



# Northern Ireland Quarterly Index of Production

Quarter 2 (April - June) 2021

Theme: Economy Frequency: Quarterly Geographical Area: Northern Ireland Date: 16 September 2021

#### Introduction

The quarterly Index of Production (IOP) provides a timely indicator of growth in the output of the production industries in Northern Ireland (NI). IOP indices, along with other published quarterly data and unpublished agricultural output data, are used to generate the Northern Ireland Composite Economic Index (NICEI). The NICEI is an experimental quarterly measure of economic activity in NI.

#### **Key Points**

Output estimates are calculated from the IOP aspect of the Quarterly Business Survey (QBS). The IOP has a sample size of approximately 1,200, covering all production businesses with 40 or more employees and a representative sample of smaller businesses. All estimates are compared to the revised Quarter 1 2021 and Quarter 2 2020 estimates. Note that Quarter 2 2020 was the height of the coronavirus restrictions and, as a result, most IOP series were at a series low.

- The NI IOP increased by 1.1% over the quarter (April June) and increased by 27.6% over the year.
- The UK IOP reported increases of 0.4% over the guarter and 18.2% over the year.
- When the most recent four quarters are compared to the previous four quarters, the NI production sector increased by 5.6% while the UK production sector increased by 1.2%.
- The NI IOP is 0.8% below its pre-Coronavirus pandemic level seen in Quarter 4 2019, while the UK is 3.3% below Quarter 4 2019.
- The quarterly increase in production output of 1.1% has been driven by increases in three of the four main sectors: Manufacturing (0.8%); Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling)(10.8%) and Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (1.7%). This was partially offset by a decrease in Mining and quarrying (4.6%).
- The annual increase in NI production output of 27.6% was driven by increases in all four of the main sectors: Manufacturing (27.3%); Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling) (32.6%); Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (14.7%) and Mining and quarrying (91.4%).

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#### NATIONAL STATISTICS STATUS

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

These statistics were designated as National Statistics on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011 following a full <u>Index of Production assessment</u> against the UK <u>Code of Practice for Statistics</u>.

Since the assessment by the UK Statistics Authority we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics and have made the following improvements:

- Removed pre-release access to enhance trustworthiness and also brought the publication date forward as a result;
- Reduced <u>business burden PDF (623KB)</u> by offering the option of online data returns;
- Improved accessibility of Index of Production Statistics by amending the format and structure of reports in line with accessibility regulations.

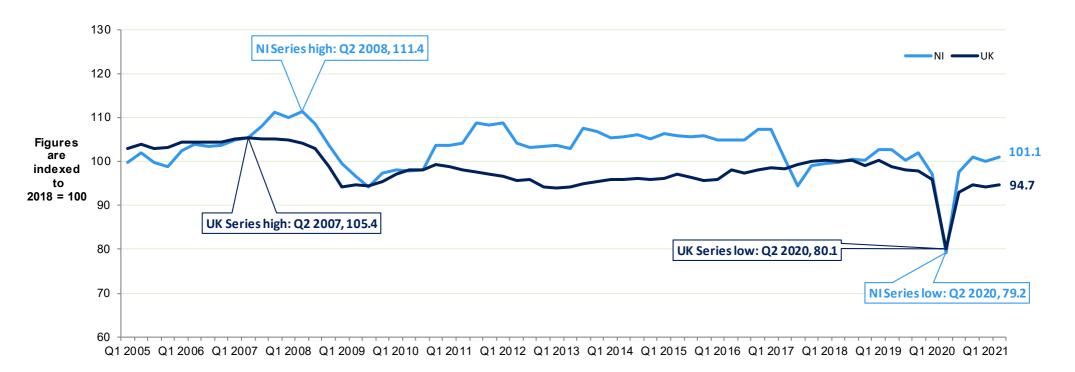
# 1 Summary of Index of Production

#### Change in IOP

The seasonally adjusted estimate for the NI IOP for Quarter 2 2021 showed:

- an increase of 1.1% over the quarter from the Quarter 1 2021 revised estimate;
- an increase of 27.6% over the year from the Quarter 2 2020 revised estimate;
- an increase of 5.6% when the most recent four quarters are compared to the previous four quarters.

Figure 1.1 IOP, NI & UK, Q1 2005 - Q2 2021





#### Commentary

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and subsequent measures taken to reduce the transmission of the virus impacted on the economy in 2020 and 2021. Throughout Quarter 2 2021, businesses in Northern Ireland were subject to a number of restrictions which impacted on their ability to operate. Further information can be found on NI Direct: Coronavirus guidance documents.

Users should note that many of the annual changes in the report are based on a comparison of current data against data relating to the earliest full quarter of the pandemic and the height of lockdown restrictions. This led to many of the estimates for Quarter 2 2020 being series lows. Where possible a comparison with one year ago as well as a comparison against the pre-pandemic value is provided for context.

Output in the NI Production sector increased in real terms by 1.1% over the second quarter of 2021. The UK Production sector reported an increase of 0.4% over the same period. There was an increase over the year in NI (27.6%) and the UK (18.2%). The NI IOP is 0.8% below its pre-pandemic level seen in Quarter 4 2019.

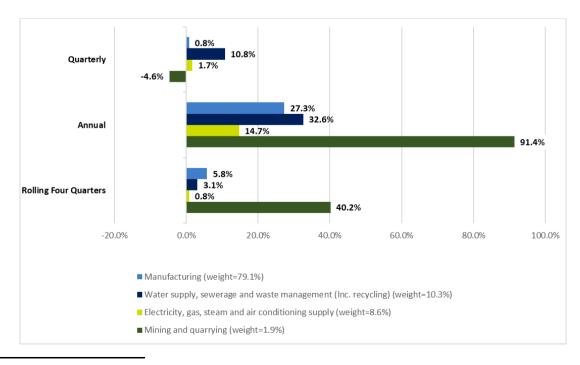
NI output is 27.6% above the series low (Quarter 2 2020), 9.3% below its series high (Quarter 2 2008) and 7.2% below its ten year high (Quarter 1 2012).

Comparing the seasonally adjusted NI IOP from Quarter 1 2021 to Quarter 2 2021, three of the four main sectors showed increases, with the largest increase of 10.8% reported in the Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling) sector. The only decrease over the quarter was reported by the Mining and quarrying sector (4.6%).

Comparing the seasonally adjusted NI IOP from Quarter 2 2020 to Quarter 2 2021, all of the four main sectors showed increases, with the largest increase of 91.4% reported in the Mining and quarrying sector.

Comparing the seasonally adjusted NI IOP for Quarter 3 2020 to Quarter 2 2021 with Quarter 3 2019 to Quarter 2 2020, all of the four main sectors reported an increase, with the largest increase of 40.2% reported in the Mining and quarrying sector.

Figure 1.2 Quarterly, annual and rolling four quarters changes in IOP at sector level Quarter 2 2021<sup>1</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For further information on weights see Regional GVA information on page 20

#### Context

The IOP is an important short-term measure of change in the output of the production sector of the economy. The contents of this report will be of interest to government policymakers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, the business community, economic commentators, academics and members of the general public with an interest in the NI economy. A <u>summary of recent uses</u> is available on the NISRA website.

The Department for the Economy (DfE) <u>Economic Commentary</u> provides an overview of the NI economy, setting it in context with the UK and Republic of Ireland.

The most up-to-date official statistics on the economy and labour market are available on the <u>Economic Overview</u> dashboard on the <u>Economic and Labour Market Statistics (ELMS) section</u> of the NISRA website.

The IOP is published on a Standard Industrial Classification 2007 (SIC07) basis. IOP data prior to Quarter 2 2011 were collected on a SIC03 basis and have been converted to approximate the SIC07 coverage. Volatility can arise when businesses inform NISRA of SIC code changes via business surveys, the Office of National Statistics (ONS) or HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). This new information helps to improve the industry estimates of production output but can add volatility to quarterly and annual changes.

The background notes (Section 4) provide information on the methodology used to produce the statistics, as well as information on the quality and accuracy of the data. This bulletin contains results for the production sector as a whole, for Manufacturing; Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling); Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and Mining and quarrying sectors. Production sector series are seasonally adjusted (unless otherwise stated) on a 2018=100 basis using X-13 ARIMA SEATS, giving data up to the most recent available quarter (Quarter 2 2021).

Comparative UK data, produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), are presented where these are available. The <u>latest UK IOP results</u> can be found on the ONS website. Note that processing of data can result in very small rounding differences between percentage change estimates reported by ONS and this report

This publication provides three measures of growth for the index.

- 1. **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 to remove the effects of changes in output as a result of the time of the year;
- 2. Year-on-year change compares the current quarter with the same quarter one year ago; and
- 3. **Rolling four quarter change** compares the most recent twelve months with the twelve months before. This comparison is useful for identifying changes in output over a longer time period than the other two approaches.

Users should note that many of the annual changes in the report are based on a comparison of current data against data relating to the earliest full quarter of the pandemic and the height of lockdown restrictions. This led to many of the estimates for Quarter 2 2020 being series lows. Where possible a comparison with one year ago as well as a comparison against the pre-pandemic value is provided for context.

#### Revisions

Results are provisional and subject to revision which can be made for a variety of reasons. The most common include late responses to surveys, estimates being replaced by actual data, revisions to seasonal adjustment factors, methodological changes and changes to business classifications. Volatility also arises when businesses inform NISRA of SIC code changes via business surveys, ONS or HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). This new information helps to improve the estimates of growth each quarter but also adds volatility to quarterly and annual changes. Only rarely are there avoidable 'errors' such as human or system failures, and such mistakes are made quite clear when they do occur.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic impacted on the data collection and the validation of business data, which are collected on the Quarterly Business Survey. As a result, estimates for Quarter 2 2021 may be subject to higher revisions than normal over the coming quarters.

## 2 Production output by sector

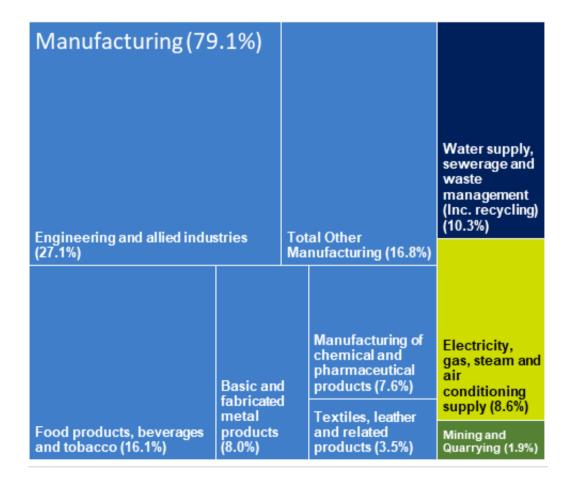
**Output**: Turnover, defined as the value of total sales generated from all NI based activity, excluding VAT. Turnover is rounded to the nearest thousand and is then deflated and seasonally adjusted.

#### 2.1 Key findings

- The IOP increased by 1.1% over the quarter, by 27.6% over the year and by 5.6% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The quarterly increase in production output of 1.1% has been driven by increases in three of the four main sectors: Manufacturing (0.8%); Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling) (10.8%) and Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (1.7%). This was partially offset by a decrease in Mining and quarrying (4.6%).
- The annual increase in NI production output of 27.6% was driven by increases in all four of the main sectors: Manufacturing (27.3%); Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling) (32.6%); Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (14.7%) and Mining and quarrying (91.4%).
- The NI IOP is 0.8% below its pre-pandemic level in Quarter 4 2019, while the UK is 3.3% below Quarter 4 2019.

The Production sector is dominated by Manufacturing, which accounts for approximately 79.1% of total production Gross Value Added (GVA) at 2019 prices.

Figure 2.1 IOP sector split (based on 2019 GVA)



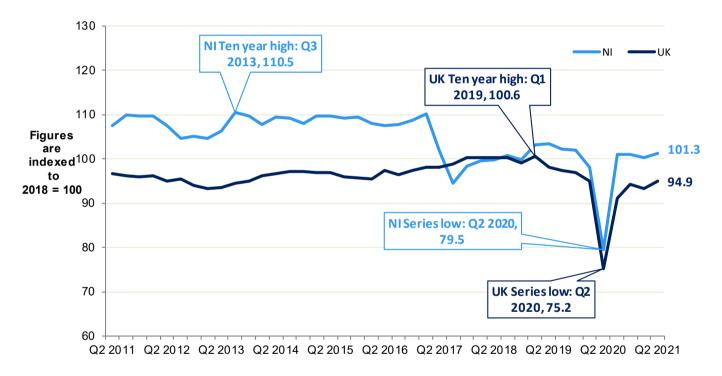
#### 2.2 Manufacturing

Manufacturing sector (SIC07 Section C) - (weight = 79.1% of IOP): Manufacturing involves the transformation of materials into new products (outputs). It is comprised of six subsectors, as shown in Figure 2.1.

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 0.8% over the quarter, 27.3% over the year and 5.8% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 1.7% over the quarter, 26.2% over the year and 2.5% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- NI output is 8.4% below its highest point recorded (Quarter 3 2013) over the ten year period.
- NI output is 27.3% above the series low recorded in Quarter 2 2020.
- Within manufacturing, three of the six broad subsectors (as shown in Figure 3.1) have increased over the quarter (See Section 3 on page 12).

Figure 2.2 Manufacturing sector, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



Download Q2-21 Data

The NI index has been outperforming the UK in the Manufacturing sector with the exception of the period between Quarter 3 2017 and Quarter 2 2018. In Quarter 2 2021 NI Manufacturing was 0.7% below the pre-pandemic levels seen in Quarter 4 2019, while UK Manufacturing was 2.0% below this level.

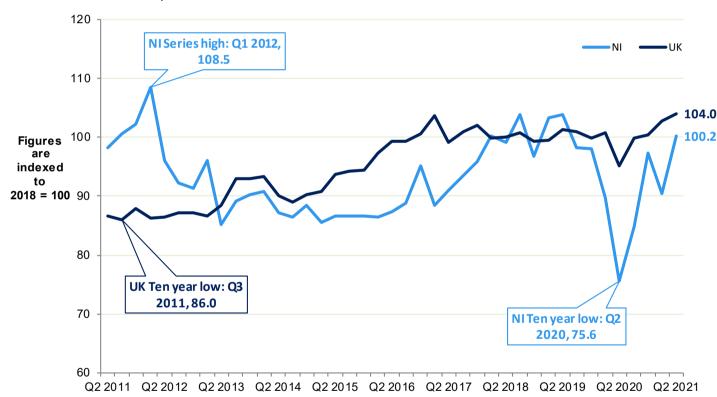
#### 2.3 Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling)

Water supply, sewerage, and waste management (Inc. recycling) (SIC07 Section E) (weight = 10.3% of IOP): 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.

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 10.8% over the quarter, 32.6% over the year and 3.1% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK reports increases of 1.3% over the quarter, 9.2% over the year and 2.6% on a rolling four quarters basis. The UK has reached a series high in this sector.
- NI output is 32.6% above the ten year low recorded in Quarter 2 2020 and is 41.7% above the series low recorded in Quarter 3 2005.
- The NI estimate is 7.6% below the series high recorded in Quarter 1 2012.

Figure 2.3 Water supply, sewerage and waste management (Inc. recycling), NI & UK, Q2 2011 – Q2 2021



Download Q2-21 Data

The UK index has been performing better than the NI index in this sector since Quarter 2 2013, with the exception of Quarter 1 2018, Quarter 3 2018 and the period between Quarter 1 2019 to Quarter 2 2019. NI output has seen a substantially larger decrease in 2020 than UK output. UK output has continued to grow in recent quarters, reaching a series high in Quarter 2 2021. In NI, this sector is 2.2% above pre-pandemic levels of Quarter 4 2019 and in the UK it is 4.2% above Quarter 4 2019.

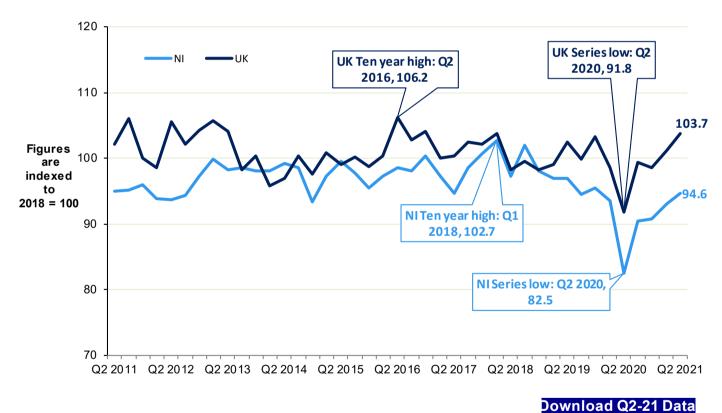
#### 2.4 Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (SIC07 Section D) (weight = 8.6% of IOP): This sector 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. Therefore, the operation of electric and gas utilities are included.

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 1.7% over the quarter, 14.7% over the year and 0.8% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The seasonally adjusted figures for the UK show increases of 2.6% over the quarter, 13.0% over the year and 2.4% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The NI estimate is 9.4% below the series high recorded in Quarter 1 2010 and 7.9% below the ten year high recorded in Quarter 1 2018.
- NI output is 14.7% above the series low recorded in Quarter 2 2020.

Figure 2.4 Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, NI & UK, Q2 2011 – Q2 2021



The NI and UK indices have followed similar trends in the Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector throughout the series. The UK index has generally outperformed the NI index in this sector with the exception of a few quarters. NI output saw a more substantial decrease in early 2020 than the UK index. In NI, this sector is 1.0% below the pre-pandemic levels of Quarter 4 2019, whilst in the UK this sector is 0.5% above Quarter 4 2019.

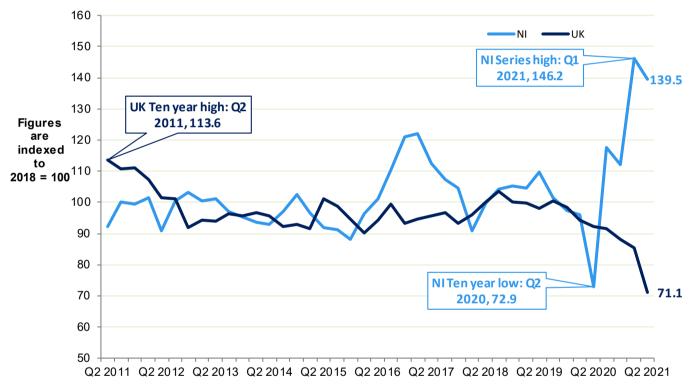
#### 2.5 Mining and quarrying

Mining and quarrying (SIC07 Section B) (weight = 1.9% of IOP): 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.

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show a decrease of 4.6% over the quarter and increases of 91.4% over the year and 40.2% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK seasonally adjusted figures show decreases of 16.6% over the quarter, 22.9% over the year and 12.8% on a rolling four quarters basis. This quarter is a series low for the UK in this sector.
- NI output is 4.6% below the series high recorded in Quarter 1 2021.
- NI output is 91.4% above its ten year low (Quarter 2 2020) and 98.6% above the series low (Quarter 1 2005).

Figure 2.5 Mining and quarrying, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



Download Q2-21 Data

Both the NI and the UK indices have shown volatility in the Mining and quarrying sector. Since Quarter 1 2016 NI has generally performed better than the UK in this sector with the exception of the period between Quarter 1 2018 and Quarter 3 2018, Quarter 4 2019 and Quarter 2 2020. The UK has reported decreases in this sector for the last seven quarters and has reached a series low in Quarter 2 2021. In NI, this sector is currently 43.2% above the pre-pandemic levels reported in Quarter 4 2019, whereas in the UK this sector is 27.7% below Quarter 4 2019.

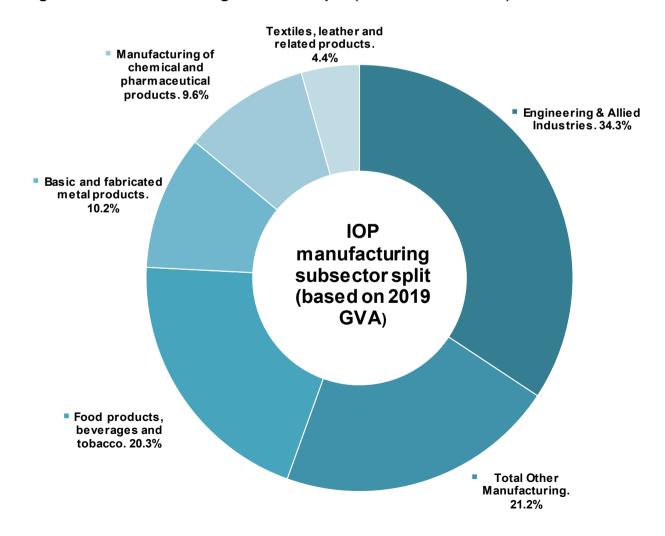
## 3 Manufacturing subsectors

#### **Key findings**

- The quarterly increase in Manufacturing output (0.8%) was driven by increases in three of the six main subsectors: Manufacture of textiles, leather and related products (8.6%); Food products, beverages and tobacco (2.7%) and Total other manufacturing (1.3%).
- This increase is partially offset by decreases in the Manufacture of chemical and pharmaceutical products (5.5%); Engineering and allied industries (1.9%) and Basic metals and fabricated metal products (0.9%) subsectors.
- Over the year the increase in Manufacturing (27.3%) was driven by increases in five of the six main subsectors: Basic metals and fabricated metal products (62.8%); Total other manufacturing (55.4%); Engineering and allied industries (28.4%); Manufacture of textiles, leather and related products (27.4%) and Food products, beverages and tobacco (14.9%).
- These increases were partially offset by a decrease in the Manufacture of chemical and pharmaceutical products (9.6%) subsector.

Almost a third of the Manufacturing sector is made up by the Engineering & Allied Industries subsector, which accounts for 34.3% of total Manufacturing production Gross Value Added (GVA) at 2019 prices.

Figure 3.1 Manufacturing subsector split (based on 2019 GVA)

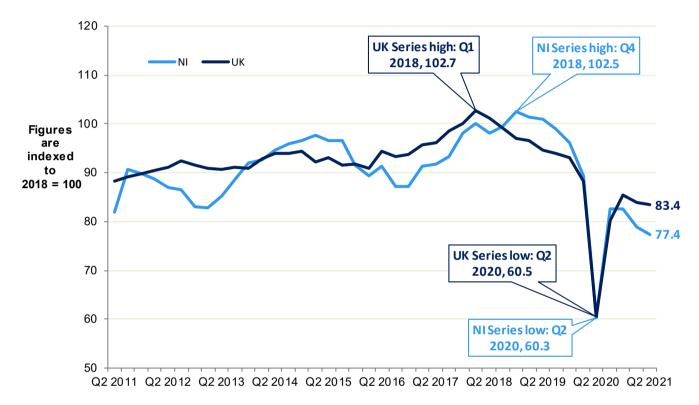


#### 3.2 Engineering and allied industries (weight=27.1% of IOP, 34.3% of Manufacturing)<sup>2</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- NI seasonally adjusted figures show a decrease over the quarter (1.9%), an increase over the year (28.4%) and a decrease on a rolling four quarters basis (6.8%).
- The UK estimate shows a decrease of 0.5% over the quarter, an increase of 37.9% over the year and a decrease of 0.9% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- NI output is 28.4% above its series low (Quarter 2 2020).
- NI output is 24.6% below its series high (Quarter 4 2018).

Figure 3.2 Engineering and allied industries NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



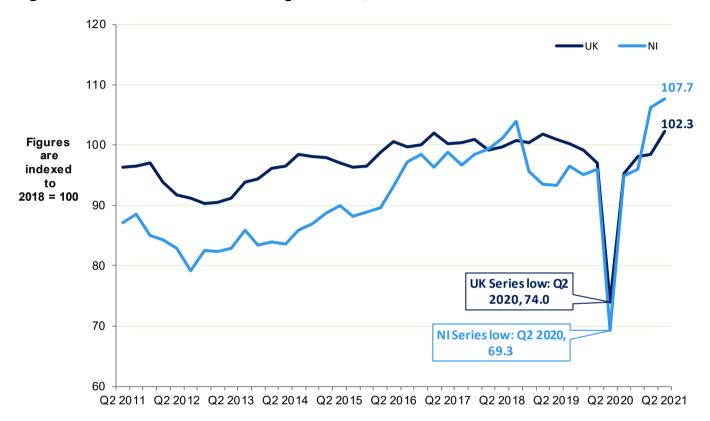
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

#### 3.3 Total Other Manufacturing (weight=16.8% of IOP, 21.2% of Manufacturing)<sup>3</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- Seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 1.3% over the quarter, 55.4% over the year and 13.4% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK reported increases over the quarter (3.9%), over the year (38.2%) and on a rolling four quarters basis (6.4%). The UK has reached a ten year high in this subsector.
- NI output has reached a ten year high in this subsector.
- NI output is 55.4% above its series low (Quarter 2 2020).

Figure 3.3 Total Other Manufacturing, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



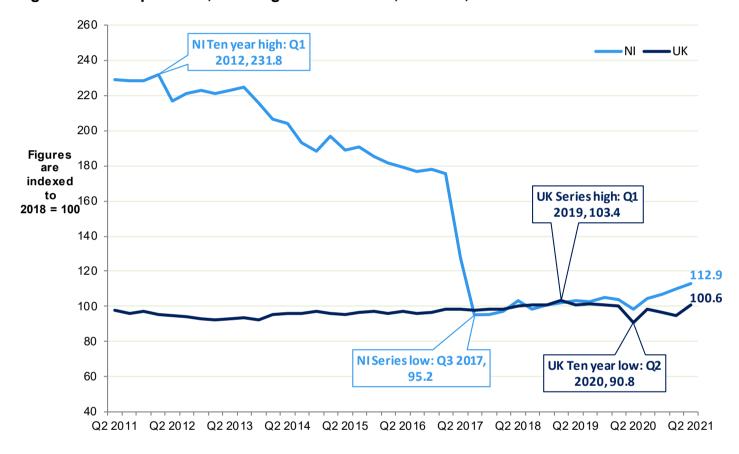
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

# 3.4 Food products, beverages and tobacco (weight=16.1% of IOP, 20.3% of Manufacturing)<sup>4</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- NI output increased by 2.7% over the quarter, 14.9% over the year and 5.9% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK increased by 6.5% over the quarter, 10.8% over the year and decreased by 0.9% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- NI output is estimated to be 18.5% above the series low (Quarter 3 2017).
- NI output remains 51.3% below its ten year high (Quarter 1 2012).

Figure 3.4 Food products, beverages and tobacco, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



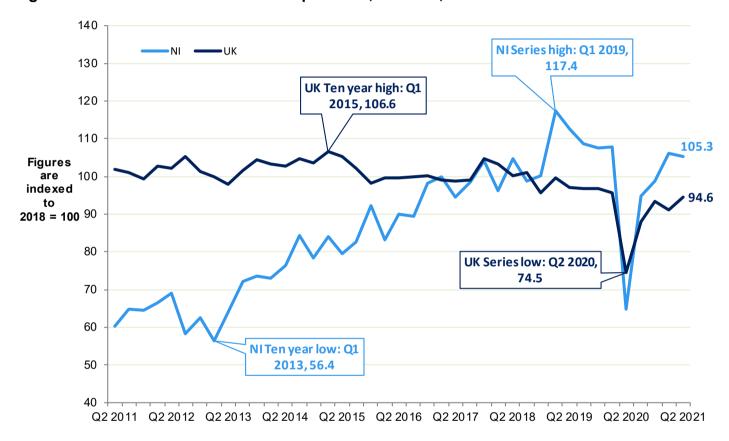
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

### 3.5 Basic and fabricated metal products (weight=8.0% of IOP, 10.2% of Manufacturing)<sup>5</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show a decrease of 0.9% over the quarter and increases of 62.8% over the year and 4.3% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- UK seasonally adjusted figures show increases of 4.0% over the quarter, 27.0% over the year and 0.9% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- NI output is 10.3% below its peak (Quarter 1 2019).
- NI output is 86.8% above the ten year low (Quarter 1 2013).

Figure 3.5 Basic and fabricated metal products, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



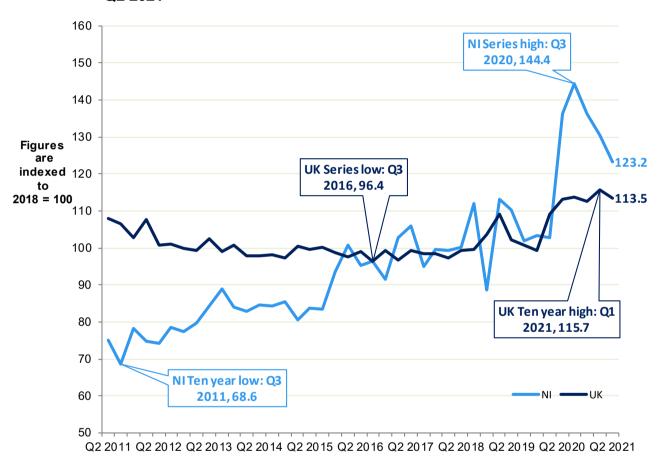
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

# 3.6 Manufacturing of chemical and pharmaceutical products (weight=7.6% of IOP, 9.7% of Manufacturing)<sup>6</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures have decreased by 5.5% over the quarter, by 9.6% over the year and increased by 20.2% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- The UK figures show a decrease of 1.9% over the quarter and increases of 0.4% over the year and 7.9% on a rolling four quarters basis.
- NI output is 14.7% below its series high (Quarter 3 2020).
- NI output is 79.7% above the ten year low point (Quarter 3 2011).

Figure 3.6 Manufacturing of chemical and pharmaceutical products, NI & UK, Q2 2011 – Q2 2021



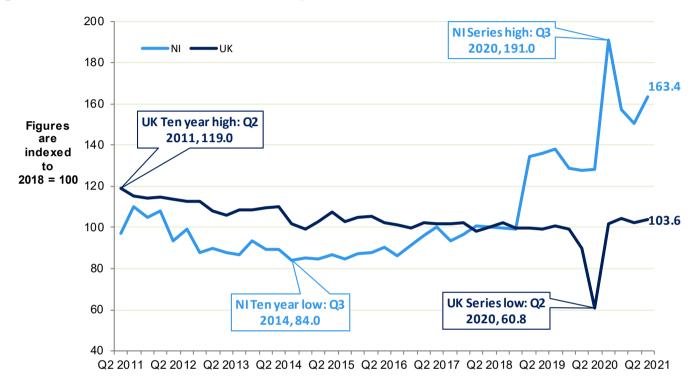
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

#### 3.7 Textiles, leather and related products (weight=3.5% of IOP, 4.4% of Manufacturing)<sup>7</sup>

#### **Key findings**

- The NI seasonally adjusted figures show increases over the quarter (8.6%), over the year (27.4%) and on a rolling four quarters basis (26.6%).
- UK seasonally adjusted figures show increases over the quarter (1.2%), over the year (70.4%) and on a rolling four quarters basis (17.6%).
- NI output is 14.4% below its series high (Quarter 3 2020).
- NI output is 94.4% above the ten year low (Quarter 3 2014).

Figure 3.7 Textiles, leather and related products, NI & UK, Q2 2011 - Q2 2021



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

#### 3.8 Other notable trends in Manufacturing<sup>8</sup>

The six broad subsectors within manufacturing can be further broken down into ten more detailed subsectors that are not reported elsewhere in this bulletin, but are reported on within IOP tables.

This section summarises any notable trends in these manufacturing sectors.

The following subsectors are at a ten year high:

• Manufacture of Wood and paper products and printing and reproduction of recorded media (<u>Table</u> 5.4). This subsector has reported increases in the last four quarters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Please note that estimates at subsector level can fluctuate due to sampling variability and also due to businesses moving industrial classification.

## 4 Background notes

#### **Background**

The quarterly IOP provides a measure of change in the output of the production industries in NI (this is defined as SIC07 sections B to E). In 2019 these production industries accounted for 16% of Regional GVA. For further information please see the Methodology for the NI Index of Production (IOP).

#### Impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on data collection and estimates

Coronavirus impacted on the data collection and the validation of turnover data, which are collected on the Quarterly Business Survey.

The following provides an overview of the coverage response rates for 2019 and 2020 compared to Quarter 2 2021:

Table 1: Coverage response rates

	<b>Quarter 2 2021</b>	2020 (me dian*)	2019 (median*)
Coverage response rate	59%	60%	80%
(returned turnover)			

<sup>\*</sup>median value achieved at IOP database closure of quarters 1 to 4 2019 and 2020

Coronavirus has resulted in a decrease in coverage response rates in Quarter 2 2021 when compared to 2019 figures, primarily due to the restrictions in place for businesses. As a result, the estimates for Quarter 2 2021 may be subject to higher revisions than normal over the coming quarters. Comparisons of provisional Quarter 2 2021 estimates at lower industry levels in particular should be treated with caution.

#### **Gross Value Added (GVA)**

From Quarter 4 2017 weighting has been carried out using the balanced GVA approach which balances the income and production approaches to measuring the economy into a single estimate. For more information please see Regional GVA information. Figures in this publication are weighted using 2019 GVA which became available on 26 May 2021.

#### **Deflation**

All series, unless otherwise quoted, are measured at a constant market price (2018 = 100). Deflators adjust the value series to take out the effect of price change to give the volume series. The deflators used in this bulletin were provided by ONS on 6 September 2021. Details on the changes to the ONS deflators methodology PDF (177KB) can be found on the ONS Website.

#### **Seasonal Adjustment Review**

Following the seasonal adjustment review conducted in March 2021 changes have been made to some regressors and models used to seasonally adjust (where applicable) time series using X13 ARIMA SEATS. This improves the reliability of results. Further details on <a href="this review and other methodological changes">this review and other methodological changes</a> implemented in June 2021 are available on the NISRA website.

Table 2: Changes to recent releases

Quarter	Change	Detail
Quarter 2 2018	NI Index Rebased to 2016	Figures rebased to 2016 = 100 in line with ONS.
Quarter 4 2018	NI Index of Manufacturing Productivity removed from the Index of Production report.	We are currently reviewing the methodology as part of a wider review of productivity.
Quarter 1 2019	Seasonal Adjustment Review	Following the seasonal adjustment review conducted in November 2018 changes have been made to some regressors and models used to seasonally adjust (where applicable) time series using X13 ARIMA SEATS.
Quarter 4 2019	2018 GVA	Figures in this publication are weighted using 2018 GVA which became available on 19th December 2019.
Quarter 3 2020	ONS Deflation Methodology Change	As recommended by Eurostat, previous method of rebasing for price statistics was changed to an <u>annual chain-linked</u> <u>business price methodology.</u>
Quarter 3 2020	NI Index Rebased to 2018	Figures rebased to 2018 = 100 in line with ONS. For further information on this please see the Quarter 3 2020 Rebasing Notice PDF (171KB).
Quarter 1 2021	Seasonal Adjustment Review	Following the seasonal adjustment review conducted in March 2021 changes have been made to some regressors and models used to seasonally adjust (where applicable) time series using X13 ARIMA SEATS.
Quarter 1 2021	2019 GVA	Figures in this publication are weighted using 2019 GVA which became available on 26th May 2021.

#### **Publications policy**

All ELMS publications are available to download free of charge from the <u>ELMS section of the NISRA</u> <u>website</u>. The IOP bulletin and tables from the current publication, which includes all the data from the start of the series in 2005, are available in Excel and Open Document format to download from the <u>IOP</u> <u>section of the NISRA website</u>.

Future IOP publications are due to be published on the same day as the Index of Services in March, June, September and December of each year. The <u>ELMS Publication Schedule</u> is available on the NISRA website.

#### **Next publication**

The next bulletin is due to be published on 16 December 2021.

#### **Labour Market Statistics User Group**

The next Labour Market Statistics User Group will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. To register for this event, please follow this link: <u>Labour Market Statistics User Group Meeting 2021 Invitation</u>

The presentation from the Labour Market Statistics User Group 2020 is available from the <u>Labour Market</u> Statistics User Engagement webpage.

In response to feedback from last year's event, a <u>Labour Market Statistics Newsletter</u> was published in June 2021 providing a summary of recent developments and upcoming plans.

#### If you require any further information please contact:

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