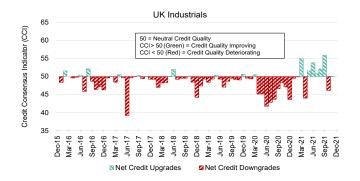


Credit Benchmark's monthly measure of credit risk sentiment and activity draws on the collective intelligence of over 20,000 analysts at 40+ of the world's leading financial institutions.

This measure, known as the **Credit Benchmark Credit Consensus Indicator (CCI)**, shows changes in forward looking credit opinion for aggregated Industrials across the US, UK, and EU.

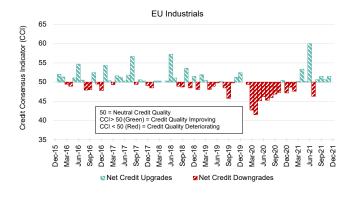


UK Industrials: Incremental Gain

After a material negative drop last month, the consensus credit quality of **UK Industrial firms** has returned to positive territory this month, albeit incrementally.

The **UK CCI score is now 50.1**, just scraping above the neutral mark after last month's negative score of 46.1.

UK manufacturers are keeping the faith, <u>with a survey</u> showing 73% of firms expect conditions to improve in 2022 – though this optimism is tempered by labor shortages and rising costs.

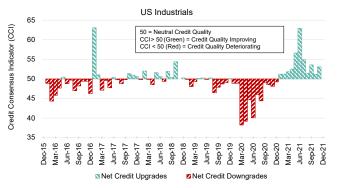


EU Industrials: Mild Positivity

Consensus credit quality for **EU Industrial firms** has been idling for the last four months, with modest positive readings and little change month-on-month.

The **EU CCI score** has marginally improved this month, sitting at 51.5, up from 50.6 last month.

European manufacturing continued to expand in late 2021, <u>with</u> <u>tentative signs</u> that ongoing supply chain pressures are beginning to recede – though Omicron-related disruptions cannot be ruled out.



US Industrials: Retaining Power

US Industrial firms have gone from strength to strength in recent months, with their collective credit quality remaining in positive territory for an 11th consecutive month.

The **US CCI score is 53.1**, an improvement from last month's weaker score of 51.2.

Though last month did indicate some slowing, <u>the industry is</u> <u>experiencing</u> an easing of supply constraints and a cooling of input prices, and the credit quality of the sector reflects these tentatively positive signs.

About Credit Benchmark Credit Consensus Indicators (CCIs)

CCI data from Credit Benchmark is based on over 800,000 contributed credit observations from 40+ of the world's leading financial institutions. The credit observations, which represent the work of over 20,000 analysts, are collected, anonymized and aggregated monthly by Credit Benchmark. CCIs provide forward-looking insights into credit risk sentiment and activity over time, leveraging overall credit distribution and trends.

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