

**P3041.2**  
**MANUFACTURING: production and sales**

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### MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION LEVELS OFF

*The declining trend in manufacturing production which started in the middle of 1997 appears to be levelling off. Manufacturing production for the first quarter of 1999 reflected a slight decrease of 0,1% after seasonal adjustment compared with the fourth quarter of 1998. Lower manufacturing production was reported by 12 of the 27 manufacturing major divisions.*

The decrease of 0,1% after seasonal adjustment in the total manufacturing production, was mainly due to decreases in the metal (-0,5 of a percentage point), the non-metallic products (-0,3 of a percentage point), the machinery (-0,3 of a percentage point) and the textile (-0,2 of a percentage point) divisions. However, these decreases were inter alia counteracted by relatively large increases reflected by the furniture (+0,5 of a percentage point), the paper (+0,4 of a percentage point), the basic iron and steel (+0,3 of a percentage point) and the printing and publishing (+0,2 of a percentage point) divisions.

The total value of sales of manufactured products for the first quarter of 1999 reflected an increase of 0,5% (R467 million) after seasonal adjustment compared with the fourth quarter of 1998. The largest increases were reported by the motor vehicle (+10,6% or R897 million), the paper (+9,4% or R419 million), the electrical machinery (+13,5% or R381 million) and the beverage (+7,4% or R357 million) divisions.

### 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

SUMMARY - TOTAL MANUFACTURING

Period				Production indices	Sales	Percentage change of:	
				1995 = 100	R mill.	Production indices	Sales
Actual							
Jan.	1999 -	Mar.	1999	95,0	88 460,5	-2,9	+2,2
Jan.	1998 -	Mar.	1998	97,8	86 525,1		
Seasonally adjusted							
Jan.	1999 -	Mar.	1999	100,1	93 125,9	-0,1	+0,5
Oct.	1998 -	Dec.	1998	100,2	92 658,8		

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	86,5
F	90,6	89,6	97,0	96,6	101,2	101,2	98,0
M	98,1	99,2	103,4	101,9	102,0	102,6	100,6 1/
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	99,5	105,6	104,4	100,3
F	91,8	91,1	99,1	98,9	103,6	103,6	100,3
M	93,7	95,1	99,9	99,3	100,2	101,3	99,6
A	89,6	92,3	96,5	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	102,6	
J	91,0	94,3	100,7	101,0	104,8	101,7	
A	91,3	93,3	101,8	102,4	103,5	96,7	
S	91,3	98,3	102,2	99,2	102,9	101,7	
O	91,0	95,6	100,5	102,2	105,7	99,5	
N	92,0	98,1	100,6	102,8	102,0	100,1	
D	94,7	98,1	99,5	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		
			March 1/ 1999	February 1998	March 1998	March 1/ 1999	February 1998	March 1998
TOTAL	100,0	101,2	100,6	98,0	102,6	99,6	100,3	101,3
Food and food products	13,6	108,3	98,1	101,3	96,2	104,1	109,5	101,3
Meat, fish, fruit etc.	3,9	130,1	144,4	151,6	126,1	135,3	139,2	118,0
Dairy products	1,6	92,5	91,5	83,4	96,9	88,5	86,8	93,6
Grain mill products	2,8	95,9	88,9	85,7	101,0	88,2	91,4	99,8
Other food products	5,3	103,9	71,0	78,1	71,4	91,0	101,8	90,3
Beverages	5,2	103,3	110,4	93,5	104,2	105,0	104,2	99,0
Total textiles	3,3	91,2	89,8	86,5	101,6	83,6	84,8	94,3
Textiles	2,0	88,3	83,7	83,5	95,9	80,6	82,0	91,7
Other textile products	1,3	95,7	99,0	91,0	110,2	89,2	90,4	99,4
Total Wearing apparel	3,7	87,3	96,9	84,2	96,4	88,6	82,4	87,8
Knitted, crocheted articles	0,7	81,4	82,4	78,5	92,2	74,9	75,1	83,3
Wearing apparel	3,0	88,6	100,0	85,4	97,3	92,0	82,8	89,1
Tanning and dressing of leather	0,4	107,7	115,6	100,8	107,6	108,6	91,9	101,0
Footwear	1,1	73,9	75,6	70,6	85,0	72,1	70,6	80,7
Wood and products of wood	1,8	104,5	114,4	104,8	111,8	109,5	103,8	106,9
Sawmilling and planing of wood	0,6	99,6	102,3	98,1	111,9	95,2	95,7	104,6
Products of wood	1,1	107,1	120,9	108,4	111,8	116,5	107,9	107,4
Paper and paper products	4,9	93,6	103,3	84,6	94,1	106,6	92,2	97,1
Total publishing and printing	3,9	94,6	99,8	89,3	98,8	97,5	93,7	96,1
Publishing	1,6	100,1	101,9	94,7	100,9	98,7	98,7	97,0
Printing, recorded media	2,3	90,8	98,4	85,7	97,3	99,2	90,8	97,6
Coke and refined petroleum products	6,1	105,9	113,3	114,1	96,8	119,6	116,3	102,6
Basic chemicals	4,4	114,2	103,9	127,0	111,5	108,7	124,9	116,9
Other chemical products	7,1	103,9	108,4	102,0	106,7	103,4	103,2	101,4
Rubber products	1,5	95,2	94,7	95,3	99,2	94,4	82,8	99,6
Plastic products	2,9	89,6	87,2	87,5	97,1	82,9	83,7	92,1
Glass and glass products	1,0	90,2	72,7	81,7	89,4	78,2	79,7	96,0
Other non-metallic mineral products	3,3	93,5	85,0	75,8	105,4	81,2	77,8	100,6
Basic iron and steel products	5,8	96,9	90,1	93,1	101,4	91,9	99,0	103,8
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	1,9	144,2	144,7	142,2	131,9	143,6	152,8	129,4
Fabricated metal products	6,6	105,4	105,0	101,7	108,2	101,9	98,5	104,3
Structural metal products	1,9	116,9	117,6	117,7	105,8	119,5	119,6	106,1
Other fabricated metal product	4,7	100,7	99,8	95,2	109,2	93,3	93,4	102,0
Total machinery and equipment	6,1	103,6	102,9	99,2	115,4	96,3	97,9	107,5
General purpose machinery	2,5	110,2	111,9	99,5	117,9	103,9	101,9	109,3
Special purpose machinery	3,1	97,7	97,0	100,7	116,0	87,7	95,4	104,6
Household appliances	0,5	107,6	94,5	89,2	99,6	98,5	94,4	101,8
Electrical machinery, apparatus	3,2	97,3	96,3	100,3	95,8	96,3	100,3	95,2
Radio, television and communication apparatus	1,2	126,1	127,1	130,5	107,8	114,2	130,8	96,1
Professional equipment	0,5	76,6	81,8	75,2	93,5	76,9	77,9	88,4
Motor vehicles; trailers; parts and accessories	6,5	86,1	87,3	86,4	102,1	88,8	85,1	103,3
Motor vehicles	3,5	75,3	74,0	78,2	93,8	77,4	75,9	97,6
Bodies for motor vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers	0,5	69,2	64,1	54,8	85,6	57,0	51,3	76,6
Parts and accessories	2,5	105,1	111,2	104,8	117,5	107,3	105,5	112,8
Other transport equipment	1,0	118,1	116,1	111,1	112,4	116,7	118,6	111,8
Furniture	1,8	103,5	99,5	100,8	107,0	102,2	103,0	109,7
Other manufacturing industries	1,5	109,1	103,9	95,7	100,9	105,8	98,4	101,9

\* 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	26 198 533*
F	18 649 462	19 696 094	24 073 305	25 751 663	29 192 867	29 333 697	30 313 063
M	20 481 694	21 893 931	26 313 399	27 679 048	29 273 319	31 550 508	31 948 900 1/
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	33 512 749*	
D	17 836 672	20 460 793	23 606 618	25 870 618	27 741 546	28 474 726*	
YEAR	232 164 092	257 045 119	303 764 457	332 394 297	361 105 093	366 514 668	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED VALUES							
J	18 699 500	19 854 039	23 217 648	26 083 909	30 014 185	30 677 939	31 208 779
F	18 898 743	19 979 780	24 508 985	26 296 554	29 874 501	30 056 379	31 112 356
M	19 207 450	20 557 786	24 823 125	26 300 907	27 999 728	30 325 235	30 785 976
A	18 822 854	20 318 774	24 036 900	27 276 764	31 452 028	30 661 166	
M	18 607 121	19 738 185	25 488 274	27 796 902	30 021 201	29 835 944	
J	19 378 785	21 646 956	25 498 447	27 397 390	29 691 722	30 898 485	
J	19 453 239	21 929 327	25 043 307	27 635 616	30 397 916	30 934 581	
A	19 732 138	21 116 920	25 904 022	28 241 829	30 033 229	29 515 249	
S	19 735 561	22 565 028	26 080 109	27 862 093	29 655 905	31 272 557	
O	19 514 160	22 499 285	25 889 198	29 052 326	31 447 040	30 591 023	
N	19 775 466	23 235 187	26 299 621	29 180 847	29 934 608	30 443 160	
D	20 133 898	22 997 044	26 420 528	28 766 192	30 721 073	31 467 315	

\* Revised  
 1/ Preliminary

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

R1 000

Manufacturing Divisions and major groups	Year 1998*	Actual values			Seasonally adjusted values		
		March 1/	February	March	March 1/	February	March
		1999			1998		
TOTAL	366 514 668	31 948 900	30 313 063	31 550 508	30 785 976	31 112 356	30 325 235
Food and food products	57 330 483	4 602 729	4 437 192	4 448 084	4 710 464	4 668 364	4 524 788
Meat, fish, fruit etc.	16 579 132	1 443 058	1 445 426	1 290 278	1 427 150	1 405 140	1 269 281
Dairy products	6 719 841	576 031	530 860	580 533	558 131	539 397	561 816
Grain mill products	16 212 096*	1 348 763	1 253 310	1 379 124	1 316 097	1 351 382	1 344 377
Other food products	17 819 414*	1 234 877	1 207 596	1 198 149	1 413 981	1 358 116	1 352 408
Beverages	19 306 150	1 855 109	1 429 491	1 567 497	1 764 723	1 706 144	1 490 940
Total textiles	9 576 228	780 192	731 043	891 328	711 628	724 244	810 663
Textiles	6 510 519	522 172	497 543	612 542	476 106	485 664	556 233
Other textile products	3 065 709	258 020	233 500	278 786	234 897	238 365	253 705
Total Wearing apparel	9 650 560	896 227	777 190	952 179	764 945	774 744	812 776
Knitted, crocheted articles	1 459 165	120 171	117 575	146 503	103 792	112 696	126 206
Wearing apparel	8 191 395	776 056	659 615	805 676	664 028	665 349	689 187
Tanning and dressing of leather	1 875 205	170 692	160 564	154 437	163 061	149 517	147 742
Footwear	2 369 455	225 969	188 084	230 682	208 736	193 035	212 450
Wood and products of wood	5 966 007	545 788	494 664	532 635	517 072	505 849	505 206
Sawmilling and planing of wood	1 745 630	145 103	139 869	163 381	143 481	139 315	161 601
Products of wood	4 220 377	400 685	354 795	369 254	382 421	365 701	352 073
Paper and paper products	18 258 304	1 800 190	1 473 427	1 645 000	1 810 984	1 555 226	1 658 173
Total publishing and printing	10 564 971	934 519	877 046	859 379	907 943	911 670	830 486
Publishing	4 204 834	373 541	342 473	337 157	362 074	353 087	324 852
Printing, recorded media	6 360 137	560 978	534 573	522 222	555 747	563 596	515 249
Coke and refined petroleum products	19 989 220	1 527 920	1 506 738	1 614 817	1 571 173	1 535 173	1 656 770
Basic chemicals	16 064 857	1 208 480	1 452 530	1 313 857	1 321 369	1 383 179	1 428 859
Other chemical products	23 851 039	2 115 024	1 973 217	2 007 843	2 013 084	2 033 937	1 901 825
Rubber products	4 289 105	382 923	340 108	375 686	374 185	341 055	367 714
Plastic products	9 134 079	785 010	738 717	800 634	762 725	734 687	776 453
Glass and glass products	2 292 855	168 626	175 028	190 049	180 192	172 280	203 384
Other non-metallic mineral products	9 116 182	733 304	694 505	821 309	710 629	724 150	796 321
Basic iron and steel products	25 412 766	2 155 256	1 999 830	2 146 575	2 139 284	2 075 335	2 139 577
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	12 143 889	1 045 021	1 008 282	939 568	1 038 754	1 068 380	923 072
Fabricated metal products	21 836 192	1 890 135	1 804 731	1 866 340	1 856 017	1 835 119	1 817 229
Structural metal products	8 563 859	764 920	748 294	676 680	775 287	799 224	678 193
Other fabricated metal product	13 272 333	1 125 215	1 056 437	1 189 660	1 048 776	1 043 527	1 105 998
Total machinery and equipment	19 077 949	1 787 633	1 550 965	2 032 241	1 512 764	1 600 875	1 715 303
General purpose machinery	8 389 330	758 275	628 735	750 741	653 846	655 202	645 107
Special purpose machinery	8 791 612	886 934	781 997	1 129 265	667 563	814 235	857 905
Household appliances	1 897 007	142 424	140 233	152 235	147 638	146 324	154 810
Electrical machinery, apparatus	11 313 912	961 356	1 057 655	940 574	946 610	1 065 189	923 450
Radio, television and communication apparatus	4 364 411	381 420	382 567	293 161	282 299	387 299	212 459
Professional equipment	978 414	92 030	87 702	96 965	86 047	87 807	90 419
Motor vehicles; trailers; parts and accessories	33 602 598	3 333 783	3 309 342	3 317 648	3 204 445	3 218 416	3 180 137
Motor vehicles	23 521 780	2 402 757	2 437 849	2 382 909	2 369 433	2 355 621	2 339 243
Bodies for motor vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers	1 589 850	142 208	121 263	147 757	129 532	124 902	134 862
Parts and accessories	8 490 968	788 818	750 230	786 982	744 907	734 328	740 008
Other transport equipment	1 948 497	210 700	201 869	175 510	206 732	176 488	169 311
Furniture	5 592 443	491 337	483 994	490 823	511 813	490 911	511 095
Other manufacturing industries	10 774 695	867 527	976 582	845 687	893 511	930 456	859 932

\* Revised  
1/ Preliminary

TABLE 5 - VALUE OF UNFILLED ORDERS - SELECTED SUBGROUPS

R1 000

Selected Manufacturing Subgroups	Actual values			Seasonally adjusted values		
	March 1/	February	March	March 1/	February	March
	1999		1998	1999		1998
Spinning, weaving and finishing of textiles	208 373	215 173	221 736	211 436	217 054	224 631
Tents, tarpaulins, sails and other canvas goods and automotive textile goods	16 715	17 207	17 265	13 260	17 524	13 925
Other textile articles	106 617	107 267	86 699	104 695	111 082	85 208
Knitted and crotcheted fabrics and articles	125 658	126 362	144 303	126 546	127 262	145 668
Wearing apparel	836 398	878 883	958 841	863 266	907 423	987 772
Sawmilling and preserving of timber	16 988	15 481	19 542	16 879	15 098	19 385
Veneer sheets, plywood, laminboard, etc.	14 085	14 144	20 336	14 611	15 432	21 243
Builders' carpentry and joinery	34 973	35 845	33 804	38 949	38 807	37 313
Pulp, paper and paperboard	213 422	226 256	272 694	216 984	231 307	274 331
Corrugated paper and paper-board and containers	339 184	361 807	289 173	352 199	360 700	299 431
Paints, varnishes and coatings	8 224	18 853	17 263	9 128	18 049	18 781
Basic iron and steel products	2 863 563	3 029 043	3 057 377	2 939 368	3 035 448	3 137 591
Steel pipe and tube mills	139 919	147 886	180 438	139 225	144 222	180 485
Basic precious and non-ferrous metal products	979 367	910 171	1 244 237	993 353	894 219	1 262 474
Metal structures, parts	1 675 869	1 531 494	1 625 116	1 672 815	1 599 330	1 623 602
Cutlery, hand tools and general hardware	29 787	25 661	33 252	28 651	26 171	32 173
Metal containers, e.g. cans and tins	39 035	43 189	51 191	38 021	40 910	49 560
Cables, wire products, springs	76 945	77 002	81 937	77 128	75 128	82 942
Metal fasteners	19 979	20 348	45 502	19 176	19 800	43 442
All other metal products	948 600	849 262	624 394	988 564	970 787	641 193
Domestic appliances	37 690	38 507	31 444	35 897	39 131	29 381
Electric motors, generators and transformers	338 381	302 481	251 559	392 462	354 592	290 370
Insulated wire and cables	217 880	209 052	246 683	201 189	200 938	230 589
Accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries	17 220	12 874	13 366	16 577	14 293	12 793

Television, radio and							
communication apparatus	680 257	769 415	605 509	726 245	781 640	643 957	
Motor vehicles	1 457 348	1 461 474	1 419 191	1 343 489	1 477 315	1 309 437	
Parts and accessories for							
motor vehicles	236 507	234 581	260 609	241 727	238 582	265 131	
Furniture	166 575	159 249	201 106	183 870	188 494	220 778	

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 \* Revised