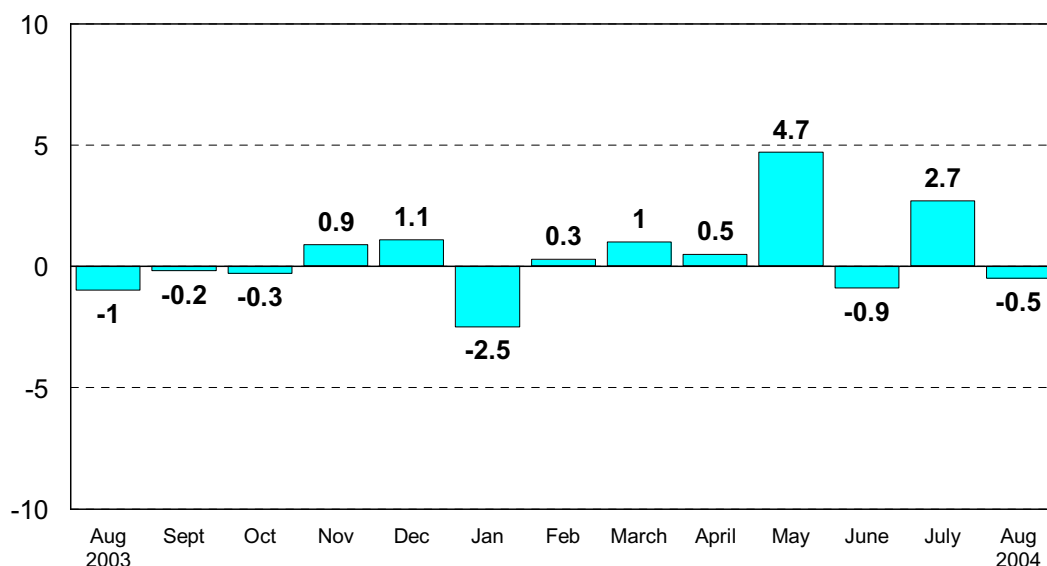


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Industrial output declined by 0.5 per cent in August from July

According to Statistics Finland, seasonally adjusted industrial output was 0.5 per cent lower in August 2004 than in July. The original output volume grew by nearly 9 per cent from August 2003. In January to August, the original output volume increased by 3.8 per cent compared with the corresponding period of last year.

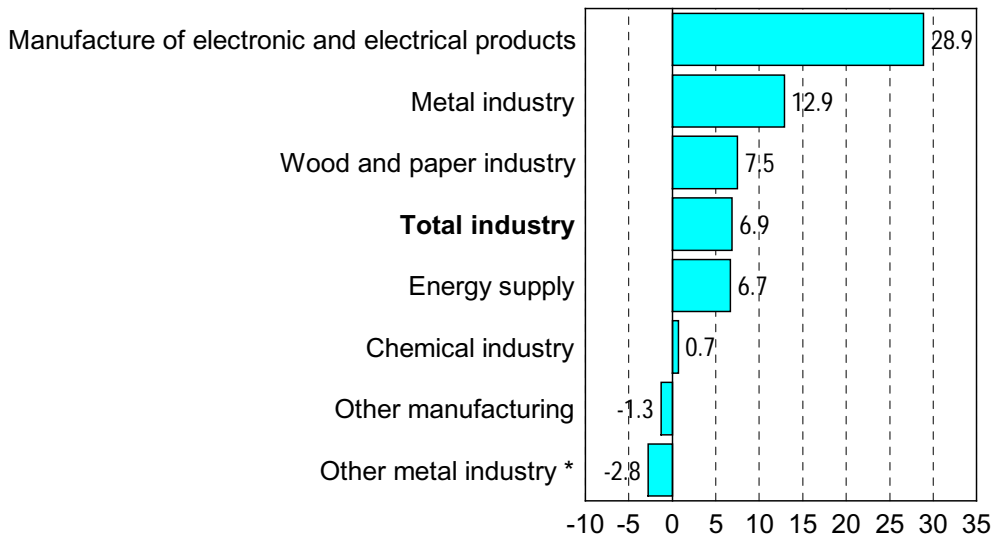
Seasonally adjusted change in industrial output from previous month, %



Industrial output grew by 6.9 per cent in August from last year's August

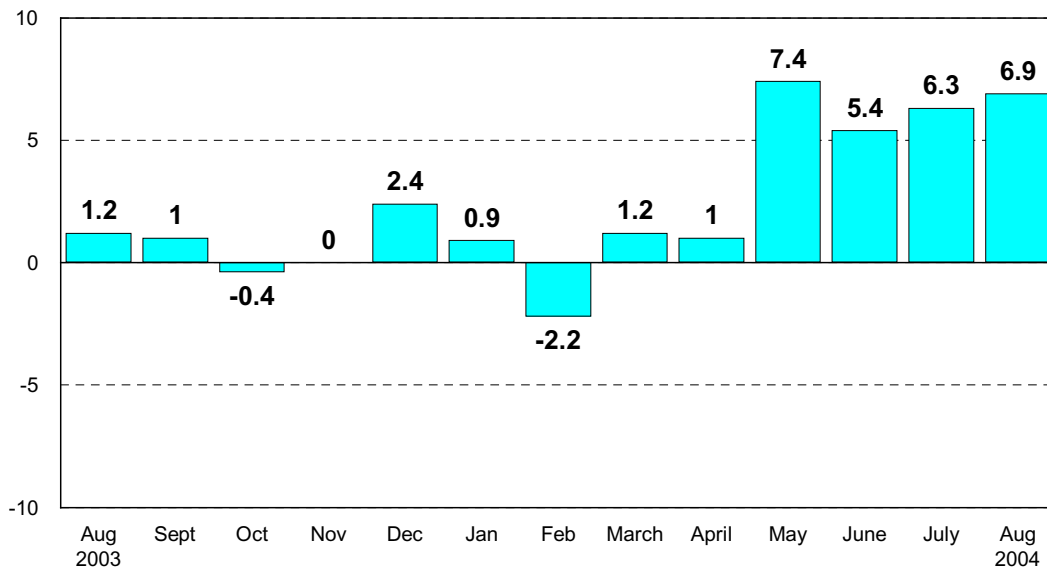
In August 2004, seasonally adjusted industrial output grew by 6.9 per cent from August 2003. Output increased most, by nearly 29 per cent, in the manufacture of electronic and electrical equipment. The strong growth of the electronics industry raised the overall rate of growth for the entire metal industry to nearly 13 per cent. In the wood and paper industry, output went up by 7.5 per cent.

Seasonally adjusted change in industrial output 08/2003-08/2004, %



*Metal industry excl. manufacture of electronic and electrical products

Seasonally adjusted change in industrial output from corresponding month of previous year, %



Capacity utilisation rate in manufacturing was 85 per cent in August, which is 3.5 percentage points higher than in August 2003. In the pulp and paper industry capacity utilisation rate was good 94 per cent and in the metal industry 85 per cent. Capacity utilisation rates in the chemical industry and in other manufacturing were 80 per cent.

Revised data for August will be published on 29 October 2004 at 8 am in connection with the industrial output data for September. Because of the method used, seasonally adjusted figures for previous months may change even if the original figures do not become revised. The seasonally adjusted figures will also be adjusted for working days.

Source: Volume Index of Industrial Output 2004, August, Statistics Finland
StatFin statistical services at: statfin.stat.fi