

World Manufacturing Production in April 2022

In April 2022, global manufacturing production continued to grow, but at a slower pace than in previous months. Northern America and Latin America & Caribbean registered the best regional performance. China reported a negative growth rate of -0.7 per cent for this month due to widespread lockdowns of Shanghai and other industrial cities. Looking forward, persistent problems with the global supply chain and rising commodities prices may have a negative influence on the expansion during the next months. Furthermore, the ongoing armed conflict in Ukraine keeps exacerbating the risk of weakening the European and the global economy, given the weight of Ukraine and the Russian Federation on the supply of essential raw materials, energy and other goods.

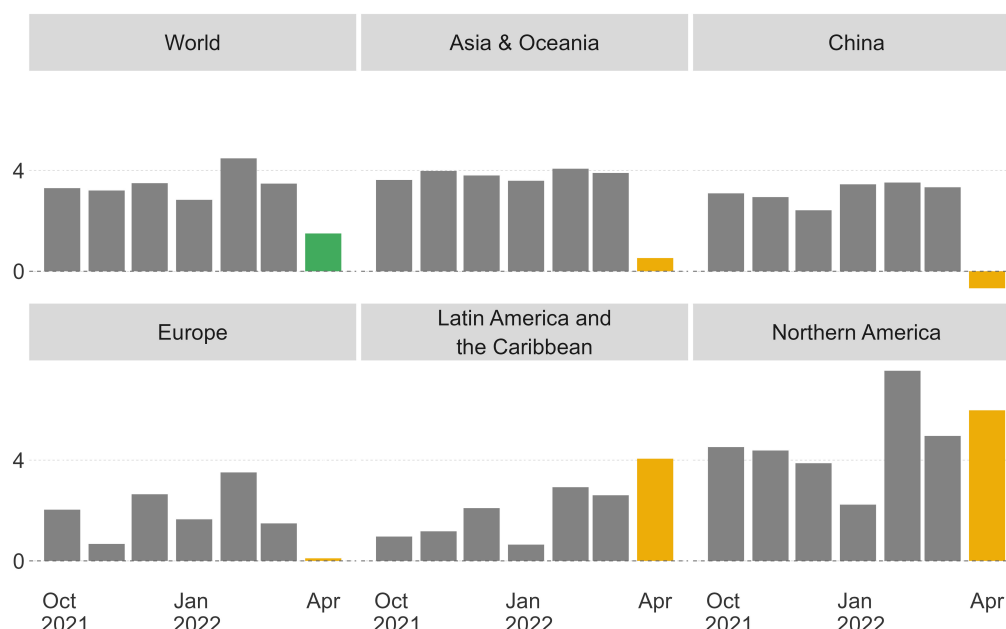


Figure 1: Annual growth rates of regional manufacturing output

Recent year-over-year growth rates of regional manufacturing production are shown in Figure 1. In April 2022, Northern America and Latin America & the Caribbean recorded output increases of 6 per cent and 4.1 per cent, respectively. In the latter region, this positive performance originated mostly in Mexico, Argentina and Colombia. Manufacturing production in Asia & Oceania, on the other hand, recorded only a slight production increase of 0.5 per cent for the current month. The subdued performance is mostly caused by negative growth rates in China and Japan, while the majority of other economies achieved significant production increases. European economies only achieved a minimal output growth of 0.1 per cent, with diverse growth patterns across the countries of this region.

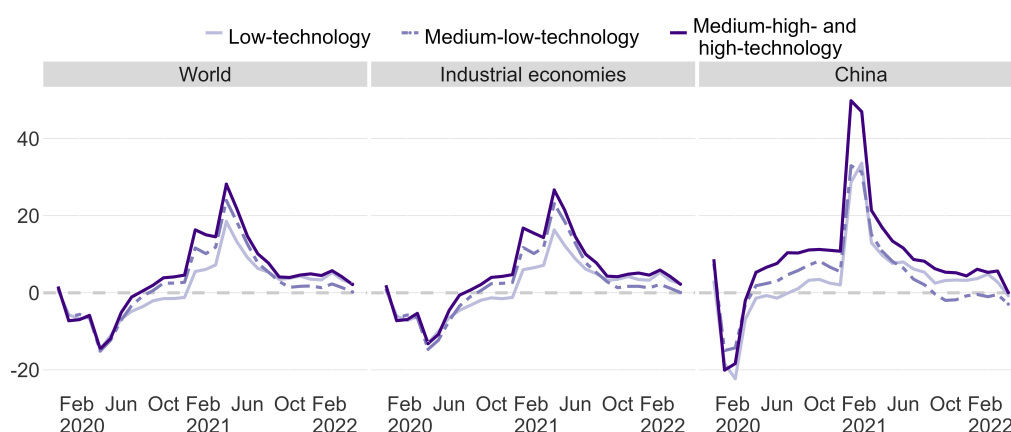


Figure 2: Annual global growth rates of manufacturing production grouped by technological intensity for selected country groups

Data on industries grouped by technological intensity (Figure 2) show that all sectors are facing a slowdown compared to previous months. At a global level, industries with high-technological and low-technological content increased their production by around 2 per cent in April 2022, compared to the same month of the previous year, while medium-high technology grew by only 0.2 per cent. In China, on the other hand, higher technological registered no growth, while lower technological sectors suffered a declining output. The global production of automobiles, a high-technology sector that continues facing shortages in raw materials and intermediate goods, remains in negative territory (-5.8 per cent). All industries grew at a reduced pace compared to previous months, and a few industries already registered a decline in production (Figure 3).

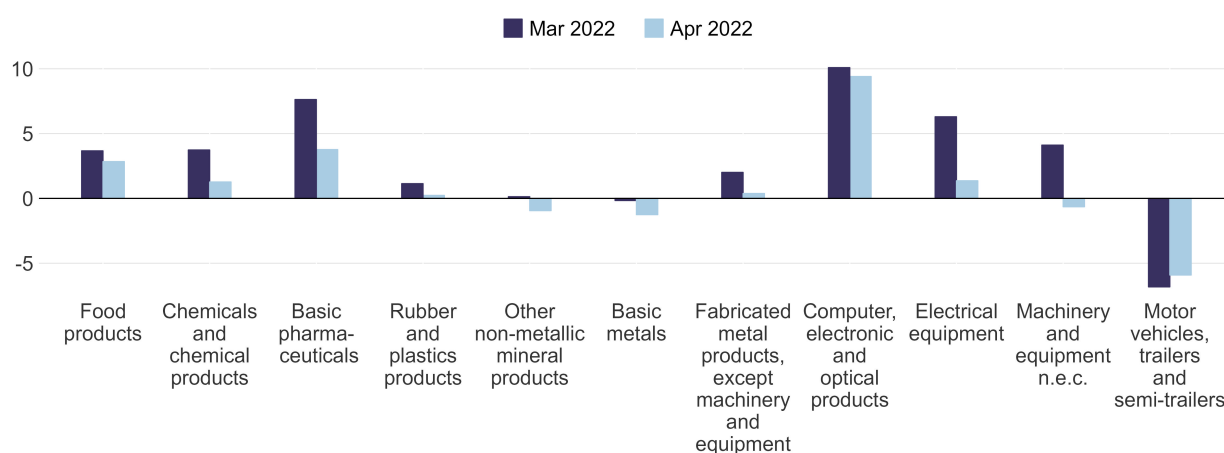


Figure 3: Annual growth rates of global manufacturing production by sector

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 this [methodological document](#) as well as in this [document on seasonal adjustment](#).