

FOUNDRY PRODUCTION IN CROATIA 2022. YEAR OVERVIEW

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Assessment of difficulties and/or advantages in the business of Croatian foundries:

In 2022. Croatian foundries are searching for a way, how to work with increased costs in their productions; on first place caused by costs for electricity (example: [Elektroenergetska kretanja u Hrvatskoj u 2022. - OIE](#)) and gas, mainly do to war in Ukraine.

Additionally important fact is strong inflation in Croatia, on yearly base increase continuously from 5,7% in January to 13,1% in December. (source: [Web | Državni zavod za statistiku \(dzs.hr\)](#))

Pressure on employers for salary increase growing and this is something what will continue in 2023. Year.

Available workforce (number and qualifications):

From side of workforce, in general in Croatia in 2022. the decreasing trend continued. With some variations during Year, registered unemployment rate comes from 7,7% in January 2022. over 6,1% in June, to 6,7% in December 2022. (source: [Web | Državni zavod za statistiku \(dzs.hr\)](#))

Comparing with 2021. it was more difficult to find workforce for foundries, and if we speak about any educated workforce, then this mission was almost impossible.

Foundries in Croatia are still oriented to search for workforce from former Yugoslavia countries, but more and more, from long distance countries like India, Philippines, Nepal. This trend will obviously continue.

Trends in industrial and foundries production in 2022 and comparison with the previous year

Volume of industrial production in Croatia in January 2022. was 5,9%, but on the end of Year, in December, -2,3%. To compare it, in January 2021. volume of industrial production was only 2,2%, but in December 2021 even 4,0%. (source: [Web | Državni zavod za statistiku \(dzs.hr\)](http://Web | Državni zavod za statistiku (dzs.hr)))

Unfortunately, Croatian foundries in 2022. where in this trend, faced with numerous of difficulties. Even with significantly more interest in Croatian foundries for participating in CroFa questionnaire, production decreased a lot; comparing with 2021 Year, for almost 27%.

Reason for such result lies in bad performance of nonferrous foundries; aluminium producers. Their production comparing to previous Year dropped for more then 44%. From another hand, ferrous alloys and steel foundries increase their production in 2022.

Outlook 2023

This is not simple task to predict. Like small country, export oriented, we depend a lot about general situation in Europe. Do to war in Ukraine, raw materials and energy prices, some another issues, we expect more instability and a lot of challenges for Croatian foundry industries. To keep same level of production like in 2022 probably will be success.

Foundry production in Republic of Croatia in 2022

Table 1. Total foundry production in 2022 (t)

Gray Iron	Ductile Iron	Malleable Iron	Steel	Other Ferrous	Copper Base	Aluminum	Magnesium	Zinc	Other nonferrous	Total
29.461	6.011	465	48	40	223	33.817	/	63	4	70.132

Table 2. Comparison of foundry production in Republic of Croatia, 2019-2022

Analysed year	2019			2020			2021			2022		
Number of foundries (respond on survey)	16			18			19			23		
Casting alloy	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production
Ferrous alloys	29.001.800	38,74	2	25.624.667	27,95	2	34.856.900	36,4	2	35.976.000	51,3	1
Steel	77	0,1	3	119,167	0,13	3	59,1	0,06	3	48.000	0,07	3
Nonferrous alloys	45.783.806	61,16	1	65.938.420	71,92	1	60.836.159	63,54	1	34.106.728	48,63	2
TOTAL	74.862.606	100		91.682.253	100		95.752.159	100		70.130.728	100	
Ferrous alloys	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production
Grey iron	22.037.750	75,99	1	19.464.667	75,96	1	23.812.400	68,31	1	29.460.500	81,89	1
Ductile iron	6.944.550	23,95	2	6.118.667	23,88	2	11.024.500	31,63	2	6.010.500	16,71	2
Malleable iron	9,75	0,03	3	20,667	0,08	3	0	0		465.000	1,29	3
Other	9,75	0,03	3	20,667	0,08	3	20	0,06	3	40.000	0,11	
TOTAL	29.001.800	100		25.624.668	100		34.856.900	100		35.976.000	100	
Steel	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production
Unalloyed	9,75	12,66	2	24,667	20,7	3	3,1	5,25	3	11.000	22,92	2
Low alloyed	28,75	37,34	1	41,667	34,96	1	29	49,07	1	5.000	10,42	3
Manganese	9,75	12,66	2	20,667	17,34	4	0	0		5.000	10,42	3
Stainless	28,75	37,34	1	32,167	26,99	2	27	45,69	2	27.000	56,25	1
TOTAL	77	100		119,168	100		59,1	100		48.000	100	
Nonferrous	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production	kg	%	Rank in total production
Brass	44,75	0,1	3	50,325	0,08	4	25,716	0,04	3	106.000	0,31	3
Bronze	43,25	0,09	4	151,728	0,23	2	35,3	0,06		116.895	0,34	2
Aluminium	45.485.956	99,35	1	65.605.701	99,5	1	60.715.143	99,8	1	33.816.633	99,15	1
Other	209,85	0,46	2	130,667	0,2	3	60	0,1	2	67.200	0,2	
TOTAL	45.783.806	100		65.938.421	100		60.836.159	100		34.106.728	100	

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