

BLOM Lebanon PMI®

PMI slips to six-month low but remains just inside expansion territory

Contents

Overview

Comment

Output and demand

Business expectations

Employment and capacity

Purchasing and inventories

Prices

International PMI

Survey methodology

Further information

Lebanese private sector growth at six-month low in January

Business activity stagnates

Inflationary pressures ease

Lebanon's private sector expansion lost momentum at the start of 2026. While growth was recorded for a sixth month in succession, the upturn eased markedly to a fractional rate. January's slowdown reflected more subdued trends in both business activity and new orders, with the former stagnating and the latter rising at a considerably softer pace than in December. In turn, purchasing activity decreased for the first time since last July.

As for prices, Lebanese businesses reported an increase in purchasing costs. Output charges were subsequently raised as firms sought to protect margins. In both cases, however, rates of increase slowed to five-month lows.

The headline BLOM Lebanon PMI® registered above the 50.0 no-change threshold in January, thereby posting in expansion territory for a sixth successive month to extend the current survey-record run of uninterrupted growth. However, having

fallen from 51.2 in December to 50.1, the headline measure was only just above the no-change mark and signalled an improvement that was only fractional overall and the slowest seen across the current upturn.

Business activity stagnated across Lebanon's private sector during the latest survey period, ending a solid five-month spell of expansion. Weighing on output was a considerable slowdown in demand, with new orders ticking up only fractionally from December. According to panel members, cancellations, postponements and sluggish investment activity weighed on sales performances. At the same time, demand from international clients weakened slightly at the beginning of the year.

Private sector companies in Lebanon reduced their purchases of raw materials, intermediate goods and other necessary items at the start of the year. This marked the first month-on-month reduction since

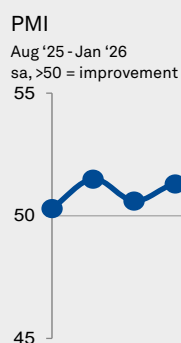
BLOM Lebanon PMI

sa, >50 = improvement since previous month



50.1

LEBANON PMI
JAN '26



July last year. According to anecdotal evidence, some firms had a reduced need to replenish stocks due to lower sales. Inventories were nonetheless accumulated in January, extending the current sequence of growth to seven months. Meanwhile, stable supply chain conditions were evidenced by virtually no change in delivery times during January.

Purchasing costs were pushed higher by a combination of rising import fees, and increases in metal and construction material prices. However, the rate of inflation slowed to a five-month low. This was also true for output charges, with around only 2% of private sector firms in Lebanon lifting their selling

prices in January.

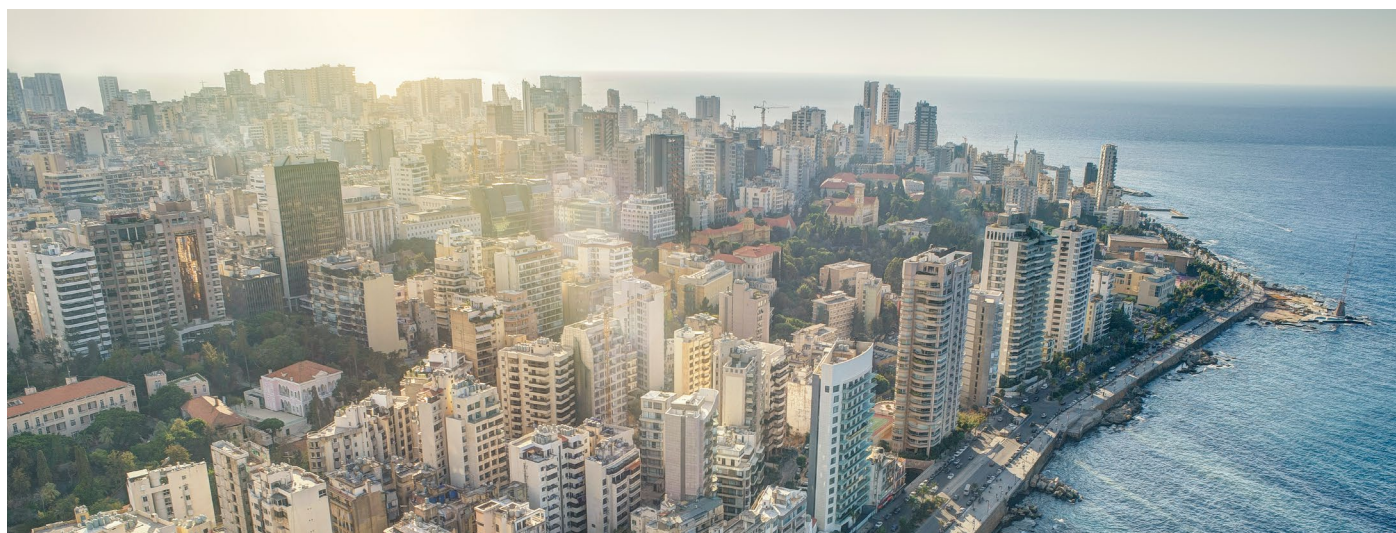
Looking ahead, surveyed companies remained pessimistic towards the 12-month outlook for business activity. Downbeat sentiment primarily reflected firms' fears of an escalation in military conflict. That said, firms were less negative than they were during December.

Comment

Commenting on the January 2026 BLOM Lebanon PMI, Helmi Mrad, Senior Research Analyst at BLOMInvest BANK, said:

"The BLOM Lebanon PMI for January 2026 fell to 50.1 from 51.2 in December 2025, yet it remained marginally above the 50.0 threshold. As such, output was unchanged in January due to limited new order inflows, along with a continued marginal deterioration in foreign clients' orders. Overall, it is the first time since the inception

of this survey (May 2013) that private sector business conditions witnessed expansion for six consecutive months. However, the slowdown likely reflects heightened geopolitical risks, as the US military buildup in the region suggests the possibility of war with Iran. Looking forward, surveyed businesses remain pessimistic regarding business sentiment in the upcoming 12 months due to lasting security concerns."



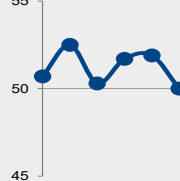
PMI®

by S&P Global

Output and demand

Output Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



Output

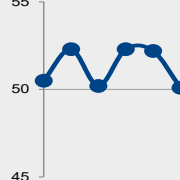
After a strong five-month spell of expansion, private sector business activity in Lebanon stagnated during January. This was evidenced by the respective seasonally adjusted index posting 50.0. Order cancellations and a slowdown in new investment projects were reported by some panel members.

New orders

Matching the trend in output, the seasonally adjusted New Orders Index lost momentum during January. That said, posting fractionally above the 50.0 no-change threshold, it signalled a further, albeit small, expansion in new business received by private sector companies in Lebanon. January's uptick extended the current sequence of growth to six months, the longest uninterrupted period of increase in the history of the survey.

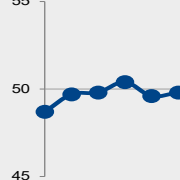
New Orders Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



New Export Orders Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



New export orders

Export conditions for Lebanese companies that sell their goods and services internationally remained difficult in January, with survey respondents reporting a further deterioration in demand from non-domestic clients. That said, the respective seasonally adjusted index posted just below the 50.0 no-change mark, indicating a decline that was only fractional overall.

Output Index

sa, >50 = growth since previous month



New Orders Index

sa, >50 = growth since previous month



New Export Orders Index

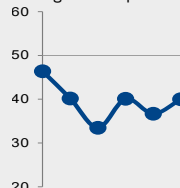
sa, >50 = growth since previous month



Business expectations

Future Output Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
>50 = growth expected



Looking at the next 12 months, private sector businesses in Lebanon foresee a reduction in activity levels. Around 24% of panellists predict a contraction in output, versus less than 4% anticipating growth. Pessimistic expectations reflected firms' concerns of an escalation in military tensions. Security risks were also noted as a factor weighing on sentiment.

Future Output Index

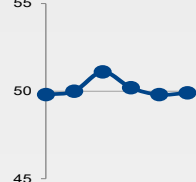
>50 = growth expected over next 12 months



Employment and capacity

Employment Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



Employment

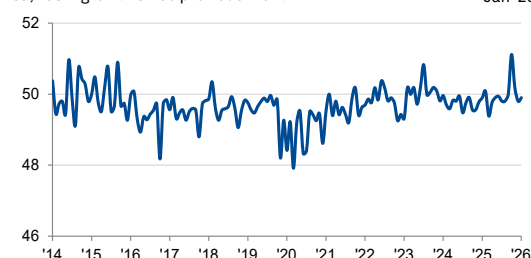
Adjusted for seasonal influences, January's reading of the Employment Index was fractionally below the 50.0 no-change threshold. As a consequence, back-to-back monthly reductions in workforce capacity were registered across Lebanon's private sector. However, as was the case in December, the latest decrease was minimal overall.

Employment Index

sa, >50 = growth since previous month

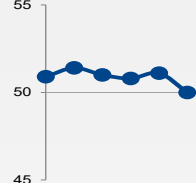
49.9

Jan '26



Backlogs of Work Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



Backlogs of work

Posting precisely 50.0, the seasonally adjusted Backlogs of Work Index indicated no change in outstanding business volumes when compared with the month prior across Lebanon's private sector at the beginning of 2026. Some companies noted that a slowdown in demand enabled them to process orders at a faster rate. January's stabilisation brought a five-month sequence of backlog accumulation to an end.

Backlogs of Work Index

sa, >50 = growth since previous month

50.0

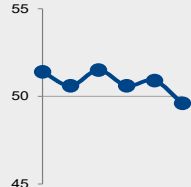
Jan '26



Purchasing and inventories

Quantity of Purchases Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



Quantity of purchases

January saw a renewed decrease in purchasing activity across Lebanon's private sector economy. This was evidenced by the respective seasonally adjusted index falling below the 50.0 no-change mark for the first time since July last year. According to anecdotal evidence, buying volumes were downwardly adjusted due to lower stock replenishment requirements. However, the decrease in quantities of purchases was only marginal overall.

Quantity of Purchases Index

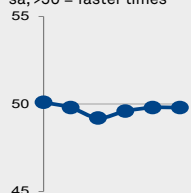
sa, >50 = growth since previous month

49.6
Jan '26



Suppliers' Delivery Times Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = faster times



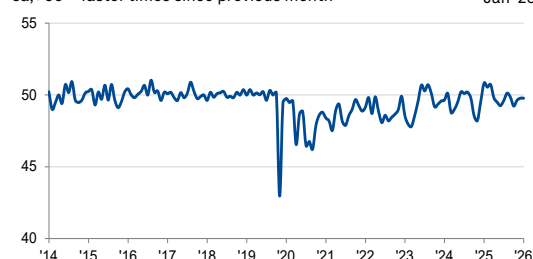
Suppliers' delivery times

The seasonally adjusted Suppliers' Delivery Times Index indicated that there were little frictions across the supply chains of Lebanese private sector businesses. Posting only just below 50.0, the index pointed to negligible delays on the receipt of items purchased from vendors.

Suppliers' Delivery Times Index

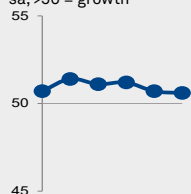
sa, >50 = faster times since previous month

49.8
Jan '26



Stocks of Purchases Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = growth



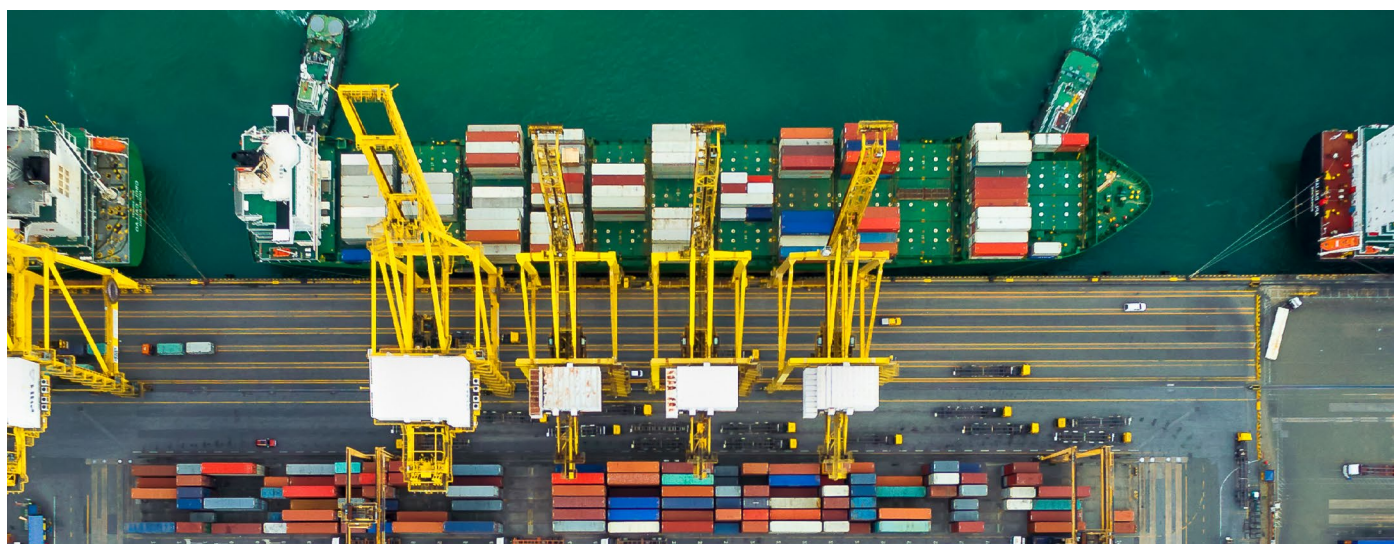
Stocks of purchases

The accumulation trend in stocks of purchases that began last July continued into 2026, with private sector companies in Lebanon posting a further uptick in January. In some cases, inventory growth reflected a slowdown in sales, with firms placing excess items into stocks. That said, the expansion was marginal and the slowest in six months.

Stocks of Purchases Index

sa, >50 = growth since previous month

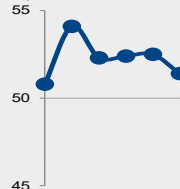
50.6
Jan '26



Prices

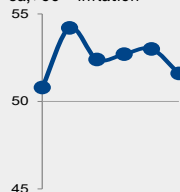
Input Prices Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = inflation



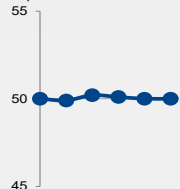
Purchase Prices Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = inflation



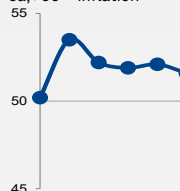
Staff Costs Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = inflation



Output Prices Index

Aug '25 - Jan '26
sa, >50 = inflation



Overall input prices

Private sector companies in Lebanon saw their total operating expenses increase during the first month of 2026. This reflected purchasing cost inflation, underlying data showed, although the rate of increase eased to a five-month low and was below the long-run average of the survey.

Purchase prices

Amid reports of a rise in construction material prices, greater costs for imported items, in part due to rises in shipping fees and custom duties, as well as increases in market prices for certain metals such as gold and steel, January survey data indicated a rise in purchase prices faced by private sector firms in Lebanon. Nevertheless, the rate of inflation was the softest since August last year.

Staff costs

The seasonally adjusted Staff Costs Index posted 50.0 in January, indicating no change in labour-related expenses for private sector companies in Lebanon. Since the survey began in 2013, the index has averaged 49.8.

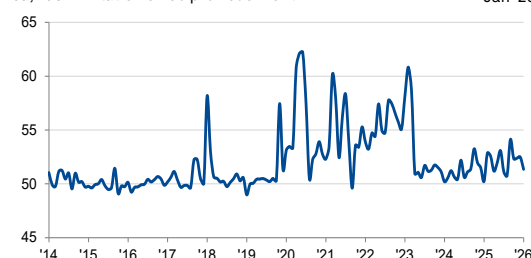
Output prices

As has been the case since June 2024, private sector firms in Lebanon raised their prices charged during the opening month of the year. Where fees were increased, survey respondents commonly noted that this was to offset higher costs. However, the rate of inflation eased to a five-month low and was only moderate overall, with just over 2% raising their charges on the month.

Input Prices Index

sa, >50 = inflation since previous month

51.4
Jan '26



Purchase Prices Index

sa, >50 = inflation since previous month

51.6
Jan '26



Staff Costs Index

sa, >50 = inflation since previous month

50.0
Jan '26



Output Prices Index

sa, >50 = inflation since previous month

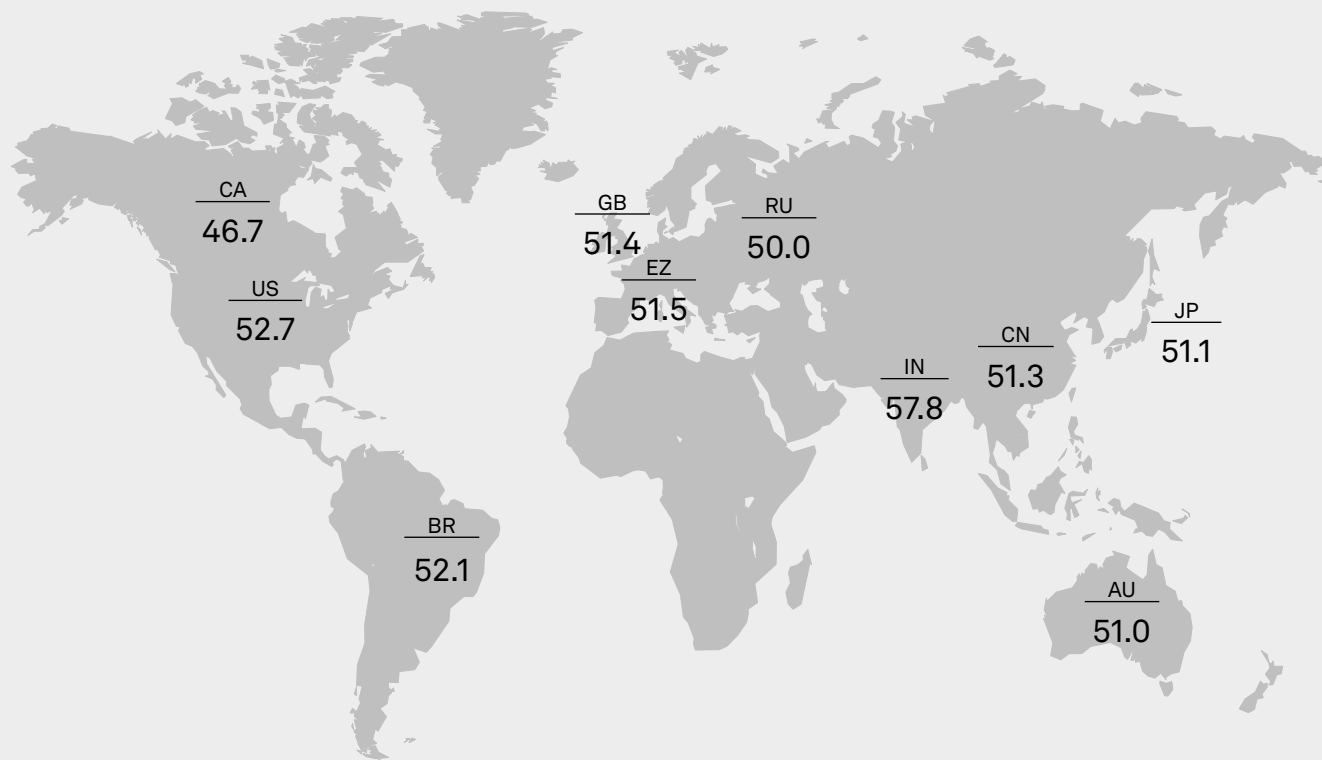
51.6
Jan '26



International PMI

Composite Output Index, Dec '25
 sa, >50 = growth since previous month

The Composite Output Index is a GDP-weighted average of the Manufacturing Output Index and the Services Business Activity Index.

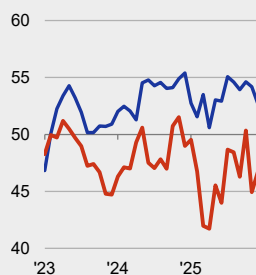


Composite Output Index

■ USA

■ Canada

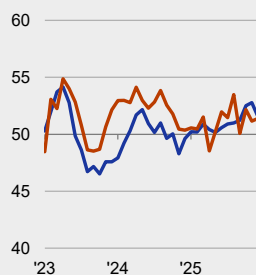
sa, >50 = growth



■ Eurozone

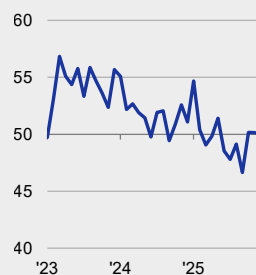
■ UK

sa, >50 = growth



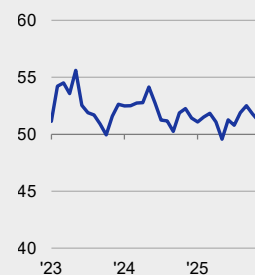
■ Russia

sa, >50 = growth



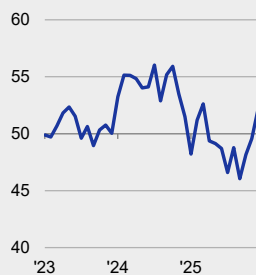
■ China

sa, >50 = growth



■ Brazil

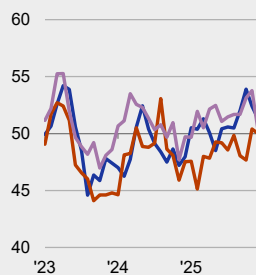
sa, >50 = growth



■ Germany ■ Italy

■ France

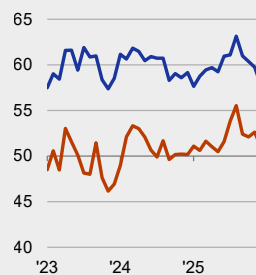
sa, >50 = growth



■ India

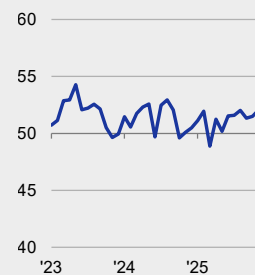
■ Australia

sa, >50 = growth



■ Japan

sa, >50 = growth



Survey methodology

The BLOM Lebanon PMI® is compiled by S&P Global from responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 private sector companies. The panel is stratified by detailed sector and company workforce size, based on contributions to GDP. The sectors covered by the survey include agriculture, mining, manufacturing, construction, wholesale, retail and services. Data were first collected May 2013.

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.

The headline figure is the Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI). 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.

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.

For further information on the PMI survey methodology, please contact economics@spglobal.com.

Survey dates

Data were collected 12-26 January 2026.

Survey questions

Private sector

Output
New Orders
New Export Orders
Future Output
Employment
Backlogs Of Work
Quantity Of Purchases

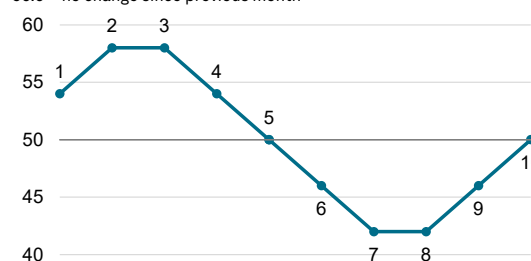
Suppliers' Delivery Times
Stocks Of Purchases
Input Prices
Purchase Prices
Staff Costs
Output Prices

Index calculation

$$\% \text{ "Higher"} + (\% \text{ "No change"})/2$$

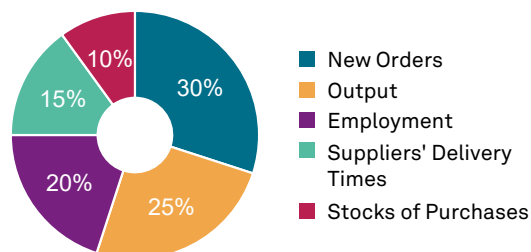
Index interpretation

50.0 = no change since previous month



- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Growth | 6 Decline, from no change |
| 2 Growth, faster rate | 7 Decline, faster rate |
| 3 Growth, same rate | 8 Decline, same rate |
| 4 Growth, slower rate | 9 Decline, slower rate |
| 5 No change, from growth | 10 No change, from decline |

PMI component weights



Sector coverage

PMI data include responses from companies operating in sectors classified according to the following ISIC Rev.4 codes:

C	Manufacturing	M	Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities
F	Construction	N	Administrative and Support Service Activities
G	Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	P	Education*
H	Transportation and Storage	Q	Human Health and Social Work Activities*
I	Accommodation and Food Service Activities	R	Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
J	Information and Communication	S	Other Service Activities
K	Financial and Insurance Activities		

*Private sector

Index summary

Private sector

sa, 50 = no change over previous month. *50 = no change over next 12 months.

	PMI	Output	New Orders	New Export Orders	Future Output*	Employment	Backlogs of Work	Quantity of Purchases	Suppliers' Delivery Times	Stocks of Purchases	Overall Input Prices	Purchase Prices	Staff Costs	Output Prices
08 '25	50.3	50.7	50.5	48.7	46.4	49.8	50.9	51.4	50.1	50.7	50.8	50.8	50.0	50.2
09 '25	51.5	52.5	52.3	49.7	40.2	50.0	51.4	50.6	49.8	51.4	54.1	54.2	49.9	53.5
10 '25	50.6	50.3	50.2	49.8	33.5	51.1	51.0	51.5	49.2	51.1	52.3	52.4	50.2	52.2
11 '25	51.3	51.7	52.3	50.4	40.1	50.2	50.8	50.6	49.6	51.2	52.4	52.7	50.1	51.9
12 '25	51.2	51.9	52.2	49.6	36.7	49.8	51.1	50.9	49.8	50.7	52.5	53.0	50.0	52.1
01 '26	50.1	50.0	50.1	49.8	40.0	49.9	50.0	49.6	49.8	50.6	51.4	51.6	50.0	51.6

Contact

Dr Ali Bolbol
 Chief Economist / Head of Research
 BLOMINVEST Bank
 T: +961 1 739 817
ali.bolbol@blominvestbank.com

Joe Hayes
 Principal Economist
 S&P Global Market Intelligence
 T: +44-1344-328-099
joe.hayes@spglobal.com

Kriti Khurana
 Corporate Communications
 S&P Global Market Intelligence
 T: +91-971-101-7186
kritikhurana@spglobal.com
press.mi@spglobal.com

About BLOMINVEST BANK

BLOMINVEST BANK, established in 1994, is the investment arm of BLOM Bank SAL, one of the largest banks in Lebanon. As part of its expansionary vision towards the MENA region, the bank has established one investment arm in Saudi Arabia, "BLOMINVEST KSA" and launched three brokerage and trading firms in Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, namely "BLOM Bank Egypt Securities", "Syria and Overseas for Financial Services", and "Financial Services Experts Company". BLOMINVEST BANK is one of few institutions within the greater Levant region that offer Private banking, Investment banking, Asset Management, Brokerage, and Research services under one roof. Based on its track record, BLOMINVEST BANK to date remains the most awarded local investment bank.

www.blominvestbank.com

About S&P Global

S&P Global (NYSE: SPGI) S&P Global provides essential intelligence. We enable governments, businesses and individuals with the right data, expertise and connected technology so that they can make decisions with conviction. From helping our customers assess new investments to guiding them through ESG and energy transition across supply chains, we unlock new opportunities, solve challenges and accelerate progress for the world.

We are widely sought after by many of the world's leading organizations to provide credit ratings, benchmarks, analytics and workflow solutions in the global capital, commodity and automotive markets. With every one of our offerings, we help the world's leading organizations plan for tomorrow, today.

www.spglobal.com

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.

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

Disclaimer

The intellectual property rights to the data provided herein are owned by or licensed to S&P Global and/or its affiliates. Any unauthorised use, including but not limited to copying, distributing, transmitting or otherwise of any data appearing is not permitted without S&P Global's prior consent. S&P Global shall not have any liability, duty or obligation for or relating to the content or information ("Data") contained herein, any errors, inaccuracies, omissions or delays in the Data, or for any actions taken in reliance thereon. In no event shall S&P Global be liable for any special, incidental, or consequential damages, arising out of the use of the Data. Purchasing Managers' Index™ and PMI® are either trade marks or registered trade marks of S&P Global Inc or licensed to S&P Global Inc and/or its affiliates.

This Content was published by S&P Global Market Intelligence and not by S&P Global Ratings, which is a separately managed division of S&P Global. Reproduction of any information, data or material, including ratings ("Content") in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of the relevant party. Such party, its affiliates and suppliers ("Content Providers") do not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, timeliness or availability of any Content and are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, or for the results obtained from the use of such Content. In no event shall Content Providers be liable for any damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including lost income or lost profit and opportunity costs) in connection with any use of the Content.

PMI®

by **S&P Global**

© 2026 S&P Global