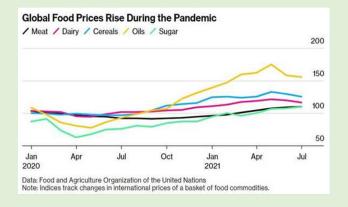


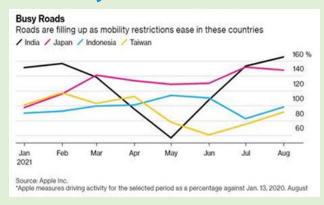
The Month That Was - Snippets for September 2021

Your Food Prices Are at Risk as the World Runs Short of Workers

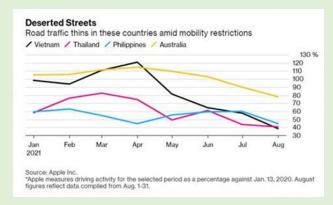


Whether it's fruit pickers, slaughterhouse workers, truckers, warehouse operators, chefs or waiters, the global food ecosystem is buckling due to a shortage of staff. Supplies are getting hit and some employers are forced to raise wages at a double-digit pace. The shortage of workers threatens to further add to costs, whether through wage increases or supply shortfalls. That's threatening to push food prices - already heated by soaring commodities and freight costs - even higher.

Busy Roads Where Countries Have Eased Mobility Restrictions

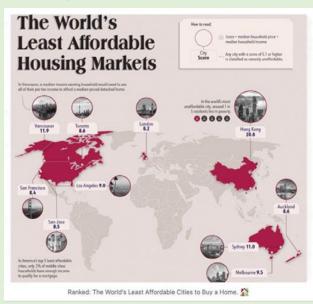


Deserted Roads in Countries with Mobility Restrictions

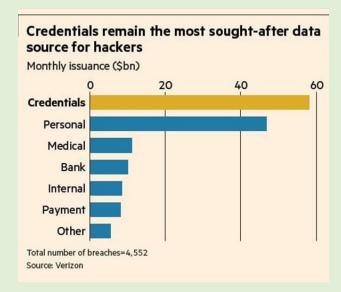


COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

The World's Least Affordable Cities to Buy a Home

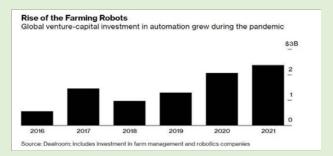


Kill the Password



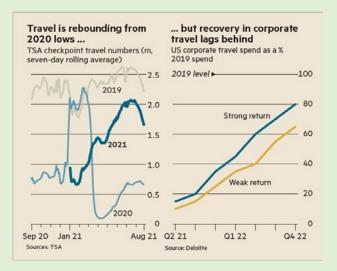
Start-ups embark on race to kill the password. Veridium, Transmit and rivals turn to biometric security solutions as shift to remote working brings surge in hacks. Biometric security systems previously held their information in databases on centralised servers, but it is now possible to ensure that it stays on an individual's device. The start-up that attracted the largest investment in the history of cyber security, of more than half a billion dollars, has a simple mission: it wants to kill the password.

Farming Robots to the Rescue



This issue won't disappear when the pandemic ends: The share of workers employed in agriculture has been falling for decades amid a shift to cities and services sectors, and hiring for some jobs was tough long before Covid. These more permanent changes to the labour market call for technological solutions, and investment in automation and robotics has accelerated during the pandemic.

Business Travellers Slow to Return to the Skies



The U.S. airline industry's recovery hit a milestone in June when more than 2m people passed through airport screenings in a single day. It was the first time since the pandemic began. Yet amid the crowds of luggage-toting visitors one group was conspicuously absent: business passengers. In contrast with leisure, corporate travellers have been slow to return to the skies. Just 4 per cent of companies surveyed by Deloitte expect their travel spend to fully return to 2019 levels by the end of this year. A complete rebound could be years away. Only 54 per cent of respondents think they will return to their pre-pandemic spending ways by the end of 2022.

Real-Time Mobility Indicators



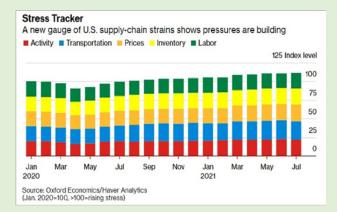
One way to take the pulse of global cities is to use real-time mobility indicators. The Economist has constructed an "exodus index" using Google data on visits to sites of retail and recreation, public transport and workplaces. This compares mobility in large cities with that in their respective countries. In America, Britain, France and Japan activity remains substantially lower in cities than it does nationally. According to OpenTable, a booking platform, restaurant reservations in cities are low compared with elsewhere. Bookings in Canada are 8% above their pre-pandemic level but 9% lower in Toronto. Only a fifth of San Franciscan office workers are in the building, suggest data from Kastle Systems, a technology firm.

Indian Factory Managers Report Growth



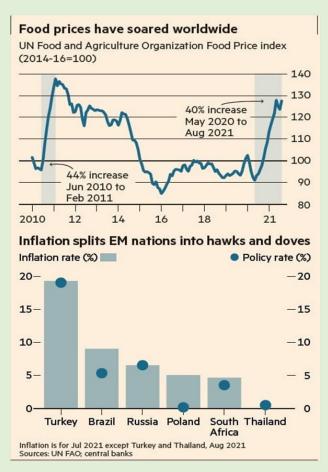
Factory managers in India reported growth in new orders last month, helping businesses retain their optimistic growth projections. A similar survey of services' purchasing managers showed the return of business confidence amid easing virus curbs. This has catapulted the composite index to expansion territory for the first time in four months.

From Nairobi to Ningbo Supply Shocks Span the Globe



From high-class problems to difficulties finding life's necessities, the pandemic has convulsed global supply chains on such a scale that few industries, socio-economic classes or regions are immune. The blame lies in several places, but Covid-19 has essentially robbed the global economy of its rhythm. The stockpiling of raw materials has caused shortages and delays that create yet more disruption downstream, forcing factories to slow production of finished goods.

Emerging Markets Split Over Inflation

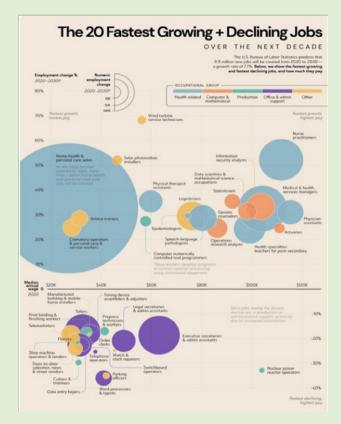


How to tackle threat of rising prices has divided senior policymakers at central banks. A year ago, while emerging markets grappled with whether they could afford to lock down their economies, richer governments side-stepped the dilemma by doling out giant fiscal support packages. Today, a big question the developing world faces is whether to raise interest rates to curb inflation. This is another problem that western central bankers have so far been able to delay.

Seven Fear and Greed Indicators

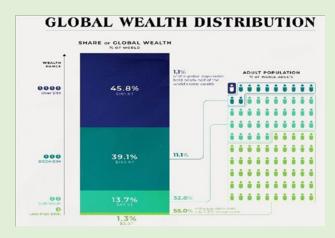


Twenty Fastest Growing and Declining Jobs



The U.S. projects there will be 11.9 million new jobs created from 2020 to 2030 (growth rate of 7.7%); however, some jobs have much higher growth rates; this graphic shows fastest growing jobs - and fastest declining jobs - and how much they pay!

So Few Have So Much



Using data from Credit Suisse, this graphic looks at how global wealth is distributed among adult population; while individuals worth > \$1 million constitute just 1.1% of world's population, they hold 45.8% of global wealth.

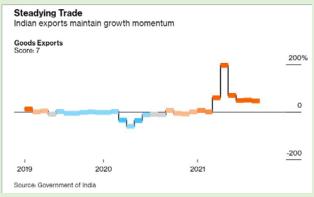
Central Banks Still to Normalise Policy

Global Central Bank Policy Rates										
		Central		Real		Last				
		Bank Rate		Central		Move				
Country	Rate	(Today)	CPI YoY	Bank Rate	Last Move	Date				
Switzerland	Target Rate	-0.75%	0.9%	-1.7%	Cut	Jan-15				
Denmark	Deposit Rate	-0.60%	1.8%	-2.4%	Hike	Mar-20				
Eurozone	Deposit Rate	-0.50%	3.0%	-3.5%	Cut	Sep-19				
Japan	Policy Rate Bal	-0.10%	-0.3%	0.2%	Cut	Jan-16				
Norway	Deposit Rate	0.00%	3.4%	-3.4%	Cut	May-20				
Sweden	Repo Rate	0.00%	2.1%	-2.1%	Hike	Dec-19				
Poland	Repo Rate	0.10%	5.5%	-5.4%	Cut	May-20				
Australia	Cash Rate	0.10%	3.8%	-3.7%	Cut	Nov-20				
UK	Bank Rate	0.10%	3.2%	-3.1%	Cut	Mar-20				
US	Fed Funds	0.13%	5.3%	-5.2%	Cut	Mar-20				
New Zealand	Cash Rate	0.25%	3.3%	-3.1%	Cut	Mar-20				
Canada	Overnight	0.25%	4.1%	-3.9%	Cut	Mar-20				
Thailand	Policy Rate	0.50%	0.0%	0.5%	Cut	May-20				
South Korea	Repo Rate	0.75%	2.6%	-1.9%	Hike	Aug-21				
Czech Republic	Repo Rate	0.75%	4.1%	-3.4%	Hike	Aug-21				
Hong Kong	Base Rate	0.86%	1.6%	-0.7%	Cut	Mar-20				
Peru	Policy Rate	1.00%	5.0%	-4.0%	Hike	Sep-21				
Saudi Arabia	Reverse Repo	1.00%	0.3%	0.7%	Cut	Mar-20				
Taiwan	Discount Rate	1.13%	2.4%	-1.2%	Cut	Mar-20				
Chile	Base Rate	1.50%	4.8%	-3.3%	Hike	Aug-21				
Colombia	Repo Rate	1.75%	4.4%	-2.7%	Cut	Sep-20				
Malaysia	Policy Rate	1.75%	2.2%	-0.5%	Cut	Jul-20				
Philippines	Key Policy Rate	2.00%	4.9%	-2.9%	Cut	Nov-20				
South Africa	Repo Rate	3.50%	4.6%	-1.1%	Cut	Jul-20				
Indonesia	Repo Rate	3.50%	1.6%	1.9%	Cut	Feb-21				
China	Loan Prime Rate	3.85%	0.8%	3.1%	Cut	Apr-20				
India	Repo Rate	4.00%	5.3%	-1.3%	Cut	May-20				
Mexico	Overnight Rate	4.50%	5.6%	-1.1%	Hike	Aug-21				
Brazil	Target Rate	5.25%	9.7%	-4.4%	Hike	Aug-21				
Russia	Key Policy Rate	6.75%	6.7%	0.1%	Hike	Sep-21				
Turkey	Repo Rate	19.00%	19.3%	-0.3%	Hike	Mar-21				
Argentina	Benchmark Rate	38.00%	51.4%	-13.4%	Hike	Nov-20				

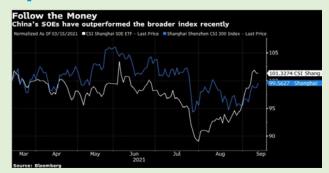
The vast majority of central banks in the world have yet to start normalising policy after extreme easing measures in 2020. In spite of a rebound in growth and spikes in inflation, these central banks are operating as if nothing has changed and that extreme easing is still warranted.

Indian Exports Rise

Indian exports rose at a steady pace of about 46% year-on-year in August, although the high growth has been mainly due to the effect of a contraction in the year-earlier period. Data from other export powerhouses showed a varying trend, with South Korea reporting faster export growth and Vietnam seeing a sharp decline due to disruptions caused by Covid outbreaks.

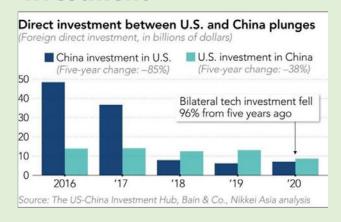


China's Crackdowns Spook Investors



China's various crackdowns have spooked investors who worry that they won't be able to predict Beijing's next target. As political commentator Ren Yi (a.k.a. @ChairmanRabbit on Twitter) put it several weeks ago: "Go to the countryside, to the frontiers, to the places where the motherland needs it most." In other words, savvy investors should be aligning themselves with the Chinese government's strategy rather than trying to forecast it. One obvious area to look at are China's lumbering state-owned enterprises, or SOEs. Long ignored by growth-obsessed investors whose attention was diverted by the flashy valuations of Alibaba and Didi, boring old SOEs are now getting another look as China recalibrates its economy. "This is not about an abandonment of markets or the end of allowing attractive returns," writes Cochran. "The control hierarchy is being clarified."

Fractured U.S.-China Relationship Results in Plunging Direct Investment



Glimpses of Ganeshotsav from 10th September to 19th September 2021











Minimum Support Prices for Kapas of Fair Average Quality for the Cotton Season 2021-22 (October-September)

(In Rs. per quintal)

		Fibre Qualit	y Parameters	Minimum					
Sr. No.	Classes of Cotton	Basic Staple Length (2.5% Span Length) in MM	Micronaire Value	Support Prices (MSP) for 2021-22	Names of the Indicative Varieties used by the Trade				
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)				
	Short Staple (20	Short Staple (20 mm & below)							
1		-	7.0-8.0	5226	Assam Comilla				
2		-	6.8-7.2	5226	Bengal Deshi				
	Medium Staple (20.5 mm - 24.5 mm)								
3		21.5 - 22.5	4.8 - 5.8	5476	Jayadhar				
4		21.5 - 23.5	4.2 - 6.0	5526	V-797 / G.Cot.13 / G. Cot.21				
5		23.5 - 24.5	3.4 - 5.5	5576	AK/Y-1 (Mah & M.P.) / MCU-7 (TN)/SVPR-2 (TN)/PCO-2 (AP & Kar) / K-11 (TN)				
	Medium Long S	Staple (25.0 mm - 1	27.0 mm)						
6		24.5 - 25.5	4.3 - 5.1	5726	J-34 (Raj.)				
7		26.0 - 26.5	3.4 - 4.9	5826	LRA-5166/KC-2 (TN)				
8		26.5 - 27.0	3.8 - 4.8	5876	F-414/H-777/J-34 Hybrid				
	Long Staple (27.5 mm - 32.0 mm)								
9		27.5 - 28.5	4.0 - 4.8	5925	F-414/H-777/J-34 Hybrid				
10		27.5 - 28.5	3.5 - 4.7	5925	H-4/H-6/MECH/RCH-2				
11		27.5 - 29.0	3.6 - 4.8	5975	Shankar-6/10				
12		29.5 - 30.5	3.5 - 4.3	6025	Bunny/Brahma				
	Extra Long Staple (32.5 mm & above)								
13		32.5 - 33.5	3.2 - 4.3	6225	MCU-5/Surabhi				
14		34.0 - 36.0	3.0 - 3.5	6425	DCH-32				
15		37.0 - 39.0	3.2 - 3.6	7225	Suvin				

⁽i) If the micronaire value is in the range of 3.8 to 4.2 for Staple Length of 24.5 - 25.5 mm mentioned at Sr. No.6 of above table, a premium of Rs. 30/- per quintal will be given over and above the MSP. If the micronaire happens to be less than 3.8 or more than 5.1, the MSP will be lower by Rs. 15/- per quintal for every 0.2 micronaire.

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) will be the central nodal agency for undertaking price support operations for cotton. National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) would supplement efforts of CCI for cotton procurement.

The Minimum Support Price will be effective from 01.10.2021.

Source: Office of the Textile Commissioner

⁽ii) If the micronaire values are outside the range in the column (iv) for staple lengths at Sr. No.9 to 15 of above table, a lower MSP of Rs. 25/- per quintal will be given for every 0.2 micronaire value.

⁽iii) The Minimum acceptable micronaire value shall be 2.8 for Extra Long Staple Cotton mentioned at Sr. No. 13 to 15 of above table. Minimum acceptable micronaire value shall be 3.0 for other varieties of cotton at Sr. No.1 to 12 of the above table.

⁽iv) The names of varieties mentioned in column No. (vi) of the aforesaid table are only indicative related to the respective length group.

⁽v) The base line moisture content of kapas shall be 8%. The farmer selling cotton having moisture above 8% but upto 12% will get lesser price proportionately, while it will be a proportionate incentive, if the moisture content of the produce is less than 8%. For the purpose of undertaking price support operation by the designated Procurement Agencies, moisture content of more than 12% is not permitted. The incentive / disincentive will be made on the basis of rate per quintal of kapas on pro-rata basis.

⁽vi) The procurement agencies should ensure that micronaire and other fibre quality parameters are scientifically assessed by providing the required infrastructure / facilities at the purchase centres.

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					JPCOUI	NTRY SP	OT RAT	ES				(R	s./Qtl)
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple							Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2020-21 Crop						
in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [By law 66 (A) (a) (4)]						September 2021							
Sr. No	. Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine		5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	11585	11585	11585 (41200)	11585	11585 (41200)	11585
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	(41200) 11754 (41800)	(41200) 11754 (41800)	11754 (41800)	(41200) 11754 (41800)	11754 (41800)	(41200) 11754 (41800)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine		4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	9420	9392	9392	9392	9392	9448
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	(33500)	(33400)	(33400)	(33400)	(33400)	(33600)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	(38400)	(38400)	(38400)	(38400)	(38400)	(38600)
6	P/H/R (U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	(41700) 13835 (40200)	(41600)	(41600) 13751	(41600)	(41600)	(41800) 13835 (40200)
7	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	(49200) 12148 (43200)	(48900) 12092 (43000)	(48900) 12092 (43000)	(48900) 12092 (43000)	(48900) 12092 (43000)	(49200) 12148 (43200)
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	14060 (50000)	13976 (49700)	13947 (49600)	13947 (49600)	13947 (49600)	14004 (49800)
9	M/M(P)/ SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	12345 (43900)	12260 (43600)	12260 (43600)	12260 (43600)	12260 (43600)	12317 (43800)
10	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	13188 (46900)	13104 (46600)	13104 (46600)	13104 (46600)	13104 (46600)	13160 (46800)
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	27	14229 (50600)	14144 (50300)	14116 (50200)	14116 (50200)	14116 (50200)	14172 (50400)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	14313 (50900)	14229 (50600)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	14313 (50900)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	14341 (51000)	14257 (50700)	14285 (50800)	14285 (50800)	14285 (50800)	14341 (51000)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	27	14622 (52000)	14538 (51700)	14538 (51700)	14538 (51700)	14538 (51700)	14622 (52000)
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14707 (52300)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	14932 (53100)	14819 (52700)	14819 (52700)	14819 (52700)	14819 (52700)	14875 (52900)
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	14960 (53200)	14847 (52800)	14847 (52800)	14847 (52800)	14847 (52800)	14904 (53000)
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	15466 (55000)	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	15410 (54800)
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	29	15466 (55000)	15382 (54700)	15382 (54700)	15382 (54700)	15382 (54700)	15438 (54900)
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	29	15522 (55200)	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)	15494 (55100)
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	15635 (55600)	15550 (55300)	15550 (55300)	15550 (55300)	15550 (55300)	15607 (55500)
22	SA/TL/ K / TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	15691 (55800)	15607 (55500)	15607 (55500)	15607 (55500)	15607 (55500)	15663 (55700)
23	SA/TL/K/ TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	26152 (93000)	26152 (93000)	26152 (93000)	26152 (93000)	26152 (93000)	26152 (93000)
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)	27276 (97000)
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)