

Industrial Production Status

Indicators	2018	2019	2020	2020											2021
	Year	Year	Year	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
MPI	3.9	-3.4	-9.3	-4.9	-11.1	-19.1	-24.1	-17.9	-13.6	-9.3	-2.6	-1.3	-0.6	-2.8	-2.8

The industrial economy in **January 2021**, when considered from the **Manufacturing Production Index (MPI)**, contracted by 2.8 percent from the same period last year as a result from new wave of the COVID-19 outbreak.

When considering MPI data for the past three months compared to the previous year (% YoY), production in October, November, and December 2020 decreased by 1.3, 0.6, and 2.8 percent, respectively.

Indicators	2020												2021
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
MPI	-3.8	2.7	-25.0	2.9	4.1	4.6	5.2	3.8	0.3	1.6	-0.7	6.0	

In the past three months (October, November, and December 2020), the MPI change rates (%MoM) were as follows: an increase of 0.3 percent in October, an increase of 1.6 percent in November, but a decrease of 0.7 percent in December.

Key industries that contributed to the MPI contraction in January 2021 compared to the same month last year were as follows:

- Petroleum refinery decreased by 11.92 percent from the COVID-19 outbreak that continued to cause a reduction in domestic and international travel.
- Sugar decreased by 13.18 percent due to the slow start of sugar production this year and the unfavorable dry weather for cultivation, causing the amount of sugarcane for production to be lower than the previous year.
- Automobiles and engines decreased by 3.9 percent due to consumer concerns over the outbreak of the new wave of COVID-19 in the country, impacting consumers' confidence.

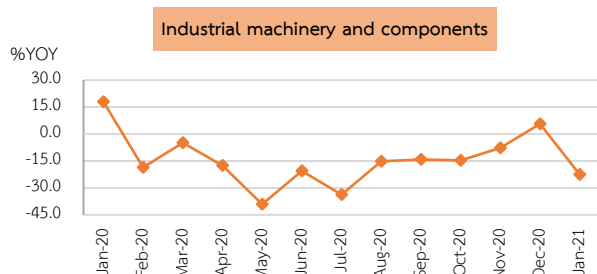
Key industries that continued to grow in January 2021 compared to the same month last year were:

- Plastic pellets increased by 10.86 percent as some manufacturers carried out a maintenance shutdown last year, coupled with the demand for downstream products such as automotive parts, electrical appliances, packaging, food bags, bottles, and household appliances.
- Iron and steel increased by 9.44 percent from demand in downstream industries such as the automotive, electrical appliances, and food packaging industries. Another factor is higher steel prices, as China imported more steel products resulting in a shortage of goods. As a result, steel prices increased, and manufacturers accelerated production for profit in this period.

Other Industrial Economic Indicators in January 2021

Other Industrial Economic Indicators in January 2021


■ Imports of Thailand Industrial Sector




Source: Ministry of Commerce

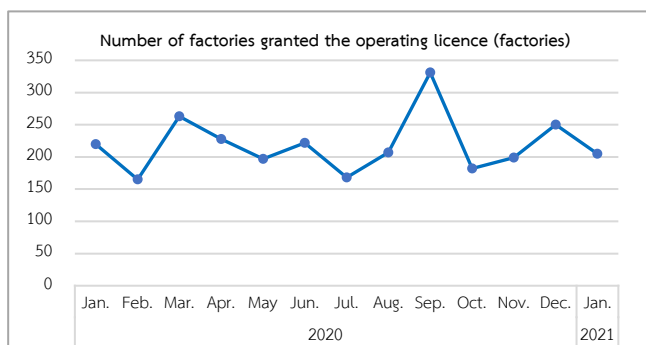


Source: Ministry of Commerce

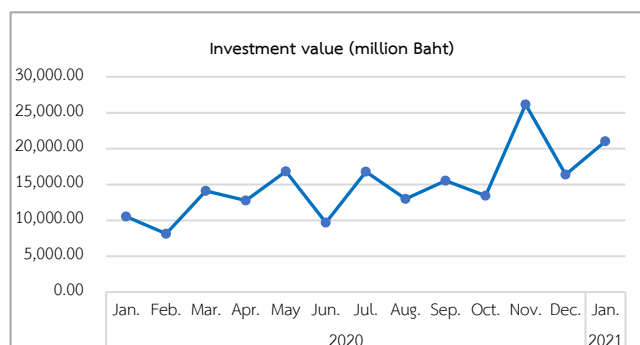
 **Imports of industrial machinery and parts** in January 2021 decreased by 22.5 percent compared to the same month last year to 1,471.4 million USD. The decreased was from jet turbine and parts, metal work machinery and parts, wood processing machinery and parts, rubber or plastic processing machinery and equipment; engines, transmission shafts and other parts; and textile machinery.

 **Imports of raw and semi-finished goods (excluding gold)** in January 2021 decreased by 1.63 percent compared to the same month last year to 7,330.1 million USD. The decrease was from iron and steel, fabric, yarn and fibers, etc.


Industrial Operation Status




Source: Department of Industrial Works



Source: Department of Industrial Works

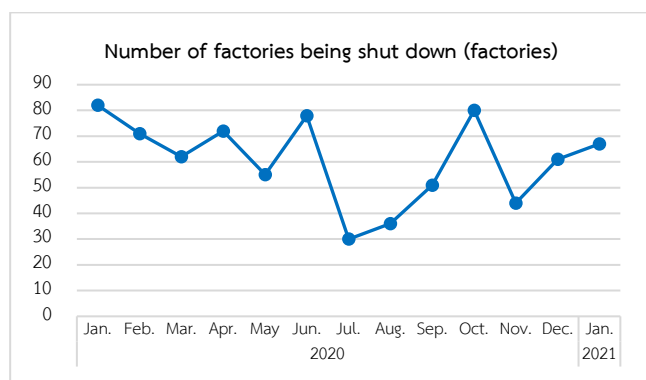
 The total number of factories licensed for operation in January 2021 was 205 factories, a decrease of 18.0 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 and a decrease of 6.82 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

 The total investment from factories licensed for operating in January 2021 increased by 28.31 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 21,023 million Baht and increased by 100.04 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

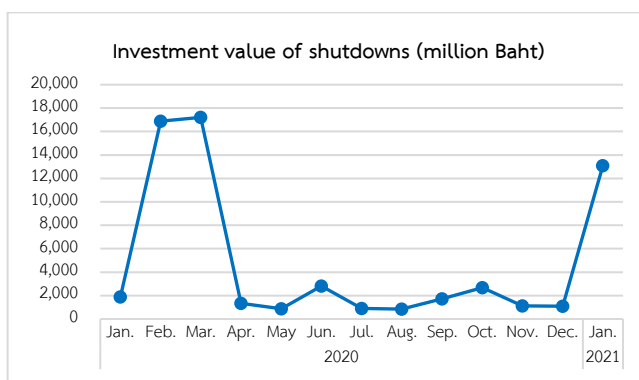
"The industry with the highest number of newly licensed factories to operate in January 2021 was the manufacture of concrete, ready-mixed concrete articles, and gypsum products (21 factories) and separation and landfill of sewage or unusable materials (14 factories)."

"In January 2021, the industry with the highest investment value was the manufacture, assembly, or repair of radios and televisions—4,067 million Baht, followed by the manufacture, assembly, modify of motor vehicles, trailers—4,063 million Baht."

■ Industrial Operation Status (cont.)



Source: Department of Industrial Works



Source: Department of Industrial Works

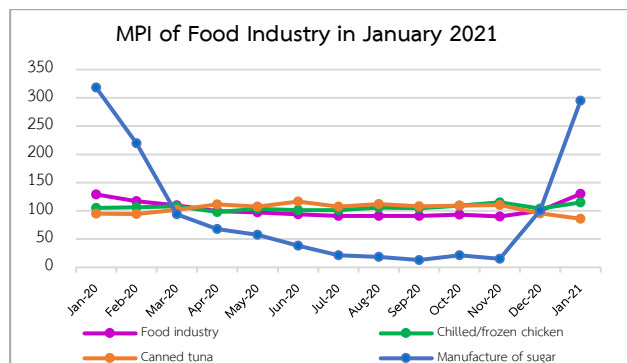
- + A total of 67 factories were shut down in January 2021, increasing by 9.84 percent (% MoM) from December 2020 but decreasing by 18.29 percent (% YoY) from the same month last year.
- The lost investment value on shutdown in January 2021 totaled 13,100 million Baht, an increase of 1,089.72 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 and an increase of 598.66 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

“In January 2021, the industry with the highest number of factory shutdowns was the excavation and dredging industry of gravel, sand, or soil (14 factories), followed by the industry of currying, shearing, dehydrating, shredding or grinding, tanning, buffing, and finishing of leather (7 factories).”

“The industry with the highest investment, which was shut down in January 2021, was the manufacturing industry of tools, household articles, and furniture, of plastic—9,237 million Baht, followed by the manufacture, assembly, or repair of radios and televisions—3,290 million Baht.”

Industrial Economic Status by Industrial Sectors in January 2021

1. Food Industry

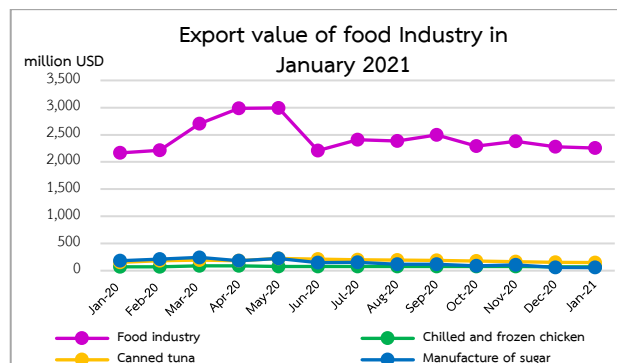


Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

Production: The overall MPI of food products in January 2021 dropped 3.9 percent (%YoY) as drought and a decreased in orders of some products. Products contributing to the increase of the MPI were (1) Sugar (-13.2% YoY); (2) Processed vegetable and fruit (-10.3% YoY), and (3) Fishery products (-4.3% YoY).

Excluding sugar, the overall MPI of food production grew by 0.8 percent from the same period last year. The output in some food industries expanded well, such as (1) Condensed milk or powdered milk products (21.2% YoY); (2) Prepared pet food (19.0% YoY)—due to an increase in orders from the US market, combined with the growing popularity of keeping pets; (3) Instant noodles (14.8% YoY); (4) Tapioca starch (13.2% YoY)—as corn prices in China rose rapidly, resulted in higher demand for cassava products; (5) Condiments (12.9% YoY).

Domestic sales in January 2021 grew by 10.7 percent from some products such as (1) Canned pineapple (15.8% YoY), (2) Cooked chicken meat (15.2% YoY), (3) Cassava starch (13.0% YoY), (4) Frozen shrimps (11.3% YoY), (5) Instant noodles (10.3% YoY), (6) Soy milk (8.7% YoY), (7) Chilled and frozen chicken meat (5.7% YoY).



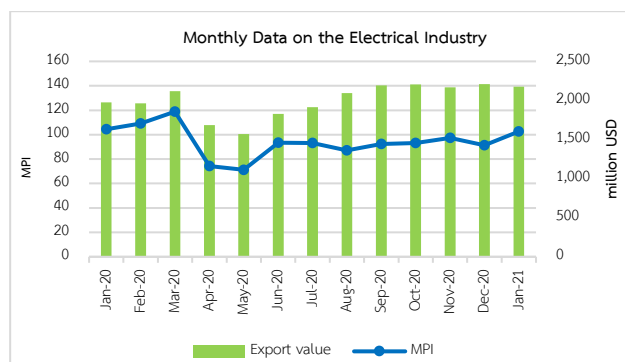
Source: Ministry of Commerce

Export markets: Overall food exports in January 2021 valued at 2,254.3 million USD, a growth from the same period last year (%YoY) by 3.3 percent from key products, including (1) Cassava products, as the Chinese market requires cassava for use in the alcohol and animal feed industries, substituting high-priced raw corn. (2) Fresh, chilled, frozen, canned, and processed fruits and vegetables due to demand from trading partners such as China, the US, and Hong Kong. (3) Pet food, due to the growing popularity of keeping pets. The major markets are the US, Japan, Italy, and Malaysia.

Outlook for the food industry: It is expected that the MPI of the food industry in February 2021 will contract slightly from the same period of last year, as several COVID-19 protection measures remain in place, such as the time limit for food and beverage services until 23.00 hours, prohibiting alcohol consumption in restaurants and entertainment venues, and enforcing a maximum number of participants to 100 people in meetings and seminars. The situation of the new wave of outbreaks in the country is likely continuing to ease. In addition, the government sector has measures to stimulate spending through the “We Win” project. It is expected that the economic activity will gradually recover. The export value is expected to contract slightly due to measures controlling the spread of the COVID-19, which is concentrated in European countries, including some areas in China and Japan.

2. Electrical and Electronics Industry

■ Electrical Industry



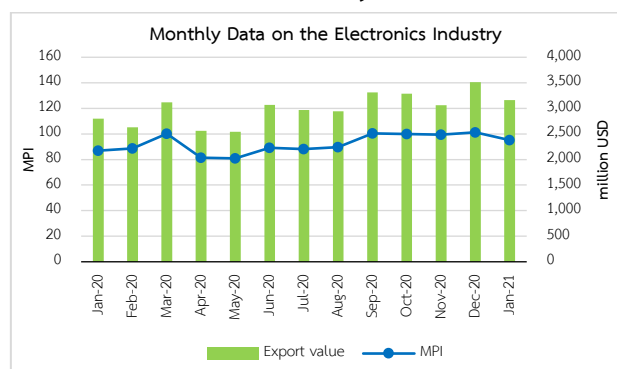
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics, Electrical and Electronics Institute, and Ministry of Commerce

➖ **Production of electrical appliances** decreased by 1.9 percent compared to the same month last year with an MPI of 102.7 points. Products that decreased in production were thermoses (-37.5%), cables (-21.0%), household fans (14.8%), air-conditioners (-13.2%), microwave ovens (-9.5%), rice cookers (-6.0%), and compressors (-3.6%). The decline was due to a decrease in orders of thermoses from domestic market and microwave ovens and rice cookers from international markets, including a drop in demands for cables, household fans, air conditioners, and compressors from domestic and international markets. Nevertheless, products that increased in production were transformers (55.7%), refrigerators (22.5%), electric motors (19.9%), washing machines (17.5%), and cables (7.8%) due to an increase in demand for products from overseas.

➕ **Exports of electrical appliances** increased by 10.4 percent compared to the same month last year to 2,178.8 million USD. Products that increased in orders were electric wires and cables—increasing 55.7 percent to 75.0 million USD from Singapore, Hong Kong, and the US markets; washing/dry cleaning machines and parts—increasing 49.6% to 134.2 million USD in the US, Brazil, and ASEAN markets; transformers and parts—increasing 35.7 percent to 193.8 million USD in Europe, Asian, and the US markets; circuit breakers and protection devices—increasing 30.3 percent to 174.8 million USD in ASEAN and the US markets. Meanwhile, products that decreased in orders were microwave ovens—decreasing 1.2 percent to 19.2 million USD in Hong Kong and the US markets; air-conditioners and parts—decreasing 0.6 percent to 524.5 million USD in India, Japan, and the US markets.

“Production outlook in February 2021, the electrical industry is expected to increase by 1-3 percent from the same month last year as the global economy starts to recover and an increase in demand for electrical appliances.”

■ Electronics Industry



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

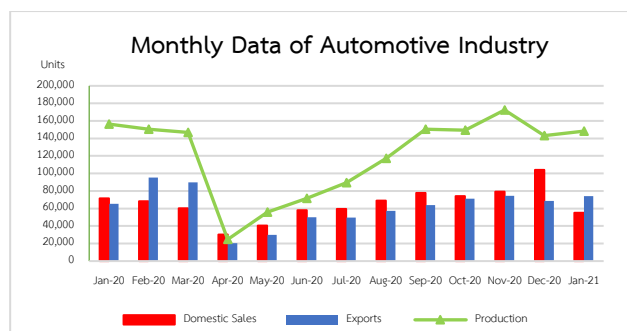
➕ **Production of electronics** increased by 9.5 percent compared to the same month last year with an MPI of 95.1 points. Electronic products that increased production were printers (53.9%), PWBs (26.0%), semiconductor device transistors (12.9%), ICs (11.2%), and HD (2.4%), owing to the growth of domestic sales and an increase in orders from overseas. Meanwhile, electronic product that decreased in production was PCBAs (-4.7%) as demands for the products from domestic and overseas markets dropped.

➕ **Exports of electronics** increased by 13.0 percent compared to the same month last year to 3,159.6 million USD. Product that increased in orders were PCBAs—increasing in orders by 32.3 percent to 131.5 million USD from South Korea, China, and Vietnam markets; ICs—increasing in orders by 12.6 percent to 620.83 million USD from the Netherland, ASEAN, and the US markets; semiconductor device transistors and diodes—increasing by 2.3 percent to 11.5 million USD in Europe, India, and ASEAN markets. In contrast, product with a decrease in orders was HDDs, decreasing 3.1 percent to 834.1 million USD in Europe, the US, and Japan markets.

“Production outlook in February 2021: The electronics industry is expected to increase by 15.0 percent from the same month last year due to an increase in demands for HDDs from domestic and international markets. Furthermore, some people have to work from home and study online due to the outbreak of a new wave of COVID-19, which increased the use of electronic devices.”

3. Automotive Industry

■ Automotive Manufacturing Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics; data collected from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries

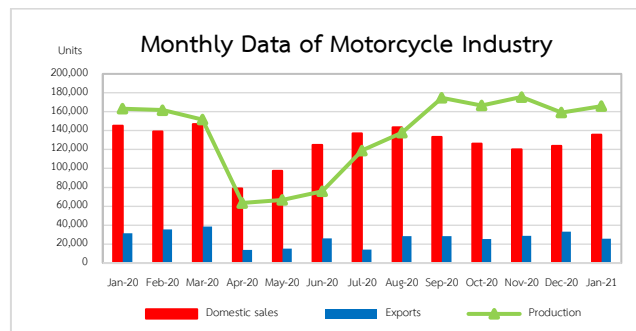
+ **Automotive production** in January 2021 increased by 3.53 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 148,118 units but decreased by 5.21 percent (%YoY) compared to the same month last year from a decrease in production of passenger cars, 1-ton pick-up trucks and derivatives, and commercial vehicles.

- **Domestic sales of automobiles** in January 2021 reached 55,208 units, a decrease of 46.96 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 and a decrease of 21.40 percent decrease from the same month last year (%YoY). The contract was due to a decrease in sales of passenger cars, one-ton pickup trucks, derivatives, and commercial vehicles, as domestic consumers were concerned about the new wave of COVID-19 outbreaks. This was coupled with the slowdown in the country's economy, caused by anti-pandemic measures, and the tourism sector's impact.

+ **Exports of automobile** in January 2021 reached 74,132 vehicles, increasing 8.25 percent from December 2020 (%MoM) and 13.53 percent from the same month last year (%YoY). Car exports increased in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe as global economies recovered from the clarity of COVID-19 vaccine measures, together with the economic stimulus measures that all countries begun to gradually implement.

"Automotive industry outlook: In February 2021, the industry is expected to contract compared to February 2020. The contraction is due to the impact on the economic slowdown from the spread of the COVID-19, compared with the vehicle production base from the same month of 2020."

■ Motorcycle Manufacturing Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics; data collected from Automotive Division, Federation of Thai Industries

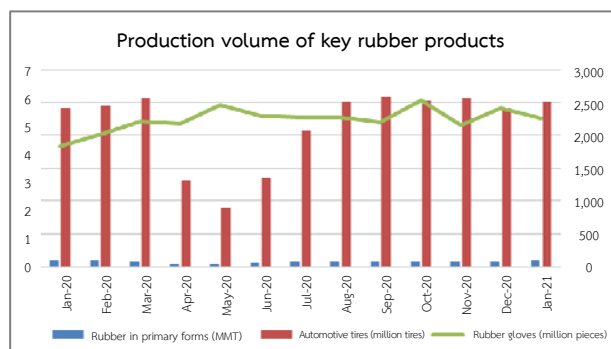
+ **Motorcycle production** in January 2021 increased by 4.26 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 165,874 units and increased by 1.66 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year from an increase in the production of multi-purpose and sport motorcycles.

+ **Domestic sales of motorcycles** in January 2021 increased by 9.53 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 135,641 units but decreased by 6.45 percent (%YoY) over the same month last year from a decrease in sales of 51-110 cc and ≤ 400 cc motorcycles.

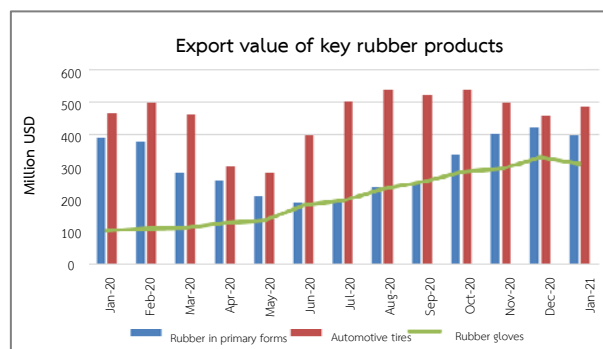
- **Motorcycle exports** in January 2021 reached 25,708 units, a decrease of 22.24 percent from December 2020 (%MoM) and a decrease of 18.62 percent from the same month last year (%YoY). Exports markets for completed motorcycle products declined in Belgium, the US, the UK, and the Netherlands. However, the export market for a complete set of motorcycle parts (CKD) increased by 16.49 percent from the same month last year (%YoY).

"Motorcycle industry outlook: In February 2021, the industry is expected to contract compared to February 2020. The contraction is due to the impact on the economic slowdown from the COVID-19 outbreak, compared with the vehicle production base from the same month last year."

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)* contracted by 10.65 percent, which was the slowdown in all products following a decrease in volume of rubber entered into the markets.

➕ *Automotive tires* increased by 3.53 percent, following the expansion of the domestic replacement market and export market.

➕ *Rubber gloves* increased by 23.15 percent, in line with continued demand for medical uses following the COVID-19 outbreak.

Domestic Sales

➖ *Processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex)* decreased by 10.93 percent as *smoked rubber sheets and concentrated latex* sales dropped.

➕ *Automotive tires* increased by 5.14 percent, in line with the expansion of the replacement market.

➖ *Rubber gloves* decreased by 43.47 percent as domestic manufacturers decreased shipments through middlemen and turned to overseas marketing by themselves.

Exports

➕ *The export value of processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex)* increased by 1.53 percent. The increase was in smoked rubber sheets and concentrated latex as demands from Japan and Malaysia rose.

➕ *Automotive tires* increased in export value by 4.14 percent following the expansion of China, South Korean, and Australia.

➕ *Rubber gloves* increased in export value by 200.56 percent following the continued expansion of the US, Germany, the Netherlands, China, and Japan markets.

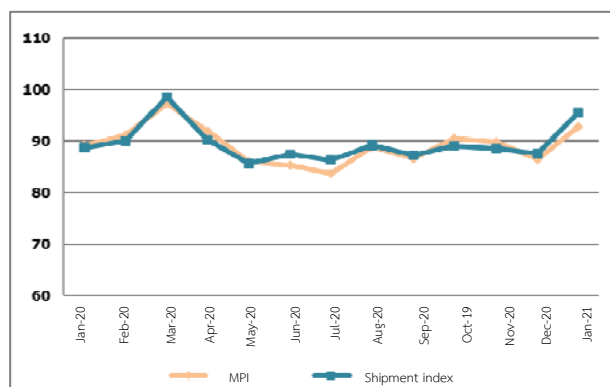
Outlook for the industry in February 2021

The production of processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) is expected to decline, as Thailand started the rubber tapping season earlier than in previous years. The amount of rubber entering the market will likely continue to contract from the past month. Tire production and sales are expected to grow in line with the favorable expansion of both domestic and international markets. The production of rubber gloves is expected to continue to grow in line with rising global medical demand from the Covid-19 outbreak. Meanwhile, domestic rubber glove sales are expected to drop from the previous month, as domestic manufacturers reduced their sales through middlemen and turned to foreign markets more.

The export of processed rubber in primary forms (smoked rubber sheets, rubber blocks, and concentrated latex) is expected to increase in value as Malaysia demands concentrated latex from Thailand to support the rubber glove manufacturing industry that continuously expands. Automotive tire exports are expected to remain stable as exports to the US market slow down due to the Anti-dumping issue; or increases slightly following the expansion of minor export markets, e.g., Australia, China, and South Korea. As for rubber gloves, exports are expected to increase in line with the higher demand, for medical uses worldwide, especially in the US, UK, EU, Japan, and China.

5. Plastics Industry

MPI and Shipment Index



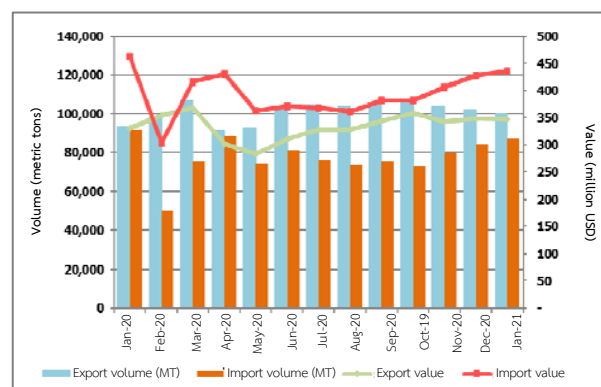
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

+ The manufacturing production index in January 2021 grew by 3.92 percent from the same period last year to 92.70 points. Plastic products that decreased in MPI were plastic tubes and fittings (16.74%), plastic sheets (13.32%), and plastic bags (12.18%).

+ The Shipment Index in January 2021 stood at 95.51 points, an increase of 3.74 percent from the same period last year. Products that increased in the index were plastic sheets (32.33%), tubes and fittings (17.90%), and tableware, kitchenware, and toilet articles (15.67%).

+ Exports in January 2021 increased by 4.69 percent compared to the same period last year to 346.68 million USD. Plastic products with the highest increase of export value were sanitary ware of plastics (HS 3922) (72.07%), followed by plastic floor and wall coverings (HS 3918) (21.64%), and other articles of plastics (HS 3926) (11.33%). Compared to the same period last year, exports expanded in key markets such as Vietnam and Malaysia.

Volume and value of exports-imports

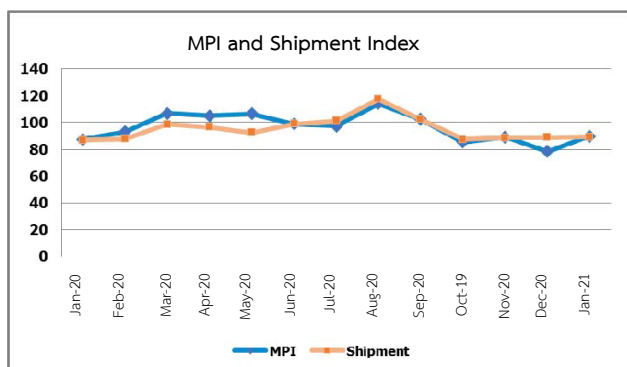


Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

- Imports in January 2021 decreased by 5.77 percent compared to the same period last year to a value of 436.11 million USD. Key products contributing to a decrease in imports were tableware, kitchenware, and toilet articles (HS 3924) (-30.86%), other articles of plastics (HS 3922) (-19.58%), and builders' ware of plastics (HS 3925) (-13.09%).

Plastics industry outlook for February 2021: It is expected that production and exports will continue to grow. However, some factors need to be monitored, such as the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to spread in key trading partner countries, including new outbreaks in many countries that will affect exports and Thailand's plastics industry.

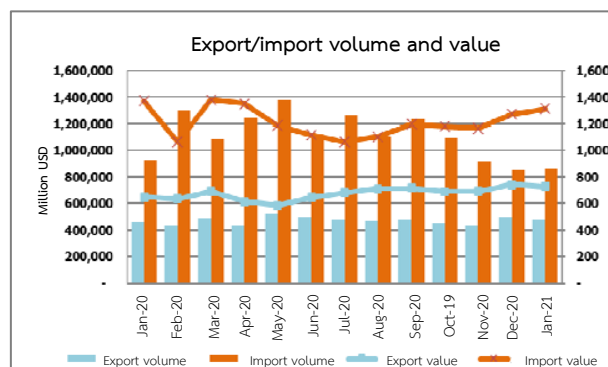
6. Chemical Industry



Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

+ The manufacturing production index in January 2021 stood at 89.76 points, an increase of 2.49 percent compared to the same period last year. The production of upstream chemicals contracted by 4.85 percent. The highest shrinkage product was ethanol (-12.73%) due to the shortage of molasses used as raw material for ethanol production. For downstream chemicals, the production grew by 5.96 percent, whereby washing powder was the highest decrease of production (-27.25%).

+ The shipment index of the chemical industry in January 2021 reached 89.15 points, an increase of 2.66 percent from the same period last year, whereby the shipment index of upstream chemicals contracted by 10.96 percent, decreasing among ethanol and chlorine products. As for downstream chemical products, the shipment index grew by 8.02 percent in many products such as chemical fertilizers, washing powder, etc.



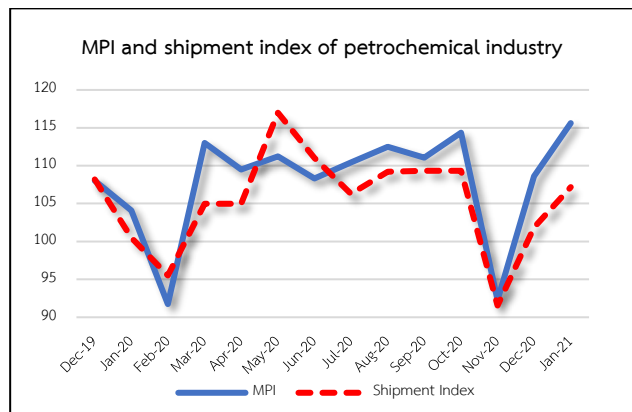
Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

+ Exports in January 2021 valued at 728.05 million USD, increasing 12.22 percent compared to the same period last year, whereby export value of upstream chemical products reached 419.60 million USD, rising 23.13 percent. Meanwhile, exports of downstream chemical products valued at 308.45 million USD, up 0.15 percent. Products contributing to an increase in export value were chemical fertilizers (114.98%), miscellaneous chemical products (54.53%), and organic chemical products (11.98%). Exports increased in many markets such as Japan, China, and Vietnam.

- Imports in January 2021 valued at 1,312.31 million USD, a decrease of 4.26 percent from the same period of last year. The import value of upstream chemical products increased by 2.25 percent to 910.93 million USD. As for downstream chemicals, import value declined by 16.35 percent to 401.38 million USD.

Chemical industry outlook: In February 2021 production and exports are expected to grow. However, there are factors to be monitored, such as many countries getting the COVID-19 vaccine which is expected to curb the spread of the COVID-19. This has resulted in the Thai economy and the world economy returning to normal, affecting Thailand's production and exports.

7. Petrochemical Industry

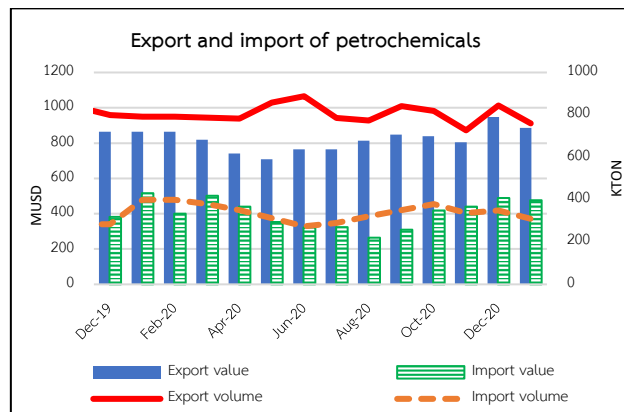


Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

+ The manufacturing production index in January 2021 increased by 10.86 percent compared to the same period last year to 115.62 points and by 6.41 percent from last month. The index of which rose was upstream petrochemicals such as Ethylene (18.07%) and downstream petrochemicals, including PE resin (11.5%) and PP resin (2.28%).

+ The shipment index in January 2021 stood at 107.18 points, increasing 6.86 percent compared to the same period last year and increasing 5.06 percent from last month. The index of which rose was upstream petrochemical products, including Propylene (17.14%) and Ethylene (3.34%) and downstream petrochemical products, including PE resin (13.46%) and PET resin (4.52%).

+ Exports in January 2021 grew by 3.67 percent compared to the same period of last year to 885.42 million USD but dropped by 6.54 percent from the previous month. Exports of which grew were in upstream petrochemical products (2.45%), such as Polyethylene and Styrene, and in downstream petrochemical products (4.02%), such as PE resin and PET resins.

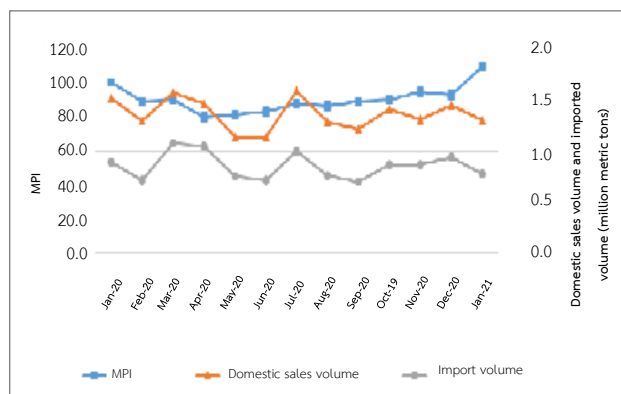


Source: Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

- Imports in January 2021 decreased by 2.25 percent compared to the same period last year to 476.39 million USD and decreased by 6.54 percent from last month. Imports of upstream petrochemicals, such as Vinyl Chloride, decreased by 20.9 percent; however, imports of downstream petrochemicals such as PVC resin increased by 2.43 percent. This was partly from price level that began to rise following crude oil price.

Outlook for February 2021: *It is expected that the overall petrochemical industry will begin to improve compared to the same period last year due to the resumption of production in many products. However, the fluctuation of crude oil prices in the world market, the economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the global market concerns with the second wave of COVID-19 outbreaks may cause exports to remain unable to get back on the right foot.*

8. Iron and Steel Industry



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

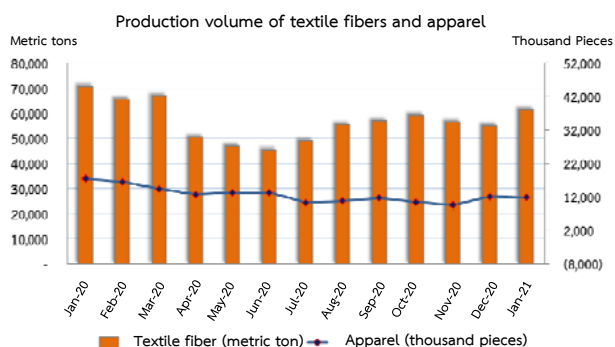
+ **The manufacturing production index:** In January 2021 the MPI increased by 9.4 percent to 110.26 points following the expansion of downstream industries, exportations, including an increase in global price of iron. When considering key products—long and flat products, the MPI of both products increased. The MPI of long product rose by 4.6 percent to 103.7 points, which was from wire rods (21.8%), followed by steel wires (18.1%), and high tensile steel wires (5.9%). Flat products’ MPI increased by 15.4 percent to 117.2 points from products, such as chromium-coated sheets (77.4%), followed by tinplate (65.2%) and hot-rolled coils (15.1%) in line with the expansion of related industries.

- **Domestic consumption** in January 2021 reached 1.3 million metric tons, a 14.0 percent contraction compared to the same period last year. Consumption of long products decreased by 18.3 percent to 0.5 million metric tons, from rebars and hot-rolled structural steel sections which contracted by 30.9 percent. However, the consumption of wire rods grew by 11.8 percent. As for flat products, the consumption reached 0.8 million metric tons, a contraction of 11.3 percent from a decrease in the consumption of galvanized sheets (-28.5%), followed by hot-rolled plates (-17.1%) and tinplates (-12.5%).

- Imports in January 2021 decreased by 13.0 percent compared to the same period last year to 0.8 million metric tons. Imports of long products reached a volume of 0.2 million metric tons, down 15.3 percent from an import of hot-rolled structural steel sections (-83.6%). Nevertheless, imports of alloy steel wire rods increased by 56.3 percent. As for flat products, imports dropped by 12.4 percent to a volume of 0.6 million metric tons from an import of Hot Dipped Galvanized (HDG) sheets (-30.8%), followed by cold-rolled sheets (-20.4%) and hot-rolled plates (-15.2%).

“The steel industry outlook in February 2021 predicts that production will increase compared to the same period of the previous year. Supporting factors include the continuous growth of downstream industries, including government policies or economic stimulus measures that stimulate spending, coupled with rising global steel prices. There are important issues to follow, such as the price of foreign steel products, the implementation of government construction projects, and the world economic and trade situation. Such issues will affect the production volume and domestic consumption of steel products.”

9. Textile and Wearing Apparel Industry



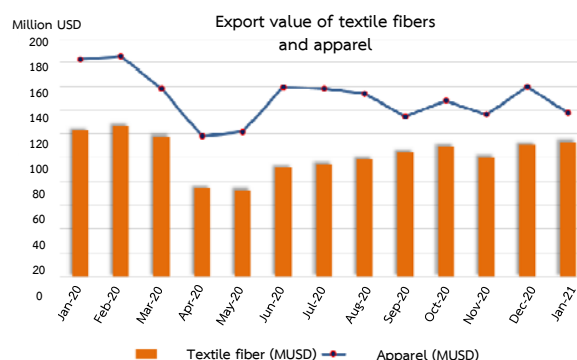
Source: The Office of Industrial Economics

Production

Production of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel decreased by 13.12 percent, 21.51 percent, and 31.82 percent (%YoY) due to the new wave of COVID-19 outbreaks continued to affect the export of ready-made garments and the purchasing power of domestic and foreign consumers to slow down. As a result, the production from upstream raw materials to ready-made garments declined, especially due to the slowdown in major trading partners such as the US. However, compared to the previous month (%MoM), textile fibers and fabrics grew by 11.28 percent and 1.50 percent, respectively.

Domestic sales

Domestic sales of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel declined by 7.61 percent, 15.69 percent, and 33.97 percent (%YoY) due to the lower demand for raw materials for export. Also, domestic consumer purchasing power slowed due to the impact of the new COVID-19 outbreaks. Compared with the previous month (%MoM), textile fiber sales grew by 6.52 percent, partly to be used to produce goods for export following increased orders.



Source: Ministry of Commerce

Exports

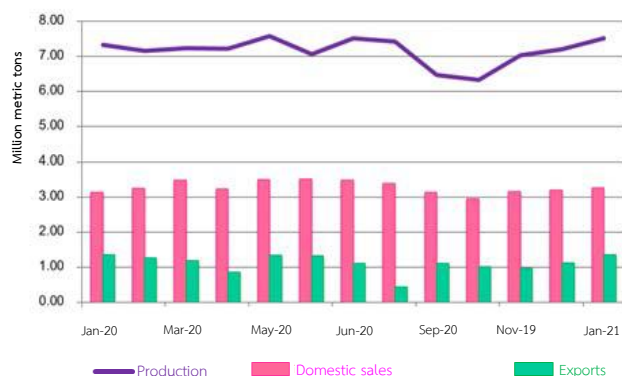
Exports of textile fibers, fabrics, and apparel declined by 7.05 percent, 19.40 percent, and 24.43 percent (%YoY) due to the global economy, which has not yet recovered from the COVID-19 outbreak. Furthermore, major trading partners slowed down, like the US. As a result, exports of textiles and garments contracted throughout the supply chain. Meanwhile, compared with the previous month (%MoM), exports of textile fibers signaled an improvement in artificial yarn products, which grew 2.42 percent for the second consecutive month, from major export markets including Japan, Bangladesh, Colombia, South Korea, and Vietnam. Exports of fabrics and ready-made garments decreased by 14.75 percent and 13.33 percent.

Outlook for February 2021

It is expected that the textile and garment industry will slow down following the domestic purchasing power and the overall world economy, where all countries are affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. In addition, the impact of political unrest in Myanmar may affect the garment industry. However, compared to the previous month, the industry is expected to expand both in the production and export sectors.

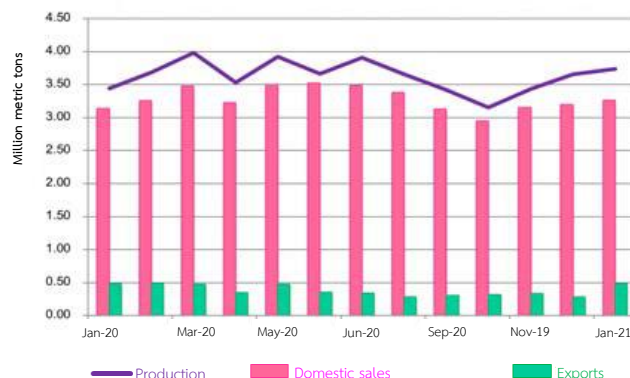
10. Cement Industry

Total production volume, domestic sales, and exports of cement



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.

Production volume, Domestic Sales, and Exports (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 January 2021 increased by 4.31 percent from December 2020 (%MoM) to 7.51 million metric tons and increased by 2.39 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Total domestic sales of cement* in January 2021 increased by 2.22 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 3.27 million metric tons and increased by 4.06 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Total exports of cement* increased by 20.69 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 1.36 million metric tons but decreased slightly by 0.10 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year, resulting from a decrease in orders from Sri Lanka (-99.98%) and the Philippines markets (-61.89%).

Outlook for cement industry: In February 2021, the overall production of cement manufacturing industry compared with the same period of the previous year is expected to decrease slightly due to the slowing economy following the COVID-19 outbreak.

+ *Cement production* (excluding clinker) in January 2021 increased by 2.20 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 3.74 million metric tons and increased by 8.72 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Domestic sales of cement* (excluding clinker) in January 2021 increased by 2.22 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 3.27 million metric tons and increased by 4.06 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year.

+ *Export of cement* (excluding clinker) in January 2021 increased by 67.29 percent (%MoM) from December 2020 to 0.48 million metric tons but decreased by 1.12 percent (%YoY) from the same month last year as key markets such as Cambodia decreased the orders by 39.61 percent.

Outlook for cement industry: The cement manufacturing industry (excluding clinker) in February 2021 compared with the same period of the previous year is expected to increase slightly from the acceleration of large-scale public utility projects and economic stimulus measures to increase the purchasing power of the people.