

PMI Report on China Manufacturing

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

The CFLP China Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) provides an early indication each month of economic activities in the Chinese manufacturing sector. The CFLP and the NBS collaborate to collect data, compile and publish the index.

Global Sourcing

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PMI falls to 50.8 in April

Output, New Orders, Purchases of Inputs, Employment, Expanding.

New Export Orders, Backlogs of Orders, Stocks of Finished Goods, Stocks of Major Inputs, Imports, Contracting.

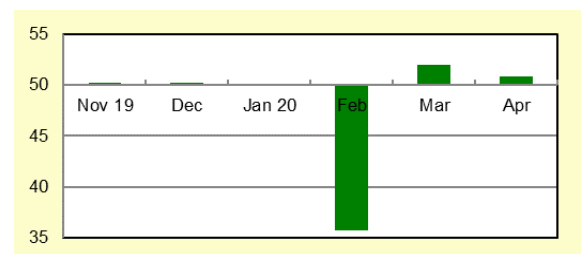
Input Prices, Ex-factory Prices, Falling.

Suppliers' Delivery, Faster.

Business Expectations, Optimistic.

China Manufacturing PMI, seasonally adjusted

Month	PMI
Nov 19	50.2
Dec	50.2
Jan 20	50.0
Feb	35.7
Mar	52.0
Apr	50.8



China's manufacturing PMI dropped to 50.8 in April from 52.0 in March, indicating that the manufacturing sector recovered at a slower pace in April amid the COVID-19 global pandemic.

11 of the 13 sub-indices were lower than their respective levels in the previous month. The new export orders index plunged by 12.9 pts from the previous month to 33.5 in April, suggesting that the COVID-19 global pandemic has sharply weakened export demand for Chinese products. In comparison, the new orders index dropped by 1.8 pts only in April, implying that the domestic demand fared relatively well in the month. Meanwhile, the output index slid 0.4 pts in April, indicating a moderation in output growth in April. Also noteworthy is that the imports index went down by 4.5 pts from the previous month to 43.9 in April, indicating a noticeable reduction in imports in the month.

By size of enterprises, the PMI of 'large enterprises' came in at 51.1 in April, down from 52.6 in March. The PMI of 'medium enterprises' dropped to 50.2 in April from 51.5 in March. Meanwhile, the PMI of 'small enterprises' edged up to 51.0 in April from 50.9 in March.

The output index came in at 53.7 in April, down from 54.1 in March. The output indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 54.1, 53.3 and 53.4 respectively in April.

The new orders index fell to 50.2 in April from 52.0 in March. By size of enterprises, the new orders index of 'large enterprises' stayed above the critical 50-mark, registering 50.6 in April. Meanwhile, the new orders indices of 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were in the contractionary zone, registering 49.7 and 49.8 respectively in the month.

The new export orders index plummeted to 33.5 in April from 46.4 in March. The new export orders indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed below the neutral level of 50, registering 35.7, 29.5 and 30.9 respectively in April.

The backlogs of orders index came in at 43.6 in April, down from 46.3 in March. The backlogs of orders indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all remained below the critical 50-mark, registering 43.4, 43.7 and 43.8 respectively in April.

The stocks of finished goods index was 49.3 in April, up from 49.1 in March. The stocks of finished goods indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all in the contractionary zone, registering 49.5, 48.7 and 49.7 respectively in the month.

The purchases of inputs index went down to 52.0 in April from 52.7 in March. The purchases of inputs indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all above the neutral level of 50, registering 52.9, 51.1 and 51.2 respectively in April.

The imports index declined to 43.9 in April from 48.4 in March. The imports indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all below the critical 50-mark, registering 43.9, 42.9 and 47.4 respectively in the month.

The input prices index went down to 42.5 in April from 45.5 in March. The input prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all below 50, registering 40.4, 42.4 and 47.8 respectively in April.

The ex-factory prices index came in at 42.2 in April, down from 43.8 in March.¹ The ex-factory prices indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' all stayed below the neutral level of 50, registering 40.8, 42.3 and 45.6 respectively in April.

The stocks of major inputs index fell to 48.2 in April from 49.0 in March. The stocks of major inputs index of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were all below the critical 50-mark, registering 48.4, 47.4 and 48.9 respectively in the April.

The employment index was 50.2 in April, down from 50.9 in March. The employment indices of 'large enterprises' and 'small enterprises' came in at 51.1 and 50.2 respectively in April. Meanwhile, the employment index of 'medium enterprises' returned to the contractionary zone, registering 48.7 in the month.

The suppliers' delivery time index came in at 50.1 in April, compared with 48.2 in March. 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, 50.2 and 48.2 respectively in April.

The business expectations index went down to 54.0 in April from 54.4 in March.² The business expectations indices of 'large enterprises', 'medium enterprises' and 'small enterprises' were 55.1, 51.8 and 54.4 respectively in April.

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.

China Manufacturing at a Glance – April 2020			
Index	S. Adj Index	Index Compared with the Previous Month	Direction
PMI	50.8	Lower	Expanding
Output	53.7	Lower	Expanding
New Orders	50.2	Lower	Expanding
New Export Orders	33.5	Lower	Contracting
Backlogs of Orders	43.6	Lower	Contracting
Stocks of Finished Goods	49.3	Higher	Contracting
Purchases of Inputs	52.0	Lower	Expanding
Imports	43.9	Lower	Contracting
Input Prices	42.5	Lower	Falling
Ex-factory Prices	42.2	Lower	Falling
Stocks of Major Inputs	48.2	Lower	Contracting
Employment	50.2	Lower	Expanding
Suppliers' Delivery Time	50.1	Higher	Quickening
Business Expectations	54.0	Lower	Optimistic

About China Manufacturing PMI:

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 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.

About 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 trading, logistics, distribution and retail.

The Fung Group has 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 Li & Fung Limited (SEHK: 00494), Global Brands Group Holding Limited (SEHK: 00787) and Convenience Retail Asia Limited (SEHK: 00831), as well as an investment in Trinity Limited (SEHK: 00891). Privately-held entities include Branded Lifestyle Holdings Limited, Fung Kids (Holdings) Limited and Suhyang Networks and investments in LH Pegasus and Toys“R”Us Asia.

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