The U.S. Census Bureau collects data on the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) to provide key intercensal measures of the nation’s manufacturing activity on an annual basis. The ASM provides estimates of domestic production and productivity helping decision-makers create sound economic policies.

Manufacturing Establishments’ Employment and Value of Shipments Decreased From 2019 to 2020

Shaded areas are recession dates from the National Bureau of Economic Research, U.S. Business Cycle Expansions and Contractions.

(Trillions of dollars)

Employment

Employment

(Millions of employees)

Value of Shipments

Value of Shipments

(Trillions of dollars)

Manufacturing Employment and Value of Shipments by Subsector From 2019 to 2020

LARGEST DOLLAR DECREASE IN VALUE OF SHIPMENTS

Petroleum and Coal Products

Down $237.8 billion

1 The difference between the 2020 number of employees estimates for Transportation Equipment Manufacturing and Food Manufacturing is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level.

2 The difference between the 2020 number of employees estimates for Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing and Chemicals Manufacturing is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level.

3 The difference between the 2020 and 2019 employment estimates is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level for this subsector.

4 The difference between the 2020 and 2019 value of shipments estimates is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level for this subsector.

5 The difference between the 2020 number of employees estimates for Furniture and Related Products Manufacturing and Primary Metal Manufacturing is not statistically significant at the 90 percent level.

Note: The statistics in this report are estimated from sample surveys and are subject to sampling variability and nonsampling error, including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. The ASM is conducted annually, except for years ending in “2” and “7,” at which time ASM statistics are included in the manufacturing sector of the Economic Census.

Source: 2020 Annual Survey of Manufactures

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Manufacturing Data From the Annual Survey of Manufactures