

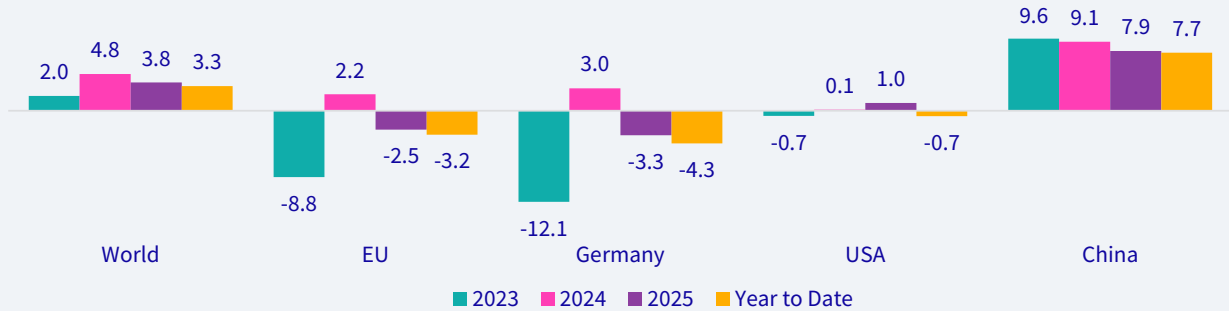
MAY 2026

WORLD CHEMISTRY REPORT

FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTION IN THE GLOBAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

DEVELOPMENT OF CHEMICAL PRODUCTION IN MAYOR COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Percentage change against previous year



sources: Unido, Eurostat, VCI (Year to Date: see table production, last value)

PRODUCTION OF CHEMICALS percentage change against previous year

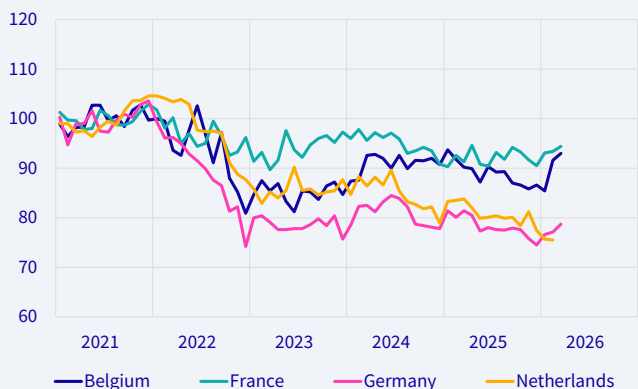
countries and regions	2023	2024	2025	Year to Date	Last value
World	+ 2.0	+ 4.8	+ 3.8	+ 3.3	Mar'26
European Union (EU27)	- 8.8	+ 2.2	- 2.5	- 3.2	Mar'26
Germany	- 12.1	+ 3.0	- 3.3	- 4.3	Mar'26
France	- 2.6	+ 1.0	- 3.2	+ 2.4	Mar'26
Italy	- 6.7	- 0.5	- 3.2	- 7.7	Mar'26
Netherlands	- 12.6	- 1.0	- 4.7	- 9.4	Feb'26
Spain	- 2.2	+ 3.4	+ 0.7	- 0.5	Mar'26
Belgium	- 9.2	+ 6.8	- 2.1	- 2.1	Mar'26
Poland	- 11.9	+ 7.0	- 2.4	- 2.9	Mar'26
Austria	- 3.9	- 4.9	+ 5.6	- 3.4	Mar'26
Other Europe					
Russia	+ 5.3	+ 4.5	- 0.8	- 1.5	Mar'26
Switzerland	- 3.3	- 12.9	- 1.7	- 1.7	Dec'25
United Kingdom	- 11.0	- 0.3	- 3.6	- 5.1	Feb'26
Turkey	- 7.0	+ 2.0	+ 2.3	+ 1.1	Mar'26
North America					
USA	- 0.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.0	- 0.7	Mar'26
Mexiko	- 2.8	+ 7.7	- 2.4	- 3.8	Feb'26
Canada	- 1.1	- 0.7	- 4.8	- 3.1	Feb'26
South America					
Brazil	- 6.0	+ 3.0	+ 1.1	- 2.1	Mar'26
Argentina	- 3.3	- 5.2	+ 0.9	+ 5.2	Mar'26
Chile	- 1.7	+ 5.0	+ 0.2	- 1.0	Mar'26
Colombia	- 17.6	- 2.3	- 1.0	- 10.5	Feb'26
Asia					
China	+ 9.6	+ 9.1	+ 7.9	+ 7.7	Mar'26
Japan	- 6.6	- 3.5	- 0.9	- 2.3	Mar'26
South Korea	- 9.3	+ 2.0	- 1.1	+ 0.7	Mar'26
India	- 0.5	+ 1.3	- 0.6	+ 0.7	Mar'26
Taiwan	- 6.2	+ 4.3	+ 1.7	+ 1.7	Feb'26
Singapore	- 8.5	+ 4.1	- 1.3	- 6.4	Mar'26
Thailand	- 1.5	+ 4.1	+ 0.7	- 0.1	Mar'26
Israel	- 10.1	+ 8.3	- 11.4	+ 1.7	Feb'26
Africa					
South Africa	- 4.4	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	+ 1.3	Mar'26

Sources: Chemdata International (based on Unido, Eurostat, ACC), VCI

note: chemicals excluding pharma, within regions sorted by sales volume

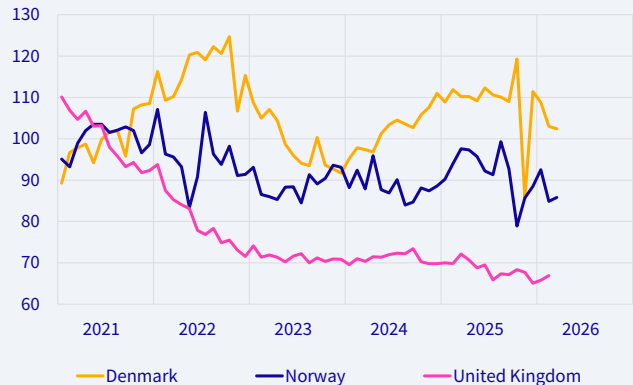
WESTERN EUROPE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



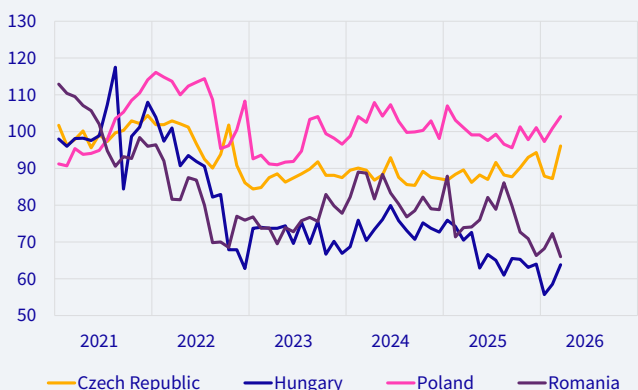
NORTHERN EUROPE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



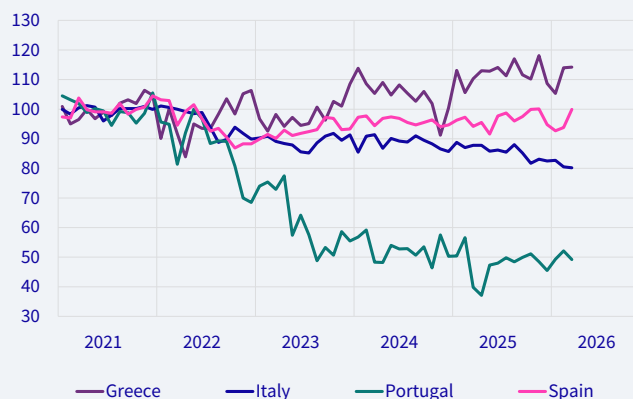
EASTERN EUROPE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



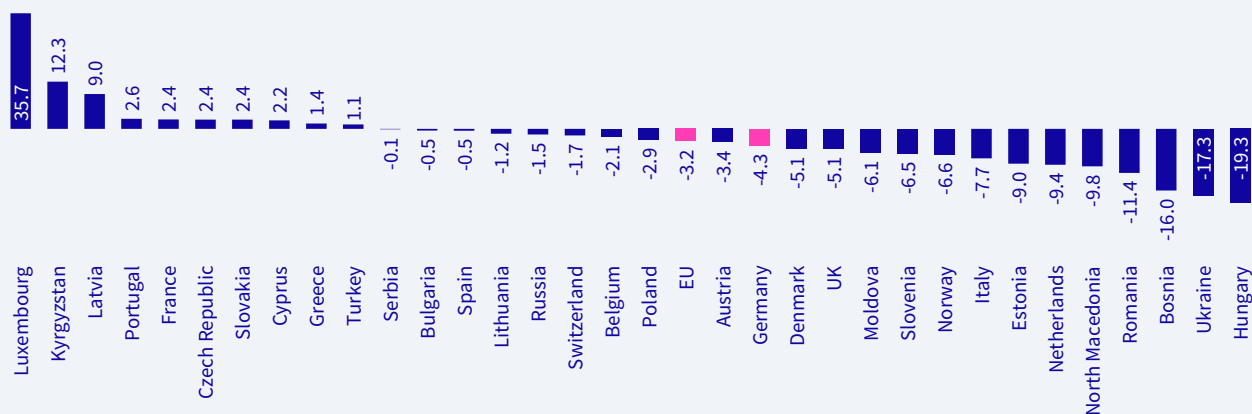
SOUTHERN EUROPE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



EUROPE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

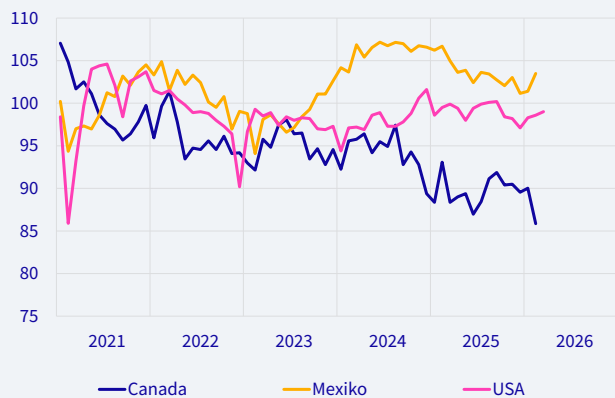
year to date growth rates in percent



Sources: Chemdata International (based on Unido, Eurostat, ACC), VCI

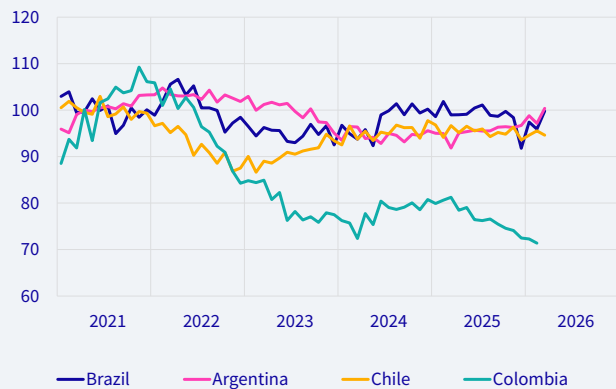
NORTH AMERICA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



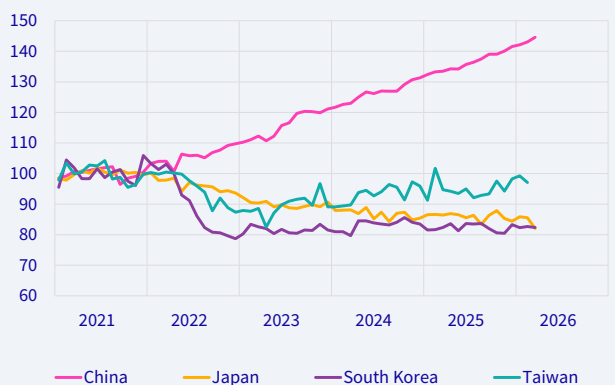
SOUTH AMERICA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



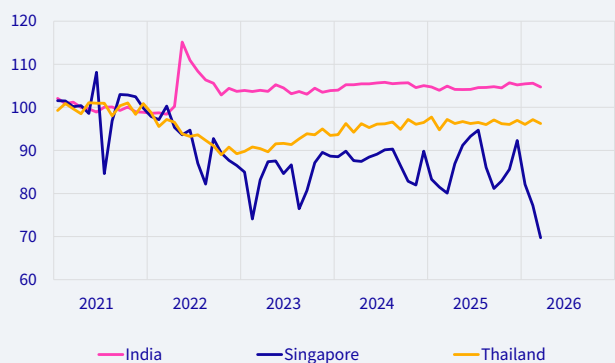
EAST ASIA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



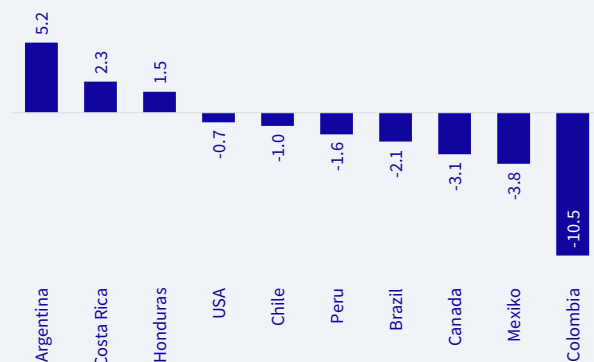
SOUTH EAST ASIA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

seasonally adjusted, index 2021=100



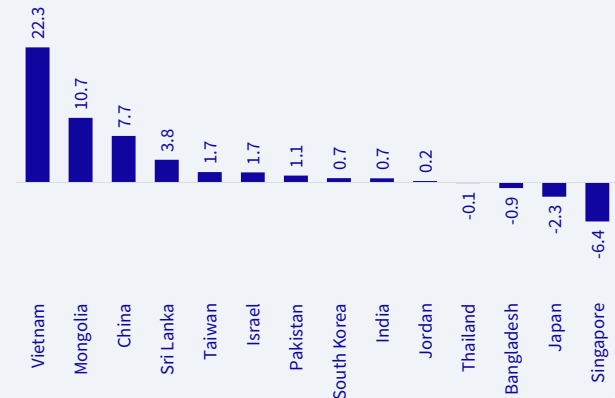
AMERICA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

year to date growth rates in percent
(year to date: see table production, last value)



ASIA CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

year to date growth rates in percent
(year to date: see table production, last value)



Sources: Chemdata International (based on Unido, Eurostat, ACC), VCI

PRODUCTION OF PHARMACEUTICALS

percentage change against previous year

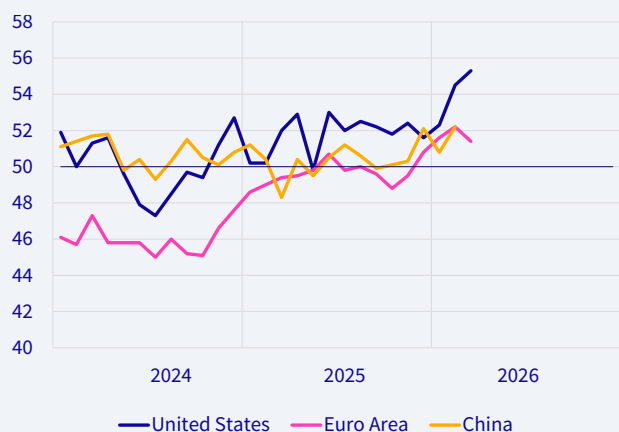
countries and regions	2023	2024	2025	Year to date	Last value
World	+ 1.7	+ 4.1	+ 7.1	- 1.2	Mar'26
European Union (EU27)	+ 7.4	+ 3.6	+ 15.3	- 13.7	Mar'26
Germany	- 3.1	- 2.5	+ 4.6	- 8.7	Mar'26
France	+ 0.4	+ 12.4	+ 0.1	- 3.2	Mar'26
Denmark	+ 58.2	+ 3.4	- 15.9	+ 20.1	Mar'26
Belgium	- 22.9	- 5.2	- 6.7	+ 19.0	Mar'26
Italy	+ 7.2	- 1.9	+ 4.5	+ 2.2	Mar'26
Spain	+ 2.2	+ 10.0	+ 2.2	+ 5.7	Mar'26
Netherlands	- 6.2	+ 3.8	+ 3.0	- 11.2	Feb'26
Austria	+ 18.1	+ 18.1	+ 25.8	- 3.1	Mar'26
Poland	+ 8.0	- 3.4	+ 2.2	- 4.9	Mar'26
Other Europe					
Switzerland	+ 6.1	+ 12.1	+ 10.4	+ 10.4	Dec'25
United Kingdom	- 10.1	+ 1.2	+ 7.8	+ 3.8	Feb'26
Russia	+ 0.7	+ 17.9	+ 15.8	+ 12.9	Mar'26
Turkey	+ 3.1	- 7.6	+ 5.0	+ 17.1	Mar'26
North America					
USA	+ 4.2	+ 5.3	+ 6.2	+ 1.8	Mar'26
Canada	- 4.5	+ 17.2	- 5.3	+ 8.5	Feb'26
South America					
Brazil	- 1.2	- 1.5	+ 1.8	+ 12.2	Mar'26
Argentina	+ 0.5	- 6.7	+ 8.6	+ 11.2	Mar'26
Colombia	- 0.9	- 1.7	+ 3.1	+ 6.4	Feb'26
Chile	- 5.0	+ 0.2	- 2.1	- 1.2	Mar'26
Asia					
China	- 5.4	+ 3.0	+ 2.4	+ 6.9	Mar'26
India	+ 10.7	- 1.1	+ 0.0	- 0.6	Mar'26
Japan	- 0.4	+ 2.2	+ 0.8	+ 4.0	Mar'26
South Korea	+ 9.5	+ 19.0	+ 8.1	- 2.4	Mar'26
Singapore	- 19.6	- 22.2	+ 23.9	- 26.0	Mar'26
Pakistan	- 10.7	+ 2.5	- 1.0	- 5.2	Mar'26
Taiwan	+ 5.6	- 7.9	+ 1.2	- 7.7	Feb'26
Vietnam	+ 3.5	- 0.5	- 6.1	- 4.2	Mar'26
Thailand	- 8.0	- 7.2	+ 3.7	+ 5.0	Mar'26
Israel	+ 13.9	+ 10.4	- 6.7	- 15.0	Feb'26

Sources: Chemdata International (based on Unido, Eurostat, ACC), VCI

note: within regions sorted by sales volume

S&P GLOBAL BUSINESS SURVEYS FOR MANUFACTURING

Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)



sources: Macrobond, VCI

Global Manufacturing Pulse – May 2026

In May, the PMI for China and the United States gained ground, while it declined in the Euro Area. It remains unclear to what extent the uncertainty stemming from the Iran conflict will affect the index through energy prices and supply chains in the longer term. The outlook still points to modest short-term growth in chemical demand, likely supported by precautionary orders and inventory build-ups amid rising prices and potential disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, as well as spillover effects on Asian supply chains.

About the PMI

The PMI is widely used to anticipate changing economic and market trends and as a barometer for economic performance and business conditions. A number between 0 and 100 indicating the overall health of an economy. A PMI reading over 50 represents economic expansion, and below 50 represents contraction compared to the month prior.

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