

World Manufacturing Production in October 2021

Global manufacturing production grew by 2.8 per cent in October 2021 compared to the same month of 2020, pointing to a moderating recovery after the COVID-19 related production slump in 2020. Nevertheless, global manufacturing production is currently facing headwinds due to disruptions in the global supply chain, delaying the distribution of raw materials, components and other products. Furthermore, new coronavirus variants are threatening the economic achievements by forcing governments around the globe to re-introduce restrictions limiting economic activity.

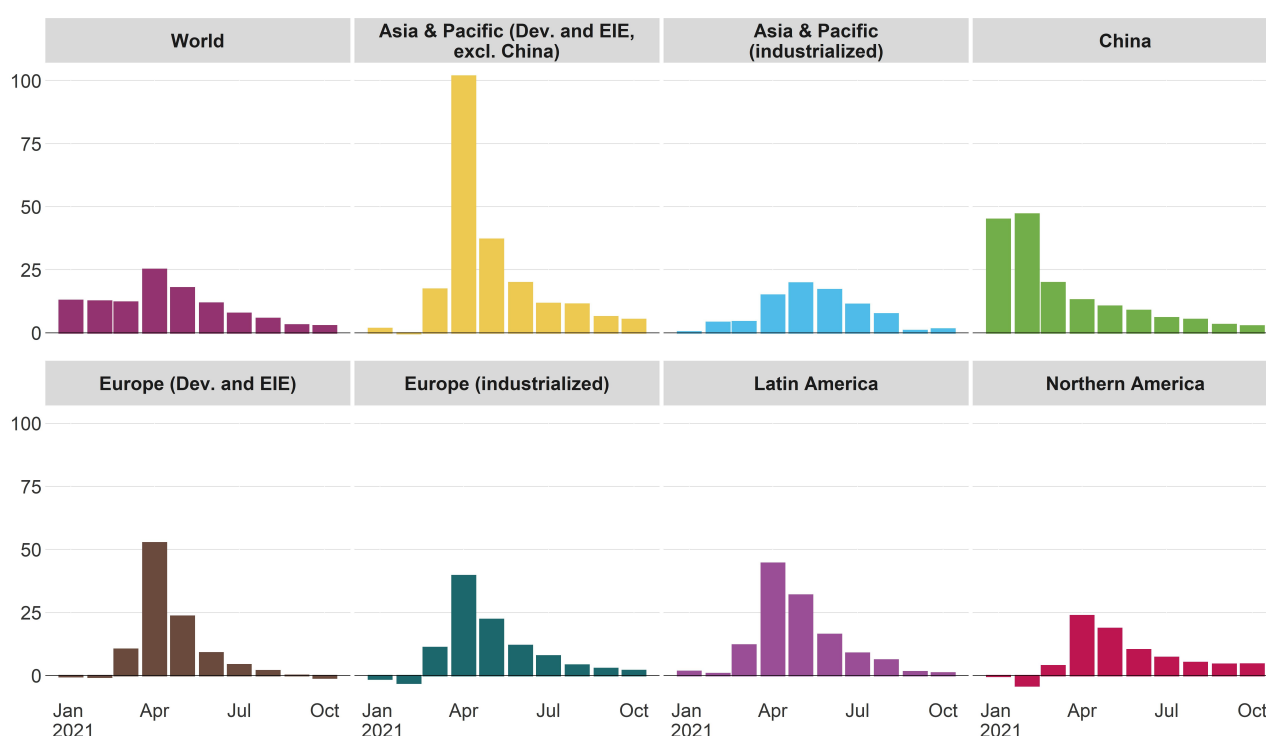


Figure 1: Annual growth rates of manufacturing output for selected country groups

The year-over-year growth rates of manufacturing production in recent months are shown in Figure 1. In October 2021, the best performance among all regions was achieved by the Asia & Pacific (Dev. and EIE) region with a growth of 5.3 per cent, mostly driven by India, Turkey and the Philippines. Northern America reached a stable growth rate of more than four per cent compared to October 2020, while China registered a growth of 2.8 per cent. Industrialized economies in Asia & Pacific as well as Europe faced slightly lower growth rates of 1.5 per cent and 2.0 per cent, respectively. Manufacturing in Latin American economies grew at the more subdued rate of 1.1 per cent, while it even decreased in Europe (Dev. and EIE) by 1.0 per cent, mostly caused by shrinking production in Romania. The economic upturn of the previous months is further moderating, with gradually declining growth rates, and several large economies facing a decreasing production in October 2021, including Japan, Germany, Republic of Korea and Brazil.

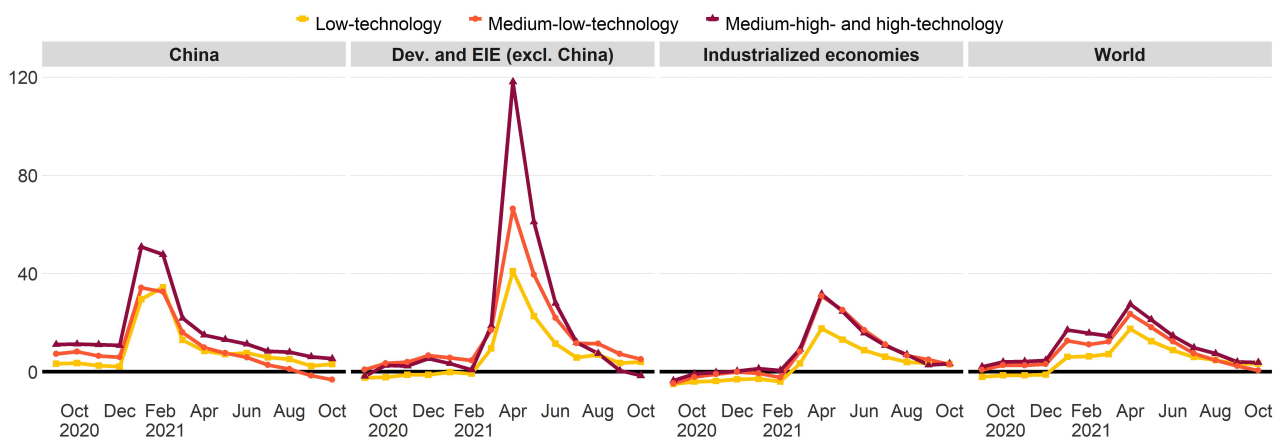


Figure 2: Annual growth rates of manufacturing production grouped by technological intensity for selected country groups

Data on industries grouped by technological intensity (Figure 2) show that industries with higher technological intensity are still recovering at a faster pace globally, but the gap with lower-technology industries is closing compared to previous months. This trend is mostly attributable to the production of automobiles (-15.5 per cent), which is facing shortages in raw materials and intermediate goods. However, most other medium-high- and high-technology industries, such as basic pharmaceuticals, computer, electronic and optical products as well as machinery, continue to report comparably high annual growth rates (Figure 3).

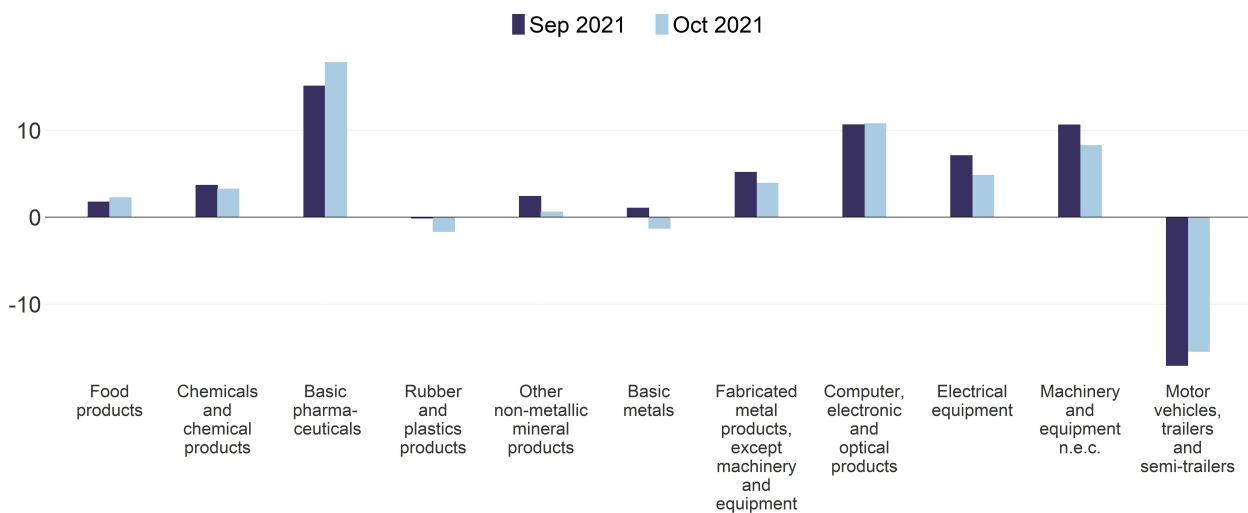


Figure 3: Annual growth rates of global manufacturing production by industry

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](#).