

World Manufacturing Production in December 2021

In December 2021, global manufacturing production continues a stable path with a year-over-year growth rate 3.6 per cent. The economic upturn observed in the middle of the year seems to be weakening due to persistent disruptions to the global supply chain of various materials and products. Several large economies are already facing a declining production, including Germany, France, Brazil or India. The effect of the pandemic is stepping further into the background, as many economies continue to ease or eliminate containment measures, following reduced pressures on their health care systems, but health care experts still call for vigilance.

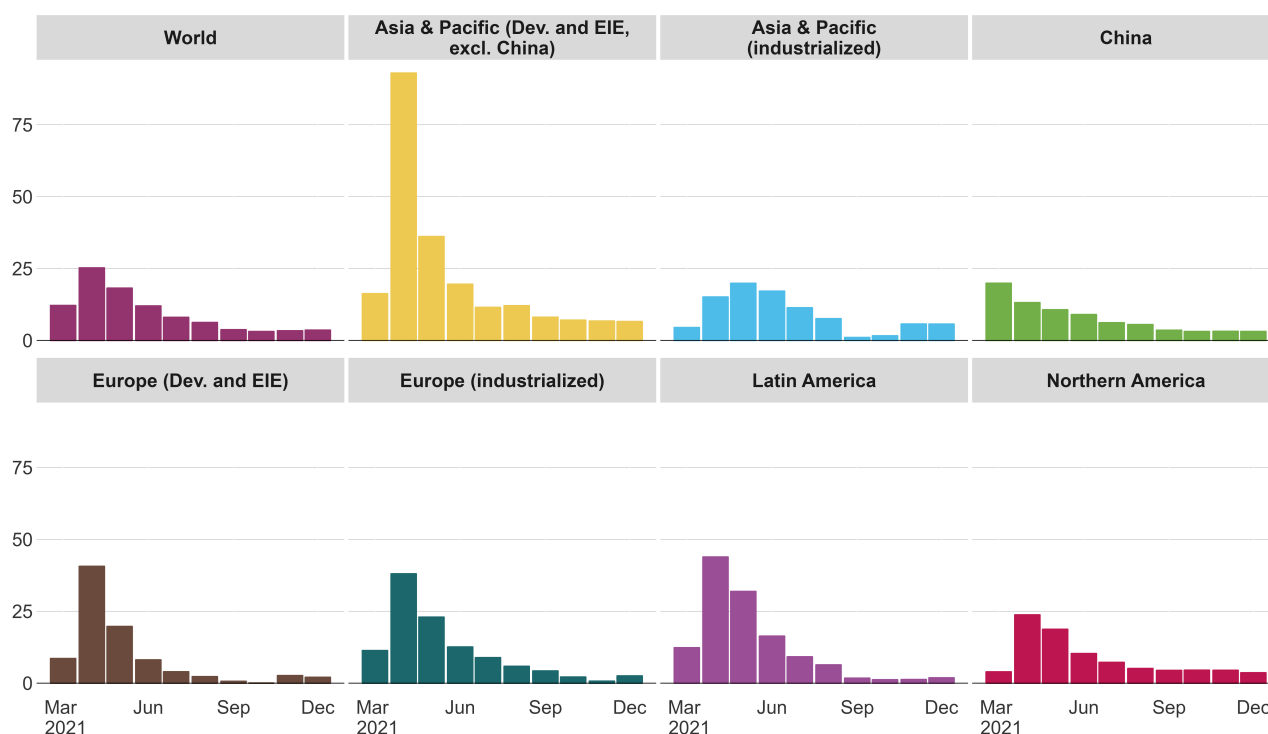


Figure 1: Annual growth rates of manufacturing output for selected country groups

Year-over-year growth rates of manufacturing production in recent months are shown in Figure 1. In December 2021, the best performance was achieved in the Asia & Pacific region (industrialized as well as Dev. and EIE) with increases of more than five per cent, mostly driven by Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Turkey. Northern America and China continued with stable output growth of more than three per cent for the current month. Industrialized economies in Europe faced a moderate growth of 2.5 per cent, while manufacturing in Europe (Dev. and EIE) and Latin America reached increases of two per cent and 1.8 per cent, respectively.

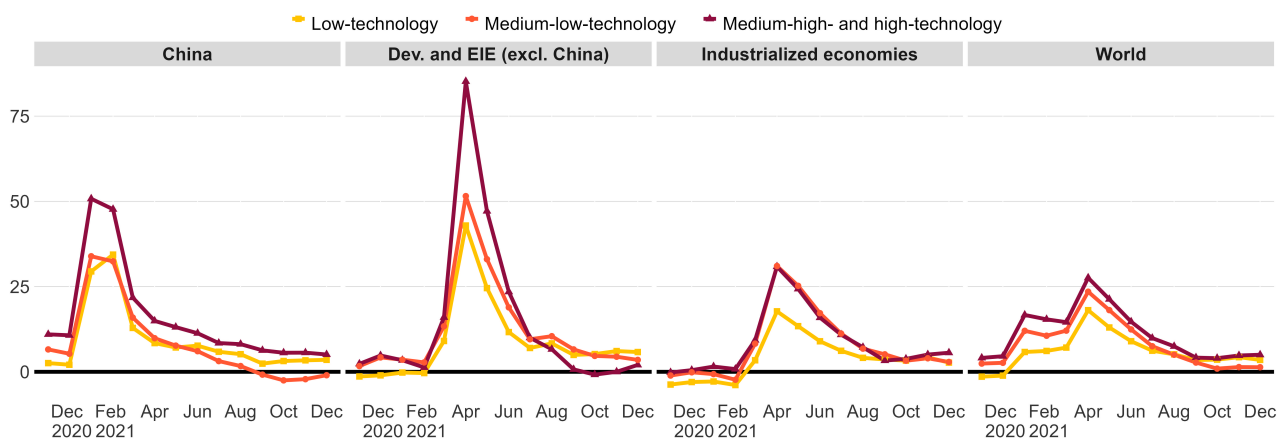


Figure 2: Annual growth rates of manufacturing production grouped by technological intensity for selected country groups

Data on industries grouped by technological intensity (Figure 2) show that industries with a higher technological content are still growing at a faster pace. Since September 2021, low-technological industries are performing better than industries using mostly medium-low technology, such as rubber products and basic metals. The production of automobiles, a high-technology sector that is facing shortages in raw materials and intermediate goods, is still in negative territory with an output reduction of 5.7 per cent. However, most other medium-high- and high-technology industries, e.g. basic pharmaceuticals, computer, electronic and optical products as well as machinery, continue to report comparably high year-over-year growth rates (Figure 3).

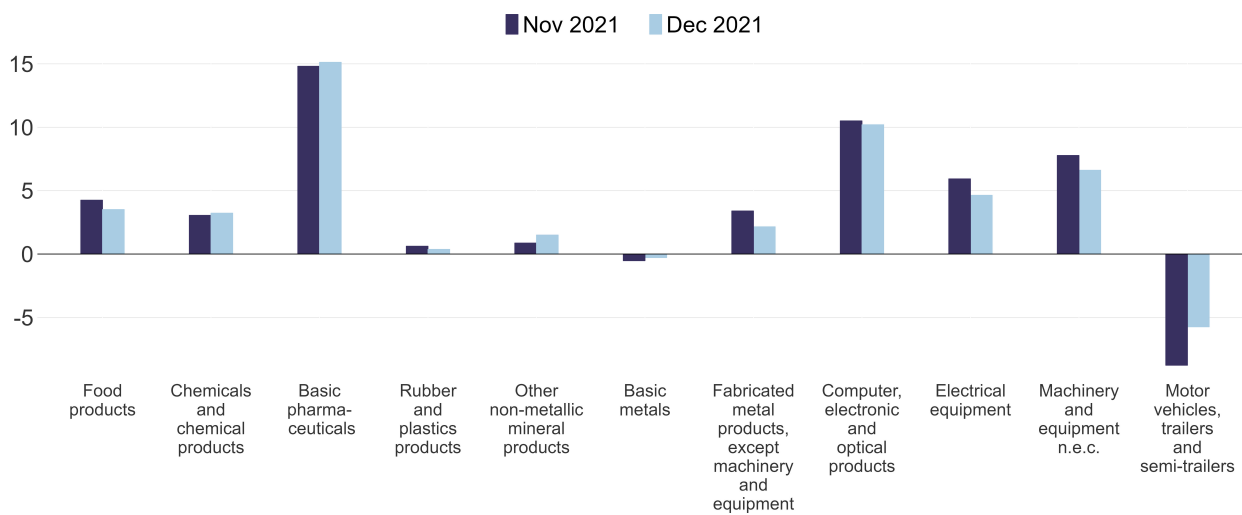


Figure 3: Annual growth rates of global manufacturing production by industry

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 for 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 70 countries and a share of approximately 90 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](#).