

PMI™

by **S&P Global**

United States

Flash PMI signals faster economic growth in November, but price pressures also intensify

US business activity growth accelerated for a second successive month in November, according to early 'flash' PMI data, accompanied by the largest rise in new business seen so far this year. Confidence in the year ahead outlook also improved markedly, notably reflecting reduced worries over the political environment and hopes for increased policy support to business.

The improvement was led by the service sector, accompanied by a robust rise in manufacturing output. However, the factory sector also reported a marked slowing in order book growth alongside an unprecedented buildup of unsold stock.

The pace of job creation meanwhile remained only modest, principally due to cost concerns. Input costs rose at one of the fastest rates seen over the past three years, driving a re-acceleration of selling price inflation. Higher costs and prices were again commonly attributed to tariffs.

Strong fourth quarter

A further acceleration of economic growth was signalled in November as the headline S&P Global US PMI Flash Composite Output Index rose for a second successive month, up from 54.6 in October to 54.8, according to the 'flash' reading.

The survey data are consistent with the economy expanding at a 2.5% annualized rate in the fourth quarter, pointing to robust and resilient economic growth as we head into the year end.

US quarterly GDP growth and the PMI



Data compiled Nov.21, 2025.

* PMI covers manufacturing only prior to 2009 but manufacturing & services thereafter.

Sources: S&P Global PMI, S&P Global Market Intelligence, BEA.

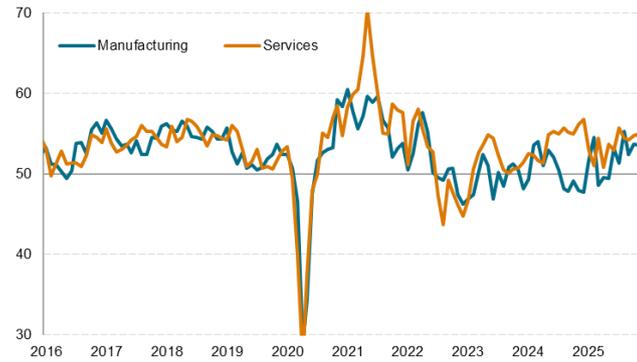
© 2025 S&P Global.

The upturn was driven by the largest increase in new orders received by businesses since last December (and the second greatest gain since April 2022), indicating a second successive monthly improvement in demand growth.

Order book trends hint at sector divergence

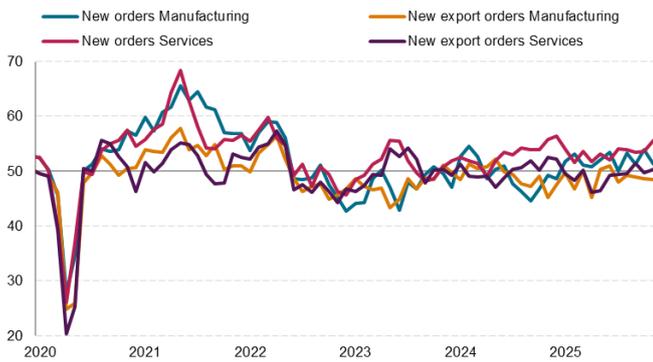
The service sector continued to lead the upturn, reporting its strongest output gain since July and the largest rise in new business so far this year. Improved service sector growth was accompanied by a further robust increase in manufacturing production. Although slowing marginally since November, the sustained expansion over the past six months continues to represent on average the best spell for goods production growth since early-2022. That said, a marked slowdown in factory new order gains, in part reflective of a fifth successive monthly fall in export orders, poses downside risks to production in December

US PMI output by sector



Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index) 50 = no change on prior month.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

US PMI order book indicators

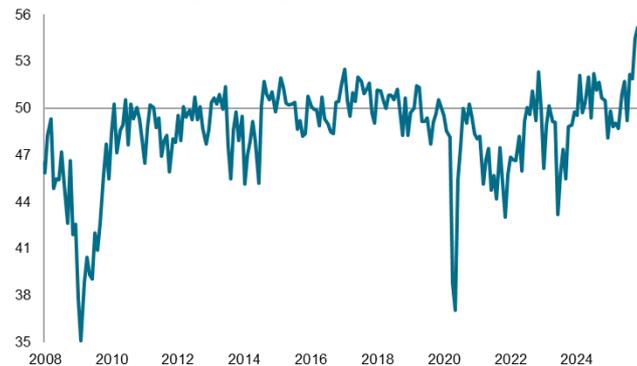


Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index) 50 = no change on prior month.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

Record inventory accumulation

With output growth remaining solid in the manufacturing sector but inflows of new orders slowing sharply, firms reported a further steep rise in unsold stock. Following October's series record, inventories of finished goods again accelerated to the greatest extent in the survey's 18-and-a-half-year history in November.

US PMI manufacturing finished goods inventories

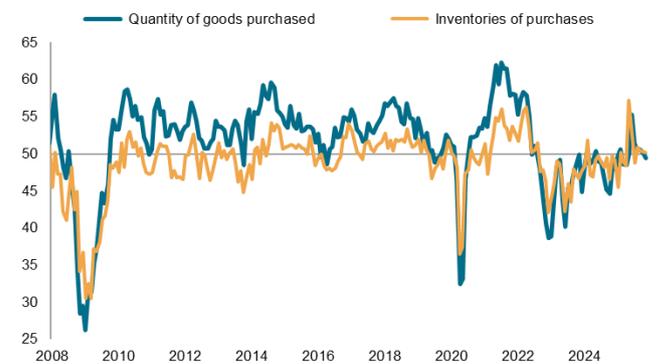


Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index) 50 = no change, covers manufacturing only.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

The accumulation of inventories led to a reduction in the volume of inputs purchased for the first time since April,

with prior months having seen higher purchases driven by efforts to buy materials ahead of potential tariff-related price rises or supply shortages.

US PMI manufacturing input buying and inventories



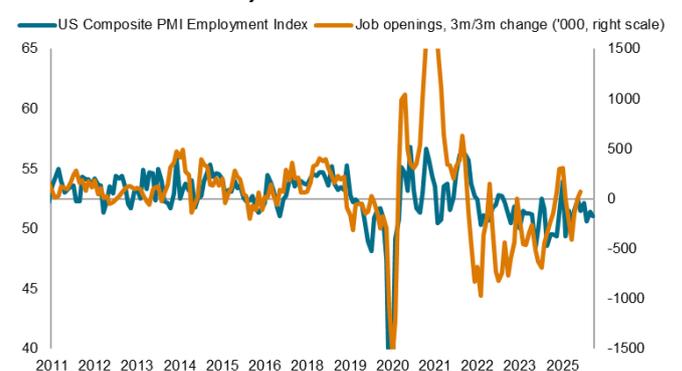
Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index) 50 = no change, covers manufacturing only.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

Reluctance to hire

Employment rose for the eleventh time in the past 12 months, albeit with the rate of job creation moderating slightly to one of the lowest seen over the past year. Manufacturers took on more staff at the fastest rate for three months, but service sector job creation was only modest and slower than in October.

Companies took on more staff to meet improved demand, though a sustained reluctance to take on additional staff due to cost-related budget cuts and the need to focus on efficiency improvements was again evident, dampening jobs growth. Some companies also reported difficulties finding staff, often struggling to fill vacancies caused by voluntary leavers.

US labour market: PMI and job vacancies



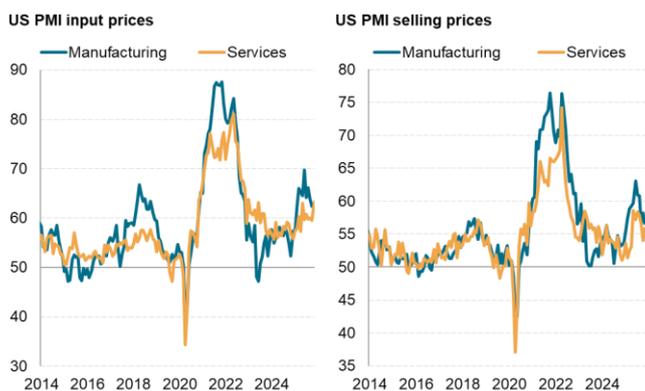
As of Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI 50 = no change on prior month.
Source: S&P Global PMI, Bureau of Labor Statistics JOLTS report.
© 2025 S&P Global.

Tariff-driven cost increase

Input cost inflation accelerated sharply in November, hitting the fastest rate for three years barring the jump in costs seen in May. Tariffs were again the predominant

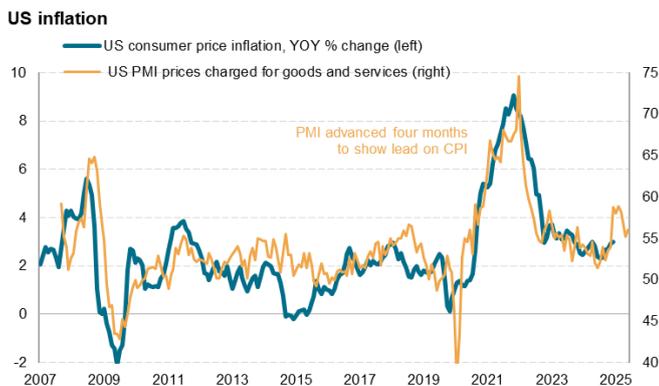
reason cited by companies for increased costs, alongside reports of higher wage rates. Service sector costs rose at the fastest rate since January 2023. In contrast, manufacturing input price inflation cooled to the lowest since February but remained well above the average seen over the past three years.

While higher input cost inflation fed through to a steeper rise in average prices charged for goods and services in November, competitive pressures restrained pricing power and meant selling price inflation remained below recent peaks. Overall, the increase in prices charged was the second-lowest since April. Divergent trends were apparent at the sector level: selling price inflation slowed in manufacturing but re-accelerated in services.



Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index) 50 = no change on prior month.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

The survey data therefore suggest that consumer price inflation is likely to have further to rise in the coming months, having already risen to 3.0% in September, as companies pass higher tariff-related costs through the supply chain.

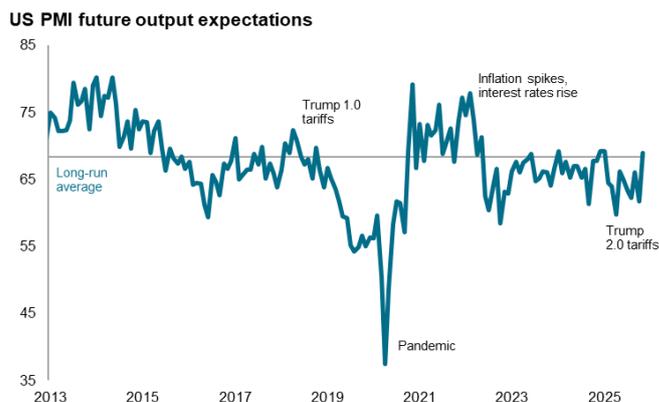


Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI covers manufacturing only pre-2009 but manufacturing & services thereafter.
Source: S&P Global PMI, BEA via S&P Global Market Intelligence.
© 2024 S&P Global.

Mood turns more optimistic

Companies' expectations about output in the year ahead jumped to the highest recorded since January. Optimism hit a five-month high in manufacturing and an 11-month

record in services. The improvements took confidence above long-run averages in both sectors.



Data compiled Nov. 21, 2025.
PMI 50 = no expected change over next 12 months, covers manufacturing and services.
Source: S&P Global PMI.
© 2025 S&P Global.

The brighter mood in part reflected reduced concerns over tariffs and worries over political disruptions more generally and was buoyed by the ending of the government shutdown. However, the survey also saw a broader improvement in sentiment about the economic outlook, in part driven by increased customer enquiries and hopes of greater policy support, including lower interest rates and more government fiscal stimulus.

Access the press release [here](#).

Links to more resources

- [Sign up to receive updated commentary in your inbox here.](#)
- [Calendar of upcoming PMI releases](#)
- [Running commentary on the PMI survey findings](#)
- [PMI Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Background to the PMIs \(video\)](#)
- [Understanding the headline PMI and its various subindices](#)
- [PMI data use-case illustrations](#), from nowcasting to investment strategy
- [PMI podcasts](#)
- [How to subscribe](#) to PMI data

CONTACT US

Chris Williamson

Chief Business Economist
S&P Global Market Intelligence
London

T: +44 779 5555 061
chris.williamson@spglobal.com

The Americas

+1-877-863-1306

EMEA

+44-20-7176-1234

Asia-Pacific

+852-2533-3565

spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/mi/products/pmi