

9 October 2018 | 1100 hrs | 157/2018

In August 2018, seasonally adjusted industrial production increased by 9.2 per cent over the previous month. When compared to August 2017, the index of industrial production adjusted for working days also increased by 1.5 per cent.

Index of Industrial Production: August 2018

Cut-off date:
2 October 2018

Monthly comparison

In August 2018, the seasonally adjusted index of industrial production increased by 9.2 per cent. Increases were registered in the production of consumer goods (13.9 per cent), capital goods (7.2 per cent) and energy (0.5 per cent). On the other hand a decrease was recorded in the production of intermediate goods (0.8 per cent) (Table 2).

Annual comparison

When compared to August 2017, the index of industrial production adjusted for working days increased by 1.5 per cent. Increases were registered in the production of capital goods (4.6 per cent) and consumer goods (0.3 per cent). The production of energy and intermediate goods decreased by 1.8 and 1.1 per cent respectively (Table 4) ■

Chart 1. Annual working-day adjusted variation

(% change over corresponding month of the previous year)

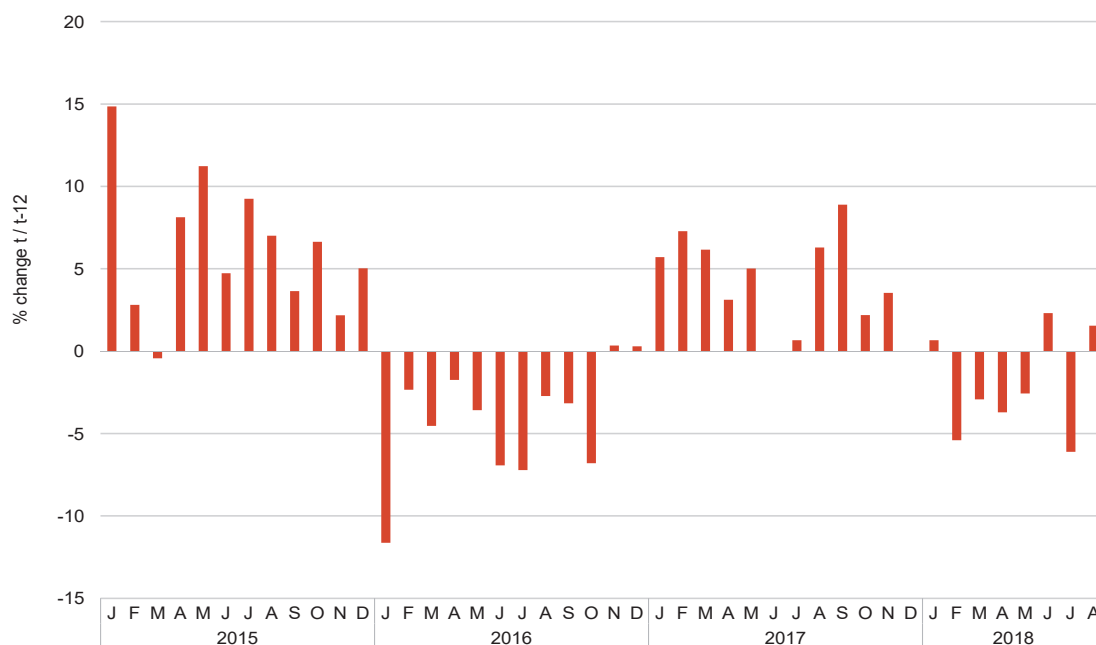


Table 1. Industrial production indices by main industrial grouping and period
(seasonally adjusted; 2015=100)

Main industrial grouping	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18
Intermediate goods	105.7	107.1	102.4	106.3	101.6	109.7	104.4	106.3	102.8	106.2	102.3	105.0	104.2
Energy	107.7	105.9	105.4	106.2	108.2	104.9	107.2	105.1	106.3	107.6	106.1	105.3	105.7
Capital goods	105.7	105.1	103.2	104.6	104.2	104.5	103.6	101.9	102.9	102.7	104.4	101.8	109.2
Consumer goods	93.3	99.7	90.9	93.1	91.8	90.8	87.5	92.7	87.9	89.1	92.9	81.3	92.6
of which:													
Durable consumer goods	92.4	95.9	98.1	95.0	102.1	98.7	96.0	93.4	98.2	93.3	93.9	93.3	102.2
Non-durable consumer goods	93.3	100.1	90.5	93.0	91.4	90.4	87.0	92.7	87.3	88.7	92.8	80.6	92.1
Total production	100.2	102.5	98.4	100.1	97.9	98.9	96.4	97.2	96.5	98.2	98.4	92.8	101.3

Table 2. Monthly variation by main industrial grouping
(seasonally adjusted)

Main industrial grouping	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18
Intermediate goods	-0.7	1.3	-4.4	3.8	-4.4	8.0	-4.8	1.8	-3.2	3.3	-3.7	2.7	-0.8
Energy	1.6	-1.6	-0.5	0.8	1.9	-3.1	2.2	-1.9	1.1	1.3	-1.4	-0.8	0.5
Capital goods	-2.1	-0.5	-1.8	1.3	-0.4	0.3	-0.9	-1.7	1.0	-0.2	1.7	-2.5	7.2
Consumer goods	5.2	6.9	-8.9	2.5	-1.4	-1.1	-3.6	5.9	-5.1	1.3	4.3	-12.4	13.9
of which:													
Durable consumer goods	-4.0	3.8	2.2	-3.1	7.5	-3.3	-2.7	-2.8	5.2	-5.1	0.7	-0.6	9.6
Non-durable consumer goods	5.6	7.3	-9.6	2.8	-1.7	-1.1	-3.7	6.5	-5.8	1.6	4.6	-13.1	14.2
Total production	2.2	2.3	-4.0	1.8	-2.1	1.0	-2.5	0.8	-0.7	1.7	0.3	-5.8	9.2

Notes:

1. Table 2 shows % change compared to the previous month.
2. The calculation of growth rates from the indices table may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

Table 3. Industrial production indices by main industrial grouping and period
(working-day adjusted; 2015=100)

Main industrial grouping	Aug 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18
Intermediate goods	80.6	94.2	113.8	107.4	107.1	91.6	105.8	102.1	112.5	103.6	109.0	106.2	105.4	93.1
Energy	117.7	130.3	114.8	108.2	97.2	102.1	103.3	95.0	97.4	93.9	101.2	106.8	125.4	128.0
Capital goods	90.8	97.8	109.4	107.1	104.9	93.5	104.9	101.7	112.0	103.3	103.4	107.2	97.4	102.3
Consumer goods	87.8	89.5	101.7	95.2	95.8	70.6	84.9	81.9	98.1	92.9	98.6	98.8	83.2	89.7
of which:														
Durable consumer goods	91.3	84.7	96.8	102.1	96.7	91.2	99.3	95.8	95.2	100.9	95.0	94.4	95.4	94.2
Non-durable consumer goods	87.5	89.7	102.1	94.8	95.8	69.4	84.0	81.0	98.3	92.4	98.7	99.1	82.5	89.4
Total production	90.3	96.0	108.0	101.5	100.1	85.2	95.1	91.4	103.3	96.9	101.3	102.9	95.6	97.5

Table 4. Annual variation by main industrial grouping
(working-day adjusted)

Main industrial grouping	Aug 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18
Intermediate goods	-5.0	16.9	1.7	3.5	3.8	-8.9	7.5	-5.6	-9.8	-3.3	0.9	-6.4	0.3	-1.1
Energy	-3.8	10.8	6.6	1.3	2.9	5.4	-3.3	5.1	1.1	4.2	6.4	1.9	-0.7	-1.8
Capital goods	3.1	7.8	6.9	5.0	3.2	1.2	-0.5	-1.7	-5.2	-0.9	-7.4	0.4	-6.6	4.6
Consumer goods	-2.0	1.9	19.6	4.2	5.3	6.4	2.1	-6.3	5.9	-4.2	-3.0	8.0	-10.3	0.3
of which:														
Durable consumer goods	1.6	-7.3	-0.2	-1.4	-0.2	8.8	3.1	-1.7	-2.7	-2.0	-3.1	-3.1	-3.6	11.3
Non-durable consumer goods	-2.3	2.5	21.3	4.8	5.8	6.7	2.3	-6.5	6.6	-4.4	-3.0	8.8	-10.8	-0.3
Total production	-2.7	6.3	8.9	2.2	3.5	0.0	0.7	-5.4	-2.9	-3.7	-2.6	2.3	-6.1	1.5

Notes:

1. Table 4 shows % change compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.
2. The calculation of growth rates from the indices table may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

Methodological Notes

1. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is regarded as one of the most important measures of economic activity. Developments in the industrial production index describe the economic cycles of industry. For short-term statistics this index is the reference indicator for economic development and is used in particular to identify changes in trends at an early stage. The index of industrial production has been compiled since January 2000 and monitors the changes in the production of leading products from a sample of industrial enterprises. Such enterprises cover over 95 per cent of total industrial production.
2. A Laspeyres-type index is used for calculating the index of industrial production, with 2015 as base year.
3. The number of surveyed enterprises is about 200.60 per cent of the activities covered by the index are calculated using the physical quantities method, 20 per cent are calculated using the deflated turnover approach, while the remaining 20 per cent are computed using the hours worked method.
4. The index numbers in this release are working-day and seasonally adjusted. These statistical methods aid interpretation of data by removing regularly recurring variations from a time series:
 - a. Working-day adjustment is a statistical method used to remove the calendar effect from an economic time series. The calendar effect is the variation caused by the changing number of working days in different months. The number of working days for a given month may depend on the timing of certain public holidays, the possible overlap between public holidays and non-working days, and the occurrence of a leap year. This method is used to compare data with the corresponding month of the preceding year.
 - b. Seasonal adjustment removes variation effects caused by the number of days in a month, holidays and particular events such as Christmas. Statistically, seasonal adjustment takes place after a time series has already been cleared of calendar effects by means of working-day adjustment. Seasonal adjustment is used to compare data with the preceding month.
 - c. In seasonal and working-day adjustments, the direct approach is used, meaning that each time series is adjusted on an individual basis.
5. The NSO has adopted methodologies and guidelines recommended by Eurostat and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
6. The objective of Main Industrial Groupings (MIGs) is to provide an activity breakdown of industry (NACE Rev. 2 sections B, C, D and E). There are five MIGs which regroup all activities between NACE sections B to E covering the economic activities of companies in quarrying, manufacturing and energy.
7. The 2015 weights for the aggregates are shown below:

Main industrial grouping	Value added (%)
Intermediate goods	22.7
Energy	12.5
Capital goods	20.6
Consumer goods	44.2
Durable consumer goods	2.4
Non-durable consumer goods	41.8
Total	100.0

8. Figures for the past 26 months, inclusive of the reference month, are to be considered as provisional and therefore subject to revision.
9. As from 2018, the index has been re-referenced from 2010 = 100 to 2015 = 100. Hence, news releases with reference month January 2018 onwards cannot be directly compared with those published before.
10. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods: https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B2/Short-term_Statistics/Pages/Short-term-Statistics.aspx

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=13>

Classifications: [http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2](http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE_Rev_2)
11. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
12. A detailed news release calendar is available on https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx