

World Manufacturing Production in May 2022

After the deceleration recorded in April 2022, global manufacturing production recovered its dynamism in May 2022, increasing by 3.2 per cent in year-over-year comparison. Latin America & the Caribbean and Northern America registered the best regional performance. China recovered from a negative growth rate recorded in the previous month, which also translated into a production expansion in Asia & Oceania. Manufacturing production in Europe began to grow again after the stagnation suffered in the previous month. However, this expansion remains at risk due to ongoing disruptions in global supply chains, together with rising prices in commodities leading to a generalized inflation across the world, but particularly in Europe.



Figure 1: Annual growth rates of regional manufacturing output

Year-over-year growth rates of regional manufacturing production in recent months are shown in Figure 1. In May 2022, Latin America & the Caribbean and Northern America recorded output expansion of 6.2 per cent and 4.8 per cent, respectively. In the former region, most countries continued to grow at high rates, including an extraordinary growth rate of 43.8 per cent in Colombia, which was attributed to a recovery from the negative performance of its main manufactures in the previous year. Manufacturing production in Asia & Oceania registered an output increase of 2.7 per cent. This represents a significant improvement with respect to the previous month, attributed mainly to a recovery of China and an outstanding production increase of around 20 per cent in Viet Nam, India, Israel and other economies. European economies achieved a substantial output growth of 2.7 per cent, which was the best performance in the sector since February 2022. However, growth patterns varied country by country.

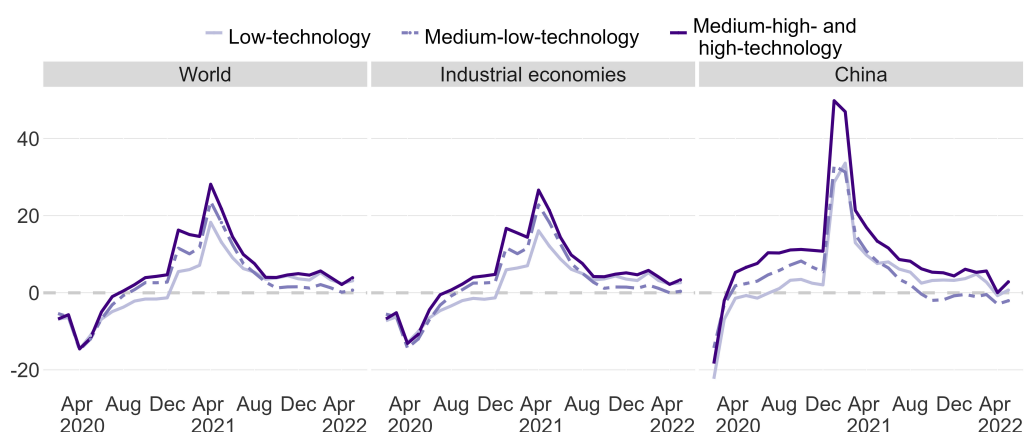


Figure 2: Annual global growth rates of manufacturing production grouped by technological intensity for selected country groups

Data on industries grouped by technological intensity (Figure 2) show that production growth ticked up during this month, led by industries with high technological content (3.9 per cent). Industries with low technological content also showed high dynamism (3.1 per cent), while medium-low technology industries remained almost flat (0.7 per cent). In China, medium-low technology manufacturing sector even registered a decline of 2.1 per cent. The global production of motor vehicles remained negative for the eleventh month in a row, although the rate of decline seems to be stabilizing. This sector fell by only 0.8 per cent during this month. Most other industries kept growing at a stable pace. One exception was the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, which reported a growth rate close to zero (Figure 3).

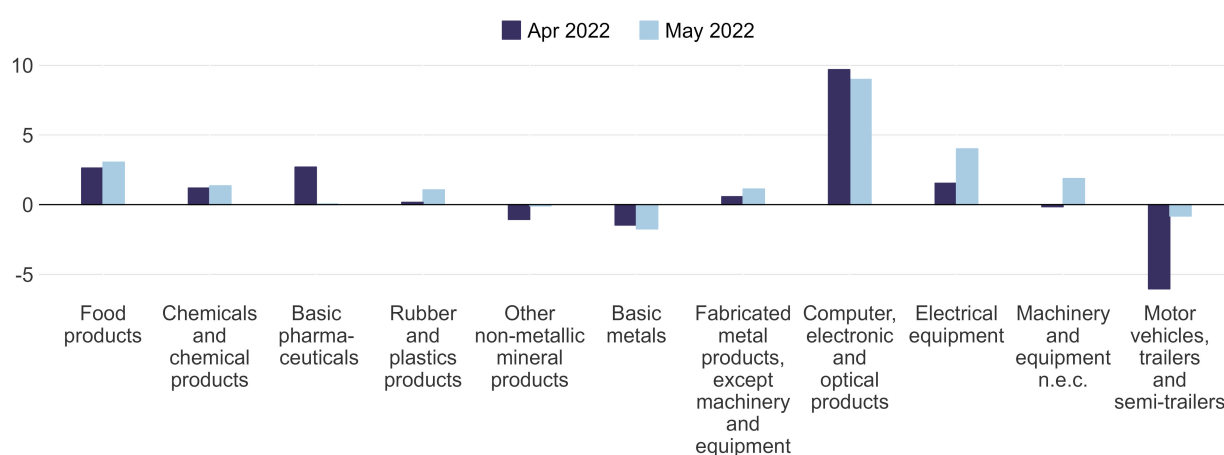


Figure 3: Annual growth rates of global manufacturing production by industry

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