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Manufacturing: Utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises (Preliminary)

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Key results for May 2026

Table A – Utilisation and under-utilisation of production capacity in the manufacturing industry

Estimates		May 2025 (%)	February 2026 (%)	May 2026 (%)	% point difference between May 2025 and May 2026
Utilisation of production capacity		77,8	75,5	76,6	-1,2
Under-utilisation of production capacity		22,2	24,5	23,4	1,2
Reasons for under-utilisation:	Shortage of raw materials	3,1	3,7	3,6	0,5
	Shortage of labour	1,4	1,4	1,5	0,1
	Insufficient demand	12,1	12,4	12,6	0,5
	Other reasons	5,6	7,0	5,7	0,1

The utilisation of production capacity by large manufacturers was 76,6% in May 2026 compared with 77,8% in May 2025, a decrease of 1,2 percentage points.

Under-utilisation of production capacity increased by 1,2 percentage points between May 2025 and May 2026. Shortage of raw materials and insufficient demand increased by 0,5 of a percentage point each – see Table A.

Figure 1 – Utilisation of production capacity in the manufacturing industry

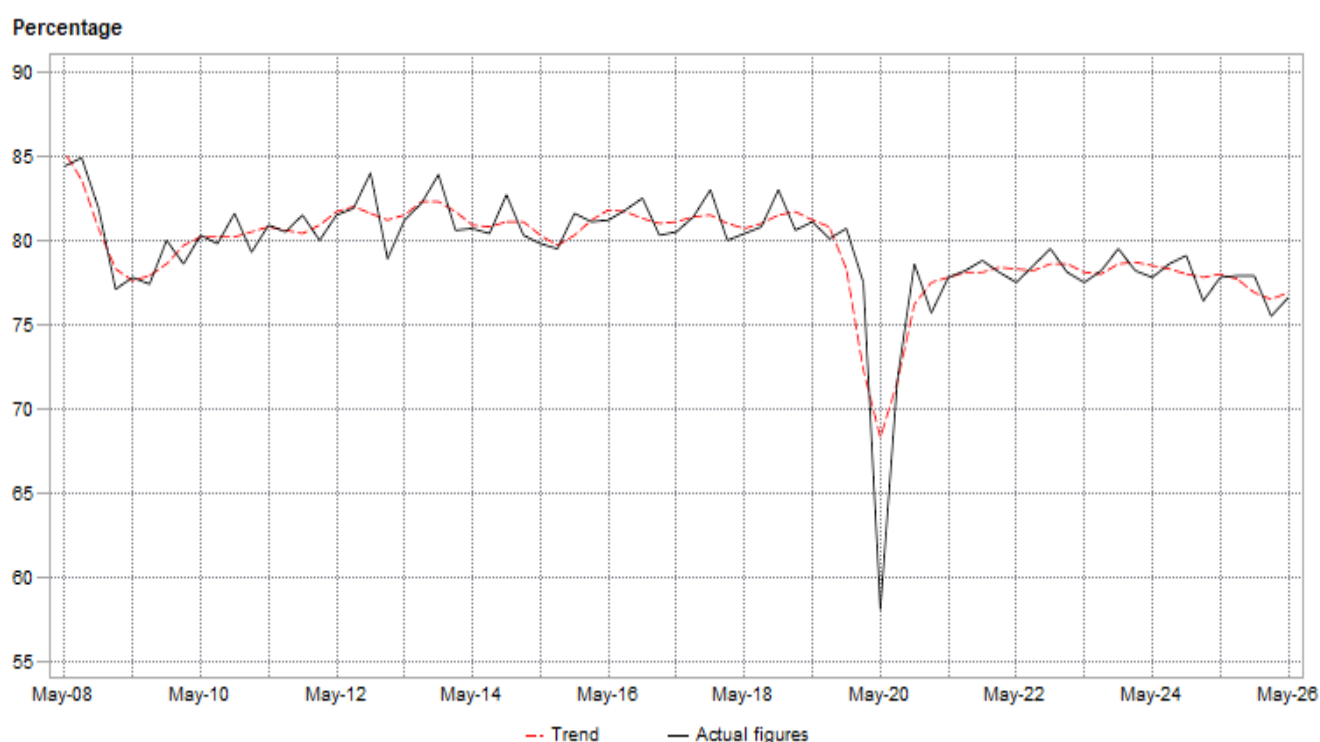


Table B – Utilisation of production capacity in the manufacturing industry by division

Manufacturing divisions	Weight	May 2025 (%) ¹	May 2026 (%) ¹	% point difference between May 2025 and May 2026
Food and beverages	22,19	82,7	81,3	-1,4
Textiles, clothing, leather and footwear	3,68	71,5	71,1	-0,4
Wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing	9,98	75,6	74,6	-1,0
Petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products	23,91	77,3	77,3	0,0
Glass and non-metallic mineral products	3,11	81,0	79,4	-1,6
Basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery	21,85	74,2	71,4	-2,8
Electrical machinery	2,15	79,4	78,6	-0,8
Radio, television and communication apparatus and professional equipment	1,00	78,0	80,1	2,1
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment	7,84	77,6	77,4	-0,2
Furniture and other manufacturing	4,29	79,9	78,8	-1,1
Total manufacturing	100	77,8	76,6	-1,2

¹ The weighted total of utilisation is the sum of the rate of utilisation per division multiplied by its weight, divided by 100. There might be a slight discrepancy with the total shown in Table B due to rounding off.

Eight of the ten manufacturing divisions showed decreases in utilisation of production capacity in May 2026 compared with May 2025. The largest decreases were recorded in the following divisions:

- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (-2,8 percentage points);
- glass and non-metallic mineral products (-1,6 percentage points);
- food and beverages (-1,4 percentage points); and
- furniture and 'other' manufacturing (-1,1 percentage points).

The highest rates of utilisation of production capacity were recorded in the following divisions in May 2026:

- food and beverages (81,3%);
- radio, television and communication apparatus and professional equipment (80,1%);
- glass and non-metallic mineral products (79,4%);
- furniture and 'other' manufacturing (78,8%); and
- electrical machinery (78,6%) – see Table B.


Risenga Maluleke
 Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Utilisation and reasons for under-utilisation by division and major group (percentage)

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Food and beverages	Weight = 22,19	2024	Feb	78,9	21,1	3,2	1,9	0,2	9,3	6,5
			May	82,4	17,6	1,7	1,9	0,2	10,0	3,8
			Aug	82,9	17,1	1,5	1,9	0,2	10,2	3,3
			Nov	83,2	16,8	1,7	1,8	0,2	9,4	3,7
			Year	81,9	18,2	2,0	1,9	0,2	9,7	4,3
		2025	Feb	79,2	20,8	3,1	1,5	0,2	9,8	6,2
			May	82,7	17,3	1,9	1,7	0,3	9,6	3,8
			Aug	82,8	17,2	1,9	1,6	0,2	9,7	3,8
			Nov	83,2	16,8	2,2	1,5	0,2	8,6	4,3
			Year	82,0	18,0	2,3	1,6	0,2	9,4	4,5
		2026	Feb	78,8	21,2	3,3	1,6	0,2	10,4	5,7
			May	81,3	18,7	2,0	1,6	0,2	11,0	3,9

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Food and food products	Weight = 14,41	2024	Feb	77,0	23,0	3,8	1,2	0,2	9,3	8,6
			May	82,5	17,5	1,7	1,2	0,2	9,9	4,5
			Aug	83,3	16,7	1,3	1,2	0,2	10,3	3,6
			Nov	82,6	17,4	1,5	1,1	0,2	10,4	4,3
			Year	81,4	18,7	2,1	1,2	0,2	10,0	5,3
		2025	Feb	77,5	22,5	3,8	0,6	0,1	9,8	8,1
			May	83,3	16,7	1,8	0,9	0,3	9,2	4,5
			Aug	83,6	16,4	1,7	0,8	0,2	9,3	4,5
			Nov	82,8	17,2	2,1	0,6	0,2	9,1	5,2
			Year	81,8	18,2	2,4	0,7	0,2	9,4	5,6
		2026	Feb	77,1	22,9	3,7	0,7	0,2	10,9	7,4
			May	81,6	18,4	1,9	0,7	0,3	11,0	4,5

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Beverages	Weight = 7,78	2024	Feb	82,6	17,4	2,0	3,2	0,2	9,4	2,6
			May	82,0	18,0	1,7	3,2	0,2	10,3	2,6
			Aug	82,3	17,7	1,8	3,3	0,2	9,9	2,6
			Nov	84,2	15,8	2,0	3,3	0,2	7,6	2,7
			Year	82,8	17,2	1,9	3,3	0,2	9,3	2,6
		2025	Feb	82,2	17,8	2,0	3,2	0,3	9,8	2,6
			May	81,7	18,3	2,1	3,3	0,2	10,2	2,6
			Aug	81,3	18,7	2,3	3,3	0,2	10,4	2,6
			Nov	83,6	16,4	2,6	3,3	0,2	7,7	2,7
			Year	82,2	17,8	2,3	3,3	0,2	9,5	2,6
		2026	Feb	81,9	18,1	2,6	3,2	0,2	9,4	2,6
			May	80,7	19,3	2,3	3,2	0,2	11,0	2,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Textiles, clothing, leather and footwear	Weight = 3,68	2024	Feb	71,4	28,6	1,7	0,9	0,3	20,4	5,3
			May	69,3	30,7	2,5	1,0	0,3	21,7	5,2
			Aug	71,1	28,9	2,1	1,0	0,3	20,5	5,0
			Nov	71,8	28,2	1,4	0,9	0,3	20,7	4,9
			Year	70,9	29,1	1,9	1,0	0,3	20,8	5,1
		2025	Feb	71,1	28,9	2,0	1,1	0,4	20,7	4,7
			May	71,5	28,5	1,9	1,0	0,4	20,7	4,5
			Aug	70,6	29,4	1,7	1,1	0,4	21,3	4,9
			Nov	72,0	28,0	1,4	1,1	0,3	20,0	5,2
			Year	71,3	28,7	1,8	1,1	0,4	20,7	4,8
		2026	Feb	70,8	29,2	1,5	1,2	0,3	21,0	5,2
			May	71,1	28,9	1,9	1,2	0,4	20,4	5,0

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Textiles	Weight = 1,40	2024	Feb	66,2	33,8	2,1	0,6	0,0	22,4	8,7
			May	65,1	34,9	2,3	0,9	0,0	24,2	7,6
			Aug	65,8	34,2	2,5	0,8	0,1	22,8	8,0
			Nov	66,8	33,2	1,9	0,5	0,1	22,9	7,8
			Year	66,0	34,0	2,2	0,7	0,1	23,1	8,0
		2025	Feb	67,3	32,7	2,2	0,6	0,2	23,2	6,5
			May	69,3	30,7	2,4	0,8	0,2	21,2	6,1
			Aug	67,1	32,9	2,0	1,0	0,1	22,2	7,6
			Nov	67,5	32,5	2,1	1,1	0,1	20,7	8,6
			Year	67,8	32,2	2,2	0,9	0,2	21,8	7,2
		2026	Feb	66,6	33,4	2,4	1,2	0,1	22,1	7,6
			May	67,7	32,3	2,1	1,0	0,0	21,9	7,3

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Wearing apparel	Weight = 1,72	2024	Feb	74,7	25,3	0,6	1,3	0,4	18,7	4,2
			May	73,4	26,6	1,0	1,3	0,4	19,2	4,6
			Aug	74,8	25,2	0,7	1,3	0,4	18,7	4,2
			Nov	74,8	25,2	0,7	1,3	0,4	18,7	4,1
			Year	74,4	25,6	0,8	1,3	0,4	18,8	4,3
		2025	Feb	74,7	25,3	0,7	1,3	0,4	18,5	4,3
			May	74,5	25,5	0,4	1,3	0,4	19,1	4,3
			Aug	74,6	25,4	0,4	1,3	0,4	18,9	4,3
			Nov	74,8	25,2	0,4	1,3	0,4	18,8	4,3
			Year	74,7	25,4	0,5	1,3	0,4	18,8	4,3
		2026	Feb	74,7	25,3	0,4	1,3	0,4	18,8	4,4
			May	75.0	25.0	0.7	1.4	0.5	18.3	4.2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Leather and leather products	Weight = 0,26	2024	Feb	64,1	35,9	2,8	0,5	0,9	31,6	0,2
			May	54,4	45,6	7,8	0,5	1,1	33,0	3,3
			Aug	64,9	35,1	2,8	0,5	1,3	30,5	0,0
			Nov	65,0	35,0	1,6	0,5	1,3	31,5	0,2
			Year	62,1	37,9	3,8	0,5	1,2	31,7	0,9
		2025	Feb	58,7	41,3	6,4	2,9	1,4	30,5	0,1
			May	58,8	41,2	3,7	0,5	1,7	35,3	0,1
			Aug	58,6	41,4	2,7	0,5	1,7	36,3	0,1
			Nov	63,2	36,8	1,8	0,5	1,4	33,1	0,0
			Year	59,8	40,2	3,7	1,1	1,6	33,8	0,1
		2026	Feb	63,5	36,5	1,6	0,5	1,4	32,8	0,1
			May	61,1	38,9	6,5	0,5	1,7	30,1	0,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Footwear	Weight = 0,30	2024	Feb	82,8	17,2	5,4	0,7	0,0	11,1	0,0
			May	77,0	23,0	7,2	1,0	0,0	14,8	0,0
			Aug	79,2	20,8	7,8	1,0	0,0	12,1	0,0
			Nov	83,3	16,7	3,0	1,0	0,0	12,5	0,3
			Year	80,6	19,4	5,9	0,9	0,0	12,6	0,1
		2025	Feb	78,2	21,8	4,4	1,0	0,0	13,7	2,8
			May	75,3	24,7	6,3	1,0	0,0	15,6	1,8
			Aug	75,3	24,7	6,3	1,0	0,0	17,4	0,0
			Nov	83,8	16,2	3,0	1,0	0,0	12,3	0,0
			Year	78,2	21,9	5,0	1,0	0,0	14,8	1,2
		2026	Feb	73,7	26,3	3,5	1,0	0,0	18,5	3,3
			May	73,5	26,5	4,1	1,0	0,0	17,7	3,7

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing	Weight = 9,98	2024	Feb	79,8	20,2	0,9	0,9	0,2	12,5	5,7
			May	77,5	22,5	0,8	0,7	0,3	14,4	6,3
			Aug	79,0	21,0	0,8	0,8	0,3	12,8	6,3
			Nov	79,2	20,8	0,8	1,0	0,3	12,7	6,0
			Year	78,9	21,1	0,8	0,9	0,3	13,1	6,1
		2025	Feb	78,4	21,6	0,7	0,8	0,2	13,6	6,3
			May	75,6	24,4	0,8	0,8	0,7	14,8	7,3
			Aug	78,7	21,3	0,8	1,1	0,2	13,5	5,7
			Nov	78,3	21,7	0,8	0,8	0,2	13,0	6,9
			Year	77,8	22,3	0,8	0,9	0,3	13,7	6,6
		2026	Feb	74,8	25,2	0,8	1,2	0,2	16,1	6,9
			May	74,6	25,4	0,8	1,0	0,3	17,1	6,2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Wood and products of wood	Weight = 1,59	2024	Feb	81,7	18,3	2,4	0,8	0,0	9,2	6,0
			May	80,5	19,5	2,1	0,7	0,0	9,4	7,4
			Aug	81,1	18,9	2,0	0,7	0,0	9,3	6,8
			Nov	81,1	18,9	2,0	0,7	0,0	9,2	7,0
			Year	81,1	18,9	2,1	0,7	0,0	9,3	6,8
		2025	Feb	80,6	19,4	2,3	0,7	0,0	9,8	6,5
			May	80,5	19,5	2,2	0,7	0,0	9,4	7,1
			Aug	80,1	19,9	2,5	0,9	0,0	9,4	7,0
			Nov	81,0	19,0	2,2	0,7	0,0	9,2	6,9
			Year	80,6	19,5	2,3	0,8	0,0	9,5	6,9
		2026	Feb	81,1	18,9	2,4	0,7	0,0	9,7	6,1
			May	81,3	18,7	2,4	0,7	0,0	9,4	6,2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Paper and paper products	Weight = 5,27	2024	Feb	83,4	16,6	0,8	0,8	0,0	8,9	6,2
			May	79,7	20,3	0,7	0,6	0,2	12,2	6,7
			Aug	82,4	17,6	0,7	0,8	0,3	9,0	6,9
			Nov	81,8	18,2	0,7	1,0	0,2	10,1	6,3
			Year	81,8	18,2	0,7	0,8	0,2	10,1	6,5
		2025	Feb	82,1	17,9	0,5	0,9	0,1	9,4	7,0
			May	76,3	23,7	0,6	0,9	1,1	12,6	8,6
			Aug	81,9	18,1	0,5	1,3	0,0	9,5	6,8
			Nov	79,3	20,7	0,6	1,0	0,0	10,3	8,8
			Year	79,9	20,1	0,6	1,0	0,3	10,5	7,8
		2026	Feb	75,7	24,3	0,5	1,6	0,0	13,3	8,9
			May	75,5	24,5	0,6	1,3	0,2	14,8	7,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Publishing, printing and recording media	Weight = 3,12	2024	Feb	72,7	27,3	0,5	1,1	0,7	20,4	4,7
			May	72,2	27,8	0,4	1,0	0,6	20,8	5,0
			Aug	71,8	28,2	0,4	0,9	0,6	21,2	5,1
			Nov	73,9	26,1	0,4	1,1	0,7	18,8	5,1
			Year	72,7	27,4	0,4	1,0	0,7	20,3	5,0
		2025	Feb	71,0	29,0	0,4	0,5	0,4	22,6	5,1
			May	71,8	28,2	0,4	0,7	0,5	21,5	5,1
			Aug	72,8	27,2	0,4	0,7	0,5	22,4	3,2
			Nov	75,2	24,8	0,4	0,7	0,5	19,6	3,5
			Year	72,7	27,3	0,4	0,7	0,5	21,5	4,2
		2026	Feb	70,3	29,7	0,4	0,7	0,5	24,2	3,9
			May	69,6	30,4	0,4	0,7	0,5	24,8	3,9

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products	Weight = 23,91	2024	Feb	77,5	22,5	6,7	0,3	0,3	5,5	9,7
			May	77,1	22,9	6,5	0,3	0,3	5,5	10,3
			Aug	76,6	23,4	6,3	0,2	0,3	5,9	10,7
			Nov	77,8	22,2	6,2	0,2	0,2	4,9	10,7
			Year	77,3	22,8	6,4	0,3	0,3	5,5	10,4
		2025	Feb	73,3	26,7	6,3	0,3	0,3	6,2	13,6
			May	77,3	22,7	6,1	0,3	0,3	6,1	9,9
			Aug	77,7	22,3	6,2	0,2	0,2	6,1	9,6
			Nov	77,5	22,5	6,3	0,4	0,3	5,2	10,3
			Year	76,5	23,6	6,2	0,3	0,3	5,9	10,9
		2026	Feb	74,1	25,9	6,8	0,3	0,3	6,6	11,9
			May	77,3	22,7	7,4	0,3	0,3	6,1	8,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Coke, petroleum products and nuclear fuel	Weight = 11,12	2024	Feb	71,4	28,6	10,0	0,1	0,0	0,6	17,9
			May	69,8	30,2	10,1	0,1	0,0	0,5	19,5
			Aug	69,6	30,4	10,0	0,0	0,0	0,4	19,9
			Nov	69,6	30,4	9,9	0,0	0,0	0,3	20,2
			Year	70,1	29,9	10,0	0,1	0,0	0,5	19,4
		2025	Feb	62,9	37,1	10,0	0,0	0,0	1,3	25,9
			May	71,6	28,4	9,9	0,0	0,0	1,3	17,2
			Aug	71,8	28,2	9,9	0,0	0,0	1,2	17,2
			Nov	69,6	30,4	9,9	0,0	0,0	0,9	19,7
			Year	69,0	31,0	9,9	0,0	0,0	1,2	20,0
		2026	Feb	66,4	33,6	9,9	0,0	0,0	1,6	22,2
			May	73,5	26,5	9,9	0,0	0,0	0,9	15,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Basic chemicals	Weight = 3,60	2024	Feb	84,9	15,1	3,9	0,2	0,0	9,5	1,5
			May	86,5	13,5	2,9	0,3	0,0	9,7	0,6
			Aug	85,2	14,8	2,1	0,1	0,0	11,4	1,3
			Nov	88,0	12,0	2,4	0,3	0,0	6,4	2,9
			Year	86,2	13,9	2,8	0,2	0,0	9,3	1,6
		2025	Feb	83,8	16,2	1,9	0,0	0,0	10,6	3,6
			May	83,4	16,6	1,7	0,1	0,0	9,9	5,0
			Aug	85,8	14,2	1,6	0,0	0,0	10,8	1,7
			Nov	88,3	11,7	1,8	0,3	0,0	7,8	1,9
			Year	85,3	14,7	1,8	0,1	0,0	9,8	3,1
		2026	Feb	82,9	17,1	5,6	0,1	0,0	10,6	0,8
			May	79,7	20,3	8,2	0,0	0,0	10,9	1,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Other chemical products	Weight = 6,63	2024	Feb	81,9	18,1	4,5	0,4	1,1	9,6	2,5
			May	82,4	17,6	4,2	0,4	0,9	9,5	2,7
			Aug	81,5	18,5	4,4	0,3	1,0	9,9	2,8
			Nov	83,1	16,9	4,0	0,3	0,7	10,1	1,8
			Year	82,2	17,8	4,3	0,4	0,9	9,8	2,5
		2025	Feb	82,0	18,0	4,0	0,5	0,9	10,6	2,0
			May	82,6	17,4	4,0	0,6	0,8	9,8	2,2
			Aug	81,8	18,2	4,2	0,4	0,8	9,8	3,1
			Nov	82,9	17,1	4,5	0,9	0,9	9,3	1,4
			Year	82,3	17,7	4,2	0,6	0,9	9,9	2,2
		2026	Feb	80,4	19,6	4,3	0,6	0,8	10,6	3,4
			May	81,9	18,1	4,9	0,5	0,9	9,7	2,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Rubber products	Weight = 0,69	2024	Feb	79,6	20,4	0,2	0,0	0,0	11,6	8,6
			May	79,5	20,5	0,3	0,0	0,0	12,2	8,1
			Aug	78,3	21,7	0,4	0,0	0,0	13,0	8,3
			Nov	77,4	22,6	0,0	0,1	0,0	14,4	8,1
			Year	78,7	21,3	0,2	0,0	0,0	12,8	8,3
		2025	Feb	76,5	23,5	0,1	0,2	0,0	12,2	11,0
			May	78,3	21,7	0,2	0,1	0,0	12,0	9,4
			Aug	79,6	20,4	0,2	0,0	0,0	11,6	8,5
			Nov	73,5	26,5	0,2	0,1	0,0	15,1	11,2
			Year	77,0	23,0	0,2	0,1	0,0	12,7	10,0
		2026	Feb	68,9	31,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	19,5	11,5
			May	69,0	31,0	0,6	0,1	0,0	15,8	14,5

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Plastic products	Weight = 1,87	2024	Feb	83,2	16,8	2,3	1,3	0,4	10,5	2,3
			May	83,3	16,7	2,4	1,4	0,3	10,3	2,4
			Aug	83,6	16,4	1,7	1,5	0,3	10,6	2,3
			Nov	86,5	13,5	2,0	1,2	0,3	8,2	1,8
			Year	84,2	15,9	2,1	1,4	0,3	9,9	2,2
		2025	Feb	84,1	15,9	2,9	1,5	0,3	9,2	2,1
			May	81,8	18,2	2,2	1,5	0,3	11,4	2,9
			Aug	82,0	18,0	2,2	1,5	0,4	10,9	3,0
			Nov	86,8	13,2	1,9	1,2	0,4	7,8	1,9
			Year	83,7	16,3	2,3	1,4	0,4	9,8	2,5
		2026	Feb	83,9	16,1	2,2	1,6	0,4	9,7	2,2
			May	82,8	17,2	1,7	1,7	0,5	11,1	2,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Glass and non-metallic mineral products	Weight = 3,11	2024	Feb	78,7	21,3	2,8	0,1	0,2	13,5	4,7
			May	79,0	21,0	2,7	0,2	0,1	13,2	4,8
			Aug	81,0	19,0	2,3	0,2	0,1	11,6	4,8
			Nov	80,7	19,3	0,9	0,1	0,1	14,1	4,1
			Year	79,9	20,2	2,2	0,2	0,1	13,1	4,6
		2025	Feb	81,9	18,1	2,3	0,2	0,1	11,9	3,6
			May	81,0	19,0	2,3	0,2	0,3	12,5	3,7
			Aug	82,6	17,4	2,2	0,2	0,1	11,3	3,6
			Nov	80,6	19,4	0,9	0,2	0,1	12,5	5,7
			Year	81,5	18,5	1,9	0,2	0,2	12,1	4,2
		2026	Feb	82,6	17,4	2,1	0,2	0,1	10,6	4,4
			May	79,4	20,6	4,4	0,3	1,1	10,6	4,2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Glass and glass products	Weight = 0,61	2024	Feb	87,3	12,7	0,5	0,0	0,3	11,3	0,5
			May	91,1	8,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	8,3	0,7
			Aug	87,1	12,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	12,2	0,7
			Nov	86,3	13,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	13,3	0,5
			Year	88,0	12,1	0,1	0,0	0,1	11,3	0,6
		2025	Feb	87,6	12,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	11,9	0,5
			May	88,4	11,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	10,9	0,7
			Aug	89,5	10,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	9,8	0,7
			Nov	87,6	12,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	12,0	0,5
			Year	88,3	11,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	11,2	0,6
		2026	Feb	88,0	12,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	11,5	0,5
			May	89,1	10,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	10,2	0,7

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Other non-metallic mineral products	Weight = 2,50	2024	Feb	76,6	23,4	3,3	0,1	0,2	14,0	5,8
			May	76,1	23,9	3,3	0,2	0,1	14,4	5,8
			Aug	79,6	20,4	2,9	0,2	0,1	11,4	5,8
			Nov	79,1	20,9	1,2	0,2	0,2	14,4	5,0
			Year	77,9	22,2	2,7	0,2	0,2	13,6	5,6
		2025	Feb	80,5	19,5	2,8	0,3	0,1	11,9	4,3
			May	79,2	20,8	2,9	0,2	0,3	12,9	4,4
			Aug	80,9	19,1	2,7	0,3	0,1	11,7	4,3
			Nov	78,9	21,1	1,1	0,2	0,2	12,6	7,0
			Year	79,9	20,1	2,4	0,3	0,2	12,3	5,0
		2026	Feb	81,2	18,8	2,7	0,2	0,1	10,4	5,4
			May	77,2	22,8	5,5	0,3	1,4	10,7	5,0

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery	Weight = 21,85	2024	Feb	77,2	22,8	4,5	1,1	0,2	13,4	3,6
			May	74,4	25,6	4,5	1,5	0,1	15,8	3,7
			Aug	76,5	23,5	4,2	1,5	0,2	13,9	3,7
			Nov	76,0	24,0	3,9	1,3	0,2	14,5	4,1
			Year	76,0	24,0	4,3	1,4	0,2	14,4	3,8
		2025	Feb	74,0	26,0	3,4	2,9	0,1	15,7	3,9
			May	74,2	25,8	2,8	2,2	0,2	16,3	4,3
			Aug	72,8	27,2	2,8	2,1	0,7	17,2	4,4
			Nov	72,1	27,9	4,0	1,7	0,4	15,6	6,2
			Year	73,3	26,7	3,3	2,2	0,4	16,2	4,7
		2026	Feb	71,3	28,7	3,4	2,1	0,7	16,3	6,2
			May	71,4	28,6	3,5	1,5	1,0	16,4	6,2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Basic iron and steel products	Weight = 3,20	2024	Feb	73,4	26,6	5,0	2,2	0,1	12,9	6,4
			May	68,4	31,6	4,9	1,6	0,1	17,4	7,6
			Aug	69,6	30,4	5,2	1,7	0,1	16,9	6,5
			Nov	68,6	31,4	3,7	2,1	0,2	18,2	7,1
			Year	70,0	30,0	4,7	1,9	0,1	16,4	6,9
		2025	Feb	62,8	37,2	2,3	4,6	0,1	22,2	7,9
			May	63,8	36,2	1,9	3,2	0,1	22,9	8,0
			Aug	53,4	46,6	3,2	1,2	0,1	29,8	12,3
			Nov	48,9	51,1	0,8	0,2	0,2	25,5	24,4
			Year	57,2	42,8	2,1	2,3	0,1	25,1	13,2
		2026	Feb	47,4	52,6	0,9	0,7	0,1	26,6	24,3
			May	48,5	51,5	0,4	0,4	0,2	26,1	24,4

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Non-ferrous metal products	Weight = 4,16	2024	Feb	81,6	18,4	0,5	0,2	0,1	15,3	2,3
			May	78,0	22,0	0,4	0,1	0,0	19,0	2,5
			Aug	84,8	15,2	0,4	0,1	0,1	12,0	2,6
			Nov	81,9	18,1	0,6	0,1	0,1	14,9	2,4
			Year	81,6	18,4	0,5	0,1	0,1	15,3	2,5
		2025	Feb	80,6	19,4	0,5	0,1	0,0	16,4	2,5
			May	81,3	18,7	0,4	0,1	0,0	16,0	2,1
			Aug	81,3	18,7	0,4	0,1	0,0	15,9	2,3
			Nov	80,2	19,8	2,7	0,2	0,0	14,5	2,4
			Year	80,9	19,2	1,0	0,1	0,0	15,7	2,3
		2026	Feb	79,2	20,8	3,0	0,1	0,0	15,3	2,4
			May	78,1	21,9	4,7	0,2	0,0	14,7	2,3

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Fabricated metal products	Weight = 5,70	2024	Feb	74,1	25,9	4,6	0,8	0,2	16,5	3,8
			May	71,9	28,1	5,0	1,3	0,1	18,1	3,6
			Aug	73,3	26,7	4,3	0,9	0,3	17,3	4,0
			Nov	75,0	25,0	3,4	0,6	0,1	16,7	4,1
			Year	73,6	26,4	4,3	0,9	0,2	17,2	3,9
		2025	Feb	72,0	28,0	4,3	1,2	0,1	18,2	4,2
			May	72,5	27,5	3,4	0,8	0,4	18,4	4,5
			Aug	72,2	27,8	2,8	0,9	0,1	19,4	4,6
			Nov	71,6	28,4	3,3	1,3	0,1	18,3	5,4
			Year	72,1	27,9	3,5	1,1	0,2	18,6	4,7
		2026	Feb	72,3	27,7	3,5	1,5	0,1	17,0	5,6
			May	73,7	26,3	2,3	0,6	0,2	18,0	5,2

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Machinery and equipment	Weight = 8,79	2024	Feb	78,4	21,6	6,3	1,4	0,4	10,6	3,0
			May	76,3	23,7	6,0	2,2	0,3	12,3	2,9
			Aug	77,0	23,0	5,5	2,6	0,3	11,6	3,1
			Nov	76,6	23,4	5,8	2,0	0,2	11,5	3,9
			Year	77,1	22,9	5,9	2,1	0,3	11,5	3,2
		2025	Feb	76,1	23,9	4,7	4,6	0,2	11,4	3,0
			May	75,8	24,2	3,9	3,6	0,2	12,6	3,9
			Aug	76,4	23,6	3,7	4,2	1,6	11,8	2,4
			Nov	77,0	23,0	6,1	3,3	0,9	10,8	1,9
			Year	76,3	23,7	4,6	3,9	0,7	11,7	2,8
		2026	Feb	75,9	24,1	4,5	3,9	1,6	12,5	1,8
			May	75,1	24,9	4,8	3,0	2,4	12,6	2,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Electrical machinery	Weight = 2,15	2024	Feb	80,5	19,5	3,3	1,5	1,3	11,2	2,2
			May	78,6	21,4	3,2	2,0	1,1	11,9	3,3
			Aug	83,4	16,6	3,7	0,3	1,3	8,9	2,4
			Nov	80,8	19,3	4,6	0,1	1,5	10,0	3,1
			Year	80,8	19,2	3,7	1,0	1,3	10,5	2,8
		2025	Feb	79,0	21,0	3,1	0,4	1,5	13,1	3,0
			May	79,4	20,6	3,1	1,1	1,3	11,6	3,5
			Aug	79,1	20,9	3,8	0,6	2,1	11,5	3,0
			Nov	80,2	19,8	3,6	0,2	1,4	11,7	2,9
			Year	79,4	20,6	3,4	0,6	1,6	12,0	3,1
		2026	Feb	77,8	22,2	3,5	0,7	1,0	13,4	3,5
			May	78,6	21,4	3,5	0,4	0,9	13,1	3,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Radio, television and communication apparatus and professional equipment	Weight = 1,00	2024	Feb	79,4	20,6	5,6	0,0	0,0	14,7	0,3
			May	78,7	21,3	5,5	0,0	0,0	15,4	0,4
			Aug	78,5	21,5	6,2	0,0	0,0	15,0	0,3
			Nov	82,8	17,2	4,1	0,0	0,0	12,7	0,4
			Year	79,9	20,2	5,4	0,0	0,0	14,5	0,4
		2025	Feb	81,6	18,4	4,6	0,0	0,0	13,3	0,5
			May	78,0	22,0	5,5	0,0	0,0	16,1	0,4
			Aug	76,9	23,1	4,6	0,0	0,0	18,2	0,3
			Nov	81,1	18,9	2,7	0,0	0,0	15,7	0,5
			Year	79,4	20,6	4,4	0,0	0,0	15,8	0,4
		2026	Feb	81,3	18,7	3,6	0,0	0,0	14,8	0,3
			May	80,1	19,9	3,6	0,0	0,0	16,0	0,3

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Radio, television and communication apparatus	Weight = 0,19	2024	Feb	80,8	19,2	1,4	0,0	0,0	17,3	0,5
			May	80,0	20,0	0,8	0,0	0,0	18,0	1,2
			Aug	81,8	18,2	0,5	0,0	0,0	17,1	0,6
			Nov	80,8	19,2	0,6	0,0	0,0	17,7	0,9
			Year	80,9	19,2	0,8	0,0	0,0	17,5	0,8
		2025	Feb	79,8	20,2	0,3	0,0	0,0	18,7	1,2
			May	80,6	19,4	0,7	0,0	0,0	17,8	1,0
			Aug	80,3	19,7	1,2	0,0	0,0	17,9	0,6
			Nov	79,8	20,2	0,3	0,0	0,0	18,7	1,2
			Year	80,1	19,9	0,6	0,0	0,0	18,3	1,0
		2026	Feb	78,9	21,1	1,7	0,0	0,0	18,8	0,6
			May	79,8	20,2	1,4	0,0	0,0	18,2	0,7

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Professional equipment	Weight = 0,81	2024	Feb	79,1	20,9	6,6	0,0	0,0	14,1	0,3
			May	78,4	21,6	6,6	0,0	0,0	14,8	0,3
			Aug	77,7	22,3	7,6	0,0	0,0	14,5	0,3
			Nov	83,2	16,8	5,0	0,0	0,0	11,6	0,3
			Year	79,6	20,4	6,5	0,0	0,0	13,8	0,3
		2025	Feb	82,0	18,0	5,6	0,0	0,0	12,1	0,3
			May	77,4	22,6	6,6	0,0	0,0	15,7	0,3
			Aug	76,0	24,0	5,4	0,0	0,0	18,3	0,3
			Nov	81,4	18,6	3,3	0,0	0,0	15,0	0,3
			Year	79,2	20,8	5,2	0,0	0,0	15,3	0,3
		2026	Feb	81,8	18,2	4,1	0,0	0,0	13,9	0,3
			May	80,1	19,9	4,1	0,1	0,0	15,5	0,3

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment	Weight = 7,84	2024	Feb	80,7	19,3	1,8	0,5	0,0	13,0	4,0
			May	78,6	21,4	3,2	0,3	0,1	14,4	3,4
			Aug	79,6	20,4	1,9	0,3	0,1	14,5	3,6
			Nov	79,8	20,2	1,6	0,3	0,1	15,0	3,2
			Year	79,7	20,3	2,1	0,4	0,1	14,2	3,6
		2025	Feb	78,5	21,5	1,5	0,4	0,0	15,6	4,0
			May	77,6	22,4	2,4	0,4	0,1	16,3	3,2
			Aug	77,2	22,8	2,7	0,6	0,1	16,4	3,0
			Nov	78,8	21,2	1,6	0,4	0,1	15,5	3,6
			Year	78,0	22,0	2,1	0,5	0,1	16,0	3,5
		2026	Feb	78,2	21,8	1,6	0,6	0,1	15,5	4,0
			May	77,4	22,6	1,8	0,7	0,1	16,3	3,7

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Motor vehicles, trailers and parts and accessories	Weight = 6,93	2024	Feb	82,7	17,3	1,9	0,6	0,0	11,4	3,4
			May	80,3	19,7	3,4	0,3	0,1	13,1	2,8
			Aug	81,5	18,5	2,0	0,3	0,0	13,2	2,9
			Nov	81,8	18,2	1,7	0,3	0,0	13,8	2,5
			Year	81,6	18,4	2,3	0,4	0,0	12,9	2,9
		2025	Feb	80,1	19,9	1,6	0,4	0,0	14,4	3,4
			May	79,5	20,5	2,6	0,4	0,1	15,1	2,3
			Aug	78,8	21,2	2,9	0,6	0,1	15,4	2,3
			Nov	80,7	19,3	1,6	0,4	0,1	14,3	3,0
			Year	79,8	20,2	2,2	0,5	0,1	14,8	2,8
		2026	Feb	79,9	20,1	1,7	0,6	0,1	14,3	3,4
			May	78,9	21,1	1,9	0,7	0,1	15,3	3,1

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Other transport equipment	Weight = 0,91	2024	Feb	65,4	34,6	0,8	0,4	0,2	24,7	8,6
			May	64,9	35,1	1,3	0,6	0,3	24,5	8,6
			Aug	65,1	34,9	1,1	0,6	0,3	24,4	8,6
			Nov	65,1	34,9	1,0	0,6	0,3	24,5	8,6
			Year	65,1	34,9	1,1	0,6	0,3	24,5	8,6
		2025	Feb	65,1	34,9	0,9	0,4	0,2	24,9	8,6
			May	63,2	36,8	1,1	0,6	0,3	25,3	9,7
			Aug	65,1	34,9	1,0	0,6	0,3	24,5	8,6
			Nov	64,9	35,1	1,1	0,6	0,3	24,7	8,6
			Year	64,6	35,4	1,0	0,6	0,3	24,9	8,9
		2026	Feb	65,4	34,6	0,8	0,4	0,2	24,6	8,7
			May	66,3	33,7	1,1	0,6	0,3	24,2	7,6

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Division: Furniture and other manufacturing industries	Weight = 4,29	2024	Feb	80,0	20,0	2,8	0,6	0,3	13,8	2,5
			May	80,3	19,7	2,1	0,7	0,3	14,2	2,4
			Aug	80,7	19,3	2,2	0,6	0,3	13,8	2,4
			Nov	80,4	19,6	2,1	0,6	0,3	14,0	2,6
			Year	80,4	19,7	2,3	0,6	0,3	14,0	2,5
		2025	Feb	79,8	20,2	2,4	0,6	0,3	14,4	2,5
			May	79,9	20,1	2,2	0,3	0,3	14,3	3,0
			Aug	80,4	19,6	2,0	0,5	0,3	14,2	2,6
			Nov	79,5	20,5	2,1	0,9	0,6	14,3	2,6
			Year	79,9	20,1	2,2	0,6	0,4	14,3	2,7
		2026	Feb	79,5	20,5	2,7	0,6	0,4	14,2	2,6
			May	78,8	21,2	2,7	0,4	0,5	15,2	2,4

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Furniture	Weight = 0,84	2024	Feb	73,8	26,2	2,2	0,0	0,0	24,0	0,0
			May	75,0	25,0	1,5	0,0	0,0	23,5	0,0
			Aug	75,7	24,3	1,5	0,0	0,0	22,8	0,0
			Nov	77,2	22,8	2,2	0,0	0,0	20,7	0,0
			Year	75,4	24,6	1,9	0,0	0,0	22,8	0,0
		2025	Feb	72,5	27,5	3,0	0,0	0,0	24,5	0,0
			May	75,6	24,4	1,5	0,0	0,0	22,9	0,0
			Aug	76,0	24,0	1,5	0,0	0,0	22,5	0,0
			Nov	76,5	23,5	2,2	0,0	0,0	21,3	0,0
			Year	75,2	24,9	2,1	0,0	0,0	22,8	0,0
		2026	Feb	74,0	26,0	3,0	0,0	0,0	22,9	0,0
			May	74,6	25,4	2,2	0,0	0,0	23,2	0,0

Manufacturing divisions and major groups				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
							Skilled	Semi- and unskilled		
Other manufacturing groups including tobacco products	Weight = 3,45	2024	Feb	81,6	18,4	2,9	0,7	0,4	11,4	3,1
			May	81,5	18,5	2,2	0,9	0,4	12,0	3,0
			Aug	81,9	18,1	2,4	0,7	0,4	11,6	3,0
			Nov	81,2	18,8	2,1	0,7	0,4	12,4	3,2
			Year	81,6	18,5	2,4	0,8	0,4	11,9	3,1
		2025	Feb	81,5	18,5	2,3	0,7	0,4	12,0	3,1
			May	81,0	19,0	2,3	0,4	0,4	12,2	3,8
			Aug	81,5	18,5	2,1	0,6	0,4	12,2	3,3
			Nov	80,2	19,8	2,1	1,1	0,7	12,7	3,3
			Year	81,1	19,0	2,2	0,7	0,5	12,3	3,4
		2026	Feb	80,9	19,1	2,6	0,7	0,5	12,1	3,2
			May	79,8	20,2	2,8	0,5	0,7	13,2	3,0

Total manufacturing				Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
					Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
						Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi- and unskilled					
Total manufacturing	Weight = 100	2024	Feb	78,2	21,8	3,9	1,0	0,3	10,7	5,9
			May	77,8	22,2	3,6	1,0	0,2	11,8	5,6
			Aug	78,6	21,4	3,4	1,0	0,3	11,2	5,5
			Nov	79,1	20,9	3,2	0,9	0,2	11,0	5,6
			Year	78,4	21,6	3,5	1,0	0,3	11,2	5,7
		2025	Feb	76,4	23,6	3,5	1,2	0,2	11,8	6,9
			May	77,8	22,2	3,1	1,1	0,3	12,1	5,6
			Aug	77,9	22,1	3,1	1,1	0,3	12,2	5,4
			Nov	77,9	22,1	3,3	1,0	0,3	11,2	6,3
			Year	77,5	22,5	3,3	1,1	0,3	11,8	6,1
		2026	Feb	75,5	24,5	3,7	1,1	0,3	12,4	7,0
			May	76,6	23,4	3,6	1,0	0,5	12,6	5,7

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	This statistical release contains information regarding utilisation of production capacity, total under-utilisation and reasons for under-utilisation by division and major group within manufacturing, on a three-monthly basis. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts the survey of utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises mainly engaged in the manufacturing industry.
	2	Stats SA is continuously updating its statistical business register (SBR), based on the value-added tax (VAT) database obtained from the South African Revenue Service (SARS).
Purpose of the survey	3	The results of the quarterly manufacturing utilisation of production capacity survey are used to assess the degree of capacity constraint experienced in the manufacturing industry. The information in this release is a key component in the Composite Coincident Business Cycle Indicator and is used to analyse movements in gross fixed capital formation in the national accounts.
Scope of the survey	4	This survey covers large manufacturing enterprises, i.e. those with turnover greater than R100 million per annum and conducting activities in: • the manufacturing, processing, making or packing of products; • the slaughtering of animals, including poultry; and • installation, assembly, completion, repair and related work.
Classification	5	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to an industry which reflects its predominant activity.
Collection rate	6	The preliminary collection rate for the survey on manufacturing: utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises for May 2026 was 71,1%. The revised collection rate for February 2026 was 72,4%.
Survey methodology and design	7	The survey is collected by email and telephone for four months per year, namely February, May, August and November. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of approximately 980 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Email and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-respondents.
Sample design	8	There is no probability sampling involved in this survey. The rate of utilisation of production capacity is obtained three-monthly from a population of approximately 980 large enterprises (those with VAT turnover greater than R100 million per annum), which is a subset of a population of approximately 45 130 manufacturing enterprises. The population is classified to major group at the SIC three-digit level.
Weighting methodology	9	The weights for aggregating the utilisation rate of manufacturing major groups to divisions and divisions to total manufacturing were calculated based on the results of the most recent census of manufacturing, large sample survey (LSS) of the manufacturing industry or national accounts (NA) value added data. The under-utilisation of each major group in a division is multiplied by the applicable weight and aggregated to reflect the under-utilisation of the division. The under-utilisation of total manufacturing is calculated by weighting the under-utilisation of the divisions. The reasons for under-utilisation are weighted according to the relative importance of the reasons furnished by the respondents. If the respondent gives three reasons for under-utilisation, the weight of the most important reason is 0,5; the weight of the second-most important reason is 0,33 and the weight of the least important reason is 0,17. The percentage under-utilisation of the most important reason is 0,5 multiplied by the total under-utilisation reported by the respective respondent. The percentage under-utilisation of the second-most important reason and least important reason are calculated in the same way.

The total under-utilisation per reason within a major group is calculated by adding the weighted under-utilisation reported by each respondent per reason per major group. The total under-utilisation per reason per division is calculated by weighting the under-utilisation per group in the division. The under-utilisation per reason of total manufacturing is calculated by weighting the under-utilisation rate of the divisions. The weighting factors for aggregating the under-utilisation rate per reason of manufacturing major groups to divisions and divisions to total manufacturing were calculated per reason based on the results of the most recent census of manufacturing, large sample survey (LSS) of the manufacturing industry or national accounts (NA) value added data. Weights between census/LSS/NA years are fixed. The table below reflects the period and the census/LSS/NA which were used as base year for the given period.

Period	Source
1998 to 2000	1996 Census of manufacturing
2001 to 2004	2001 LSS
2005 to 2009	2005 LSS
2010 to 2026	National accounts

A weight is calculated for each enterprise based on the total sales of the enterprise compared with the total sales of enterprises classified in the major group.

Trend cycle **10** The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Programme is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend.

Reliability of estimates **11** Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a partial coverage collection of only the large enterprises in manufacturing, and therefore may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had also been obtained from a representative sample of smaller enterprises in manufacturing.

12 Within the defined coverage, inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive observations as a result of seasonal and economic factors.

Revised figures **13** Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
May-26	Additional information from respondents	Nov-25 and Feb-26
Aug-26	Additional information from respondents	Feb-26 and May-26
Nov-26	Additional information from respondents New weights for capacity utilisation	Feb-23 to Aug-26
Feb-27	Additional information from respondents	Aug-26 and Nov-26

Related publications **14** Users may also wish to refer to *Stats in Brief* available from Stats SA.

Reference period **15** The reference period is one month, and the survey is collected for the months of February, May, August and November.

Rounding-off of figures **16** Where necessary, the figures in the tables have been rounded off to the nearest digit shown. There may therefore be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Symbols and abbreviations	17	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
		SARS	South African Revenue Service
		SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
		Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
		VAT	Value-added tax
		0,0	Figure too small to publish
		*	Revised figures

Glossary

Enterprise	An enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal entities that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
Industry	An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the <i>System of National Accounts</i> (SNA) in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> , (SIC) Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.
Output	Output is the aggregate value of goods manufactured and work done and includes: • sales and transfers-out of own manufactures, factory waste and stocks of factored goods; • repairs; • installation, erection and assembly; • sundry trading revenue; • sales of factored goods minus purchases of factored goods; • rent and leasing received; • royalties received; • difference between opening value and closing value of work in progress, stocks of own manufactures and stock of factored goods; • head office charges; and • other revenue. Output excludes excise and customs duty paid.
Statistical unit	A statistical unit is a unit about which statistics are tabulated, compiled or published. The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) administrative data.
Skilled employees	Skilled employees are persons who have undergone training or education in and/or outside their work environment and who are in possession of a minimum level of secondary qualification to qualify for their occupation. Employees in this category must have undergone at least two years study or training after having completed Grade 12.
Semi-skilled employees	Semi-skilled employees are persons who acquired their expertise through a relatively short training period (single days or weeks) after which the required tasks should be efficiently performed. They must possess basic literacy and numeracy prior to training, but primary education is sufficient as a prerequisite for training.
Unskilled employees	Unskilled employees are persons who have not undergone any formal training or of whom no minimum level of education is required.
‘Other’ reasons for under-utilisation	Other reasons include reasons such as downtime due to maintenance, changes in productivity and seasonal factors.
Percentage utilisation of production capacity	The percentage utilisation of production capacity in the manufacturing industry is a measure of the use of manpower, plant and machinery in manufacturing.
Percentage under-utilisation of production capacity	The percentage under-utilisation of production capacity is calculated by deducting the percentage utilisation of production capacity from a hundred.

Value added

Value added is the value of output less intermediate consumption. It represents the value added to the cost of the materials used in the process of production.

Turnover

Turnover refers to:

- the value of sales and transfers out of all own manufactured products/articles;
- amounts received for work done; and
- amounts received for services rendered.

Turnover excludes:

- value-added tax (VAT);
- export freight charges; and
- excise duty.

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Table C – Weights according to manufacturing major groups

Manufacturing division and major group	Weights used for manufacturing utilisation rates by period			
	2019 (based on value added for 2017 – 2019)	2020 (based on value added for 2018 – 2020)	2021 (based on value added for 2019 – 2021)	2022 – 2026 (based on value added for 2022)
Food and beverages	20,75	21,44	22,07	22,19
Meat, fish, fruit, etc.	3,27	3,42	3,53	3,72
Dairy products	1,39	1,47	1,48	1,20
Grain mill products	1,68	1,85	2,01	1,94
Other food products	7,75	7,81	7,61	7,55
Beverages	6,66	6,89	7,44	7,78
Textiles, clothing, leather and footwear	4,26	4,07	3,89	3,68
Textiles	1,08	1,04	0,96	0,85
Other textile products	0,61	0,58	0,55	0,55
Knitted, crocheted articles	0,06	0,06	0,06	0,07
Wearing apparel	1,98	1,88	1,83	1,65
Leather and leather products	0,27	0,26	0,24	0,26
Footwear	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,30
Wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing	10,63	10,48	10,29	9,98
Sawmilling and planing of wood	0,87	0,86	0,83	0,74
Products of wood	0,88	0,90	0,93	0,85
Paper and paper products	5,34	5,26	5,18	5,27
Publishing	2,18	2,10	2,02	1,94
Printing, recorded media	1,35	1,36	1,33	1,18
Petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products	24,95	24,86	24,38	23,91
Coke, petroleum products and nuclear fuel	11,85	11,92	11,63	11,12
Basic chemicals	3,50	3,39	3,35	3,60
Other chemical products	6,64	6,82	6,81	6,63
Rubber products	0,76	0,68	0,65	0,69
Plastic products	2,20	2,05	1,94	1,87
Glass and non-metallic mineral products	3,24	3,10	3,06	3,11
Glass and glass products	0,49	0,48	0,50	0,61
Non-metallic mineral products	2,75	2,62	2,56	2,50
Basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery	19,73	19,96	20,86	21,85
Basic iron and steel products	2,92	2,92	3,18	3,20
Non-ferrous metal products (including precious metals)	3,32	3,54	3,98	4,16
Structural metal products	1,99	2,01	2,01	1,98
Other fabricated metal products	3,53	3,65	3,74	3,72
General purpose machinery	3,42	3,45	3,52	4,04
Special purpose machinery	3,85	3,73	3,77	4,01
Household appliances	0,70	0,66	0,66	0,74
Electrical machinery	2,21	2,14	2,09	2,15
Radio, television and communication apparatus and professional equipment	1,07	1,06	1,06	1,00
Radio, television and communication apparatus	0,04	0,08	0,16	0,19
Professional equipment	1,03	0,98	0,90	0,81
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment	8,89	8,72	8,21	7,84
Motor vehicles	2,78	2,62	2,39	2,33
Bodies for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	0,73	0,75	0,72	0,65
Parts and accessories	3,97	4,03	3,96	3,95
Other transport equipment	1,40	1,32	1,14	0,91
Furniture and other manufacturing	4,27	4,17	4,09	4,29
Furniture	0,78	0,69	0,70	0,84
Other manufacturing groups	3,49	3,48	3,39	3,45
Total	100	100	100	100

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