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August 2024 Industrial Production

Production indices decline for motor vehicles and other industries, due partly to plant shutdowns caused by typhoon

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Summary

- The August 2024 indices of industrial production declined for the first time in two months by -3.3% m/m, and also fell below market consensus (-0.5% according to Bloomberg Survey). This was due in part to the impact of a typhoon in late August that forced motor vehicle manufacturers and others to halt operations at their plants. The Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry has left its economic assessment unchanged at “Industrial Production fluctuates indecisively.”
- As for the future of industrial production, the indices are expected to grow moderately. Recovery production in motor vehicles in order to handle order backlog is expected due to the normalization of motor vehicle production. In addition, recovery of the silicon cycle is expected to be a positive factor leading to growth in production of semiconductor related goods. However, caution is required in regard to the risk of downward pressure on the production indices, which could occur if export control regulations are strengthened, causing a decline in the amount of sales of semiconductor production equipment in China.
- The August 2024 Indexes of Business Conditions are to be published on October 7, 2024, and the leading index is expected to be at -4.0pt m/m to 105.3, while the coincident index is expected to be down by -4.1pt to 113.1. Based on the predicted value, the assessment of the coincident index for August 2024 will automatically be left unchanged at “halting to fall.”

Industrial Production (m/m %; SA basis)

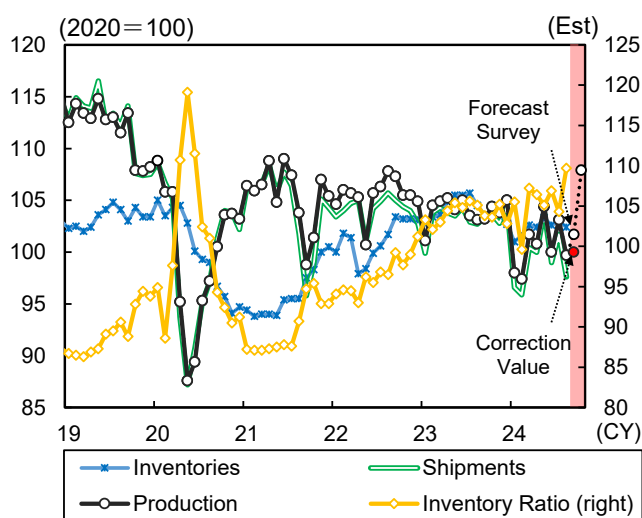
Chart 1

	2023		2024								
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	
Industrial Production	-0.6	1.2	-6.7	-0.6	4.4	-0.9	3.6	-4.2	3.1	-3.3	
Market consensus (Bloomberg)										-0.5	
DIR estimate										-1.2	
Shipments	-0.8	1.6	-7.5	-0.7	4.7	-0.4	3.9	-4.7	2.7	-4.0	
Inventories	0.0	-0.9	-1.7	0.6	1.0	-0.2	0.9	-0.7	0.4	-0.6	
Inventory ratio	1.5	-2.3	2.6	-5.6	7.6	-0.7	-1.2	1.7	-2.4	5.2	

Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry; Bloomberg; compiled by DIR.

Production, Shipment, and Inventories

Chart 2

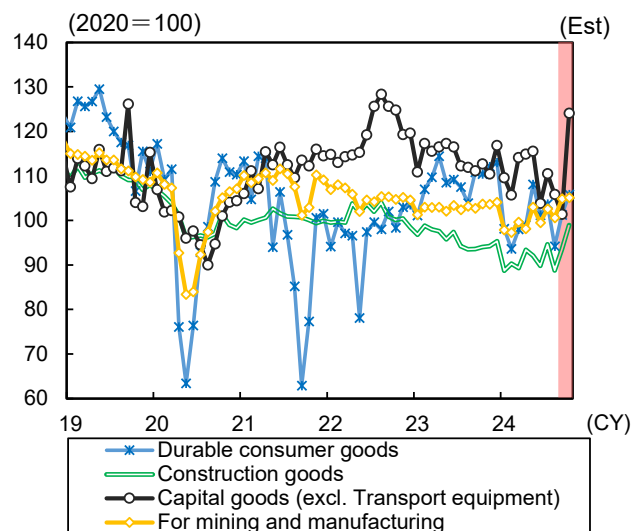


Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI), compiled by DIR.

Note: The predicted value of the Production Forecast Survey (the red circle) is the Correction Value for the Indices of Industrial Production (mode).

Production Index and Breakdown by Types of Goods

Chart 3



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI), compiled by DIR.

Note: Values for most recent 2-months of production index from METI Production Forecast Survey.