

## On Manufacturing Output in January 2021

### In January 2021, manufacturing output declined slightly on an annual basis

According to the Central Statistical Bureau (CSB), manufacturing output (based on unadjusted data) in January 2021 was 3.1% lower than a year ago. However, according to calendar adjusted data, output increased by 2.2%.

Following the Covid-19 crisis, most sectors have continued to recover and recently have shown positive trends. In January 2021, the largest manufacturing sub-sector - wood processing - increased by 0.6%. Also, printing (+ 6.6%) and clothing (+ 10.1%) made a positive contribution to the growth of the sector. Production volumes also increased in the chemical industry and furniture production.

On the other hand, in January 2021, negative trends in manufacturing were observed in the second largest sub-sector - food production (-11.4%). Production volumes of non-metallic minerals (-11%) and fabricated metal products (-7.5%) also declined.

In January 2021, similarly to production volumes, manufacturing turnover also declined at current prices. The volumes of products sold on the domestic market and the volumes of exported products decreased by 4.2% and 3.1%, respectively.

As in the overall economy, the outlook for manufacturing in 2021 remains broadly uncertain. Although producers have been able to adapt to the current situation, new outbreaks of the epidemic and measures to limit the spread of the virus may also hamper the growth of the manufacturing. Manufacturing still has potential for development, especially at the expense of rising exports.

