

World Manufacturing Production in June 2021

One and a half years after the first COVID-19 related disruptions, the recovery of global manufacturing production remains strong. In June 2021, all selected country groups and most of the respective countries experienced noticeable year-over-year production increases. This continues a trend observed since early 2021. Nevertheless, this improvement could be at risk, given that the latest data on infection rates suggest a renewed coronavirus wave in the autumn, especially considering highly contagious coronavirus variants and unequal vaccination rates within and across countries.

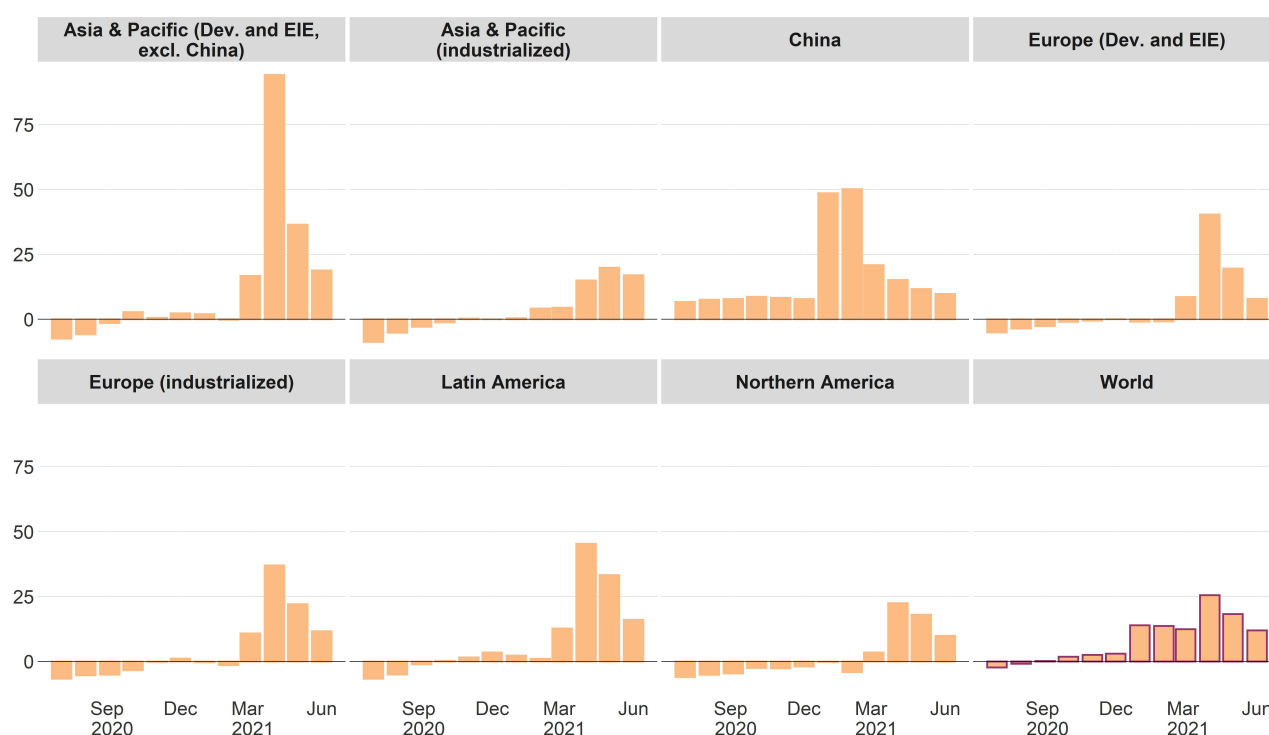


Figure 1: Growth of manufacturing output for selected country groups, percentage change compared to the same month of the previous year

The gradual recovery of global manufacturing production (Figure 1) led to a year-over-year output growth of 12.0 per cent in June 2021, following two-digit increases since January 2021. China exceeded its production level from the previous year by around 10.0 per cent, while industrialized economies recorded a growth of 12.5 per cent. Output in developing and emerging industrial economies (Dev. and EIE) excluding China increased by 16.9 per cent in year-over-year comparison, after a noticeable growth of 34.7 per cent in the preceding month. This trend is mostly driven by the largest economies of this group, such as India, Mexico, Brazil and Turkey, all reporting growth rates of more than 10 per cent. However, the next months will likely see a gradual moderation of annual growth rates as the effect of last year's production collapse fades. Indeed, lockdown measures implemented since autumn of 2020 onwards had a less severe impact on manufacturing production than those implemented at the beginning of the pandemic.

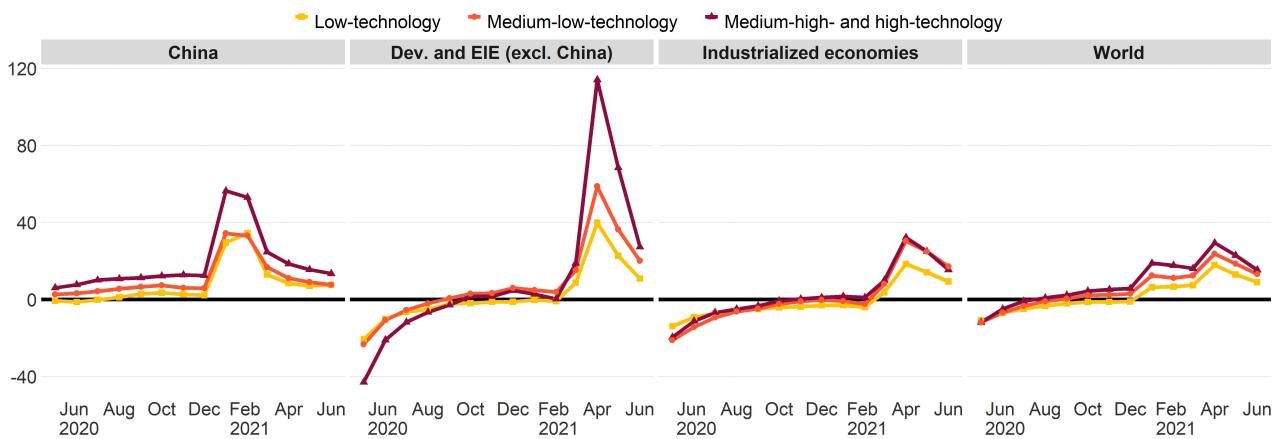


Figure 2: Growth rates of manufacturing production grouped by technological intensity for selected country groups

Data on industries grouped by technological intensity (Figure 2) reveal that medium-high and high-technology industries continue to recover faster from the crisis than industries with lower technological intensity. Many of the medium-high- and high-technology industries that play a major role in global manufacturing, such as motor vehicles, basic pharmaceuticals or computer, electronic and optical products, have registered considerable annual growth rates for several months (Figure 3). However, even if the production of motor vehicles recorded high growth rates over the last two months, this sector has yet to reach its pre-pandemic level.

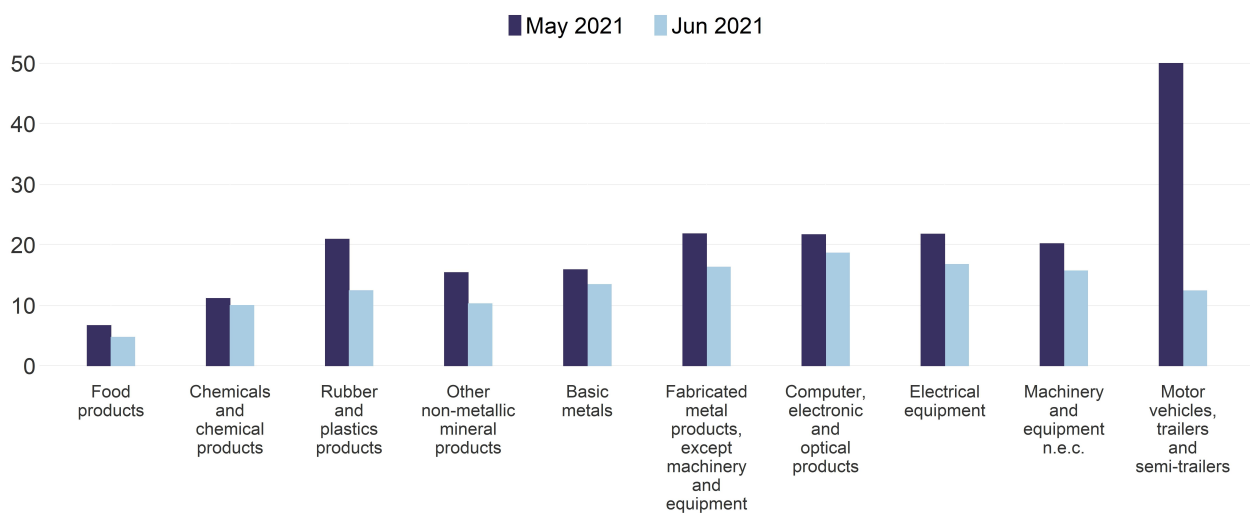


Figure 3: Estimated global growth by industry, percentage change compared to the same month of the previous year

Methodological note: Preliminary index numbers of industrial production (base 2015) are obtained from national statistical sources. UNIDO conducts seasonal adjustment where necessary and appropriate. The most recent [monthly](#) and [quarterly](#) data are available on the UNIDO Statistics data portal. The detailed data according to country groups used in this overview can be downloaded [here](#). Country coverage for this monthly report is limited due to data availability, with the aggregate of world manufacturing output including around 50 countries and a share of approximately 80 per cent of global manufacturing output. Information on the methodology of index numbers can be found in a [methodological document](#) as well as in a [document on seasonal adjustment](#).