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Communications Department, 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka
+94 11 2477424 / +94 11 2477669 +94 11 2346304
communications@cbsl.lk / dcommunications@cbsl.lk www.cbsl.gov.lk

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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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SL Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) – July 2026

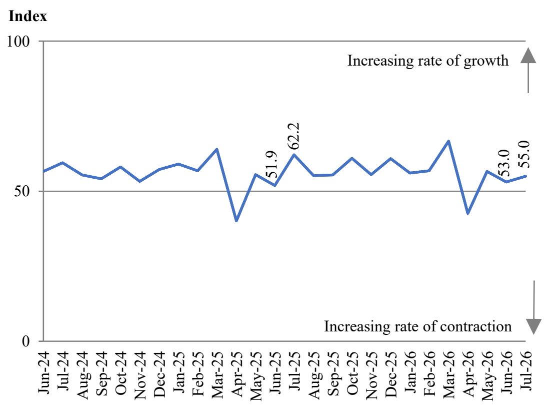
Purchasing Managers' Indices indicate expansions in both Manufacturing and Services activities in July 2026

Sri Lanka Purchasing Managers' Index for Manufacturing (PMI – Manufacturing) recorded an index value of 55.0 in July 2026, indicating continued expansion in manufacturing activities. All sub-indices contributed positively to this improvement.

The overall expansion in the New Orders and Production sub-indices was primarily driven by robust performance within the food and beverage manufacturing sector. Reflecting positive expectations for manufacturing activities, both the Employment and Stock of Purchases sub-indices remained expanded in July. Meanwhile, Suppliers' Delivery Time remained lengthened during the month, pointing to persistent supply-chain pressures.

PMI Manufacturing July 2026 55.0

PMI - Manufacturing



Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Summary of the PMI - Manufacturing Survey

Variable	2026 Jun.	2026 Jul.	+/-	Direction
PMI - Manufacturing	**53.0**	**55.0**	**+**	**Rising, Higher Rate**
New Orders	50.0	55.9	+	Rising from Neutral
Production	52.0	54.5	+	Rising, Higher Rate
Employment	50.5	51.0	+	Rising, Higher Rate
Stock of Purchases	56.6	51.5	-	Rising, Slower Rate
Suppliers' Delivery Time	61.6	61.5	-	Lengthening, Slower Rate

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

The manufacturing sector remained optimistic about the next three months, while maintaining caution amid global uncertainties.

The World Outlook
Summary of PMI Manufacturing

Country/Territory	Direction
Global	Rising, Slower Rate
India	Rising, Slower Rate
China	Rising, Slower Rate
US	Rising, Same Rate
UK	Rising, Slower Rate
Eurozone	Rising, Higher Rate

Source: S&P Global[1] as of 17 August 2026 (PMI Releases (spglobal.com))

[1]S&P Global compiles PMIs for over 40 economies worldwide.

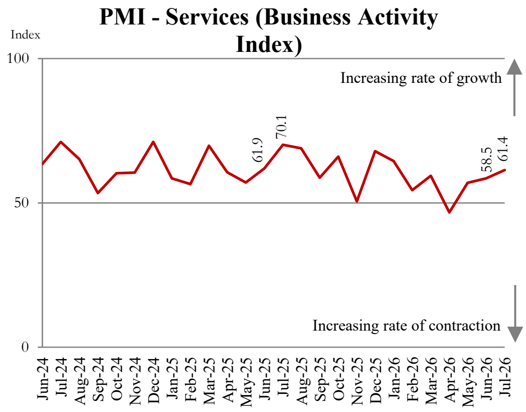
Sri Lanka Purchasing Managers' Index for Services (PMI – Services) recorded an index value of 61.4 in July 2026, indicating an accelerated expansion in services activities compared to the previous month.

PMI Services Business Activity Index
July 2026
61.4

Business activity expanded in July 2026, supported by broad-based improvements across service sectors. The expansion was primarily driven by the transportation, financial, and professional services sub-sectors, while other personal services sub-sector also recorded notable growth.

New businesses expanded in July 2026, primarily led by the transportation and professional services sub-sectors. The financial and other personal services sub-sectors also contributed to the expansion.

Employment increased in July 2026, supported by new recruitments and a slowdown in staff resignations. Meanwhile, Backlogs of Work increased compared to the previous month.



Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Summary of the PMI - Services Survey

Variable	2026 Jun.	2026 Jul.	+/-	Direction
PMI - Services (Business Activity Index)	**58.5**	**61.4**	**+**	**Rising, Higher Rate**
New Businesses	62.5	60.2	-	Rising, Slower Rate
Employment	54.0	52.9	-	Rising, Slower Rate
Backlogs of Work	50.0	51.2	+	Rising from Neutral
Expectations for Activity	72.7	75.0	+	Rising, Higher Rate

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Expectations for Business Activity for the upcoming quarter strengthened further in July 2026, fueled by anticipated economic improvements and strong growth in tourist arrivals for the Kandy Esala Perahera. However, broader global economic uncertainties continued to pose downside risks to the outlook.

The World Outlook
Summary of PMI Services

Country/Territory	Direction
Global	Rising, Higher Rate
India	Rising, Slower Rate
China	Rising, Slower Rate
US	Rising, Higher Rate
UK	Rising from Falling
Eurozone	Rising from Falling

Source: S&P Global [1] as of 17 August 2026 (PMI Releases (spglobal.com))

Technical Note

Methodology

Questionnaires are completed in the first half of the succeeding month. For each variable, respondents are asked to report an increase, decrease or no change compared with the previous month, and to provide reasons for any changes. The index compilation and interpretation of indices follow the survey methodology of S&P Global.

PMI – Manufacturing, which is considered as the headline index for Manufacturing, is a weighted average of New Orders, Output, Employment, Suppliers' Delivery Time and Stocks of Purchases.

The Services Business Activity Index is the headline index for Services, which is referred to as the **PMI – Services**, as per the international best practices. The Services Business Activity Index is comparable to the Manufacturing Production Index.

The Index

PMI is calculated as a 'Diffusion Index', where it takes values between 0 and 100.
PMI=50 - sector remained neutral on a month-on-month basis
PMI>50 - sector is generally expanding on a month-on-month basis
PMI<50 - sector is generally declining on a month-on-month basis

Sample

The sampling frame was based on a list of large companies located in the Western province obtained from the EPF Department. Samples for Manufacturing and Services activities were selected based on the GDP sectoral share, with a target of 100 responses for each.

Definitions of Variables

Employment	: Number of staff working for the organization
Stock of Purchases	: Raw materials purchased and kept in a warehouse to be used for production
Supplier Delivery Time	: Time lag between order placement and delivery by the supplier
Backlogs of Work	: Uncompleted orders

Other variables are self-explanatory.