

P3041.2
MANUFACTURING: production and sales

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CONTENTS

Key findings

Notes

Tables

Summary - Total manufacturing

1. Indices of the physical volume of manufacturing production - Total
2. Indices of the physical volume of manufacturing production - Divisions and major groups
3. Value of sales - Manufacturing - Total
4. Value of sales - Manufacturing - Divisions and major groups
5. Value of unfilled orders - Selected subgroups

THE DECLINING TREND IN MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION LEVELS OFF

The declining trend in manufacturing production which started in the middle of 1997 appears to be levelling off. The manufacturing production for the last three months up to February 1999 remained at the same level, after seasonal adjustment, compared with the previous three months. Higher manufacturing production was reported by 17 of the 27 manufacturing major divisions.

The major manufacturing divisions which reflected relatively large increases for the last three months up to February 1999 after seasonal adjustment compared with the preceding three months were the petroleum (+0,3 of a percentage point), the metal (+0,2 of a percentage point), the furniture (+0,2 of a percentage point) and the radio, television and communication (+0,1 of a percentage point) divisions. However, the major manufacturing divisions which reflected relatively large decreases, after seasonal adjustment, during the same period were the basic iron and steel (-0,4 of a percentage point), the food (-0,2 of a percentage point) and the paper (-0,1 of a percentage point) divisions.

The total value of sales of manufactured products for the last three months up to February 1999 reflected an increase of 2,2% (R2 065 million) after seasonal adjustment compared with the preceding three months. The largest increases were reported by the motor vehicle (+15,8% or R1 259 million), the metal (+15,8% or R853 million) and the electrical machinery (+6,9% or R200 million) divisions.

Increased levels of unfilled orders for February 1999 compared with February 1998 were reported by the other metal products (+R543 million), the electric motors, generators and transformers (+R176 million) and the television, radio and communication (+R123 million) subgroups.

NOTES

1. This statistical release shows the indices of the physical volume of manufacturing production and the value of sales and unfilled orders, **after benchmarking**, according to manufacturing divisions and major groups. Furthermore, in accordance with international practice, the indices were recalculated on the basis of 1995=100. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are shown. **The former TBVC states are included.**
2. In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month may have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in the next issue(s) as soon as better information is available.
3. The calculation of the monthly production indices is based on the value of products and articles manufactured, after the effect of price changes has been eliminated through deflation by using appropriate sub-indices of the Production Price Index (PPI). The value of the manufactured products is obtained from a monthly sample survey of manufacturing establishments in the private and public sectors.
4. **The results of the 1991 and 1993 Manufacturing Censuses were used to adjust the level of the indices and the value of sales.** This process is known as benchmarking. The total value of gross output of the manufacturing major groups (which represents the total value of work done by the establishments in these groups) as obtained from the respective manufacturing censuses, was deflated with appropriate subindices of the Production Price Index in order to calculate the real gross output. The latter served as benchmarks to verify or adjust the level of the monthly volume indices. The level adjustments were done on the volume indices for January of the relevant census year (e.g. the 1993 census year covers the period 1 July 1992 to 30 June 1993 and therefore the benchmarking was done using the index of January 1993 as reference point).
5. The 1988 Manufacturing Census provided the framework for the selection of a revised sample implemented as from January 1995. A stratified systematic sample design based on gross output was used. Establishments which commenced operations after the census have also been taken into account.

6. Production indices for the various manufacturing subgroups, that were previously published in the **Bulletin of Statistics**, were discontinued as from January 1993. The production indices on a subgroup basis can be obtained through approximation by deflating the value of sales according to manufacturing subgroups (as published in Chapter 6 of the Bulletin of Statistics) by the production price indices for the relevant manufacturing subgroups (statistical release P0142.1, entitled **Production Price Index**).

7. More comprehensive detail on the method of calculation and historical data in respect of the production indices according to manufacturing major groups and the value of sales for the period January 1990 to August 1997 was published in statistical releases P3041.3 (entitled **Manufacturing statistics: Indices of the physical volume of manufacturing production, Base: 1995=100, January 1990 to August 1997**) on 12 November 1997 and P3041.4 (entitled **Manufacturing statistics: Value of sales, January 1990 to July 1997**) on 6 November 1997.

8. Stats SA has adopted the confidential pre-release policy in respect of selected economic indicators and specific government departments. The policy accords with practice among leading statistical agencies. The statistical integrity of the indices and strict observance of the release time has been assured by the following procedure:

In respect of this statistical release, an official representative from the Office of the President, the Deputy President, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Finance, and the South African Reserve Bank will receive a copy of the release on a strictly confidential basis two hours in advance of the public issue.

Stats SA pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za.

SUMMARY - TOTAL MANUFACTURING

Period	Production indices	Sales	Percentage change of:	
	1995 = 100	R mill.	Production indices	Sales
Actual				
Dec. 1998 - Feb. 1999	90,4	85 591,4	-2,9	+3,5
Dec. 1997 - Feb. 1998	93,1	82 716,1		
Seasonally adjusted				
Dec. 1998 - Feb. 1999	100,4	94 490,2	-0,1	+2,2
Sept. 1998 - Nov. 1998	100,5	92 424,7		

TABLE 1 - INDICES OF THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION - TOTAL

HISTORICAL TABLE
BASE 1995 = 100

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
ACTUAL INDICES							
J	75,6	75,4	79,5	84,0	90,0	89,7	86,4
F	90,6	89,6	97,0	96,6	101,2	101,2	97,7 1/
M	98,1	99,2	103,4	101,9	102,0	102,6	
A	84,1	86,5	90,6	95,3	104,7	97,1	
M	87,6	86,4	101,3	102,7	105,3	101,2	
J	93,0	93,7	102,0	101,4	104,1	103,4	
J	92,2	95,9	102,8	103,4	107,4	104,4	
A	94,3	96,2	104,9	105,5	106,6	99,7	
S	96,2	103,6	107,5	104,2	107,8	106,2	
O	100,5	106,1	112,1	114,4	118,6	111,8	
N	103,0	109,6	111,9	113,8	112,4	110,0	
D	83,3	86,0	86,8	84,8	88,3	87,2	
YEAR	91,5	94,0	100,0	100,7	104,0	101,2	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDICES							
J	90,8	90,5	95,0	99,6	105,6	104,5	100,2
F	91,8	91,1	99,1	99,0	103,7	103,7	100,1
M	93,6	95,1	99,8	99,1	100,0	100,9	
A	89,7	92,3	96,6	101,3	111,0	102,8	
M	89,0	87,2	101,5	102,4	104,7	100,5	
J	92,3	93,1	101,3	100,6	103,3	102,7	
J	91,0	94,3	100,7	101,1	104,8	101,8	
A	91,3	93,3	101,9	102,5	103,5	96,7	
S	91,3	98,4	102,3	99,3	103,0	101,7	
O	91,0	95,6	100,6	102,2	105,8	99,6	
N	92,0	98,2	100,6	102,8	102,0	100,1	
D	94,7	98,1	99,6	97,7	102,1	101,0	

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

TABLE 2 - INDICES OF THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION - DIVISIONS AND MAJOR GROUPS

BASE 1995 = 100

Manufacturing Divisions and major groups	Weights	Year 1998	Actual indices			Seasonally adjusted indices		
			February 1/	January	February	February 1/	January	February
			1999		1998	1999		1998
TOTAL	100,0	101,2	97,7	86,4	101,2	100,1	100,2	103,7
Food and food products	13,6	108,3	101,2	92,8	99,3	110,2	106,8	108,0
Meat, fish, fruit etc.	3,9	130,1	151,6	132,4	139,7	139,7	135,3	129,8
Dairy products	1,6	92,5	83,0	91,4	88,9	86,5	90,8	92,0
Grain mill products	2,8	95,9	85,7	86,1	95,7	91,8	92,5	102,7
Other food products	5,3	103,9	78,1	67,6	74,6	103,1	98,4	97,4
Beverages	5,2	103,3	93,5	98,3	96,8	103,7	99,4	107,4
Total textiles	3,3	91,2	87,9	59,9	102,4	86,4	87,7	100,6
Textiles	2,0	88,3	84,5	58,2	106,4	83,3	82,4	104,7
Other textile products	1,3	95,7	93,2	62,6	96,2	92,4	91,1	95,1
Total Wearing apparel	3,7	87,3	85,7	63,7	92,4	83,2	91,5	89,5
Knitted, crocheted articles	0,7	81,4	78,5	60,4	91,3	75,3	81,8	87,6
Wearing apparel	3,0	88,6	87,3	64,4	92,6	84,9	96,1	89,8
Tanning and dressing of leather	0,4	107,7	100,2	65,9	113,2	90,8	89,9	103,2
Footwear	1,1	73,9	70,6	44,1	86,0	70,6	74,4	86,0
Wood and products of wood	1,8	104,5	103,7	78,1	108,1	102,1	100,3	106,8
Sawmilling and planing of wood	0,6	99,6	92,6	62,7	102,6	90,6	89,3	100,4
Products of wood	1,1	107,1	109,7	86,4	111,1	108,4	113,0	110,2
Paper and paper products	4,9	93,6	83,0	91,1	84,7	90,6	94,6	92,0
Total publishing and printing	3,9	94,6	90,3	83,6	86,6	94,4	95,3	90,3
Publishing	1,6	100,1	95,9	93,2	92,2	100,2	104,2	96,0
Printing, recorded media	2,3	90,8	86,5	77,0	82,7	92,6	90,8	88,1
Coke and refined petroleum products	6,1	105,9	114,1	110,1	103,7	116,0	102,7	105,4
Basic chemicals	4,4	114,2	117,1	112,7	118,8	116,7	122,4	118,7
Other chemical products	7,1	103,9	105,5	88,9	103,4	106,4	104,8	104,5
Rubber products	1,5	95,2	95,3	75,2	120,0	81,9	101,0	104,0
Plastic products	2,9	89,6	86,1	69,9	96,8	82,1	89,6	92,3
Glass and glass products	1,0	90,2	84,3	78,4	97,7	81,2	93,6	94,3
Other non-metallic mineral products	3,3	93,5	82,9	76,6	95,6	85,2	93,2	98,4
Basic iron and steel products	5,8	96,9	89,6	82,0	95,8	95,3	86,8	101,9
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	1,9	144,2	142,2	139,4	133,1	153,9	144,2	144,3
Fabricated metal products	6,6	105,4	101,3	88,2	113,3	98,8	104,3	110,5
Structural metal products	1,9	116,9	117,1	95,9	106,0	121,9	135,9	110,0
Other fabricated metal product	4,7	100,7	94,9	85,0	116,3	94,2	97,0	115,1
Total machinery and equipment	6,1	103,6	97,7	72,7	114,8	96,4	91,6	113,8
General purpose machinery	2,5	110,2	99,5	73,8	105,0	101,5	97,4	106,9
Special purpose machinery	3,1	97,7	98,3	72,3	124,0	94,6	84,8	120,3
Household appliances	0,5	107,6	84,9	70,0	107,4	91,5	103,7	115,7
Electrical machinery, apparatus	3,2	97,3	101,4	83,1	98,3	101,7	103,3	98,6
Radio, television and communication apparatus	1,2	126,1	133,7	124,6	113,2	136,9	149,1	116,6
Professional equipment	0,5	76,6	75,2	70,8	82,7	78,0	88,7	86,1
Motor vehicles; trailers; parts and accessories	6,5	86,1	83,8	68,2	87,0	82,8	83,2	85,9
Motor vehicles	3,5	75,3	76,8	56,4	81,9	74,9	71,8	80,1
Bodies for motor vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers	0,5	69,2	54,8	37,6	70,5	51,0	54,6	65,4
Parts and accessories	2,5	105,1	99,9	91,4	97,8	101,6	104,8	99,0
Other transport equipment	1,0	118,1	111,1	120,4	112,0	119,1	119,7	119,7
Furniture	1,8	103,5	99,7	67,8	104,4	100,5	122,1	105,6
Other manufacturing industries	1,5	109,1	95,7	88,0	99,7	98,4	117,1	102,4

* Revised

1/ Preliminary

TABLE 3 - VALUE OF SALES - MANUFACTURING - TOTAL

HISTORICAL TABLE
R1 000

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998 *	1999
ACTUAL VALUES							
J	15 299 940	16 201 243	18 972 369	21 443 348	24 896 075	25 640 869	26 359 429
F	18 649 462	19 696 094	24 073 305	25 751 663	29 192 867	29 333 697	30 563 815 1/
M	20 481 694	21 893 931	26 313 399	27 679 048	29 273 319	31 550 508	
A	17 605 375	19 014 509	22 571 092	25 737 686	29 802 563	29 131 126	
M	18 354 043	19 563 266	25 355 408	27 731 321	29 958 859	29 787 773	
J	19 597 820	21 880 147	25 777 248	27 687 173	29 956 334	31 131 831	
J	19 576 619	22 057 569	25 192 348	27 793 919	30 580 025	31 125 563	
A	20 370 343	21 743 035	26 600 620	28 977 171	30 776 370	30 266 791	
S	20 772 568	23 682 251	27 235 110	28 985 258	30 745 921	32 333 224	
O	21 543 028	24 929 760	28 787 305	32 380 647	35 136 027	34 225 812	
N	22 076 528	25 922 521	29 279 635	32 356 445	33 045 187	33 543 338	
D	17 836 672	20 460 793	23 606 618	25 870 618	27 741 546	28 668 187	
YEAR	232 164 092	257 045 119	303 764 457	332 394 297	361 105 093	366 738 719	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED VALUES							
J	18 699 981	19 854 830	23 217 713	26 089 499	30 020 309	30 690 308	31 419 624
F	18 898 298	19 978 790	24 505 933	26 300 300	29 881 479	30 074 043	31 397 013
M	19 206 768	20 551 843	24 808 146	26 223 942	27 916 838	30 183 778	
A	18 826 191	20 323 270	24 039 157	27 280 205	31 447 734	30 656 520	
M	18 604 786	19 734 567	25 480 938	27 790 088	30 008 778	29 825 508	
J	19 375 981	21 643 514	25 492 385	27 393 593	29 683 748	30 893 737	
J	19 453 513	21 930 609	25 044 293	27 640 006	30 398 812	30 938 604	
A	19 733 797	21 120 595	25 921 633	28 282 412	30 094 783	29 586 348	
S	19 736 466	22 568 447	26 088 174	27 874 309	29 670 349	31 297 781	
O	19 515 198	22 503 354	25 902 250	29 070 291	31 473 349	30 624 881	
N	19 776 240	23 237 423	26 310 103	29 195 407	29 957 385	30 502 022	
D	20 134 214	22 997 593	26 421 328	28 759 727	30 710 177	31 673 534	

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

TABLE 4 - VALUE OF SALES - MANUFACTURING : DIVISIONS AND MAJOR GROUPS

R1 000

Manufacturing Divisions and major groups	Year	Actual values						Seasonally adjusted values			
		February 1/		January		February		February		January	February
		1998 *		1999		1998		1999		1999	1998
TOTAL	366 738 719	30 563 815	26 359 429	29 333 697	31 397 013	31 419 624	30 074 043				
Food and food products	57 388 736	4 483 191	4 552 288	4 446 624	4 719 664	5 131 869	4 677 876				
Meat, fish, fruit etc.	16 579 132	1 445 426	1 267 750	1 363 909	1 404 480	1 439 021	1 331 576				
Dairy products	6 719 841	535 267	510 044	551 426	541 457	526 609	556 302				
Grain mill products	15 830 566	1 204 549	1 205 672	1 232 898	1 309 016	1 333 806	1 337 806				
Other food products	18 259 197	1 297 949	1 568 822	1 298 391	1 455 769	2 009 350	1 451 599				
Beverages	19 306 150	1 486 021	1 640 716	1 396 654	1 754 958	1 689 492	1 647 158				
Total textiles	9 576 228	746 266	501 786	844 025	738 308	723 755	833 839				
Textiles	6 510 519	506 959	348 263	597 279	496 786	484 745	583 867				
Other textile products	3 065 709	239 307	153 523	246 746	243 268	234 575	250 562				
Total Wearing apparel	9 650 560	791 256	484 157	812 036	788 259	801 137	809 434				
Knitted, crocheted articles	1 459 165	119 012	76 291	132 781	114 646	108 328	128 056				
Wearing apparel	8 191 395	672 244	407 866	679 255	677 837	699 997	684 494				
Tanning and dressing of leather	1 875 205	155 957	99 395	156 605	144 902	136 579	146 160				
Footwear	2 369 455	197 707	116 520	215 046	201 021	217 801	218 083				
Wood and products of wood	5 966 007	501 532	386 626	481 986	511 525	530 980	491 075				
Sawmilling and planing of wood	1 745 630	136 672	101 919	147 875	135 882	143 035	146 741				
Products of wood	4 220 377	364 860	284 707	334 111	373 863	387 350	342 432				
Paper and paper products	18 258 304	1 464 667	1 362 839	1 402 876	1 540 079	1 515 059	1 469 764				
Total publishing and printing	10 564 971	885 887	809 842	788 500	922 666	925 778	819 193				
Publishing	4 204 834	346 812	338 463	310 514	356 694	373 565	317 951				
Printing, recorded media	6 360 137	539 075	471 379	477 986	569 585	554 576	503 943				
Coke and refined petroleum products	19 989 220	1 604 050	1 491 414	1 584 907	1 607 710	1 559 901	1 587 292				
Basic chemicals	16 064 857	1 437 815	1 312 437	1 374 074	1 386 288	1 568 593	1 327 369				
Other chemical products	23 851 039	2 026 928	1 758 937	1 868 989	2 085 341	2 083 947	1 923 037				
Rubber products	4 289 105	340 108	284 317	405 462	326 107	394 934	389 367				
Plastic products	9 134 079	740 929	596 520	782 318	737 066	769 723	776 653				
Glass and glass products	2 292 855	171 354	138 454	209 481	168 410	172 893	206 226				
Other non-metallic mineral products	9 116 182	716 290	603 811	752 846	751 775	764 287	789 930				
Basic iron and steel products	25 412 766	1 999 830	1 675 711	2 012 003	2 060 049	1 934 360	2 081 226				
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	12 143 889	1 008 282	817 415	943 276	1 071 373	897 976	1 005 710				
Fabricated metal products	21 836 192	1 836 643	1 530 116	1 684 472	1 868 279	1 894 545	1 704 727				
Structural metal products	8 563 859	755 693	561 465	556 967	807 334	793 312	591 826				
Other fabricated metal product	13 272 333	1 080 950	968 651	1 127 505	1 068 600	1 136 003	1 109 601				
Total machinery and equipment	19 077 949	1 538 065	1 228 882	1 608 401	1 590 624	1 553 110	1 663 069				
General purpose machinery	8 389 330	626 734	501 387	682 427	652 452	651 694	708 002				
Special purpose machinery	8 791 612	773 999	627 786	765 914	792 805	755 829	787 214				
Household appliances	1 897 007	137 332	99 709	160 060	145 335	165 343	169 433				
Electrical machinery, apparatus	11 313 912	1 022 165	846 988	918 802	1 033 580	1 168 289	928 996				
Radio, television and communication apparatus	4 364 411	396 655	338 845	327 362	407 094	443 180	336 570				
Professional equipment	978 414	87 702	82 192	89 501	88 012	102 946	90 148				
Motor vehicles; trailers; parts and accessories	33 602 598	3 262 683	2 310 961	2 726 857	3 202 946	2 943 387	2 662 976				
Motor vehicles	23 521 780	2 437 849	1 620 539	1 936 177	2 368 724	2 083 508	1 872 874				
Bodies for motor vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers	1 589 850	112 573	80 624	109 843	120 799	127 411	116 199				
Parts and accessories	8 490 968	712 261	609 798	680 837	703 064	723 244	671 627				
Other transport equipment	1 948 497	198 313	127 315	155 437	171 981	184 521	135 125				
Furniture	5 592 443	483 994	353 037	445 669	490 218	601 754	452 868				
Other manufacturing industries	10 774 695	979 525	907 908	899 488	941 518	1 023 112	860 993				

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

TABLE 5 - VALUE OF UNFILLED ORDERS - SELECTED SUBGROUPS

R1 000

Selected Manufacturing Subgroups	Actual values			Seasonally adjusted values		
	February 1/	January	February	February	January	February
	1999		1998	1999		1998
Spinning, weaving and finishing of textiles	215 173	199 432	221 032	219 092	207 509	224 557
Tents, tarpaulins, sails and other canvas goods and automotive textile goods	17 207	15 776	13 322	17 183	14 026	13 339
Other textile articles	101 897	89 184	86 111	108 456	98 265	90 941
Knitted and crotcheted fabrics and articles	126 362	115 723	143 909	127 386	119 605	145 520
Wearing apparel	867 826	872 232	951 061	913 323	928 199	999 964
Sawmilling and preserving of timber	15 481	15 917	19 578	15 029	15 605	18 790
Veneer sheets, plywood, laminboard, etc.	14 144	12 357	21 660	15 459	12 969	23 655
Builders' carpentry and joinery	49 920	39 091	31 373	52 158	39 173	32 841
Pulp, paper and paperboard	226 256	177 698	215 721	233 225	209 954	221 012
Corrugated paper and paperboard and containers	364 964	332 145	311 079	365 383	343 505	311 750
Paints, varnishes and coatings	18 853	20 181	17 583	18 249	21 613	16 798
Basic iron and steel products	3 029 043	3 019 548	3 224 208	3 035 167	3 007 614	3 240 837
Steel pipe and tube mills	147 886	151 344	174 097	144 116	141 479	169 836
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	910 171	841 931	1 265 569	895 090	866 789	1 244 437
Metal structures, parts	1 520 741	1 583 229	1 534 435	1 590 225	1 619 948	1 595 054
Cutlery, hand tools and general hardware	25 661	29 829	34 195	25 765	31 656	34 380
Metal containers, e.g. cans and tins	43 189	48 721	56 012	41 342	45 512	53 910
Cables, wire products, springs	77 002	72 882	79 903	75 424	84 232	78 392
Metal fasteners	20 348	21 616	49 693	19 592	21 409	47 721
All other metal products	1 173 887	1 140 649	630 795	1 299 986	1 277 738	692 006
Domestic appliances	38 507	37 298	34 294	39 987	38 911	35 714
Electric motors, generators and transformers	302 481	316 749	126 617	351 802	341 856	146 329
Insulated wire and cables	177 089	172 760	236 655	170 653	182 396	228 666
Accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries	12 874	14 176	14 431	14 065	13 419	15 763
Television, radio and						

communication apparatus	777 801	690 398	654 960	790 821	730 878	662 053
Motor vehicles	1 452 599	1 554 768	1 377 494	1 497 504	1 647 046	1 426 003
Parts and accessories for						
motor vehicles	234 581	237 552	271 673	238 455	241 108	274 399
Furniture	175 970	177 960	228 682	205 816	198 352	266 356

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* Revised