

Summary of Industrial Production in February 2018

Industrial production in February 2018 experienced growth, whereby the MPI grew by 4.7 percent compared to the same period last year. This was a result of growth in several key industries such as production of petroleum, hard disk drives and automobiles. Capacity utilization in February 2018 was 70.4 percent.

The Manufacturing Production Index in Major Industries

The MPI in February 2018 grew by 4.7 percent compared to the same month last year. Key manufacturing industries such as petroleum, hard disk drive, and automobile were the growing sectors.



The MPI of the petroleum production industry grew by 33.9 percent compared to the same month last year, mainly from diesel and gasohol products due to increased domestic demand.

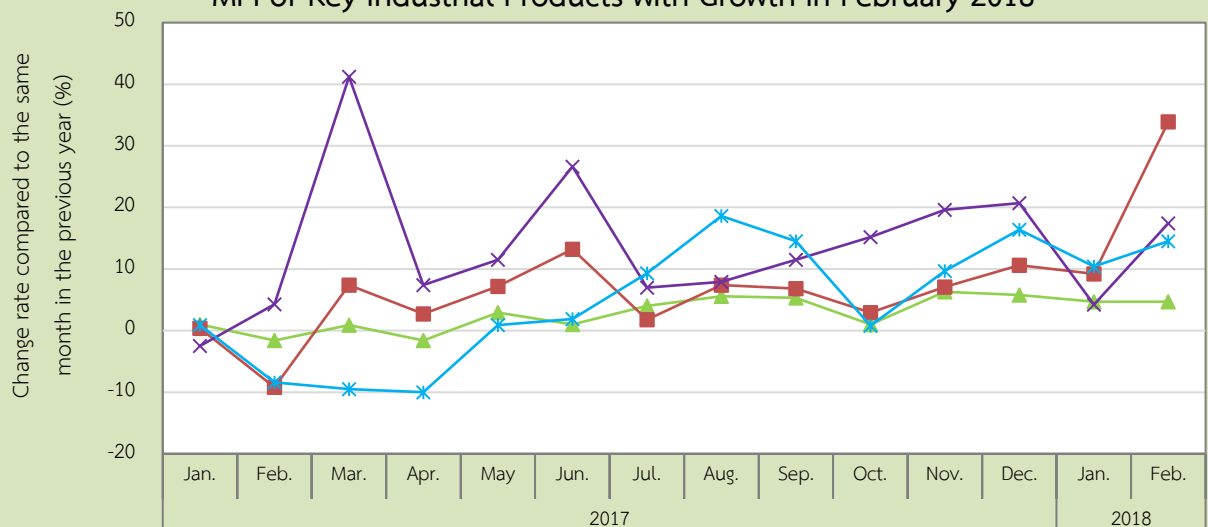


The MPI of the hard disk drive production industry grew by 17.4 percent compared to the same month last year, as a result of production base closures in China and Singapore which led to increase of purchase orders in Thailand.



The MPI of the automobile industry grew by 14.5 percent compared to the same month last year, mainly in passenger cars and pick-up trucks as demand grew in both domestic and international markets.

MPI of Key Industrial Products with Growth in February 2018



MPI	1.0	-1.6	0.9	-1.6	2.9	1.0	4.0	5.6	5.3	1.0	6.3	5.8	4.7	4.7
Petroleum	0.4	-9.2	7.4	2.7	7.2	13.2	1.8	7.4	6.8	2.9	7.1	10.6	9.2	33.9
Hard Disk Drive	-2.5	4.3	41.2	7.4	11.5	26.6	7.0	7.9	11.5	15.2	19.6	20.7	4.2	17.4
Automobile	0.9	-8.4	-9.5	-10.0	0.9	1.9	9.3	18.6	14.5	0.8	9.7	16.4	10.4	14.5

Key manufacturing industries such as gems and jewelry, processed food (aquatic animals), and textiles were the sectors that declined.



The MPI in the gems production industry shrank by 16.4 percent compared to the same month last year, mostly in ring, earring, diamond and pendant product groups as demand dropped.

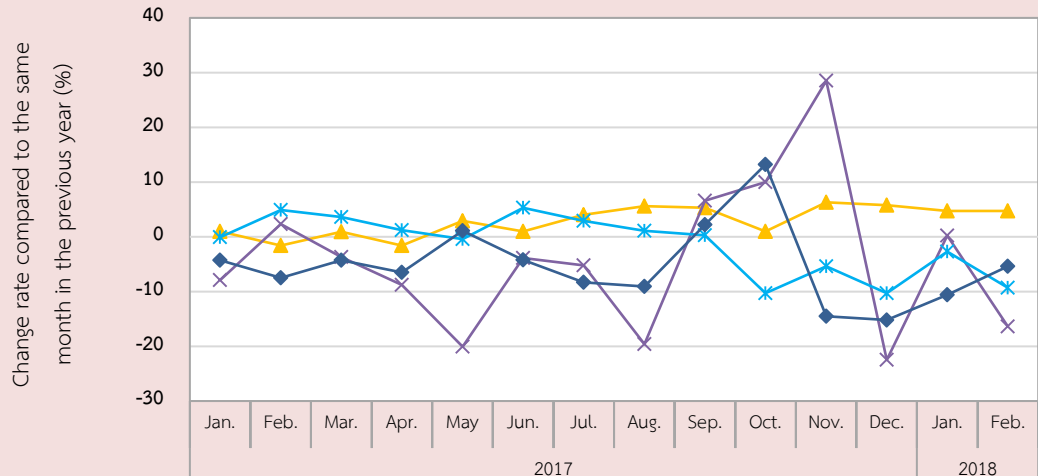


The MPI of the food processing (seafood) industry shrank by 9.3 percent compared to the same month last year, particularly in frozen squid and fish products as there was less raw materials in the market. This resulted in higher prices of raw materials, thus manufacturers slowed down production.



The MPI of the textile production industry shrank by 5.4 percent compared to the same month last year, mostly in cotton fabrics as domestic demand dropped and cheaper products were imported from abroad.

MPI of Key Industrial Products with Contraction in February 2018



▲ MPI	1.0	-1.6	0.9	-1.6	2.9	1.0	4.0	5.6	5.3	1.0	6.3	5.8	4.7	4.7
✕ Jewelry	-7.9	2.3	-3.7	-8.8	-20.1	-3.9	-5.2	-19.6	6.6	10.0	28.5	-22.5	0.2	-16.4
✱ Processed food (aquatic animals)	-0.1	4.9	3.6	1.2	-0.4	5.3	2.9	1.1	0.3	-10.3	-5.4	-10.3	-2.7	-9.3
◆ Textile	-4.3	-7.5	-4.3	-6.5	1.1	-4.2	-8.3	-9.1	2.2	13.2	-14.5	-15.2	-10.6	-5.4

Capacity Utilization Rate in January 2018

70.4

was at 70.4 percent.