Higher ▲	Contracting
Backlogs of Orders	46.0	Higher ▲	Contracting
Stocks of Finished Goods	47.1	Lower ▼	Contracting
Purchases of Inputs	51.7	Lower ▼	Expanding
Imports	49.0	Lower ▼	Contracting
Input Prices	58.3	Higher ▲	Rising
Ex-factory Prices	53.2	Higher ▲	Rising
Stocks of Major Inputs	47.3	Lower ▼	Contracting
Employment	49.4	Higher ▲	Contracting
Suppliers’ Delivery Time	50.4	Unchanged -	Quickening
Business Expectations	58.6	Higher ▲	Optimistic

5 of the 13 sub-indices were lower than their respective levels in the previous month. For example, the output index slid 0.5 pts in August, indicating a moderation in output growth. Moreover, the purchase of inputs index went down by 0.7 pts in the month. In contrast, the new orders index increased by 0.3 pts, while the new export orders index picked up by 0.7 pts in August, showing an improvement in the market demand. Also noteworthy is that the input prices index continued to rise in August, indicating increased cost pressures on manufacturers.

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By size of enterprises, the PMI of 'large enterprises' came in at 52.0 in August, the same as in July. The PMI of 'medium enterprises' rose to 51.6 in August from 51.2 in July. Meanwhile, the PMI of 'small enterprises' fell to 47.7 in August from 48.6 in July.

The output index came in at 53.5 in August, down from 54.0 in July. The output indices of 'large enterprises' and 'medium enterprises' stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 55.3 and 54.1 respectively in August. Meanwhile, the output index of 'small enterprises' remained in the contractionary zone, registering 48.1 in the month.

The new orders index rose to 52.0 in August from 51.7 in July. By size of enterprises, the new orders indices of 'large enterprises' and 'medium enterprises' were both above the critical 50-mark, registering 53.4 and 53.5 respectively in August. Meanwhile, the new orders index of 'small enterprises' dropped to 46.2 in the month.

The new export orders index picked up to 49.1 in August from 48.4 in July. The new export orders index of 'large enterprises' rose above the neutral level of 50, registering 50.3 in August. Meanwhile, the new export orders indices of 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' stayed below 50, registering 48.0 and 44.1 respectively in the month.

The backlogs of orders index came in at 46.0 in August, up from 45.6 in July. The backlogs of orders indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained below the critical 50-mark, registering 46.7, 46.8 and 43.2 respectively in August.

The stocks of finished goods index was 47.1 in August, down from 47.6 in July. The stocks of finished goods indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all in the contractionary zone, registering 47.4, 46.6 and 47.1 respectively in August.

The purchases of inputs index went down to 51.7 in August from 52.4 in July. The purchases of inputs indices of 'large enterprises' and 'medium enterprises' remained in the expansionary zone, registering 52.1 and 52.5 respectively in August. Meanwhile, the purchases of inputs index of 'small enterprises' stayed below 50 at 49.6 in the month.

The imports index edged down to 49.0 in August from 49.1 in July. The imports indices of 'large enterprises' and 'medium enterprises' stayed below the critical 50-mark, registering 48.9 and 47.9 respectively in August. Meanwhile, the imports index of 'small enterprises' rose above the neutral level of 50, registering 53.4 in the month.

The input prices index rose to 58.3 in August from 58.1 in July. The input prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 59.3, 57.6 and 56.8 respectively in August.

The ex-factory prices index came in at 53.2 in August, up from 52.2 in July.¹ The ex-factory prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all in the expansionary zone, registering 54.5, 52.6 and 50.5 respectively in August.

The stocks of major inputs index dropped to 47.3 in August from 47.9 in July. The stocks of major inputs index of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained below the critical 50-mark, registering 47.5, 47.4 and 46.6 respectively in August.

The employment index was 49.4 in August, up from 49.3 in July. The employment index of 'large enterprises' stayed above the neutral level of 50 at 50.1 in August. Meanwhile, the employment indices of 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' remained in the contractionary zone, registering 49.1 and 48.0 respectively in the month.

The suppliers' delivery time index came in at 50.4 in August, the same as in July. 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 50.7, 50.3 and 49.8 respectively in August.

The business expectations index went up to 58.6 in August from 57.8 in July.² The business expectations indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were 60.6, 58.3 and 53.8 respectively in August.

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 sourcing, logistics, distribution and retail. The Fung Group comprises over 34,000 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.

Listed entities of the Group include Global Brands Group Holding Limited (SEHK: 00787) and Convenience Retail Asia Limited (SEHK: 00831). Privately-held entities include Li & Fung Limited, LH Pegasus, Branded Lifestyle Holdings Limited, Fung Kids (Holdings) Limited, Toys "R" Us (Asia) and Suhyang Networks.

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