

Empire State Manufacturing Survey

Survey responses were collected between October 3 and October 11.

Business activity declined modestly in New York State, according to firms responding to the October 2022 *Empire State Manufacturing Survey*. The headline general business conditions index fell eight points to -9.1. New orders, unfilled orders, and shipments were all little changed from last month. Delivery times held steady, and inventories inched higher. Labor market indicators pointed to a small increase in employment and the average workweek. Input price increases picked up, while the pace of selling price increases held steady. Looking ahead, firms do not expect business conditions to improve over the next six months.

Conditions Weaken

Manufacturing activity declined in New York State, according to the October survey. The general business conditions index fell eight points to -9.1. Twenty-three percent of respondents reported

that conditions had improved over the month, and thirty-two percent reported that conditions had worsened. The new orders index was unchanged at 3.7, indicating a slight increase in orders, while the shipments index plunged twenty points to -0.3, pointing to a levelling off of shipments after they increased significantly last month. The unfilled orders index came in at -3.7, indicating that unfilled orders were slightly lower. The delivery times index held near zero for a third consecutive month, indicating that delivery times held steady. The inventories index edged down to 4.6, a sign that inventories increased just slightly.

Input Price Increases Pick Up

The index for number of employees was little changed at 7.7, pointing to a modest increase in employment levels, and the average workweek index climbed to 3.3, signaling a slight increase in hours

worked. After falling significantly over the prior three months, the prices paid index rose nine points to 48.6. The prices received index held steady at 22.9.

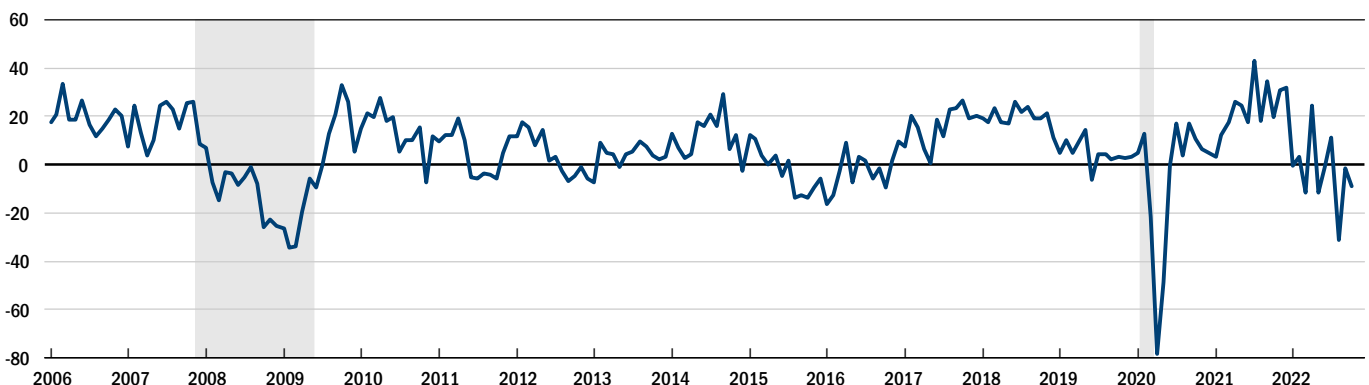
Conditions Not Expected to Improve

The index for future business conditions fell ten points to -1.8, indicating that firms do not expect conditions to improve over the next six months. The indexes for future new orders and shipments remained depressed, though employment is expected to continue to increase. Delivery times are expected to shorten, and increases in capital spending are planned for the months ahead. ■

General Business Conditions

Seasonally Adjusted

Diffusion Index

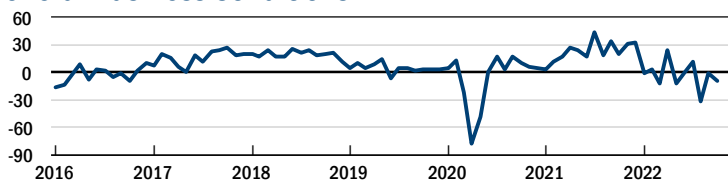


Note: The shaded areas indicate periods designated as recessions by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Current Indicators

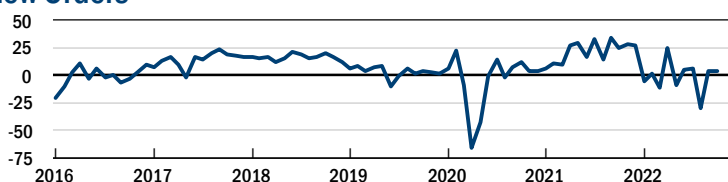
Change from Preceding Month

General Business Conditions



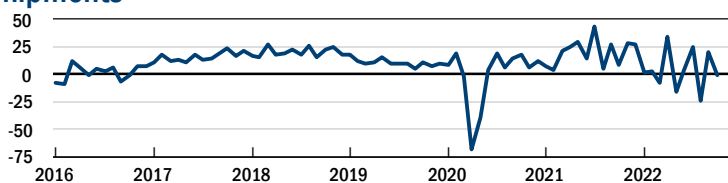
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	30.4	31.8	-1.5
Oct	22.8	31.9	-9.1
Change			-7.6

New Orders



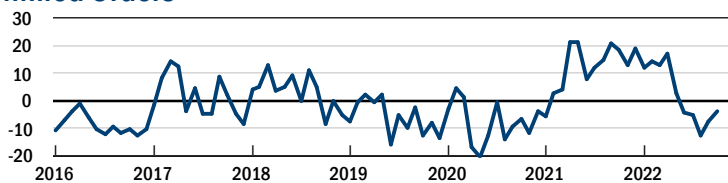
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	35.5	31.7	3.7
Oct	29.7	26.0	3.7
Change			0.0

Shipments



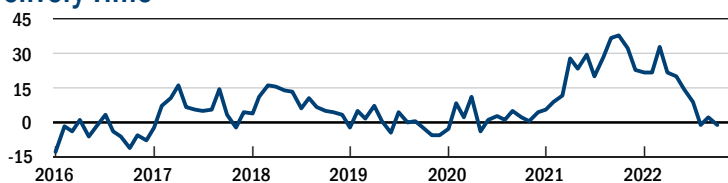
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	43.8	24.1	19.6
Oct	27.5	27.8	-0.3
Change			-19.9

Unfilled Orders



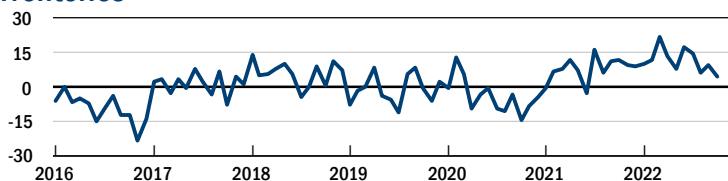
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	17.9	25.5	-7.5
Oct	16.5	20.2	-3.7
Change			3.8

Delivery Time



	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	13.2	11.3	1.9
Oct	17.4	18.3	-0.9
Change			-2.8

Inventories

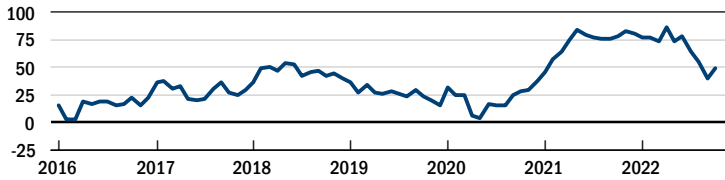


	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	24.5	15.1	9.4
Oct	24.8	20.2	4.6
Change			-4.8

Current Indicators, *continued*

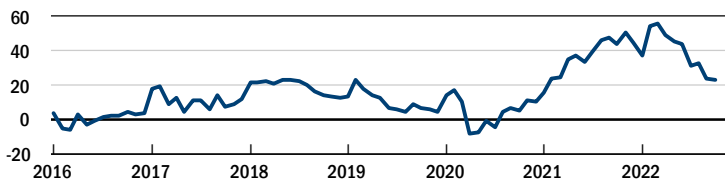
Change from Preceding Month

Prices Paid



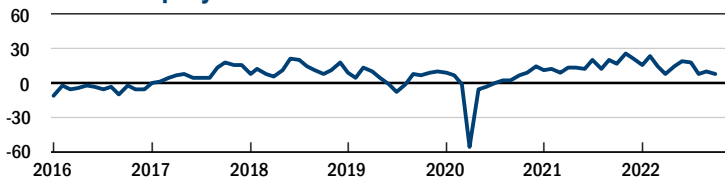
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	48.1	8.5	39.6
Oct	55.0	6.4	48.6
Change			9.0

Prices Received



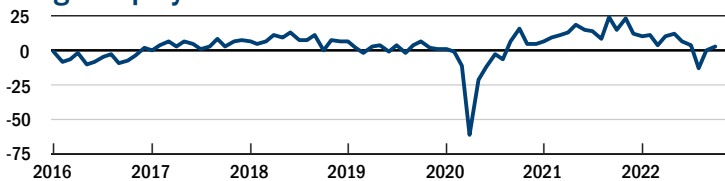
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	28.3	4.7	23.6
Oct	29.4	6.4	22.9
Change			-0.7

Number of Employees



	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	17.3	7.5	9.7
Oct	20.5	12.8	7.7
Change			-2.0

Average Employee Workweek



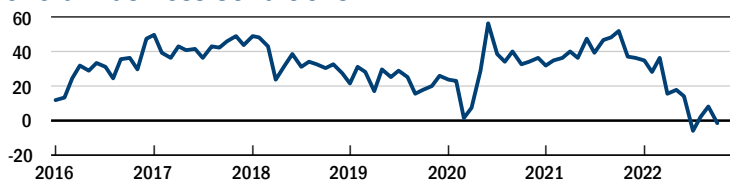
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	9.1	9.3	-0.1
Oct	12.6	9.3	3.3
Change			3.4

Note: Data are seasonally adjusted.

Forward-Looking Indicators

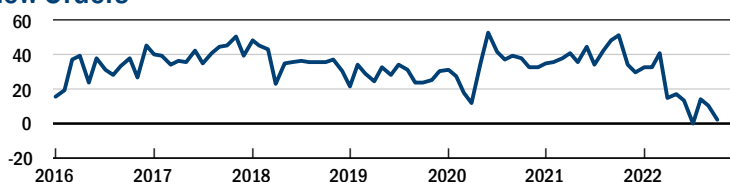
Expectations Six Months Ahead

General Business Conditions



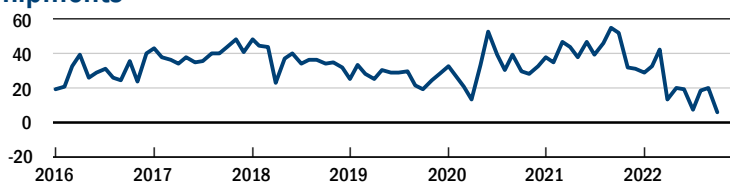
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	40.4	32.2	8.2
Oct	33.9	35.8	-1.8
Change			-10.0

New Orders



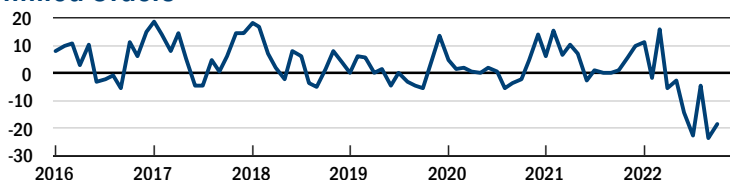
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	40.9	30.2	10.7
Oct	36.8	34.5	2.4
Change			-8.3

Shipments



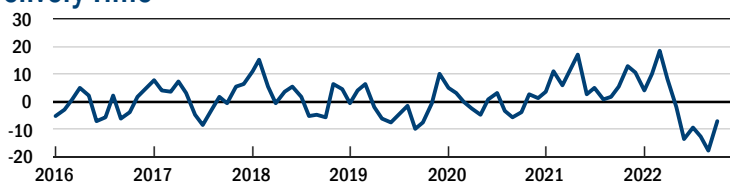
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	48.3	28.3	20.1
Oct	37.2	31.6	5.6
Change			-14.5

Unfilled Orders



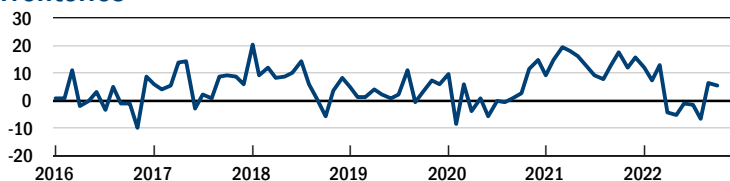
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	8.5	32.1	-23.6
Oct	8.3	26.6	-18.3
Change			5.3

Delivery Time



	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	11.3	29.2	-17.9
Oct	15.6	22.9	-7.3
Change			10.6

Inventories

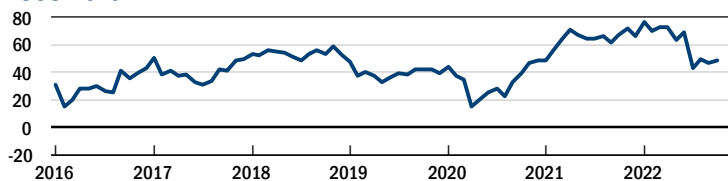


	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	27.4	20.8	6.6
Oct	28.4	22.9	5.5
Change			-1.1

Forward-Looking Indicators, *continued*

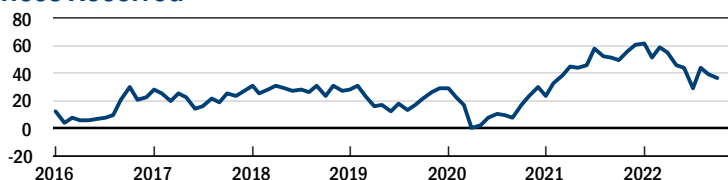
Expectations Six Months Ahead

Prices Paid



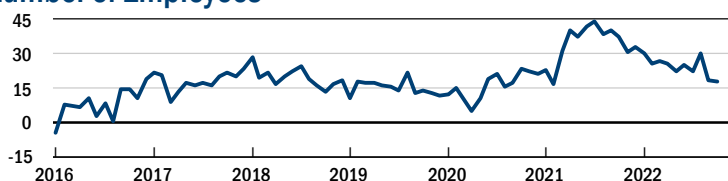
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	53.8	6.6	47.2
Oct	57.8	9.2	48.6
Change			1.4

Prices Received



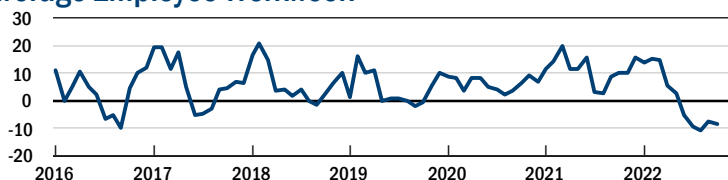
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	45.3	5.7	39.6
Oct	45.9	9.2	36.7
Change			-2.9

Number of Employees



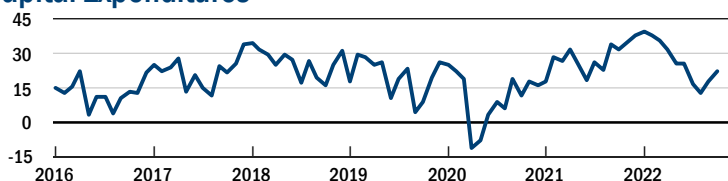
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	25.9	7.7	18.1
Oct	28.1	10.3	17.8
Change			-0.3

Average Employee Workweek



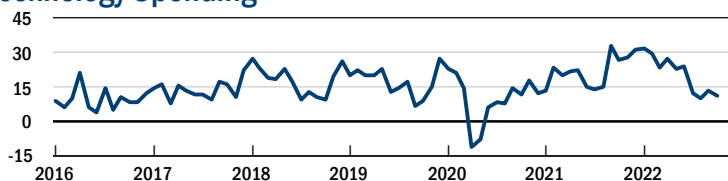
	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	8.5	16.0	-7.5
Oct	8.3	16.5	-8.3
Change			-0.8

Capital Expenditures



	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	29.2	11.3	17.9
Oct	33.9	11.9	22.0
Change			4.1

Technology Spending



	Percent Reporting		Index
	Higher	Lower	
Sep	21.7	8.5	13.2
Oct	22.9	11.9	11.0
Change			-2.2

Note: Data are seasonally adjusted.