

5 Keys to Post-Pandemic Manufacturing Improvements

The *MPI 2021 Manufacturing Study* helps executives benchmark operational performances and practices as they restore their plants to pre-pandemic performance levels in five critical areas:

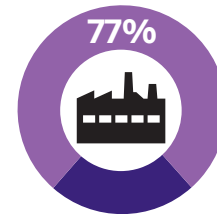
1. Human Resources



The pandemic reinforced that overcoming labor turnover, absenteeism, and recruiting issues requires more than just the basics. Employees now demand cultures that emphasize physical, professional, and emotional safety and training. Unfortunately, many manufacturers still lag behind in these areas.

39% of manufacturing plants offer 20 hours — or less — per employee annually.

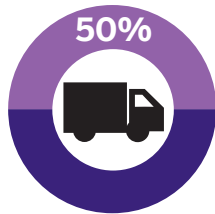
2. Operations



As a new normal emerges, the foundations for improvement must be reestablished — if they ever existed in the first place. Manufacturers must define strategies and goals that require higher performance (i.e., pursuit of perfection) — and deploy best practices, performance systems, and workplace standards to achieve them.

Average on-time delivery for manufacturing plants in 2020 was just 77%.

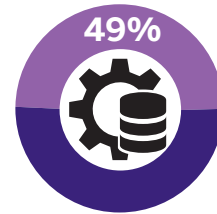
3. Supply Chain



Manufacturers must re-invest in supply chains to prevent widespread disruptions in the event of another crisis by strengthening the programs that monitor and manage vendor performance.

Only 50% of manufacturing plants have a supplier-management program.

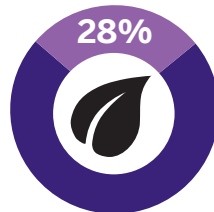
4. Capital Equipment and Information Technology



To develop agile operations, manufacturers must invest in new technologies and Industry 4.0 capabilities, including remote sensing to monitor and maintain operations; automation and robotics to enhance performance and safety; and business analytics to manage volatile demand.

49% of manufacturing plants DON'T use predictive maintenance tools and techniques.

5. Green/Sustainability



COVID-19 remains a global crisis, but climate change looms as a long-term disruption. Manufacturers must take green steps now — e.g., use of energy-management programs, recycled and reuse materials, and alternative energies — to boost bottom lines and help the environment.

Only 28% of manufacturing plants have a formal green program.