

Industrial Production Status

Indicators	2021	2022	2022												2023
%YoY	Year	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
MPI	5.8	0.4	1.9	2.3	0.2	-0.4	-2.3	-0.5	6.0	14.6	3.0	-4.3	-5.3	-8.5	-4.4

In January 2023, the Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) contracted by 4.4 percent from the same period last year, with the main factor being the contraction in the export sector due to the impact of the global economic slowdown. However, industries focused on the domestic market, including those related to tourism, such as petroleum refineries, automobiles, motorcycles, shoes, bags, and beverages, continued to expand well.

Considering the MPI data for the past three months in terms of the same month last year (%YoY), the MPI in October, November, and December decreased by 4.3 percent, 5.3 percent, and 8.5 percent, respectively.

Indicators	2022												2023
%MoM	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
MPI	2.0	-2.6	7.9	-17.1	7.7	-0.2	-2.3	4.2	-1.8	-4.2	2.1	-1.8	6.6

The Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) for the past three months (October, November, and December 2022) compared to previous month (%MoM) experienced a decline of 4.2 percent in October, an increase of 2.1 percent in November, and a decrease of 1.8 percent in December.

Key industries that contributed to the MPI contraction in January 2023 compared to the same period last year were:

- The Hard Disk Drive (HDD) industry decreased by 48.83 percent due to the development of storage technology, leading to a decrease in production volume but an increase in unit prices. Also, the use of Solid State Drive (SSD) as a replacement for HDD has increased, but Thailand does not yet have a domestic SSD production base.
- The plastic pellet decreased by 23.34 percent, which can be attributed to several factors. One of the reasons is the reduced demand for medical equipment, which had increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic but has now eased. As plastic pellets are components of medical equipment, their production has also declined. Furthermore, some factories have remained closed for maintenance due to market conditions and lower demand.
- The furniture industry decreased by 48.58 percent, mainly from furniture made of wood and metal. The decrease in the production of wooden furniture was caused by a decline in foreign orders of major rubber wood furniture makers. The decrease was returning to normal conditions before the outbreak of COVID-19 in China. During that period, China (the world's number one producer and seller of wooden furniture) could not manufacture and export products to foreign countries. As for metal furniture, production returned to normal levels after the previous year received special orders.

Key industries that remained growing in January 2023 compared to the same month last year were:

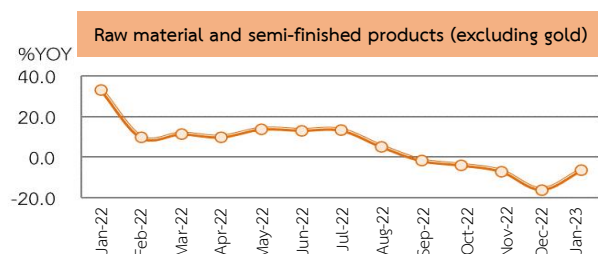
- Petroleum refining increased by 8.96 percent due to an increase in inbound travel of foreign tourists and domestic tourism during the New Year festival.
- The automotive industry increased by 6.79 percent as many car models received more semiconductor parts, leading to an increase in production.



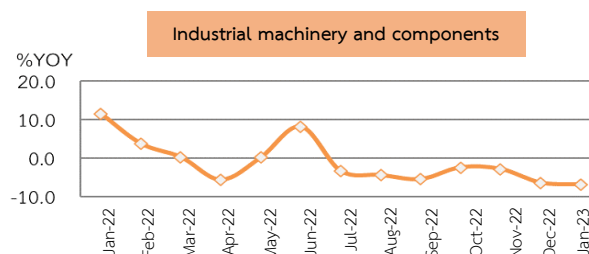
Other Industrial Economic Indicators in January 2023

Other Industrial Economic Indicators in January 2023

Imports of Thailand Industrial Sector



Source: Ministry of Commerce

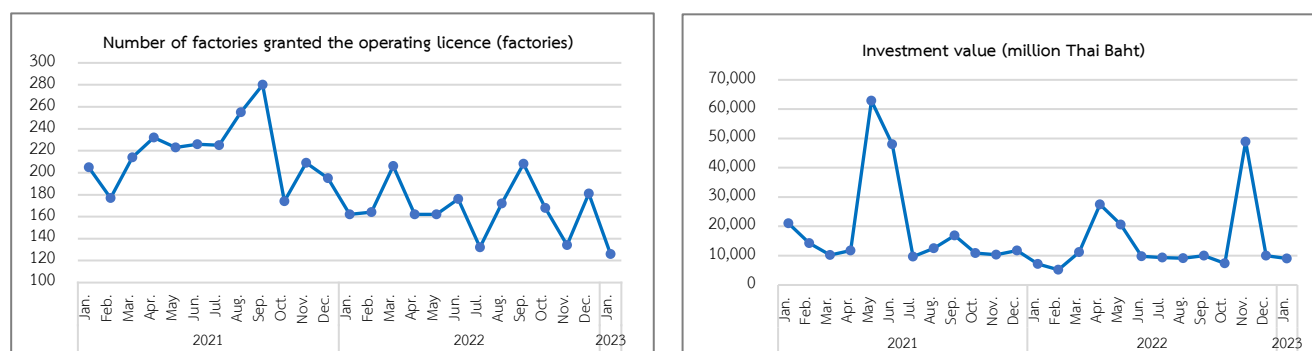


Source: Ministry of Commerce

Imports of industrial machinery and components in January 2023 were valued at 1,491.60 million USD, a contraction of 7.0 percent compared to the same month last year. The decline was mainly due to decreasing imports of wood processing machinery and parts; construction machinery and parts; and rubber or plastic processing machinery and equipment, for example.

Imports of raw and semi-finished goods (excluding gold) in January 2023 were valued at 9,158.30 million USD, a contraction of 6.3 percent compared to the same month last year. Imports declined among plastic products, chemical products, iron, and fabric, for example.

Industrial Operation Status



Source: Department of Industrial Works

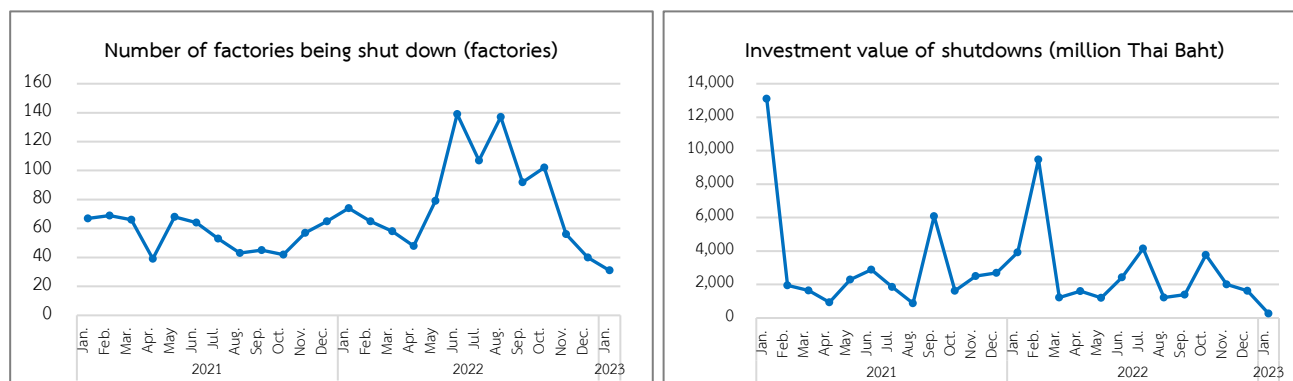
- The total number of factories licensed for operation in January 2023 was 126 factories, decreasing by 30.39 percent (%MoM) from December 2022 and decreasing by 22.22 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ The total investment from factories licensed for operating in January 2023 decreasing by 9.5 percent (%MoM) from December 2022 to 9,050 million Thai Baht but increasing by 25.85 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

"The industry with the highest number of newly licensed factories to operate in January 2023 was the excavation or dredging industry of gravel, sand, or soil (13 factories), followed by the manufacture of concrete, ready-mixed concrete articles, and gypsum products (12 factories)."

"The industry with the highest investment value in January 2023 was the manufacture of fabricated products by means of coating or lacquering (1,770 million Thai Baht), followed by the manufacture of automobile parts and accessories (512 million Thai Baht)."

Industrial Operation Status (cont.)



Source: Department of Industrial Works

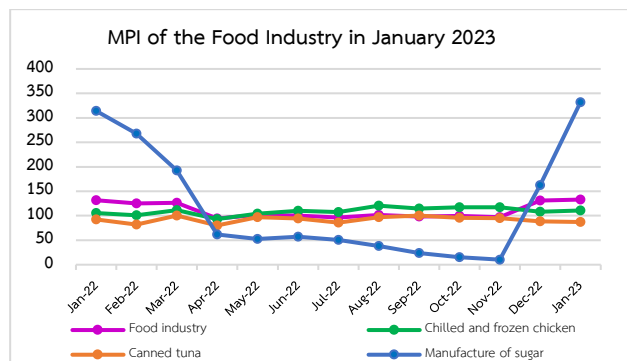
- A total of 31 factories were shut down in January 2023, decreasing by 22.5 percent (%MoM) from December 2022 and decreasing by 58.11 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.
- The lost investment value on shutdown in January 2023 totaled 272 million Thai Baht, decreasing by 83.16 percent (%MoM) from December 2022 and decreasing by 93.03 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

"The industry with the highest number of factory shutdowns in January 2023 was the excavation or dredging industry of gravel, sand, or soil (9 factories), followed by the rice milling, hulling, and polishing industry (2 factories)."

"The manufacturing industry with the highest investment value to shut down in January 2023 was the manufacture of jewelry containing genuine diamonds, colored stones, pearls, gold, white gold, silver, and red gold, with an investment value of 62 million Thai Baht, followed the excavation or dredging industry of gravel, sand, or soil with an investment value of 41 million Thai Baht."

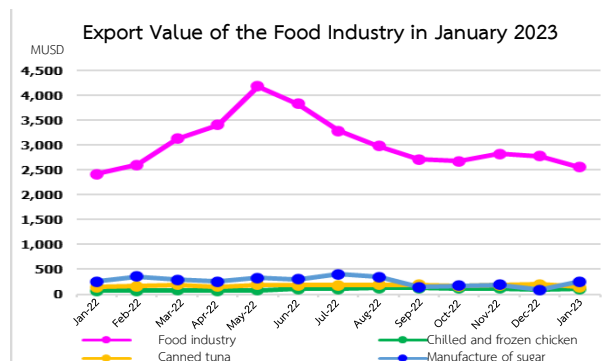
Industrial Economic Status by Industrial Sectors in January 2023

1. Food Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

➤ The MPI of the food industry in January 2023 grew by 2.1 percent compared to the same period last year (%YoY). This growth was driven by several food products, including 1) palm oil, which increased by 69.2 percent from crude palm oil (84.8%) and refined palm oil (54.2%) due to high demand from various industries, such as biodiesel and food industries, including large oil palm output, and increased demand from foreign markets, especially India. 2) Sugar also increased by 8.9 percent, mainly from refined and raw sugar (14.9%), due to increased demand from domestic and international consumption caused by economic expansion for downstream industries. 3) Livestock increased by 4.8 percent, particularly from frozen and chilled chicken meat, due to ongoing demand from domestic and foreign markets and expanding exports to new markets such as Saudi Arabia. However, some food products decreased in MPI, including 1) cassava, which decreased by 23.2 percent, mainly from cassava starch due to a decline in production and an outbreak of Cassava Mosaic Disease in many areas. 2) Processed vegetables and fruits decreased by 12.5 percent, particularly dried vegetables and fruits (-28.4%) due to decreased domestic and export demand; and canned pineapple (-10.3%) due to drought, reduced harvest area, low yield, and higher cultivation costs. 3) Fishery sector decreased by 10.6 percent, mainly from frozen shrimp (-15.8%). This was primarily due to the high costs of shrimp feed, leading to increased cultivation costs and selling prices. As a result, demand for shrimp in the domestic market decreased.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

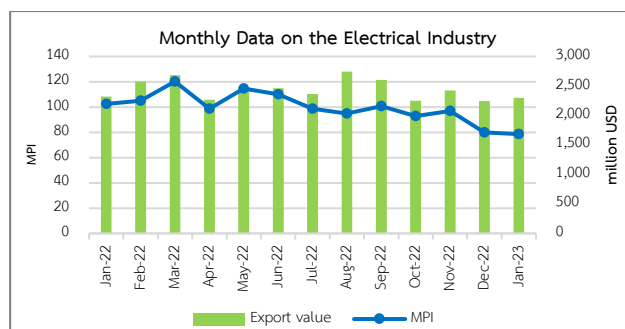
➤ **Domestic sales:** In January 2023, the production volume for domestic sales of food products increased by 0.4 percent (%YoY) from key products, including 1) refined palm oil increased by 56.7 percent, 2) refined sugar increased by 52.4 percent, 3) ready-to-cook food increased by 20.9 percent, and 4) table seasoning increased by 17.7 percent.

➤ **Export markets:** In January 2023, the export of food products increased by 5.6 percent compared to the same period in the previous year. This growth was mainly driven by the export of three product categories: 1) Livestock products, specifically chilled and frozen chicken, which increased in key markets like China and Malaysia. 2) Rice and cereal, particularly rice, increased in Indonesia, Bangladesh, and the US markets. 3) Oils and fats from vegetables and animals also increased exports, driven by the demand for palm oil in India and Myanmar markets.

Outlook for February 2023: The industry in general is expected to grow compared to the same period last year. This growth is attributed to the continued expansion of the tourism sector, which has fully reopened to tourists, as well as the government's economic stimulus measures. In addition, the value of exports is expected to increase slightly due to the government's efforts to expand exports to potential markets in the Middle East and China's decision to open up, which will have a positive impact on Thai food exports. However, it is essential to keep a close watch on the global economic and financial situation, which is still sluggish.

2. Electrical and Electronics Industry

■ Electrical Industry



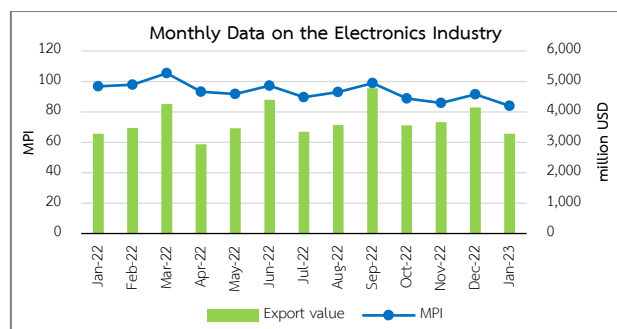
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics, Electrical and Electronics Institute, and Ministry of Commerce

❌ **Production of electrical appliances** reached an MPI of 78.6 points, a decrease of 2.0 percent compared to the same month last year. Products that contracted in production included refrigerators (-42.8%), microwave ovens (-32.2%), electrical thermo pots (-22.0%), and household fans (-19.7%) due to a reduction in both domestic demand and overseas orders. However, products that increased production were transformers (31.2%) and electric cables (30.1%) due to increased domestic sales.

❌ **Exports of electrical appliances** were valued at 2,300.1 million USD, a decrease of 0.9 percent compared to the same month last year. The downturn was due to the rising global inflation rate, causing production costs to increase, particularly in labor wages, which are expected to continue to rise.

"The production forecast for February 2023, the electrical appliances industry is expected to grow by 1.0-4.0 percent compared to the same month in the previous year. This is attributed to the gradual recovery of trading partner economies from the impact of the COVID-19."

■ Electronics Industry



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

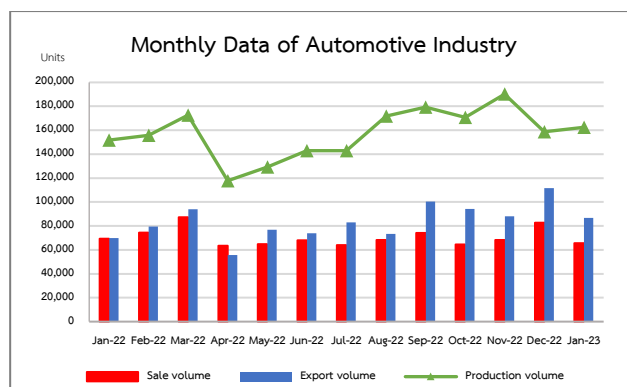
❌ **Production of electronic products** reached an MPI of 83.9 points, a decrease of 4.6 percent compared to the same month last year. Products that contracted in production were PWBs (-41.3%), printers (-37.3%), and semiconductor device transistors (-21.7%). The decrease was mainly due to declining domestic sales and foreign purchase orders. However, the product that increased in MPI was PCBA, with a growth of 11.1 percent owing to the rising demand in the domestic market.

❌ **Exports of electronic products** were valued at 3,277.8 million, USD, a decrease of 0.4 percent compared to the same month last year. This downturn was attributed to a decrease in foreign orders, a consequence of trading partner economies entering a recession.

"The production forecast for February 2023, the electronics industry is expected to decrease by 3.0-5.0 percent compared to the same month last year. This can be attributed to the gradual improvement in COVID-19 and the reduced prevalence of work-from-home, resulting in lower demand for products. Additionally, the expansion of new construction Data Centers is expected to slow down, contributing to the decline in production."

3. Automotive Industry

■ Automotive Manufacturing Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics who obtained data from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries.

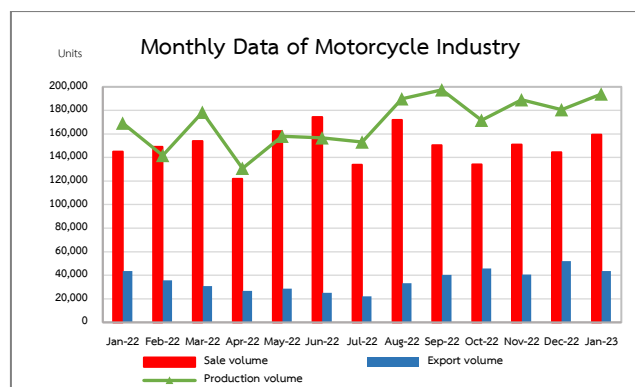
+ **Production of automobiles** in January 2023 reached 162,327 units, an increase of 2.35 percent from December 2022 (%MoM) and an increase of 6.97 percent from the same month last year (%YoY). The growth was driven by an increase in semiconductor components in many models. The growth was an increased production of passenger cars, 1-ton pickup trucks and derivatives.

- **Domestic automobile sales** in January 2023 reached 65,579 units, a decrease of 20.80 percent from December 2022 (%MoM) and a decrease of 5.58 percent compared to the same month last year (%YoY). The decline was primarily driven by lower sales of passenger cars, 1-ton pickup trucks, and commercial vehicles, resulting from an ongoing semiconductor shortage for some private car models.

+ **Automobile exports** in January 2023 reached 86,786 units, a decrease of 22.24 percent from December 2022 (%MoM) but an increase of 24.28 percent compared to the same month last year (%YoY). Export markets increased in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and North America.

"The automobile industry outlook for February 2023 is expected to increase compared to February 2022. The increase is due to the expansion of the export market, the easing of the COVID-19 outbreak, and an improvement in semiconductor supply."

■ Motorcycle Manufacturing Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics who obtained data from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries.

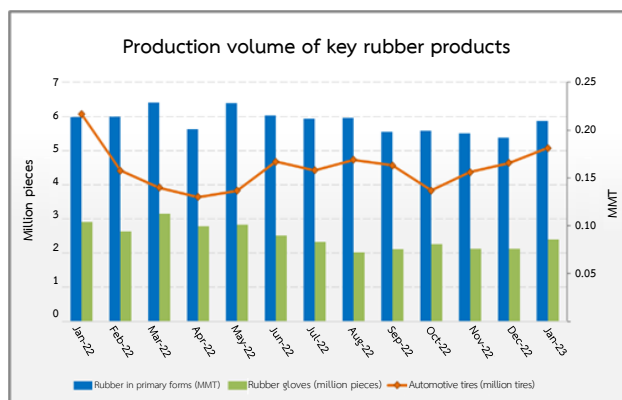
+ **Production of motorcycles** in January 2023 reached 193,910 units, an increase of 7.44 percent from December 2022 (%MoM) and an increase of 14.62 percent from the same month last year (%YoY). The growth was driven by increased production of multipurpose and sport motorcycles.

+ **Motorcycle sales** in January 2023 reached 159,257 units, an increase of 10.25 percent (%MoM) from December 2022 and an increase of 9.76 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year. The growth was driven by the sales of motorcycles sized between 51-110 cc, 111-125 cc, 126-250 cc and 251-399 cc.

+ **Motorcycle exports** in January 2023 reached 43,663 units, a decrease of 16.13 percent compared to December 2022 (%MoM), but a slight increase of 0.08 percent from the same month last year (%YoY).

"The motorcycle industry outlook for February 2023 is expected to increase compared to February 2022. The increase is due to the easing of the COVID-19 outbreak."

4. Rubber and Rubber Product Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

Production

➖ *Processed rubber in primary forms (sheet rubber, block rubber, and concentrated latex)* decreased by 16.42 percent due to the production slowdown of sheet rubber, block rubber, and concentrated latex.

➖ *Automotive tires* decreased by 1.75 percent due to a decrease in tire production for passenger cars, trucks and buses, and tractors.

➖ *Rubber gloves* decreased by 17.18 percent due to the continued decline in demand for rubber gloves in the global market.

Domestic Sales

➕ *Processed rubber in primary forms (rubber sheets, block rubber, and concentrated latex)* increased by 1.68 percent due to an increase in demand for block rubber, and concentrated latex in downstream industries.

➖ *Automotive tires* decreased by 2.88 percent due to the slowdown of the Replacement Equipment Manufacturer (REM) market.

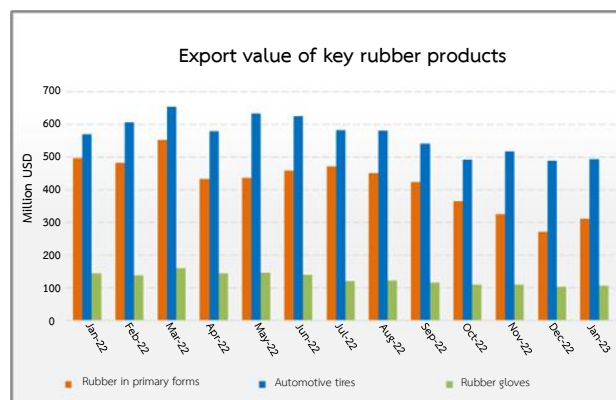
➕ *Rubber gloves* increased by 8.45 percent due to the high level of domestic demand for rubber gloves for disease prevention.

Exports

➖ *Processed rubber in primary forms (rubber sheets, block rubber, and concentrated latex)* decreased by 37.56 percent due to a decrease of exports of rubber sheets and block rubber to the US and China, as well as exports of concentrated latex to Malaysia.

➖ *Automotive tires* decreased by 13.47 percent as exports to the US market slowed down.

➖ *Rubber gloves* decreased by 26.62 percent as demand for rubber gloves in the global market dropped.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

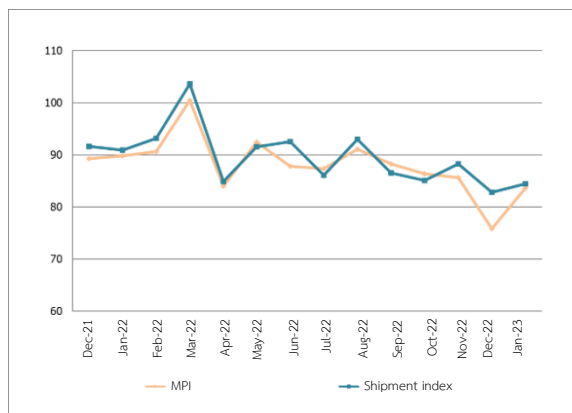
Industry outlook for February 2023

The domestic production and distribution of processed rubber in primary forms are expected to slow down due to a decrease in demand for sheet rubber, block rubber, and concentrated latex in major export markets such as China, the US, and Malaysia. However, the production and distribution of automotive tires are expected to increase in response to the continuous growth of the domestic automotive industry and the demand for automotive tires in the domestic Replacement Equipment Manufacturing (REM) market, which is expected to recover from government's economic stimulus policies. The production of rubber gloves is expected to slow down due to a decrease in global demand for rubber gloves, but the domestic sales of rubber gloves are expected to expand as demand for gloves to prevent disease have increased.

Exports of processed rubber in primary forms are expected to decrease continuously in value due to China, a major export market for sheet rubber, block rubber, and concentrated latex, has slowed purchase orders of these products from Thailand. On the other hand, automotive tire exports are expected to increase as the US market recovers. However, exports of rubber gloves are expected to continue to decrease in value due to the demand for rubber gloves in the world market and the declining prices.

5. Plastics Industry

MPI and Shipment Index



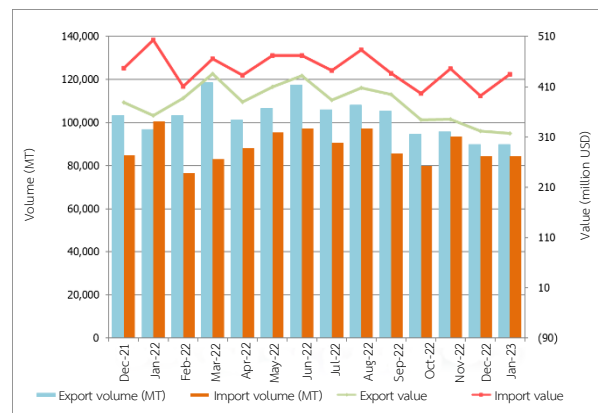
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

❌ The Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) in January 2023 contracted by 6.92 percent compared to the same period the previous year. The MPI experienced a decline in many products, such as plastic sacks (-20.53%), other plastic packaging (-12.77%), and plastic bags (-8.39%) compared to the same period last year.

❌ The shipment index in January 2023 contracted by 7.12 percent. Products that experienced the contraction were plastic sacks (-20.50%), plastic films (-14.57%), and other plastic packaging (-12.21%) compared to the same period last year.

❌ Exports in January 2023 were valued at 317.49 million USD, a decrease of 10.07 percent compared to the same period last year. Products contributing to the decline in exports included self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics (HS 3920) (-24.41%); builders' ware of plastics (HS 3925) (-24.3%); and self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, and strip of plastics (HS 3919) (-14.62%) compared to the same period last year.

Volume and Value of Exports and Imports



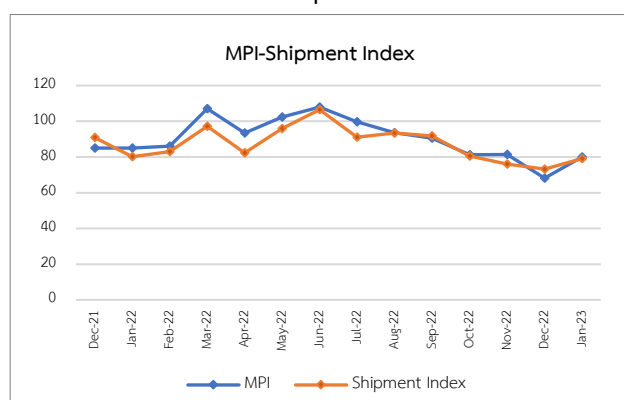
Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

❌ Imports in January 2023 were valued at 434.95 million USD, a decrease of 13.45 percent compared to the same period last year. Key products contributing to the decline in imports were floor coverings of plastics, (HS 3918) (-24.48%); sanitary ware (HS 3922) (-27.61%), and articles for the conveyance or packing of goods of plastics (HS 3923) (-28.29%) compared to the same period last year.

Plastics industry outlook. In February 2023, the industry is expected to decline in production, as entrepreneurs have enough inventory to satisfy domestic consumption. Moreover, exports are predicted to decrease since trading in China, the primary market, is slowing down.

6. Chemical products Industry

MPI and Shipment Index

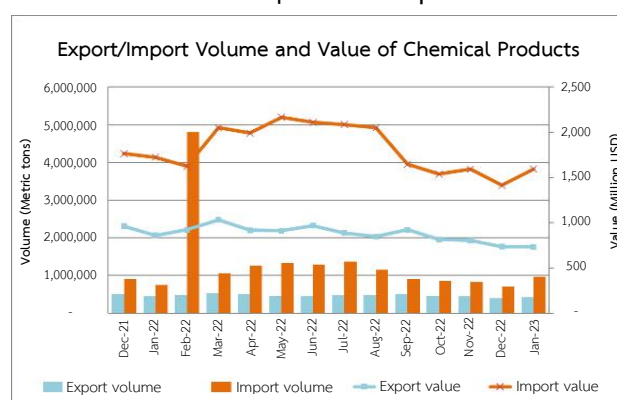


Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

❌ **The Manufacturing production index** in January 2023 decreased by 5.02 percent compared to the same period last year. The basic chemical product segment decreased by 8.05 percent, with products such as hydrochloric acid (-8.34%), chlorine (-3.21%), and caustic soda (-2.39%), experiencing a decline in production compared to the same period last year. The downstream chemical product segment also decreased by 20.88 percent, with products such as fertilizers (-69.26%), cleaning agents (-12.57%), and fabric softener (-6.50%) experiencing a decrease in production compared to the same period last year.

❌ **The shipment index** in January 2023 decreased by 1.08 percent compared to the same period last year. The basic chemical product segment decreased by 9.67 percent, with products such as caustic soda (-13.43%), hydrochloric acid (-9.57%), and ethanol (-6.62%) experiencing a decline in shipments. The downstream chemical product segment also decreased by 21.04 percent, with products like oil paints (-12.78%), cleaning agents (-11.01%), and fabric softeners (-3.95%) experiencing a decline in shipments compared to the same period the last year.

Volume and Value of Exports and Imports



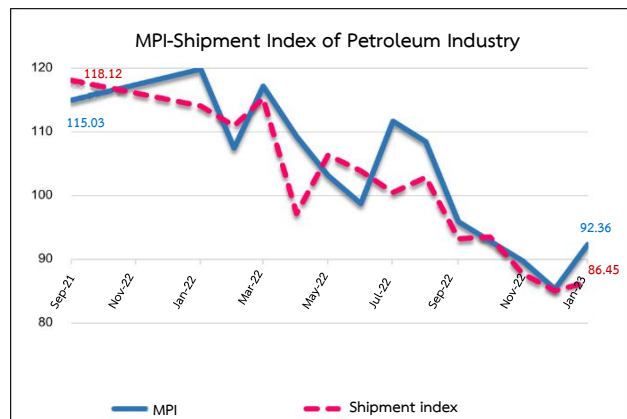
Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

❌ **Exports** in January 2023 decreased in value by 14.71 percent to 732.60 million USD compared to the same period last year. The basic chemical product segment decreased by 23.19 percent, with an export value of 410.83 million USD. The downstream chemical product segment also decreased by 0.73 percent with an export value of 321.77 million USD. The decrease in export value was driven by the contraction of products such as organic chemicals (-28.38%), miscellaneous chemicals (-26.52%), and surfactants (-13.53%), compared to the same period last year.

❌ **Imports** in January 2023 decreased in value by 7.48 percent to a total value of 1,595.60 million USD compared to the same period last year. The basic chemical product segment decreased by 11.35 percent, with imports valued of 1,134.09 million USD. However, the downstream chemical product segment experienced an increase of 3.63 percent, with imports valued of 461.50 million USD compared to the same period last year.

Chemical Industry Outlook. In February 2023, crude oil prices are expected to rise, which will likely increase production costs for the chemicals industry. This, in turn, may cause a slowdown in the production and exports of oil-related products, including plastic pellet and chemical products. Entrepreneurs are expected to slow down the production and manufacture the products according to purchase orders only.

7. Petrochemical Industry

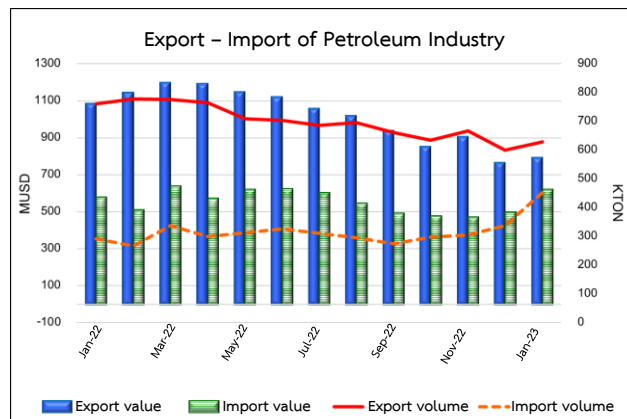


Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

➖ **The Manufacturing Production Index** stood at 92.36 points, a decreased of 22.98 percent compared to the same period last year but an increase of 8.13 percent from last month. Basic petrochemicals such as Propylene and Toluene decreased in the MPI by 44.57 percent and 34.34 percent, respectively, compared to the same period last year. Similarly, downstream petrochemicals such as PP resin also declined by 26.19 percent compared to the same period last year due to the shutdown of gas separation plants for maintenance (although some production lines resumed) and a slowdown in production caused by decreasing demand.

➖ **The shipment index** in January 2023 stood at 86.45 points, a decrease of 24.23 percent compared to the same period last year but an increase of 1.56 percent compared to the last month. Among the basic petrochemicals, Ethylene declined by 40.49 percent compared to the same period last year. Similarly, downstream petrochemicals, such as PE and PS resins, decreased by 23.95 percent and 20.24 percent, respectively, compared to the same period last year.

➖ **Exports** in January 2023 was valued at 794.03 million, a decrease of 26.98 percent compared to the same period in the last year. However, it increased by 3.41 percent compared to the last month. The decline was particularly evident in downstream petrochemicals, such as PP resin, and basic petrochemicals, such as ethylene, due to the speculative market situation, which is currently waiting for prices to go down. The demand for downstream production also decreased, while the US shifted its focus to exporting to the Asian market, which is Thailand's market. Furthermore, there was a slowdown in demand from the EU.

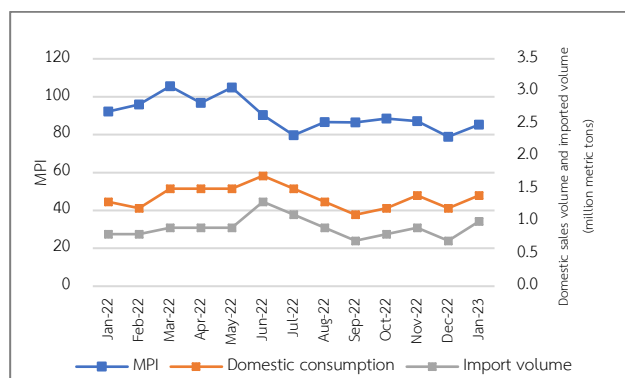


Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

➕ **Imports** in January 2023 were valued at 612.35 million USD, an increase of 5.49 percent compared to the same period last year and an increase of 22.59 percent compared to last month. The growth was primarily seen in the imports of basic petrochemical, such as Toluene and downstream products like PP resin.

Outlook for February 2023. The industry is expected to slow down compared to the same period last year, which can be attributed to several factors, such as maintenance shutdowns of upstream petrochemical plants; reduced plastic demand; a slowdown in exports, especially of basic petrochemicals such as Ethylene and Propylene; increasing price level in line with crude oil prices that were affected by the production shutdown in many countries; and the prolonged Ukraine-Russia conflict.

8. Iron and Steel Industry



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

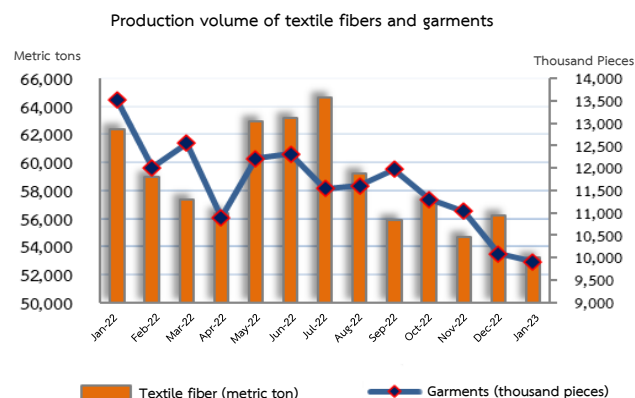
❌ The Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) in January 2023 was 85.2 points, contracting by 8.1 percent compared to the same period last year. This was due to the slowdown in downstream industries, such as construction, manufacturing of electrical appliances, and canned packaging. Considering key products, the MPI contracted in both long and flat products. For long products, the MPI stood at 82.7 points, a decrease of 9.0 percent. The largest reduction in production was in wire rods (-37.6%), followed by wires (-16.0%), prestressed wires (-14.0%), and deformed bars (-0.1%). For the flat product sector, the MPI stood at 82.0 points, a decrease of 13.9 percent. The largest reduction in production was tinplates (-30.4%), followed by cold-rolled sheets (-28.8%), Chromium-coated sheet (-19.8%), hot-rolled coils (-10.1%), and galvanized sheets (-0.5%).

❌ Domestic consumption in January 2023 reached the volume of 1.4 million metric tons, expanding by 10.9 percent compared to the same period last year. Long product consumption amounted to 0.6 million metric tons, increasing by 13.9 percent from the consumption of structural steel sections. Meanwhile, flat product consumption amounted to 0.9 million metric tons, increasing by 9.0 percent from the consumption of hot-rolled plates/coils/sheets and other types of coated sheets.

➕ Imports in January 2023 reached the volume of 1.0 million metric tons, expanding by 18.4 percent compared to the same period last year. The import volume expanded for both long and flat products. For long products, the import volume was 0.2 million metric tons, increasing by 6.68 percent. Long products that increased in imports included alloy steel rebars (the main markets that Thailand imported from were China, Taiwan, and South Korea) and alloy steel wire rods (the main markets that Thailand imported from were China, South Korea, and Taiwan). As for flat products, the import volume was 0.7 million metric tons, expanding by 22.6 percent. Flat products that increased in imports included hot-rolled alloy steel sheets (the main markets that Thailand imported from were China, Taiwan, Japan, and Germany); Carbon Steel hot-rolled thin sheets (the main markets that Thailand imported from were China, South Korea, Japan, and Vietnam); and hot-rolled Carbon Steel sheets (the main markets that Thailand imported from were Indonesia, Japan, China, and Taiwan).

"The trend in the iron and steel industry in February 2023 is expected to contract compared to the same period last year due to the continued slowdown in the industry, inflation, and the increasing energy prices, causing consumers to delay their purchasing decisions to observe price trends. Nevertheless, there are important issues to monitor, including the global economic and trade situation, foreign steel prices, and China's steel industry policies as a major producer, consumer, and steel exporter globally. In addition, the cessation of anti-dumping and countervailing (AD) measures for hot-rolled steel products from Brazil, Iran, and Türkiye and galvanized cold-rolled sheets made of aluminum (GL) from Vietnam may affect the production volume of steel products in Thailand."

9. Textile and Wearing Apparel Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

Production

There was a decrease in production across the entire textile supply chain, with a decrease of 14.52 percent in textile fibers, a decrease of 18.65 percent in fabrics, and a decrease of 24.92 percent in woven and knitted garments. However, compared to the previous month, woven fabrics made of cotton increased by 12.35 percent. The increase benefited from the shortage of cotton in India, which is to be used for further development of garments in India. This increase in production also responded to the growing trend of using biodegradable materials and environmentally friendly products.

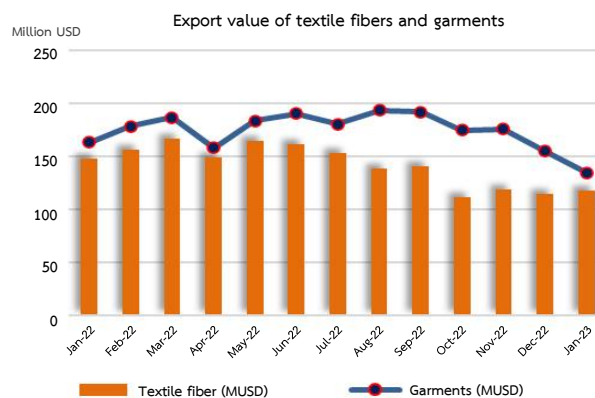
Domestic sales

There was a decrease of 16.40 percent in textile fibers and a decrease of 18.48 percent in fabrics. At the same time, garments continued to expand for the eighth consecutive month, growing by 49.04 percent in the woven and knitted garment categories. This growth was supported by the domestic demand that improved during the New Year and Chinese New Year. However, compared to the previous month, the textile fiber industry only expanded by 8.79 percent, and the fabrics group expanded by 4.94 percent, as they were used as raw materials to produce products in line with the trend of environmental conservation and consumer environmental awareness.

Imports

Imports of yarns and fibers contracted by 9.06 percent, and fabrics contracted by 16.09 percent from major markets such as China, Vietnam, and Taiwan.

Imports of garments expanded by 28.60 percent from key markets such as China, Italy, and Vietnam. This increase was driven mainly by the usage of these garments as gifts during the New Year and Chinese New Year and economic stimulus measures implemented by the government.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

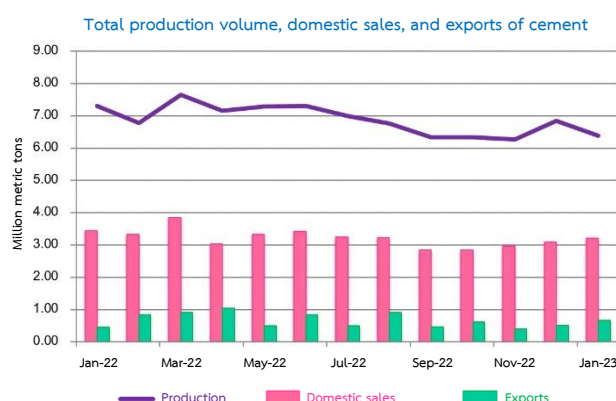
Exports

Textile fiber exports contracted by 20.12 percent, and fabric exports contracted by 13.75 percent to key markets such as Japan, India, China, and Vietnam. Garment exports also contracted by 17.63 percent to key markets such as the US, Belgium, and Germany. This decrease was due to declined purchase orders from major trading partners following environmental trends. Retail apparel businesses in the US tended to rely less on imports from Asian countries, and demand for apparel made from recyclable materials is increasing. Also, the global economic situation remains sluggish, which has an impact on consumer purchasing power and economic activity.

Industry outlook for February 2023

The recovery of the domestic economy and the announcement of the opening of China, which has been effective since 8 January 2023, and economic stimulus measures from the government, such as "Shop Dee Mee Kuen," are expected to have a positive impact on the industry. However, production is expected to contract slightly due to inflationary pressures in many countries worldwide, which continue to slow down the global economy and finance.

10. Cement Industry



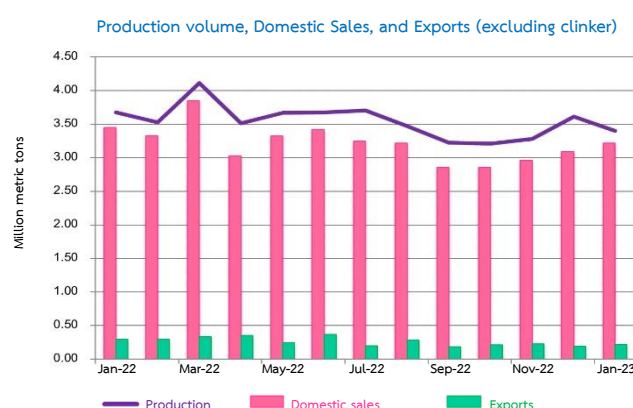
Source: 1. Domestic production and sales volume: Division of Information and Industrial Economic Indices, The Office of Industrial Economics
2. Export volume: Information and Communication Technology Center, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

➖ **Total production of cement** in January 2023 reached 6.39 million metric tons, a decrease of 12.51 percent from the same month last year (%YoY).

➖ **Total domestic sales of cement** in January 2023 reached 3.22 million metric tons, a decrease of 6.7 percent compared to the same month last year (%YoY), as the real estate sector has not fully recovered from the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

➕ **Total cement exports** in January 2023 was at 0.66 million metric tons, decreasing from the same month last year by 48.36 percent (%YoY). The increase was due to increased purchase orders from the Bangladesh market (333.75%).

Outlook for February 2023, the overall cement industry is expected to expand, driven by positive factors such as the progress in large-scale public infrastructure projects in the public sector and the expansion of export markets in certain countries.



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

➖ **Cement production (excluding clinker)** in January 2023 reached 3.41 million metric tons, a decrease 7.39 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

➖ **Domestic cement sales (excluding clinker)** in January 2023 reached 3.22 million metric tons, decreasing by 6.7 percent compared to the same month last year (%YoY). This was due to the economic impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its effect on the real estate sector's recovery during this period.

➖ **Exports of cement (excluding clinker)** in January 2023 reached 0.22 million metric tons, decreasing from the same month last year by 25.82 percent (%YoY). The contraction was mainly decreased purchase orders from Vietnam (-95.53%), the Philippines (-85.11%), and Cambodia (-40.43%).

The cement industry (excluding clinker) in February 2023 is expected to grow slightly. Despite being affected by the global economic slowdown, the industry is benefited from positive factors such as the government's stimulus measures for the real estate sector and the progress made in large-scale public infrastructure projects.