Summary of Industrial Production in August 2019

Industrial production in August 2019, the Manufacturing Production Index decreased by 4.4 percent compared to the same month last year, as a result of the contraction of key industries such as automotive, electronic part and printed circuit board, and other rubber industries. The capacity utilization rate in August 2019 was 65.8 percent.

The Manufacturing Production Index in Major Industries

The MPI in August 2019 decreased by 4.4 percent compared to the same month last year. Key manufacturing industries, e.g., automotive, electronic part and printed circuit board, and other rubber were the sectors that shrank.



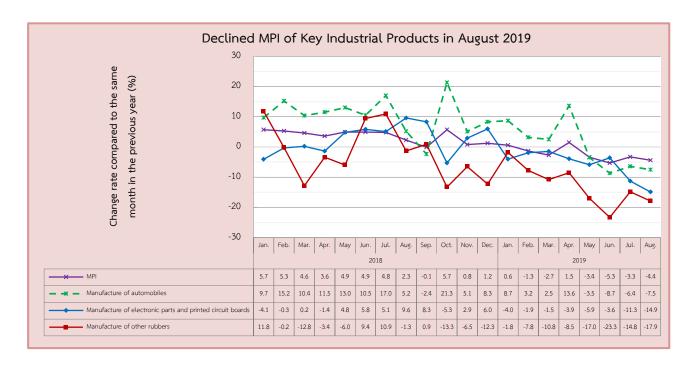
The MPI of the automotive manufacturing industry contracted by 7.5 percent compared to the same month last year, due to the slowdown of purchase orders from both domestic and export markets from the economic downturn.



The MPI of the electronic part and printed circuit board manufacturing industry fell by 14.9 percent compared to the same month last year. The contraction was in all product groups as the global electronic situation slowed down. The trade war between the US and China affected global supply chains in production, including Thailand.



The MPI of the other rubber product manufacturing industry decreased by 17.9 percent compared to the same month last year, mainly from concentrated latex as heavy rain in many cultivated areas resulted in less latex supplied to the market.



As for key manufacturing industries, the industries that expanded were Hard Disk Drive; aquatic animal and fresh, chilled, or frozen of aquatic animal product; non-alcoholic beverage and mineral/drinking water manufacturing industries.



The MPI of the Hard Disk Drive manufacturing industry grew by 12.7 percent compared to the same month last year, due to the increase in orders from major manufacturers from production base closures in Malaysia. Furthermore, the investment in Big Data is likely to increase to manage and analyze data.



The MPI of aquatic animal and fresh, chilled, or frozen of aquatic animal product industry grew by 14.0 percent compared to the same month last year. This is mainly due to frozen fish, frozen shrimp and frozen squid, as online distribution channels increased to meet the needs of more consumers.



The MPI of the non-alcoholic beverage and mineral/drinking water manufacturing industry grew by 9.9 percent compared to the same month last year. The growth was in almost all product categories (except mineral water) from the expansion of all market channels. Furthermore, manufacturers developed new products based on increasing health care trends of consumers and preparation before the second increase on sugar taxes, which will come into effect on October 1, 2019.

