

Summary of Industrial Production in March 2019

The MPI of industrial production in March 2019 dropped by 2.5 percent compared to the same month last year, a result of the contraction of key industries such as the computer and peripheral accessories industry, the basic iron and steel industry, and the production of other types of rubber products. The capacity utilization rate in March 2019 was 74.4 percent.

The Manufacturing Production Index in Major Industries

The MPI in March 2019 decreased by 2.5 percent compared to the same month last year. Key manufacturing industries such as the computer and peripheral accessories industry, the basic iron and steel industry, and the production of other types of rubber products were the segment that contracted.



The MPI of the computer and other peripheral products manufacturing industry contracted by 21.2 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, mainly from a drop in the hard disk drive segment as a result of changes in storage technology to SSDs, as well as cloud storage.

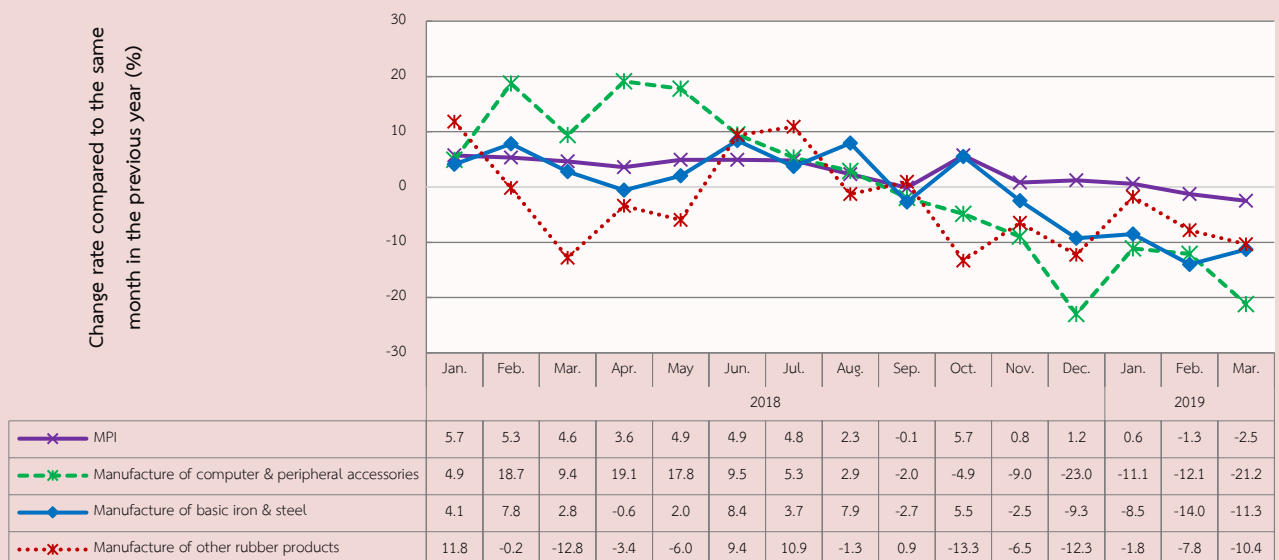


The MPI of the iron and steel manufacturing industry contracted by 11.3 percent compared to the same month of the previous year. The contraction came mainly from a decrease in hot-rolled steel sheets, cold-rolled steel sheets, tinplated steel sheets, deformed bars and hot-rolled structural steel, as some manufacturers temporarily stopped production, coupled with a slowdown of purchase orders from customers.



The MPI of the other rubber products manufacturing industry contracted by 10.4 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, mainly from a drop in rubber sheets and block rubber products, due to drought and very hot weather resulting in less latex.

MPI of Key Industrial Products with Contraction in March 2019



Key manufacturing industries such as pharmaceuticals and medicinal chemical products, automobile, and refined petroleum product industry were the sectors that grew.



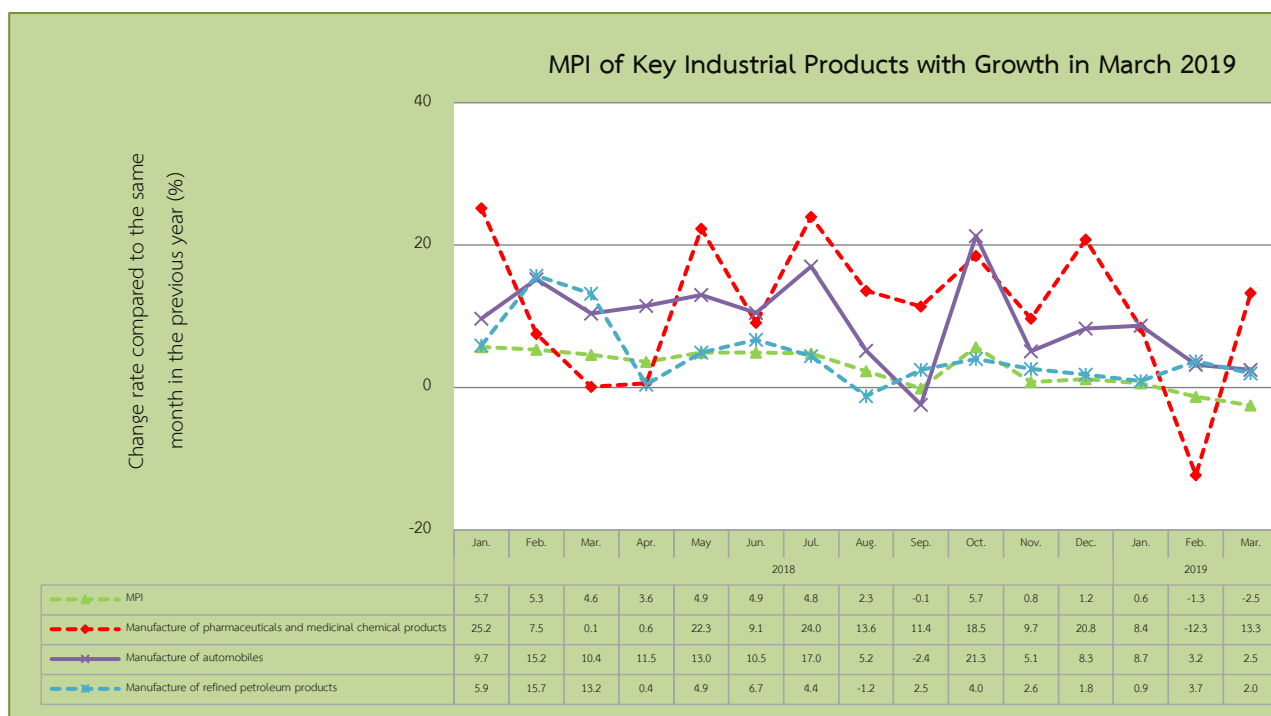
The MPI of the pharmaceuticals and medicinal chemical product industry grew by 13.3 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, primarily from an increase in tablets (antacids) and liquid medicines (antipyretics and cough medicine), as one manufacturer completed a drugs storage plant allow it to support increased production of drugs. Furthermore, machinery that had problems in the previous month were corrected, turning production back to normal.



The MPI of the automotive manufacturing industry grew by 2.5 percent compared to the same month of the previous year mainly from the expansion in pickup trucks and small and medium-sized passenger cars, from increased demand for vehicles both domestically and internationally, especially from the Middle East and Europe.



The MPI of the refined petroleum product industry grew by 2.0 percent compared to the same month of the previous year, mainly due to the increase in the production of Gasoline 95 from increased domestic demand.



Capacity Utilization Rate in March 2018

was at 74.4 percentage.

74.4