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In October 2018, seasonally adjusted industrial production increased by 0.6 per cent over the previous month. When compared to October 2017, the index of industrial production adjusted for working days increased by 0.9 per cent.

Index of Industrial Production: October 2018

Cut-off date:
05 December 2018

Monthly comparison

In October 2018, the seasonally adjusted index of industrial production increased by 0.6 per cent. An increase of 3.9 per cent was registered in the production of capital goods. The production of energy and consumer goods decreased by 3.2 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively. No change was registered in the production of intermediate goods (Table 2).

Annual comparison

When compared to October 2017, the index of industrial production adjusted for working days increased by 0.9 per cent. Increases were registered in the production of consumer goods (2.1 per cent), capital goods (2.0 per cent) and intermediate goods (1.7 per cent). A decrease of 1.2 per cent was registered in the production of energy (Table 4)■

Chart 1. Working-day adjusted variation of industrial production
(% change over corresponding month of the previous year)

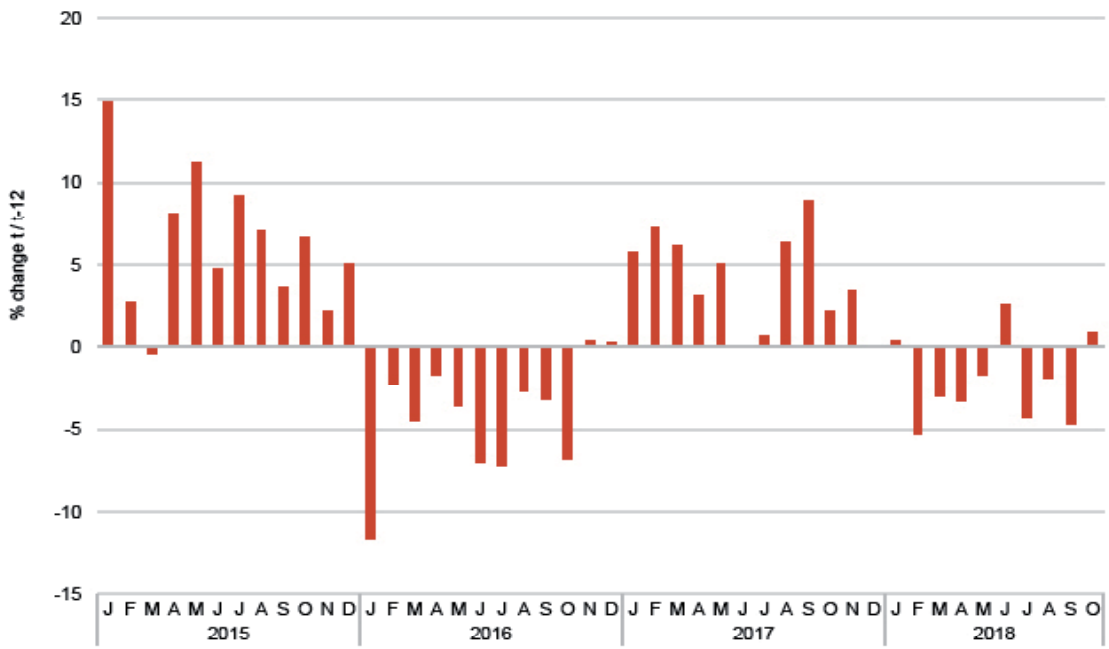

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Table 1. Industrial production indices by main industrial grouping
(seasonally adjusted; 2015=100)

Main industrial grouping	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Intermediate goods	102.6	106.0	101.6	109.0	104.6	106.7	104.0	108.1	102.7	105.1	102.5	103.2	103.1
Energy	105.8	106.3	108.2	105.2	107.7	105.6	106.7	107.8	106.3	105.4	106.4	108.2	104.8
Capital goods	103.1	104.8	104.1	104.5	103.4	101.5	102.5	102.2	104.0	100.9	101.7	100.8	104.7
Consumer goods	90.3	93.0	91.7	90.8	87.6	92.7	88.1	89.4	93.3	83.8	92.3	92.2	91.9
of which:													
Durable consumer goods	99.2	95.2	102.2	99.0	95.6	93.5	98.8	95.3	94.3	93.7	93.5	98.3	91.8
Non-durable consumer goods	89.8	92.8	91.3	90.4	87.1	92.7	87.5	89.0	93.2	83.2	92.1	91.8	91.9
Total production	**97.7**	**100.2**	**97.9**	**98.5**	**96.6**	**97.1**	**96.7**	**98.8**	**98.6**	**93.9**	**99.0**	**98.0**	**98.6**

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

Main industrial grouping	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Intermediate goods	-4.2	3.3	-4.2	7.2	-4.0	2.1	-2.6	4.0	-5.0	2.4	-2.5	0.7	0.0
Energy	0.5	0.4	1.8	-2.8	2.4	-2.0	1.0	1.0	-1.4	-0.8	0.9	1.7	-3.2
Capital goods	-2.7	1.7	-0.7	0.4	-1.0	-1.8	1.0	-0.3	1.7	-2.9	0.8	-0.9	3.9
Consumer goods	-8.8	3.0	-1.4	-0.9	-3.6	5.8	-4.9	1.5	4.3	-10.2	10.1	-0.1	-0.3
of which:													
Durable consumer goods	4.6	-4.0	7.3	-3.1	-3.4	-2.2	5.6	-3.5	-1.1	-0.6	-0.2	5.1	-6.7
Non-durable consumer goods	-9.6	3.4	-1.7	-1.0	-3.6	6.3	-5.6	1.8	4.7	-10.7	10.7	-0.3	0.0
Total production	**-5.1**	**2.6**	**-2.3**	**0.6**	**-1.9**	**0.5**	**-0.4**	**2.1**	**-0.2**	**-4.7**	**5.4**	**-1.0**	**0.6**

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
(working-day adjusted; 2015=100)

Main industrial grouping	Oct 16	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Intermediate goods	103.7	107.4	106.9	91.6	104.4	102.5	112.6	105.3	112.1	106.4	106.1	90.5	108.2	109.2
Energy	106.8	108.2	97.2	102.1	103.7	95.5	97.8	94.2	101.2	106.8	125.4	129.0	118.2	106.9
Capital goods	102.0	107.1	104.9	93.5	104.9	101.7	112.0	103.8	103.8	108.0	97.6	92.1	103.5	109.2
Consumer goods	91.4	95.2	95.8	70.5	84.9	81.8	97.8	92.8	98.7	98.8	86.7	88.2	95.4	97.1
of which:														
Durable consumer goods	103.4	102.1	96.8	91.1	99.7	95.2	95.6	101.8	98.4	95.6	96.7	83.4	100.7	94.2
Non-durable consumer goods	90.5	94.8	95.7	69.3	84.0	81.0	97.9	92.2	98.6	99.0	86.2	88.5	95.1	97.2
Total production	**99.4**	**101.5**	**100.0**	**85.2**	**94.9**	**91.6**	**103.2**	**97.3**	**102.2**	**103.2**	**97.4**	**94.2**	**103.0**	**102.4**

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

Main industrial grouping	Oct 16	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Intermediate goods	-0.3	3.6	3.5	-8.9	6.1	-5.2	-9.7	-1.8	3.8	-6.2	1.0	-3.9	-4.9	1.7
Energy	4.6	1.3	2.9	5.4	-2.9	5.6	1.5	4.5	6.4	1.9	-0.7	-1.1	2.9	-1.2
Capital goods	-6.6	5.0	3.2	1.2	-0.5	-1.7	-5.2	-0.5	-7.1	1.1	-6.4	-5.8	-5.4	2.0
Consumer goods	-16.3	4.1	5.3	6.2	2.1	-6.3	5.5	-4.4	-2.9	8.0	-6.6	-1.4	-6.2	2.1
of which:														
Durable consumer goods	-1.0	-1.3	-0.2	8.7	3.5	-2.3	-2.4	-0.9	0.4	-2.0	-2.2	-1.5	4.2	-7.8
Non-durable consumer goods	-17.3	4.7	5.7	6.5	2.3	-6.5	6.1	-4.6	-3.1	8.7	-6.9	-1.4	-6.8	2.6
Total production	**-6.8**	**2.2**	**3.4**	**-0.1**	**0.4**	**-5.2**	**-3.0**	**-3.3**	**-1.7**	**2.5**	**-4.3**	**-1.9**	**-4.7**	**0.9**

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 the 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. The activities covered by the index are calculated as follows: 60 per cent 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 main industrial groupings 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

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