

Ranges of the stock of orders in manufacturing

Base 2015=100



2021

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Summary

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 - Reference area: Germany
 - Reference period: stock of orders at the end of the reference month in relation to the average turnover of the last 12 months
 - Frequency of data collection: monthly
 - Legal basis: Industry Statistics Act (ProdGewStatG)
- 2 Content and user needs** **Page 4**
- Statistical presentation: the ranges of the stock of orders indicate for how many months local units, theoretically, are able to, or have to, produce goods until all orders on hand are filled - with turnover remaining constant and without any new orders being received.
 - User needs: indicators of the short-term economic development in Germany
- 3 Methodology** **Page 4**
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- Accuracy: monthly surveys of more than 15,000 local units. In some economic branches, especially concerning intermediate consumption and consumer goods, it is somewhat difficult to measure the stock of unfilled orders (e.g. in the case of framework supply contracts).
 - Revisions: corrections required during the year are accounted for once a year in an annual revision.
- 5 Timeliness and punctuality** **Page 5**
- Timeliness: the results are available within 50 days after the end of the reference month.
 - Punctuality: release dates are scheduled for a whole year and published in advance in the release calendar of the Federal Statistical Office. In the last few years, adherence to delivery dates has been 100%, and the announced dates have always been met.
- 6 Comparability** **Page 5**
- The results are generally comparable over time; structural changes (e.g. changes in the way individual local units report their data) may in individual cases impair the comparability over time.
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- 8 Dissemination and communication** **Page 6**
- The first results are published in a press release (www.destatis.de/presse). Upon publication, the results can also be accessed in table 42113 of the GENESIS-Online database (www.destatis.de/genesis).
- 9 Comment** **Page 6**
- None

1 General information on the statistics

1.1 Statistical population

The statistics refer to the following selected manufacturing branches of the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE Rev.2):

WZ 13 Man. of textiles,

WZ 14 Man. of wearing apparel,

WZ 17 Man. of paper and paper products,

WZ 20 Man. of chemicals and chemical products,

WZ 21 Man. of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations,

WZ 24 Man. of basic metals,

WZ 25 Man. of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment,

WZ 26 Man. of computer, electronic and optical products,

WZ 27 Man. of electrical equipment,

WZ 28 Man. of machinery and equipment n.e.c.,

WZ 29 Man. of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers,

WZ 30 Man. of other transport equipment.

1.2 Statistical unit

Presentation unit: results are published for groups (three-digit items) of the Classification of Economic Activities (NACE Rev.2). Survey unit: the underlying data are collected from local production units with 50 or more persons employed of enterprises in manufacturing or other enterprises. Tabulating unit: for the purpose of processing the collected data, local kind-of-activity units are formed as tabulating units. A kind-of-activity unit includes all activities of a local unit which belong to the same group (three-digit item) of the Classification of Economic Activities.

1.3 Reference area

The results are published by the Federal Statistical Office for the whole of Germany.

1.4 Reference period

The data relate to the stock of orders at the end of the reference month in relation to the average turnover of the last 12 months.

1.5 Frequency of data collection

The ranges are released on a monthly basis.

1.6 Legal acts and other agreements

Industry Statistics Act (ProdGewStatG) in the version promulgated on 21 March 2002 (Federal Law Gazette I, p. 1181), last amended by Article 1 of the Act of 5 December 2012 (Federal Law Gazette I, p. 2466)

1.7 Confidentiality

1.7.1 Confidentiality - policy

The confidentiality rules of the relevant surveys apply to the basic data underlying the calculations; they are described in the respective quality reports.

1.7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

There are no confidentiality procedures in place as this set of statistics is an accounting system based on aggregated results of the underlying basic data.

1.8 Quality management

1.8.1 Quality assurance

The data collection and calculation process provides for several phases in which the statistical offices of the Federation and the Länder revise the results available at the time. Aspects of data collection and processing are discussed at the annual expert meetings of representatives from the statistical offices of the Federation and the Länder. The decisions taken are laid down in the minutes of the expert meetings.

1.8.2 Quality assessment

The results are based on monthly surveys of more than 15,000 local units and therefore are highly accurate. In some economic branches, especially concerning intermediate consumption and consumer goods, it is somewhat difficult to measure the stock of unfilled orders (e.g. in the case of framework supply contracts). The comparability over time may be impaired due to structural changes which occurred in the relevant period (e.g. changes in the way local units report their data), see section 6.2. Besides, the index results are subject to the conflicting requirements of rapid availability and accuracy. If they were provided earlier, they would inevitably contain a large share of estimates, thereby necessitating revisions.

2 Content and user needs

2.1 Statistical presentation

2.1.1 Data description

The ranges of the stock of orders indicate for how many months local units, theoretically, are able to, or have to, produce goods until all orders on hand are filled - with turnover remaining constant and without any new orders being received. The results relate to selected economic branches in manufacturing.

2.1.2 Classification system

Data are collected and results are presented in a breakdown by economic activity in accordance with the Classification of Economic Activities (WZ 2008). In addition, a breakdown by main industrial grouping is used (see Commission Regulation (EC) No 656/2007).

2.1.3 Statistical concepts and definitions

The ranges are calculated as quotients of the stock of orders and the moving average of the turnover of the last 12 months in the relevant economic branch. This has the advantage that the development of the range over time is less influenced by short-term turnover fluctuations than if the quotient of the stock of orders and turnover of the same month is used.

The following definitions apply to the underlying variables:

- The stock of orders comprises the total of new orders received by the end of the reference month which have not led to any turnover and have not been cancelled by that time.
- New orders are defined as the total value of all orders definitely accepted by the local units in the reference month which refer to the supply of products manufactured either by themselves or through contract work.
- The turnover is the sum of all final invoice amounts charged in the reference month for supplies and services provided to other local units or enterprises. Supplies and services supplied to local units of the same enterprise are not considered in the calculation of turnover.

2.2 User needs

The ranges provide important information on the short-term economic development in Germany.

2.3 User satisfaction

The interests of the main users are represented by the Statistical Advisory Committee and by the bodies it appoints. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Federal Statistics Act, the Committee advises the Federal Statistical Office on fundamental issues. The Statistical Advisory Committee consists of representatives from the federal ministries, the German Supreme Audit Institution and the Deutsche Bundesbank, the heads of the statistical offices of the Länder and the Federal Commissioner for Data Protection, representatives from central municipal organisations, trade and industry, the liberal professions, employers' associations, trade unions, and from agriculture, economic institutes and higher education institutions. There is also regular direct contact with the Deutsche Bundesbank and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

3 Statistical processing

3.1 Source data

For calculating the ranges, data on the stock of orders and turnover are used which have been collected in the framework of the monthly report incl. survey of new orders for local units in manufacturing, mining and quarrying (EVAS No. 42111).

3.2 Data compilation

For calculation purposes the stock of orders of the economic branch in the current month is related to the average turnover of the branch. The average turnover is calculated as the moving average of the turnover determined for the current month and for the 11 months before.

3.3 Adjustment

The ranges are not adjusted for price or seasonal fluctuations.

3.4 Cost and burden

As the calculations use data that are available, there is no additional response burden for enterprises and local units. Information on the response burden caused by the collection of the underlying basic data is contained in the quality reports of the respective statistics.

4 Accuracy and reliability

4.1 Overall accuracy

The results are based on monthly surveys of more than 15,000 local units and therefore are highly accurate. In some economic branches, especially concerning intermediate consumption and consumer goods, it is somewhat difficult to measure the stock of unfilled orders (e.g. in the case of framework supply contracts). As described above, the ranges are determined as the quotient of the stock of orders and the moving average of the turnover in the last 12 months in the relevant economic branch. Therefore, the same qualitative assessments apply as to the stock of orders (valuation problems in the case of cancellations, changes in value due to price escalation clauses). In addition, the calculated range depends not least on the calculated capacity utilisation of the local unit and thus on the turnover volume used. The higher the turnover, the smaller the range. Determining precisely this capacity utilisation is associated with operationalisation difficulties since an exact measurement is not possible. Due to the large number of local units in which surveys are carried out, the quality of the data on the range of the stock of orders is generally high. Due to the above-mentioned difficulties with regard to capacity utilisation, however, the quality of the data on the range of the stock of orders is to be rated somewhat lower than that of the data on the stock of orders.

4.2 Sampling error

The main data source is the monthly report incl. survey of new orders for local units in manufacturing, mining and quarrying (EVAS No. 42111). It covers all local units with 50 or more persons employed. The monthly report has been integrated into a system of cross-checks in the field of manufacturing, mining and quarrying to ensure that uniform quality standards are observed. As a result, the quality of the data published is very high. The first data release may still contain estimates of the local units and the statistical offices of the Länder, which are replaced by final values later.

4.3 Data revision

4.3.1 Data revision - policy

Corrections during the reference year are accounted for once a year in an annual revision. The results of the annual revision of the original (not seasonally adjusted) values are published in March of the following year at the latest; then they are final.

4.3.2 Data revision - practice

Reporting errors which occurred in the data collection process and could be corrected afterwards are accounted for when the annual revision is carried out.

4.3.3 Data revision - analysis

None due to introduction.

5 Timeliness and punctuality

5.1 Timeliness

The results are available within 50 days after the end of the reference month. Provisional data are not published. The final data for the previous year is published in March of the following year (annual revision).

5.2 Punctuality

Release dates are scheduled for a whole year and published in advance in the release calendar of the Federal Statistical Office. There was 100% adherence to time schedules in the last few years; results could always be released on the dates published.

6 Comparability

6.1 Comparability - geographical

The breakdown by economic activity and main industrial grouping is based on classifications of the European Union and is generally comparable across the EU.

6.2 Comparability over time

The results are generally comparable over time; structural changes (e.g. changes in the way individual local units report their data) may in individual cases impair the comparability over time.

7 Coherence - cross domain

The ranges can be combined with the results of other economic statistics where these relate to the Classification of Economic Activities (WZ 2008) and to local kind-of-activity units.

8 Dissemination and communication

8.1 Dissemination format

News release

The first results are published in a press release (www.destatis.de/presse).

Publications

None.

Online database

Upon publication of the press release, the results can also be accessed in table 42113 of the GENESIS-Online database (www.destatis.de/genesis).

Micro-data access

The calculation is based on aggregated data of the source statistics.

Other

None.

8.2 Documentation on methodology

Linz, Stefan; Mehlhorn, Peter; Wolf-Göbel, Siglinde: Neue Statistik zum Auftragsbestand in der Industrie, in: Statistisches Bundesamt, Wirtschaft und Statistik 1/2016, pp. 33-45.

8.3 Release policy

Release calendar

Release dates are scheduled for a whole year and published in advance in the release calendar of the Federal Statistical Office.

Release calendar access

The annual release calendar is provided on the website of the Federal Statistical Office at www.destatis.de/presse › Annual release calendar.

User access

Online via www.destatis.de.

9 Comment

None.