

Northern Ireland Index of Production Quarter 2 2015



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Theme: Economy Statistics
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Key points

- Provisional results from the Index of Production for the second quarter (Apr-Jun) of 2015 showed that output in NI decreased by 1.9% over the quarter, whereas output in the UK as a whole increased by 0.7%.
- The decrease over the quarter follows two successive quarters of growth. Over the year, NI Production levels increased by 1.0% while the UK recorded a rise of 1.5%.
- Compared to the same period one year earlier, the NI index rose by 1.0% in quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015. The UK index rose by 1.5% in the same time period.
- Although output in the production sector has risen over the year, there is some evidence that the rate of growth has been slowing over the past four quarters. The annual average rate of growth in this sector for Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015, at 2.5%, is approximately half that of the growth that was seen in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014 (5.1%).
- The NI index recorded a peak output last quarter, whilst the UK index decreased by 9.5% since the peak recorded in Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2007.

Figure 1: Index of Production, Northern Ireland and UK



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National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

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Introduction and context

This bulletin provides provisional data from the Northern Ireland Index of Production (IOP) Survey. The IOP is one of the earliest official indicators of the performance of Northern Ireland industry and, as such, represents an important short-term measure of change in a significant area of the economy. The contents of this report will be of interest to government policy makers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, the business community, economic commentators, academics and members of the general public with an interest in the state of the NI economy. A summary of uses is available on the website at

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-economic-research/index-production>

The latest Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment Economic Commentary (June 2015) provides an overview of the state of the Northern Ireland economy, setting it in context with the UK and Republic of Ireland. This can be found at

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/publications/deti-economic-commentary>

The most up-to-date official statistics on the economy and labour market, including those published on the same day as the Northern Ireland Index of Services and Index of Production, are available on the Economic Overview page of the DETI website at

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/topics/deti-statistics-and-economic-research>

The separate Northern Ireland Index of Services (IOS) provides an important short-term measure of change in the output of the private services sector of the economy. It is based on up-to-date information about the output and sales of the services industry. Provisional figures for Index of Services reported an increase of 0.5% in quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 and an increase of 0.7% when compared to the same period one year earlier. The index has recovered by 4.2% since the recent minimum value recorded in quarter 1 (Jan-Mar) 2011. Further information and results from the NI IOS can be accessed at

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-ios>

The Index of Production is published on a Standard Industrial Classification 2007 (SIC07) basis. This has an impact on the type of businesses classified as production sector. For example, publishing activities move from the production to the services sector and sewerage and waste disposal moves from services to the production sector. Within the production sector there are some new groupings of businesses. IOP data prior to Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 were collected on a SIC03 basis and it has been converted to approximate the SIC07 coverage. Further detail can be found in the background notes (section 7).

The background notes in Section 7 of this publication provide detailed information on the methodology used to produce the statistics as well as information on the quality and accuracy of the data. This bulletin contains detailed results for the Production Industries i.e. the Mining & quarrying, the Manufacturing, the Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and the Water supply, sewerage, waste management (inc. recycling) sectors on a 2011=100 basis. These data are seasonally adjusted (where stated).

Manufacturing is typically the main determinant of change in the production sector, representing 86% of the approximate Gross Value Added in the production industries. The other elements of the Index relate to Water supply, sewerage, waste management (inc. recycling) which represents around 6% of the Index; Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply which represents around 7% and Mining and quarrying which represents around 1%.

Comparative UK data (produced by the Office for National Statistics) are presented where these are available. The latest ONS IOP results on a comparative 2011= 100 basis are available at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/iop/index-of-production/july-2015/index.html>

Information on the manufacturing sub-sectors (e.g. Food, drink and tobacco) along with information by market sector (classifying production under one of three headings, according to the purpose for which output is intended i.e. Investment Goods, Intermediate Goods and Consumer Goods) are included in the publication.

This publication provides three measures of growth for the Index. The quarter-on-quarter change provides the most recent measure of how the sector is changing. It is appropriate to compare consecutive quarters as the indices are seasonally adjusted, where appropriate, to remove the effects of changes in output as a result of the time of the year. We also provide comparisons with the same quarter one year ago and a comparison of the most recent twelve months with the twelve months before. The quarterly comparison over the year provides an additional control on seasonal effects. The comparison of the rolling annual average is useful for identifying changes in output over a longer time period than the other two approaches.

Northern Ireland services

Revisions

Results, particularly for the most recent quarter, are provisional and subject to revision as more up-to-date data become available (e.g. through late returns). Figures can also change as a result of the seasonal adjustment process, methodological changes or changes to classifications.

The Production Index publication has published data on a 2011=100 basis to correlate with ONS publications. SIC07 deflators with the base year 2010=100 have been applied to the series from Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2001 to Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2015.

The IOP revisions policy can be found at:

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/quality-and-revisions-iop>

Date of next publication

The next Northern Ireland Index of Production publication is planned for 16th December 2015.

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Executive summary

Provisional results for quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015

Provisional results from the seasonally adjusted Index of Production for the second quarter (Apr-Jun) of 2015 show a decrease of 1.9% over the quarter, while output in the UK as a whole increased by 0.7%. The NI index recorded a peak in output in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2015, whilst the UK index decreased by 9.5% since the peak recorded in Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2007.

The Index of Services (<https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-ios>) reported an increase of 0.5% in quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 and rose by 0.7% when compared to the same period one year earlier. The index has recovered by 4.2% since the recent minimum value recorded in quarter 1 (Jan-Mar) 2011.

Figure 2: Index of Production, Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 1: Index of Production percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-1.9%	0.7%
Same quarter one year ago	1.0%	1.5%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	2.5%	1.3%

Output from the overall production industries (seasonally adjusted) in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 is 1.9% below the highest levels recorded in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2015 and Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2008.

NI output over the year rose by 1.0% in quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015. UK output rose by 1.5% in the same time period.

Although output in the production sector has risen over the year, there is some evidence that the rate of growth has been slowing over the past four quarters. The annual average rate of growth in this sector for Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015, at 2.5%, is approximately half that of the growth that was seen in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014 (5.1%).

Manufacturing (Seasonally Adjusted)

Manufacturing comprises the main element (86%) of the production index and therefore the manufacturing index has a similar profile to the overall production index. The manufacturing index remains below (3.0%) the peak in Q4 2007.

- Manufacturing output levels decreased over the quarter by 2.1% (UK: decreased by 0.3%)
- Manufacturing output levels increased by 1.6% compared to the same quarter one year ago (UK: 0.6%)
- Manufacturing output levels rose by 3.2% over the most recent four quarters compared to the previous four quarters (UK: 2.0%)

Manufacturing Productivity (Seasonally Adjusted)

The index of manufacturing productivity (which provides a measure of the number of units of output produced per person per paid hour) recorded a decrease (2.8%) over the quarter and the year (5.3%).

Other Production

Water supply, sewerage and waste management (unadjusted) increased by 1.8% over the quarter but fell over the year (3.4%). The NI index is 16.4% below the recent peak recorded in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2012, while the UK recorded a rise of 6.5% over the same time period.

The electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply index (seasonally adjusted) increased by 0.6% over the quarter and fell by 3.3% over the year. The UK reported a fall over the quarter (3.1%) and over the year (0.4%). The NI index is 6.9% below the peak recorded in Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2008, with the UK reporting a fall of 10.5% over the same time period.

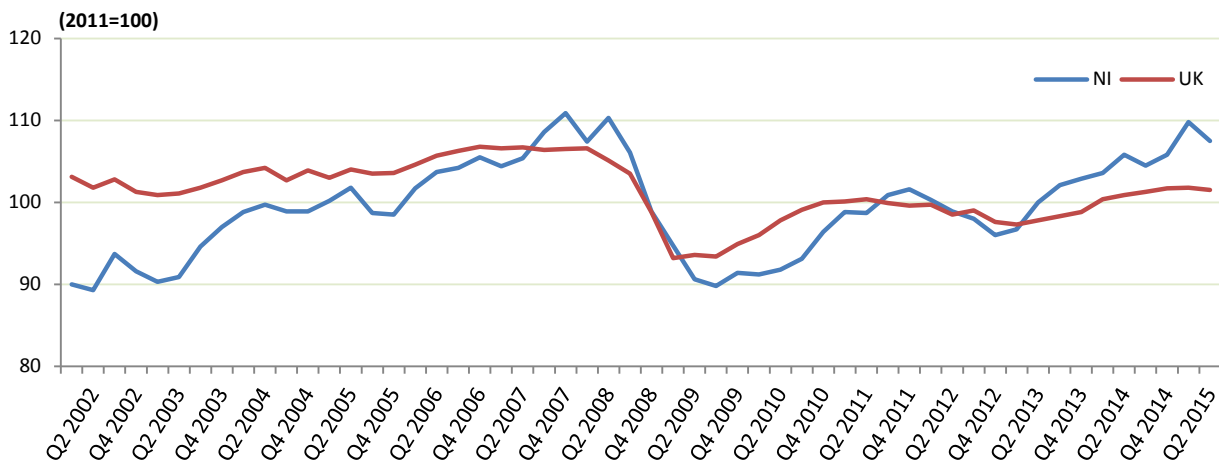
Mining and quarrying (unadjusted) increased by 4.4% over the quarter and 9.5% over the year. Recovery in this index remains slow and is some 30.8% below the peak reached in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2007; the UK index fell by a similar proportion (by 35.7%) over the same period.

3

Production by broad industry groups

This section focuses on performance of the sub-sectors which make up the overall production sector. The main industry categories of which it is comprised are listed in order of importance of the contribution made to the quarterly change in the overall Index of Production.

Figure 3: Manufacturing – SIC07 Sections C (weight = 86.0%) (seasonally adjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 2: Manufacturing percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-2.1%	-0.3%
Same quarter one year ago	1.6%	0.6%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	3.2%	2.0%

Manufacturing comprises the main element (86%) of the production index and therefore the manufacturing index has a similar profile to the overall production index. Despite the recent fall this quarter, the manufacturing index is 19.8% above the most recent low point recorded in Q3 (Oct-Dec) 2009.

Further detail relating to manufacturing subsectors is given in section 4.

Figure 4: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply¹ – SIC07 Section D (weight = 6.7%) (seasonally adjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 3: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	0.6%	-3.1%
Same quarter one year ago	-3.3%	-0.4%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-2.4%	-0.1%

This index has fallen 6.9% since the peak recorded in Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2008, with the UK reporting a fall of 10.5% over this same time period. The NI index has recovered 13.9% from the most recent low point recorded in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2007.

¹ The electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sub-sector has been seasonally adjusted from Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014 using X-13 ARIMA SEATS and previously smoothed companies with volatile returns are no longer smoothed.

Figure 5: Water supply, sewerage and waste management (inc. recycling) – SIC07 Section E (weight = 6.4%) (unadjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK

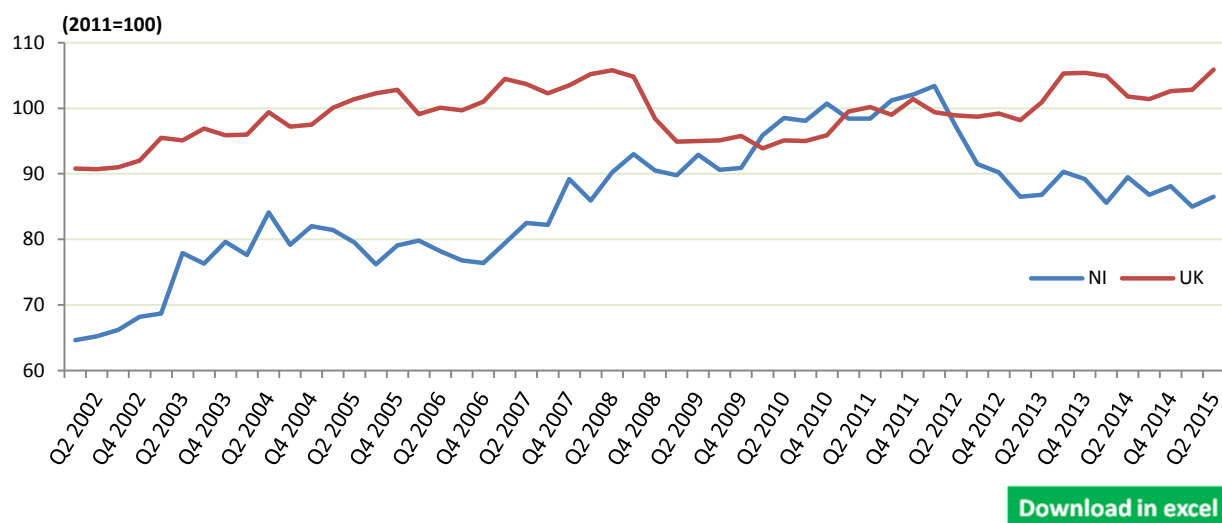


Table 4: Water supply, sewerage and waste management (inc. recycling) percentage change, Northern Ireland

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	1.8%	3.0%
Same quarter one year ago	-3.4%	4.0%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-2.3%	-1.1%

This sector is currently 16.4% below the recent peak reached in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2012.

Figure 6: Mining and quarrying – SIC07 Sections B (Weight = 1.0%) (unadjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



Table 5: Mining and quarrying percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	4.4%	6.2%
Same quarter one year ago	9.5%	5.4%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-0.5%	-0.1%

Recovery in this sector remains slow and the index is some 30.8% below the peak recorded in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2007. The UK index fell by a similar proportion (35.7%) over the same period.

4

Manufacturing subsectors

Manufacturing is the main component of the production sector accounting for some 86% of Regional Accounts Gross Value Added (GVA) within the overall production sector. This section focuses on performance of the sub-sectors of manufacturing. They have been listed in order of importance of the contribution made to the quarterly change in the overall Index of Production.

Figure 7: Engineering & allied industries (weight = 28.7%) (seasonally adjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK

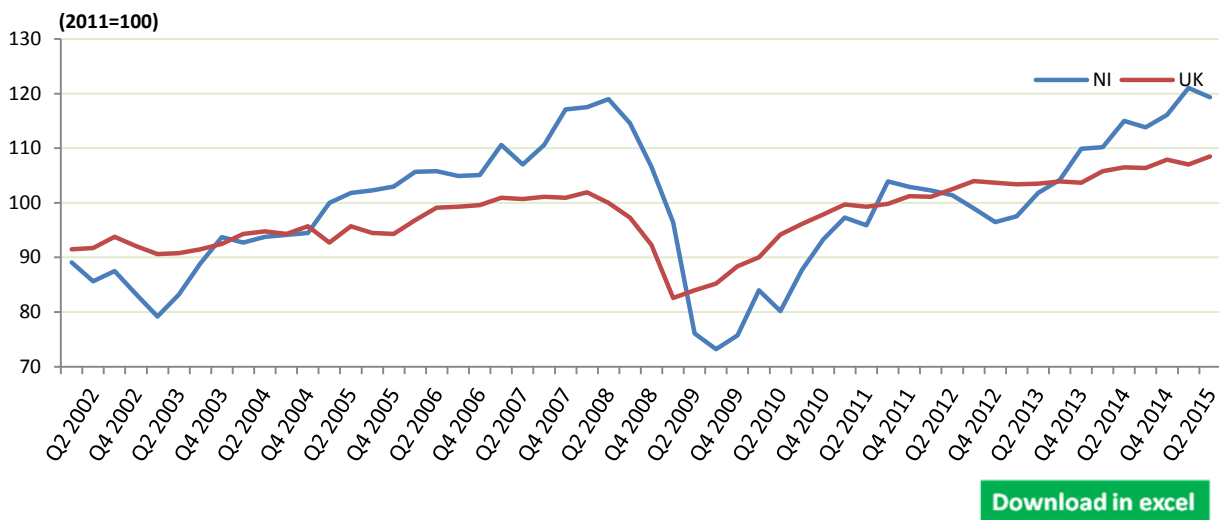
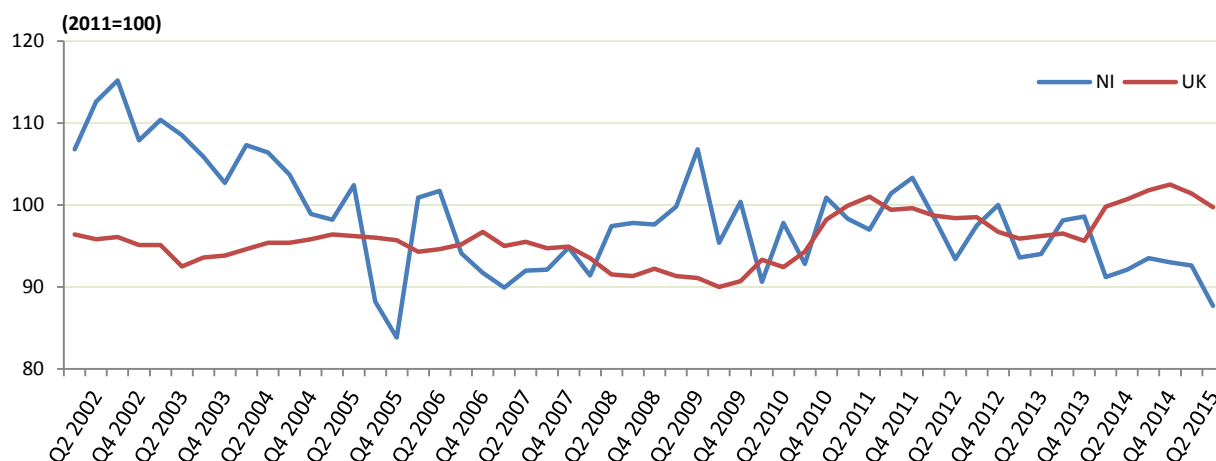


Table 6: Engineering & allied industries percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-1.3%	1.4%
Same quarter one year ago	3.7%	1.9%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	7.0%	2.4%

Despite a fall of 1.3% over the quarter, this sector remains 0.3% above the previous peak recorded in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2008. It has shown a notable recovery (63.1%) since its minimum value recorded in Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2009.

Figure 8: Food products, beverages & tobacco (weight = 22.6%) (unadjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 7: Food products, beverages & tobacco percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-5.3%	-1.7%
Same quarter one year ago	-4.7%	-1.0%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-3.4%	3.3%

This sector has decreased by 5.3% since the previous quarter and has fallen by 17.8% from a recent high point in Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2009.

A fall in food commodity prices, particularly in the dairy sector, may be a contributing factor to the decline in output in the sector.

Figure 9: Total other manufacturing (weight = 17.8%) (seasonally adjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 8: Total other manufacturing percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	1.7%	-0.7%
Same quarter one year ago	6.9%	0.5%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	4.1%	3.0%

This sector has increased by 1.7% since last quarter but is some 17.8% below the peak of Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2007.

Figure 10: Manufacturing of chemical and pharmaceutical products (weight = 7.5%) (unadjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



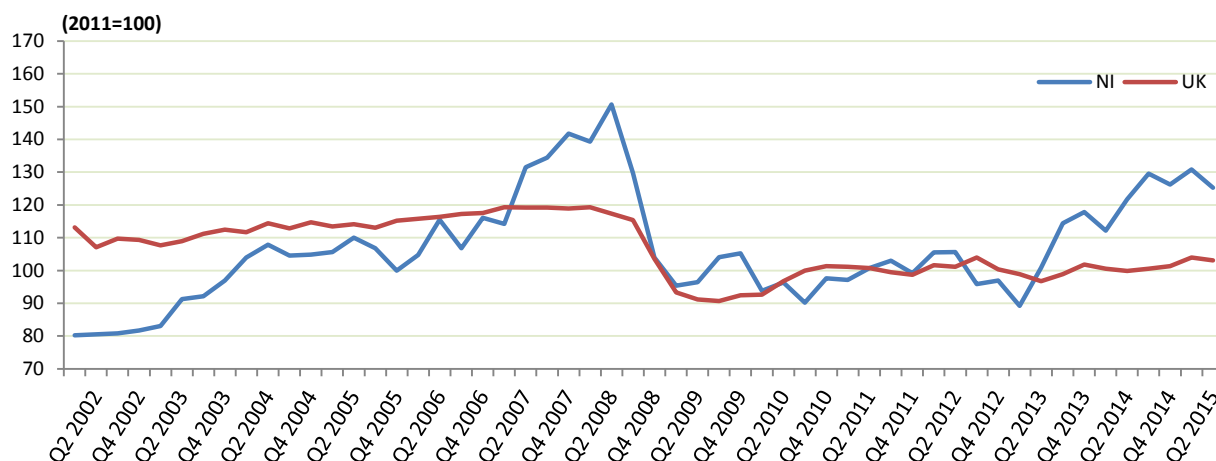
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Table 9: Manufacturing of chemical and pharmaceutical products percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-0.5%	-1.1%
Same quarter one year ago	-6.1%	0.5%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-2.2%	0.4%

This index was mainly on an upward trend until Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2013 where it recorded a peak of 123.8. This sector has fallen 6.9% since this peak.

Figure 11: Basic and fabricated metal products (weight = 6.2%) (unadjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



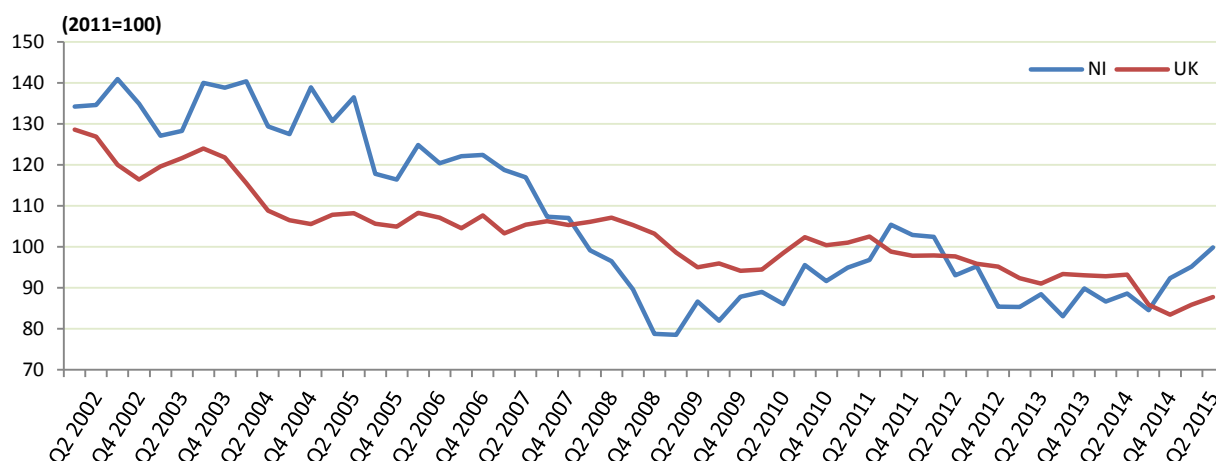
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Table 10: Basic and fabricated metal products percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	-4.2%	-0.9%
Same quarter one year ago	3.0%	3.2%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	9.8%	1.9%

This sector has recovered some 40.5% since the recent low in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2013.

Figure 12: Textiles, leather & related products (weight = 3.2%) (seasonally adjusted series), Northern Ireland and UK



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Table 11: Textiles, leather & related products percentage change, Northern Ireland and UK

	NI	UK
Percentage change compared to:		
Previous quarter	5.0%	2.2%
Same quarter one year ago	12.6%	-5.9%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	6.8%	-8.0%

The downward trend in this sector started much earlier than in other sectors and the index has fallen 29.2% since its peak in Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2002.

5

Market sector analysis

Market sector analysis classifies production under one of three headings which are derived from the main SIC classification groups.

Investment Goods – also known as Capital Goods – are the plant, equipment and inventories used to produce goods for consumption. Companies will invest further in these kinds of goods when they are looking to expand their production or upgrade existing equipment.

Intermediate Goods are those purchased by industry as inputs into the final production of goods. This category would include the materials (such as cement, rubber, plastic, chemicals and electronics) which will ultimately be used to produce a good for consumption.

Consumer Goods are the final goods produced by industry which are intended for purchase by private consumers. These goods are consumed by the mass market rather than used in the production of another good, and are therefore closely linked to consumer demand and the factors which influence this.

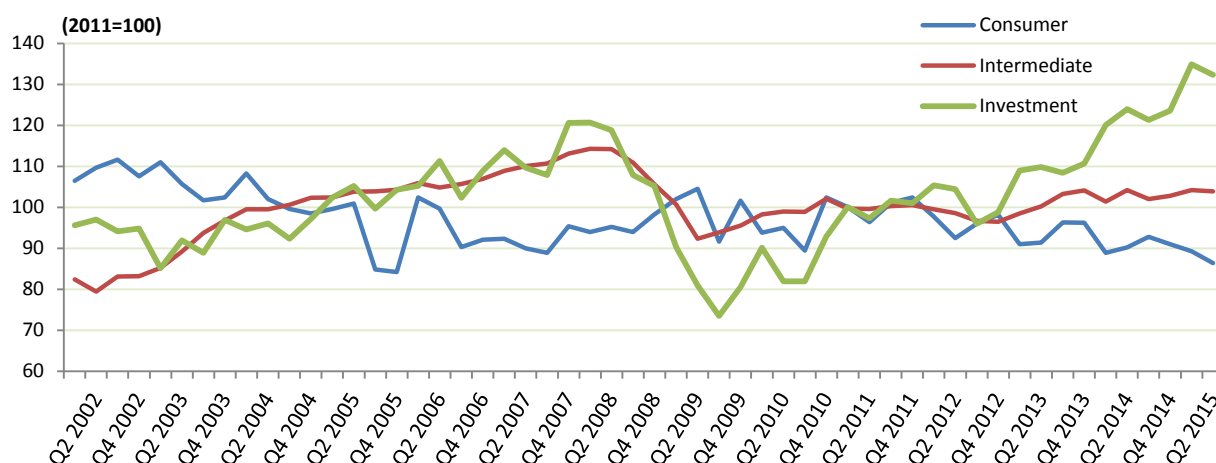
It should be noted that these groups are for illustrative purposes as there can be overlap where manufacturer goods could be used as capital to produce another good but will also be used for consumption (e.g. motor vehicles).

Table 12: Index of Production by Market Sector Goods (annual data)

	Consumer Goods (44.2%²) Unadjusted	Intermediate Goods (39.1%²) Seasonally Adjusted	Investment Goods (26.7%²) Unadjusted
2002	109	82	95
2003	105	91	91
2004	102	100	95
2005	92	104	103
2006	96	106	107
2007	92	111	113
2008	95	111	113
2009	100	96	81
2010	95	100	87
2011	100	100	100
2012	96	98	101
2013	94	102	109
2014	91	103	122

² The regional GVA weights relate to 2012.

Figure 13: Market Sector Goods, Northern Ireland



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Table 13: Index of Production by Market Sector Goods percentage change, Northern Ireland

	Consumer Goods	Intermediate Goods	Investment Goods
Percentage change compared to:			
Previous quarter	-3.2%	-0.2%	-2.0%
Same quarter one year ago	-4.1%	-0.3%	6.6%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters ³	-3.2%	0.0%	10.5%

Unadjusted Consumer Goods (weight 44.2%)

This category has been relatively stable during the recession but remains changeable quarter on quarter. In Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 there was a decrease of 3.2% in output of consumer goods.

Seasonally Adjusted Intermediate Goods (weight 39.1%)

After experiencing a sharp fall between 2008 and 2009, this category has remained steady with the index being in the region of 100 quarter on quarter. Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 is reporting a small decrease over the quarter (0.2%) and over the year (0.3%).

Unadjusted Investment Goods (weight 16.7%)

The significant falls in output experienced from 2008 where the index fell 39.1% between Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2008 and Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2009 reflects the impact of the global recession on businesses, with many companies looking to survive as the economy contracted. The recent rises in output can be interpreted as firms recovering from the recession and investing to grow from 2011. In Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 Investment goods have seen a decrease of 2.0% from the previous quarter, but an increase of 6.6% over the year and remains 9.5% above the pre-recession peak recorded in Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2008.

³ The change in the rolling annual average measures the change in the average of the latest four quarters against the same four quarters one year previous.

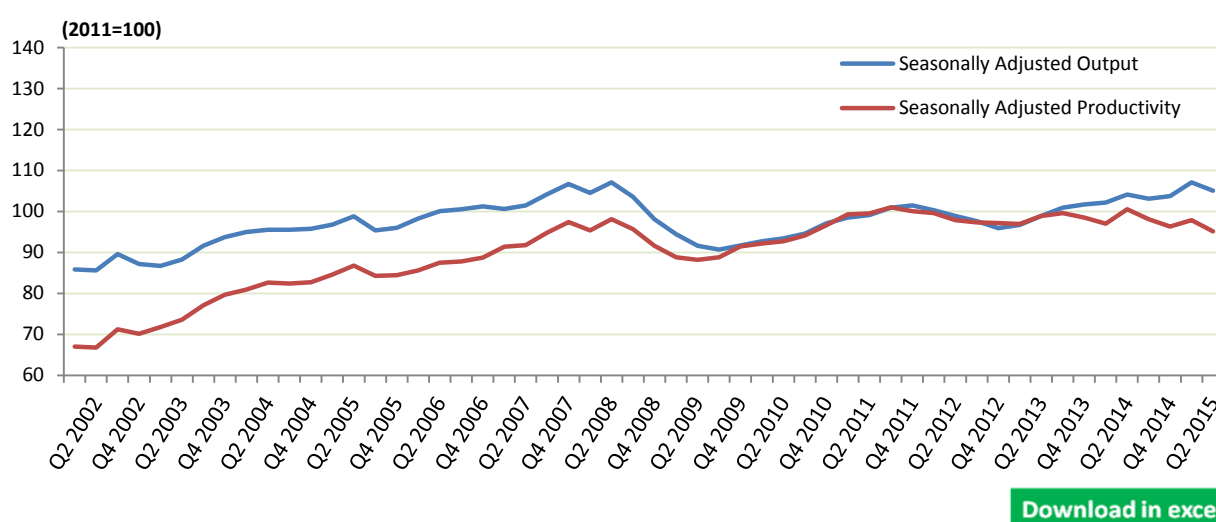
6

Seasonally adjusted index of manufacturing productivity

The seasonally adjusted index of manufacturing productivity provides a measure of the number of units of output produced per person per paid hour. The index includes seasonally adjusted employees in employment, the seasonally adjusted manufacturing index and average weekly hours (based on hours worked for full-time adult manufacturing workers including overtime from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).

The index of manufacturing productivity decreased over the quarter and the year, by 2.8% and 5.3% respectively. The index reported an decrease of 2.1% over the latest four quarters compared to the previous four quarters. Since mid-2009, output and productivity have been very similar. However, since the start of 2013, output has been greater than productivity.

Figure 14: Manufacturing output & productivity, Northern Ireland



The most recently published Quarterly Employment Survey seasonally adjusted figures for June 2015 (based on the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification) reported an increase of 0.8% over the quarter in employee jobs in the manufacturing sector and a rise of 4.7% over the year.

Table 14: Seasonally adjusted index of manufacturing productivity, Northern Ireland

Annual Average		Annual Average	
2002	69	2009	89
2003	76	2010	94
2004	82	2011	100
2005	85	2012	98
2006	87	2013	98
2007	94	2014	98
2008	95		

Table 15: Seasonally adjusted index of manufacturing productivity percentage change, Northern Ireland

	NI
Percentage change compared to:	
Previous quarter	-2.8%
Same quarter one year ago	-5.3%
Most recent four quarters compared to previous four quarters	-2.1%

7

Quarterly/annual/rolling annual average changes

Table 16: Index of Production – Quarterly, annual and rolling annual average⁴ changes by sector, Northern Ireland

		All Production industries - Sections B, C, D, E (seasonally adjusted)				Manufacturing – Section C (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁵ = 86.0%				Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning – Section D (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁵ = 6.7%				Water, supply & waste management – Section E (unadjusted series) weight ⁵ = 6.4%				Mining & quarrying – Section B (unadjusted series) weight ⁵ = 1.0%			
		Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change		
			Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling
2002	Q1	85.8	-	-	-	90.0	-	-	-	78.1	-	-	-	64.6	-	-	-	93.1	-	-	-
	Q2	85.6	-0.2	-	-	89.3	-0.7	-	-	77.9	-0.3	-	-	65.2	0.9	-	-	88.4	-5.1	-	-
	Q3	89.6	4.6	-	-	93.7	5.0	-	-	78.9	1.3	-	-	66.2	1.5	-	-	90.6	2.5	-	-
	Q4	87.2	-2.6	-	-	91.6	-2.3	-	-	81.2	2.9	-	-	68.2	3.0	-	-	97.4	7.5	-	-
2003	Q1	86.7	-0.6	1.0	-	90.3	-1.4	0.3	-	81.1	-0.1	3.8	-	68.7	0.7	6.2	-	101.9	4.6	9.5	-
	Q2	88.3	1.8	3.1	-	90.9	0.7	1.8	-	86.7	7.0	11.4	-	77.9	13.4	19.4	-	104.7	2.7	18.4	-
	Q3	91.6	3.7	2.2	-	94.6	4.0	0.9	-	90.2	4.0	14.3	-	76.3	-2.0	15.3	-	109.2	4.3	20.5	-
	Q4	93.7	2.3	7.4	3.5	97.0	2.5	5.9	2.3	92.0	2.0	13.3	10.7	79.6	4.3	16.7	14.4	109.5	0.3	12.4	15.1
2004	Q1	95.0	1.3	9.5	5.6	98.8	1.8	9.4	4.5	91.6	-0.5	12.9	13.0	77.6	-2.5	13.0	16.0	105.4	-3.7	3.4	13.3
	Q2	95.5	0.6	8.2	6.8	99.7	0.9	9.6	6.4	81.1	-11.4	-6.5	8.2	84.1	8.4	8.1	13.0	110.4	4.7	5.5	10.1
	Q3	95.5	0.0	4.3	7.3	98.9	-0.8	4.5	7.3	97.1	19.6	7.6	6.6	79.2	-5.9	3.8	10.1	105.1	-4.7	-3.7	4.2
	Q4	95.8	0.3	2.2	6.0	98.9	0.0	1.9	6.3	94.9	-2.2	3.2	4.2	82.0	3.6	3.1	6.8	109.9	4.6	0.5	1.3
2005	Q1	96.8	1.0	1.9	4.1	100.2	1.3	1.5	4.3	95.0	0.0	3.7	2.1	81.4	-0.7	5.0	5.0	100.0	-9.0	-5.1	-0.7
	Q2	98.8	2.1	3.4	2.9	101.8	1.6	2.1	2.5	108.6	14.4	33.9	11.5	79.5	-2.4	-5.5	1.4	110.9	10.9	0.5	-1.9
	Q3	95.4	-3.5	-0.1	1.9	98.7	-3.1	-0.2	1.3	96.9	-10.8	-0.2	9.3	76.2	-4.2	-3.8	-0.4	118.7	7.0	12.9	2.1
	Q4	96.0	0.7	0.3	1.4	98.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.7	99.1	2.2	4.3	9.6	79.1	3.9	-3.5	-2.1	121.1	2.0	10.1	4.6

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⁴ The change in the rolling annual average measures the change in the average of the latest four quarters against the same four quarters one year previous.

⁵ The regional GVA weights relate to 2012.

Table 16 (cont): Index of Production – Quarterly, annual and rolling annual average⁶ changes by sector, Northern Ireland

		All Production industries - Sections B, C, D, E (seasonally adjusted)				Manufacturing – Section C (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁷ = 86.0%				Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning – Section D (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁷ = 6.7%				Water, supply & waste management – Section E (unadjusted series) weight ⁷ = 6.4%				Mining & quarrying – Section B (unadjusted series) weight ⁷ = 1.0%			
		Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change		
			Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling
2006	Q1	109.6	98.3	2.4	1.6	1.3	101.7	3.3	1.5	0.8	99.8	0.7	5.1	9.9	79.8	0.9	-2.0	-3.7	116.5	-3.7	16.5
	Q2	110.3	100.1	1.8	1.3	0.8	103.7	1.9	1.8	0.7	97.8	-1.9	-9.9	-0.5	78.2	-2.0	-1.6	-2.7	128.2	10.0	15.6
	Q3	111.6	100.5	0.4	5.3	2.1	104.2	0.5	5.6	2.1	93.6	-4.4	-3.5	-1.3	76.8	-1.8	0.8	-1.6	137.1	6.9	15.4
	Q4	112.6	101.2	0.7	5.3	3.4	105.5	1.2	7.1	4.0	93.4	-0.1	-5.7	-3.7	76.4	-0.5	-3.5	-1.6	131.9	-3.7	9.0
2007	Q1	112.2	100.6	-0.5	2.3	3.5	104.4	-1.0	2.6	4.3	94.2	0.8	-5.6	-6.3	79.4	4.0	-0.5	-1.2	138.0	4.6	18.5
	Q2	112.5	101.5	0.9	1.5	3.6	105.4	0.9	1.7	4.2	89.5	-5.0	-8.5	-5.8	82.5	4.0	5.5	0.6	149.7	8.5	16.8
	Q3	112.0	104.2	2.6	3.7	3.2	108.6	3.1	4.2	3.9	91.3	2.0	-2.5	-5.6	82.2	-0.4	7.1	2.1	147.1	-1.7	7.3
	Q4	110.2	106.7	2.4	5.5	3.3	110.9	2.1	5.1	3.4	94.6	3.6	1.2	-3.9	89.2	8.4	16.8	7.1	142.0	-3.5	7.7
2008	Q1	111.3	104.5	-2.1	3.9	3.6	107.4	-3.1	2.8	3.5	103.0	8.9	9.3	-0.2	85.9	-3.7	8.2	9.4	126.2	-11.2	-8.6
	Q2	110.3	107.1	2.5	5.5	4.6	110.3	2.7	4.6	4.2	108.4	5.3	21.1	7.2	90.2	5.0	9.3	10.3	122.5	-2.9	-18.2
	Q3	108.0	103.6	-3.3	-0.6	3.5	106.1	-3.8	-2.4	2.5	109.5	1.0	20.0	12.8	93.0	3.1	13.0	11.8	108.7	-11.3	-26.1
	Q4	105.0	98.1	-5.3	-8.1	0.0	98.9	-6.8	-10.8	-1.6	106.8	-2.5	12.9	15.7	90.5	-2.6	1.5	7.9	101.5	-6.6	-28.5
2009	Q1	104.4	94.4	-3.8	-9.7	-3.3	94.7	-4.3	-11.9	-5.2	100.3	-6.0	-2.6	12.3	89.8	-0.8	4.6	7.0	105.6	4.1	-16.3
	Q2	103.8	91.6	-2.9	-14.5	-8.3	90.6	-4.2	-17.8	-10.7	103.2	2.9	-4.8	5.7	92.9	3.4	3.0	5.4	109.0	3.2	-11.0
	Q3	104.6	90.7	-1.0	-12.4	-11.2	89.8	-1.0	-15.4	-14.0	102.6	-0.6	-6.3	-0.6	90.6	-2.5	-2.5	1.6	107.1	-1.7	-1.5
	Q4	106.4	91.7	1.1	-6.5	-10.9	91.4	1.8	-7.5	-13.3	103.1	0.5	-3.4	-4.3	90.9	0.3	0.4	1.3	106.3	-0.7	4.7
2010	Q1	106.5	92.7	1.1	-1.8	-9.0	91.2	-0.2	-3.6	-11.4	107.5	4.2	7.1	-2.0	95.9	5.5	6.8	1.9	121.5	14.3	15.0
	Q2	104.9	93.4	0.7	1.9	-4.9	91.8	0.6	1.3	-6.7	103.0	-4.1	-0.2	-0.9	98.5	2.7	6.0	2.7	131.7	8.4	20.8
	Q3	101.8	94.6	1.3	4.3	-0.6	93.1	1.4	3.7	-1.7	104.2	1.1	1.6	1.2	98.1	-0.4	8.3	5.4	116.3	-11.7	8.6
	Q4	98.6	97.1	2.6	5.9	2.5	96.4	3.6	5.5	1.7	107.8	3.5	4.6	3.2	100.7	2.7	10.8	8.0	107.2	-7.8	0.9

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⁶ The change in the rolling annual average measures the change in the average of the latest four quarters against the same four quarters one year previous.

⁷ The regional GVA weights relate to 2012.

Table 16 (cont): Index of Production – Quarterly, annual and rolling annual average⁸ changes by sector, Northern Ireland

		All Production industries - Sections B, C, D, E (seasonally adjusted)				Manufacturing – Section C (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁹ = 86.0%				Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning – Section D (seasonally adjusted) weight ⁹ = 6.7%				Water, supply & waste management – Section E (unadjusted series) weight ⁹ = 6.4%				Mining & quarrying – Section B (unadjusted series) weight ⁹ = 1.0%			
		Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change			Index	% Change		
			Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling		Quarter	Annual	Rolling
2011	Q1	98.5	1.4	6.3	4.6	98.8	2.4	8.3	4.7	99.6	-7.6	-7.3	-0.4	98.4	-2.4	2.5	6.8	102.1	-4.7	-15.9	3.0
	Q2	99.1	0.6	6.2	5.7	98.7	-0.1	7.5	6.3	99.7	0.1	-3.2	-1.2	98.4	0.0	-0.2	5.2	102.1	0.0	-22.4	-8.3
	Q3	100.9	1.8	6.6	6.2	100.9	2.2	8.4	7.4	99.9	0.1	-4.1	-2.6	101.2	2.8	3.1	4.0	100.1	-2.0	-13.9	-13.5
	Q4	101.5	0.6	4.5	5.9	101.6	0.7	5.4	7.4	100.8	0.9	-6.5	-5.3	102.1	0.9	1.3	1.7	95.6	-4.5	-10.8	-16.1
2012	Q1	100.3	-1.2	1.8	4.7	100.3	-1.3	1.5	5.6	98.2	-2.6	-1.4	-3.9	103.4	1.3	5.1	2.3	101.6	6.3	-0.5	-12.6
	Q2	98.9	-1.4	-0.3	3.1	98.9	-1.4	0.2	3.8	98.4	0.2	-1.3	-3.4	97.2	-6.0	-1.2	2.1	99.6	-1.9	-2.4	-7.2
	Q3	97.6	-1.3	-3.3	0.7	98.0	-0.9	-2.9	1.0	99.0	0.6	-0.9	-2.6	91.5	-5.8	-9.6	-1.1	99.4	-0.2	-0.7	-3.7
	Q4	95.9	-1.7	-5.5	-1.8	96.0	-2.0	-5.5	-1.7	102.1	3.1	1.3	-0.6	90.2	-1.4	-11.6	-4.4	101.4	2.1	6.1	0.5
2013	Q1	96.7	0.8	-3.6	-3.2	96.7	0.7	-3.5	-3.0	104.7	2.6	6.6	1.4	86.5	-4.1	-16.3	-9.8	102.1	0.6	0.5	0.8
	Q2	98.9	2.3	0.0	-3.1	100.0	3.3	1.1	-2.7	103.4	-1.2	5.1	3.0	86.8	0.3	-10.7	-12.1	100.7	-1.4	1.1	1.7
	Q3	100.9	2.0	3.4	-1.5	102.1	2.1	4.2	-1.0	103.7	0.3	4.8	4.4	90.3	4.0	-1.3	-10.2	98.1	-2.5	-1.3	1.5
	Q4	101.7	0.8	6.1	1.4	102.9	0.8	7.1	2.2	103.2	-0.6	1.0	4.4	89.2	-1.1	-1.1	-7.7	93.3	-5.0	-8.1	-2.0
2014	Q1	102.2	0.5	5.7	3.8	103.6	0.6	7.0	4.8	103.7	0.6	-0.9	2.4	85.6	-4.1	-1.1	-3.7	99.1	6.3	-2.9	-2.8
	Q2	104.1	1.8	5.3	5.1	105.8	2.2	5.9	6.0	105.5	1.6	2.0	1.7	89.5	4.6	3.2	-0.1	94.6	-4.5	-6.0	-4.6
	Q3	103.1	-0.9	2.2	4.8	104.5	-1.2	2.4	5.6	103.8	-1.6	0.0	0.5	86.8	-3.1	-3.9	-0.7	89.7	-5.2	-8.6	-6.4
	Q4	103.7	0.5	1.9	3.7	105.8	1.2	2.8	4.5	98.8	-4.8	-4.3	-0.8	88.1	1.5	-1.3	-0.8	90.9	1.3	-2.6	-5.0
2015	Q1	107.1	3.3	4.8	3.5	109.8	3.7	6.0	4.3	101.4	2.7	-2.3	-1.1	85.0	-3.5	-0.7	-0.7	99.2	9.2	0.1	-4.3
	Q2	105.1	-1.9	1.0	2.5	107.5	-2.1	1.6	3.2	102.0	0.6	-3.3	-2.4	86.5	1.8	-3.4	-2.3	103.6	4.4	9.5	-0.5

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⁸ The change in the rolling annual average measures the change in the average of the latest four quarters against the same four quarters one year previous.

⁹ The regional GVA weights relate to 2012.

Background

The Northern Ireland Index of Production (IOP) has been produced since 1949 and figures are available in the current format back to 2002. It is published quarterly and is designed to provide a general measure of changes in the output of the production industries in Northern Ireland. (This is defined as Standard Industrial Classification 2007 sections B, C, D and E.) In 2012 these industries accounted for approximately 16% of regional Gross Value Added (GVA). See link to Regional GVA information.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Regional+GVA>

Index numbers

An index number is a convenient form of expressing a series in a way that makes it easier to see changes in that series. The numbers in the series are expressed relatively, with one number in that series chosen to be the 'base' (usually expressed as 100) and other numbers being measured relative to that base. Index numbers have the advantage that they allow different types of data to be combined on a consistent basis, e.g. deflated current price data with volume data. The aim of the Index of Production is to provide a reliable indicator of short-term changes in the output of the production sector. Index numbers are a very good way of communicating this message. For example, the Index of Production Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 value of 105.1 means that the level of output was 5.1% higher than in 2011 which had a base year value of 100. The NI IOP is a Laspeyres volume index. The UK economic accounts are based on the European System of Accounts (ESA), which in turn is based on the UN System of Accounts (SNA). The ESA-preferred type of output indicator is one that measures deflated gross output (or turnover) for an industry. These use an approximate price charge estimator to remove the effects of inflation. For this reason we, and the ONS, use a Laspeyres volume index (as opposed to Paasche, Lowe or Fisher indices). The ONS paper, link following, on the Methodology of the Monthly Index of Services (Annex A: Mathematical Formulation of the Index of Services) gives a good explanation of Index numbers theory.

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/index-of-services/index-of-services-annex-a--mathematical-formulation-of-the-index.pdf>

Index sample

The IOP sample was refreshed for Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2014 and was drawn on a SIC07 basis. The sample was boosted from around 650 businesses and it is now approximately 1,000 companies. Due, in part, to the significant number of companies which fall into the census element, more than 60% of businesses in the new sample were also in the old sample. As a statutory survey the response rate is around 90%. The sample of production industries is selected directly from the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), by stratifying companies by industry and company size. The sample consists of a census of dominant companies and a Neyman stratified random sample of the remaining companies. The census element consists of all companies employing 40 or more employees and those employing 0 to 39 employees and having a turnover of £10 million or more. This sample has been designed to give sufficiently accurate results, yet keep the total costs to businesses to a minimum.

Questionnaires were issued to both the new and existing businesses on each sample, for three quarters, as a means to calculate a link factor between the old sample (up to and including Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2013) and the new sample (from Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2014 onwards). With advice from Office for National Statistics Methodologists, as the result of a successful Quality Improvement Fund, a methodology has been developed in order to integrate the new samples without making significant changes to the back series data, thus giving a meaningful index.

Data collection, validation and Index calculation

The survey forms are issued quarterly, immediately after the period to which they relate. For example, forms are issued in October asking for information relating to July to September. Companies are asked to provide their turnover and exports. Historically a number of companies provided volume information rather than turnover data (e.g. litres of product rather than the turnover value of the product). From quarter 2 (Apr-Jun), 2010 these companies were asked to also provide turnover data and from Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 the IOP estimates have solely been based on turnover. In response to user demand information is also collected on the value of exports. This will be used to produce a quarterly index in due course once a sufficient back series has been established.

Data validation is carried out ensuring that data fall within the expected limits, contacting the company where appropriate for clarification.

The overall Index of Production is calculated by weighting together industry level indices using relative shares of Accounts Gross Value Added (GVA) data from the most recent Regional Accounts, which is currently 2012. The IOP relative weights used to produce the aggregated industries are derived from the Regional GVA estimate, published annually by ONS. Figures in this Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2014 IOP publication reflect the move to using 2012 GVA, including a new ONS methodology for calculating sub-sectoral breakdowns of the GVA for Manufacturing first adopted in December 2013.

For practically all series, the value of sales, deflated to allow for price changes, is used as the indicator. In the remaining cases, changes in the volume of production or the number of employees are used as a proxy measure.

From Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014, the individual series have been seasonally adjusted using X-13 ARIMA SEATS, which introduces improvements to the models used for seasonal adjustment. Also from Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014, the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning index is seasonally adjusted; prior to this a smoothing methodology had been applied to this series.

Further information on the methodology and impact of the seasonal adjustment changes can be found in the methodological note published at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/background-information-iop>

It is also possible to aggregate all individual series to give indices by final use of goods produced. This is known as a market sector analysis and estimates are given in Section 5 of this bulletin. It distinguishes between unadjusted Consumer, unadjusted Investment and seasonally adjusted Intermediate Goods. The latter are described as intermediate because they include materials used to produce goods for consumption.

The Productivity index provides a measure of the number of units of output produced per person per paid hour. The productivity index is based on the seasonally adjusted manufacturing index, seasonally adjusted employees in employment and average weekly hours (based on hours worked for full-time adult manufacturing workers including overtime from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings). An index of total employee hours is calculated based on the number of employees in employment and average weekly hours. The seasonally adjusted index of manufacturing is divided by the index of total employee hours to produce the Index of Productivity.

The seasonally adjusted Northern Ireland Index of Production is annually chain-linked (chain-linking involves the linking of growth estimates between different time periods in order to produce a continuous time series) using GVA estimates derived from regional accounts using the fourth quarter of the preceding year as the link period. Inaccuracies caused by the assumption of a stable relationship between GVA and turnover are reduced using this methodology. When annual weights are used the assumption only has to be maintained from one year to the next year. A paper on annual chain-linking from ONS is available at

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/regional-accounts/regional-gross-value-added--income-approach-/december-2010/stb-regional-gva-dec-2011.html>

The standard method for linking two series (for example one based on a SIC03 sample and one based on SIC07 sample) is to calculate the index under the old and new circumstances over some link period, and then apply the growth of the subsequent new series to the old series. As the relationship of both samples to the IDBR was known, the IDBR was used to provide the link period. Thus the ratio of the IDBR turnover for Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2011 and Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 is known. We have the Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 value (SIC07) and the Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2011 value (converted from SIC03 to SIC07). We can therefore create the following link factor:

$$\text{link factor} = \frac{\text{Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 sample estimate} * \text{IDBR Q1 (Apr-Jun) 2011 value}}{\text{Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2011 sample estimate} * \text{IDBR Q2 2011 (Apr-Jun) value}}$$

This can then be applied to the converted back series along with historic Q1 (Jan-Mar) to Q2 (Apr-Jun) fluctuations, thus retaining the previous growth rates and any seasonal effects.

For Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2014 and Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2014, questionnaires were issued to companies on both the existing sample and the new sample, thus allowing a link factor to be calculated based on the average percentage change between the two. This link factor was then applied to each of the quarterly turnover back series (grossed & deflated), in order to give a series of the same magnitude as the new sample series (from Q1 (Jan-Mar) 2014 onwards).

Deflation

All series, unless otherwise quoted, are measured at constant market price. Deflators adjust the value series to take out the effect of price change to give the volume series. Details on the changes to the ONS deflators methodology can be found at the following link

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/economy/national-accounts/methodology-and-articles/2011-present/index.html>

Seasonal adjustment

The index numbers in this statistical bulletin are seasonally adjusted, where appropriate. This aids interpretation by removing annually recurring fluctuations, for example due to holidays or other regular seasonal patterns. All IOP time series are checked using X-13 ARIMA SEATS for evidence of seasonality, and those series where seasonality is detected are adjusted using X-13 ARIMA SEATS in order to obtain a clear picture of the general trend. Unadjusted data are also available.

The figures presented in this publication are calculated using the X-13 ARIMA SEATS method of seasonal adjustment. The following is a link to an ONS Guide to seasonal adjustment with X-12 ARIMA (an updated guide for X-13 ARIMA SEATS is currently being finalised by ONS):

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/general-methodology/time-series-analysis/guide-to-seasonal-adjustment.pdf>

Quality reporting

One indicator of the reliability of the figures in this bulletin can be obtained by monitoring the size of revisions. The IOP revisions policy can be found at:

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/quality-and-revisions-iop>

Summary quality report

The latest summary quality report for this publication can be found on the IOP Quality and Revisions page of the website at

<https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/quality-and-revisions-iop>

Publication of results on a SIC07 basis

A Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) was first introduced into the UK in 1948 for use in classifying business establishments by the type of economic activity in which they are engaged. The UK is required by European legislation to revise the SIC in parallel with NACE (the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Communities) so that both systems are identical down to and including the four digit class level. This new SIC07 provides greater detail on the services sector, reflecting its growing importance in the economy. The new classification has a small impact on total IOP and Index of Services and a slightly bigger impact on manufacturing. In the new classification, sewerage and waste disposal have been moved from services to production and publishing has moved in the opposite direction. The changes also lead to differences in the behaviour of the IOP and IOS over time as the industries moving between the two sectors behave in quite different ways. There has also been a switch within the production sector between manufacturing caused by the new treatment of recycling, which moves out of manufacturing into the new section E – this reduces the size of manufacturing though production as a whole is unchanged. More information on SIC07 can be found at the following links:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/current-standard-classifications/standard-industrial-classification/index.html>

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/naa2/second-estimate-of-gdp/q2-2011/art---bb11-improvements-to-gdp--ios--iop.html>

Status of figures in current bulletin

Results are published on a SIC07 basis in this bulletin and all indices are produced on a 2011=100 basis.

Turnover from newly registered businesses on IDBR from Q2 (Apr-Jun) 2011 to Q4 (Oct-Dec) 2013 have been included in the results.

All figures are published to one decimal place. Figures for annual averages and percentage changes over the previous quarter and year are based on unrounded figures and may not agree with the published constituent parts.

Results, particularly for the latest quarter, are provisional and subject to revision as more up to date information become available.

The overall IOP index has been produced using X-13 ARIMA SEATS seasonal adjustment. Some of the sectors and sub-sectors have also been seasonally adjusted, and those can be identified throughout the bulletin.

Comparisons between the Index of Production and the Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) may not necessarily match because of definitional and coverage differences.

Planned future revisions

The IOP revisions policy can be found at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/quality-and-revisions-iop>

Publications policy

All Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch statistical publications are available to download free of charge from the website: <https://www.detini.gov.uk/topics/deti-statistics-and-economic-research>

The IOP bulletin is available at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-index-production-iop>

The tables from the current publication, which include data back to 2002, are available in Excel format to download free of charge from the IOP website at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/publications/iop-quarter-2-2015-statistical-bulletin-and-tables>

The IOP is normally published on the same day as the Index of Services (IOS) each quarter and the latest edition of the IOS can be accessed at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/articles/overview-ios>. Quarter 2 (Apr-Jun) 2015 results from the NI Index of Services were published on 16th Sep 2015 and reported a 0.5% rise over the quarter. The next IOS publication is scheduled for 16th December 2015 and will include results up to Q3 (Jul-Sep) 2015.

The Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch statistics publication schedule is available at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/publications/elms-publication-schedule>

The list of people given pre-release access to this publication is available at <https://www.detini.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/deti/elms-publication-and-pre-release-access-list-updated-april-2015.pdf>

SIC 2007 definitions

Manufacturing – SIC07 Section C (weight 86.0%)

The boundaries of manufacturing and the other sectors of the classification system can be somewhat blurred. As a general rule, the activities in the manufacturing section involve the transformation of materials into new products. Their output is a new product.

Water supply, sewerage and waste management (inc. recycling) – SIC07 Section E (weight 6.4%)

This section covers activities related to the management (including collection, treatment and disposal) of various forms of waste, such as solid or non-solid industrial or household waste, as well as contaminated sites. Activities of water supply are also grouped in this section, since they are often carried out in connection with, or by units also engaged in, the treatment of sewage.

Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply – SIC07 Section D (weight 6.7%)

This section includes the activity of providing electric power, natural gas, steam, hot water and the like through a permanent infrastructure (network) of lines, mains and pipes. Also included is its distribution in industrial parks or residential buildings. This therefore includes the operation of electric and gas utilities.

Mining and Quarrying – SIC07 Section B (weight 0.9%)

This section covers the extraction of minerals occurring naturally as solids (coal and ores), liquids (petroleum) or gases (natural gas). Extraction can be achieved by different methods such as underground or surface mining, well operation, seabed mining, etc.

Next publication

The next bulletin will be published on 16th December 2015.

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