

## Industrial Production Status

Indicators	2018	2019										2020			
	Year	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
MPI*	3.7	1.5	-3.2	-5.1	-3.2	-4.4	-5.0	-8.0	-8.0	-4.4	-3.6	-4.0	-4.2	-10.5	-17.2

The industrial economy in **April 2020**, when considered from the **Manufacturing Production Index (MPI)**, contracted by **17.21 percent** from the same period last year.

When considering MPI data for the past three months compared to the previous year (% YoY), production in January, February, and March 2020 decreased by 4.0 percent, 4.2 percent, and 10.5 percent, respectively.

Indicators	2019										2020			
	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
MPI*	-17.6	9.5	-3.6	-0.6	0.6	-3.4	-1.2	1.0	1.8	5.1	-2.9	2.7	-23.8	

During the past three months (January, February, and March 2020), the MPI change rates (%MoM) were as follows: an increase of 5.1 percent in January, a decrease of 2.9 percent in February, and an increase of 2.7 percent in March 2020.

**Key industries that contributed to the decrease of MPI in April 2020** compared to the same month last year were as follows:

- Automobiles and engines contracted 81.7 percent due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, causing economic activity to stumble and factories to temporarily stop production.
- Petroleum refinery contracted by 19.3 percent due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, causing the government to issue measures for citizens to stay home and stop the infection, resulting in decreased demand for transportation fuel.
- Beer contracted by 82.4 percent due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, causing the government to ban the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages in April 2020, including the closure of restaurants and drinking places to reduce the gathering of people.

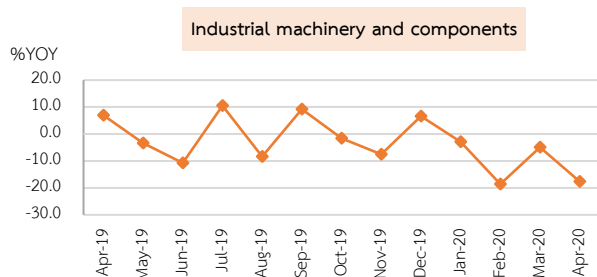
**Key industries that remained on the rise of MPI in April 2020** compared to the same month last year were as follows:

- Concrete products increased by 23.5 percent from continuous demand for use in government construction projects. Furthermore, the number of working days was higher than the previous year after the announcement of the Songkran holiday postponement.
- Pharmaceutical products grew by 38.5 percent, increasing in almost all product groups as the number of working was higher than the previous year after the postponement of Songkran holidays.

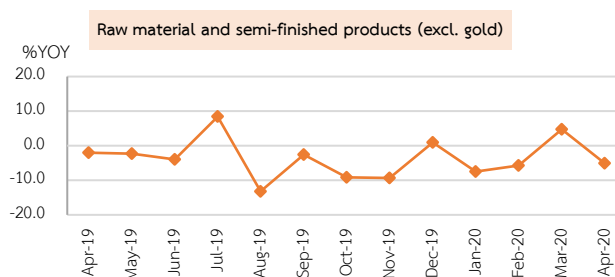
# Other Industrial Economic Indicators in April 2020

## Other Industrial Economic Indicators in April 2020

### Imports of Thailand Industrial Sector



Source: Ministry of Commerce

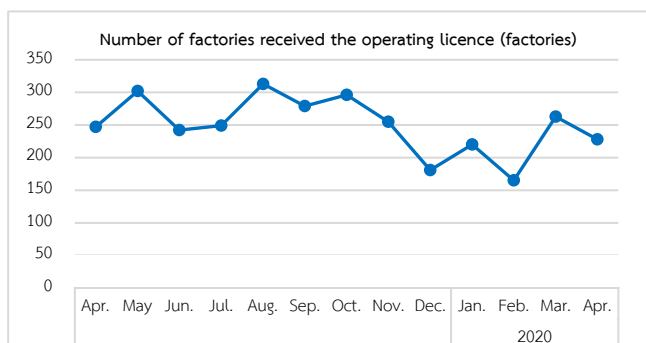


Source: Ministry of Commerce

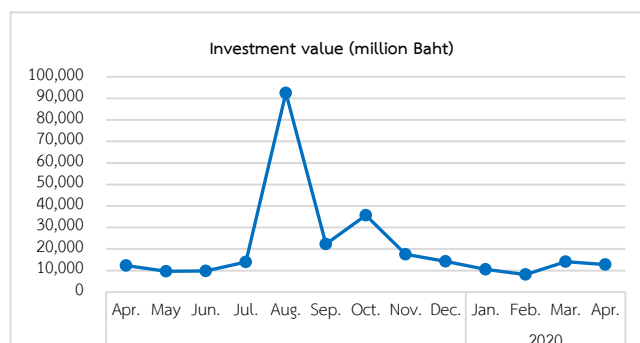
**➔ Import of industrial machinery and parts** in April 2020 dropped 17.6 percent compared to the same month last year to 1,247.3 million USD, from the decreased imports of engines, transmission shafts and other parts, machinery and parts for other manufacturing, metal-forming machinery and parts, etc. However, imports of jet turbine and parts, robot bases, and molds remained on the rise.

**➔ Import of raw and semi-finished goods (excluding gold)** in April 2020 decreased by 5.1 percent compared to the same month last year to 6,963.7 million USD, from the decreased imports of metal ores (copper), iron, steel and products, fabrics, threads, fibers etc.

## Industrial Operation Status



Source: Department of Industrial Works



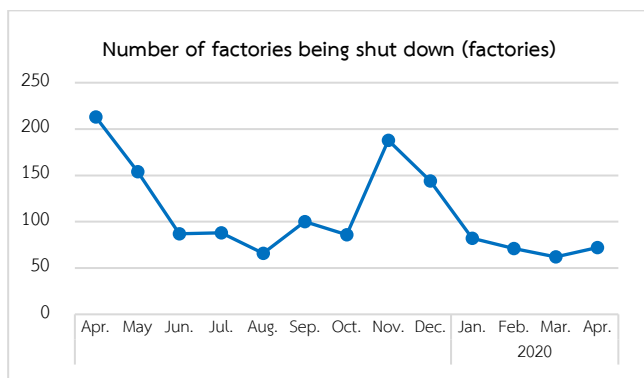
Source: Department of Industrial Works

- The total number of factories licensed for operation in April 2020 was 228 factories, which increased by 13.31 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 and decreased by 7.69 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.
  
- + The total investment from factories licensed for operating in April 2020 increased by 9.62 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 12,745 million Baht but decreased by 3.88 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

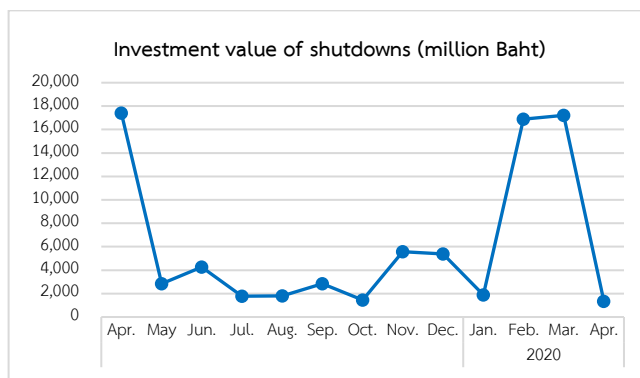
*"The industry which had the highest number of newly licensed factories to operate in April 2020 was the extraction and dredging of gravel, sand, or soil industry (25 factories), followed by the manufacture of articles of concrete, ready-mixed concrete, and gypsum products (13 factories)."*

*"The industry with the highest investment value in April 2020 was the smelting, casting, melting, rolling, and drawing of metal industry with the investment value of 2,000 million Baht, followed by the cold storage industry with the investment value of 1,691 million Baht."*

■ Industrial Operation Status (cont.)



Source: Department of Industrial Works



Source: Department of Industrial Works

⊕ A total of 72 factories were shut down in April 2020, an increase of 16.13 percent (% MoM) from March 2020 but a decrease of 66.2 percent (% YoY) from the same month last year.

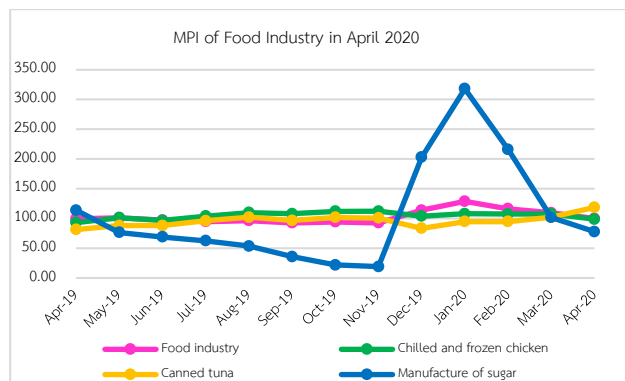
⊕ The lost investment value on shutdown in April 2020 decreased 92.15 percent from March 2020 (%MoM) to 1,351 million Baht and decreased by 92.23 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

*“In April 2020, the industry with the highest number of factory shutdowns was the sand suction industry (10 factories), followed by the extraction or dredging of gravel, sand, or soil industry (9 factories).”*

*“In April 2020, the industry which had the highest operation shutdown with the highest value of investment was the boiling, steaming, or dehydrating plant or seed industry with the investment value of 148 million Baht, followed by the sawing, planing, slicing, and grooving or wood processing industry with the investment value of 119 million Baht.”*

## Industrial Economic Status by Industrial Sectors in April 2020

### 1. Food Industry

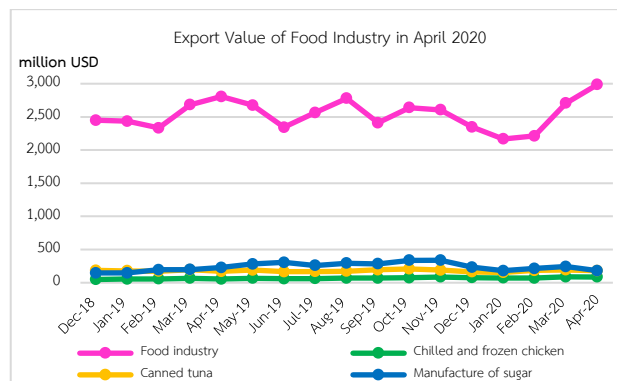


Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

**+** Production of food product in April 2020 grew by 0.5 percent (%YoY) as a result of the need to stock up on processed and ready-to-eat food during the Covid-19 outbreak. The product groups were classified as follows:

1) Export-orientated products decreased in MPI. Products included (1) Fresh, chilled, and frozen chicken—the MPI grew by 5.8 percent (%YoY). Key export markets were Japan, the UK, and China; (2) Canned tunas—the MPI grew by 37.2 percent (%YoY). Key export markets were the US, Australia, and Japan; (3) Canned sardines—the MPI grew by 14.6 percent (%YoY). Key export markets were South Africa, Japan, and Cambodia; (4) Instant noodles—the MPI grew by 22.1 percent (%YoY). Key export markets were ASEAN countries, the Netherlands, and the US; (5) Canned pineapples—the MPI grew by 10.6 percent. Key export markets were the US, Germany, and Russia, coupled with a lower MPI base in the previous year; (6) Prepared animal feeds—the MPI increased by 14.0 percent (%YoY). Key export markets were the US, Japan, and Malaysia; (7) Tapioca starch—the MPI increased by 8.3 percent (%YoY) due to increased purchase orders from China, Taiwan, the US, and Japan. However, the overall MPI increased only slightly as the MPI of sugar dropped dramatically by 36.0 percent (%YoY) due to the impacts of the drought.

2) Domestic-orientation products: the MPI that decreased were the MPI of palm oil (13.37%YoY) due to the droughts and the demand for fuel in the transportation sector, which decreased. As a result, the demand for palm oil during the COVID-19 situation dropped immediately.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

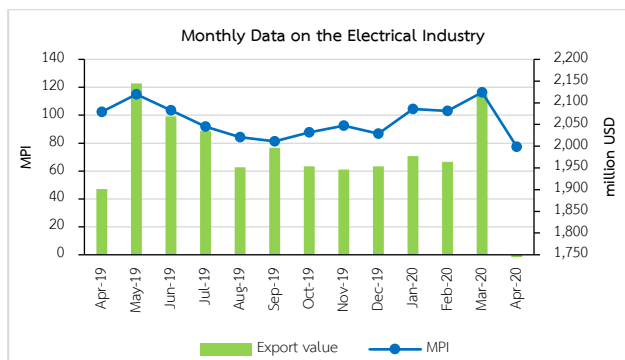
**+** The domestic sales of food products in April 2020 increased by 10.97 percent as demand for food reserve grew, from concerns of the COVID-19 virus outbreak.

**+** Export markets: Overall, food product exports in April valued at 2,985.58 million USD, an increase by 6.4 percent from the same period last year (%YoY) due to the prevalence of the COVID-19 situation in China, Japan, and Hong Kong which began to ease, causing people to return to normal life. Therefore, chilled and frozen chickens, which are basic foods for living and an important export product, increased export value in those respective countries. Meanwhile, the lockdown measures in the US and many European countries such as Italy, Spain, and France resulted in demand for ready-to-eat instant foods such as canned tuna and sardines, resulting in increased export value. Instant noodles and foods maintained a high export value, both in countries that had improved situations and countries that were still experiencing issues with the pandemic.

**Outlook for food industry.** It is expected that the overall MPI for the food industry in May will increase slightly from the same period last year, from increased domestic and international demand for food after the easing of lockdown measures of the COVID-19 situation. This is coupled with the recovery of purchasing power from foreign countries. The total export value is expected to increase from the same period last year. However, after the COVID-19 pandemic, exporting products abroad will be faced with more stringent safety standards to build confidence and safety for consumers.

## 2. Electrical and Electronics Industry

### ■ Electrical Industry



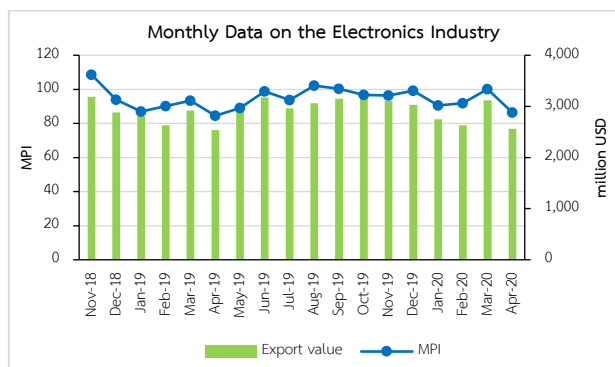
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics, Electrical and Electronics Institute, and Ministry of Commerce

**⊖ Production of electrical appliances** decreased by 24.2 percent compared to the same month last year with the MPI of 77.4 points. The products that decreased in production were household fans (52.2 percent), washing machines (41.9%), air-conditioners (34.8%), cables (32.1%), refrigerator (32.1%), rice cooker (22.0%), microwave ovens (20.5%), thermos (18.6%), electric motors (6.4%), and transformers (6.4%). Household fans, air-conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, microwave ovens, and rice cookers were products that decreased in domestic and overseas market sales. Sales of thermos and electric motors decreased in domestic markets, while orders of cables from overseas markets decreased. However, products that increased in production were electrical cables (46.1%), transformers (17.6%), and compressors (5.8%). The increase in production of electrical cables resulted from the growth of domestic and overseas orders, while the production of transformers and compressors increased as the result of the growth of domestic sales and the replacement for inventory, respectively.

**⊖ Exports of electrical appliances** decreased by 11.3 percent compared to the same month last year to 1,685.8 million USD from Europe, ASEAN, and Japan, which decreased purchase orders of washing/dry-cleaning machines and parts by 34.7 percent to 61.6 million USD and air-conditioners and parts decreased by 30.2 percent to 359.9 million USD. Meanwhile, orders of products such as switchboards and control panels for electric power distribution from China, Japan, and the US markets increased by 42.3 percent to 200.6 million USD and order of capacitors grew by 32.5 percent to 29.5 million USD.

*“Production in May 2020, in the electrical appliances industry, is expected to decline by 9.3 percent compared to the same month last year. The COVID-19 virus outbreak will cause the electrical industry to slow down and cause uncertainty in demand from social distancing measures.”*

### ■ Electronics Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics, Electrical and Electronics Institute, and Ministry of Commerce

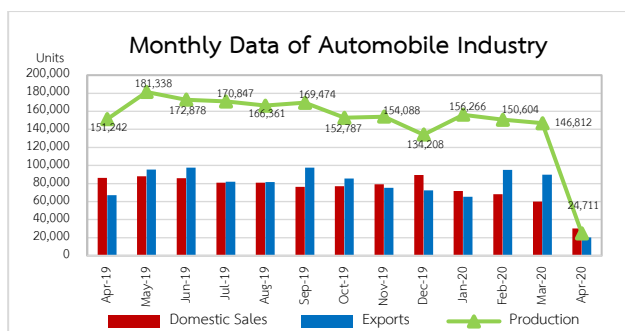
**⊕ Production of electronics** increased by 2.0 percent compared to the same month last year. Products that increased in production were Semiconductor devices transistors (40.6 percent), PCBAs (10.7 percent), and ICs (8.2 percent), owing to increased domestic and foreign orders. Meanwhile, production of electronics that decreased were HDDs (15.1%) and printers (9.0 percent) as overseas demands dropped.

**⊕ Exports of electronics** increased by 1.0 percent compared to the same month last year to 2,562.1 million USD. Exports of semiconductors and ICs rose 56.1 percent to 227.2 million USD and 1.8 percent to 597.7 million USD, respectively, to China, Japan, the US, and ASEAN. However, exports of HDDs decreased by 5.2 percent to 723.4 million USD due to decreased orders from Japan market.

*“Electronics industry outlook in May 2020, it is expected that the production will increase by 2.1 percent compared to the same month last year, due to most of the working population switched to Work From Home arrangements, and educational institutions provided teaching and learning with distance education technology. Therefore, this caused the demand for Hard Disk Drives and electronic data storage devices to increase, to support the growing demand for cloud and data centers.”*

### 3. Automotive Industry

#### ■ Automobile Production Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics; data collected from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries

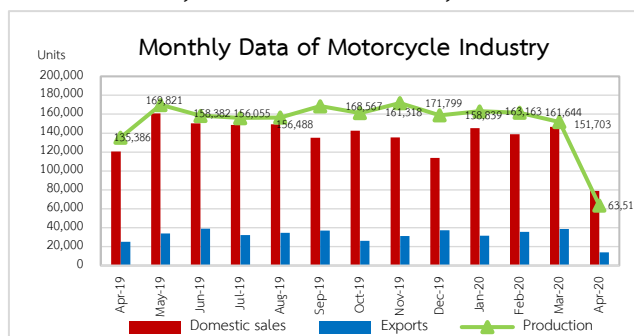
➔ **Automobile production** in April 2020 decreased by 83.17 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 24,711 units and dropped 83.55 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year, as the result of decreasing in production of passenger cars, 1-ton pick-up trucks and derivatives, and commercial vehicles.

➔ **Domestic sales of automobiles** in April 2020 was down 49.91 percent from March 2020 (%MoM) to 30,109 units and decreased by 65.02 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year due to the decrease in passenger car sales, 1-ton pick-up trucks and derivatives, commercial vehicles and PPV and SUV vehicles. The contraction was a result of the COVID-19 virus outbreak and lockdown measures to prevent and control the outbreak in Thailand. The measures caused demand for travel to decrease, affecting the decision to buy cars. Furthermore, financial institutions become more stringent in granting loans, and many automobile factories temporarily halted production in April-May.

➔ **The export of automobiles** in April 2020 decreased by 77.36 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 20,326 units and dropped 69.71 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. Exports of automobile to Asia, Oceania, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and Central and South America have dropped from the effect of COVID-19 virus outbreak in many countries around the world.

*"The automotive industry in May 2020 is expected to contract compared to May 2019 due to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak control measures in Thailand and many countries around the world, coupled with the slowing global and domestic economy."*

#### ■ Motorcycle Production Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics; data collected from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries

➔ **Motorcycle production** in April 2020 decreased by 58.13 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 63,517 units and decreased by 53.08 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year as the result of decreasing in production of multi-purpose and sport motorcycles.

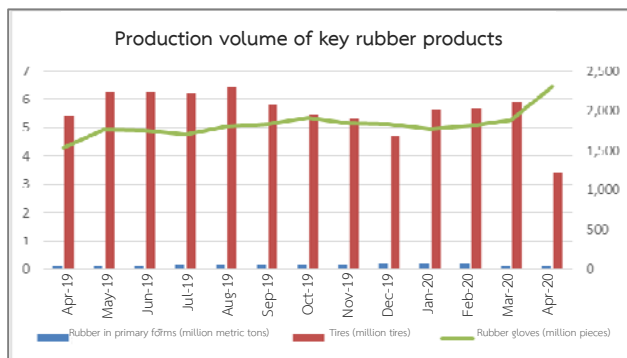
➔ **Domestic sales of motorcycles** in April 2020 decreased by 46.25 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 78,873 units and decreased by 34.49 percent (%YoY) over the same month last year due to a fall in sales of <50 cc, 51-110 cc, 111-125 cc, 126-250 cc, 251-399 cc, and ≥400 cc motorcycles.

➔ **Exports of motorcycles** in April 2020 decreased by 64.08 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 13,885 units and decreased by 44.08 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. Export markets to which shipment slow down were the UK, the US, and Japan.

*"The motorcycle industry in May 2020 is expected to contract compared to May 2019 due to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak control measures in Thailand and many countries around the world, coupled with the slowing global and domestic economy."*



#### 4. Rubber and Rubber Products Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

##### Production

➖ Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) decreased by 6.08 percent from decreased production of rubber sheets and blocks.

➖ Automotive tires decreased by 36.92 percent following the slowdown of overseas and domestic markets.

➕ Rubber gloves increased by 50.84 percent because of the situation of COVID-19 resulting in the higher demand for medical uses.

##### Domestic Sales

➖ Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) decreased by 8.80 percent in all products according to the decrease of demands.

➖ Automotive tires increased by 43.40 percent following the contraction of the automotive industry and replacement markets.

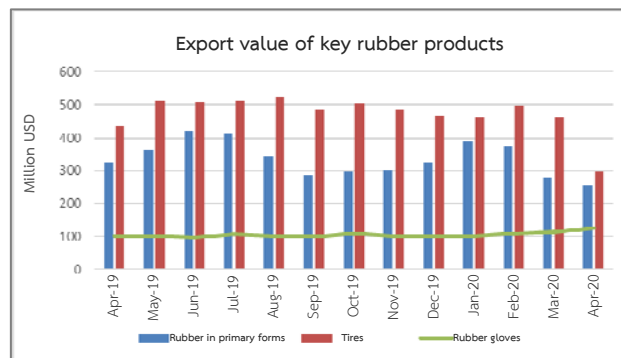
➕ Rubber gloves increased by 70.10 percent because of the increased purchased orders following higher medical demands.

##### Exports

➖ Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) decreased by 20.74 percent in value as China required less upstream rubber from Thailand as the domestic production of rubber products remained slow.

➖ Automotive tires decreased in export value by 32.02 percent following the slowdown of the US markets.

➕ Rubber gloves increased by 24.78 percent due to the expansion of the US, China, and Japan market.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

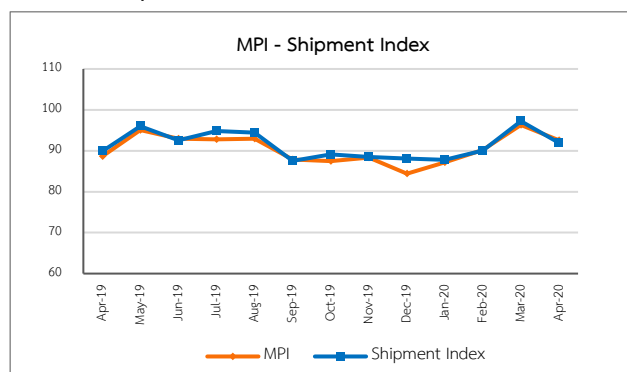
##### Outlook for the industry in May 2020

Production of processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and latex) are expected to decrease compared to the same period last year as domestic manufacturers exported less of their products, resulting in fuller stock and lack of liquidity. Production and sales of automotive tires are expected to slow down due to the slowdown of the export market, especially to the US, coupled with the contraction of the automotive industry, and the domestic replacement market. As for production and domestic sales of rubber gloves, it is expected to continue to grow from the previous month as a result of COVID-19 situation resulting in higher demands for medical uses and the higher purchasing orders.

Exports of processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and latex) and tires are expected to decrease in value due to the protracted outbreak of COVID-19, causing the manufacturing sector to slow down. It also caused the economic conditions in many countries to slow down, including in China, the US, and Malaysia, which are important trading partners of Thailand. As the US Trade Commission is in the process of investigating anti-dumping measures on passenger car and pickup truck tires in Thailand, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam, Thailand may face problems with tire exports in the next phase. Exports of rubber gloves are expected to increase in value due to the rising demand from the US, China, and Japan.

## 5. Plastics Industry

### MPI and Shipment Index



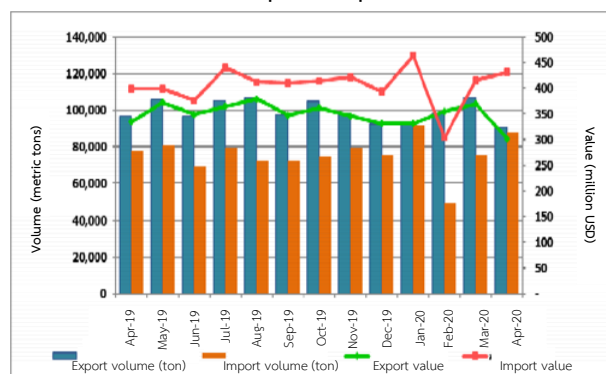
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

**+** The MPI of April 2020 was 92.60 points, an increase of 4.40 percent compared to the same period last year. The MPI grew among plastic packaging products, such as plastic sacks (18.04 percent), plastic bags (14.85 percent), and other plastic products (12.17 percent).

**+** The Shipment Index of April 2020 was 91.92 points, an increase of 2.01 percent compared to the same period last year. Plastic products that increased in the shipment index were the plastic sacks (16.78 percent), plastic bags (3.16 percent), and other plastic packaging (0.87 percent).

**-** Exports in April 2020 decreased by 9.58 percent compared to the same period last year to 301.67 million USD. Plastic products that contributed to the contraction of exports were floor coverings (HS 3918); tableware, kitchenware, other household articles (HS 3924), and other plastic plates, sheets, film, foil and strip (HS 3921); other articles of plastics (HS 3926); self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls (HS 3919), which decreased by 56.19, 33.86, 21.43, 17.37, and 13.91 percent, respectively. However, there were still plastic products that increased in export including monofilament fibers (HS 3916), plastic articles for the conveyance or packing of goods; plastic stoppers, lids, caps and other closures (HS 3923), which increased by 68.30 percent and 5.74 percent compared to the same period last year.

### Volume and value of exports-imports

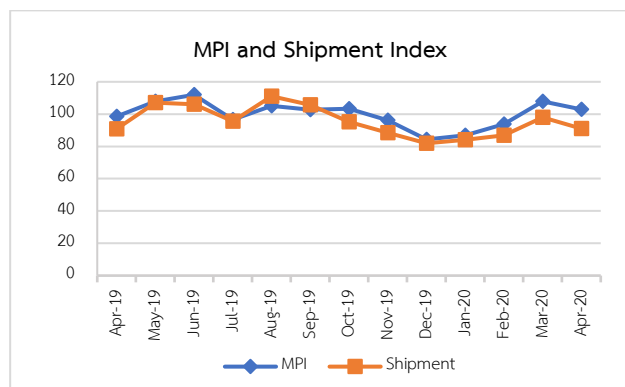


Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

**+** Imports in April 2020 grew 8.26 percent compared to the same period last year to 430.98 million USD. Key products that contributed to the increase of imports were plastics articles for the conveyance or packing of goods; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics (HS 3923), floor coverings of plastics (HS 3918), plastics plates, sheets, film, foil and strip (HS 3920), other plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics. (HS 2921), and other articles of plastics (HS 3926) which increased by 18.15 percent, 17.13 percent, 11.96 percent, and 10.43 percent, and 8.48 percent respectively, compared to the same period last year.

*Outlook for May 2020, production and exports are expected to remain slow because of the COVID-19 virus situation that affects the global economic recovery and may affect the plastic industry.*

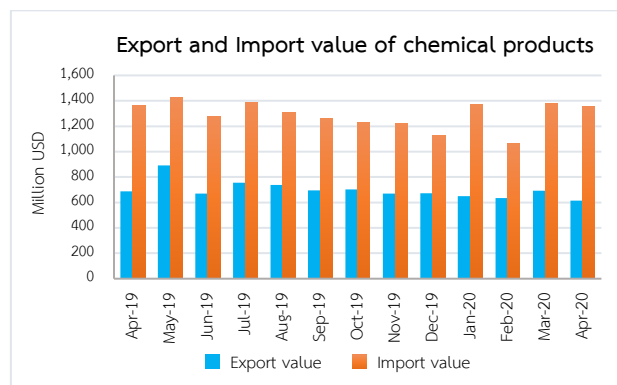
## 6. Chemical Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

**+** The manufacturing production index in April 2020 reached 102.89, an increase of 5.17 percent compared to the same period last year. Production in upstream chemical groups grew by 1.50 percent. The products with the highest growth were caustic soda, which grew 9.59 percent due to the demand in domestic downstream industries, such as the production of detergents and cleaning products. The downstream chemicals group grew by 6.42 percent. The product group with the highest production growth was the production of soap and detergents, which grew by 17.11 percent.

**-** The shipment index of the chemical industry in April 2020 contracted by 6.31 percent compared to the same period last year to 91.11 points. The shipment index in upstream chemicals dropped 17.23 percent from ethanol products. For the downstream chemical products, the shipment index dropped 2.98 percent from fertilizer and paint products, for example.



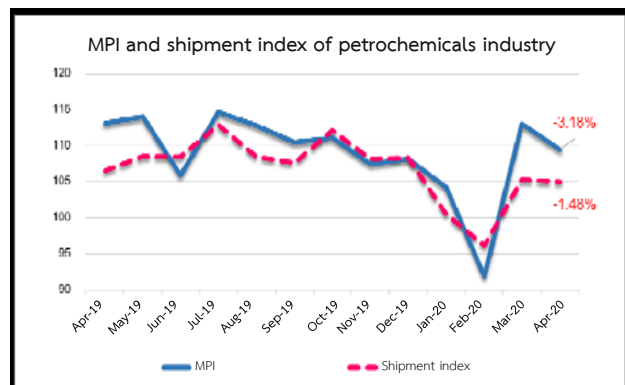
Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

**-** Exports in April 2020 decreased by 10.69 percent compared to the same period last year to 614.52 million USD. The decline of exports was in the upstream and downstream chemical products, whereby exports of upstream chemicals reached a value of 319.96 million USD, a decrease of 10.00 percent. Exports of downstream chemical products decreased by 11.42 percent to 294.55 million USD. Products that contributed to the decrease in export value were fertilizers, organic chemicals, and inorganic chemicals, which decreased by 24.80 percent, 31.38 percent, and 18.39 percent, respectively. Exports contracted in key markets such as Indonesia, India, China, Vietnam, etc.

**+** Imports in April 2020 reached 1,352.58 million USD, a growth of 0.80 percent compared to the same period last year. Upstream chemical groups reached an import value of 846.15 million USD, an increase of 2.56 percent. Products that caused imports to grow included miscellaneous chemicals for downstream chemicals, which decreased by 5.94 percent to a value of 506.43 million USD. Products with contracted import value were cosmetics, fertilizers, etc.

*Outlook for chemical industry in May 2020*, it is expected that production will increase, but exports will continue to drop. There are factors that need to be monitored, such as the COVID-19 virus situation that may affect the global economic recovery, coupled with the crude oil price situation in the world market, which is continuously decreasing.

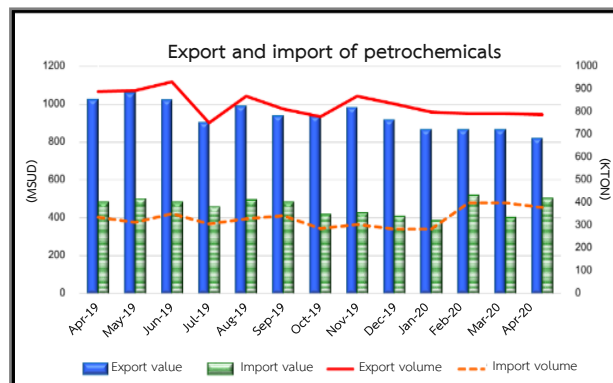
## 7. Petrochemicals Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

➔ **Manufacturing production index** in April 2020 was 109.49 points, decreasing 3.18 percent compared to the same period last year. The decrease of which was in the upstream petrochemicals used as precursors for the production of plastic pellets, e.g. ethylene (-3.79 percent) and downstream petrochemicals such as plastic pellets used in the production of foam, plastic packaging, and plastic products, including SAN resin, EPS resin, PVC resin, and PE resin, which grew by 15.91 percent, 6.43 percent, 5.74 percent, 3.99 percent, and 2.13 percent, respectively.

➔ **Shipment index** in April 2020 reached 104.97 points, a decrease of 1.48 percent compared to the same period last year. The decrease of which was in upstream petrochemicals used as precursors in the petrochemical industry such as ethylene (2.62 percent) and propylene (0.24 percent), and downstream petrochemical products used in the production of foam, plastic packaging and plastic products, such as EPS, PS, PVC, and PE resins contracted by 28.42 percent, 18.25 percent, 9.08 percent, and 4.51 percent, respectively.



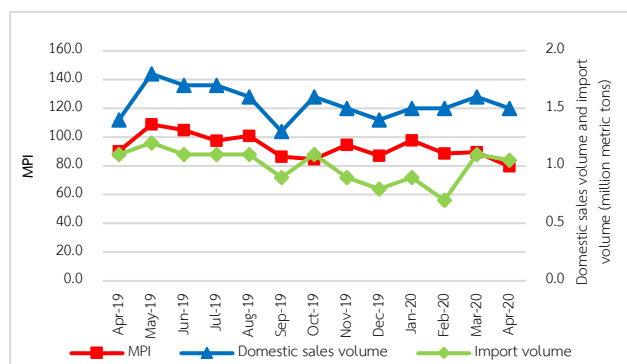
Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

➔ **Exports** in April 2020 valued 742.02 million USD, a contraction of 29.97 percent compared to the same period last year. The contraction was in upstream petrochemicals, e.g. Para-Xylene, Terephthalic Acid, Benzene, and Toluene that used as solvents and precursors in the petrochemical industry and in the downstream petrochemicals, e.g. PE, PP, PC, PET, and PVC resins, which used in the manufacturing of plastic packaging and products.

➔ **Imports** in April 2020 dropped 11.68 percent compared to the same period of the previous year to 440.31 million USD. The decrease of which was in basic petrochemicals, such as Para-Xylene, Acetic acid, Ethylene, Styrene, etc. used as solvents and precursors of the petrochemical industry and in the downstream petrochemicals, such as Nylon resin, PMMA resin, PES resin, and BR rubber used in the production of synthetic fibers, acrylic, and synthetic rubber.

The forecasted trend in May 2020 expects that overall exports will continue to slow compared to the same period of last year, due to the global crude oil prices continuously declining, resulting in the export price of petrochemical products to decrease accordingly. Furthermore, the economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic remains unclear.

## 8. Iron and Steel Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics / Iron and Steel Institute of Thailand

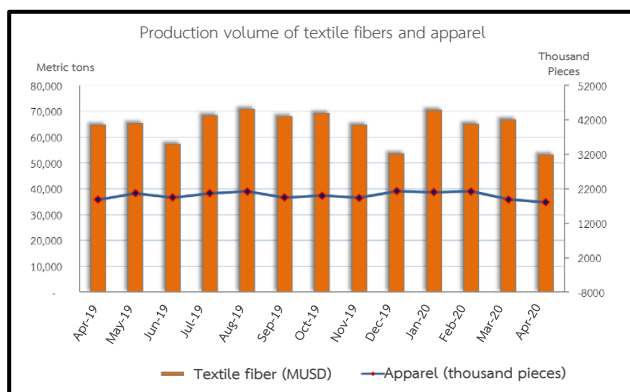
**➖ The MPI** in April 2020 reached 79.6 points, down 11.2 percent compared to the same period last year. When considered by key products, that are long and flat products, the MPI decreased in both product groups. In the long product group, the MPI dropped 4.3 percent to 85.7 points from the production of round bars, which declined by 43.7 percent because of the slowdown of downstream industries such as the construction industry. This was followed by hot rolled structural steel sections and wire rods, which decreased by 19.1 percent and 10.8 percent. For flat products, the MPI reached 67.1 points, a decrease of 25.7 percent from the production of cold rolled sheets, which decreased by 38.4 percent due to 1) The slowdown of the downstream industries such as the automobile industry and 2) Operators in downstream industries imported cheap products from foreign countries such as galvanized steel sheets, followed by coiled hot-rolled steel sheets, and galvanized steel sheets which contracted by 29.5 percent and 15.8 percent, respectively.

*“The trend of the steel industry in May 2020 is expected to decrease in production compared to the same period last year. Issues worth following include the global economic situation, the situation with the COVID-19 virus, and imports of foreign steel that will increase, partly due to lower steel prices such as hot-rolled steel, galvanized steel sheets, and rebar. The issues must be closely monitored as it will affect the production quantity and domestic steel product consumption.”*

**➕ Domestic sales** in April 2020 reached 1.5 million metric tons, an increase of 0.2 percent compared to the same period last year. The growth was from the distribution of long products, which had a sales volume of 0.6 million metric tons, an increase of 11.2 percent due to the sales of wire rods, which increased by 16.9 percent, steel bars, and hot-rolled structural steel sections which increased by 0.04 percent. However, products in the flat steel group reached a sales volume of 0.9 million metric tons, a contraction by 5.9 percent as the consumption of hot-rolled steel plates contracted by 55.7 percent, followed by chromium-coated sheets and hot-rolled sheets that contracted by 1.2 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

**➖ Imports** in April 2020 decreased by 2.0 percent compared to the same period last year to 1.0 million metric tons. Imports of both long and flat products decreased. The import volume for long products reached 0.2 million metric tons, down 3.9 percent from the import of alloy steel bars which decreased by 44.0 percent (Japan and China were the key countries from which imports of the products decreased). This followed by hot-rolled structural carbon steel sections and stainless-steel bars which decreased by 32.2 percent and 27.0 percent, respectively. Imports of flat products decreased by 1.4 percent to a volume of 0.8 million metric tons, from the decreased imports of hot-rolled alloy steel plates (78.5 percent)—Japan and China were the key countries from which imports of the products decreased. This followed by cold-formed structural steel sections and hot-rolled plates which decreased by 66.8 percent and 55.4 percent, respectively.

## 9. Textile and Wearing Apparel Industry



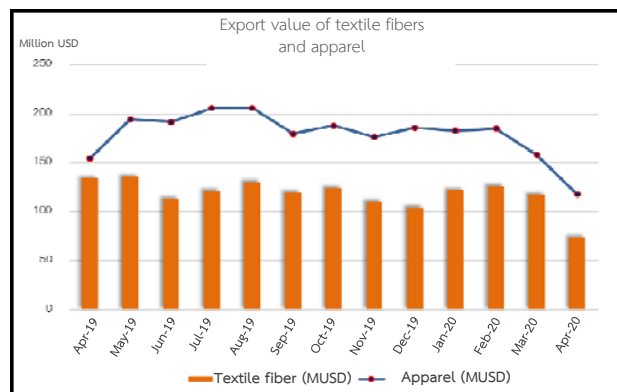
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

### Production

➔ Production of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 17.75 percent, 42.38 percent, and 3.77 percent (%YoY), respectively, due to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. This resulted in the slowdown of exports of apparel and domestic purchasing power causing the production of upstream raw materials to finished apparel to decrease.

### Domestic sales

➔ Domestic sales of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 36.57 percent, 38.14 percent, and 24.32 percent (%YoY) respectively, as the result of decreasing demands for raw material to export, including the slowdown of domestic purchasing power from the outbreak of COVID-19.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

### Exports

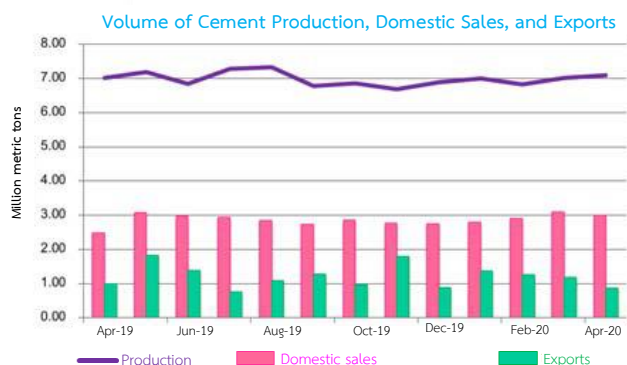
➔ Exports of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 44.80 percent, 38.79 percent and 23.57 percent (%YoY) from the global spread of the COVID-19 virus, which disrupted international trade, resulting in the global economic slowdown. The main markets that contracted were China, the US, the EU, and Japan.

### Outlook for May 2020

The textile and apparel industry are expected to slow down following domestic purchasing power and the global economy in all countries affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

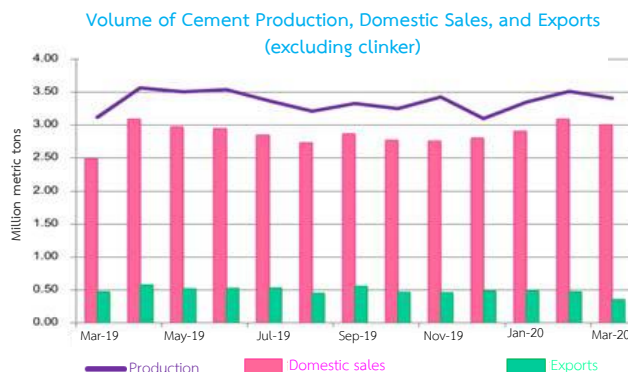
## 10. Cement Industry

### Overall Cement Industry



Source: 1. Domestic production and sales volume: Division of Industrial Economics Information and Indices, The Office of Industrial Economics  
2. Export volume: Information and Communication Technology Center, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

### Cement Industry (excluding clinker)



Source: 1. Domestic production and sales volume: Division of Industrial Economics Information and Indices, The Office of Industrial Economics  
2. Export volume: Information and Communication Technology Center, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

**+** *Total production of cement* in April 2020 increased by 1.14 percent from March 2020 (%MoM) to 7.09 million metric tons and increased by 1.18 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

**+** *Total domestic sales of cement* in April 2020 decreased by 2.66 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 3.01 million metric tons but increased by 20.91 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

**-** *Total exports of cement* decreased by 27.14 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 0.86 million metric tons and decreased by 13.55 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. This was due to the order reduction and cancellation from the countries affected by the outbreak of COVID-19.

May 2020 outlook for the cement production industry when compared to the same period last year, is expected to continue to decline due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, which continues to prolong, causing a negative impact on the economy and consumers' purchasing power in real estate sectors.

**+** *Cement production* (excluding clinker) decreased by 3.05 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 3.40 million metric tons but increased by 9.13 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

**+** *Domestic sales of cement* (excluding clinker) decreased by 2.66 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 3.01 million metric tons but increased by 20.87 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

**-** *Export of cement* (excluding clinker) in April 2020 decreased by 25.68 percent (%MoM) from March 2020 to 0.35 million metric tons and decreased by 25.33 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year, resulting from many key export markets were affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19.

Outlook for the cement industry (excluding clinker) in May 2020, it is expected that the production continues to decline due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus compared to the same period last year.