



Issues and Insights

Welcome to the latest issue of *Issues and Insights*, summarizing our latest thinking on subjects affecting your business. Use the information to stay resilient and grow through these disruptive times.

OCTOBER EDITION

HOT TOPICS



Price jump at the gas pump: The fuel for August's inflation

Personal disposable income fell 0.2% in August compared to July, with a surge in gas prices the primary culprit. In this article, Diane Swonk, Chief Economist, KPMG US, breaks down the economic numbers and explains why the situation may be better than it seems. [Read it here.](#)



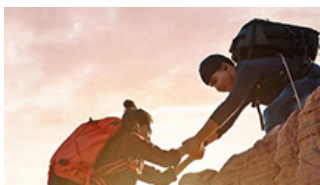
Results of CEO Outlook show long-term confidence and short-term concern

CEOs today are navigating a U.S. economy that has entered the age of compound volatility. This year's KPMG CEO Outlook analyzed insights from more than 1,300 CEOs at large companies globally, including 400 in the United States, to evaluate how they are navigating the challenges. [Download the full report.](#)



Rate hike? Maybe not.

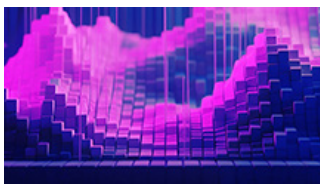
Manufacturing data surprised to the upside for August with core orders and shipments posting their strongest readings since the start of the year. Current data supports at least 4% real GDP growth, one reason the Federal Reserve penciled in an extra rate hike in November. We are holding to our current forecast for no rate hike. [Get the full story.](#)



Is your business ESG-assurance ready?

KPMG developed its inaugural ESG Assurance Maturity Index to help companies prepare for new ESG regulatory requirements. The Index and associated research provide a guided, step-by-step roadmap to ready organizations for ESG assurance. Don't wait until it's too late. [Learn more.](#)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Using generative AI to strengthen cybersecurity

While risks in generative AI should not be underestimated, the technology can also improve a company's cybersecurity posture. KPMG has prepared a detailed overview of the subject, and a five-point AI-assisted program for cybersecurity. [Get it here.](#)



How generative AI can revolutionize the software development cycle

Companies are finding that generative AI can accelerate the application creation process and allow coding specialists to focus on higher-level activities. The 2023 KPMG Generative AI Survey report shows you how executives are experiencing and applying this new technology. [It's available now.](#)

TAX NEWS



CFO Dive | FASB raises tax transparency bar

Companies will soon have to disclose more information about their taxes under newly approved FASB requirements. Brett Weaver, ESG Tax leader at KPMG US, notes that this move represents a new era in the overall story of greater transparency around business and tax. [Read about it here.](#)

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