



مركز قطر للمال
QATAR FINANCIAL CENTRE



PMI™
By IHS Markit

Purchasing Managers' Index™
MARKET SENSITIVE INFORMATION
Embargoed until: 12:00 Doha (09:00 UTC) 4 July 2018

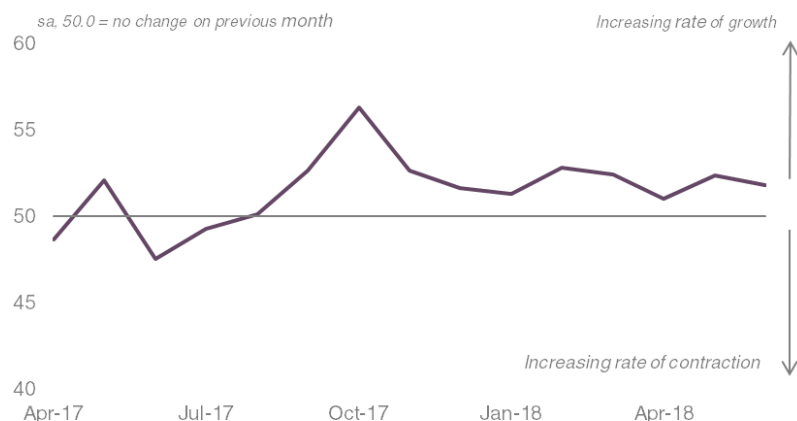
Business conditions continue to improve in June

Qatar Financial Centre PMI™

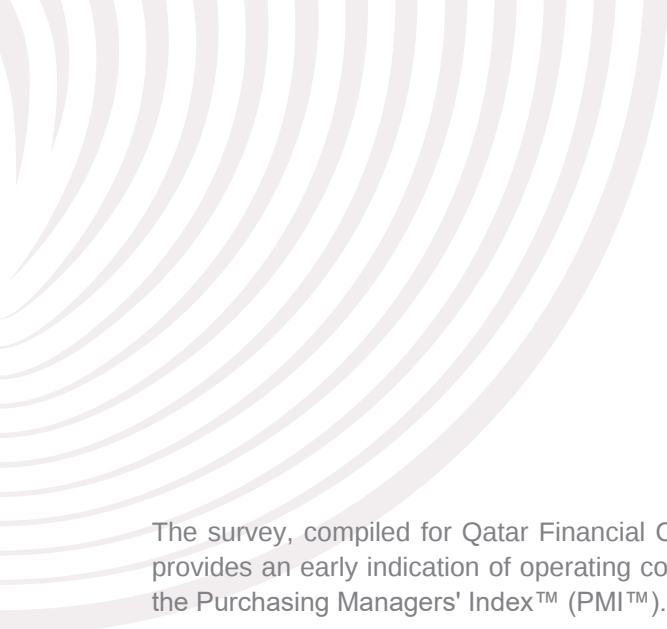
- Headline PMI softens to 51.8 in June, from 52.4
- Job creation at joint-record high in the survey so far
- Promotional activity leads to record fall in selling prices

Doha, Qatar: 4 July 2018 – Continuing the run of growth seen since August last year, the latest headline QFC Qatar PMI remained in expansion territory during June and indicated a moderate improvement in business conditions. Price discounting and promotional activity continued to stimulate client demand, which in turn led to higher output requirements across the non-hydrocarbon sector. Furthermore, job creation was the joint-fastest amid strong business confidence.

Qatar Financial Centre PMI Index™



Sources: Qatar Financial Centre, IHS Markit



The survey, compiled for Qatar Financial Centre by IHS Markit, has been conducted since April 2017 and provides an early indication of operating conditions in Qatar. The headline figure derived from the survey is the Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI™).

Readings above 50.0 signal an improvement in business conditions on the previous month, while readings below 50.0 show a deterioration.

The headline seasonally adjusted Qatar Financial Centre PMI – a composite gauge designed to give a single-figure snapshot of operating conditions in the non-oil and gas private sector – fell to 51.8 in June, from 52.4 in May. Easing output and new order growth partly contributed to the lower headline PMI figure in June. Nevertheless, the latest figure was indicative of a moderate expansion, and one that was stronger than the survey's average.

The volume of new business has increased continuously since October 2017. Many firms noted that promotional activity stimulated client demand, reflected by the sharpest reduction in selling prices since the survey began.

Responding to improving business conditions, firms increased their payroll numbers for the second month running. Moreover, the rate of growth accelerated to a joint-record high.

Despite higher workforce numbers, backlogs of work continued to build-up in June. Firms linked rising levels of work outstanding to solid inflows of new business.

Output growth in the non-hydrocarbon private sector was modest overall and below that seen in the preceding survey period. That said, the expansion was in line with the historical average, with the latest improvement extending the current phase of growth to nine months.

Average cost burdens faced by firms fell for the first time in the survey's history during June. The reduction in operating costs was only marginal overall, however.

Amid strong positivity towards future growth prospects, stocks of purchases increased at a survey-record pace as firms prepared for an anticipated upturn in growth.

Meanwhile, supplier delivery times improved for the first time since April last year, thereby signalling softening capacity pressures in Qatar's non-oil and gas private sector in June.

Comment

“Qatar’s non-hydrocarbon sector activity remains positive thanks to continuing expansion in new orders and output growth, according to QFC Qatar PMI a gauge for business conditions. PMI data along with other current performance indicators demonstrates Qatar’s solid economic performance in the first half of the year.”

Sheikha Alanoud bint Hamad Al-Thani, Managing Director, Business Development, QFC Authority

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The next Qatar PMI Report will be published on 6 August 2018 at 12:00 Doha (09:00 UTC)

ABOUT QATAR FINANCIAL CENTRE

The Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) is an onshore business and financial centre located in Doha, providing an excellent platform for firms to do business in Qatar and the region. The QFC offers its own legal, regulatory, tax and business environment, which allows 100% foreign ownership, 100% repatriation of profits, and charges a competitive rate of 10% corporate tax on locally sourced profits.

The QFC welcomes a broad range of financial and non-financial services firms.

For more information about the permitted activities and the benefits of setting up in the QFC, please visit www.qfc.qa

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ABOUT IHS MARKIT

IHS Markit (Nasdaq: 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 for key regions including the Eurozone. They are the most closely watched business surveys in the world, favored 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 <https://ihsmarkit.com/products/pmi.html>.

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