Industrial production statistics

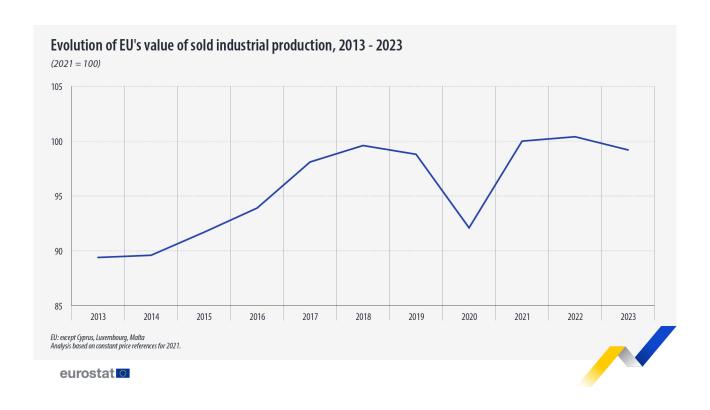
Statistics Explained

Data extracted in July 2024. Planned article update: 24 July 2025.

Highlights

"After two successive increases, including an increase of 8.5% in 2021 compared with 2020 and a 0.4% increase in 2022 compared with 2021, the EU's production of manufactured goods recorded a decrease of 1.2% in 2023 compared with 2022."

" In nominal terms, the EU's value of sold production in 2023 amounted to € 5 992 billion."



This article analyses recent data on industrial production in the European Union (EU), as well as in some EFTA and candidate countries, based on results of industrial production (PRODCOM) statistics. Cyprus, Malta and Luxembourg are exempt from collecting PRODCOM data and therefore no data is available. Data presented in this article are collected under the industrial production regulation and cover the activities under sections B and C (Mining and quarrying and Manufacturing) of the NACE Rev. 2 classification and since 2019 the activity 38.32 Recovery of sorted materials.

Overview

In 2023, the value of sold production in the European Union amounted to € 5 992 billion, an increase of 1.6% compared with € 5 895 billion in 2022 (current prices).

Figure 1 presents the evolution of the EU's value of sold production from 2013 to 2023 in constant prices. After a stable period, EU production shows a constant annual increase from 2015 until 2018 when comparing to each previous year. The results of 2019 show the consolidation of the growth in production with a value of sold production in the European Union that amounted to € 4 915 billion.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent containment measures widely introduced by Member States had a significant impact on the EU's industrial production in 2020. The value of sold production in the European Union in 2020 decreased by 6.7% compared with 2019. The EU's industrial production in 2021 recovered and it increased by 8.5% compared with 2020. It continued with an increase in 2022 by 0.4% compared with 2021.

In 2023 compared with 2022 the EU's industrial production decreased by 1.2%.

The recent decrease was recorded in 15 industrial activities with the biggest decrease in the manufacturing of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials, followed by the manufacturing of chemicals and chemical products, the manufacturing of basic metals and the manufacturing of paper and paper products.

The production under sub-contracted operations within the economic territory of the European Union Member States, available since 2021, amounts to 3% of the production value and 8% of the production volume.

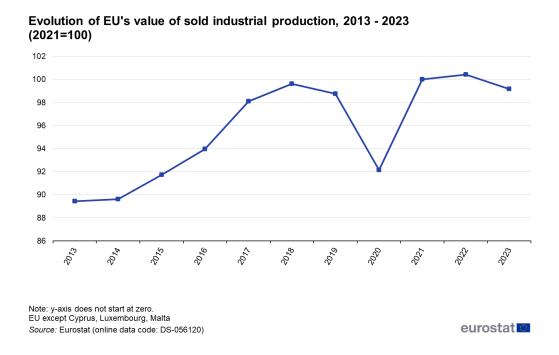
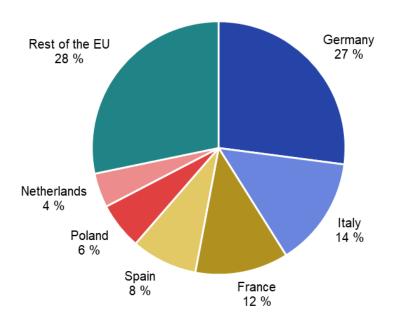


Figure 1: Evolution of EU's value of sold industrial production, 2013-23 (2021=100) Source: Eurostat DS_056120

Industrial production by country

Figure 2 shows the share of the EU's value of sold production, by individual EU Member States in 2023. Six EU Member States generated 72% of the EU's value of sold production. Germany recorded the highest value of sold production, equivalent to 27% of the EU total, followed by Italy (14%), France (12%), Spain (8%), Poland (6%) and the Netherlands (4%). The other 21 EU Member States contributed with smaller shares (less than 4%).

EU value of sold industrial production, by country, 2023 (% of total value of sold production)



Note: EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)

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Figure 2: EU value of sold industrial production, by country, 2023 (% of total value of sold production) Source: Eurostat DS $_056120$

Looking in detail at the 3 largest manufacturing sectors within one country, Greece stood out with the manufacturing of food, beverages and tobacco activities, which represented 36% of the country's total value of sold production in 2023. Spain and Netherlands followed, each with 29% and Croatia with 27% of the country's total value of sold production.

The highest share of the total value of sold production in the manufacturing of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers and other transport equipment was reported by Slovakia with 45%, followed by Czechia (32%), Romania (28%) and Hungary (27%).

The manufacturing of basic metals and fabricated metal products generated 21% of the value of sold production in Bulgaria. Greece and Slovenia followed with 20% each.

Germany was the most substantial producer of all the 3 activities mentioned above (€ 197 billion, € 342 billion, and € 216 billion respectively) in the EU.

Industrial production by sector

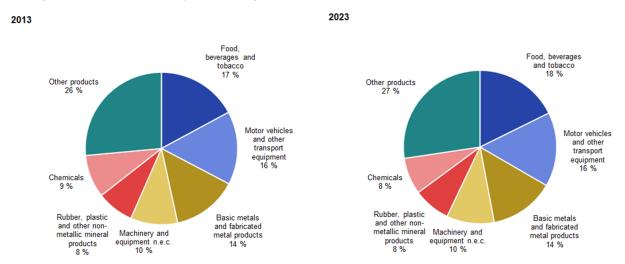
The analysis that follows refers to the division breakdown (first 2-digit level) of the Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE). In some cases, the results are presented as a group of divisions, i.e. Food, beverages and tobacco (Divisions 10, 11 and 12 of NACE Rev. 2).

Figure 3 shows the share of the manufacturing activities in the EU's value of sold production for 2013 and 2023 respectively. The EU's value of sold production is concentrated in 14 groups of activities; 6 of these groups account

for almost three-quarters of the total for both reference years. The sectors manufacture of food, beverages & tobacco products, manufacture of motor vehicles and other transport equipment and manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products accounted for 47% of the value of the sold production in the EU in 2023.

The value of sold production in all other manufacturing activities than the 6 main groups of activities increased between 7% and 66% in 2023 compared with 2013 (in current prices). Looking into the smaller contributing domains, the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations had the highest increase (66%) in 2023 compared with the 2013 value of sold production.

Value of sold production by group of manufacturing activity, EU, 2013 and 2023 (% share of total sold production)



Note: EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta
Other products: Wood and paper, and printing; Furniture, other manufacturing and installation of machinery and equipment; Electrical equipment; Computer, electronic and optical products; Textiles, wearing apparel and leather; Pharmaceutical products; Mining
Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)

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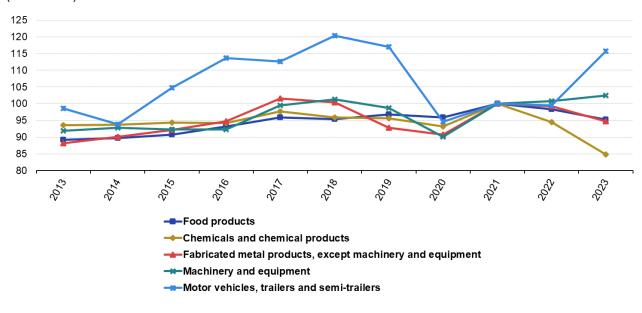
Figure 3: Value of sold production by group of manufacturing activity, EU, 2013 and 2023 (% share of total sold production) Source: Eurostat DS 056120

The five largest manufacturing activities

The analysis refers to the top 5 manufacturing activities presented at division breakdown (first 2-digit level) of the Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE). Among the 5 largest manufacturing activities belong food products; chemicals and chemical products; fabricated metal products; machinery and equipment and motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers.

Evolution of the value of sold production for top 5 manufacturing activities, EU, 2013-2023

(2021=100)



Note: y-axis does not start at zero. EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)

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Figure 4: Evolution of the value of sold production for top 5 manufacturing activities, EU, 2013-23 (2021=100) Source: Eurostat DS_056120

Figure 4 shows the evolution of the value of sold production for the 5 largest manufacturing activities in the EU, over the period 2013-23. Based on constant prices (base year 2021), the manufacturing of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers registered the highest increase (by 17%) in 2023 compared with 2013. It was followed by the manufacturing of machinery and equipment (by 11%), the manufacturing of fabricated metal products and the manufacturing of food products by 7% each while the manufacturing of chemicals and chemical products decreased by 9%.

In terms of nominal value of the sold production in 2023 compared with 2022, the manufacturing of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers went up by \in 138 billion, the manufacturing of machinery and equipment by \in 44 billion and the manufacturing of food products by \in 43 billion, while the manufacturing of chemicals and chemical products went down by \in 82 billion and the manufacturing of fabricated metal products by \in 11 billion.

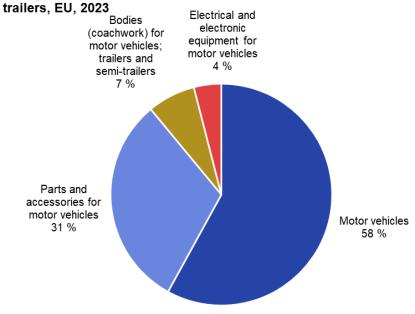
Results for some examples of products or group of products sold

The results are detailed at four-digit level of the Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE).

Production of motor vehicles accounted for 58% of the EU's value of sold production of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers

Figure 5 analyses the share of the value of sold production for the manufacturing of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (Division 29 of NACE Rev. 2) in 2023.

Sold production of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-



Note: EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)



Figure 5: Sold production of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, EU, 2023 Source: Eurostat DS 056120

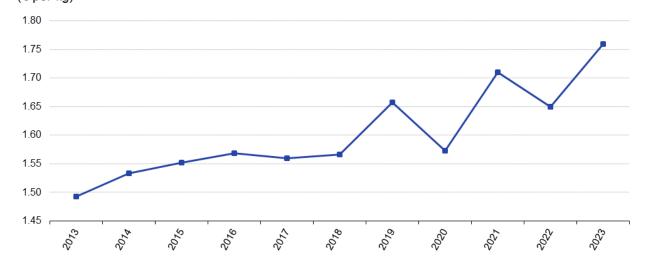
The total value of sold production created by the production of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers in 2023 was € 773 billion; this value represented 13% of the total value of sold EU production. In 2023, the value of sold production for this manufacturing sector increased by 22% compared with 2022. The production of motor vehicles accounted for approximately € 447 billion, which was more than half of the value of sold production of this group. The rest of the sold production in this activity was the production of other parts and accessories, bodies (coachwork), electrical and electronic equipment for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (Figure 5).

On average, 1 kg of fresh bread produced in the EU was sold for € 1.76

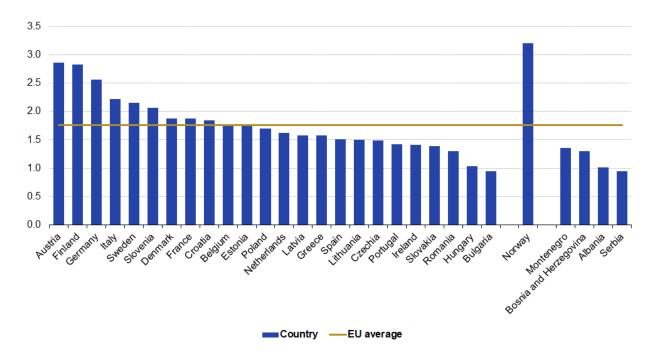
Figure 6 presents the

value of production sold for 1 kilogram of fresh bread, in the EU over the period 2013-23 and in each country for 2023.

Value of sold production for 1 kg of fresh bread in the EU, 2013-2023 (€ per kg)



Note: y-axis does not start at zero. EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta; Iceland - not available. Prodcom code: 10711100 - Fresh bread containing by weight in the dry matter state ≤ 5 % of sugars and ≤ 5 % of fat (excluding with added honey; eggs; cheese or fruit) Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)



Note: EU except Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta; Iceland - not available. Prodcom code: 10711100 - Fresh bread containing by weight in the dry matter state ≤ 5 % of sugars and ≤ 5 % of fat (excluding with added honey; eggs; cheese or fruit) Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)

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Figure 6: Value of sold production for 1 kg of fresh bread in the EU, 2013-23 Source: Eurostat DS_056120

Compared with the previous year, the value of fresh bread sold in the period 2014-17 increased constantly, in 2018 it slightly decreased by 1%. In 2019, it increased again by 6%, the value of sold production of fresh bread remained stable in 2020. In 2021, the value of sold production of this product increased significantly by 13% and in 2022 by 1%. The production of 1 kg of fresh bread increased the most in 2023 by 19%, which was the highest increase in price since 2009.

The average value of production sold for 1 kg of fresh bread increased by 18% between 2013 and 2023 and by 7% compared with 2022. The price fluctuated slightly over the past decade from € 1.49 to a maximum of € 1.76 per kg in 2023.

Austria was the country in the EU where 1 kg of produced fresh bread was sold at the highest price, at more than € 2.86. In Finland, Germany and Italy, the price ranged between € 2.22 and € 2.82 (per kg). Somewhat low prices, below € 1 per kg, were observed in Bulgaria and Serbia. Compared with 2022, bread prices have increased in almost all European countries, with the highest price increases recorded in Spain (€ 0.36), France (€ 0.31), Germany and Poland (€ 0.25). The most expensive bread in Europe in 2023 was in Norway (€ 3.19).

The production of pharmaceutical products in the EU increased in 2023 after last year's decline

Figure 7 provides an overview of the value of total sold production of basic pharmaceutical products manufactured in the EU in the period 2013-23. In the period 2013-18, the total sold production value of pharmaceutical products fluctuated between € 21 billion and € 26 billion. Over the past 5 years, pharmaceutical production in the EU increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic, reaching a value of € 36 billion in 2021. In 2023, pharmaceutical production in the EU reached a peak of € 44 billion.

Over the past 10 years, the production of antibiotics continued at a steady pace, with a total sold production value of € 2.8 billion in 2023. The pro-vitamins and vitamins reached the highest point recorded in 2018, however, the annual sold value remains the same around € 2 billion from 2019 to 2023. Antibiotics and vitamins accounted for 12% of the total basic pharmaceutical production.

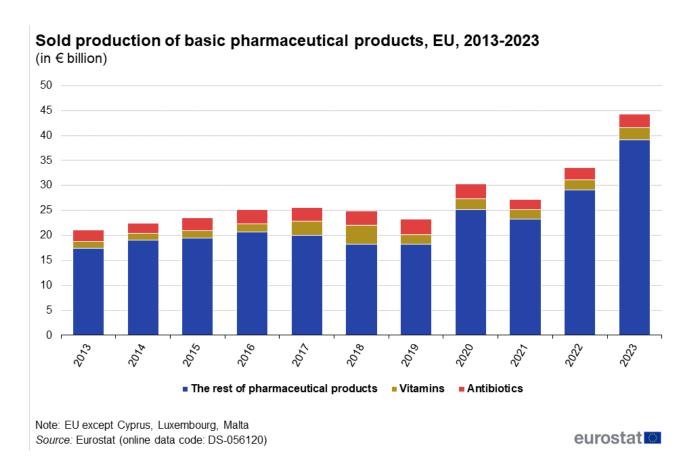


Figure 7: Sold production of basic pharmaceutical products, EU, 2013-23 (in € billion) Source: Eurostat DS_056120

A look into the EU's production of wind turbines

Figure 8 provides an overview of the number of wind turbines manufactured in the EU from 2013 to 2023. During

this period, the average annual production of wind turbines was 10 500 pieces. In 2013, the production of wind generators reached the lowest value on record. Despite this decrease in the amount produced from 2011 to 2013, the production of wind turbines was strengthened again in 2014 and since then the observed production until 2019 was completely constant. In 2020, the sold quantity decreased to just under 6 800 pieces of wind turbines. Between 2021 and 2023, the sold quantity continued at a steady pace between 9 000 and 12 000 wind turbines.

The main producers of wind turbines are Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and The Netherlands.

Wind turbines produced in EU, 2013-2023 (thousand pieces)

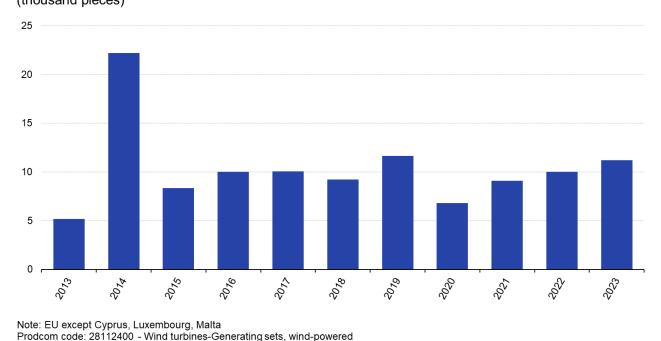


Figure 8: Wind turbines produced in EU, 2013-23 (thousand pieces) Source: Eurostat DS_056120

Overview of sport goods production in the EU

Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-056120)

The production of sporting goods in the EU increased over the past 5 years. The value of the sold production of sport goods was at its peak with more than € 4.6 billion in 2023. The production of these products increased mainly between 2021 and 2023 as the latest trends show a greater interest in the practice of sports worldwide.

In 2021 and 2022, the sold production of fishing rods increased by 36% and 15%, respectively than the average of the previous 5 years (2015-20). The result may therefore be that this production reached its lowest point in 2023, worth € 74 million. Over the past 10 years, the production of winter skis increased by 42%, rising from € 532 million in 2019 to € 660 million in 2023. The main producers in the EU are Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Germany, Slovenia and Spain.

The production of tennis and badminton rackets fell by half in 2023 compared with the previous years. Conversely, gym or athletics items and equipment represented € 1 billion in 2023, an increase of 21% from 2019.

Figure 9 analyses the 2013-23 production of sport goods (CPA 3230 of NACE Rev. 2) in the EU.

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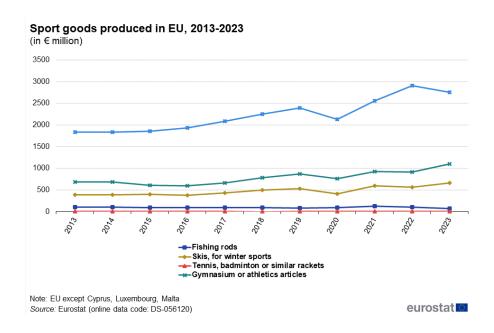


Figure 9: Sport goods produced in EU, 2013-23 (in € million) Source: Eurostat DS 056120

Source data for tables and graphs

Industrial production statistics tables and figures

Data sources

The Prodcom list is linked to the activity classification NACE and to the classification of products by activity (CPA): the first four digits of each Prodcom code refer to a NACE class, the fifth and sixth digits relate to a CPA sub-category, and the seventh and eighth digits are specific to the Prodcom list. Most headings correspond to one or more codes from the combined nomenclature (CN), a classification used for statistics on international trade in goods: some headings (mostly industrial services) do not correspond to a CN heading at all. The relationship with CN makes it possible to calculate apparent consumption by linking production statistics to international trade statistics.

The production surveyed covers only the production actually carried out on the territory of the reporting country. This means that the production of subsidiaries, which takes place outside an enterprise's territory, is not included in the survey results for that country. As a general principle, when a production process takes as an input a material that does not match the description of the product, and produces as an output something that does, then production of the product should be recorded. If the processing of a product does not change the heading under which it is listed, it should not be recorded, since this would result in double-counting. This means that the link to turnover data is tenuous, since some activities do not result in new products and should not be recorded in Prodcom statistics.

Prodcom data are available for the EU Member States, Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia; Eurostat produces aggregates for the EU. According to the terms of the Prodcom Regulation, Cyprus, Luxembourg and Malta have derogations not to provide Prodcom data to Eurostat because of their size; as such there is no data for these 3 Member States in the database.

Data are available during the year following the reference year, with the first release of information usually taking place in July. As more complete and revised data become available, updates are released on a monthly basis.

Context

The development of Prodcom dates back to 1985 when Eurostat organised a series of meetings on production statistics, whose objective was to harmonise the various ways industrial production statistics were collected in the EU Member States. Although statistics were collected on products in most countries, there was a varied selection of classifications in use reflecting national situations and a range of different survey methods were applied.

The Prodcom Regulation is designed to enable these national statistics to be compared and, where possible, aggregated to give a picture of the developments of an industry or product in the European context. This aim became more urgent with the creation of the single market in 1992 and the statistical system had to adapt.

Before data collection could begin, it was necessary to draw up a common list of products to be covered. Drawing up the Prodcom list was a unique opportunity for Eurostat, the national statistical authorities and the European trade associations to work together to produce a classification that would be understood by businesses and would be appropriate for national and European statistics. Industrial production statistics collected within PRODCOM serves as one of the data sources used in several policy areas of the European Commission and national administrations. Other users such as professional/trade associations and their members use PRODCOM statistics for information on industry. The use of the data in climate change statistics is increasing, as well as in other environmental statistics such as the analysis of material flows or chemicals production and consumption statistics.

Explore further

Other articles

- Business economy by sector NACE Rev. 2 (online publication)
- · Chemicals production and consumption statistics
- · Material flow accounts and resource productivity

Database

• Prodcom - statistics by product (prom), see:

Sold production, exports and imports by PRODCOM list (NACE Rev. 2) - annual data (DS_056120)

Total production by PRODCOM list (NACE Rev. 2) - annual data (DS 056121)

Traditional international trade database access (ComExt) (comext)

Thematic section

• Manufactured goods — Prodcom

Methodology

- Statistics on the production of manufactured goods (ESMS metadata file prom esms)
- Eurostat classification server (RAMON) correspondence between Prodcom 2008 and CPC ver.2

Legislation

- Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91 of 19 December 1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production]
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 912/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production
- Regulation (EU) No 1933/2019 of 6 November 2019 establishing for 2019 the Prodcom list of industrial products provided for by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91