

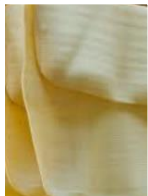
Summary of Industrial Production in December and the Overview of 2017

Industrial production in December 2017 had been growing, whereby the MPI grew by 2.3 percent compared to the same period last year, resulting from the growth of key manufacturing industries such as rubber products, automobile equipment and components, and Hard Disk Drives (HDD). Capacity Utilization Rate in December 2017 was 59.5 percent.

Industrial production in 2017 grew at the same rate as last year, whereby the Manufacturing Production (MPI) Index grew by 1.6 percent.

The Manufacturing Production Index in Major Industries

The MPI in December 2017 grew by 2.3 percent compared to the same month last year. The growth of key manufacturing industries were rubber products, automobile equipment and components and Hard Disk Drives (HDD).



The MPI of the rubber products production industry grew by 28.9 percent compared to the same month last year, mainly from increased production of rubber sheets as a result of more latex supply into the market.

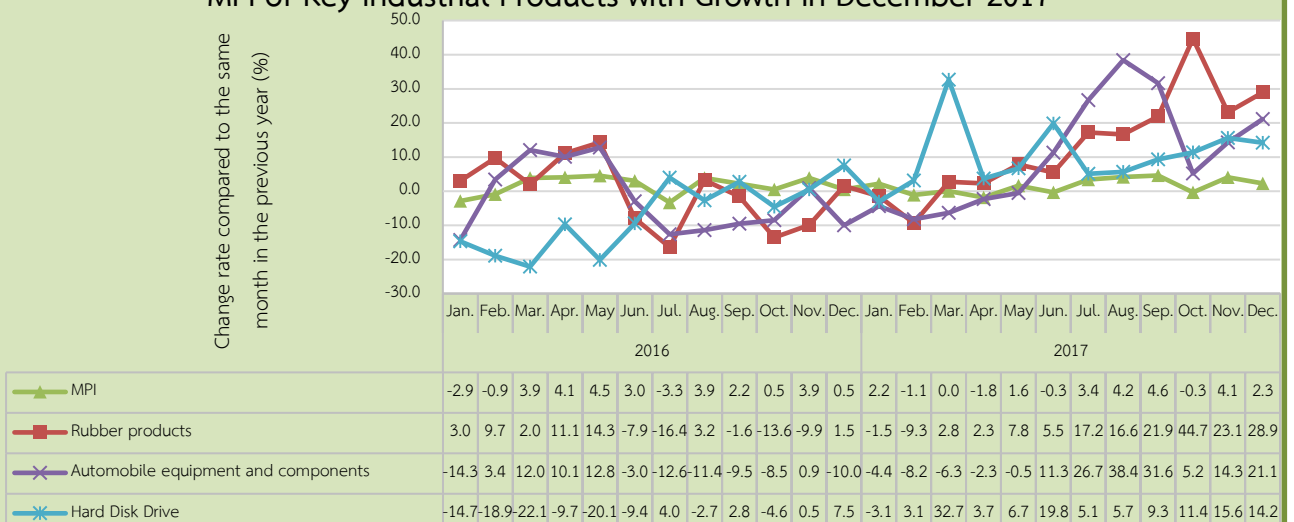


The MPI of the automobile equipment and components production industry grew by 24.1 percent compared to the same month last year from increased production of gasoline and diesel engines.



The MPI of the Hard Disk Drives (HDD) production industry grew by 14.2 percent compared to the same month last year, as production bases in China and Singapore were closed and were relocated to Thailand.

MPI of Key Industrial Products with Growth in December 2017



Key manufacturing industries such as steel and iron production, upstream textile production and food processing (aquatic animals) had expanded.



The MPI of the steel and iron production industry shrank by 24.5 percent compared to the same month last year. The production, especially deformed steel and chromium-plated steel sheets, dipped. This was due to there were more imports of cheap products from abroad, and decreasing in domestic demand.

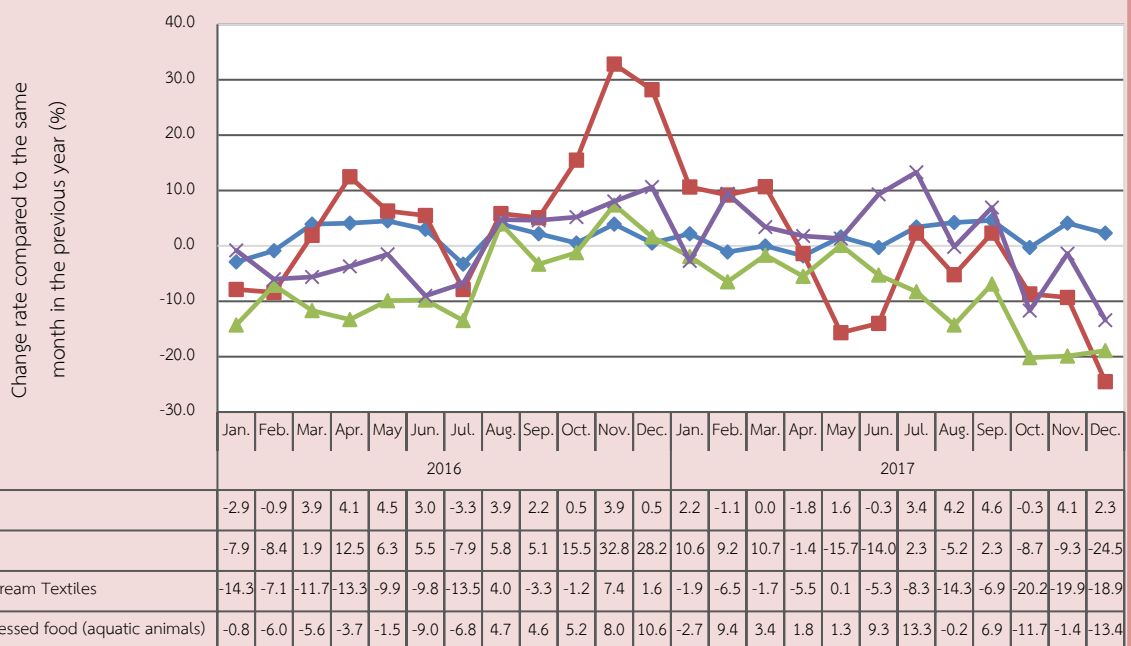


The MPI of the upstream textile production industry shrank 18.9 percent compared to the same month last year, particularly in threads and woven fabrics, resulting from less imports from trade partners. Furthermore, Thailand imported more products from abroad for domestic sale.



The MPI of the food processing (aquatic animals) industry shrank 13.4 percent compared to the same month last year, as there were less raw materials in the market, particularly frozen squid, which making in higher prices of raw materials; therefore, manufacturers slowed down production.

MPI of Key Industrial Products with Contraction in December 2017

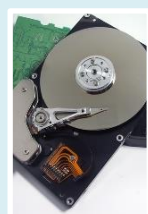


The manufacturing industry in 2017 was relatively stable whereby the MPI of 2017 grew by 1.6 percent from last year. Major industries which contributed to the growth in MPI was the production of rubber products and Hard Disk Drives (HDD).

On the other hand, industries which contributed to the decline in MPI was the air condition and upstream textile production.



The MPI of the rubber products production industry grew by 12.6 percent in 2017 compared to the same period last year. This was a result of higher demand from downstream industries such as the tire industry which had consistently increasing demand.



The MPI of the Hard Disk Drives (HDD) production industry grew by 10.3 percent in 2017 compared to the same period last year. This was a result of growth in the digital data usage and therefore higher demand for HDDs.



The MPI of the air conditioner production industry shrank by 12.2 percent compared to the same period last year. This was a result of changes in manufacturing technology, which led to less production in the beginning of the year and also because foreign markets slowed down.



The MPI of upstream textile production shrank 9.3 percent compared to the same period last year. This was a result of more imports from abroad for domestic sale.

Capacity Utilization Rate in December 2017

was at 59.5 percent.

59.5

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