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au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Composite PMI®

Including au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Manufacturing and Services PMI®

Downturn in private sector activity continues in September

Key findings

Flash Composite Output Index, September: 47.7
(August Final: 45.5)

Flash Services Business Activity Index, September: 47.4
(August Final: 42.9)

Flash Manufacturing Output Index, September: 48.1
(August Final: 51.0)

Today sees the latest release of the au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Composite PMI®. Published on a monthly basis approximately one week before final PMI data are released, this makes the PMI the earliest available indicator of private sector operating conditions in Japan. The estimate is typically based on approximately 85%–90% of total PMI survey responses each month and is designed to provide an accurate indication of final PMI data.

Commenting on the latest survey results, Usamah Bhatti, Economist at IHS Markit, said:

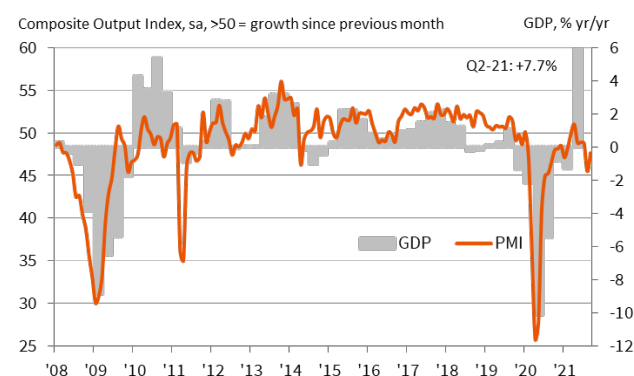
“Flash PMI data indicated that activity at Japanese private sector businesses was scaled back further in September as private sector output was reduced for the fifth month in a row. The pace of decline was softer than that seen in August, as the larger services sector saw a considerable easing in the rate of contraction. That said, manufacturers noted the first reduction in output since the start of the year.”

“Private sector firms reported intensifying price pressures. Input prices across the private sector rose at the fastest pace for 13 years, with businesses attributing the rise to higher raw material, freight and staff costs amid supply shortages.”

“Disruption to short-term activity is likely to remain until the latest wave of COVID-19 infections passes and restrictions enacted under state of emergency laws are lifted, currently scheduled for the end of September. Yet, Japanese private sector companies were optimistic that business conditions would improve in the year ahead, with the degree of optimism greater than in August. Positive sentiment stemmed from expectations that the impact of

the pandemic will diminish following the acceleration of the vaccination programme, triggering a recovery in demand in both domestic and external markets.”

au Jibun Bank Japan Composite Output Index



Sources: au Jibun Bank, IHS Markit, Cabinet Office.

Index summary

Index	Sector	Interpretation
Output	Composite	Weaker decline
	Manufacturing	Decline, from growth
	Services	Weaker decline
New Orders	Composite	Weaker decline
	Manufacturing	Decline, from growth
	Services	Weaker decline
New Export Orders	Composite	Growth, from decline
	Manufacturing	Growth, from decline
	Services	Weaker decline
Employment	Composite	Stronger growth
	Manufacturing	Stronger growth
	Services	Stronger growth
Backlogs of Work	Composite	Unchanged pace of decline
	Manufacturing	Weaker growth
	Services	Weaker decline
Output Prices	Composite	Stronger inflation
	Manufacturing	Stronger inflation
	Services	Inflation, from deflation
Input Prices	Composite	Stronger inflation
	Manufacturing	Stronger inflation
	Services	Stronger inflation
Future Output	Composite	Stronger positive outlook
	Manufacturing	Stronger positive outlook
	Services	Stronger positive outlook
Stocks of Purchases	Manufacturing	Decline, from growth
Stocks of Finished Goods	Manufacturing	No change, from decline
Quantity of Purchases	Manufacturing	Decline, from growth
Suppliers' Delivery Times	Manufacturing	Stronger lengthening

au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Manufacturing PMI®

The au Jibun Bank Japan Manufacturing PMI® is compiled by IHS Markit from survey responses from a panel of around 400 manufacturers. The headline figure is the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), a composite single-figure indicator of manufacturing performance. The PMI is a weighted average of the following five indices: New Orders (30%), Output (25%), Employment (20%), Suppliers' Delivery Times (15%) and Stocks of Purchases (10%). For the PMI calculation the Suppliers' Delivery Times Index is inverted so that it moves in a comparable direction to the other indices.

At 51.2 in September, the headline au Jibun Bank Japan Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI)® – which measures the overall health of the manufacturing sector – dipped from 52.7 in August to signal a marginal improvement in operating conditions. Both output and new orders fell back into contraction territory in the latest survey period. Despite this, manufacturers remained confident in taking on additional staff, with the rate of job creation quickening to the fastest since January 2020. Moreover, positive sentiment picked up in September.

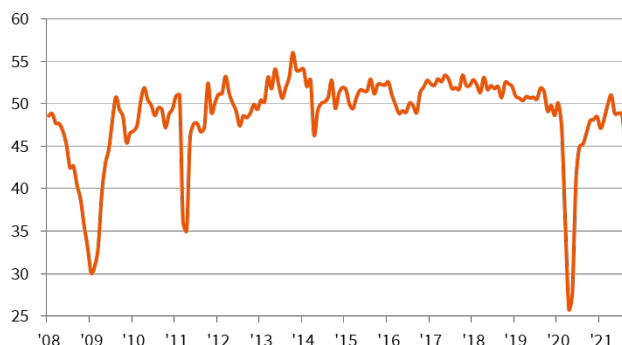
au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Services PMI®

The au Jibun Bank Japan Services PMI® is compiled by IHS Markit from survey responses from a panel of around 400 service sector companies. The sectors covered include consumer (excluding retail), transport, information, communication, finance, insurance, real estate and business services. The headline figure is the Services Business Activity Index, which tracks changes in the volume of business activity compared with one month previously. A reading above 50 indicates an overall increase compared to the previous month, and below 50 an overall decrease.

The au Jibun Bank Flash Japan Services Business Activity Index rose from 42.9 in August to 47.4 in September, indicating a much softer, albeit still solid decline in service sector activity. New business inflows reduced for the twentieth month in a row as restrictions on movement were extended to the end of the month. Positively, job creation was reported for the second successive month, with the pace of growth reaching the sharpest since April. Firms also remained confident that activity would increase over the next 12 months, with the degree of positive sentiment in September strengthening slightly from that seen in the previous month.

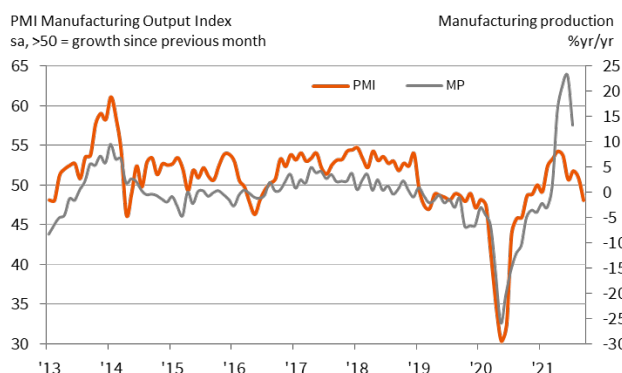
au Jibun Bank Japan Composite Output PMI®

PMI, sa, >50 = improvement since previous month



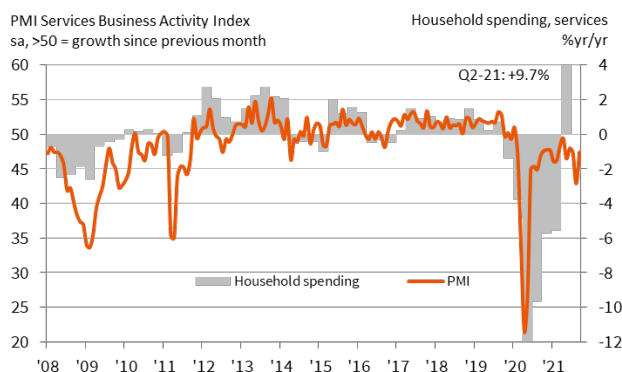
Sources: au Jibun Bank, IHS Markit.

Manufacturing output



Sources: au Jibun Bank, IHS Markit, METI.

Services business activity



Sources: au Jibun Bank, IHS Markit, Cabinet Office.

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Methodology

The au Jibun Bank Japan Composite PMI® is compiled by IHS Markit from responses to questionnaires sent to a panel of around 400 service sector companies and a panel of around 400 manufacturers. The service sectors covered include consumer (excluding retail), transport, information, communication, finance, insurance, real estate and business services. The panels are stratified by detailed sector and company workforce size, based on contributions to GDP.

Survey responses are collected in the second half of each month and indicate the direction of change compared to the previous month. A diffusion index is calculated for each survey variable. The index is the sum of the percentage of 'higher' responses and half the percentage of 'unchanged' responses. The indices vary between 0 and 100, with a reading above 50 indicating an overall increase compared to the previous month, and below 50 an overall decrease. The indices are then seasonally adjusted.

Composite indices are weighted averages of comparable manufacturing and services indices. Weights reflect the relative size of the manufacturing and service sectors according to official GDP data.

The headline figure is the Composite Output Index. This index is a weighted average of the Manufacturing Output Index and the Services Business Activity Index. The Composite Output Index may be referred to as the 'Composite PMI' but is not comparable with the headline manufacturing PMI figure.

The headline services figure is the Services Business Activity Index. This is a diffusion index calculated from a question that asks for changes in the volume of business activity compared with one month previously. The Services Business Activity Index is comparable to the Manufacturing Output Index. It may be referred to as the 'Services PMI' but is not comparable with the headline manufacturing PMI figure.

The headline manufacturing figure is the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), a composite single-figure indicator of manufacturing performance. The PMI is a weighted average of the following five indices: New Orders (30%), Output (25%), Employment (20%), Suppliers' Delivery Times (15%) and Stocks of Purchases (10%). For the PMI calculation the Suppliers' Delivery Times Index is inverted so that it moves in a comparable direction to the other indices.

Flash indices are released approximately one week before the 'final' indices. Flash indices are typically based on approximately 85%–90% of total PMI survey responses each month and are designed to provide an accurate indication of final indices.

Final underlying survey data are not revised after publication, but seasonal adjustment factors may be revised from time to time as appropriate which will affect the seasonally adjusted data series.

September 2021 flash data were collected 13-21 September 2021. For further information on the PMI survey methodology, please contact economics@ihsmarkit.com.

The au Jibun Bank Japan PMI is sponsored by au Jibun Bank Corporation

The au Jibun Bank is an internet retail bank established in 2008 by a joint investment of KDDI - a major telecommunication service provider - and MUFG Bank - Japan's largest bank - As a "smartphone-centric bank", au Jibun Bank focuses on providing high-quality financial services via smartphones.

The au Jibun Bank provides unique services such as "Smartphone ATM", a service allowing to deposit and withdraw money from teller machine without cash card by just scanning a QR code shown on the smartphone app, and "AI Foreign Currency Forecast", a foreign currency trading support tool that predict the rise of foreign exchange rate based on past trend deep learned by an AI (artificial intelligence).

As a member of the "au Financial Group", au Jibun Bank aims to play a major role in providing comprehensive smartphone-centric banking services in line with the "Smart Money Concept" and enhance customer experience.

About IHS Markit

IHS Markit (NYSE: INFO) is a world leader in critical information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide. The company delivers next-generation information, analytics and solutions to customers in business, finance and government, improving their operational efficiency and providing deep insights that lead to well-informed, confident decisions. IHS Markit has more than 50,000 business and government customers, including 80 percent of the Fortune Global 500 and the world's leading financial institutions.

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About PMI

Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI®) surveys are now available for over 40 countries and also for key regions including the eurozone. They are the most closely watched business surveys in the world, favoured by central banks, financial markets and business decision makers for their ability to provide up-to-date, accurate and often unique monthly indicators of economic trends. To learn more, go to ihsmarkit.com/products/pmi.html.

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