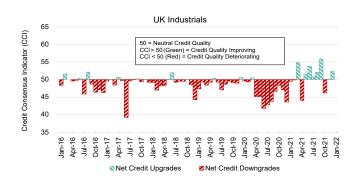
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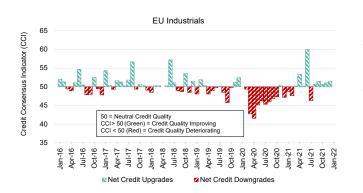
Credit Consensus Indicator (CCI) UK, EU & US Industrials

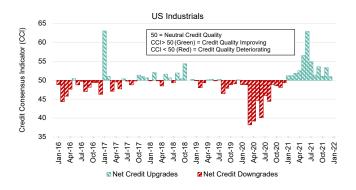
February 2022

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: One Step Forward

UK Industrial firms are gaining positive momentum after a second consecutive month in the green.

The **UK CCI score is now 52.4**, a notable improvement from last month's score of 50.2 which barely crossed the neutral threshold after an earlier instance of net deterioration.

Factory production <u>increased this month</u> amid rising domestic demand, while COVID-related delivery delays seem to be finally abating – however the Russia / Ukraine conflict may yet undermine this progress.

EU Industrials: Ticking Along

Another month of mild positivity for **EU Industrial firms**, with a fifth consecutive instance of a CCI above the 50 score, but with very little variation in either direction.

The **EU CCI score has shown slight improvement at 51.5**, after last month's score of 51.1. The CCI has not risen above 51.5 in the past five months of improvements.

With chip shortages impacting manufacturers globally, European firms have cause for optimism after a ≤ 43 bn investment plan was unveiled by the European Commission this month to promote investment into semiconductor chip production in the region.

US Industrials: Long Term Positivity, Short Term Weakening

US Industrial firms enjoyed yet another month of positive credit quality, with a full year of CCI scores above the neutral line. The last time the group dipped into the red was in December 2020.

The **US CCI score is 50.9**, which shows a drop from last month's score of 53.4. Whether this temporary weakening indicates a longer term downwards trend is to be determined.

There are <u>some indications</u> that pandemic-related delays and supply chain disruptions have spurred a manufacturing revival within the US where government tariffs were previously unsuccessful.

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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