

Industrial Production Status

Indicators	2017	2018	2019											2020		
			Year	Year	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year	Jan.
MPI*	1.8	3.7	-2.5	1.5	-3.2	-5.1	-3.2	-4.4	-5.0	-8.0	-8.0	-4.4	-3.6	-4.0	-4.2	-11.2

The industrial economy in **March 2020**, when considered from the **Manufacturing Production Index (MPI)**, contracted by **11.25 percent** from the same period last year.

When considering MPI data for the past three months compared to the previous year (% YoY), production in December 2019, January 2020, and February 2020 shrank 4.4 percent, 4.0 percent, and 4.2 percent, respectively.

Indicators	2019											2020		
	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Apr.	
MPI*	9.9	-17.6	9.5	-3.6	-0.6	0.6	-3.4	-1.2	1.0	1.8	5.1	-2.9	1.9	

During the past three months (December 2019, January 2020, and February 2020), the MPI change rates (%MoM) were as follows: an increase of 1.8 percent and 5.1 percent in December 2019 and January 2020, respectively but a decrease of 2.9 percent in February 2020.

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

- Sugar contracted by 68.9 percent because sugar factories stopped the milling process earlier than last year (milling ended on May 8, 2019, last year, but this year milling stop on March 29, 2020). The quantity of sugarcane was less than the previous year due to droughts, causing the sugar yield per ton of sugarcane to be lower than last year.
- Automobiles and engines contracted by 24.6 percent from the export market, which was affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus. In the domestic market, consumers delayed their purchases.
- Petroleum refinery contracted by 8.7 percent due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, which affected tourism since February and intensified in March. As a result, jet and diesel fuel, which is used in traveling, is reduced.

Key industries that remained on the rise in March 2020 compared to the same month last year were as follows:

- Hard Disk Drives increased by 10.2 percent from increased production orders after a problem in the Chinese production chain, coupled with the shutdown of production bases in Malaysia and the Philippines
- Air-conditioners and parts increased by 4.2 percent from increased exports to Japan, Vietnam, and Indonesia, with increased purchase orders. Furthermore, there were more orders from customers of competitors that lacked components in production.

Other Industrial Economic Indicators in March 2020

Other Industrial Economic Indicators in March 2020

■ Imports of Thailand Industrial Sector



Source: Ministry of Commerce

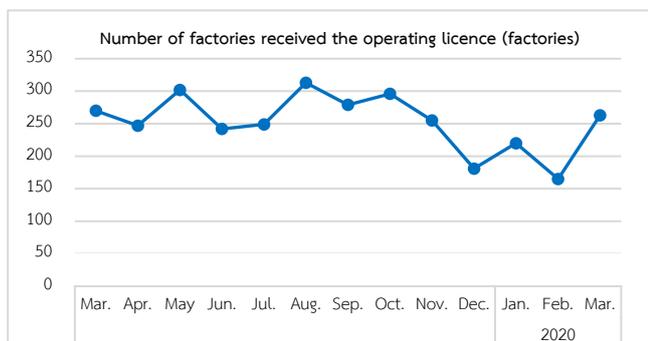


Source: Ministry of Commerce

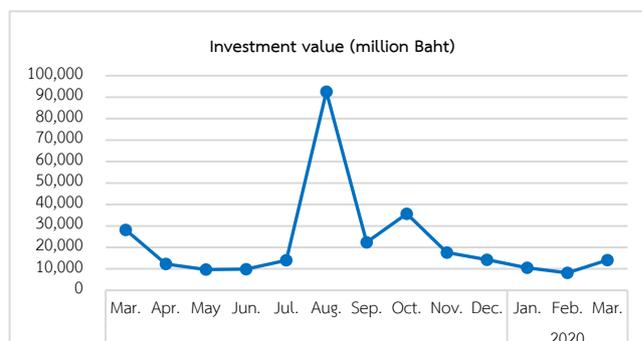
⊖ Import of industrial machinery and parts in March 2020 dropped 4.9 percent compared to the same month last year to 1,440.7 million USD, from the decreased imports of engines, transmission shafts and other parts, machinery and parts for other manufacturing, machinery and parts for construction, etc. However, imports of jet turbine and parts, air pumps, and fluid pumps remained on the rise.

⊕ Import of raw and semi-finished goods (excluding gold) in March 2020 grew by 4.7 percent compared to the same month last year to 7,206.80 million USD. The growth was from the imports of electrical/electronic equipment and parts, chemical products, iron, steel and products, etc.

Industrial Operation Status



Source: Department of Industrial Works



Source: Department of Industrial Works

- + The total number of factories licensed for operation in March 2020 was 263 factories, which increased by 59.39 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 but decreased by 2.59 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

- + The total investment from factories licensed for operating in March 2020 increased by 73.37 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 14,101 million baht but decreased by 49.96 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

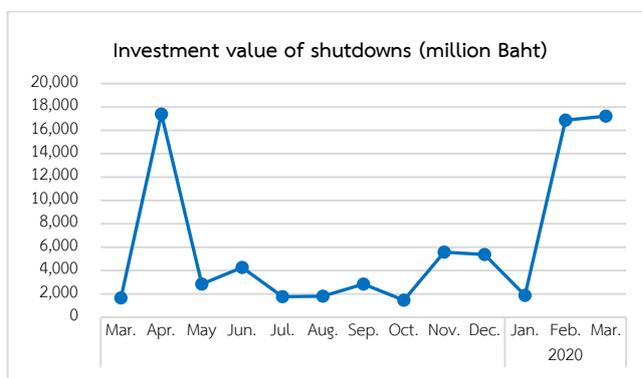
"The industry which had the highest number of newly licensed factories to operate in March 2020 was the extraction and dredging of gravel, sand, or soil industry (24 factories), followed by the mixing and blending of petroleum products (18 factories)."

"The industry with the highest investment value in March 2020 was the production of electricity through thermal energy with the investment value of 1,765.21 million Baht, followed by the warehousing and storage of plants, seeds, or plant products in a silo, storehouse, or warehouse with the investment value of 1,753.64 million Baht."

■ Industrial Operation Status (cont.)



Source: Department of Industrial Works



Source: Department of Industrial Works

➕ A total of 62 factories were shut down in March 2020, a decrease of 12.68 percent (% MoM) from February 2020 and a decrease of 61.01 percent (% YoY) from the same month last year.

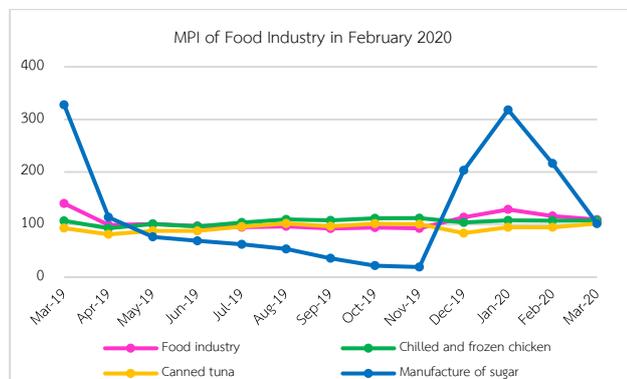
➖ The lost investment value on shutdown in March 2020 increased 1.96 percent from February 2020 (%MoM) to 17,210 million Baht and increased by 937.73 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

“In March 2020, the industry with the highest number of factory shutdowns was the excavation and dredging of gravel, sand, or soil (7 factories), followed by the sand dredging industry (3 factories).”

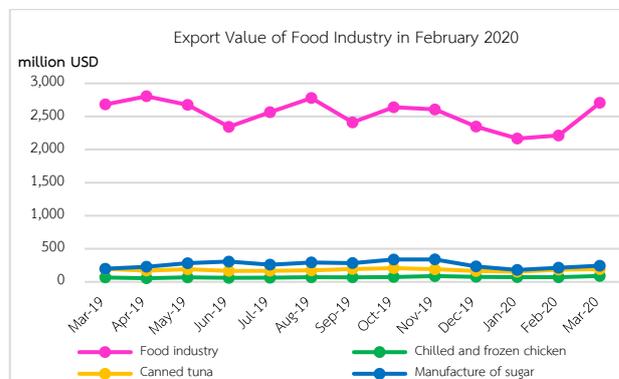
“In March 2020, the industry which had the highest operation shutdown with the highest value of investment was the stemming and redrying industry of tobacco with the investment value of 14,789 million Baht, followed by the manufacturing industry of ready-made meals and dishes from animal meat, fat, hide, and skin with the investment value of 700 million Baht.”

Industrial Economic Status by Industrial Sectors in March 2020

1. Food Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics



Source: Ministry of Commerce

➖ Production of food product in March 2020 decreased by 21.9 percent (%YoY). The main factor was the impact of the drought situation. The product groups were classified as follows:

1) Export-orientated products decreased in MPI. Products included (1) Sugar, whereby the MPI decreased by 68.9 percent from droughts, causing sugar factories stopped the milling process earlier than last year (milling ended on May 8, 2019, last year, but this year milling stop on March 29, 2020). Production of sugar decreased by 43.27 percent from the previous year. (2) Canned pineapple dropped by 10.2 percent in MPI, as raw materials fell, causing prices to increase. As a result, the export volume decreased by 13.5 percent from key markets such as the US, Russia, and Germany. (3) Chilled and frozen shrimp and squid dropped in MPI by 2.6 percent due to the slowdown in consumption in key foreign markets, such as the US, Japan, and China, due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus outbreak which resulted in border closures. Demand for consumption decreased, and there were increased obstacles in transportation.

2) Domestic-orientation products, whereby the MPI of palm oil fell by 21.7 percent, as the result of drought and the decrease in domestic consumption demands.

However, the food industry has benefited from the covid-19 virus outbreak. As a result, MPI of following products increased: (1) Instant food such as canned tuna and instant noodles increased by 9.4 and 7.8 percent respectively (2) Fresh, chilled, and frozen fish increased by 22.8 percent, including the production of prepared animal feeds increased by 1.6 percent.

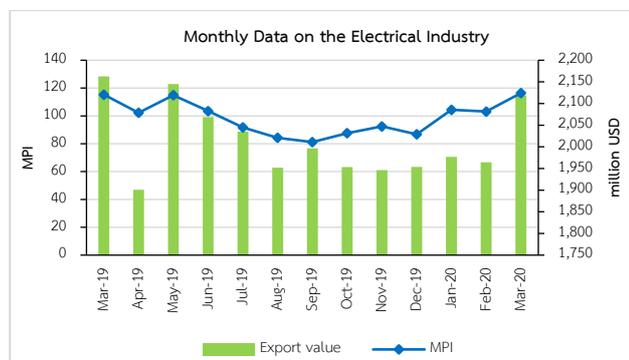
➕ The domestic sales of food products in March 2020 increased by 4.1 percent as demand for food reserve grew, from concerns of the COVID-19 virus outbreak.

➕ Export markets in March 2020, the overall value of food products in March reached 2,706.03 million USD, a growth by 0.8 percent from the same period last year (%YoY) due to consumer demand and food reserves, with concerns about the intensified outbreak of the COVID-19 virus resulting in border closures in countries such as China, the US, Hong Kong, and the UK. Key products that expanded were chilled and frozen chicken, sugar, canned pineapple, canned sardines, instant noodles and instant foods, seasonings, and cassava. The export value of chilled and frozen fruits also increased, although the volume decreased by more than 18.7 percent.

Industry Outlook. In April, the MPI in the overall food industry is expected to decrease from the same period last year, with negative factors such as reduced quantities of raw materials in agricultural products such as sugarcane, palm oil, and pineapple. Meanwhile, the export value is expected to increase slightly from the same period last year following the needs of the domestic market, with accelerated production for food reserves during the COVID-19 virus outbreak, coupled with confidence in food safety, shelf life as well as ease of transportation and distribution of goods and ease of food preparation. Furthermore, foreign markets will need to stock products from concerns about the pandemic.

2. Electrical and Electronics Industry

■ Electrical Industry



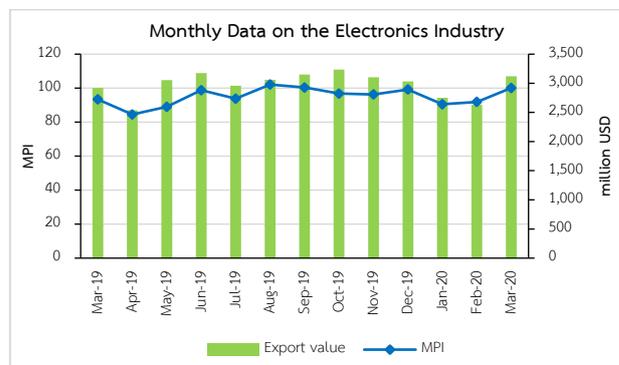
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics, Electrical and Electronics Institute, and Ministry of Commerce

+ Production of electrical appliances increased by 0.9 percent compared to the same month last year with the MPI of 116.4 points. The products that increased in production were electrical transformers (37.7 percent), electrical cables (19.7 percent), cables (8.6 percent), air-conditioners (4.8 percent), and microwave ovens (1.6 percent). Whereby, air-conditioners and electrical transformers increased in sales in domestic and overseas markets, while electrical cables and cables increased in sales in domestic market. Products that decreased in production were washing machines (21.1 percent), thermos (17.9 percent), electric motors (15.5 percent), household fans (15.2 percent), rice cooker (2.4 percent), and refrigerator (0.2 percent). The decrease of household fans, washing machines, thermos, rice cooker, and electric motors resulted from fewer domestic and overseas orders, whereas production of refrigerator decreased from the decline domestic sales.

- Exports of electrical appliances decreased by 2.0 percent compared to the same month last year to 2,118.3 million USD from the US, Europe, and Japan, which decreased purchase orders of washing/dry-cleaning machines and parts by 25.7 percent to 107.8 million USD. Meanwhile, orders of air-conditioners and parts increased by 6.2 percent to 553.5 million USD, and orders of rice cookers, grills, roasters increased by 6.7 percent to 31.9 million USD from China, the US, ASEAN, and Europe markets.

"Production in April 2020, in the electrical appliances industry, is expected to decrease by 2.3 percent compared to the same month last year, due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak in Japan, Europe, and the US, which continued to increase. The situation will cause the electrical appliances industry to slow down and cause uncertainty in demand."

■ Electronics Industry



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

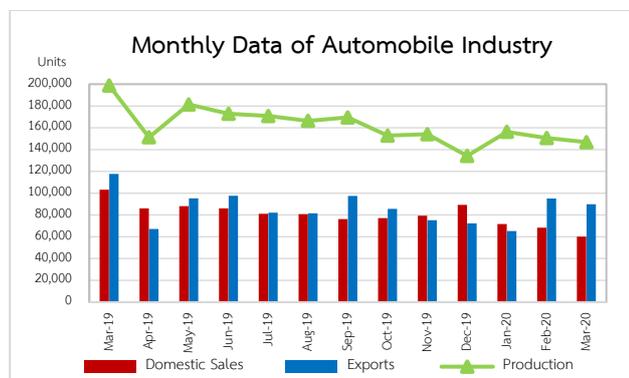
+ Production of electronics increased by 5.6 percent compared to the same month last year, reaching an MPI of 100.1 points. Products that increased in production were semiconductor devices transistor (35.0 percent), HDDs (13.7 percent), and PCBAs (4.7 percent) because of increased orders from overseas. Meanwhile, production of electronics that decreased were printers (29.6 percent) and ICs (1.0 percent) as domestic and overseas demands dropped.

- Exports of electronics increased by 6.9 percent compared to the same month last year to 3,120.7 million USD. Exports of HDD products to China, the US, and Europe rose 46.9 percent to 1,209.7 million USD. However, exports of ICs decreased by 5.4 percent to 599.9 million USD, because of decreased orders from the US, ASEAN, and Europe markets.

"Production in April 2020, in the electronics industry, is expected to increase by 7.5 percent compared to the same month last year, due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. As a result, 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

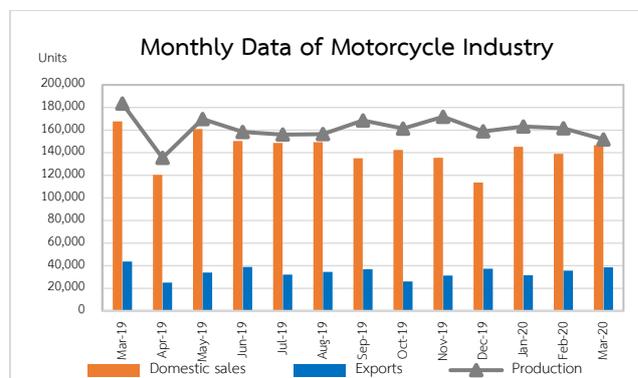
➖ **Automobile production** in March 2020 decreased by 2.52 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 146,812 units and dropped 26.16 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year, as the result of decreasing in production of passenger cars, 1-ton pick-up trucks and derivatives, and commercial vehicles.

➖ **Domestic sales of automobiles** in March 2020 decreased by 11.96 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 60,105 units and decreased by 41.74 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year due to the decrease in sales of passenger cars, 1-ton pick-up trucks and derivatives, commercial vehicles, PPVs and SUVs, as the result of temporary production shutdown following measures to stop the Covid-19 outbreak, including the domestic economic slowdown, drought, and delayed budget disbursement.

➖ **The export of automobiles** in March 2020 decreased by 5.67 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 89,795 units and dropped 23.71 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. Exports of automobile to Asia, Oceania, Africa, Europe have dropped from the effect of COVID-19 virus outbreak in many countries around the world.

"The automotive industry in April 2020 is expected to contract compared to April 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

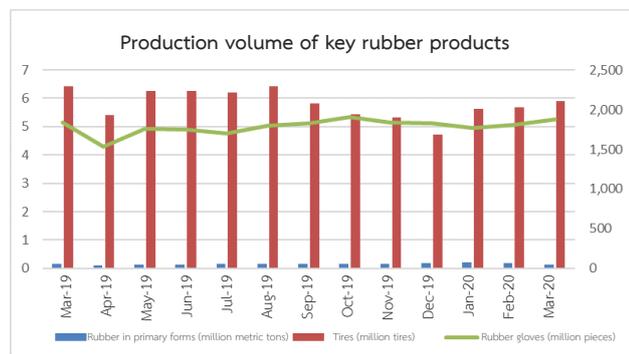
➖ **Motorcycle production** in March 2020 decreased by 6.15 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 151,703 units and decreased by 17.29 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year as the result of decreasing in production of multi-purpose and sport motorcycles.

➕ **Domestic sales of motorcycles** in March 2020 increased by 5.57 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 146,740 units but decreased by 12.54 percent (%YoY) over the same month last year due to a fall in sales of 51-110 cc and 111-125 cc motorcycles.

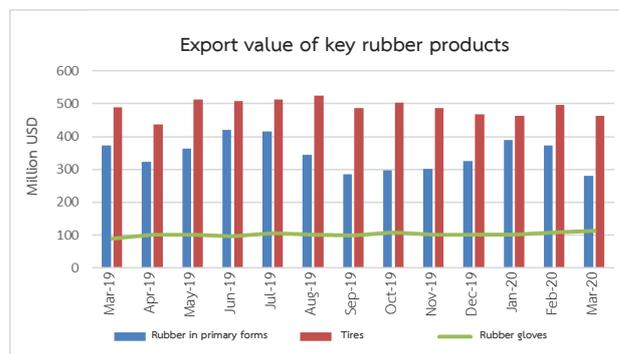
➕ **Exports of motorcycles** in March 2020 increased by 8.62 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 38,655 units and increased by 9.34 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. Exports of motorcycle grew to Belgium, China, and Japan.

"The motorcycle industry in April 2020 is expected to contract compared to April 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



Source: Ministry of Commerce

Production

➖ Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) dropped 8.00 percent from decreased production of rubber sheets and blocks.

➖ Automotive tires decreased by 7.97 percent following the slowdown of overseas and domestic markets.

➕ Rubber gloves increased by 2.50 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) increased by 3.38 percent, from increasing concentrated latex used in rubber glove manufacturing.

➖ Automotive tires increased by 12.75 percent following the contraction of the automotive industry and replacement markets.

➕ Rubber gloves increased by 65.21 percent because of the increased purchased orders following higher medical demand.

Exports

➖ Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) decreased by 24.73 percent from country border closure policies in China and Malaysia, causing Thai exports to decline.

➖ Automotive tires decreased in export value by 5.62 percent following the slowdown of Malaysia, the US, and Vietnam markets.

➕ Rubber gloves increased by 25.12 percent due to the expansion of the China market from the COVID-19 situation, causing demand in China and the US to increase, which are key export markets of Thailand.

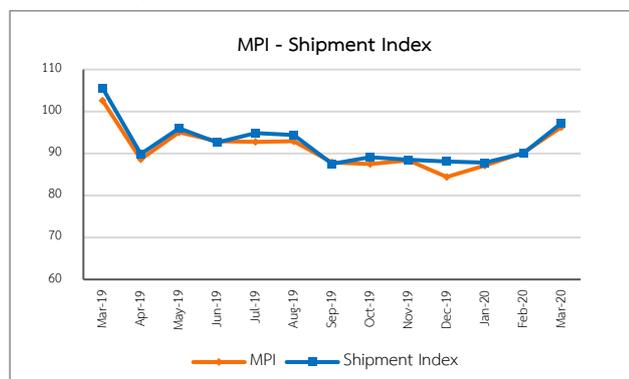
Outlook for the industry in April 2020

Upstream processed rubber (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and latex) are expected to decrease compared to the same period last year. The contraction comes from issues in exporting products, causing some manufacturers to be unable to produce more tires, due to full inventory and a lack of liquidity. The production and sales of tires are expected to slow down due to the contraction of the domestic automotive industry, replacement market, and export markets. Production and domestic sale of rubber gloves are expected to grow continuously from the previous month because of the COVID-19 situation, which results in higher demand for medical uses and, therefore, higher purchase orders.

Exports of upstream processed rubber (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and latex) and tires are expected to decrease in value due to the prolonged pandemic outbreak in many countries, including China, Malaysia, and the US, which are essential trading partner countries to Thailand. The countries implemented measures to close their borders to the spread of the disease. As a result, Thailand was unable to export products. Meanwhile, exports of rubber gloves are expected to increase in value due to the rising demand in China, the US, Japan, and Germany.

5. Plastics Industry

MPI and Shipment Index



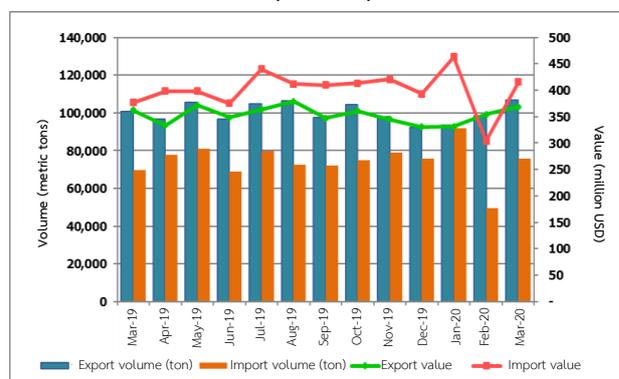
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

- The MPI of March 2020 was 96.31 points, a contraction of 6.26 percent compared to the same period last year. The MPI shrank in many product groups, such as plastic films (21.86 percent), plastic sacks (19.37 percent), and plastic sheets (16.53 percent).

- The Shipment Index of March 2020 was 97.24 points, down 8.29 percent compared to the same period last year. Plastic products that decreased in shipment index were the tableware, kitchenware, and toilet articles (27.21 percent), followed plastic film (23.24 percent) and plastic sacks (17.83 percent).

+ Exports in March 2020 increased by 1.87 percent compared to the same period last year to 368.77 million USD. Plastic products with the highest increase in exports were floor coverings (HS 3918) with an increase of 17.20 percent, followed by plastic articles for the conveyance or packing of goods (HS 3923) with an increase of 11.15 percent and other plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics (HS 3921), which increased by 6.38 percent. Exports grew in key markets such as the US, Vietnam, and Indonesia.

Volume and value of exports-imports

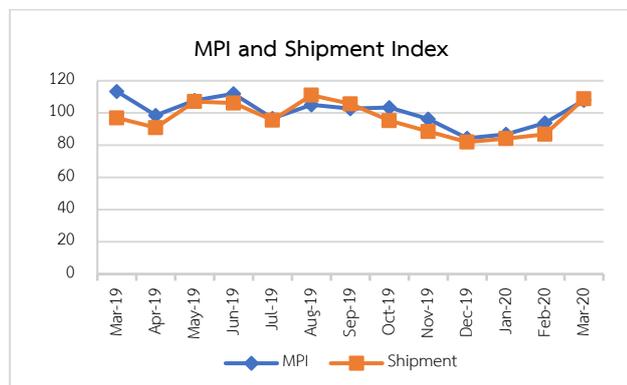


Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

+ Imports in March 2020 grew 10.27 percent compared to the same period last year to 415.31 million USD. Major products that contributed to the increased in import were other plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics (HS 3921), monofilament (HS 3916), and plastic articles for the conveyance or packing of goods (HS 3923), which increased by 21.22 percent, 20.77 percent, and 17.59 percent, respectively.

April 2020 outlook for plastic industry, it is predicted the production continue to contract, but exports are expected to expand. However, there are still factors that need to be monitored, such as the situation of the COVID-19 virus that will affect the global economic recovery and may affect the plastic industry.

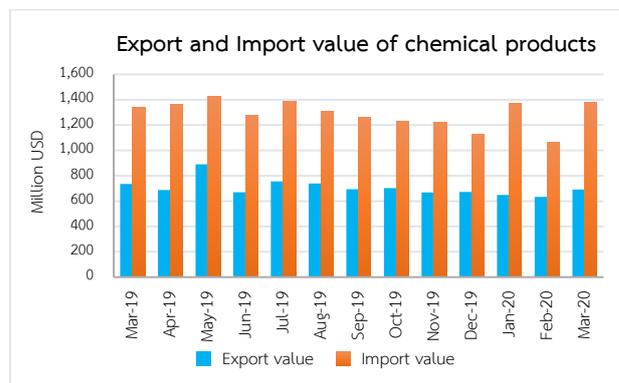
6. Chemical Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

- The manufacturing production index in March 2020 reached 107.88 points, contracting by 3.90 percent compared to the same period last year. Production of upstream chemical groups grew by 1.45 percent, whereby products with the highest growth were ethanol, which grew by 9.20 percent due to the market demand for products such as hand washing gel. Downstream chemical groups contracted by 5.48 percent. The products with the highest production contractions were paint production, which contracted by 11.13 percent.

- The shipment index of the chemical industry in March 2020 reached 108.78, a contraction by 3.20 percent compared to the same period last year. The shipping index in upstream chemical groups grew by 1.45 percent from growth in ethanol products. For the downstream chemical groups, the shipping index contracted by 4.43 percent, falling in the areas of paint and fertilizer products, for example.



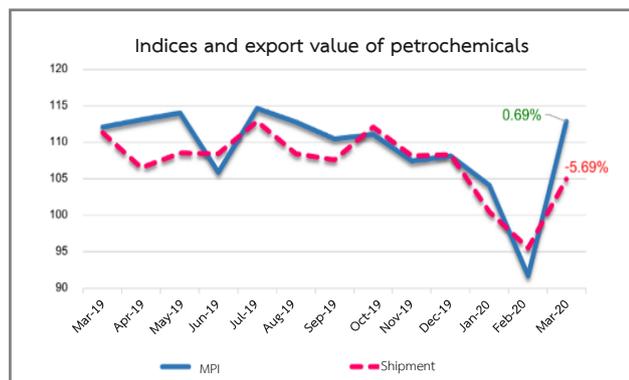
Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

- Exports in March 2020 decreased by 5.93 percent compared to the same period last year to 691.54 million USD. The decline was in the upstream and downstream chemical products. Exports of upstream chemicals reached a value of 368.85 million USD, a decrease of 3.70 percent. Exports of downstream chemical products decreased by 8.35 percent to 322.69 million USD. Products that contributed to the decrease in export value were cosmetic (18.76 percent), organic chemicals (17.41 percent) and organic chemicals (6.14 percent). Exports contracted in key markets such as China, Indonesia, India, and Malaysia.

+ Imports in March 2020 reached 1,379.46 million USD, a growth of 3.14 percent compared to the same period last year. Upstream chemical groups reached an import value of 913.26 million USD, an increase of 8.46 percent. Products that caused imports to grow included organic chemicals, surfactants, and paints. Downstream chemicals reached an import value of 466.20 million USD, a contraction by 5.90 percent. Products with contracted imports included cosmetics and fertilizers, for example

Outlook for Chemical industry, it is expected that production and export will increase in April 2020, However, there are still 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.

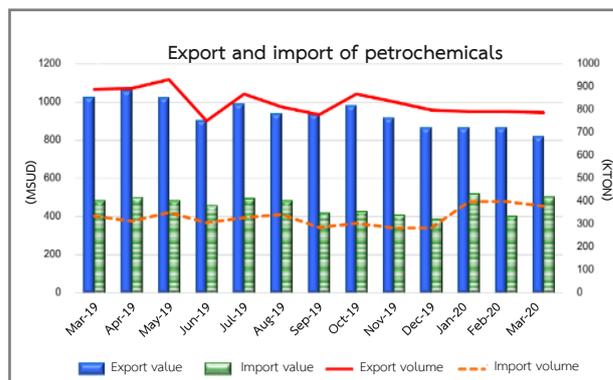
7. Petrochemicals Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

+ **Manufacturing production index** in March 2020 increased by 0.69 percent compared to the same period last year. The growth was in upstream petrochemicals that included solvents for cleaning agents, namely Toluene, which grew by 15.91 percent. Downstream petrochemicals that increased were product groups used to produce resins for injection molding or as composite plastics to adjust properties the most (such as molding parts and medical equipment, for example). ABS resin grew by 137.53 percent, followed by plastic pellets for the production of plastic packaging, plastics, and foam products, including SAN resin, EPS resin, PVC resin, and PE resin, which grew by 38.43 percent, 6.42 percent, 5.22 percent, and 2.72 percent, respectively.

- **Shipment index** in March 2020 reached 104.97 points, a decrease of 5.69 percent compared to the same period last year. The decrease was in upstream petrochemicals used as precursors in the petrochemical industry such as propylene (6.60 percent) and ethylene (4.09 percent), and downstream petrochemical products used in the production of plastic packaging and other plastics, such as PP, ABS, PS, PVC, and PE resins contracted by 12.10 percent, 10.95 percent, 7.09 percent, 6.60 percent, and 6.09 percent, respectively.



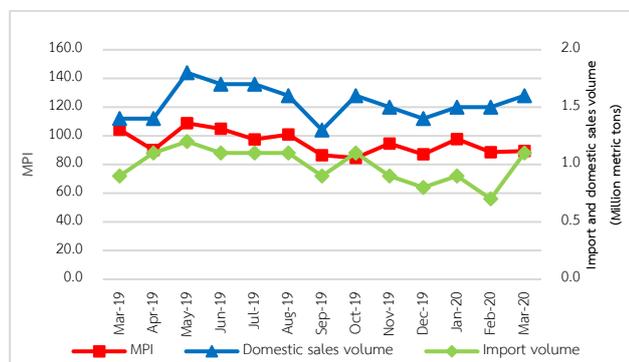
Source: Customs Department, Ministry of Finance

- **Exports** in March 2020 valued 819.16 million USD, a contraction of 20.00 percent compared to the same period last year. The contraction was in upstream petrochemicals—Paraxylene, Terephthalic Acid, and Toluene—that used as solvents and precursors in the petrochemical industry and in the downstream petrochemical such as PE, PP, PC, and PET resins, which used in the manufacturing of plastic packaging and products and drinking water bottles.

+ **Imports** in March 2020 grew by 3.65% compared to the same period of the previous year to 500.55 million USD because of the increased demand for raw materials used in the medical industry. The increase arose from basic petrochemicals—such as Acetic Acid, Ethylene, Propylene Oxide, Butylene, Acrylonitrile—used as precursors for the petrochemical industry, and downstream petrochemicals used in the production of synthetic rubber, packaging and plastic products, and synthetic fibers—such as BR rubber, Nylon resin, PES resin, and ABS resin—for the production of masks, face shields, safety glasses, rubber gloves, boots, etc.

Outlook for petrochemicals industry in April 2020, it is expected that overall exports continue to slowdown compared to the same period of the previous year due to the continuously decreasing crude oil prices in the world market, resulting in the reduced price of petrochemical products accordingly. However, due to the outbreak of the new strain of viruses (COVID-19) that began to be controlled in many countries, it may be a good sign that economic trends will start to improve compared to the first quarter of 2020.

8. Iron and Steel Industry



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

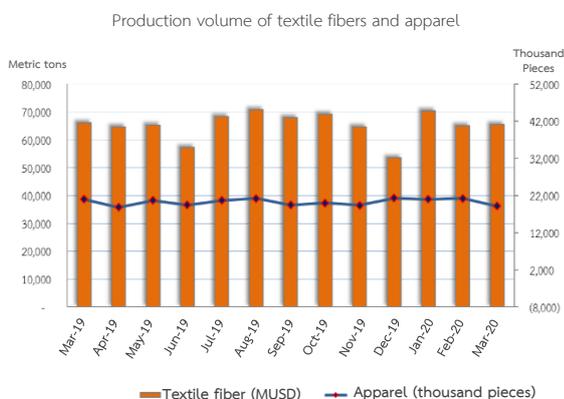
– The MPI in March 2020 reached 89.4 points, down 16.2 percent compared to the same period last year. When considered by key products, that are long and flat products, the MPI decreased in both product groups. In the long products group, the MPI reached 90.5 points, a decrease of 15.8 percent due to the production of round bars, which declined by 62.4 percent due to the slowdown of downstream industries such as the construction industry in private sectors, resulting in lower production and consumption demand. This was followed by hot-rolled structural steel and wire rods, which decreased by 21.9 percent and 18.0 percent. For flat products, the MPI reached 83.3 points, a decrease of 16.4 percent from the production of tin plates, which decreased by 24.1 percent from the slowdown of downstream industries such as the packaging industry of canned fruit. This was followed by galvanized sheets and hot-rolled coiled sheets, which decreased by 20.5 percent and 14.8 percent, respectively.

+ Domestic sales in March 2020 reached a sales volume of 1.6 million tons, an increase of 6.9 percent over the same period last year. Long products reached a sales volume of 0.6 million metric tons, an increase of 2.7 percent from the sales of wire rods, which increased by 25.1 percent. Flat products reached a sales volume of 1.0 million metric tons, an increase of 9.8 percent due to the consumption of galvanized sheets (both HDG and EG) which increased by 33.8 percent, followed by cold-rolled plates and hot-rolled sheets which increased by 1.2 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

+ Imports in March 2020 increased by 19.9 percent compared to the same period last year to 1.1 million metric tons. Imports of both long and flat products increased. The import volume for long products reached 0.3 million metric tons, up 32.7 percent from the import of hot-rolled carbon steel structural sections which increased by 288.6 percent (Malaysia and China were the key countries where Thailand increased imports of the products.). This followed by Carbon steel wire rods and alloy steel wire rods which increased by 65.0 percent and 55.7 percent, respectively. Flat products reached an import volume of 0.8 million metric tons, up 15.7 percent from the imports of hot dipped galvanized sheets which increased by 80.9 percent (China and South Korea were major countries where Thailand lowered imports of the products), and followed by hot-rolled stainless steel plates which increased by 43.5 percent and 41.1 percent, respectively.

“Outlook for April 2020, the industry is expected to decrease in production compared to the same period last year. Issues that are worth following include the global economy, the COVID-19 virus, and steel imports from China, which are expected to increase as the prices of Chinese steel decreases, from the Chinese government’s supporting measures of steel product exports. The said issue must be closely monitored as it will affect the production quantity and consumption of steel products.”

9. Textile and Wearing Apparel Industry



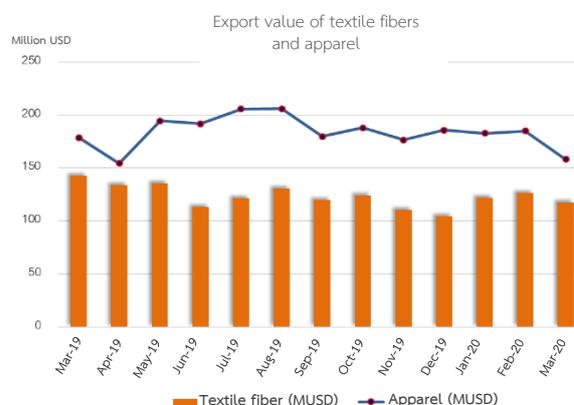
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

Production

Production of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 1.15 percent, 11.40 percent, and 8.67 percent (%YoY), respectively, from the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak, which slowed the exports of apparel and domestic purchasing power. As a result, the production of upstream raw materials reduced as well.

Domestic sales

Domestic sales of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 17.31 percent, 19.14 percent, and 36.51 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

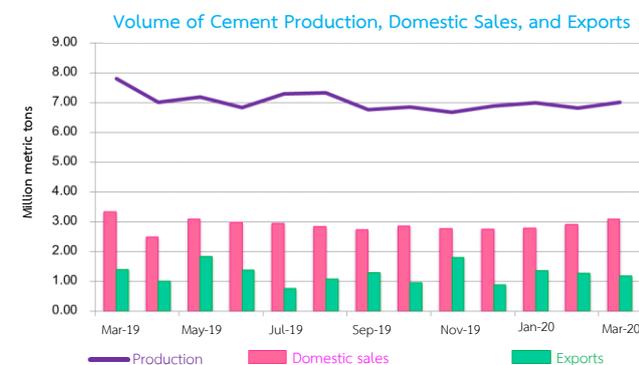
Exports of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 17.64 percent, 12.01 percent and 11.32 percent (%YoY) from the global spread of the COVID-19 virus, which disrupted international trade, resulting in the global economic slowdown. The main markets that contracted were China, the US, and the EU

Outlook for April 2020

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

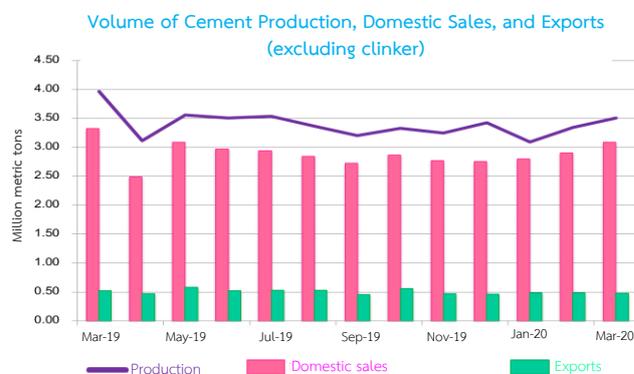
10. Cement Industry

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 March 2020 decreased by 2.79 percent from February 2020 (%MoM) to 7.01 million metric tons but decreased by 10.26 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Total domestic sales of cement* in March 2020 increased by 6.37 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 3.09 million metric tons but decreased by 7.20 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

- *Total exports of cement* decreased by 6.45 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 1.19 million metric tons and decreased by 15.35 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. This was due to the order cancellation from the UAE and the decreased of orders from Lao PDR.

The cement production industry (excluding clinker) in April 2020, 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 continued negative impact on the economy and consumers' purchasing power. The situation also affects the uncertainty in expanding investment in new real estate of entrepreneurs.

+ *Cement production* (excluding clinker) increased by 3.51 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 3.51 million metric tons but decreased by 11.47 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Domestic sales of cement* (excluding clinker) increased by 6.33 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 3.09 million metric tons but decreased by 7.22 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

- *Export of cement* (excluding clinker) in March 2020 decreased by 2.66 percent (%MoM) from February 2020 to 0.48 million metric tons and decreased by 9.01 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. This was due to the order cancellation from the UAE and the decreased of orders from Lao PDR.

The cement production industry (excluding clinker) in April 2020, 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 continued negative impact on the economy and consumers' purchasing power. The situation also affects the demand for cement, both domestically and in international export markets.