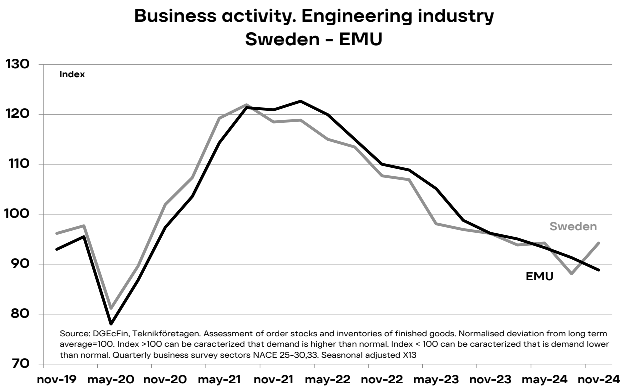
Summary of the business survey from Teknikföretagen

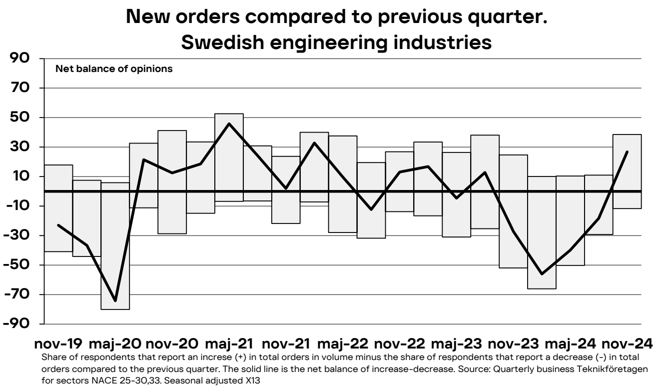
New orders for the technology industry increases in the fourth quarter of 2024 for the first time since the fourth quarter of 2022. As a result, the overall index of the business situation also improves, and excluding the pandemic, leaves the lowest level in ten years behind. At the same time, there is a long way to go to a business index at the levels we saw in 2021–2022. The shortage of labour in the technology industry is again decreasing somewhat, as is the share of companies with full capacity utilization, which is still below the historical average. The outcome in the last quarter of this year is not exactly surprising as monetary policy has stimulated the activity for the past six months.

Index of the technology industry's overall assessment of the business situation increases slightly in the last quarter of this year. Thus, the index was also slightly higher than at the beginning of 2024. It is mainly a less negative reporting for the size of the order stock that contributed. In the euro area, however, a further deterioration of the index is noted during the last quarter where mainly a difficult business situation in Germany contributes.

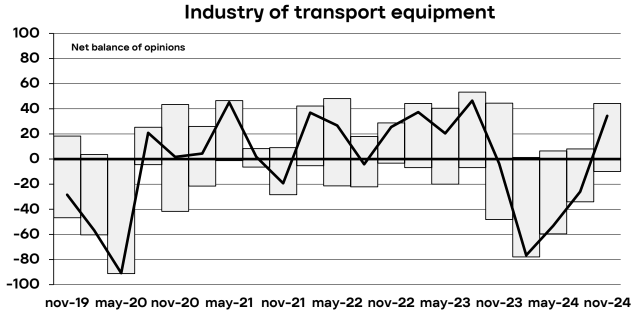
New orders have increased for the two largest sub-sectors in the engineering industry or the machinery- and transport industry, after six and four quarters respectively of successively reduced inflow of new orders. Suppliers of the construction sector also show a better outcome than earlier this year. Inflow or new orders of construction suppliers are no longer decreasing, and the size of the order backlog has left the bottom levels behind. On the other hand, suppliers to the machinery and automotive industry still face low demand with reduced orders.

The shortage of skilled workers is decreasing somewhat overall, mainly for the metal goods and machinery industry. At the same time, it increases somewhat in the transport equipment industry. The shortage of engineers is decreasing for the fifth quarter in a row. The proportion of companies with full capacity utilization decreases slightly overall to 32 percent and is thus still below the long-term average of four out of ten companies.



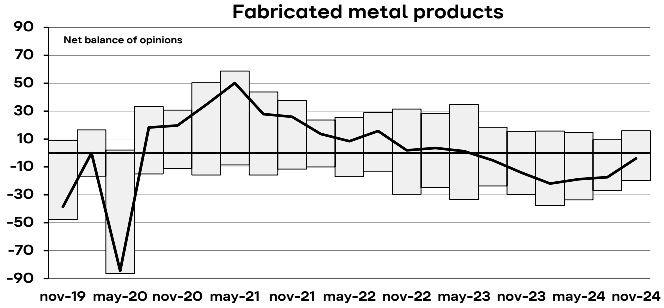


New orders compared to previous quarter.
Industry of transport equipment



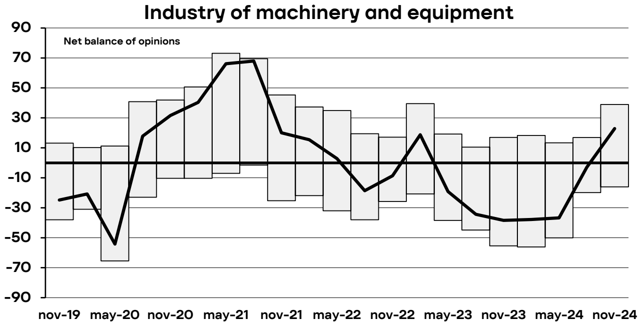
Share of respondents that report an increase (+) in total orders in volume minus the share of respondents that report a decrease (-) in total orders compared to the previous quarter. The solid line is the net balance of increase-decrease. Source: Quarterly business survey Teknikföretagen for sectors NACE 29-30. Seasonal adjusted X13

New orders compared to previous quarter.
Fabricated metal products



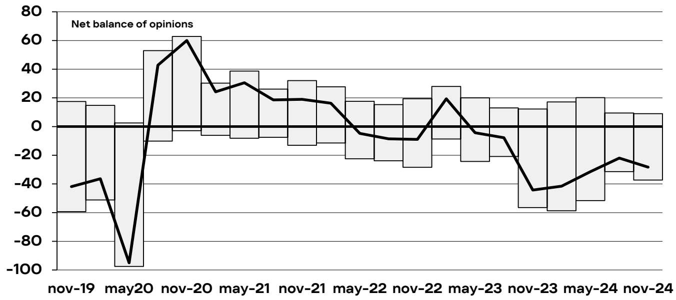
Share of respondents that report an increase (+) in total orders in volume minus the share of respondents that report a decrease (-) in total orders compared to the previous quarter. The solid line is the net balance of increase-decrease. Source: Quarterly business survey Teknikföretagen for sector NACE 25. Seasonal adjusted X13

New orders compared to previous quarter.
Industry of machinery and equipment



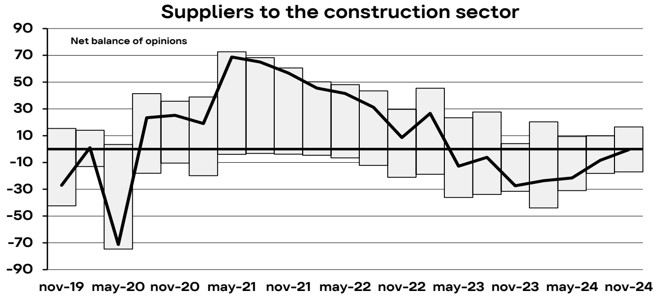
Share of respondents that report an increase (+) in total orders in volume minus the share of respondents that report a decrease (-) in total orders compared to the previous quarter. The solid line is the net balance of increase-decrease. Source: Quarterly business survey Teknikföretagen for sector NACE 28. Seasonal adjusted X13

New orders compared to previous quarter.
Suppliers to the motor car industry



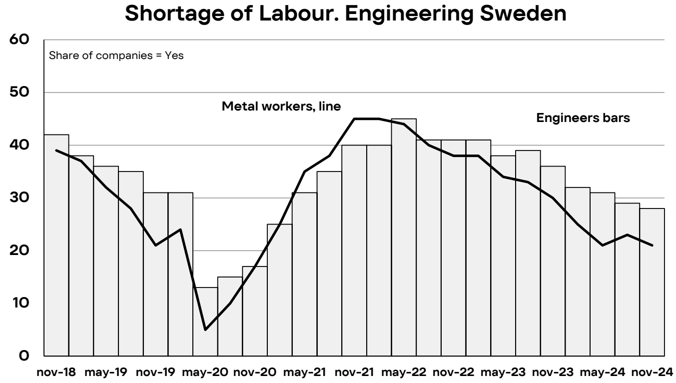
Share of respondents that report an increase (+) in total orders in volume minus the share of respondents that report a decrease (-) in total orders compared to the previous quarter. The solid line is the net balance of increase-decrease. Suppliers to the motor car industry. Source: Quarterly business Teknikföretagen. Seasonal adjusted X13

New orders compared to previous quarter.
Suppliers to the construction sector



Share of respondents that report an increase (+) in total orders in volume minus the share of respondents that report a decrease (-) in total orders compared to the previous quarter. The solid line is the net balance of increase-decrease. Source: Quarterly business survey Teknikföretagen. Seasonal adjusted X13

Shortage of Labour. Engineering Sweden



Source: Teknikföretagens business survey. Seas.adj. X13

BUSINESS SURVEY TEKNIKFÖRETAGEN

ISSN 1403-9559, Published during the second week in March, June, September, and December

Erik Spector, Chief Economist +46 8-782 08 48, erik.spector@teknikforetagen.se

Bengt Lindqvist, Economist +46 8-782 08 34, bengt.lindqvist@teknikforetagen.se