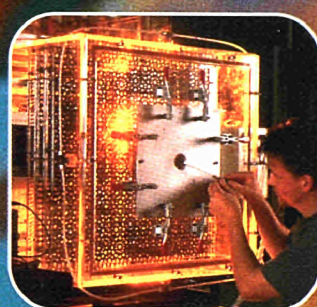
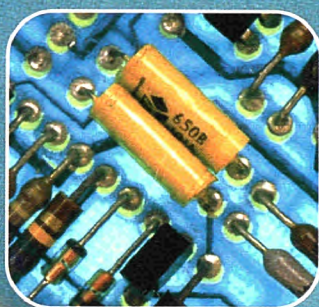


Monthly **Panorama** of European Industry



OFICINA ESTADÍSTICA DE LAS COMUNIDADES EUROPEAS
DE EUROPÆISKE FÆLLESSKABERS STATISTISKE KONTOR
STATISTISCHES AMT DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFTEN
ΣΤΑΤΙΣΤΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΤΩΝ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΩΝ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΩΝ
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Monthly

Panorama

of European Industry

ISSUE 2/97 ■ FEBRUARY 1997

Theme
Energy and industry
Series
Short-term statistics

4

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Sent to press in February 1997

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int>)

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Eurostat hopes that the move to the new format publication has been well-received by readers and that the publication meets user needs better than before. If you have any comments on the content, or presentation, please do not hesitate to contact the editorial team (details on page five). It is important to remark that this publication is produced in close collaboration with DGIII, the Directorate General of the Commission responsible for industrial policy.

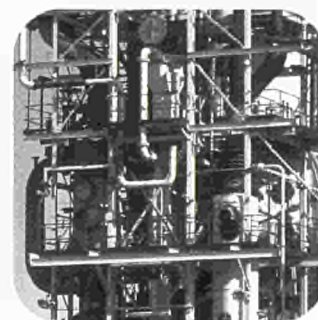
The European Commission autumn forecasts show a healthy future for many of the Member State economies, with a period of renewed growth forecast for the second half of 1997, continuing into 1998. Practically all Member States should see an upswing in economic activity. Latest data for the EU showed that total industrial production grew by 1.5% in the three months August to October 1996 (compared to the three previous months).

This second issue, whilst containing the standard economic data for industrial monthly aggregates, concentrates more specifically on the chemicals industry - there are two special articles. In section 3, the reader is provided with a broad description of both structural and short-term indicators. In 1996, EUR15 chemicals production reached 359 billion ECU. This was higher than in both the USA and Japan (345 billion and 186 billion ECU respectively).

The second special article (section 6) has been written by unit C4 of DGIII. The RISC project is a DGIII initiative to promote the chemicals, rubber and plastics industries: with the aim of facilitating an alliance between the Commission and the European trade federations. RISC allows greater access to information within the industry: regarding not only statistics, but also reference material and European legislation. The article presents an analysis of the factors that influence the competitiveness of the European chemicals industry.

One development the reader should be made aware of is the introduction of structural data under the Nace Rev.1 classification. This is the first time data has been published for the structural industrial variables using this activity classification. This data should allow more coherent comparisons between data for short-term indicators and data from the annual enquiry. The data has been supplemented by estimations made by DEBA GEIE.

François De Geuser,
Luxembourg



Latest outlook - the most recent short-term indicators for European industry in tabular and graphic format, page 13.



In depth - a close look into the chemical industry, page 49.



Special focus - on the competitiveness of the European chemical industry, page 75.

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<i>RISC is the chemical information network, a DGIII initiative. The results of a questionnaire given to industry representatives on the factors which hamper or improve competitiveness are presented...</i>	

The Monthly Panorama of European Industry has the objective of furnishing readers with an instrument which will allow them to follow the evolution of industrial short-term trends and also show the structure and activity of industry at the sectorial level. The publication appears eleven times during the course of the year. When the occasion warrants topical articles may well be treated in the form of a special edition, five of which are planned for 1997.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the position of the European Commission.

Next issue:
Rubber and plastics
Sub-contracting


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Economic commentary

current economic situation in
the EU, Japan and United States



Data in this section

index of production,
consumer price index, trade balance



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**Commission GDP forecasts**

According to the 1996 autumn forecasts of the Commission services growth in gross domestic product (GDP) would be equal to 1.6% in 1996 and 2.3% in 1997. Particularly activity in construction, which constitutes a large part of fixed capital formation, was expected to undergo a major uplift. The influence of the current account balance on GDP was expected to remain positive in 1997. Though by the end of 1997, the growth of imports should catch up to the rates of exports, as domestic demand improves, diminishing the size of the positive trade balance effect.

Growth was expected to accelerate in 1997 for all Member States, except Ireland. GDP growth for 1996 in Ireland was estimated to be around 7.8%. This was by far the highest rate in the European Union, as the countries with the second highest economic growth, the Netherlands and Portugal, grew at a rate of 2.5%. For the USA, the European Commission foresaw an average annual growth rate for GDP in 1996 of 2.4%. For 1997 and 1998, the rate was expected to remain around the same level, at 2.3% and 2.4% respectively. Japanese economic growth was foreseen to decelerate to 1.8% in 1997. This constitutes a drop of 2 percentage points vis-à-vis 1996, although the growth rate in 1996 was elevated by the extensive stimulation measures executed by the previous Japanese government. Notably investment in public works had been used for this purpose, boosting total gross fixed capital formation by 8.6% in 1996.

Total industry

The volume of industrial production in the European Union grew at an annualised rate of 1.9% in the three months to November 1996 compared to the three months before that. This growth rate of the three months moving average of production volume in total industry (excluding construction but including mining, quarrying and the utilities) is based on the trend index series corrected for seasonalities and one-off fluctuations. It turned positive in June of 1996, after having been negative during the period of March to April 1996. From a somewhat longer term perspective, given by the annual growth rate, the situation in European industry improved further too. The annual growth rate, measured from the working day adjusted series of production volume, increased slightly to 1.1% in November 1996 from

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER PRICES

The volume of industrial production in the European Union grew at an annualised rate of 1.9% in the three months to November 1996 compared to the three months before

0.8% in October. Future expectations about the development of production, as gauged by the business survey of management in the European Union (prepared by the Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission) also improved during the fall of 1996.

Three month on three month growth rates were positive in November 1996 for all main industrial groupings, except non-durable consumer goods. According to this measure, production volume remained stable in this group. The annual growth rate in this grouping changed significantly to -0.1% in November 1996 from -0.4% in October. In the intermediate goods producing industries, the annual growth rate rose to 1.0% in November 1996. Production growth in the capital goods industry increased from 0.2% in October 1996 to 0.5% in November, measured from the three month on three month moving average of the trend. The annual growth rose slightly to 1.8% in November, compared to 1.7% in October. Short

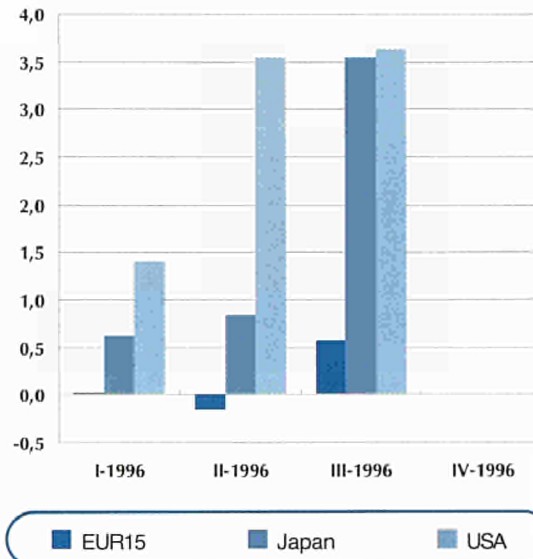


Figure 1.1

Year on year growth rates (t/t-4) for industrial production (%)

Source: eurostat

term expectations about production growth improved in the capital goods industry, pointing to a continuation of the short-term trend as indicated by the three month on three month growth rate. The business survey mentioned above showed the balance of managers expecting to see production rise in the following months rise from -11 percentage points to plus three.

The annual increase in producer prices decelerated to 0.6% in November 1996, down from 0.7% in October. On June and July of 1996, producer price inflation was up by 0.4 percentage points. This increase was caused mainly by faster growth in the prices of intermediate goods, which grew

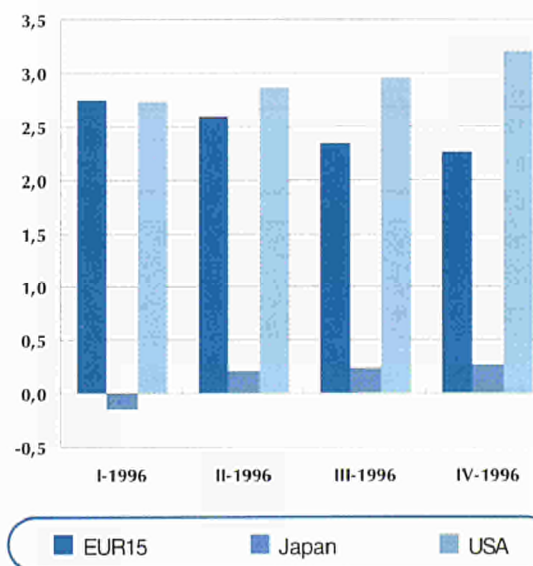


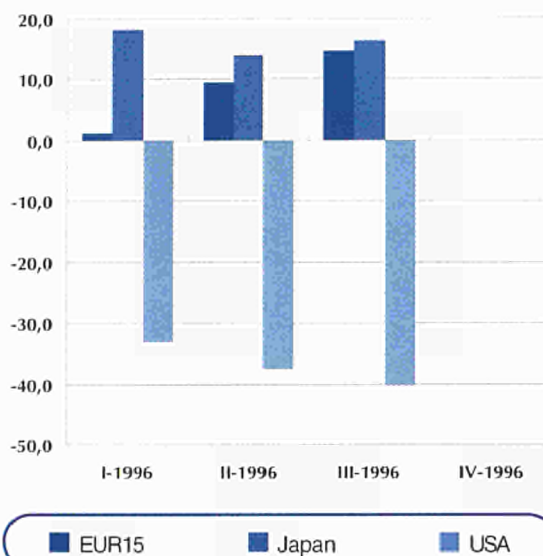
Figure 1.2

Year on year growth rates (t/t-4) for consumer prices (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 1.3

Quarterly
trade balance
(billion ECU)



Source: eurostat

by 0.8% in both September and October. Before the sudden rise, prices of intermediate goods had declined by a total of 2.3% during the first eight months of 1996. The reversal in the trend of the price level of intermediate goods was present in almost every Member State and coincided with a sudden increase in energy prices. For instance, the domestic output price of refined petroleum products increased by 7.7% in Germany between August and October 1996. Even larger increases took place in Denmark (11.4%), Greece (12.4%), Spain (13.3%), the Netherlands (16.0%) and Finland (20.8%). Meanwhile, the annual increases

in prices for capital goods and both durable and non-durable consumer goods slowed down in November 1996 to 1.4%, 2.2% and 1.6% respectively.

Individual Member States

The temporary slowdown in the growth of production volume in total industry during the first half of 1996 occurred simultaneously in Germany, Italy, Spain and Belgium. In the Netherlands and the United Kingdom growth also slowed down, though later in the year than in the other Member States. The annual growth rate of industrial production hovered around zero from March to May 1996. A positive annual growth rate throughout 1996 was recorded in the Scandinavian countries.

In the consumer goods industry, capacity utilisation increased in the fourth quarter of 1996 on the quarter before, in ten of the fifteen individual Member States. In two Member States, France and Denmark, capacity utilisation in this industry remained unchanged, while it dropped in the Netherlands, Portugal and Luxembourg. In the United Kingdom and Austria, capacity utilisation in the consumer goods industry increased most, by 4.1 and 4.7 percentage points respectively. The rise in capacity utilisation in the British consumer goods industry corresponded to a large rise in consumer spending during the second half of 1996. Strengthened by increasing earnings and falling unemployment, retail sales rose by an average of 3.9% during the three months to November 1996 over the same three months of the year before.

Table 1.1

Year on year
growth rates (t/t-12)
for industrial
production
(%)

	EUR15	Japan	USA
12-95	1,5	3,1	1,2
01-96	0,0	1,8	0,7
02-96	0,1	1,1	2,1
03-96	-0,1	-0,8	1,4
04-96	-0,4	-1,2	3,2
05-96	-0,9	2,6	3,4
06-96	0,8	1,3	4,0
07-96	1,2	4,3	3,8
08-96	0,0	1,7	3,5
09-96	0,4	4,4	3,6
10-96	1,6	5,2	3,8
11-96	1,2	4,4	4,4

Source: eurostat

CONSUMER PRICES & TRADE BALANCE

USA and Japan

The American economy continued to grow rapidly in the final quarter of 1996. Industrial production grew at an annualised rate of 3.9% on the third quarter of 1996. This in spite of a slowdown in the production of cars (caused by industrial action at General Motors) and a drop in the output of the utilities related to milder than usual weather. The increase in manufacturing output excluding the production of cars and car parts came to 5.8%. Capacity utilisation in December 1996 stood at 83.8%, its highest level since April 1995.

Unemployment remained stable in December 1996, at 5.3%. The high level of economic growth in the USA during 1996 did not have an effect on consumer prices. Inflation stood at an annual rate of 2.7% in January 1996 and had increased during the year to 3.3% in December 1996. But most of this increase could be explained by the rapid increase in energy prices. For 1996, producer prices increased by 2.8%, though only by 0.6% excluding food and energy.

In Japan, the trend of industrial production continued to advance towards pre-recession levels. It exceeded the 100.0 level (base year 1990) for the first time in October 1996, though it was still 3.2 percentage points below its peak of February 1991. The three month on three month growth rate (annualised) increased significantly throughout 1996, from 0.8% in Feb-April to 6.2% in Sep-Nov. All industries benefited from increased activity except those producing non-durable consumer goods. GDP was estimated to have grown by 0.4% in the third quarter of 1996 on the quarter

	EUR15	Japan	USA
01-96	2,8	-0,4	2,7
02-96	2,7	-0,2	2,7
03-96	2,7	0,1	2,8
04-96	2,7	0,4	2,9
05-96	2,7	0,3	2,9
06-96	2,5	0,0	2,8
07-96	2,5	0,6	3,0
08-96	2,3	0,2	2,9
09-96	2,3	-0,1	3,0
10-96	2,4	0,1	3,0
11-96	2,2	0,5	3,3
12-96	2,2	0,2	3,3

Table 1.2

Year on year
growth rates (t/t-12)
for consumer
prices
(%)

Source:  eurostat

	EUR15	Japan	USA
12-95	:	9,9	-9,7
01-96	-4,0	2,0	-12,0
02-96	1,2	6,3	-9,9
03-96	4,0	9,8	-11,3
04-96	1,7	4,0	-12,3
05-96	3,4	3,2	-13,5
06-96	4,2	6,8	-11,7
07-96	8,0	5,3	-13,8
08-96	4,9	4,1	-12,8
09-96	1,8	7,0	-13,8
10-96	:	:	-11,2
11-96	:	:	-11,5

Table 1.3

Monthly
trade balance
(billion ECU)

Source:  eurostat

before, leading to an annual rate of 3.2%.

Unemployment and inflation (at 3.3% and 0.6% respectively in December 1996) remained stable compared with previous levels.

This text was written by: Raymond Chaudron

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The Panorama CD-ROM Professional Version

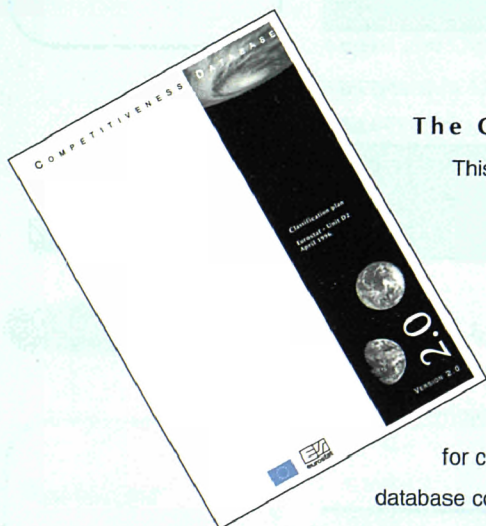
The Panorama of EU Industry has established itself as one of the major sources of data and commentary on EU industrial activity - giving a wide cross-sectional analysis of some 200 industrial and service activities. Now Eurostat has launched a database - containing not only the text and tables from the publication, but also:

- ★ country breakdowns of EU totals;
- ★ data from the SME (small and medium sized enterprises) database;
- ★ and data from National Accounts.

All this information is contained on one single, easy-to-use CD-Rom. As well as containing a pictorial representation of the publication, with powerful search facilities to enable the user to access related industries, the CD-Rom has the added facility of being able to link directly with spreadsheets and word processors. This CD-Rom is a useful tool for consultants, policy advisors, researchers and anyone generally interested in EU industry.

The Competitiveness Database

This is a new product, bringing together a wide range of indicators linked to industrial competitiveness for the EU Member States and OECD countries. This database will be vital for anyone interested in studying industrial competitiveness, for comparing industrial opportunities. The database covers some 30 countries in depth, 200 industrial activities and nearly 100 indicators, for the period 1980-1995. The database comes on CD-ROM and includes Eurostat standard CUB.X software for viewing and extracting the data.

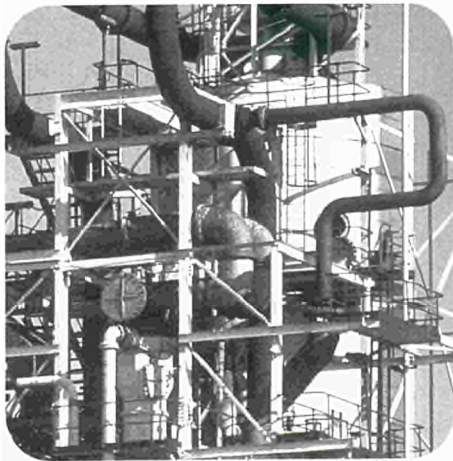


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Business cycle at a glance



Short-term indicators

production index, producer price index,
employment index, capacity utilisation,
the construction sector, foreign trade indices



data extracted on: 10/2/97

Table 2.1

Business cycle at a glance - situation for the production index of the main industrial groupings, trend cycle

	Latest 3 months available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	↗	→	→	→
B	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	↗	→	→	→
DK	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	→	↗	↘	↘
D	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	↗	↗	→	↘
EL	08-96 ⇔ 10-96	→	↗	↗↗	↗↗	↘
E	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↗	↗	↗	↗↗	→
F	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	↗	→	→	→
IRL	07-96 ⇔ 09-96	↗	↗↗	↘	:	↗
I	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↘	↘	↘	↘	→
L	08-96 ⇔ 10-96	→	→	↗	↘↘	↘↘
NL	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	→	↗	↗	↗
A	⇔	:	:	:	:	:
P	⇔	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↗	↗	↗↗	:	→
S	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↗	→	↗	↗	↗
UK	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	→	→	↗	↗	↗
Japan	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↗	↗	↗↗	↗	→
USA	09-96 ⇔ 11-96	↗	→	↗	↗	↗

Growth rates:

↗↗	>2.5%
↗ 0.5% → 2.5%	
→ -0.5% → 0.5%	
↘ -2.5% → -0.5%	
↘↘	< -2.5%

Source:  eurostat

PRODUCTION INDEX - W.D.ADJ.

EUR15

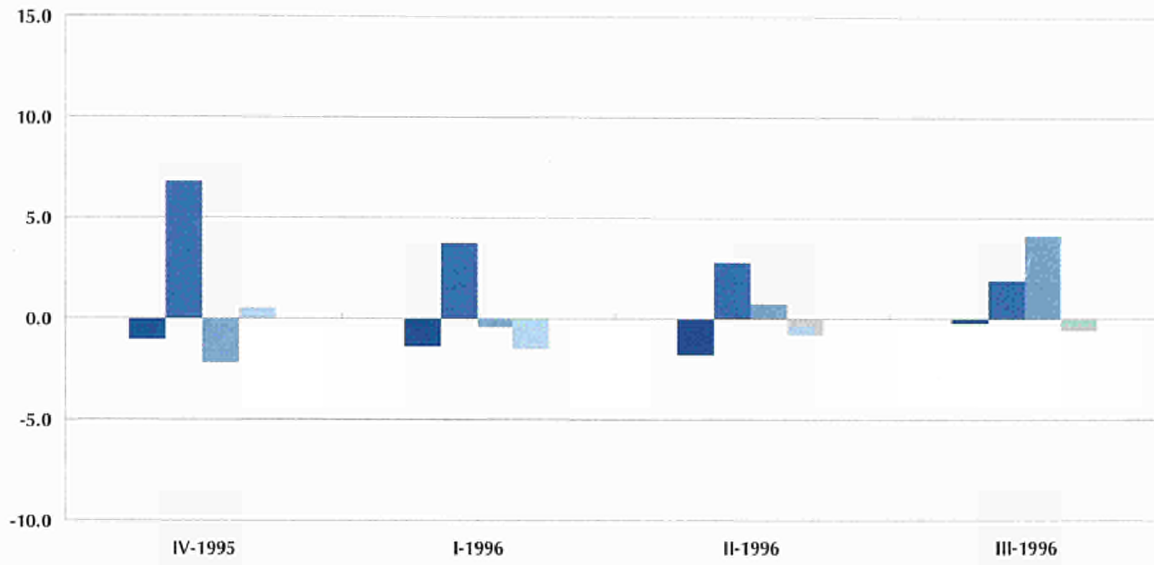
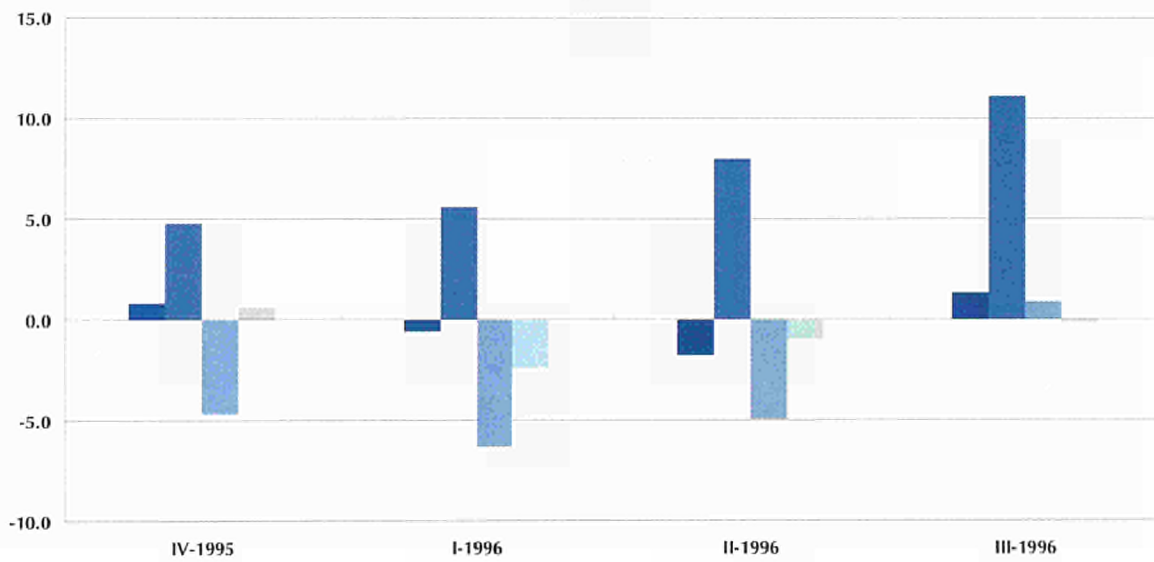


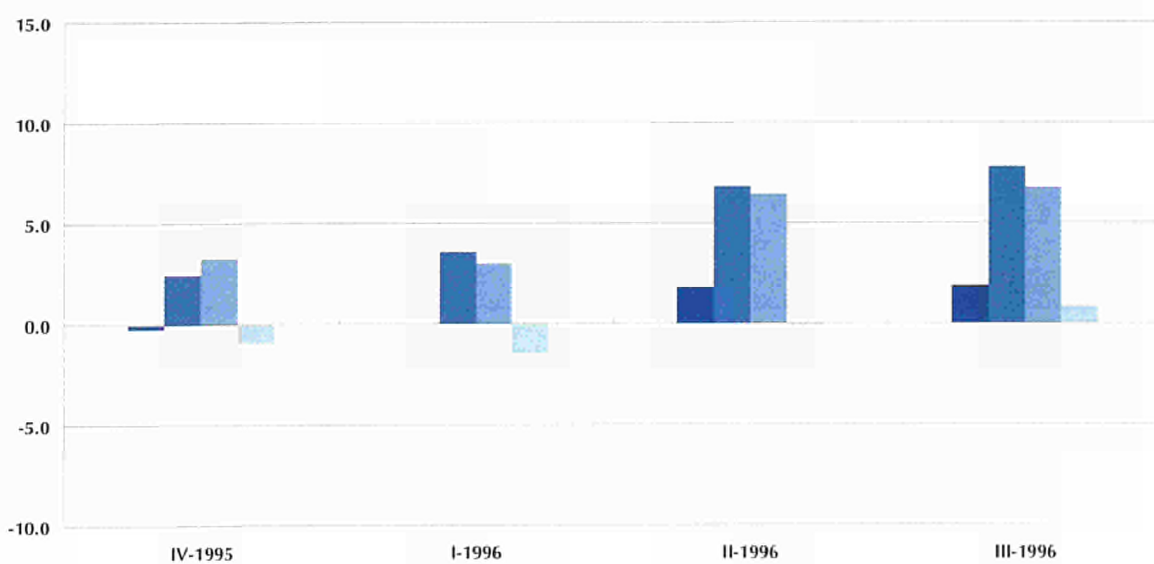
Figure 2.1

TRIAD comparison of production growth for the main industrial groupings, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year, w.d.adj. (%)

Japan



USA



- Intermediate goods
- Capital goods
- Consumer durables
- Consumer non-durables

Source: eurostat

PRODUCTION INDEX - W.D.ADJ.

Table 2.2

Indices of production for total industry, w.d.adj. (1990 = 100)

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
EUR15	94.6	99.4	103.2	107.4	99.2	81.3	107.3	109.4	111.5
B	93.0	94.7	98.7	106.6	83.2	81.1	110.8	100.7	108.6
DK	100.4	111.2	115.8	130.8	95.0	120.3	126.7	124.9	124.9
D	90.5	93.9	95.9	96.7	93.5	87.0	101.2	103.6	103.7
EL	94.8	95.7	97.4	103.5	104.8	91.2	109.8	108.6	:
E	91.8	98.7	103.3	109.6	107.7	65.0	106.8	110.2	110.5
F	93.9	97.5	99.4	103.1	95.6	76.0	101.1	105.1	105.5
IRL	119.1	133.3	158.5	180.8	161.8	146.4	165.9	:	:
I	95.7	101.7	107.9	115.8	109.4	51.9	111.3	109.6	113.2
L	95.0	100.5	101.0	108.1	98.3	75.9	102.1	102.8	:
NL	100.2	103.2	105.6	109.9	91.8	92.3	106.3	112.5	117.9
A	99.9	105.9	112.3	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	95.2	94.9	99.4	104.9	105.6	73.4	105.1	103.6	103.6
FIN	96.9	107.3	115.3	125.1	86.1	111.5	126.0	126.7	129.2
S	93.3	103.8	114.1	131.6	80.5	105.7	122.8	121.7	127.4
UK	98.4	103.5	106.0	105.5	99.4	94.3	107.7	112.3	116.9
Japan	92.0	93.1	96.3	100.0	101.8	90.2	104.0	100.8	103.2
USA	105.2	111.4	115.0	121.2	117.5	122.6	123.1	120.9	119.6

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.3

TRIAD comparison of indices of production for the main industrial groupings, w.d.adj. (1990 = 100)

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
Total industry									
EUR15	94.6	99.4	103.2	107.4	99.2	81.3	107.3	109.4	111.5
Japan	92.0	93.1	96.3	100.0	101.8	90.2	104.0	100.8	103.2
USA	105.2	111.4	115.0	121.2	117.5	122.6	123.1	120.9	119.6
Intermediate goods									
EUR15	95.9	101.9	104.9	106.7	99.9	82.6	107.3	110.3	111.8
Japan	93.2	95.5	99.3	100.3	102.2	92.1	102.6	103.4	104.4
USA	100.6	106.1	107.7	112.7	111.9	115.1	115.4	112.0	108.9
Capital goods									
EUR15	88.0	91.9	98.9	107.9	95.6	77.7	106.5	104.9	108.8
Japan	85.5	85.6	89.5	97.5	98.5	88.1	111.1	99.5	102.6
USA	104.8	111.8	117.3	128.0	125.1	130.6	131.5	130.1	128.4
Consumer durables									
EUR15	89.5	96.1	98.0	106.2	93.8	65.7	110.0	110.5	110.6
Japan	85.9	82.3	81.3	82.9	84.8	61.7	84.2	85.3	87.4
USA	107.6	117.1	123.3	134.1	127.0	134.0	136.0	134.0	132.5
Consumer non-durables									
EUR15	99.6	102.1	104.1	107.5	102.4	87.5	107.7	111.4	112.8
Japan	99.2	98.8	98.7	103.5	102.0	90.1	98.0	98.1	103.1
USA	104.1	108.3	109.6	113.0	111.3	115.3	116.0	113.7	110.1

Source:  eurostat

PRODUCTION INDEX - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Table 2.4

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
EUR15	94.6	99.4	103.2	103.8	104.1	103.4	103.8	104.3	104.5
B	93.0	94.7	98.7	98.5	113.1	90.1	104.5	99.8	100.3
DK	100.4	111.2	115.8	117.6	121.5	118.3	116.6	118.1	118.1
D	90.5	93.9	95.9	95.4	97.5	96.8	96.1	96.9	97.2
EL	94.8	95.7	97.4	98.8	99.8	99.2	97.8	100.8	:
E	91.8	98.7	103.3	102.3	103.2	103.7	102.7	104.6	103.5
F	93.9	97.5	99.4	98.8	101.6	101.6	100.2	99.5	99.7
IRL	119.1	133.3	158.5	171.7	174.1	170.1	166.4	:	:
I	95.7	101.7	107.9	106.7	105.2	108.4	105.5	105.1	103.6
L	95.0	100.5	101.0	99.1	100.9	96.3	100.9	100.6	:
NL	100.2	103.2	105.6	110.9	108.5	109.9	110.0	109.4	110.0
A	99.9	105.9	112.3	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	95.2	94.9	99.4	101.2	100.9	103.6	102.4	100.4	101.0
FIN	96.9	107.3	115.3	118.9	117.8	117.6	120.4	120.4	121.3
S	93.3	103.8	114.1	119.2	117.8	116.6	117.6	116.6	120.3
UK	98.4	103.5	106.0	106.6	107.3	106.7	107.4	107.3	107.7
Japan	92.0	93.1	96.3	95.3	99.6	97.4	98.7	102.5	100.7
USA	105.2	111.4	115.0	119.2	119.1	119.7	119.9	119.7	120.7

Indices of
production for
total industry,
seasonally adjusted
(1990 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.5

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
Total industry									
EUR15	94.6	99.4	103.2	103.8	104.1	103.4	103.8	104.3	104.5
Japan	92.0	93.1	96.3	95.3	99.6	97.4	98.7	102.5	100.7
USA	105.2	111.4	115.0	119.2	119.1	119.7	119.9	119.7	120.7
Intermediate goods									
EUR15	95.9	101.9	104.9	104.2	105.1	104.4	104.8	105.3	105.9
Japan	93.2	95.5	99.3	96.0	100.1	98.5	99.6	102.5	101.2
USA	100.6	106.1	107.7	110.0	108.6	109.9	110.6	110.4	110.6
Capital goods									
EUR15	88.0	91.9	98.9	100.8	101.4	100.4	101.7	101.4	101.6
Japan	85.5	85.6	89.5	95.6	100.4	97.1	99.1	102.8	101.8
USA	104.8	111.8	117.3	125.6	126.7	127.4	127.6	128.2	129.6
Consumer durables									
EUR15	89.5	96.1	98.0	100.3	101.9	100.7	100.3	100.7	101.0
Japan	85.9	82.3	81.3	74.0	82.1	75.9	79.5	86.7	81.6
USA	107.6	117.1	123.3	131.3	131.7	132.4	132.5	131.9	133.4
Consumer non-durables									
EUR15	99.6	102.1	104.1	103.8	103.5	103.4	103.4	103.5	103.6
Japan	99.2	98.8	98.7	96.0	98.0	97.8	96.2	99.3	98.3
USA	104.1	108.3	109.6	109.8	110.4	110.0	110.7	111.0	111.3

TRIAD comparison of
indices of production
for the main
industrial groupings,
seasonally adjusted
(1990 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.2

EUR15 production index by main industrial grouping, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

Total industry —
Intermediate goods - - -
Capital goods —
Consumer durables —
Consumer non-durables - - -

Source:  eurostat

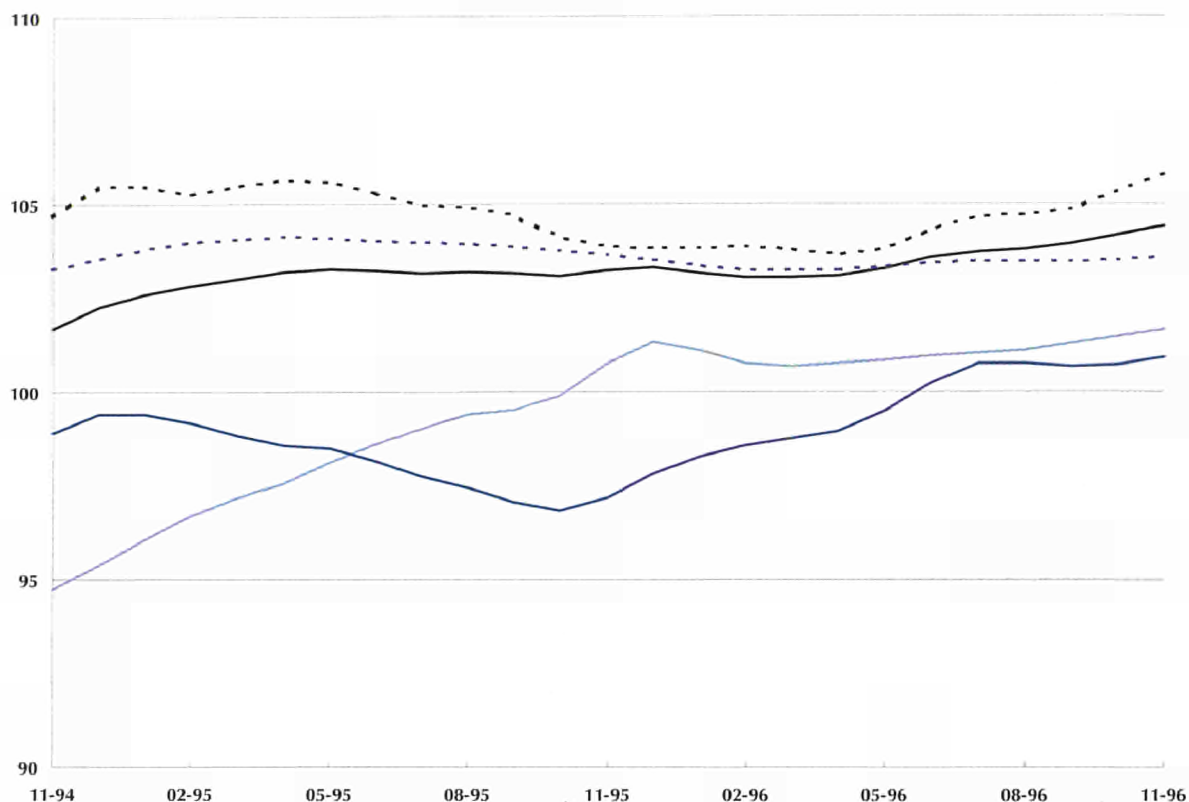


Table 2.6

Three month on three month growth rates for the production index of the main industrial groupings, trend cycle (%)

Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.1
B	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.2	2.2	-0.4	0.5	0.2
DK	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.1	0.5	1.2	-1.4	-0.8
D	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.2	-0.8
EL	08-96	⇔ 10-96	0.4	1.9	3.6	3.5	-0.5
E	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.8	1.5	2.1	2.9	-0.4
F	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.3	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0
IRL	07-96	⇔ 09-96	1.0	3.1	-2.1	:	0.5
I	09-96	⇔ 11-96	-0.6	-0.6	-1.7	-2.4	0.4
L	08-96	⇔ 10-96	0.1	0.2	1.8	-13.3	-2.7
NL	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.1	-0.2	0.9	1.1	-1.0
A	10-95	⇔ 12-95	0.8	-2.1	-2.1	0.5	-0.4
P	11-95	⇔ 01-96	0.4	-1.2	2.9	-1.4	-1.2
FIN	09-96	⇔ 11-96	1.6	1.9	4.9	:	-0.3
S	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.7	0.1	0.7	1.7	1.2
UK	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.8	0.6
Japan	09-96	⇔ 11-96	1.5	1.5	2.7	2.0	-0.1
USA	09-96	⇔ 11-96	0.7	0.4	1.5	0.8	0.7

PRODUCTION INDEX - W.D.ADJ.

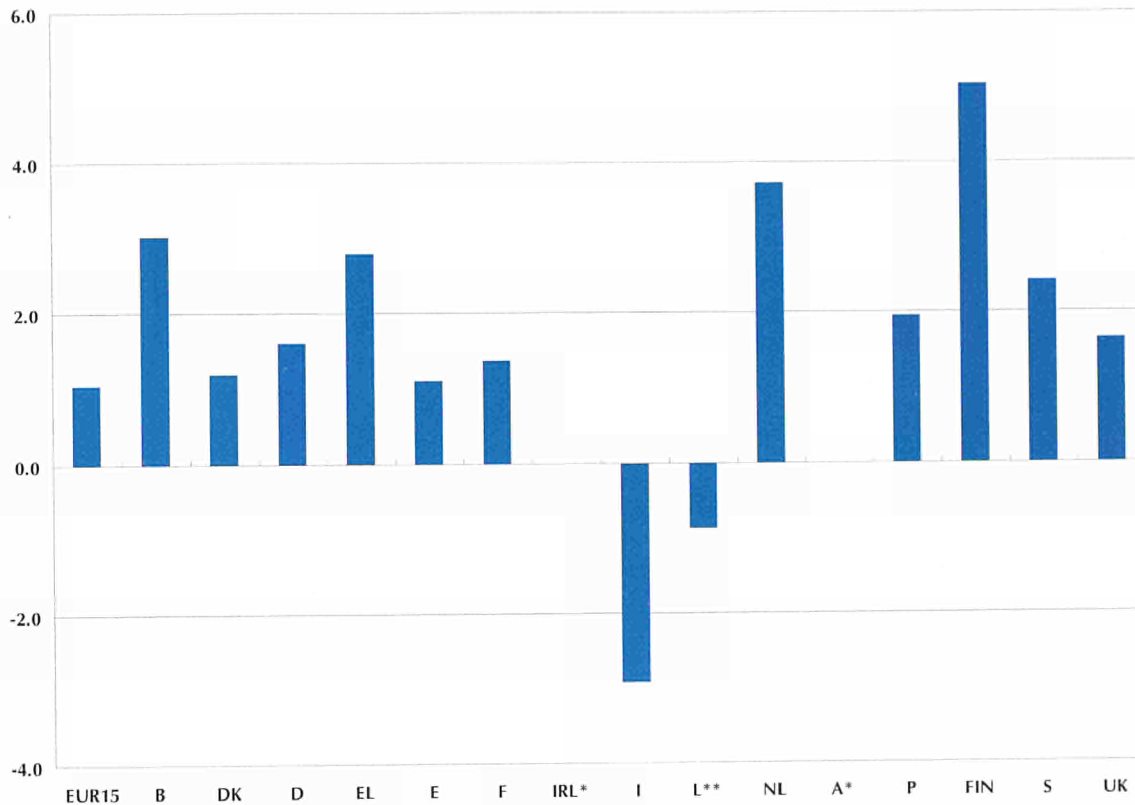


Figure 2.3

Annual growth rates for the production index of total industry, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.1	1.0	1.8	3.8	-0.1
B	09-96	⇒ 11-96	3.0	2.7	3.3	7.0	-2.8
DK	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.2	4.0	3.0	0.3	-2.5
D	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.6	1.2	2.8	3.2	-0.6
EL	08-96	⇒ 10-96	1.4	5.0	3.4	14.5	-2.3
E	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.1	1.7	5.6	10.2	-3.4
F	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.4	2.6	0.9	1.3	-0.9
IRL	07-96	⇒ 09-96	3.4	13.3	-3.4	:	1.0
I	09-96	⇒ 11-96	-2.9	-3.1	-5.4	-2.9	-0.4
L	08-96	⇒ 10-96	-3.3	-5.0	12.4	-32.6	-8.6
NL	09-96	⇒ 11-96	3.7	2.6	:	6.0	4.5
A	10-95	⇒ 12-95	6.1	0.0	1.8	2.0	-1.4
P	11-95	⇒ 01-96	3.6	-2.5	5.1	-3.9	-1.9
FIN	09-96	⇒ 11-96	5.0	6.7	16.7	:	2.0
S	09-96	⇒ 11-96	2.4	0.7	2.9	6.9	5.0
UK	09-96	⇒ 11-96	1.7	0.8	2.5	6.9	1.7
Japan	09-96	⇒ 11-96	4.7	2.4	11.6	4.5	-0.4
USA	09-96	⇒ 11-96	3.9	2.3	8.8	6.1	1.5

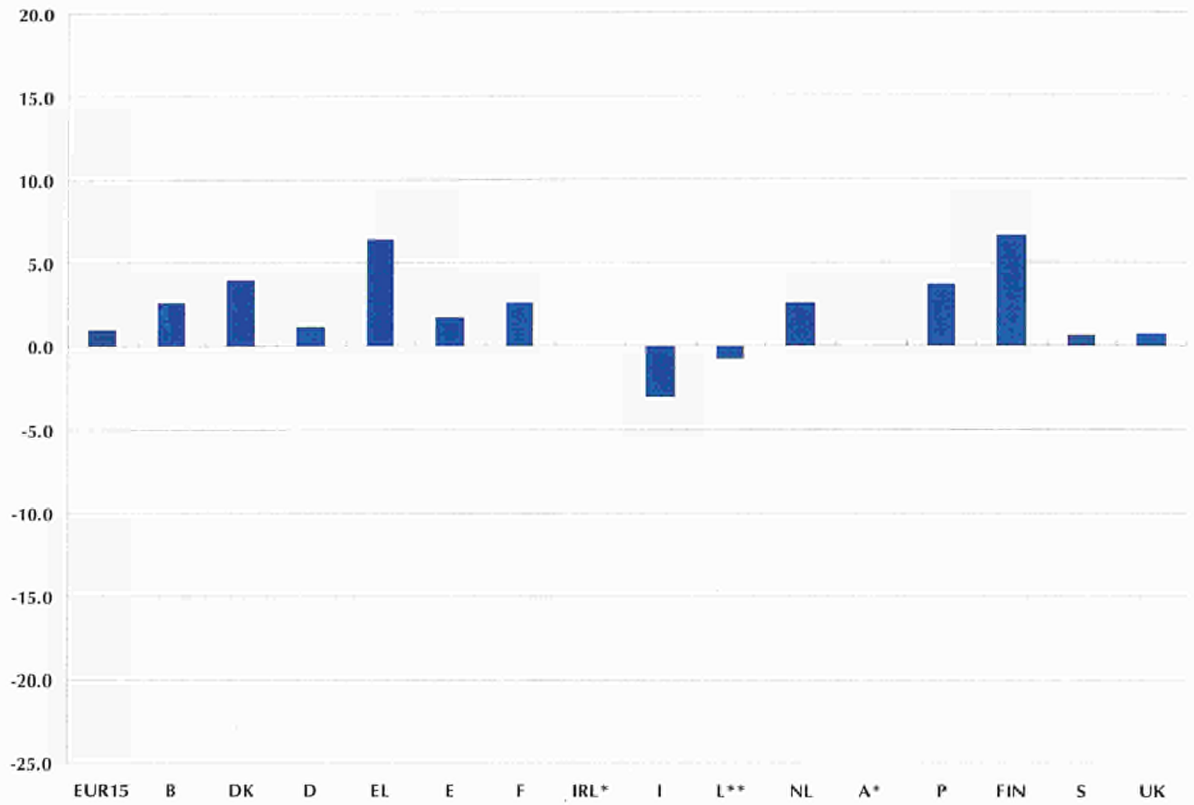
Table 2.7

Annual growth rates for the production index of the main industrial groupings, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj. (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.4

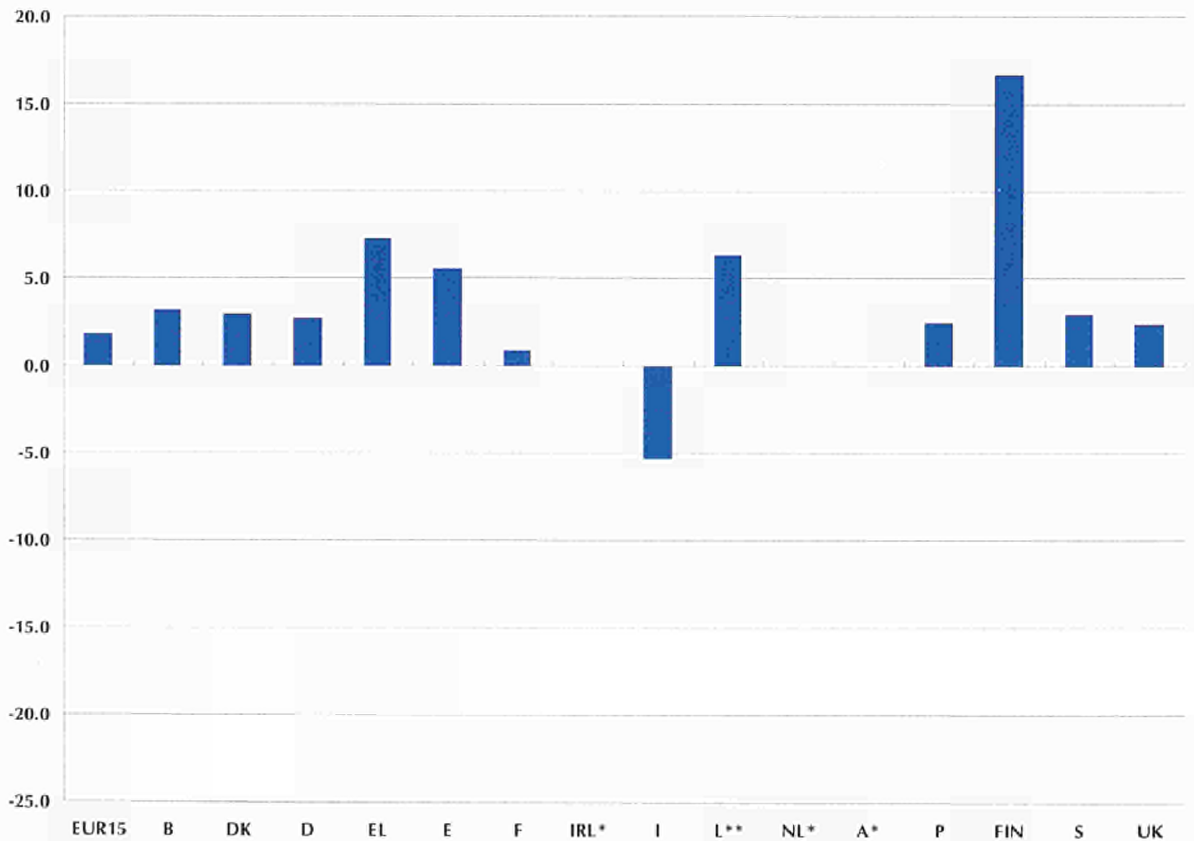
Annual growth rates for the production index of intermediate goods, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.5

Annual growth rates for the production index of capital goods, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)



Source: eurostat

PRODUCTION INDEX - W.D.ADJ.

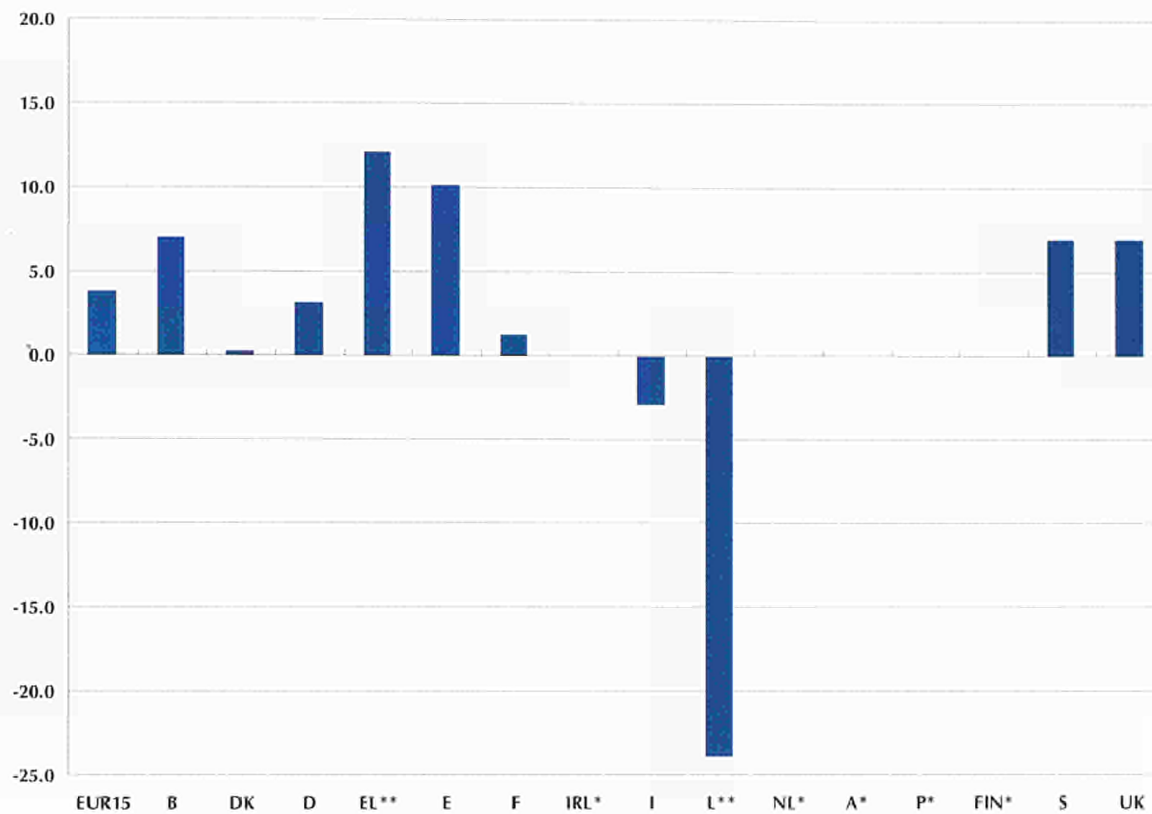


Figure 2.6

Annual growth rates for the production index of consumer durables, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)

Source: eurostat

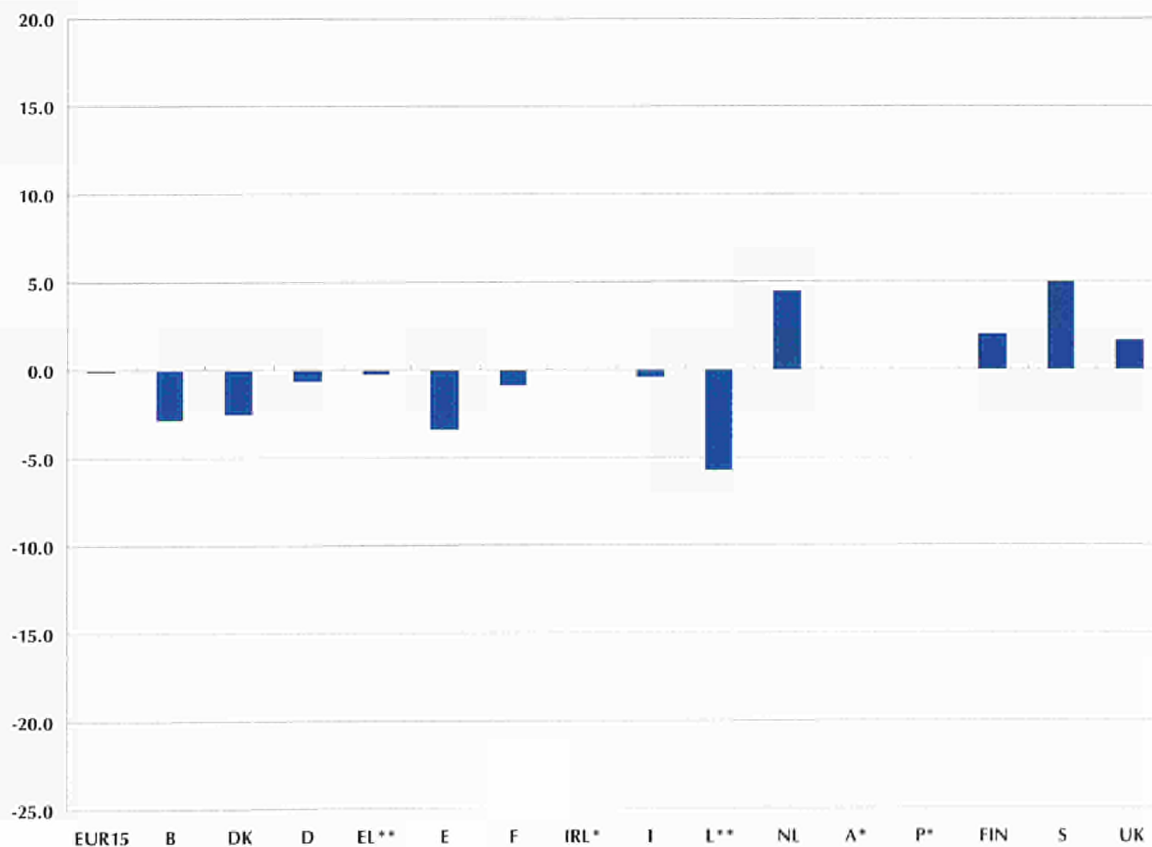


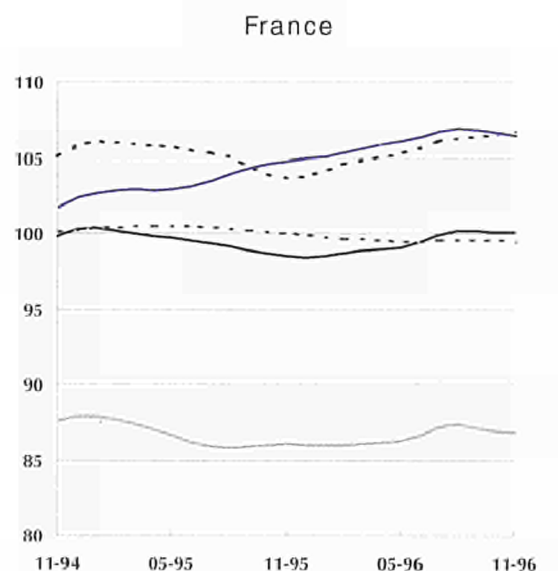
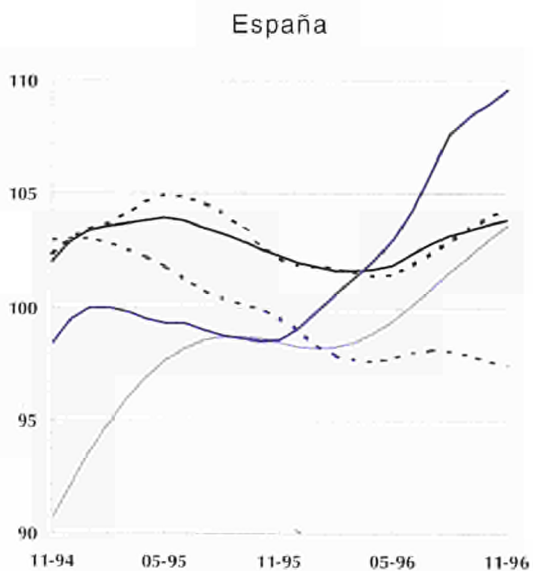
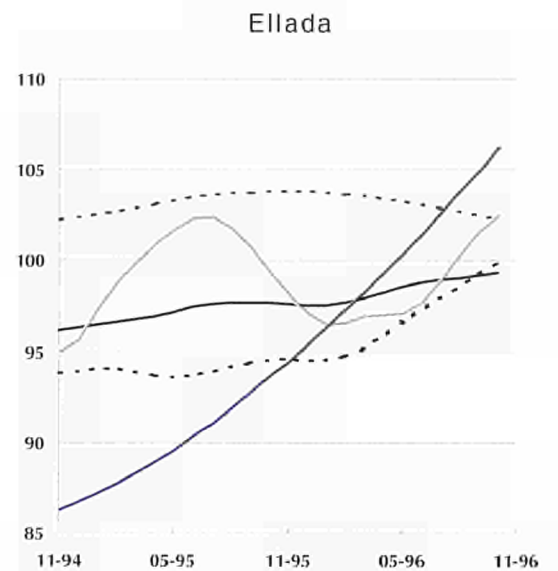
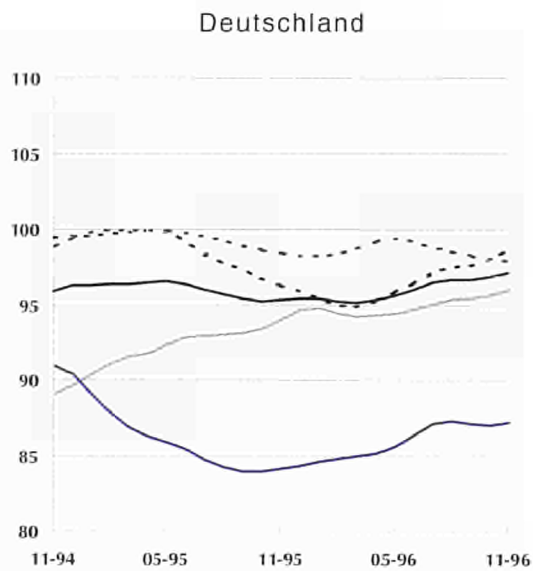
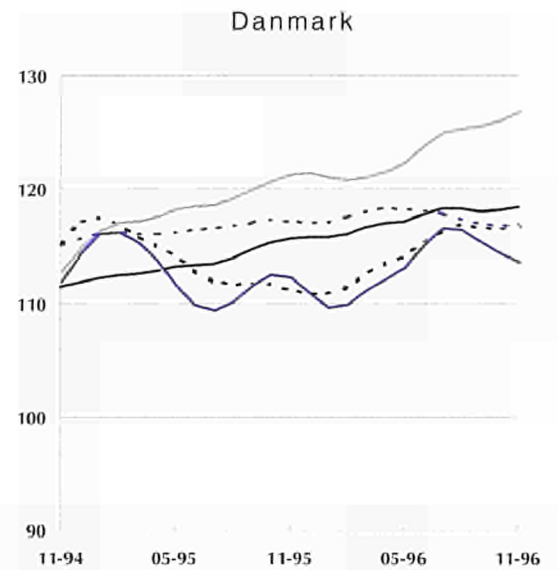
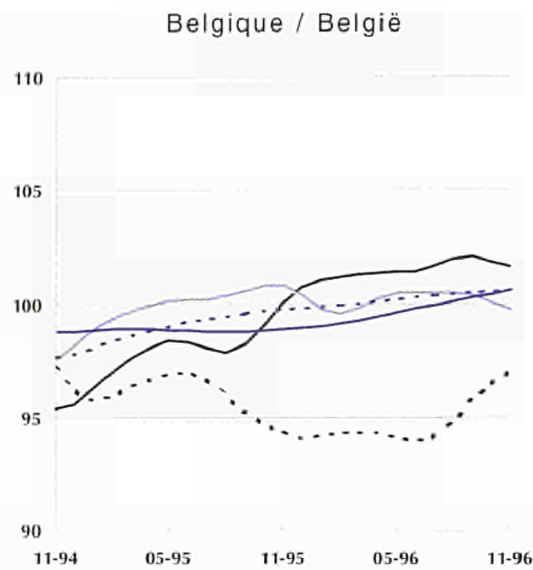
Figure 2.7

Annual growth rates for the production index of consumer non-durables, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.8

Production index by main industrial grouping, trend cycle (1990 = 100)



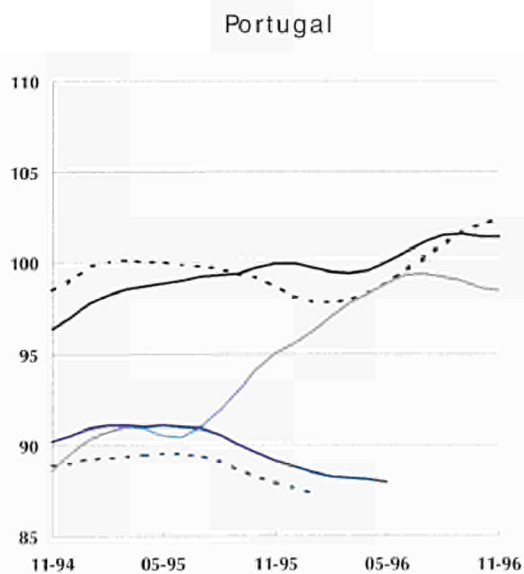
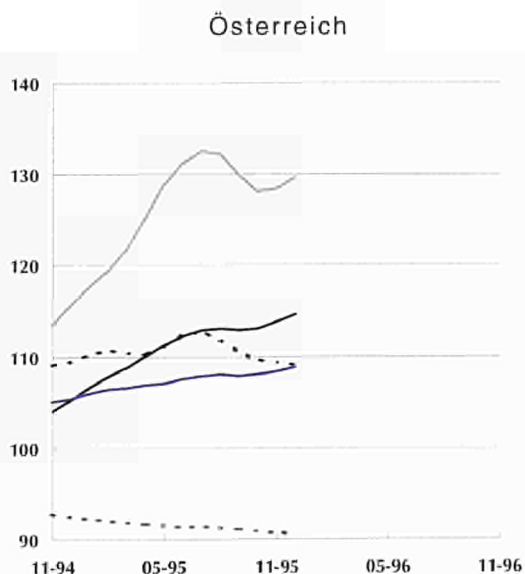
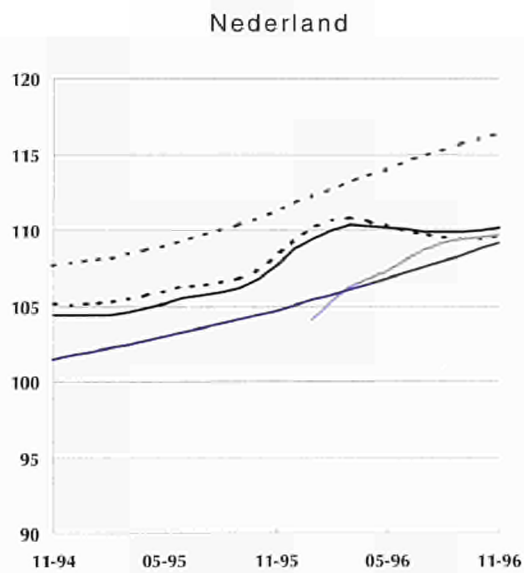
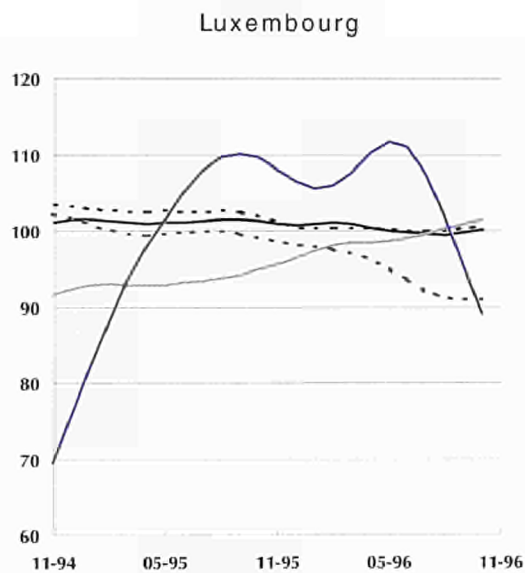
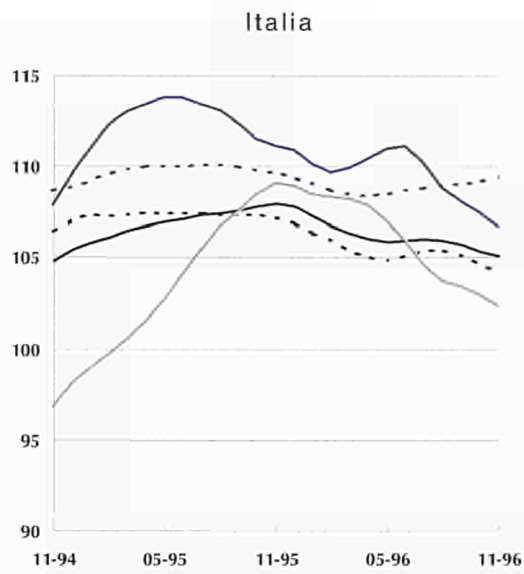
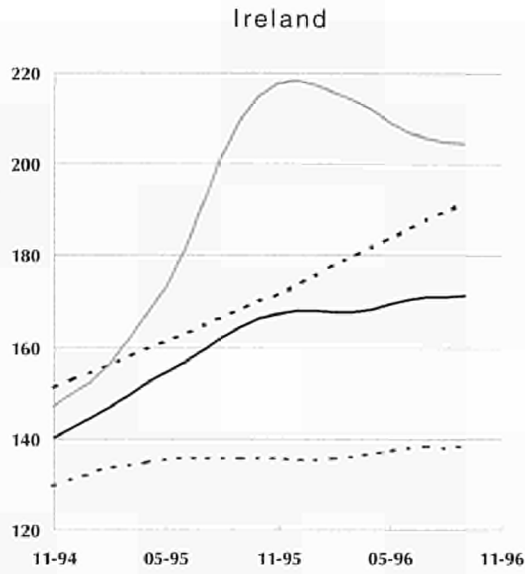
- Total industry ———
- Intermediate goods - - - -
- Capital goods ———
- Consumer durables ———
- Consumer non-durables - - - -

Source: eurostat

PRODUCTION INDEX - TREND CYCLE

Figure 2.8

Production index by main industrial grouping, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

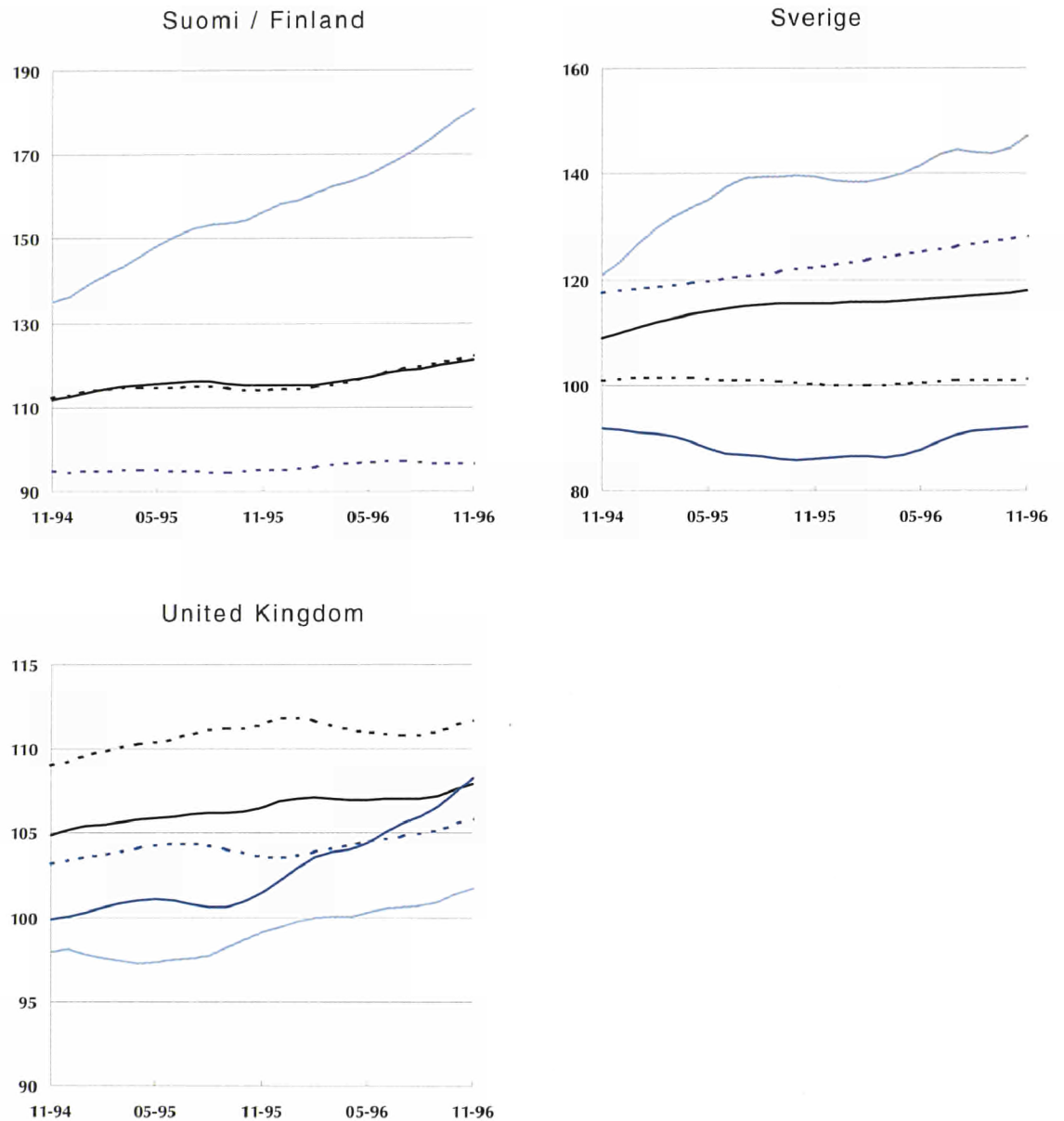


- Total industry
- - - Intermediate goods
- Capital goods
- Consumer durables
- Consumer non-durables

Source: EUROSTAT

Figure 2.8

Production index
by main industrial
grouping, trend cycle
(1990 = 100)



Total industry ———

Intermediate goods - - - - -

Capital goods ———

Consumer durables ———

Consumer non-durables - - - - -

Further information - the production index:

The index of production measures changes in volume (at constant prices) of gross value added created by a given activity, the activity indices being aggregated (like the aggregation at Community level) by means of a system of weighting according to gross value added at factor cost.

The indices of production are adjusted in two stages. Firstly, account is taken of the variation in the number of working days in the month. The national Statistical Offices provide Eurostat with these series (except Denmark, France, Spain and the United Kingdom). Secondly, for EUR15 and most of the Member States a correction is made using seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V.Gomez. For France, Ireland, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. All data from Ireland is converted to NACE Rev.1 from the old classification NACE 1970 and is therefore less reliable.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 71.

Source:  eurostat

DOMESTIC PRODUCER PRICE INDEX - NATIONAL CURRENCY

EUR15

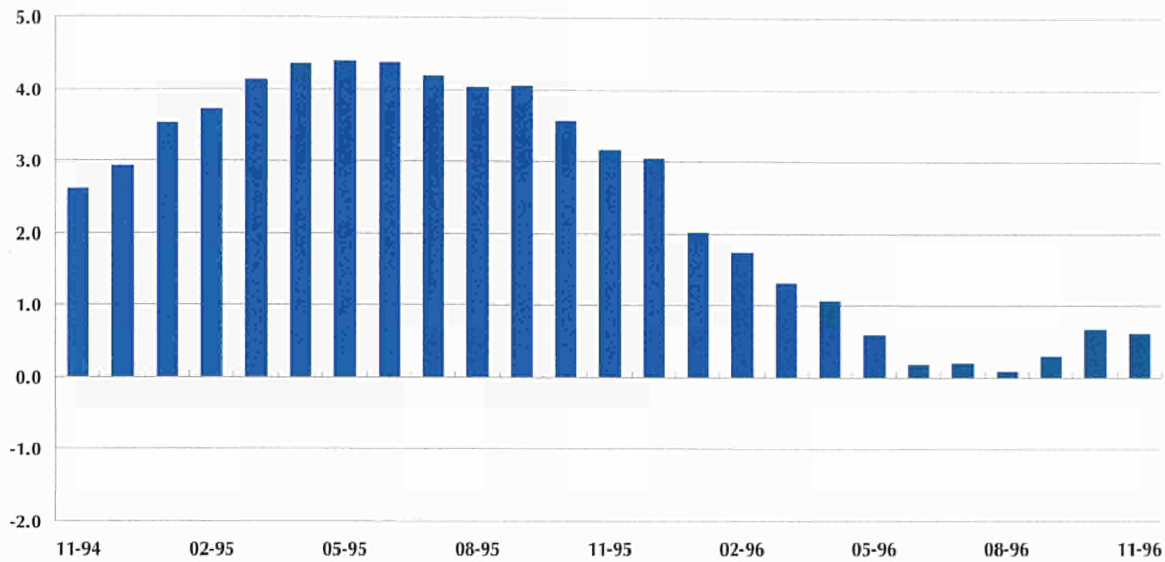
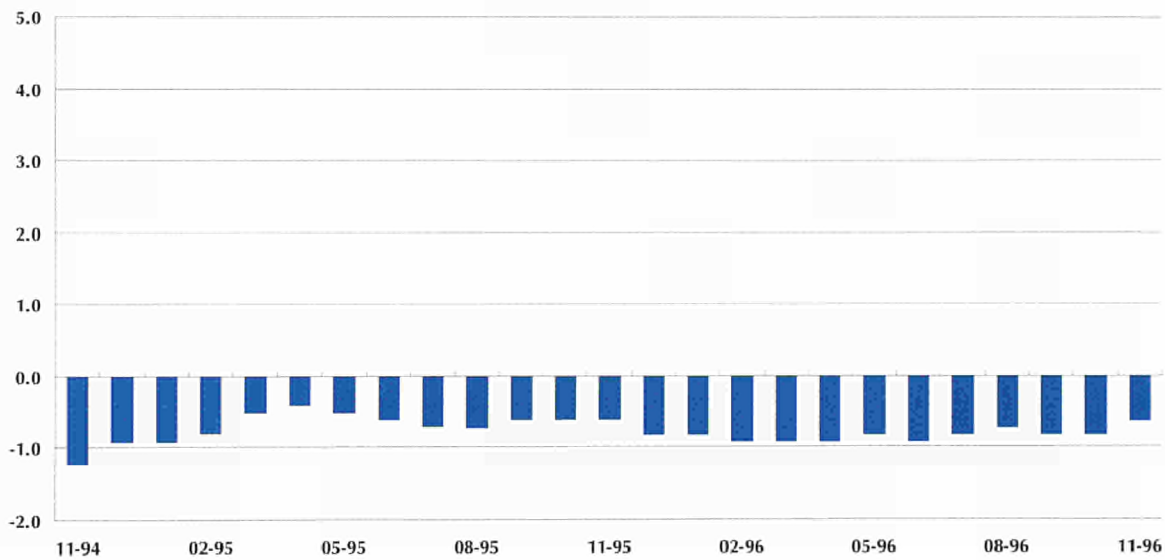


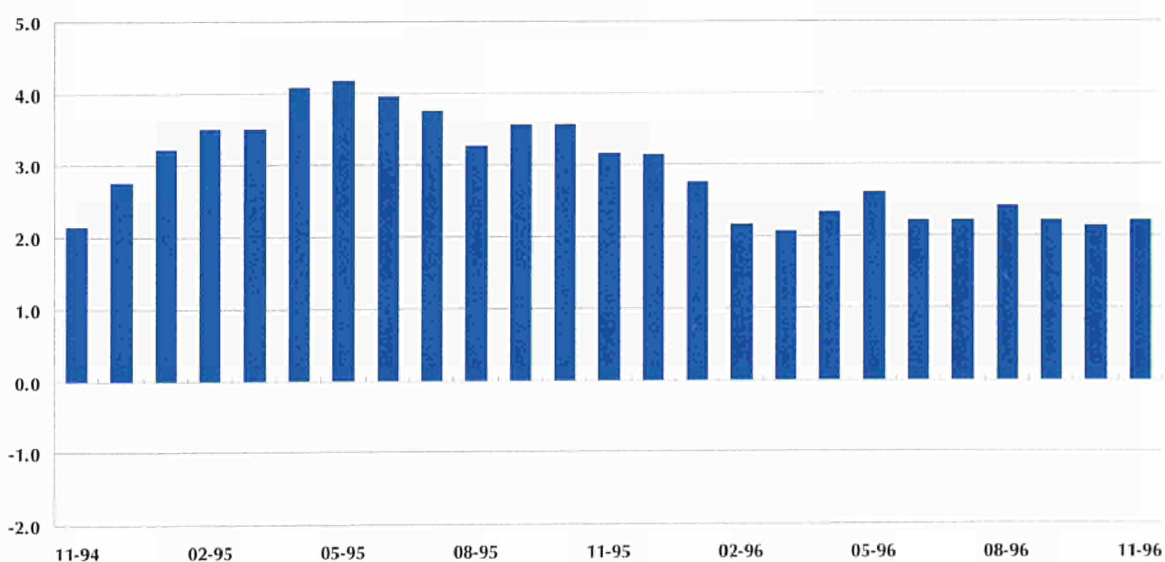
Figure 2.9

TRIAD comparison of annual growth rates of producer prices for total industry, in national currency (%)

Japan



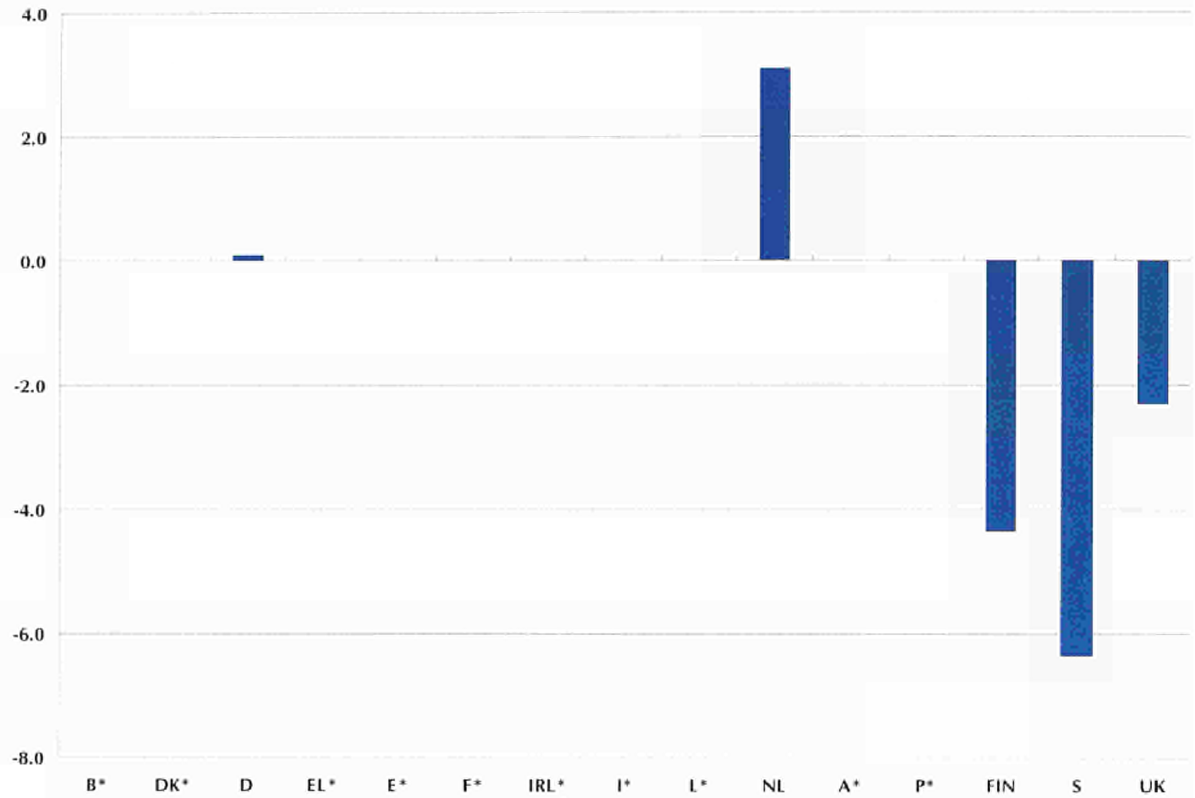
USA



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.10

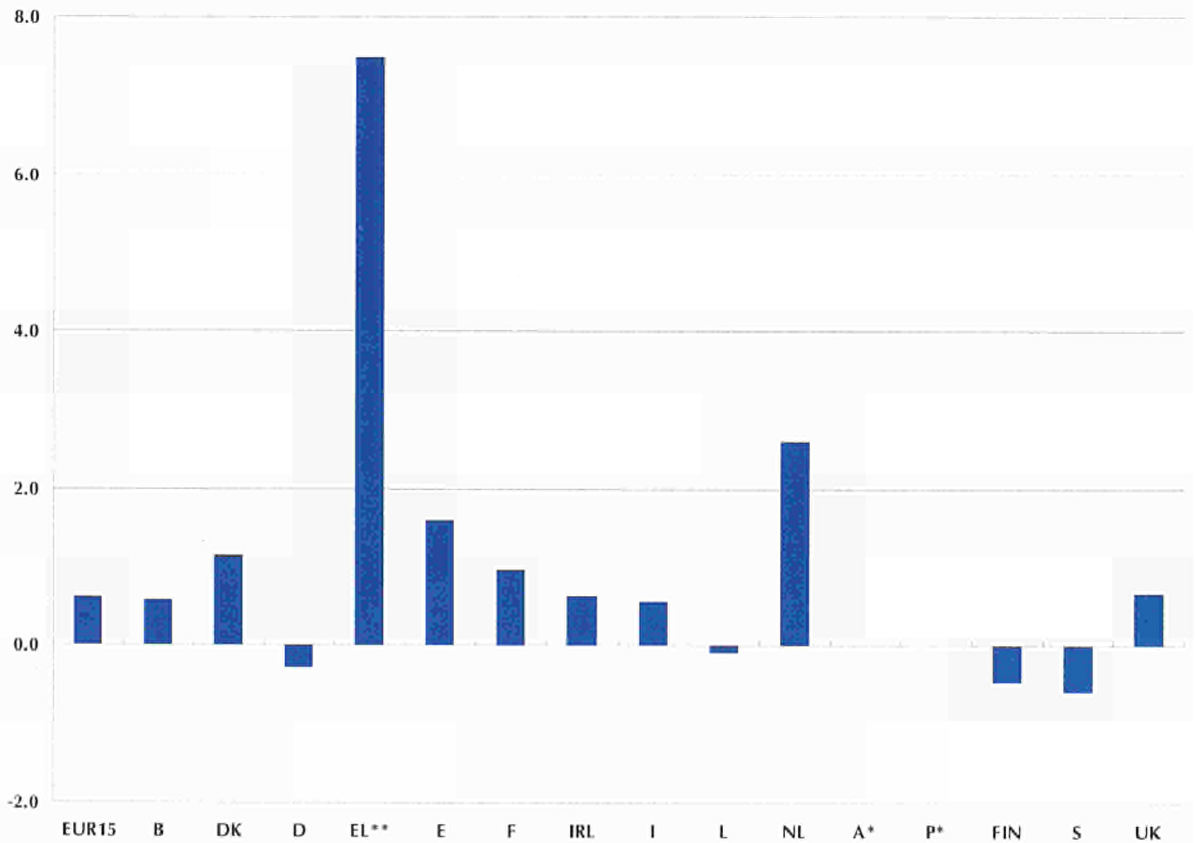
Annual growth rates of export prices for manufacturing industry, in national currency, Nov-96 (1990 = 100)




Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.11

Annual growth rates of the producer price index of total industry, in national currency, Nov-96 (%)



Source:  eurostat

DOMESTIC PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

Table 2.8

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
EUR15	106.1	108.2	112.3	112.7	112.7	112.8	113.2	113.5	113.6
B	98.2	99.5	101.7	101.8	101.7	101.9	102.8	103.3	102.7
DK	99.0	99.7	103.4	105.0	105.1	105.0	105.5	105.6	105.4
D	104.0	104.7	106.5	105.8	105.9	105.9	106.1	106.3	106.3
EL	146.1	156.6	171.4	182.4	182.9	183.4	186.4	188.0	:
E	105.3	109.8	116.8	118.6	118.4	118.4	118.7	119.1	119.3
F	100.6	100.9	103.1	103.2	103.5	103.5	104.1	104.3	104.2
IRL	105.6	107.6	111.6	114.2	114.1	113.5	113.3	113.1	113.5
I	109.2	113.3	122.2	124.0	123.7	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6
L	105.1	107.2	110.8	110.2	110.3	111.0	110.6	110.7	110.2
NL	100.2	101.0	104.0	105.6	106.0	106.1	106.6	106.8	106.4
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	103.9	105.8	107.7	107.1	106.9	106.8	107.2	107.6	107.4
S	104.1	108.6	117.3	117.7	118.2	118.0	118.1	118.3	117.8
UK	111.5	114.2	118.5	118.4	118.1	118.1	118.7	119.2	120.1
Japan	98.5	96.8	96.1	95.3	95.2	95.2	95.1	95.1	95.2
USA	102.3	103.6	107.3	110.1	110.1	110.2	110.1	110.0	110.2

Indices of
producer prices for
total industry,
in national currency
(1990 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.9

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
EUR15	101.1	102.4	104.1	106.2	106.1	105.9	106.6	107.3	107.6
B	102.9	106.4	112.0	109.7	109.6	110.3	110.9	110.6	109.5
DK	102.5	103.8	110.9	111.8	112.1	112.2	112.6	112.6	111.7
D	110.2	111.6	116.6	113.4	113.7	114.2	113.9	113.4	113.0
EL	109.7	109.6	114.0	121.5	122.1	121.6	123.6	125.6	:
E	91.7	89.4	92.8	95.1	94.9	95.0	95.3	95.2	95.0
F	104.9	106.0	109.2	110.0	110.6	110.2	110.6	110.9	110.3
IRL	101.4	104.2	105.0	110.8	110.6	109.4	110.4	111.0	113.6
I	90.4	90.1	87.3	97.7	97.0	96.8	97.9	98.7	98.1
L	110.1	114.7	121.9	118.8	118.9	120.1	119.2	118.6	117.5
NL	106.5	108.1	114.5	113.9	114.3	115.0	115.0	114.5	113.6
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	75.4	83.1	91.6	88.9	89.1	90.2	90.3	90.8	89.7
S	86.0	89.2	94.7	105.8	105.4	104.5	105.4	107.1	104.7
UK	102.1	105.1	102.0	104.0	103.1	101.8	104.1	107.2	111.6
Japan	139.3	146.5	144.2	128.2	125.9	126.2	125.2	123.4	121.9
USA	110.9	110.9	104.2	111.7	110.1	109.1	110.2	111.1	109.7

Indices of
producer prices for
total industry,
in ECU terms
(1990 = 100)


Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.12

EUR15 producer price index by main industrial grouping, in national currency (1990 = 100)

Total industry —
Intermediate goods - - -
Capital goods —
Consumer durables —
Consumer non-durables - - -

Source: 

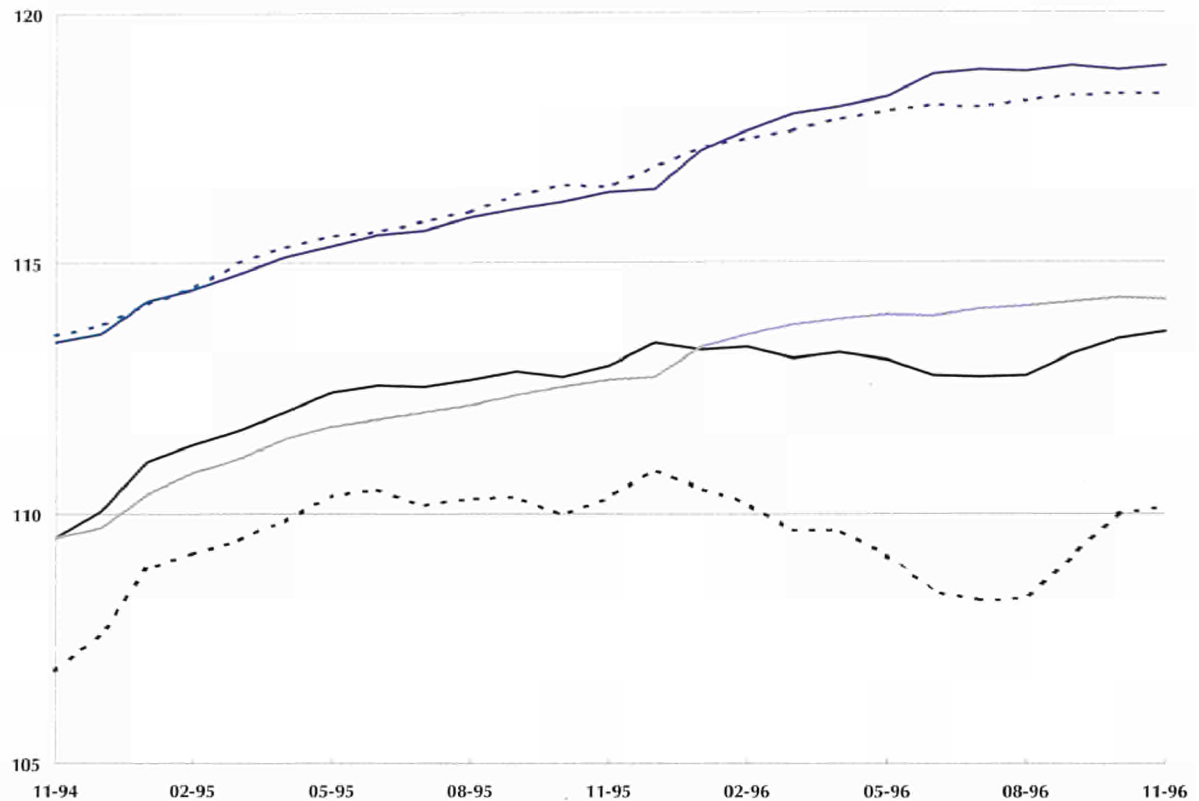


Table 2.10

TRIAD comparison of indices of producer prices for the main industrial groupings, in national currency (1990 = 100)

1993 1994 1995 06-96 07-96 08-96 09-96 10-96 11-96

	1993	1994	1995	06-96	07-96	08-96	09-96	10-96	11-96
Total industry									
EUR15	106.1	108.2	112.3	112.7	112.7	112.8	113.2	113.5	113.6
Japan	98.5	96.8	96.1	95.3	95.2	95.2	95.1	95.1	95.2
USA	102.3	103.6	107.3	110.1	110.1	110.2	110.1	110.0	110.2
Intermediate goods									
EUR15	103.0	105.0	110.0	108.4	108.3	108.3	109.1	110.0	110.1
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods									
EUR15	107.9	109.0	111.8	113.9	114.1	114.1	114.2	114.3	114.3
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer durables									
EUR15	109.9	112.7	115.5	118.8	118.9	118.8	118.9	118.8	118.9
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer non-durables									
EUR15	109.6	112.4	115.7	118.1	118.1	118.2	118.3	118.4	118.4
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: 

DOMESTIC PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

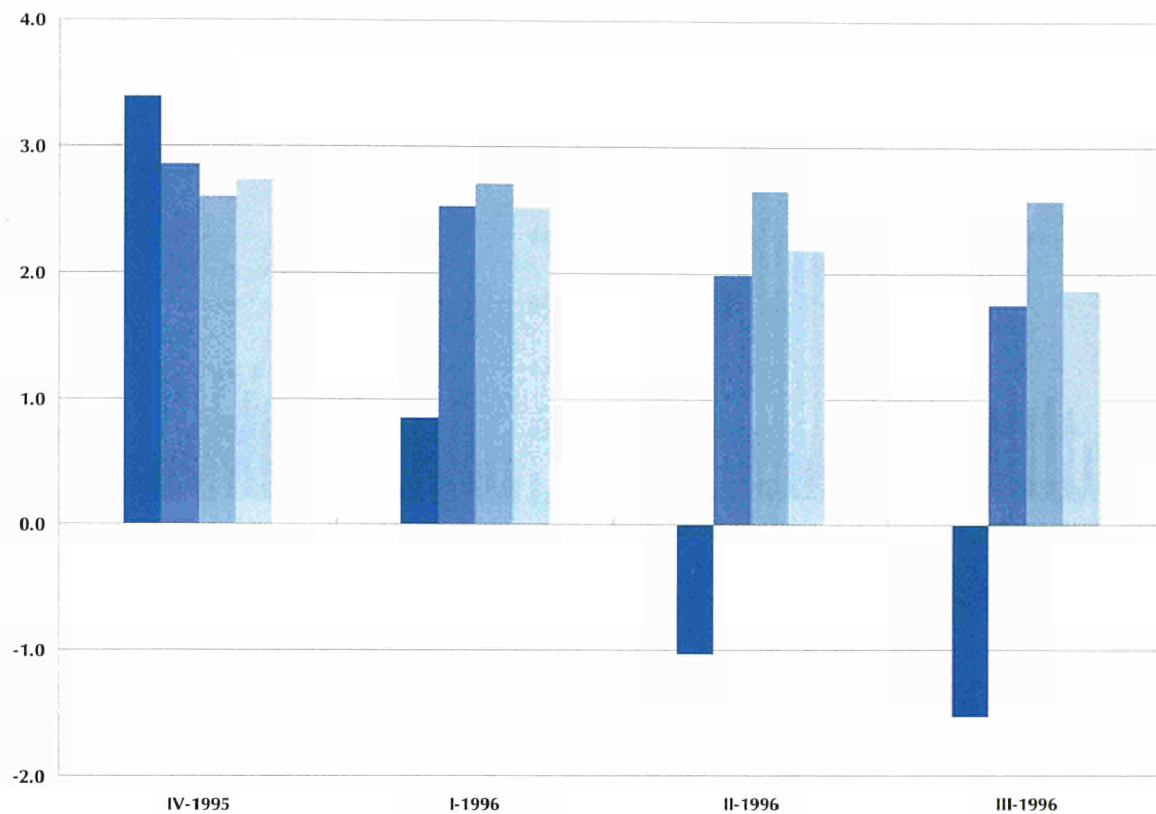


Figure 2.13

EUR15 annual growth rates of producer prices for the main industrial groupings (%)

- Intermediate goods
- Capital goods
- Consumer durables
- Consumer non-durables

Source: eurostat

Latest month available Total industry Intermediate goods Capital goods Consumer durables Consumer non-durables

	Latest month available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	11-96	0.6	-0.1	1.4	2.2	1.6
B	11-96	0.6	0.4	0.3	:	-0.3
DK	11-96	1.2	2.0	0.5	2.5	0.5
D	11-96	-0.3	-1.4	1.1	1.1	0.5
EL	10-96	7.4	6.6	8.2	6.1	8.4
E	11-96	1.6	0.2	2.1	3.1	3.3
F	11-96	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.3	1.0
IRL	12-96	0.8	:	:	:	-0.3
I	11-96	0.6	-0.6	2.4	5.0	1.2
L	11-96	-0.1	-7.5	1.4	1.1	2.7
NL	11-96	2.6	2.8	0.3	1.0	1.2
A		:	:	:	:	:
P		:	:	:	:	:
FIN	12-96	-0.3	-1.1	1.6	-1.9	1.0
S	12-96	-0.6	-2.0	0.6	3.7	-0.6
UK	12-96	-0.2	-1.0	1.6	1.7	1.9
Japan	11-96	-0.6	:	:	:	:
USA	11-96	2.2	:	:	:	:

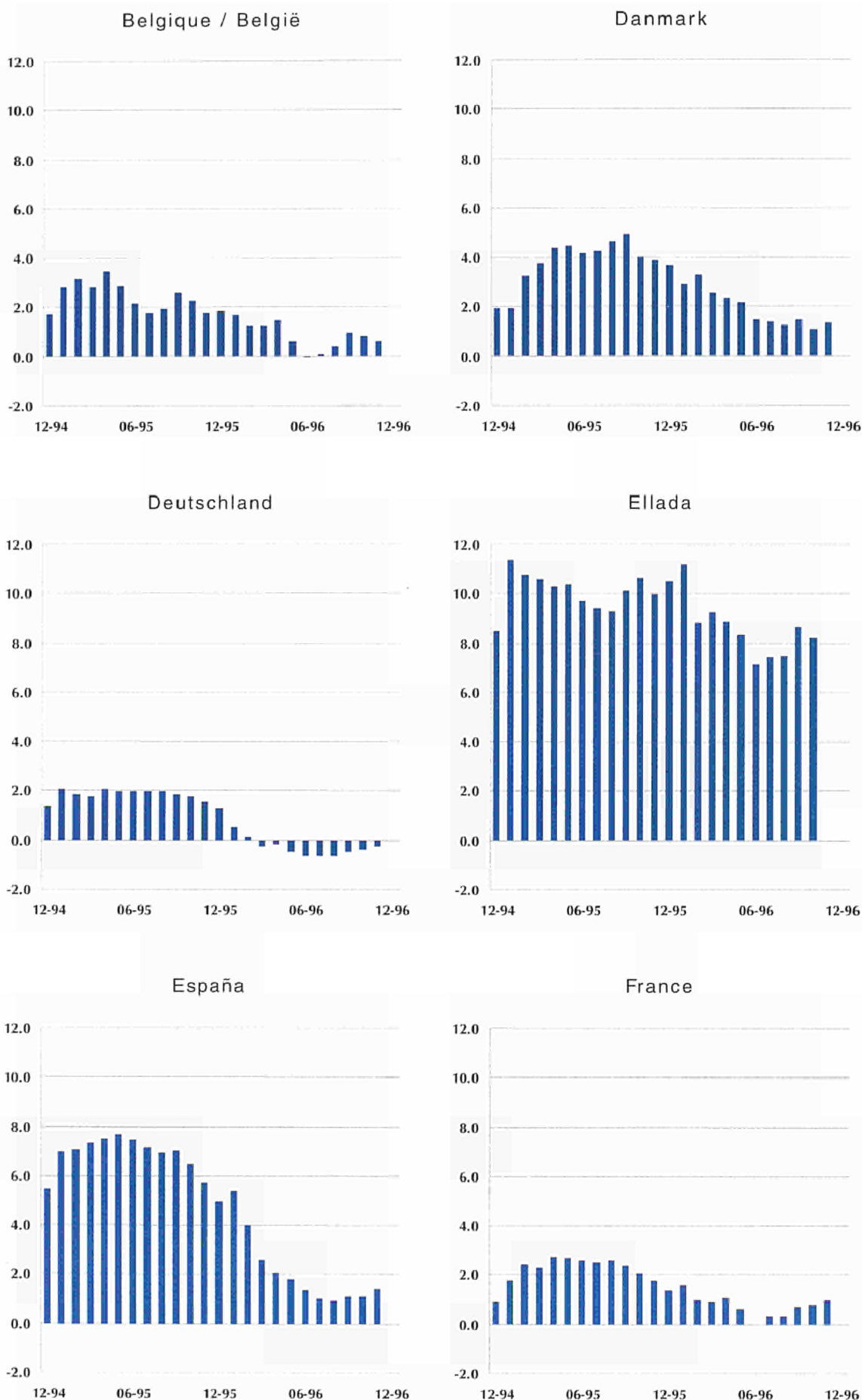
Table 2.11

Annual growth rates of the producer price index of the main industrial groupings, in national currency (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.14

Annual growth rates of producer prices for total industry, in national currency (%)



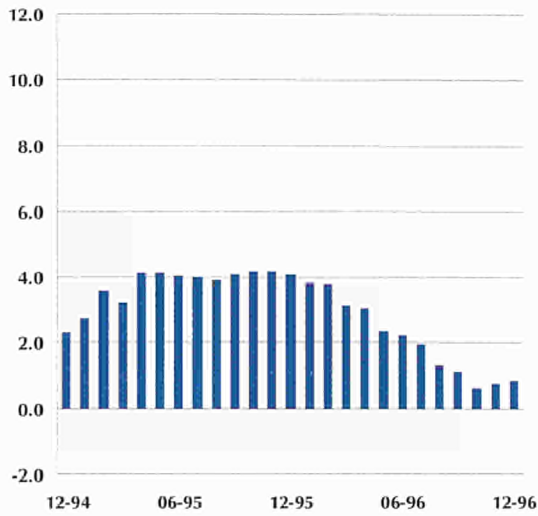
Source: eurostat

DOMESTIC PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

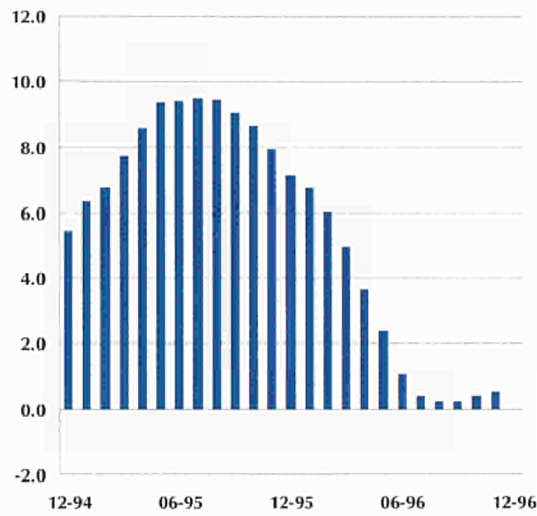
Figure 2.14

Annual growth rates of producer prices for total industry, in national currency (%)

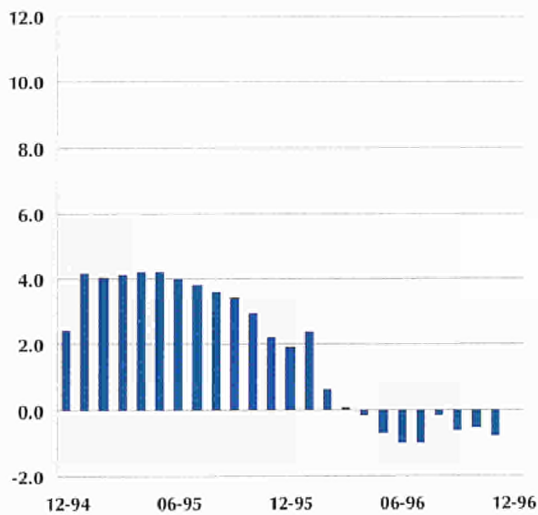
Ireland



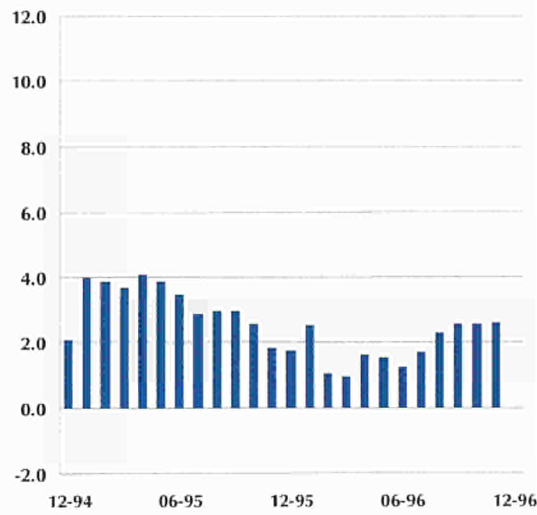
Italia



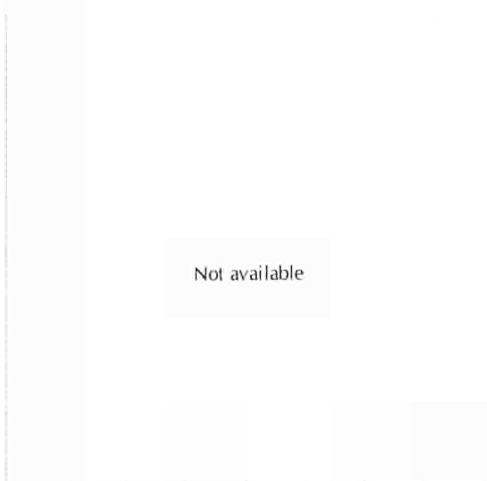
Luxembourg



Nederland



Österreich



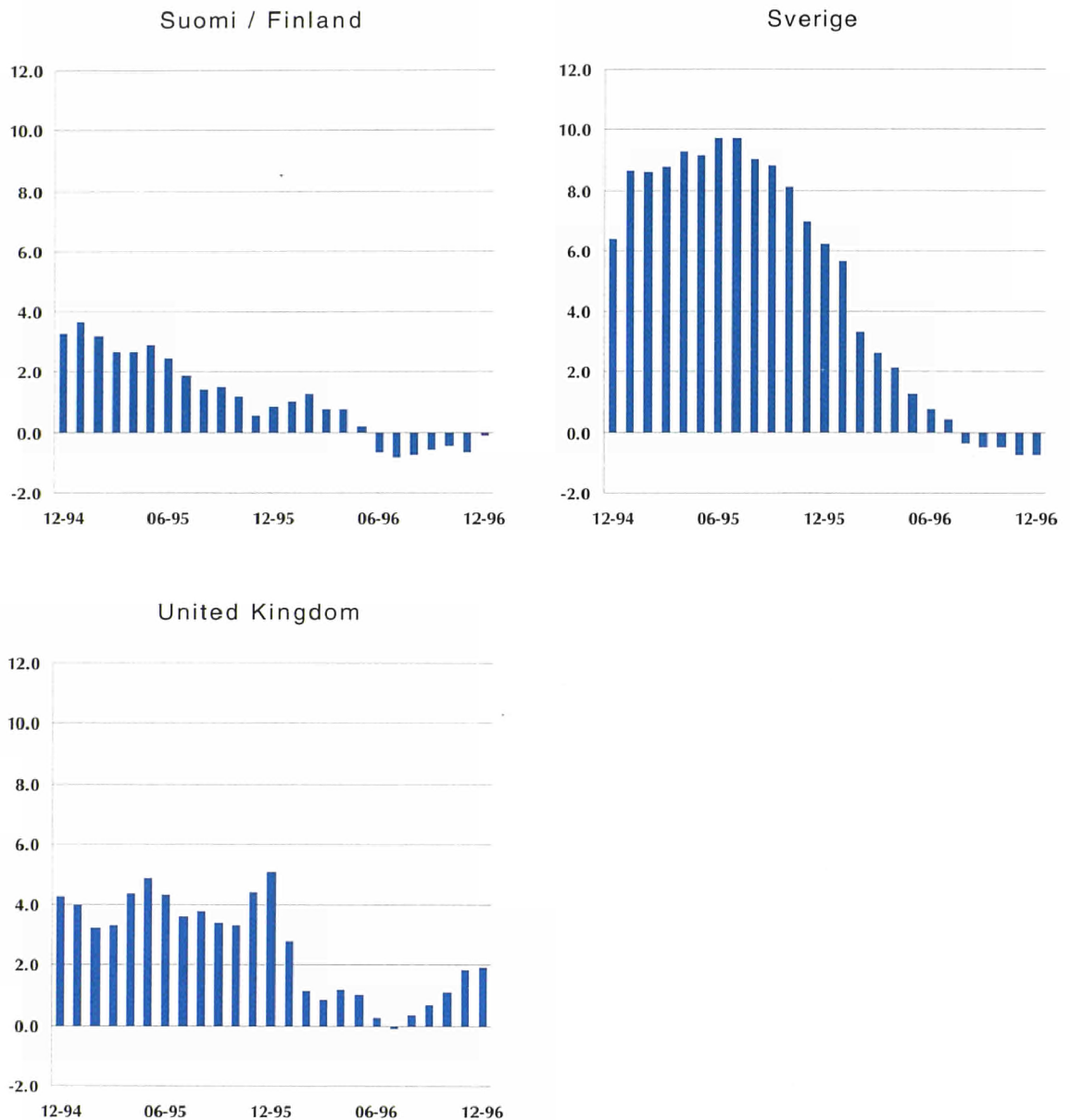
Portugal



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.14

Annual growth rates of producer prices for total industry, in national currency (%)



Further information - price indices:

The index of producer prices shows (in the national currency of the Member State in question) changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic market. Since we deal with producer prices, imports are not included in these price indices. The Community indices (EUR13, since there are no producer price indices for Portugal and Austria) refer to overall weighted price changes. Producer price indices are not seasonally adjusted.

The system used for the collection of export price indices is a duplicate of the model for domestic producer price indices.

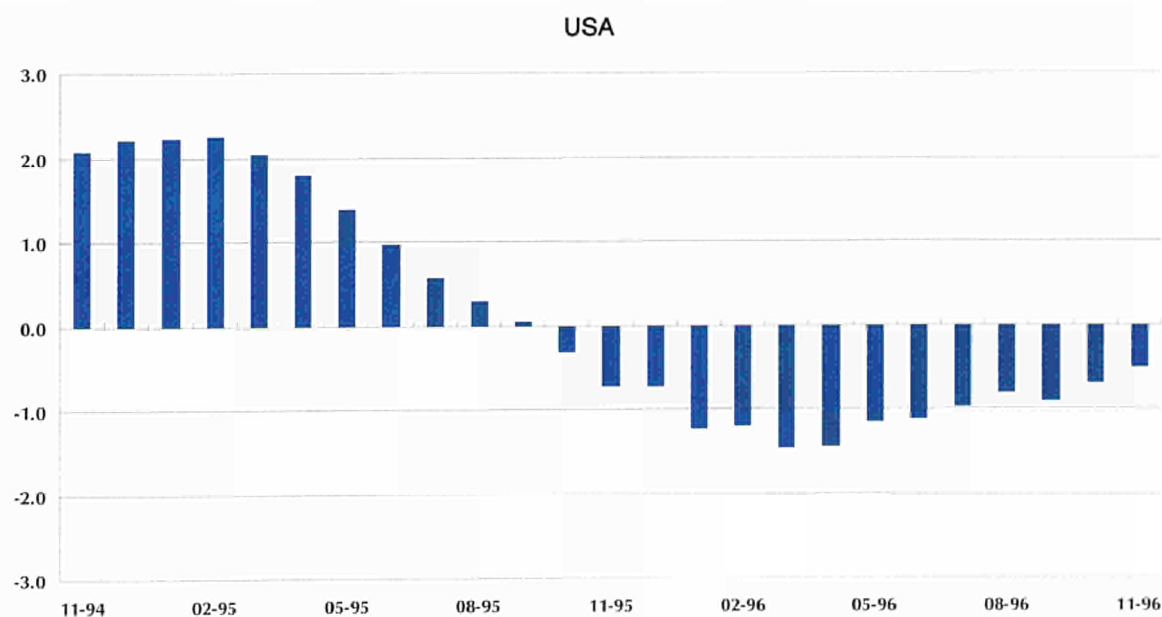
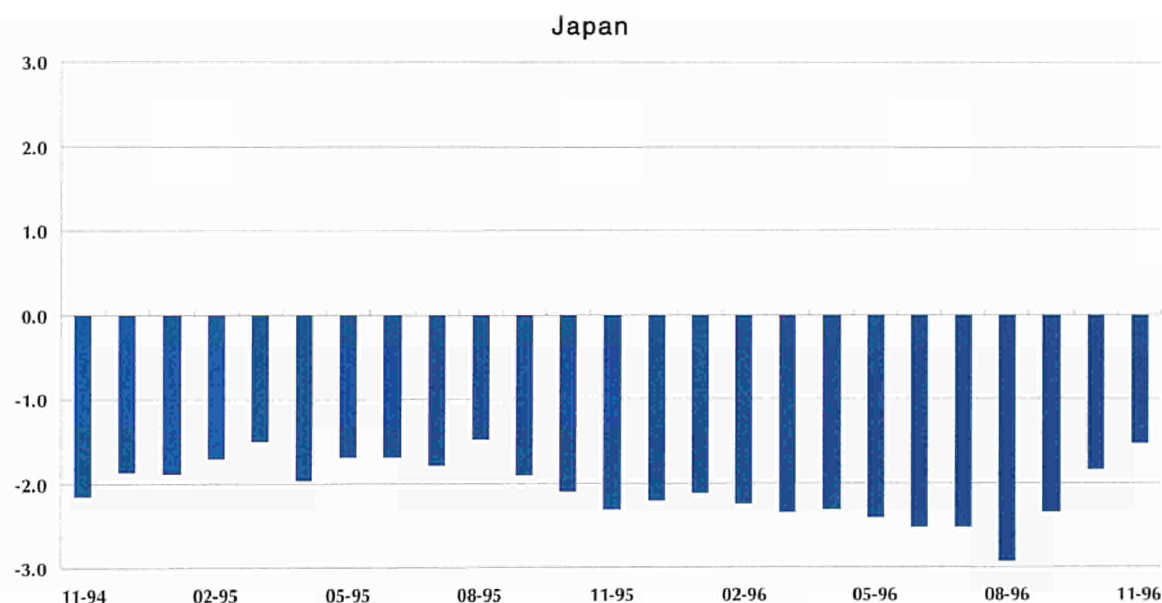
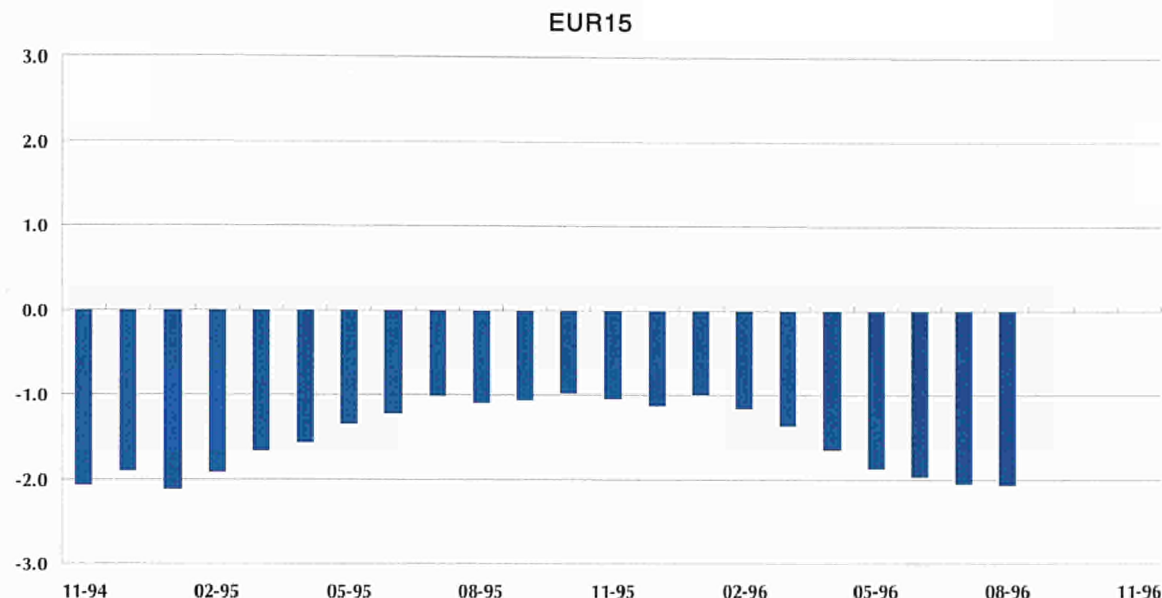
All data from Ireland is converted to NACE Rev.1 from the old classification NACE 1970 and is therefore less reliable.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 71.

EMPLOYMENT INDEX - GROSS DATA

Figure 2.15

TRIAD comparison of annual growth rates of employment for total industry, gross data (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.16

EUR15 employment index by main industrial grouping, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

Total industry —
Intermediate goods - - -
Capital goods —
Consumer durables —
Consumer non-durables - - -

Source: 

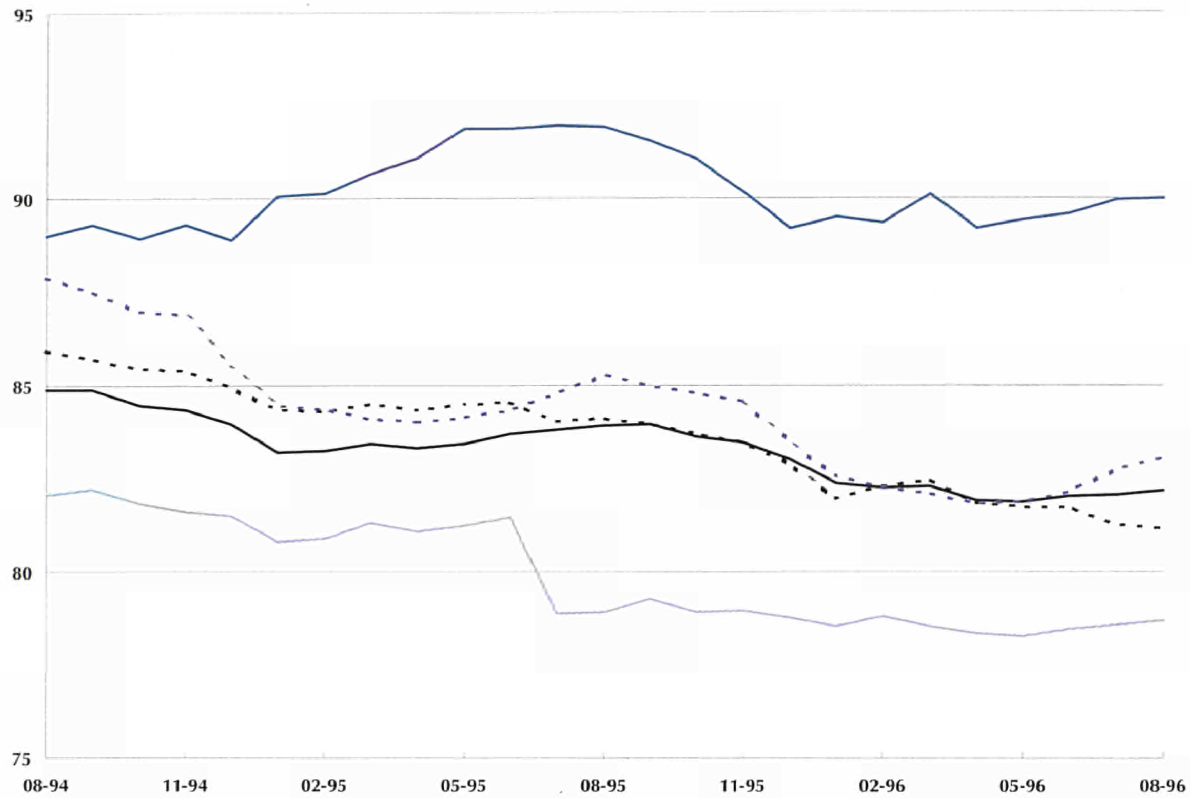


Table 2.12

Three month on three month growth rates for the employment index of the main industrial groupings, trend cycle (%)

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-0.6	-1.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6
B	06-96	⇒ 08-96	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	:	:
DK	10-93	⇒ 12-93	0.2	0.6	-0.3	:	0.0
D	09-96	⇒ 11-96	-1.3	-1.8	-1.1	-1.9	-0.9
EL	01-96	⇒ 03-96	-0.7	-1.7	-3.2	-1.3	0.1
E	07-96	⇒ 09-96	2.0	1.0	4.0	2.7	0.7
F	07-96	⇒ 09-96	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4
IRL	01-96	⇒ 03-96	1.4	0.3	4.3	:	:
I	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-0.5	-1.1	-0.4	0.4	-0.9
L	08-96	⇒ 10-96	-0.8	-0.8	0.7	-3.1	-1.0
NL	10-94	⇒ 12-94	-0.3	-0.7	:	:	-0.7
A	10-95	⇒ 12-95	-1.0	-0.9	-0.8	1.9	-2.7
P	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-0.7	-1.1	-1.1	1.5	0.1
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S	07-96	⇒ 09-96	0.1	:	:	:	:
UK	09-96	⇒ 11-96	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.6	-0.6
Japan	09-96	⇒ 11-96	-0.2	:	:	:	:
USA	09-96	⇒ 11-96	-0.1	:	:	:	:

Source: 

EMPLOYMENT INDEX - GROSS DATA

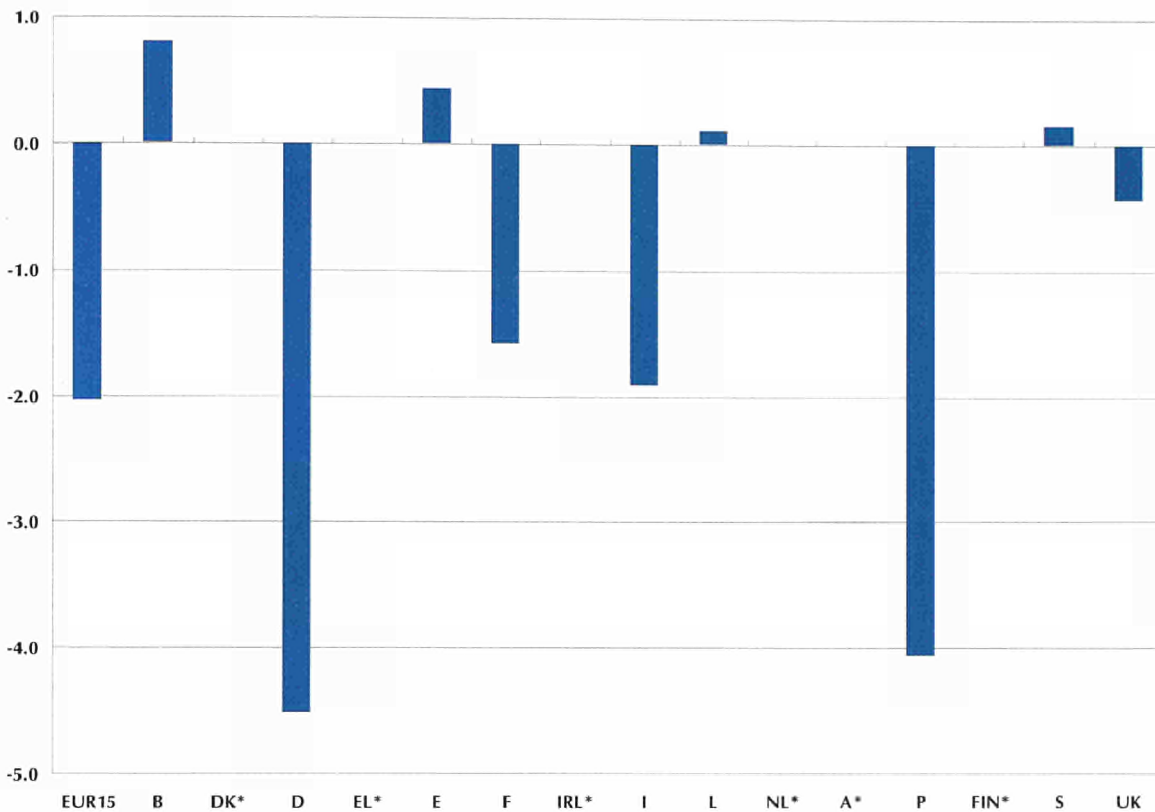


Figure 2.17

Annual growth rates for the employment index of total industry, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, gross data, June-96 to Aug-96 (%)

Source: eurostat

Latest 3 months available Total industry Intermediate goods Capital goods Consumer durables Consumer non-durables

	Latest 3 months available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EUR15	06-96 ⇨ 08-96	-2.0	-3.4	-1.5	-2.3	-2.5
B	06-96 ⇨ 08-96	0.8	0.4	2.1	:	:
DK	10-93 ⇨ 12-93	-4.0	-3.4	-7.5	:	-1.6
D	09-96 ⇨ 11-96	-4.8	-6.5	-3.6	-8.3	-3.5
EL	01-96 ⇨ 03-96	-2.0	-1.6	4.1	-4.2	-3.8
E	07-96 ⇨ 09-96	1.3	-1.3	5.5	3.6	0.2
F	07-96 ⇨ 09-96	-1.6	-1.7	-1.1	-2.2	-2.2
IRL	01-96 ⇨ 03-96	5.1	3.6	16.1	:	:
I	06-96 ⇨ 08-96	-1.9	-4.3	-2.0	1.3	-3.7
L	08-96 ⇨ 10-96	-0.2	0.6	1.5	-8.6	-4.2
NL	10-94 ⇨ 12-94	-2.8	-3.0	:	:	-4.4
A	10-95 ⇨ 12-95	-2.0	-0.9	-5.3	7.5	-11.8
P	06-96 ⇨ 08-96	-4.1	-5.0	-4.2	2.2	-4.0
FIN	⇨	:	:	:	:	:
S	07-96 ⇨ 09-96	-0.3	:	:	:	:
UK	09-96 ⇨ 11-96	-0.4	0.1	3.9	-3.3	-1.1
Japan	09-96 ⇨ 11-96	-1.9	:	:	:	:
USA	09-96 ⇨ 11-96	-0.7	:	:	:	:

Table 2.13

Annual growth rates for the employment index of the main industrial groupings, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, gross data (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.18

EUR15 production and employment trends in construction, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

Total industry: production index —
 Construction: production index —
 Construction: employment index - - - -

Source:  eurostat

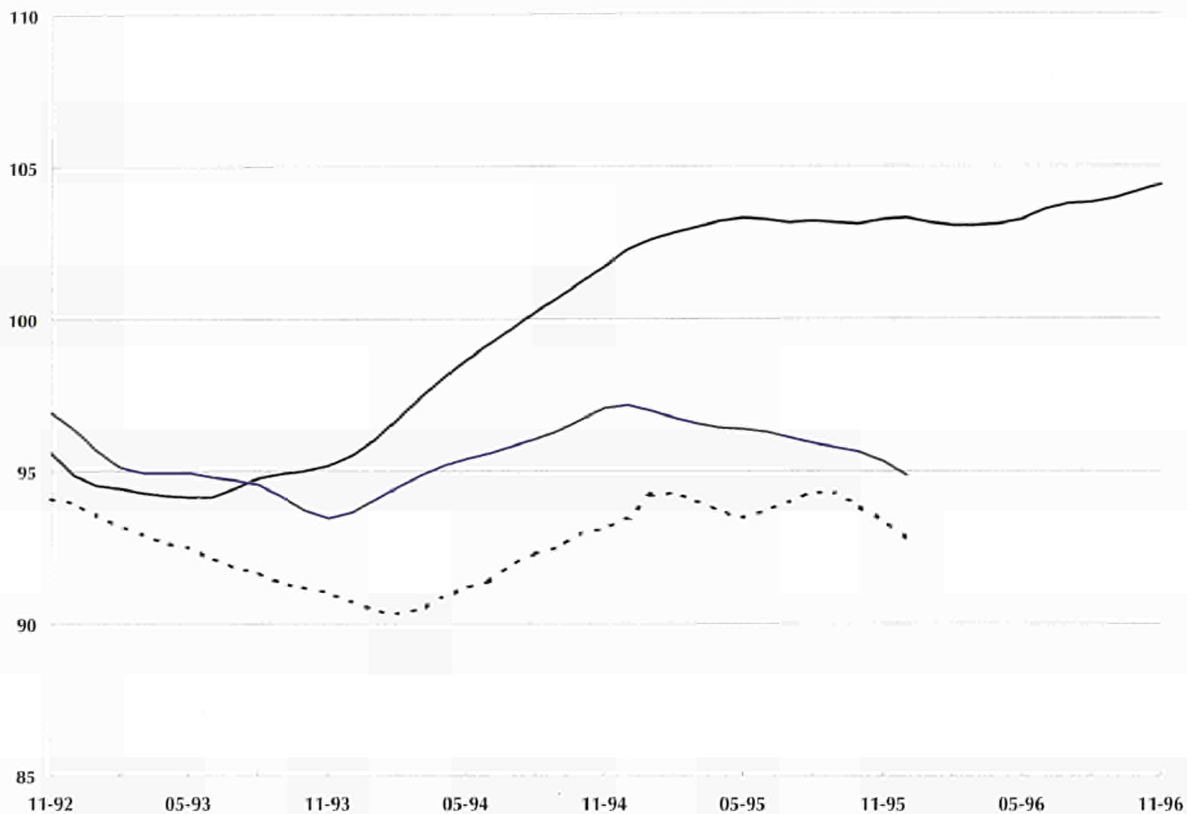
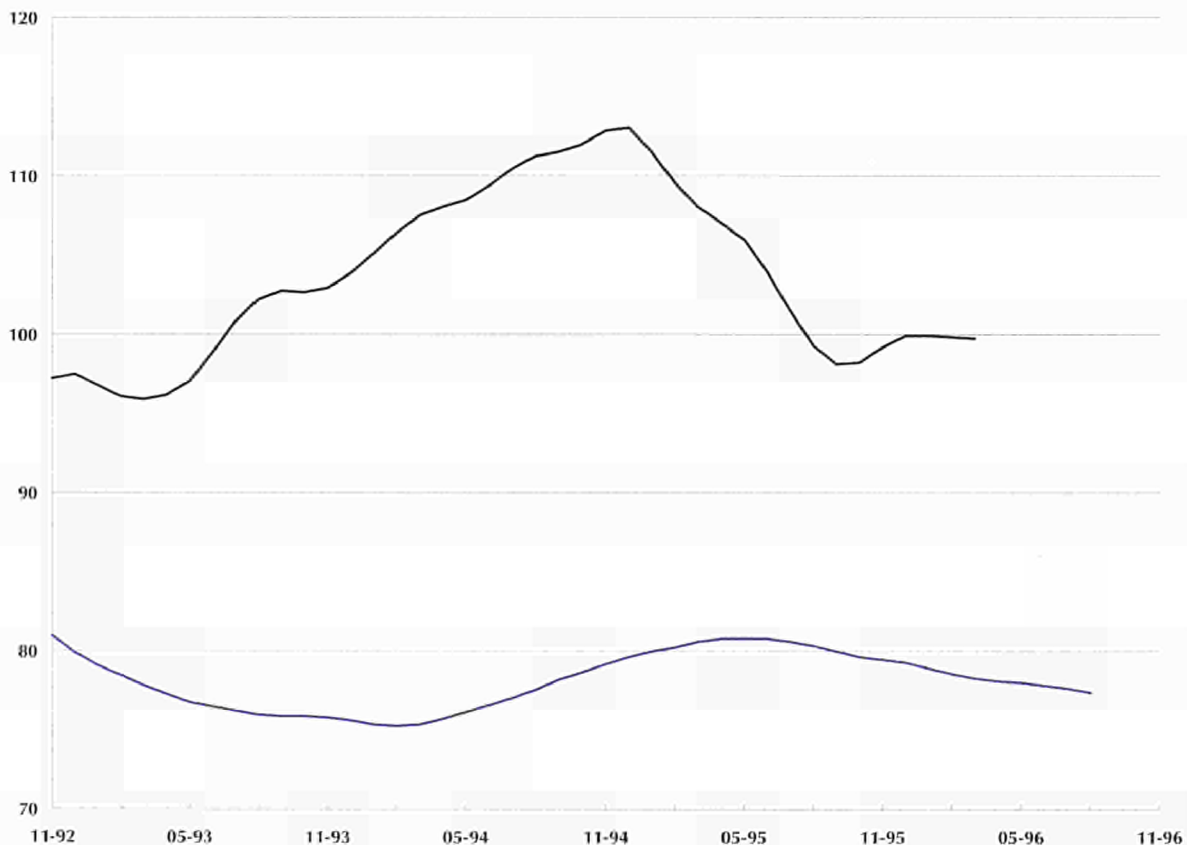


Figure 2.19

EUR15 building permits, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

Residential —
 Non-residential —

Source:  eurostat



PRODUCTION INDEX

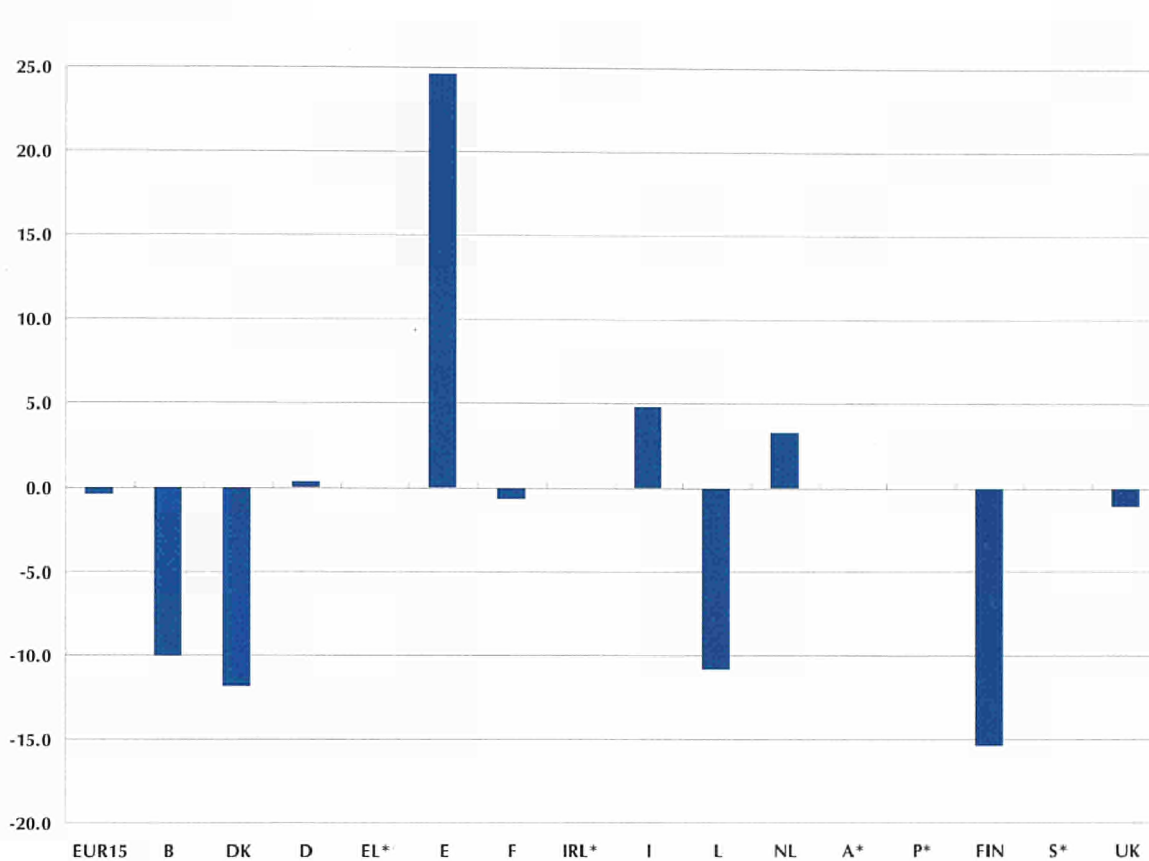


Figure 2.20

Annual growth rates for the production index of construction, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, w.d.adj., Oct-95 to Dec-95 (%)

Source: eurostat

Latest 3 months available

Building
t / t-4 t / t-1

Latest 3 months available

Civil engineering
t / t-4 t / t-1

Table 2.14

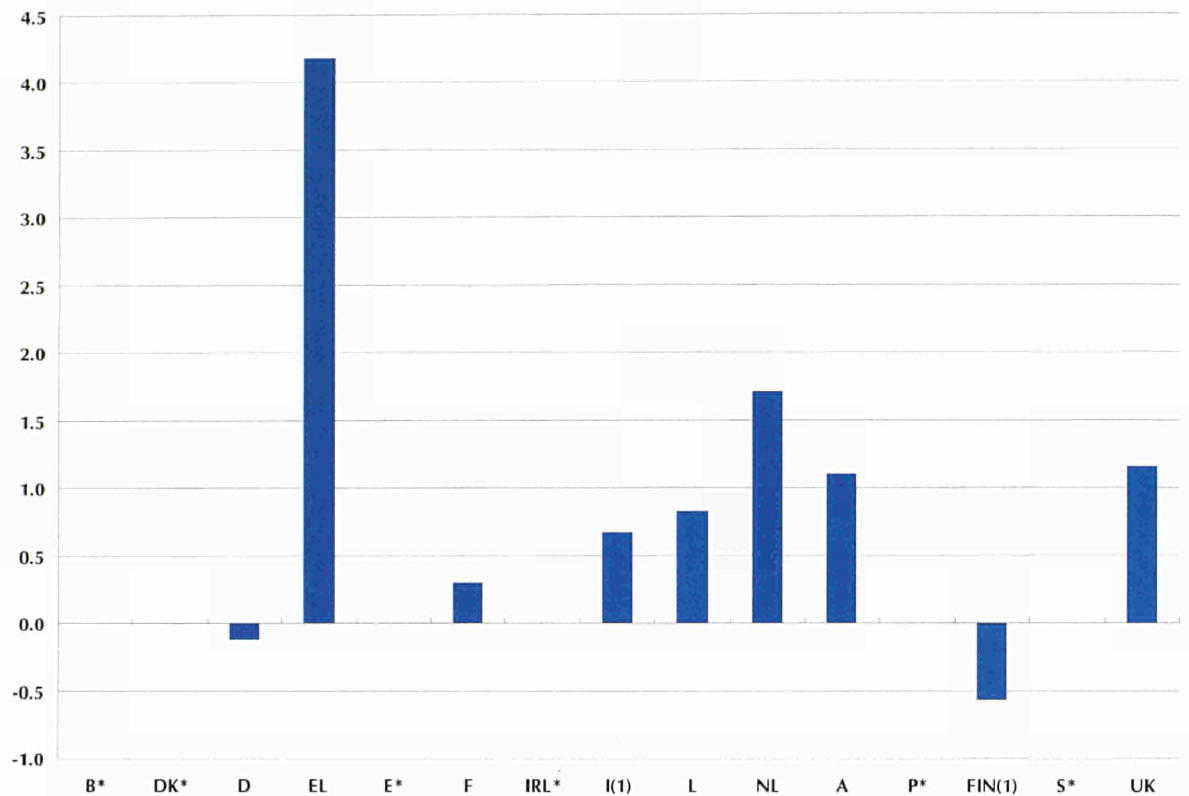
	Latest 3 months available		Building t / t-4 t / t-1		Latest 3 months available		Civil engineering t / t-4 t / t-1	
EUR15	04-96	⇒ 06-96	15.5	-1.8	10-95	⇒ 12-95	-2.0	7.6
B	09-94	⇒ 11-94	26.8	14.0	09-94	⇒ 11-94	28.9	24.4
DK	07-96	⇒ 09-96	1.0	-6.1	07-96	⇒ 09-96	0.9	-5.6
D	09-96	⇒ 11-96	5.0	-5.2	09-96	⇒ 11-96	2.4	-7.2
EL		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
E	07-96	⇒ 09-96	4.0	8.2	07-96	⇒ 09-96	8.0	-4.0
F	09-96	⇒ 11-96	10.9	-5.3	09-96	⇒ 11-96	17.4	-4.5
IRL		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
I	04-96	⇒ 06-96	1.4	4.4	10-95	⇒ 12-95	-9.1	7.5
L	08-96	⇒ 10-96	-18.3	2.3	08-96	⇒ 10-96	-18.3	-8.8
NL	04-96	⇒ 06-96	43.4	3.0		⇒	:	:
A		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
P		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
FIN	04-96	⇒ 06-96	-3.1	-1.7	04-96	⇒ 06-96	25.6	4.9
S		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
UK	04-96	⇒ 06-96	0.2	1.0	04-96	⇒ 06-96	-2.9	-8.1

Latest growth rates for the production index of construction (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.21

Annual growth rates of output prices for new residential buildings, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year, Apr-96 to Jun-96 (%)



(1) Input prices

Source: eurostat

Table 2.15

Output price indices for new residential buildings, quarterly data (1990 = 100)

	III-1994	IV-1994	I-1995	II-1995	III-1995	IV-1995	I-1996	II-1996
EUR15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK (1)	113.4	115.1	116.0	116.8	117.6	:	:	:
D	123.1	124.5	124.6	124.5	124.2	124.2	124.1	:
EL	160.0	161.7	163.0	165.9	170.3	171.7	172.8	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	106.5	107.7	107.8	106.7	109.3	108.4	:	:
IRL (1)	115.5	115.7	116.5	117.5	117.4	:	:	:
I (1)	121.7	123.3	123.8	123.9	123.9	124.2	126.3	:
L	116.7	116.7	117.7	117.7	118.0	118.0	:	:
NL	118.0	118.0	119.0	119.0	121.0	121.0	:	:
A	119.1	120.0	120.5	120.5	121.2	121.8	122.1	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN (1)	102.6	102.4	102.4	102.0	100.8	101.5	102.2	102.7
S	94.1	81.7	99.7	87.7	:	:	:	:
UK	100.2	101.4	102.1	102.4	102.5	102.9	104.0	:

(1) Input prices

Source: eurostat

BUILDING PERMITS - USEFUL FLOOR AREA

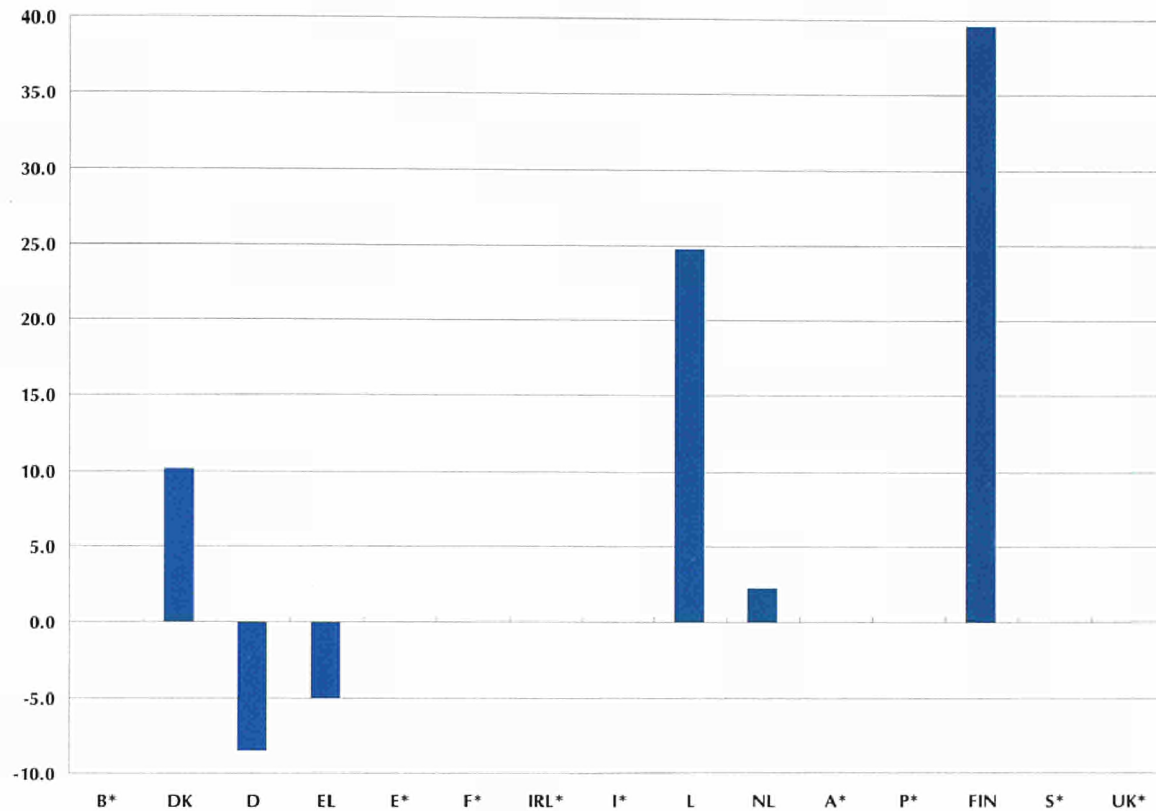


Figure 2.22

Annual growth rates of building permits (useful floor area), based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, Jul-96 to Sep-96 (%)

Source: eurostat

Latest 3 months available Residential '000m² 1990=100 Latest 3 months available Non-residential '000m² 1990=100

Table 2.16

EUR15	Latest 3 months available		Residential '000m ² 1990=100		Latest 3 months available		Non-residential '000m ² 1990=100		
	⇨		:	:	06-96	⇨	08-96	:	83.9
B	06-96	⇨ 08-96	2,628	103.5	06-96	⇨	08-96	1,761	69.4
DK	07-96	⇨ 09-96	546	132.6	07-96	⇨	09-96	1,126	89.2
D	08-96	⇨ 10-96	12,766	139.3	08-96	⇨	10-96	10,732	112.4
EL	10-94	⇨ 12-94	3,054	84.0	10-94	⇨	12-94	1,098	81.8
E	06-96	⇨ 08-96	10,583	104.4	06-96	⇨	08-96	1,540	50.4
F		⇨	:	:	07-96	⇨	09-96	8,990	68.6
IRL	01-96	⇨ 03-96	1,114	147.3	01-96	⇨	03-96	637	89.1
I	12-95	⇨ 02-96	2,713	56.7	12-95	⇨	02-96	4,665	64.7
L	07-96	⇨ 09-96	:	76.4	07-96	⇨	09-96	:	114.1
NL	07-96	⇨ 09-96	3,863	117.4	07-96	⇨	09-96	4,034	81.2
A		⇨	:	:		⇨		:	:
P		⇨	:	:		⇨		:	:
FIN	09-96	⇨ 11-96	:	43.8	09-96	⇨	11-96	:	41.5
S		⇨	:	:		⇨		:	:
UK		⇨	:	:		⇨		:	:

Building permits (useful floor area) for residential and non-residential buildings (thousand square metres and indices)

Source: eurostat

BUILDING PERMITS - NUMBER OF DWELLINGS

Figure 2.23

Annual growth rates of building permits (no. of dwellings), based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, Jan-96 to Mar-96 (%)

(1) Buildings starts

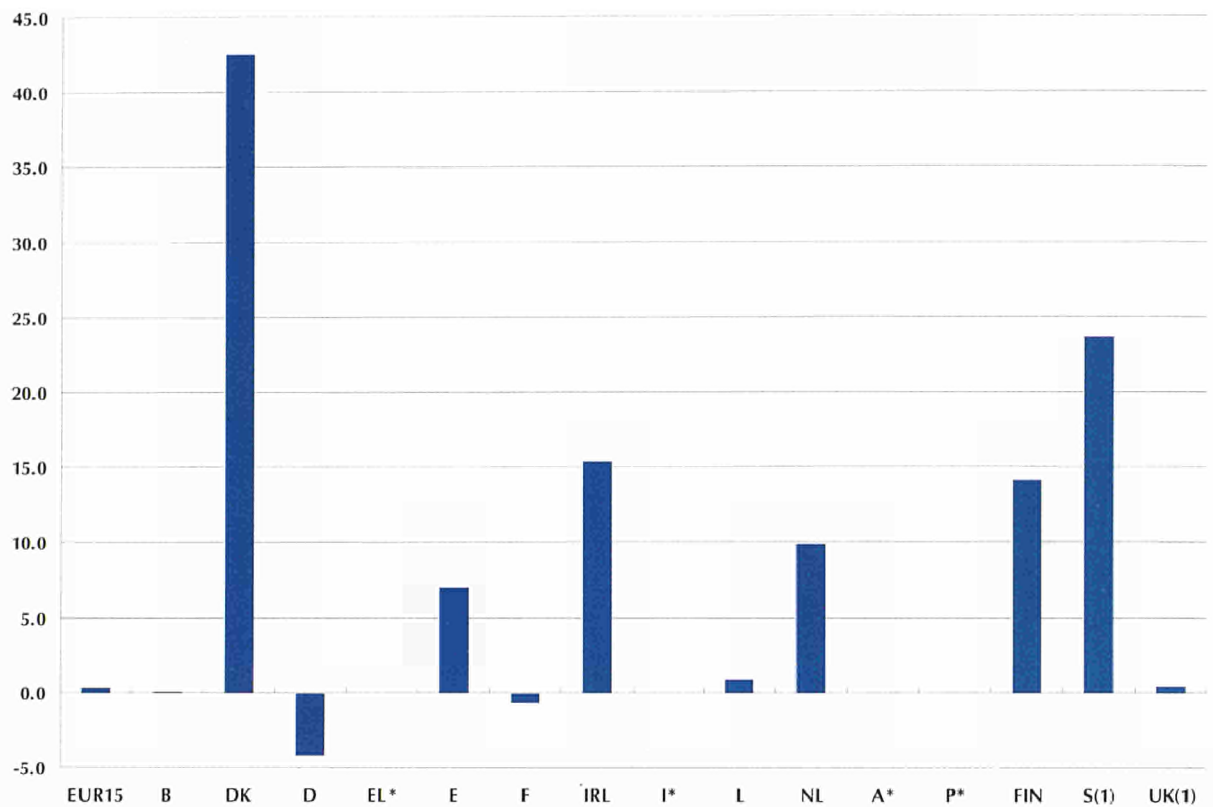
Source:  eurostat

Table 2.17

Number of dwellings authorised (units)

(1) Buildings starts

Source:  eurostat

	Latest year available	no. of dwellings	Latest month available	no. of dwellings	no. of dwellings per 1000 inhabitants	Index, 1990 = 100
EUR15		:	03-96	:	:	105.6
B	1995	44,956	12-95	3,658	0.36	84.0
DK	1995	11,552	12-95	979	0.19	61.4
D	1995	639,101	12-95	65,216	0.80	197.3
EL	1994	80,607	12-94	11,765	1.13	117.4
E	1995	282,530	12-95	25,253	0.64	129.8
F	1995	308,267	12-95	24,452	0.42	76.4
IRL	1995	28,837	12-95	2,070	0.45	112.5
I	1995	173,608	12-95	11,344	0.20	64.7
L	1995	2,676	12-95	235	0.58	74.3
NL	1995	98,404	12-95	11,077	0.72	148.1
A		:		:	:	:
P	1995	76,946	12-95	6,913	0.70	:
FIN	1995	18,840	12-95	963	0.19	19.7
S (1)	1995	12,044	12-95	3,011	0.34	51.9
UK (1)	1995	167,700	12-95	9,100	0.16	66.5

CAPACITY UTILISATION RATES

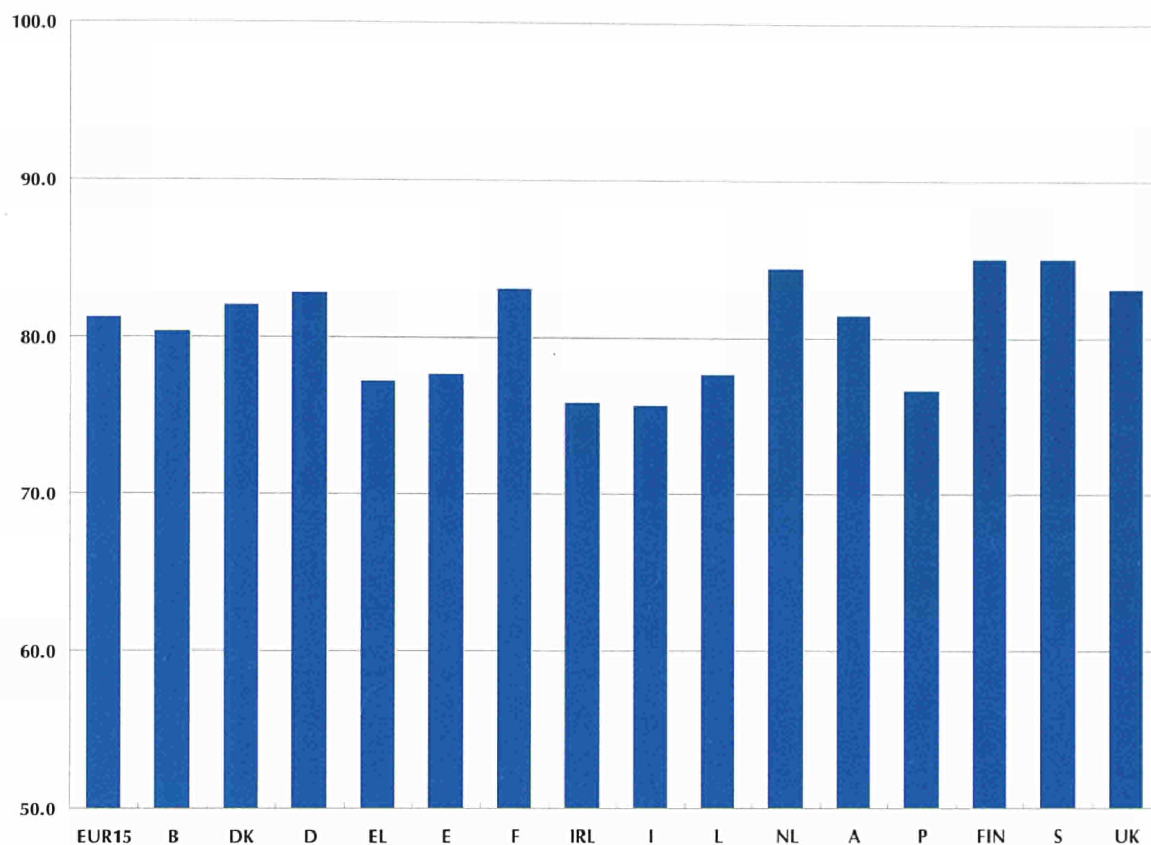


Figure 2.24

Capacity utilisation rates for total industry, fourth quarter 1996 (%)

Source: DGII, Business Survey

Annual growth rate:
latest quarter, t / t-4

I-1996

II-1996

III-1996

IV-1996

Table 2.18

	Annual growth rate: latest quarter, t / t-4	I-1996	II-1996	III-1996	IV-1996
EUR15	-1.7	81.8	80.8	81.2	81.2
B	0.1	78.7	79.1	79.7	80.3
DK	0.0	81.0	80.0	82.0	82.0
D	-2.2	83.2	82.0	82.6	82.8
EL	-1.4	76.3	73.5	75.1	77.2
E	-0.3	77.5	76.1	77.1	77.6
F	-3.3	84.4	84.7	84.4	83.0
IRL	-7.8	82.1	74.4	76.3	75.8
I	-2.6	78.5	76.0	75.8	75.6
L	-4.9	78.8	80.7	79.0	77.6
NL	0.2	83.6	83.5	84.2	84.4
A	:	80.2	78.6	80.6	81.4
P	-2.5	77.0	76.8	78.2	76.6
FIN	-1.7	84.0	81.2	83.0	85.0
S	:	:	85.0	85.0	85.0
UK	-1.0	82.9	82.1	82.4	83.0

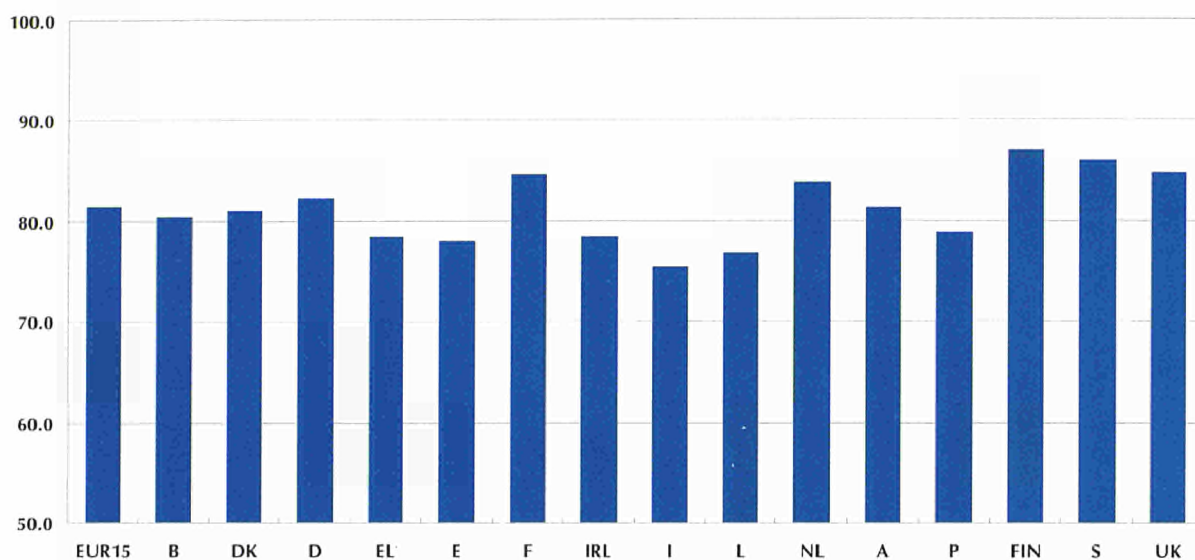
Capacity utilisation rates for total industry (%)

Source: DGII, Business Survey

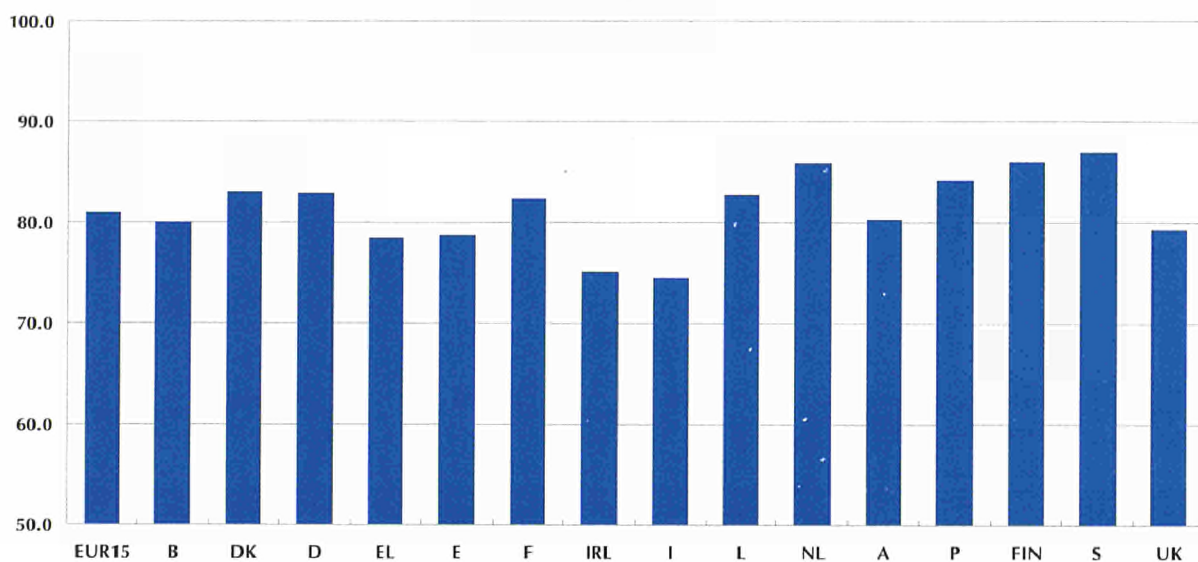
Figure 2.25

Capacity utilisation rates for the main industrial groupings, fourth quarter 1996 (%)

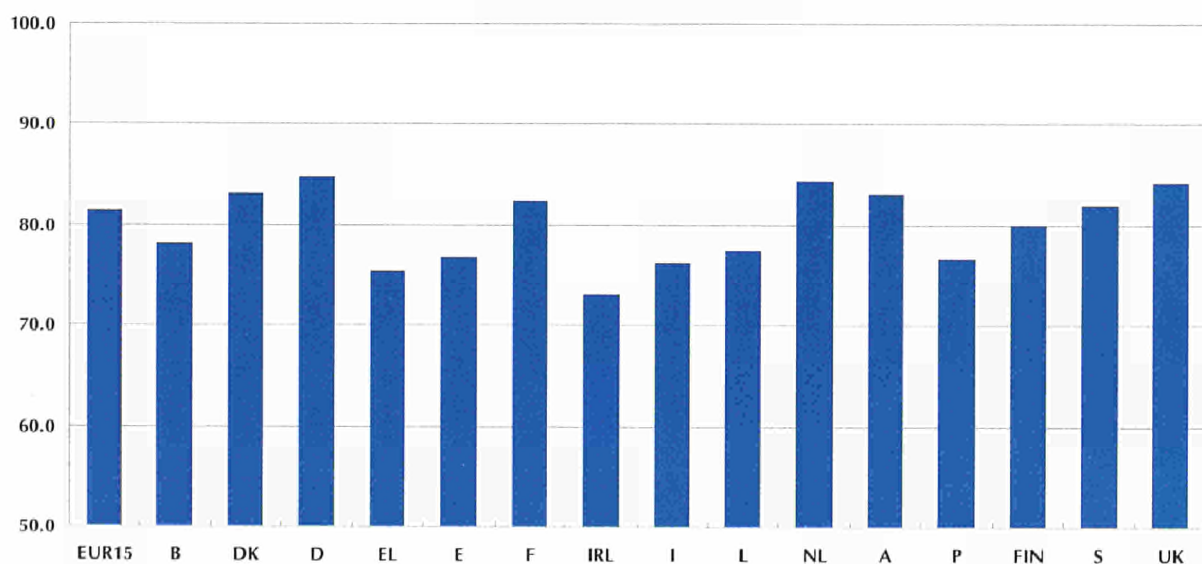
Intermediate goods



Capital goods



Consumer goods

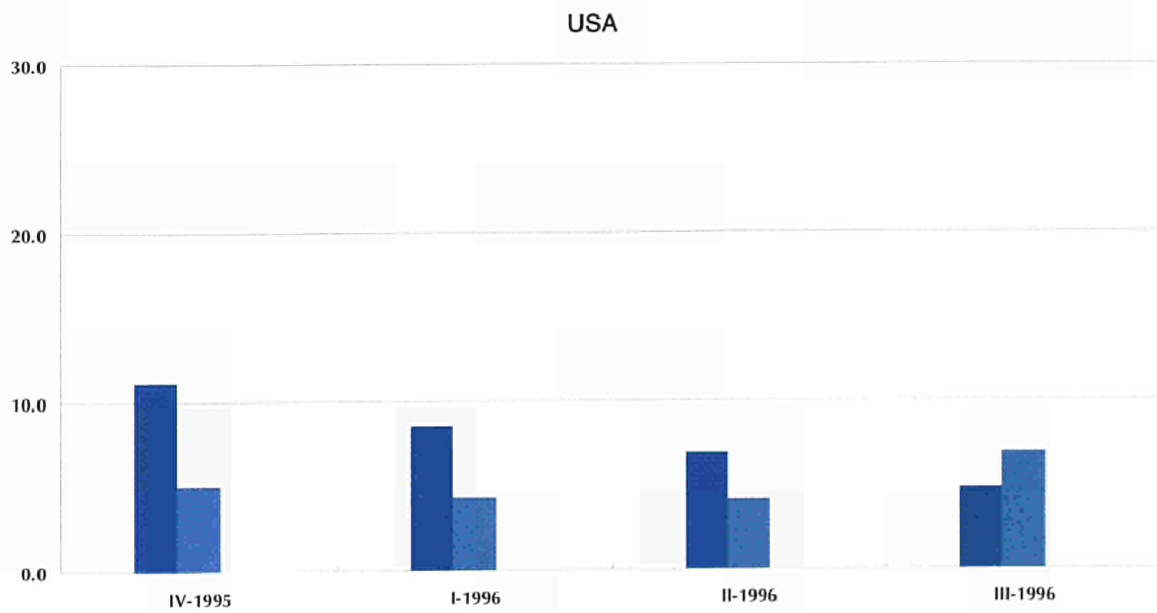
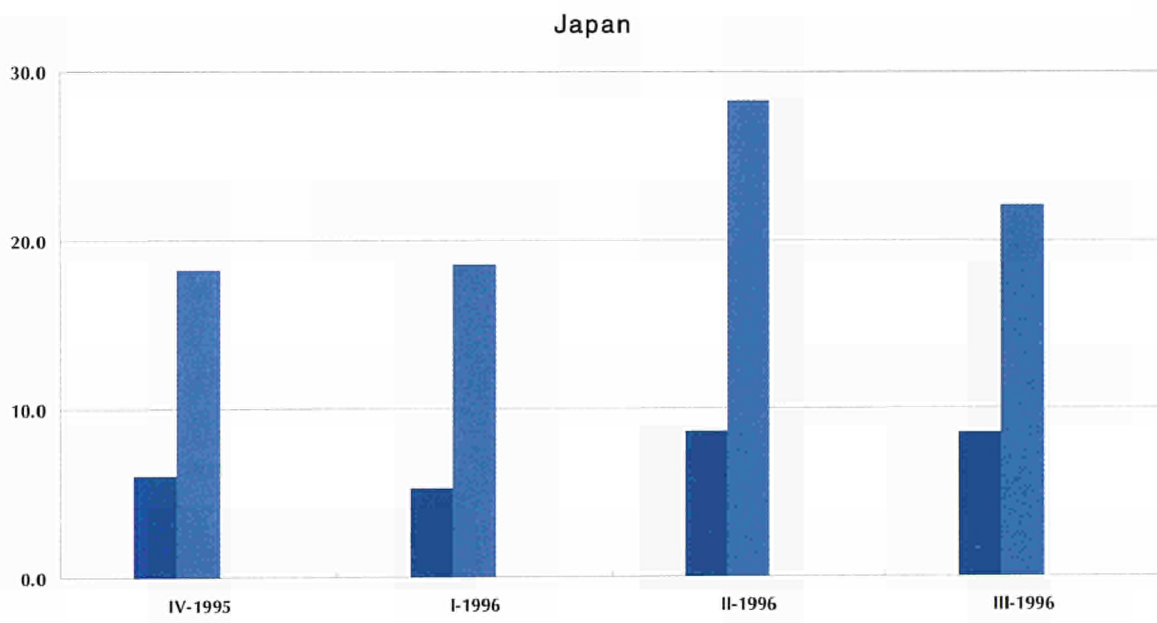
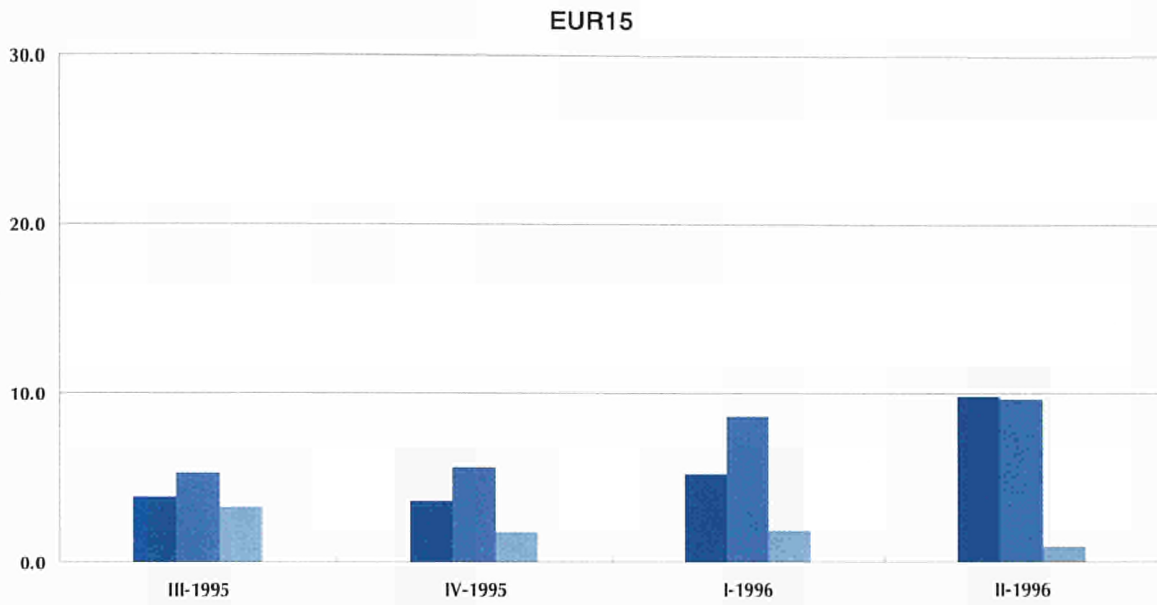


Source: DGII, Business Survey

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - GROSS DATA

Figure 2.26

TRIAD comparison of foreign trade indices for total industry, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year, gross data (%)



- Export value
- Import value
- Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.27

EUR15 foreign trade indices for total industry, trend cycle, in ECU terms (1990 = 100)

Export value index —
 Import value index —
 Terms of trade - - - -

Source:  eurostat

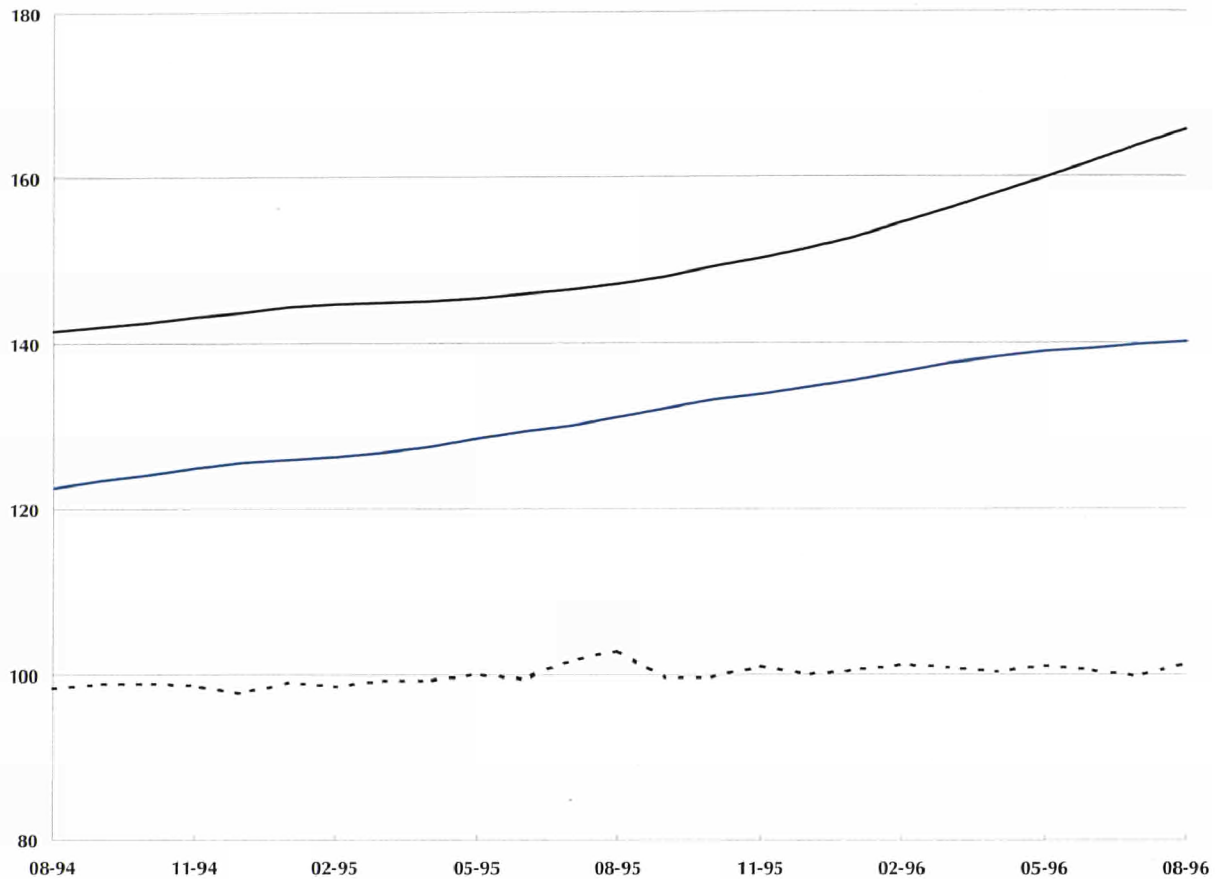


Table 2.19

Three month on three month growth rates for foreign trade indices, trend cycle, value indices are in ECU terms (%)

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EUR15	06-96	⇒ 08-96	3.6	2.1	1.1	0.5	-0.2
B/L	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-2.1	-2.6	-2.5	-2.9	0.4
DK	06-96	⇒ 08-96	1.1	0.6	-0.4	0.9	1.3
D	06-96	⇒ 08-96	1.1	2.0	0.6	-0.5	-0.8
EL	05-96	⇒ 07-96	:	:	:	:	:
E	06-96	⇒ 08-96	3.4	1.8	2.5	1.5	-1.0
F	06-96	⇒ 08-96	0.1	0.7	-1.8	-1.2	-1.2
IRL	05-96	⇒ 07-96	1.9	1.7	2.4	0.7	1.6
I	06-96	⇒ 08-96	1.0	1.0	-4.3	-2.2	1.7
NL	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-1.1	3.1	:	-0.9	-1.0
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-2.6	1.6	0.7	0.6	0.4
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	06-96	⇒ 08-96	1.2	1.5	0.3	-1.2	-2.0

Source:  eurostat

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - GROSS DATA

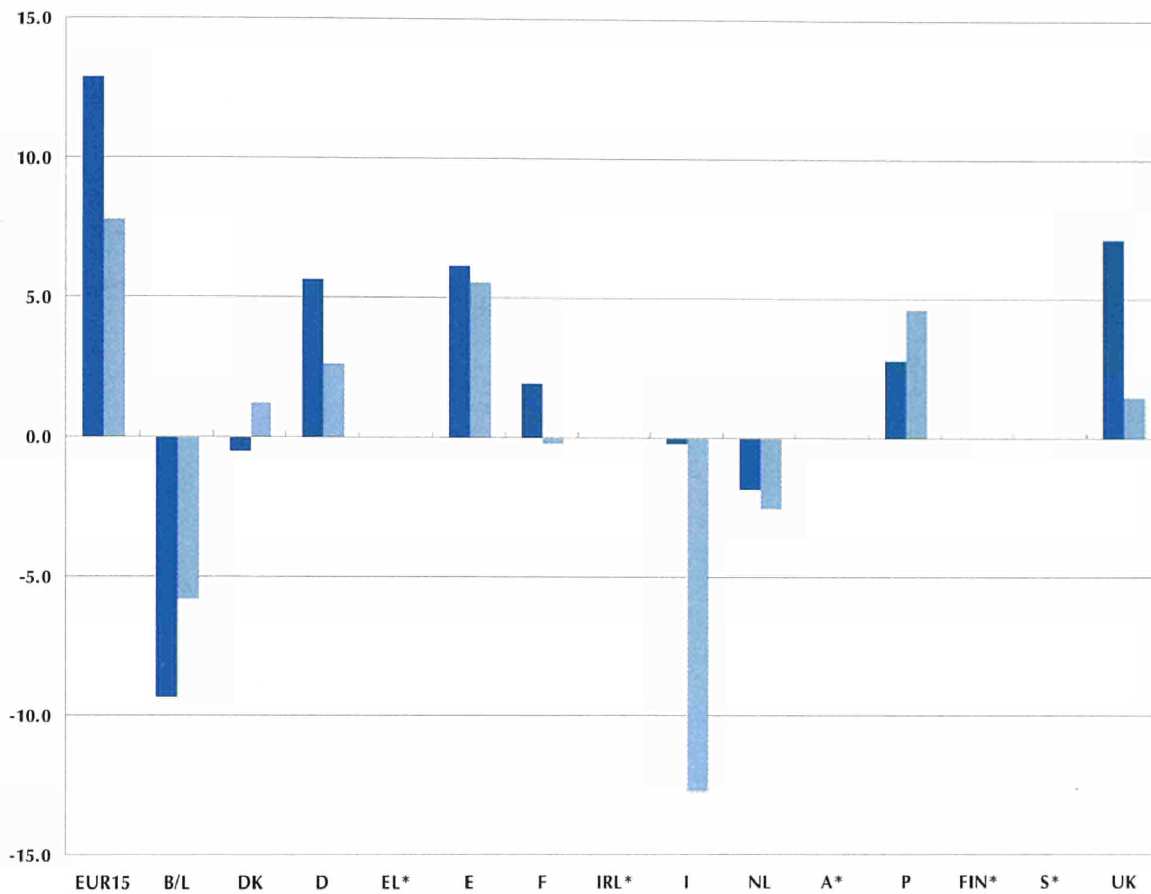


Figure 2.28

Annual growth rates for foreign trade indices of total industry, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, in ECU terms, gross data, Jun-96 to Aug-96 (%)

■ Export value
■ Import value

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EUR15	06-96	⇒ 08-96	12.9	9.7	7.8	3.8	-0.9
B/L	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-9.3	-11.6	-5.8	-8.8	-0.7
DK	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-0.5	-3.8	1.2	0.7	3.0
D	06-96	⇒ 08-96	5.6	5.8	2.6	0.7	-2.1
EL	05-96	⇒ 07-96	:	:	:	:	:
E	06-96	⇒ 08-96	6.2	6.5	5.6	4.4	-1.3
F	06-96	⇒ 08-96	1.9	2.4	-0.2	-1.4	-1.7
IRL	05-96	⇒ 07-96	11.3	9.5	6.9	-0.1	-4.9
I	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-0.1	3.0	-12.7	-5.6	4.8
NL	06-96	⇒ 08-96	-1.8	-1.8	-2.6	-3.7	-1.3
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	06-96	⇒ 08-96	2.8	6.7	4.6	3.7	-4.5
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	06-96	⇒ 08-96	7.1	3.5	1.5	-2.5	-0.6

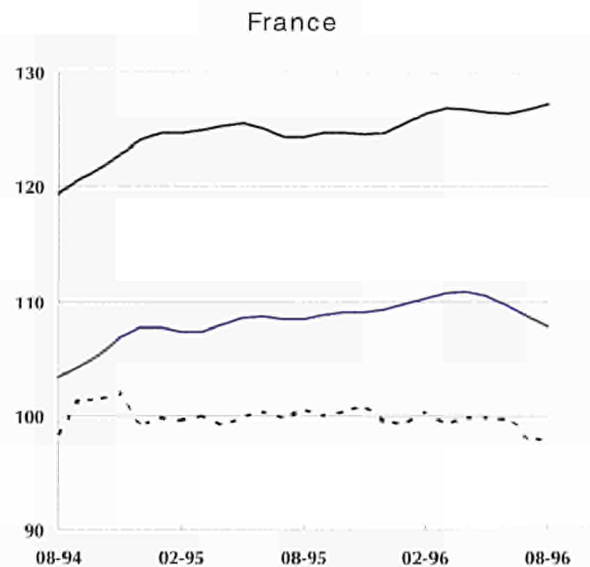
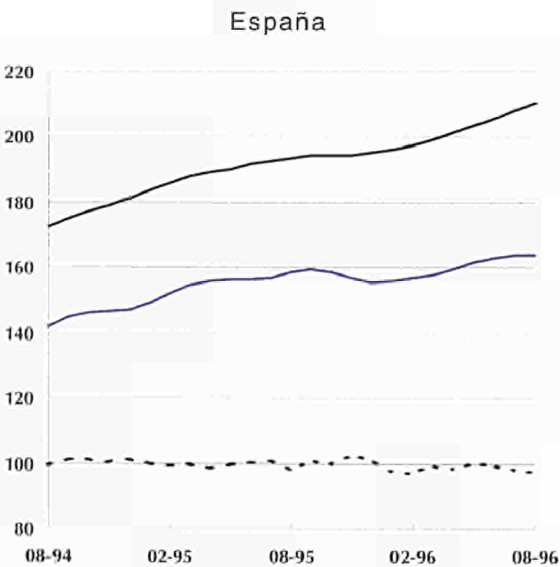
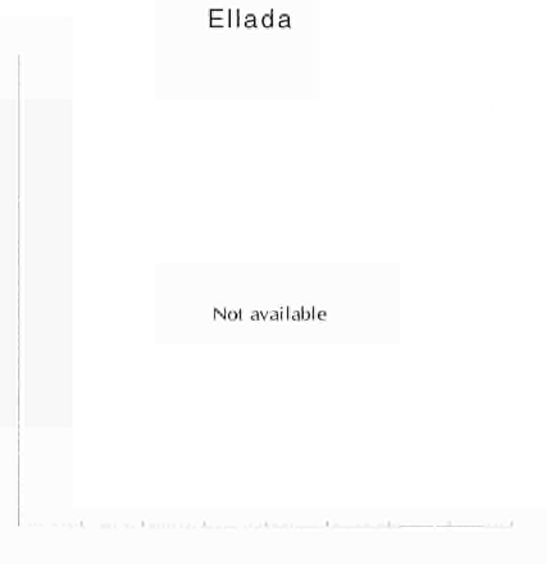
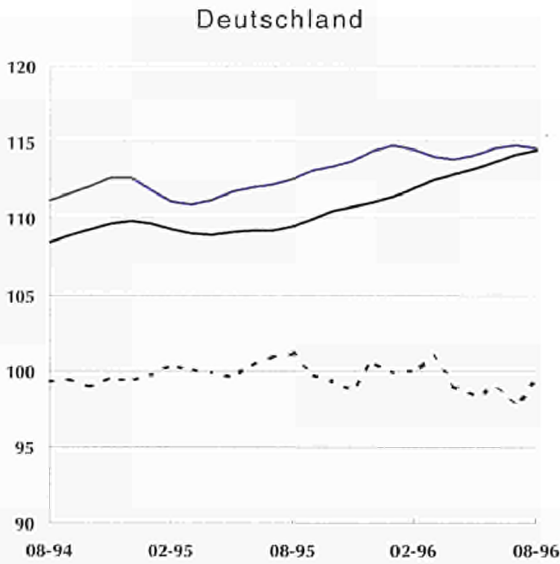
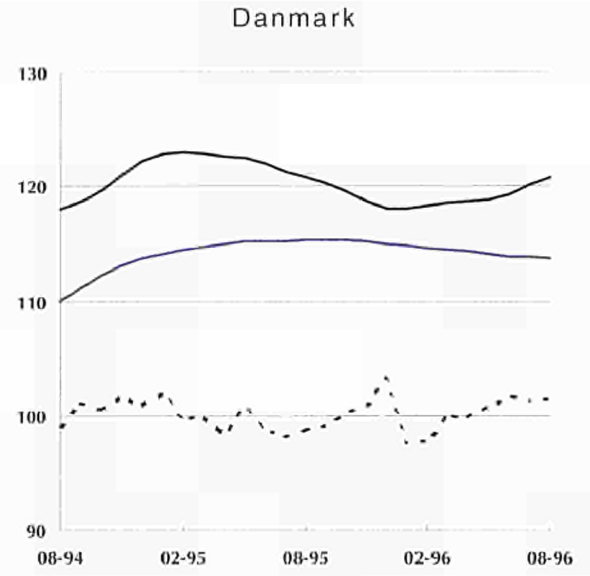
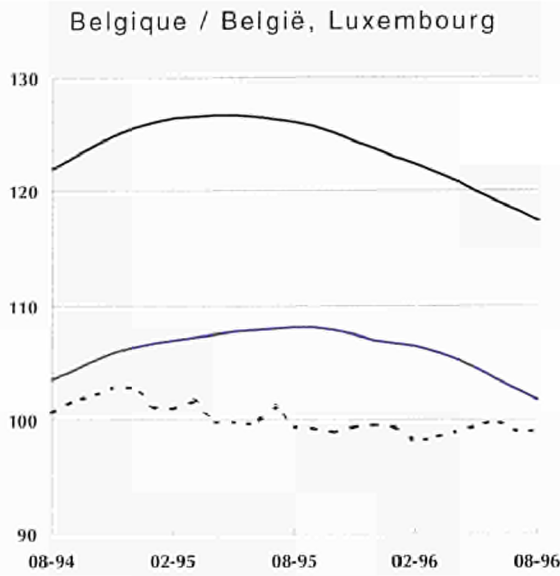
Table 2.20

Annual growth rates for foreign trade indices, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, value indices are in ECU terms, gross data (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.29

Foreign trade indices in ECU terms, trend cycle (1990 = 100)



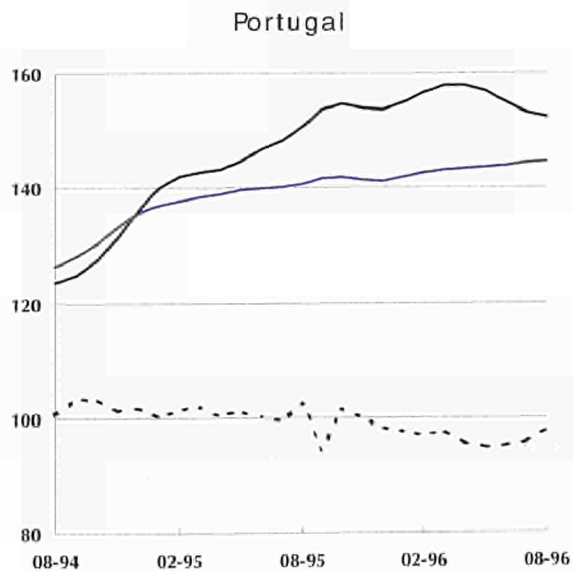
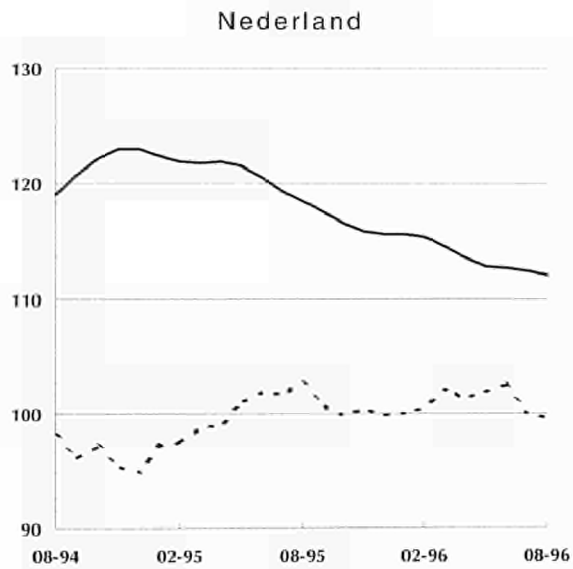
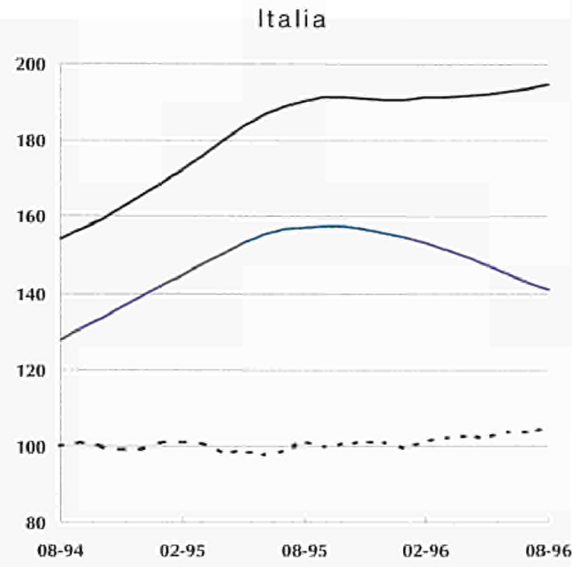
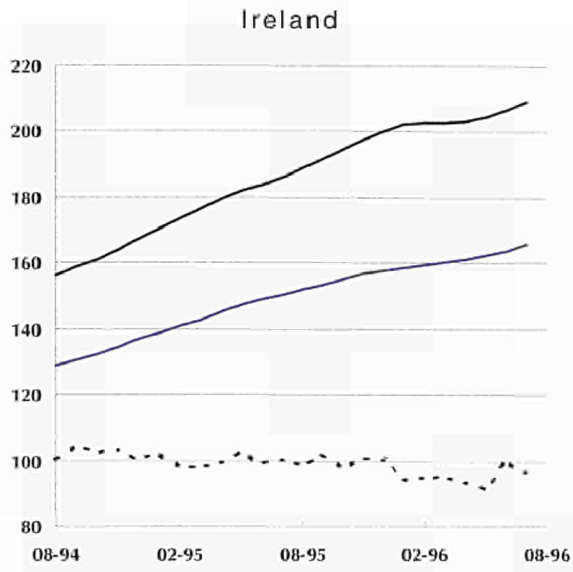
Export value index —
 Import value index —
 Terms of trade - - -

Source: eurostat

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - TREND CYCLE

Figure 2.29

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms,
trend cycle
(1990 = 100)

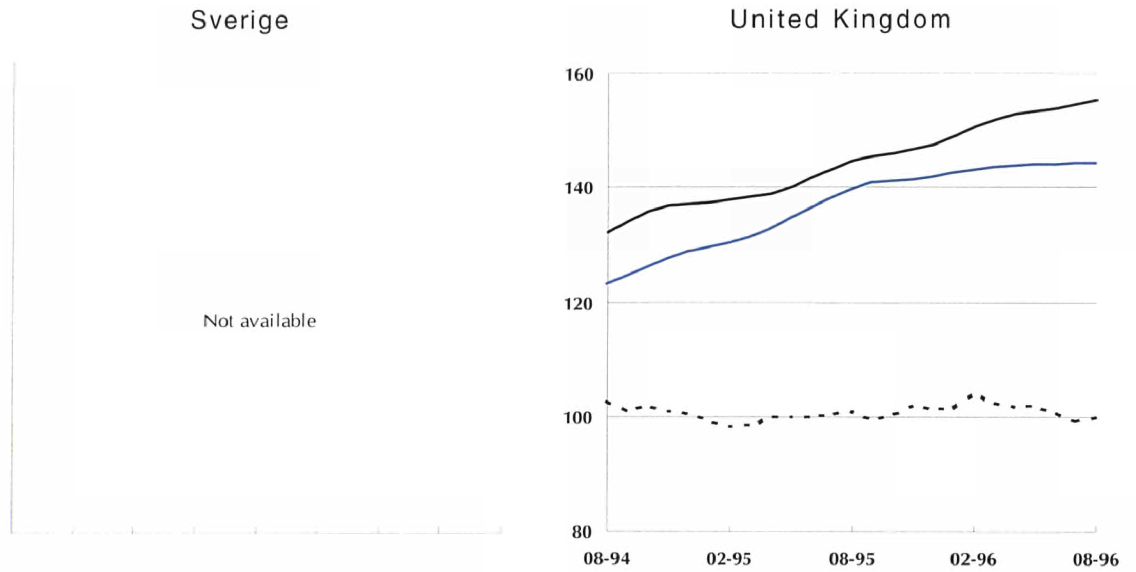


— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.29

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms,
trend cycle
(1990 = 100)



Export value index ———

Import value index ———

Terms of trade - - - - -

Further information - employment, construction and trade indices:

Figures showing the number of employees include all persons employed by the firm (manual workers and salaried employees on the firm's payroll).

For the construction activity there are some very specific variables: for details of these please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" - CA-97-96-079-EN-C.

For the indices of imports and exports, foreign trade data of industrial products (following the nomenclature of the Harmonised System) were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev.1 activity to which they belong. This grouping of products causes inevitably certain inaccuracies which can reduce the reliability of these foreign trade series. The indices for EUR15 refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 71.

Source: eurostat

3 Chemicals and chemical products



Structural indicators

value-added, production,
employment and labour costs

External trade

extra-EU exports and extra-EU imports

Short term indicators

production index, producer prices,
capacity utilisation, foreign trade indices

data extracted on: 10/2/97

For full methodological notes and an explanation of the signs and abbreviations used in this publication, please refer to page 71

In this section:

Commentary 50

Structural indicators 56

value-added, production,
employment and labour costs

External trade 58

extra-EU exports and
extra-EU imports

Short term indicators 59

production index, producer prices,
capacity utilisation and
foreign trade indices



Description of the industry

With its main activity consisting of giving materials new physical and chemical properties, the chemical industry takes in a diverse range of products, including petrochemicals, fertilisers and pesticides, pharmaceuticals, paints, cleaning and maintenance products, toiletries and man-made fibres. Around 65% of production is used as intermediate consump-

tion, 36% of which is in the chemical industry itself. The other main areas of chemicals consumption are the rubber and plastics industry, agriculture and metallurgy. It should be noted that the high level of internal consumption by the chemical industry is due to the fact that the inputs for refined chemicals are mainly basic chemicals, the outlets for which are almost exclusively the downstream activities. The chemical industry is also a large consumer of energy, especially in the upstream activities, and basic chemicals are therefore highly dependent on the price of energy, i.e. crude oil, gas and electricity.

Recent trends

In November 1996, the annual growth of production in the chemical industry was 5.1% for EUR15. In Finland growth registered 8.6%, in Sweden (10.5%), in France (4.7%) and in Germany (5.5%). For the same month, the producer price index showed a downward trend for EUR15 (-1.4%), Germany (-3.0%), and the United Kingdom (-0.7%).

In Japan prices were also in decline by -1.7%, whilst in the United States there was little change (for October). As regards production: in September 1996, the annual rate of growth in Japan was equal to 3.1%, whilst in the United States it was 2.8% (to October 1996).

Between August 1995 and August 1996, the rate of growth in the volume of exports in the chemical industry increased by 10.2% for EUR15 (with trading partners outside the EU), with increases of 9.2% for Italy and 6.5% for France (trading with all countries). Growth accelerated in the majority of countries between May and August 1996 with a growth rate (annualised) of 13.2% for EUR15.

Corresponding growth rates for the Member States were: 8.9% for Spain and 14.3% for Italy.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221



Data marked with this symbol is available on the diskette - for further details see page 70

PRODUCTION & ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN

The EU is the world's leading producer in the chemical industry

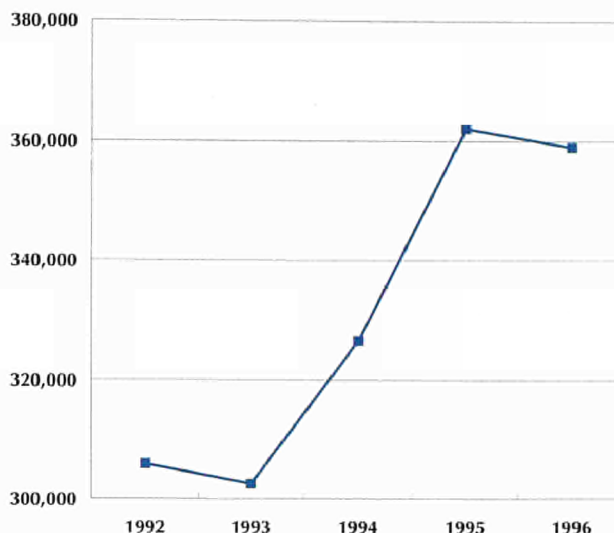


Figure 3.1

EUR15 production in current prices (million ECU)

Source: DEBA GEIE

Imports in volume fell by 1.6% for EUR15 (extra-EU flows) in the year to August 1996. In Germany the rate was -0.9%, France (-3.1%) and the United Kingdom (-5.4%) all saw volumes decline. The three month on three month growth rate for the period June to August 1996 (compared to March to May 1996) showed growth of 3.3% for EUR15 (at an annualised rate), other rates were: Germany (3.0%), Italy (2.7%), France (-2.5%) and the Netherlands (-1.6%).

European chemical industry has followed its American counterpart down the road of industry concentration. Moreover, although the leading world companies are already present in the regions of high economic growth, the competition coming from East Asia, NAFTA, the central and eastern European countries, Latin America and the Middle East is steadily increasing owing to lower production costs for both basic and refined chemicals. European companies will therefore have to specialise in high value-added segments. In this context, Eastern Europe and Asia may well offer Community producers the opportunities for development abroad.

Industry structure

As a result of a fall-off in demand both in the United States and in EUR15 (except for pharmaceuticals) and a levelling-off in the substitution factor (i.e. replacing traditional materials such as steel, wood and glass by new materials derived from chemical processes), the chemical industry has been forced to undergo drastic restructuring involving redundancies and cut-backs in capacity. Efforts to improve efficiency have also emerged in the development of downstream activities, i.e. agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and detergents, which are less sensitive to cyclical variations. There have also been strategic alliances and joint ventures aimed at rationalising research, production and market access. In this respect the

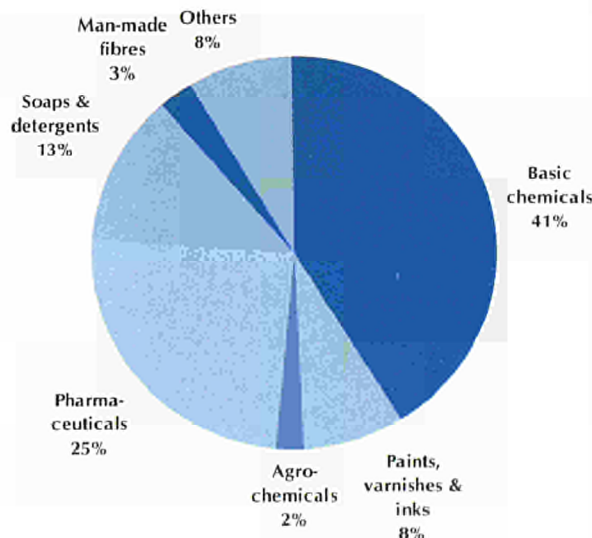


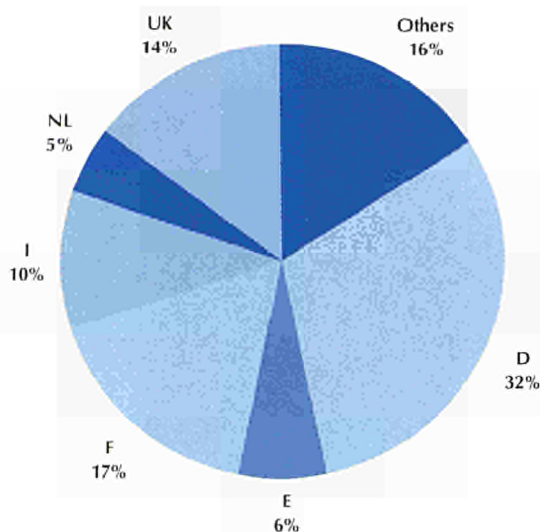
Figure 3.2

Share of individual activities in EUR15 production value, 1996

Source: DEBA GEIE

Figure 3.3

Share of EUR15 value-added at factor cost, 1996

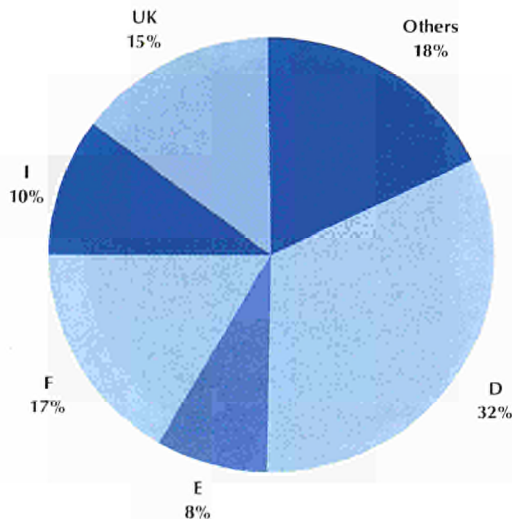


Source: DEBA GEIE

R&D efforts are particularly dynamic in the chemical industry, above all in the areas of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and new materials. However, as the industry has suffered in recent years from overcapacity, investment has been directed towards restructuring and the introduction of new products and technologies, rather than developing production capacity. Moreover, companies in the basic chemicals and pharmaceuticals activities, where there are high fixed and R&D costs, are focusing more on economies of scale in order to realise profits.

Figure 3.4

Share of EUR15 number of employees, 1995



Source: DEBA GEIE

Expenditure on the environment

now represents 15% of new

investment for the major

European chemical companies

Expenditure on the environment now represents 15% of new investment for the major European chemical companies. The chemical industry has launched what is known as the "Responsible Care" programme in order to provide information to the public and improve such matters as the safety of the chemical products distribution system. There has been a sharp reduction in pollution caused by the petrochemicals activity owing to the replacement of obsolete plant detrimental to the environment, the introduction of new production techniques and input materials, as well as the use of waste-water treatment plants downstream of polluter units. In the case of paints, volatile organic compounds are being used less and less, and agrochemicals must comply with strict rules for safeguarding human and animal health and protecting the environment. Users are responsible for following to the letter the relevant product instructions. A policy has also been implemented to reduce the level of nitrates from fertilisers in water. In the area of cosmetics, manufacturers have launched CFC-free aerosols and substitute products. The packaging for certain products such as detergents has also been reduced, whilst compact powders have been appearing on the shelves.

ABOUT COSTS & PRODUCTION

In 1994, the EU had 29% of global turnover in the chemical industry

Production for EUR15 in 1996 was ECU 359.0 billion, representing 10.9% of German total manufacturing output. The fall in production in value terms in 1996 was particularly sharp in Germany (-8.3%) whilst there were rises of 9.8% in Italy, 3.3% in the United Kingdom and 26.4% in Sweden. Germany remained the leading European producer (28.0% of EUR15 production in 1996), followed by France (19.4%), the United Kingdom (13.4%) and Italy (12.1%).

Japan and the United States saw annual changes in their respective production levels of -11.4% and +7.2% respectively, accounting for some 51.8% and 96.0% of Community production.

As far as turnover in the various activities of the chemical industry is concerned, estimates show that in 1996 basic chemicals accounted for some 42% of the whole activity. Pharmaceuticals had 25% of the total, soaps, detergents and perfumes 12%, paints, varnishes and inks 8%, man-made fibres 3% and agrochemicals 2%.

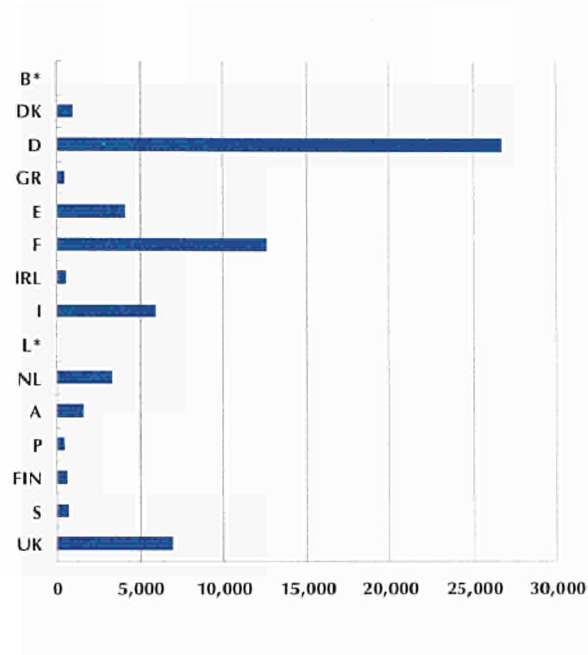


Figure 3.5

Labour costs, 1995 (million ECU)

Source: DEBA GEIE

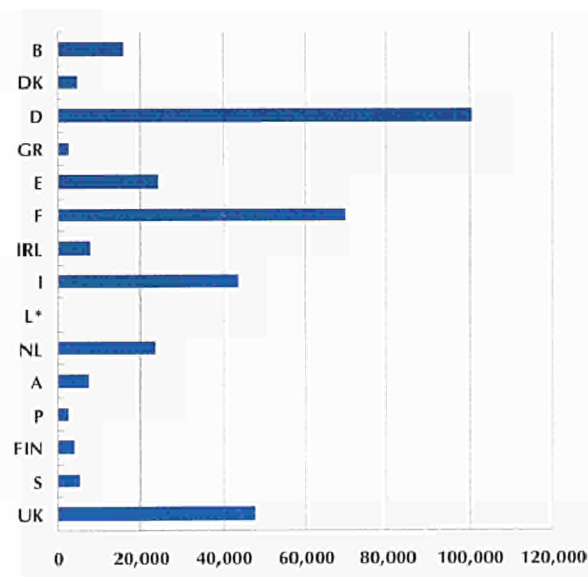


Figure 3.6

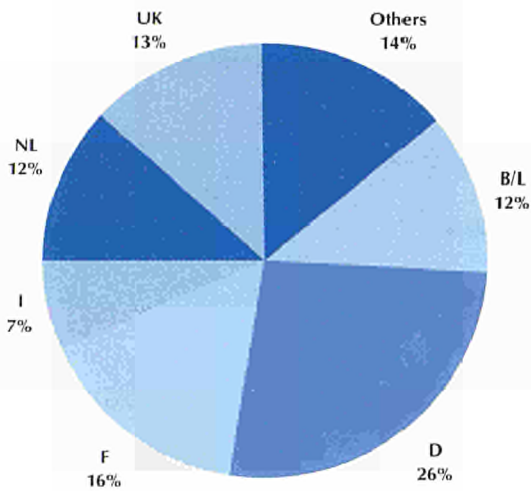
Production in current prices, 1996 (million ECU)

Source: DEBA GEIE

In 1994, the EU had 29% of global turnover in the chemical industry, ahead of the United States (26%) and Japan (18%). Asia accounted for 11% whilst Latin America had 4%.

Figure 3.7

Share of world exports, 1995



Source: eurostat

The search for increased competitiveness has led to job cuts at Community level. The policy of restructuring and cost reduction has borne fruit, with unit labour costs as well as total unit costs falling and labour productivity rising. In 1995 the EU chemical industry employed 1.6 million workers, 2.8% less than the previous year. The three major companies in the industry, Hoescht, BASF and Bayer are German companies and are by far the dominant companies at European level. In 1994 they had a total turnover of ECU 71.1 billion, with net profits of ECU 2.2 billion and a combined workforce of 0.4 million.

The main trading partners of the EU for both imports and exports are the United States, Japan, China and Switzerland

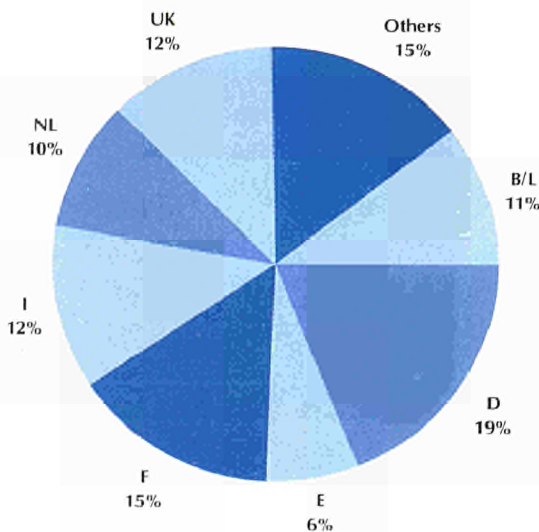
Foreign trade

The EU is the world's leading exporter of chemicals; it also has a structural surplus in its trade balance. Within EUR15 in 1995, Germany had a cover ratio of 150%, the Netherlands 130%, France and the United Kingdom 110%, whilst Sweden was self-sufficient and Italy registered a trade deficit. Generally speaking, EU imports are in basic chemicals while its exports are in refined chemicals.

The main trading partners of the EU for both imports and exports are the United States, Japan, China and Switzerland. However, it should be noted that the origin of its imports is fairly diverse, as is the destination of its exports.

Figure 3.8

Share of world imports, 1995



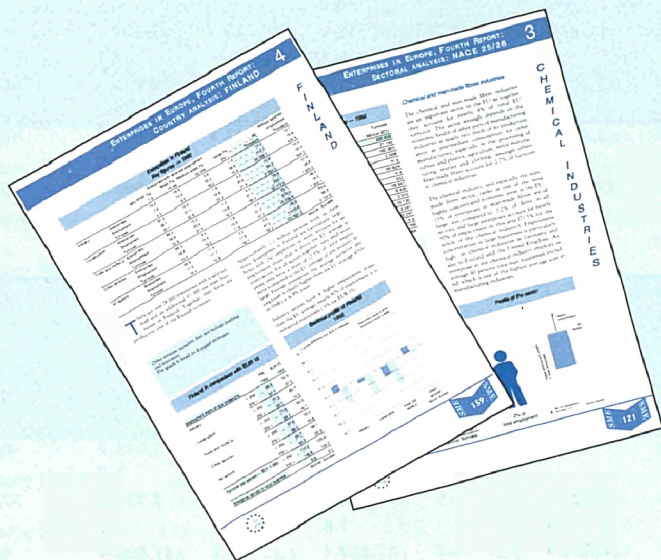
Source: eurostat

This text was written by: Catherine Dailleau
 For more details, please contact:
 tel (352) 3410 4011
 fax (352) 346999
 e-mail: xosa090@nopc.eurostat.cec.be

**Enterprises in Europe:
Fourth report**

This is a biennial publication produced by Eurostat in co-operation with DG XXIII of the European Commission.

There were around 16 million small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in 1992 in the countries of EUR15, employing more than 100 million people.



The publication contains several parts which present the information that has been gathered by Eurostat. Each part has been designed to facilitate the rapid acquisition of the facts. The interested reader may turn to detailed country or sectoral information. Furthermore, there is a supplementary diskette publication, which contains the SME tabular database.

The paper publication is broken down into the following sections:

- Part 1: main information on European enterprises;
- Part 2: specific analyses, such as enterprise creation, the innovative behaviour of SMEs or regional analyses;
- Parts 3 & 4: sectoral and country analyses.

The sources used are normally existing business registers in the European countries. The following economic indicators are provided: employment, turnover and sometimes value added and labour costs.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
2, rue Jean Engling
L-1466
Dommeldange
Luxembourg

tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221

An order form may be found at the end of this publication

Table 3.1

Value-added at factor cost (million ECU)

	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)	1996	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	103,474.3	2.5	103,395.4	-0.1	112,830.3	9.1	124,336.0	10.2	123,622.0	-0.6
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	1,596.4	13.9	1,693.7	6.1	1,848.9	9.2	2,120.9	14.7	2,209.5	4.2
Share (%)	1.5		1.6		1.6		1.7		1.8	
D	33,130.9	0.8	33,157.1	0.1	36,550.1	10.2	41,889.1	14.6	38,308.8	-8.5
Share (%)	32.0		32.1		32.4		33.7		31.0	
GR	:	:	403.0	:	427.2	6.0	528.4	23.7	568.2	7.5
Share (%)	:		0.4		0.4		0.4		0.5	
E	6,924.6	-1.7	6,360.3	-8.1	6,864.2	7.9	7,555.1	10.1	7,597.2	0.6
Share (%)	6.7		6.2		6.1		6.1		6.1	
F	16,958.3	3.2	17,635.2	4.0	19,520.5	10.7	20,952.0	7.3	20,823.5	-0.6
Share (%)	16.4		17.1		17.3		16.9		16.8	
IRL	2,502.9	28.0	2,852.7	14.0	3,454.4	21.1	3,917.4	13.4	4,653.0	18.8
Share (%)	2.4		2.8		3.1		3.2		3.8	
I	12,680.3	3.2	11,899.7	-6.2	11,485.0	-3.5	11,758.9	2.4	12,905.7	9.8
Share (%)	12.3		11.5		10.2		9.5		10.4	
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:		:		:		:		:	
NL	5,019.2	-4.2	4,786.2	-4.6	6,504.9	35.9	6,809.9	4.7	6,654.2	-2.3
Share (%)	4.9		4.6		5.8		5.5		5.4	
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:		:		:		:		:	
P	891.2	16.8	771.3	-13.5	725.4	-6.0	783.9	8.1	757.8	-3.3
Share (%)	0.9		0.7		0.6		0.6		0.6	
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	1,517.5	:	1,515.7	-0.1
Share (%)	:		:		:		1.2		1.2	
S	1,578.9	8.2	1,632.8	3.4	1,729.2	5.9	2,177.2	25.9	2,771.3	27.3
Share (%)	1.5		1.6		1.5		1.8		2.2	
UK	15,395.2	1.9	15,520.3	0.8	16,489.4	6.2	17,179.4	4.2	17,898.4	4.2
Share (%)	14.9		15.0		14.6		13.8		14.5	

Source: DEBA GEIE

Table 3.2

Production in current prices (million ECU)

	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)	1996	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	305,819.5	1.3	302,692.3	-1.0	326,411.8	7.8	361,901.2	10.9	358,964.5	-0.8
B	:	:	:	:	13,130.2	:	16,120.4	22.8	15,771.3	-2.2
Share (%)	:		:		4.0		4.5		4.4	
DK	3,371.2	9.4	3,488.2	3.5	3,870.8	11.0	4,411.0	14.0	4,562.2	3.4
Share (%)	1.1		1.2		1.2		1.2		1.3	
D	87,432.2	0.0	86,708.5	-0.8	95,802.8	10.5	109,404.9	14.2	100,334.6	-8.3
Share (%)	28.6		28.6		29.4		30.2		28.0	
GR	:	:	1,673.2	:	1,763.6	5.4	2,155.8	22.2	2,306.4	7.0
Share (%)	:		0.6		0.5		0.6		0.6	
E	21,586.0	-3.6	19,836.1	-8.1	21,853.1	10.2	24,284.4	11.1	24,341.1	0.2
Share (%)	7.1		6.6		6.7		6.7		6.8	
F	57,895.9	4.2	59,528.5	2.8	64,033.9	7.6	70,200.7	9.6	69,610.4	-0.8
Share (%)	18.9		19.7		19.6		19.4		19.4	
IRL	4,264.0	:	4,734.9	11.0	5,763.1	21.7	6,570.5	14.0	7,866.4	19.7
Share (%)	1.4		1.6		1.8		1.8		2.2	
I	42,195.4	1.3	39,964.5	-5.3	39,025.3	-2.4	39,696.0	1.7	43,594.6	9.8
Share (%)	13.8		13.2		12.0		11.0		12.1	
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:		:		:		:		:	
NL	18,118.9	-3.0	18,396.9	1.5	21,032.9	14.3	24,125.1	14.7	23,505.7	-2.6
Share (%)	5.9		6.1		6.4		6.7		6.5	
A	6,156.0	-3.1	6,129.6	-0.4	6,528.1	6.5	7,679.2	17.6	7,326.0	-4.6
Share (%)	2.0		2.0		2.0		2.1		2.0	
P	2,819.0	21.8	2,454.9	-12.9	2,432.0	-0.9	2,642.4	8.7	2,521.8	-4.6
Share (%)	0.9		0.8		0.7		0.7		0.7	
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	3,912.3	:	3,932.0	0.5
Share (%)	:		:		:		1.1		1.1	
S	3,024.3	0.8	2,951.0	-2.4	3,426.4	16.1	4,044.7	18.0	5,114.1	26.4
Share (%)	1.0		1.0		1.0		1.1		1.4	
UK	41,586.4	0.2	41,283.5	-0.7	44,090.6	6.8	46,416.2	5.3	47,967.4	3.3
Share (%)	13.6		13.6		13.5		12.8		13.4	

Source: DEBA GEIE

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES & LABOUR COSTS

Table 3.3

Number of employees (units)

	1991	t / t-1 (%)	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	1,886,448	-0.3	1,850,520	-1.9	1,764,026	-4.7	1,673,708	-5.1	1,627,192	-2.8
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	59,111	:	61,775	4.5
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	3.5	:	3.8	
DK	19,752	-2.3	21,255	7.6	21,643	1.8	22,538	4.1	21,992	-2.4
Share (%)	1.0		1.1		1.2		1.3		1.4	
D	648,923	-0.9	636,213	-2.0	590,926	-7.1	551,984	-6.6	524,865	-4.9
Share (%)	34.4		34.4		33.5		33.0		32.3	
GR	:	:	:	:	19,105	:	19,195	0.5	19,245	0.3
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	1.1	:	1.1		1.2	
E	151,884	0.3	145,859	-4.0	138,265	-5.2	134,752	-2.5	131,771	-2.2
Share (%)	8.1		7.9		7.8		8.1		8.1	
F	282,671	1.3	282,379	-0.1	274,087	-2.9	272,611	-0.5	274,214	0.6
Share (%)	15.0		15.3		15.5		16.3		16.9	
IRL	14,616	6.3	15,109	3.4	16,089	6.5	17,262	7.3	18,030	4.4
Share (%)	0.8		0.8		0.9		1.0		1.1	
I	218,579	0.4	213,470	-2.3	204,589	-4.2	175,371	-14.3	164,858	-6.0
Share (%)	11.6		11.5		11.6		10.5		10.1	
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	89,379	4.5	86,931	-2.7	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	4.7		4.7		:	:	:	:	:	:
A	38,646	:	37,286	-3.5	35,423	-5.0	34,196	-3.5	33,447	-2.2
Share (%)	2.0		2.0		2.0		2.0		2.1	
P	28,297	-6.3	30,002	6.0	27,570	-8.1	26,398	-4.3	23,168	-12.2
Share (%)	1.5		1.6		1.6		1.6		1.4	
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	17,287	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.1	
S	19,334	9.4	17,160	-11.2	16,441	-4.2	17,147	4.3	18,264	6.5
Share (%)	1.0		0.9		0.9		1.0		1.1	
UK	270,136	-3.5	263,531	-2.4	258,738	-1.8	246,029	-4.9	241,427	-1.9
Share (%)	14.3		14.2		14.7		14.7		14.8	

Source: DEBA GEIE

Table 3.4

Labour costs (million ECU)

	1991	t / t-1 (%)	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	67,366.7	6.9	69,799.8	3.6	69,313.6	-0.7	67,850.5	-2.1	68,170.0	0.5
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	714.0	5.2	769.7	7.8	832.5	8.2	905.1	8.7	952.3	5.2
Share (%)	1.1		1.1		1.2		1.3		1.4	
D	25,357.8	4.4	26,439.4	4.3	27,053.9	2.3	26,301.1	-2.8	26,689.3	1.5
Share (%)	37.6		37.9		39.0		38.8		39.2	
GR	:	:	:	:	362.1	:	379.0	4.7	405.6	7.0
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	0.5	:	0.6		0.6	
E	4,536.4	9.7	4,666.4	2.9	4,145.7	-11.2	4,003.2	-3.4	4,111.5	2.7
Share (%)	6.7		6.7		6.0		5.9		6.0	
F	10,609.6	6.1	11,289.3	6.4	11,876.0	5.2	12,151.5	2.3	12,582.0	3.5
Share (%)	15.7		16.2		17.1		17.9		18.5	
IRL	397.8	10.7	436.4	9.7	462.5	6.0	506.5	9.5	524.7	3.6
Share (%)	0.6		0.6		0.7		0.7		0.8	
I	8,623.1	8.7	8,942.7	3.7	7,688.1	-14.0	6,688.9	-13.0	5,904.6	-11.7
Share (%)	12.8		12.8		11.1		9.9		8.7	
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	:	:	3,461.1	:	3,267.2	-5.6	3,291.9	0.8
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	5.0	:	4.8		4.8	
A	1,333.7	:	1,362.7	2.2	1,416.3	3.9	1,433.4	1.2	1,522.9	6.2
Share (%)	2.0		2.0		2.0		2.1		2.2	
P	417.9	14.5	536.9	28.5	486.6	-9.4	471.0	-3.2	438.7	-6.9
Share (%)	0.6		0.8		0.7		0.7		0.6	
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	602.2	:
Share (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0.9	
S	772.1	21.7	727.9	-5.7	579.1	-20.4	638.1	10.2	705.2	10.5
Share (%)	1.1		1.0		0.8		0.9		1.0	
UK	7,608.3	9.0	7,557.4	-0.7	7,461.9	-1.3	7,386.4	-1.0	6,939.8	-6.0
Share (%)	11.3		10.8		10.8		10.9		10.2	

Source: DEBA GEIE

Table 3.5

Extra-EUR15
exports
(million ECU)

	1991	t / t-1 (%)	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	40,248.0	6.0	42,515.5	5.6	51,016.4	21.0	57,888.5	9.8	60,185.0	4.0
B/L	2,163.2	14.0	2,596.3	20.0	3,086.4	18.9	3,831.7	24.1	4,217.3	10.1
Share (%)	5.4		6.1		6.0		6.6		7.0	
DK	426.1	-11.1	435.5	2.2	671.5	54.2	756.7	12.7	740.9	-2.1
Share (%)	1.1		1.0		1.3		1.3		1.2	0.0
D	13,110.8	8.3	13,226.0	0.9	16,222.3	22.7	18,225.5	12.3	18,748.9	2.9
Share (%)	32.6		31.1		31.8		31.5		31.2	
GR	97.3	17.4	96.7	-0.6	147.2	52.2	163.4	11.0	157.1	-3.9
Share (%)	0.2		0.2		0.3		0.3		0.3	
E	1,519.9	-9.9	1,482.9	-2.4	1,823.2	22.9	1,935.8	6.2	2,225.6	15.0
Share (%)	3.8		3.5		3.6		3.3		3.7	
F	6,931.4	2.0	7,255.2	4.7	8,495.4	17.1	9,307.2	9.6	9,721.0	4.4
Share (%)	17.2		17.1		16.7		16.1		16.2	0.0
IRL	859.7	30.4	958.7	11.5	1,351.6	41.0	1,589.0	17.6	1,416.5	-10.9
Share (%)	2.1		2.3		2.6		2.7		2.4	
I	3,451.7	1.5	3,646.4	5.6	4,239.0	16.3	4,652.6	9.8	5,372.5	15.5
Share (%)	8.6		8.6		8.3		8.0		8.9	
NL	2,041.7	5.8	2,711.5	32.8	3,313.6	22.2	4,305.9	29.9	4,809.8	11.7
Share (%)	5.1		6.4		6.5		7.4		8.0	
A	1,106.7	3.0	1,115.9	0.8	1,250.3	12.0	1,353.4	8.2	1,095.2	-19.1
Share (%)	2.7		2.6		2.5		2.3		1.8	
P	135.5	-15.0	131.3	-3.1	133.9	2.0	169.2	26.4	189.5	12.0
Share (%)	0.3		0.3		0.3		0.3		0.3	
FIN	687.1	-12.9	620.3	-9.7	691.7	11.5	869.6	25.7	646.7	-25.6
Share (%)	1.7		1.5		1.4		1.5		1.1	
S	1,223.4	15.7	1,281.0	4.7	1,458.0	13.8	2,247.2	54.1	1,951.9	-13.1
Share (%)	3.0		3.0		2.9		3.9		3.2	
UK	6,493.4	9.3	6,957.8	7.2	8,132.4	16.9	8,481.3	4.3	8,892.1	4.8
Share (%)	16.1		16.4		15.9		14.7		14.8	

Source:  eurostat

Table 3.6

Extra-EUR15
imports
(million ECU)

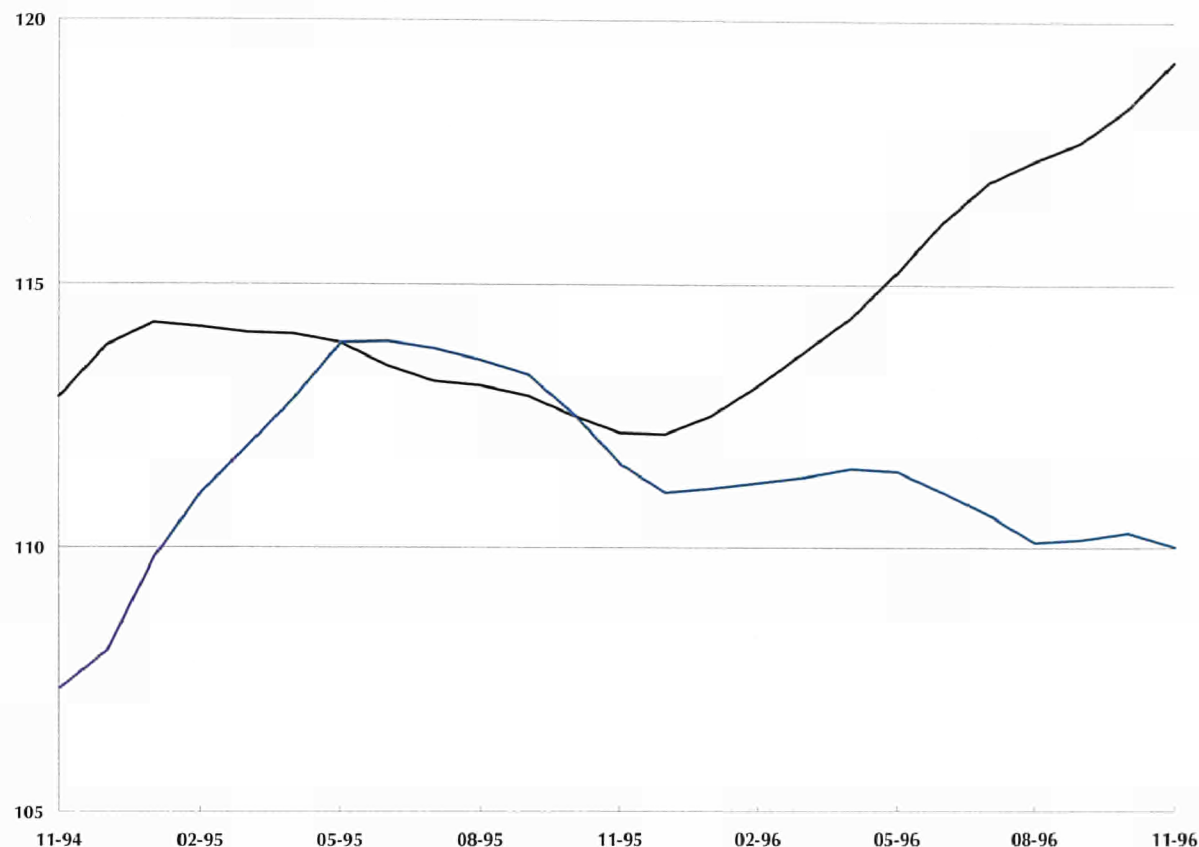
	1991	t / t-1 (%)	1992	t / t-1 (%)	1993	t / t-1 (%)	1994	t / t-1 (%)	1995	t / t-1 (%)
EUR15	30,573.1	4.8	31,628.5	3.5	31,294.9	-1.1	36,000.6	15.0	41,438.3	25.2
B/L	2,823.7	5.1	3,164.3	12.1	2,908.2	-8.1	3,266.3	12.3	4,187.4	28.2
Share (%)	9.2		10.0		9.3		9.1		10.1	
DK	442.3	-4.8	466.5	5.5	561.5	20.4	588.5	4.8	601.6	2.2
Share (%)	1.4		1.5		1.8		1.6		1.5	
D	6,839.0	10.6	6,974.4	2.0	6,925.2	-0.7	7,936.0	14.6	9,152.0	15.3
Share (%)	22.4		22.1		22.1		22.0		22.1	
GR	380.6	21.8	398.6	4.7	476.0	19.4	493.6	3.7	523.9	6.1
Share (%)	1.2		1.3		1.5		1.4		1.3	
E	1,901.6	8.7	1,989.6	4.6	1,525.8	-23.3	1,909.8	25.2	2,215.0	16.0
Share (%)	6.2		6.3		4.9		5.3		5.3	
F	3,895.2	-1.9	4,035.3	3.6	4,339.7	7.5	4,833.3	11.4	5,511.4	14.0
Share (%)	12.7		12.8		13.9		13.4		13.3	
IRL	342.2	14.3	356.4	4.1	462.5	29.8	504.7	9.1	747.7	48.1
Share (%)	1.1		1.1		1.5		1.4		1.8	
I	4,231.0	0.7	4,320.4	2.1	4,240.4	-1.9	4,661.6	9.9	5,272.2	13.1
Share (%)	13.8		13.7		13.5		12.9		12.7	
NL	3,002.2	5.7	3,318.7	10.5	2,865.4	-13.7	3,669.1	28.0	4,726.9	28.8
Share (%)	9.8		10.5		9.2		10.2		11.4	
A	885.9	-0.8	854.2	-3.6	916.5	7.3	1,075.5	17.4	944.6	-12.2
Share (%)	2.9		2.7		2.9		3.0		2.3	
P	342.5	11.4	345.8	1.0	354.6	2.5	387.1	9.2	380.5	-1.7
Share (%)	1.1		1.1		1.1		1.1		0.9	
FIN	520.8	-14.3	491.2	-5.7	553.3	12.6	697.5	26.1	531.3	-23.8
Share (%)	1.7		1.6		1.8		1.9		1.3	
S	921.3	-1.1	870.8	-5.5	923.8	6.1	1,137.9	23.2	1,075.2	-5.5
Share (%)	3.0		2.8		3.0		3.2		2.6	
UK	4,044.9	2.6	4,042.3	-0.1	4,242.0	4.9	4,839.6	14.1	5,568.7	15.1
Share (%)	13.2		12.8		13.6		13.4		13.4	

Source:  eurostat

PRODUCTION & PRODUCER PRICE INDICES

Figure 3.9

EUR15 production and producer price indices (1990 = 100)



— Production index
— Producer price index

Source: eurostat

Table 3.7

Latest growth rates for production and producer price indices (%)


	Latest 3 months available			Production index		Latest month available	Producer price index	
				t / t-1	t / t-4		t / t-3	t / t-12
EUR15	09-96	⇄	11-96	1.4	5.1	11-96	-0.1	-1.4
B	09-96	⇄	11-96	1.4	8.1	03-95	2.8	7.9
DK	09-96	⇄	11-96	1.5	0.3	11-96	-0.9	0.7
D	09-96	⇄	11-96	2.5	5.5	11-96	-0.3	-3.0
EL	08-96	⇄	10-96	2.5	7.2	10-96	1.9	3.9
E	09-96	⇄	11-96	0.6	2.2	11-96	1.8	-0.9
F	09-96	⇄	11-96	0.5	4.7	12-93	-0.2	-0.7
IRL	07-96	⇄	09-96	3.7	16.3	11-96	0.5	0.4
I	09-96	⇄	11-96	1.2	5.3	11-96	-0.3	-2.9
L	08-96	⇄	10-96	-1.8	-12.1	11-96	-2.2	-6.5
NL	09-96	⇄	11-96	0.8	2.9	11-96	1.0	3.0
A	10-95	⇄	12-95	1.0	3.4		:	:
P	11-95	⇄	01-96	-1.0	-3.6	08-96	-0.8	-1.2
FIN	09-96	⇄	11-96	2.1	8.6	11-96	0.7	2.1
S	09-96	⇄	11-96	3.0	10.5	11-96	-9.6	17.9
UK	09-96	⇄	11-96	0.3	2.3	11-96	-0.3	-0.7
Japan	07-96	⇄	09-96	1.5	3.1	11-96	-0.1	-1.7
USA	08-96	⇄	10-96	0.7	2.8	10-96	0.8	0.0

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.10

Annual growth rates for production and producer price indices, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, Sep-96 to Nov-96 (%)

Production ■
 Producer price index ■

Source:  eurostat

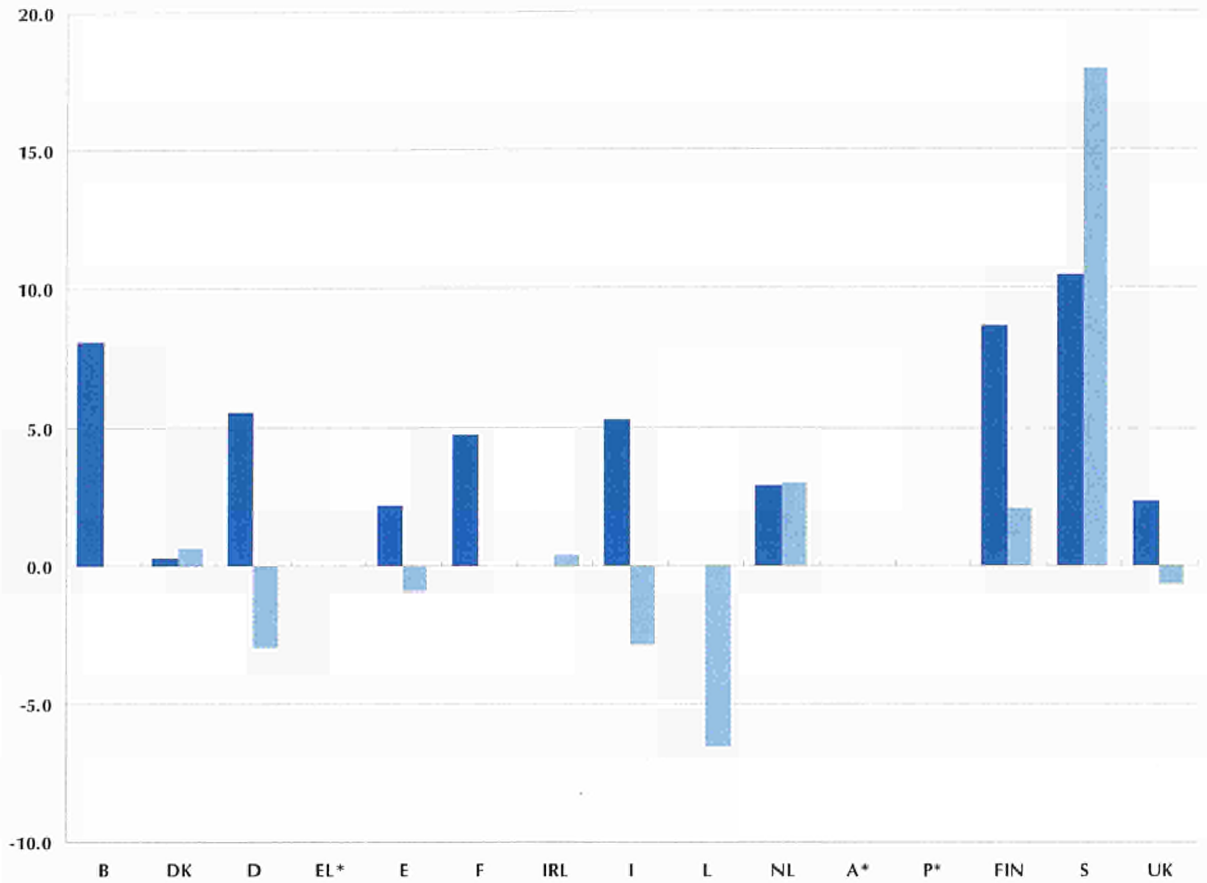
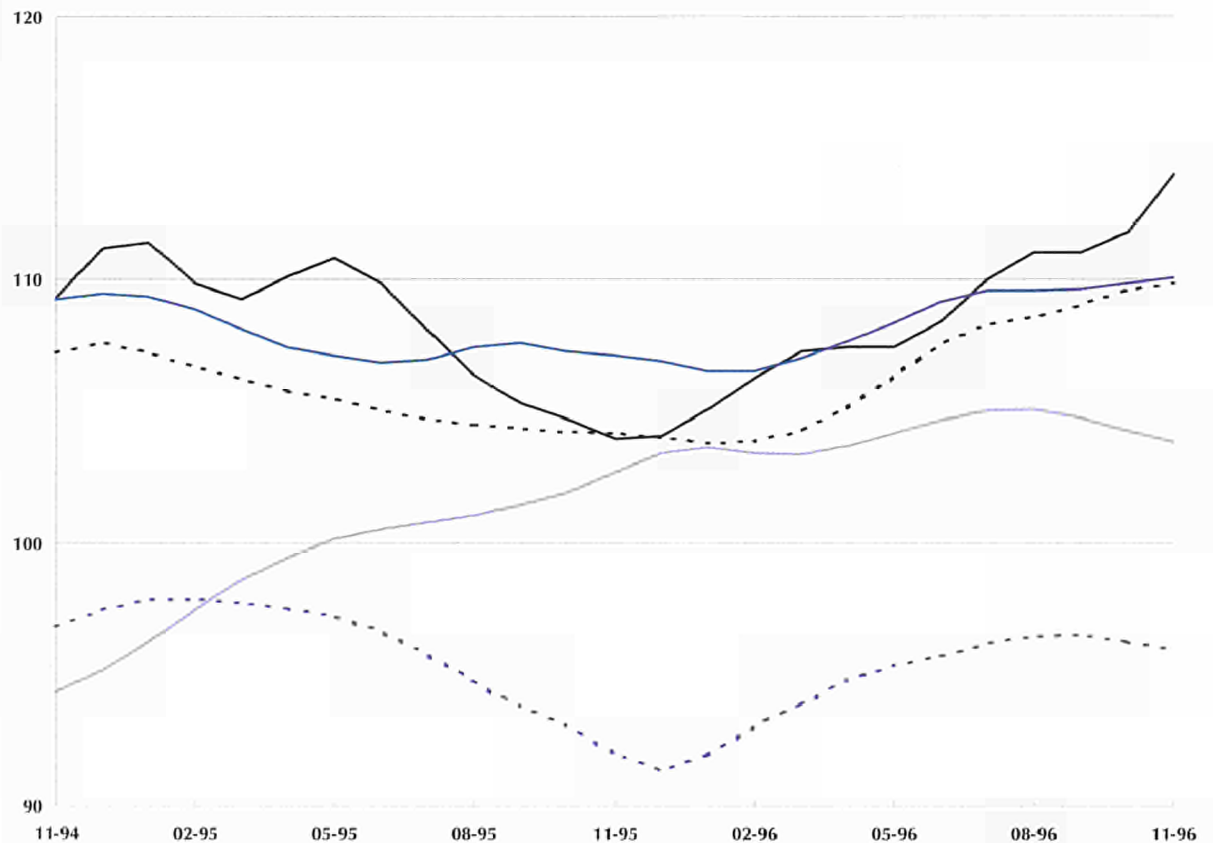


Figure 3.11

Production index for individual activities, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

Basic chemicals —
 Paints, varishes and inks - - - -
 Agro-chemicals —
 Soaps, detergents and cleaning preparations —
 Man-made fibres - - - -

Source:  eurostat

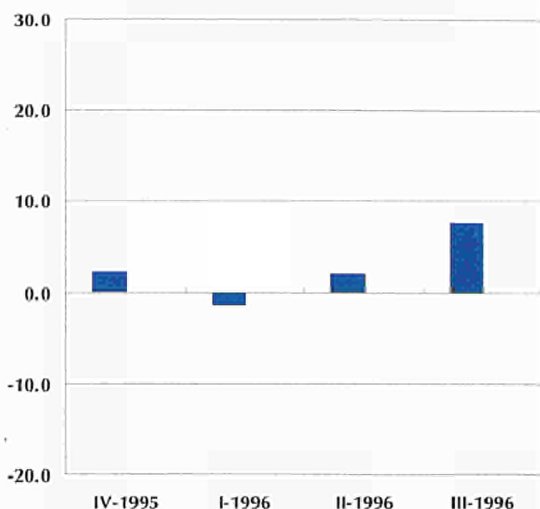


PRODUCTION & PRODUCER PRICE INDICES

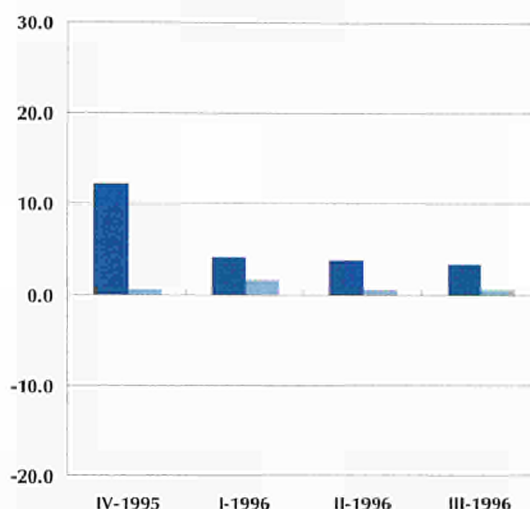
Figure 3.12

Annual growth rates for production and producer price indices, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%)

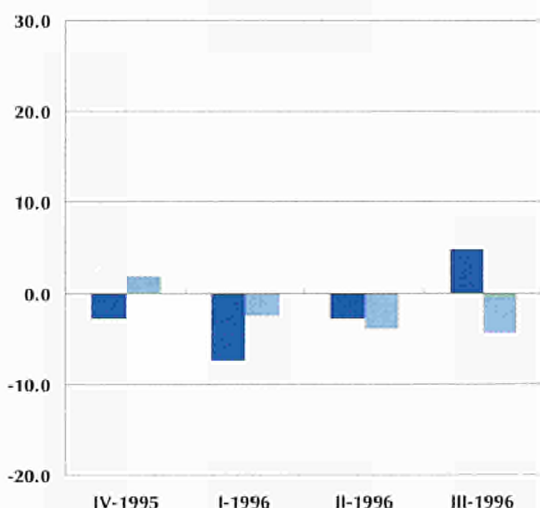
Belgique / België



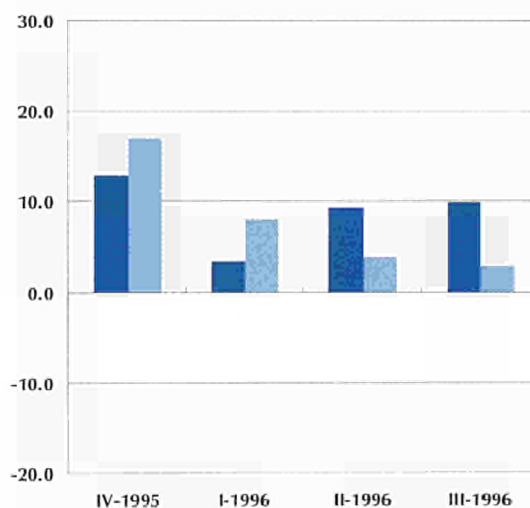
Danmark



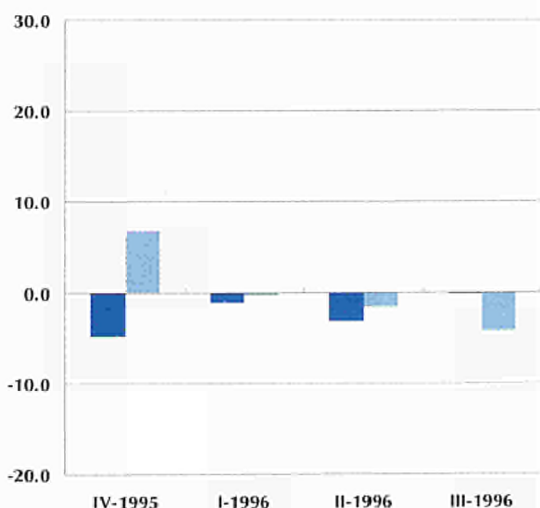
Deutschland



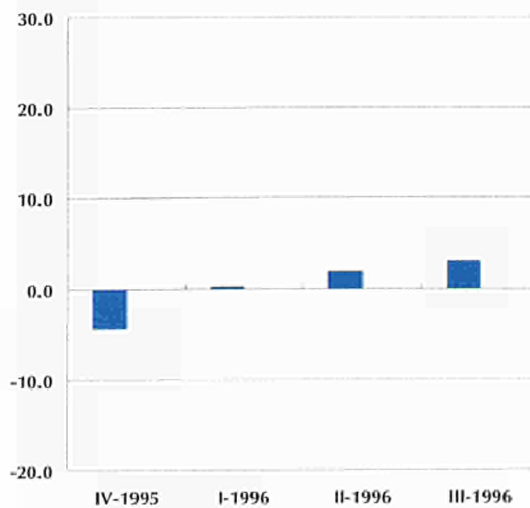
Ellada



España



France

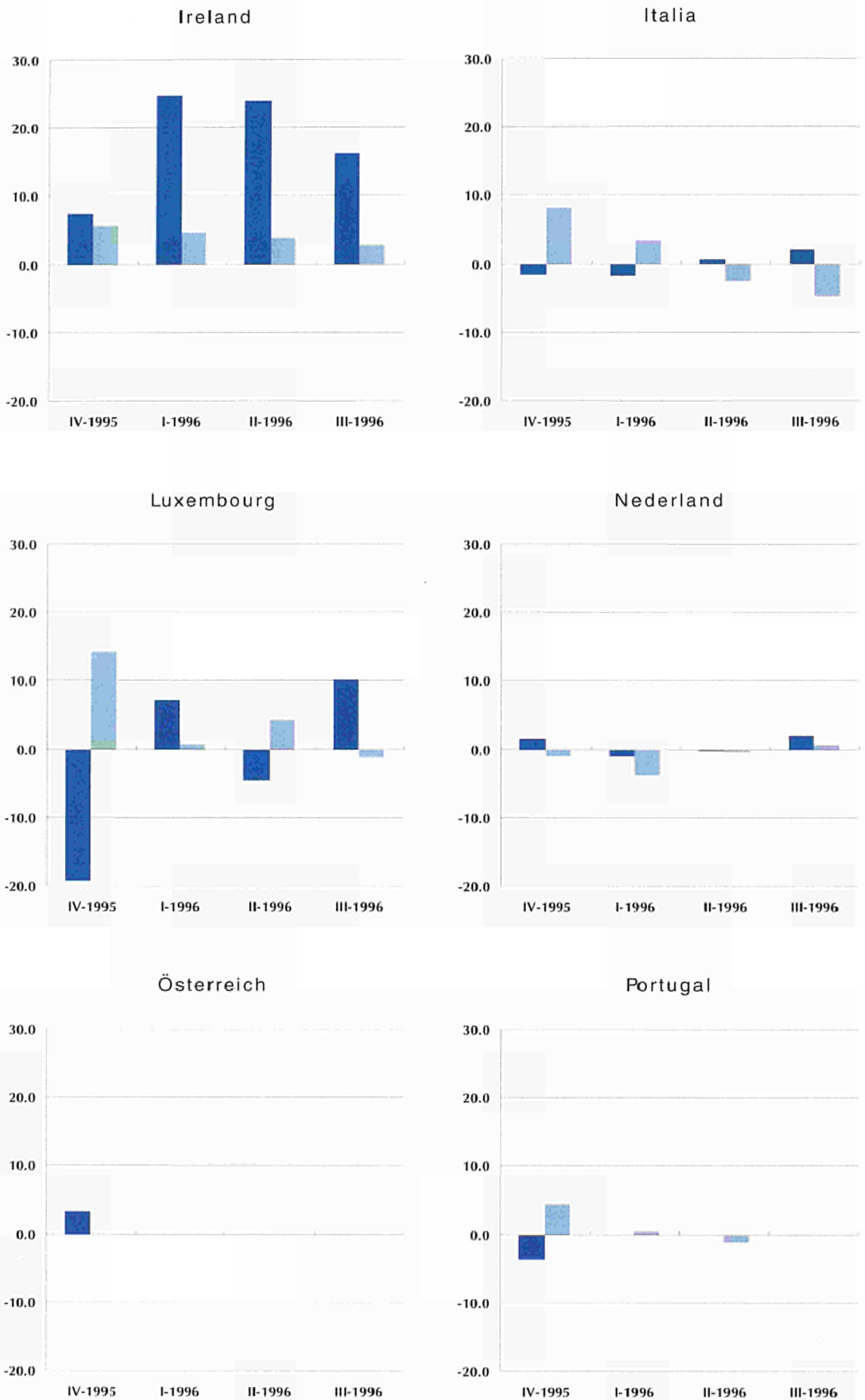


■ Production index
■ Producer price index

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.12

Annual growth rates for production and producer price indices, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%)



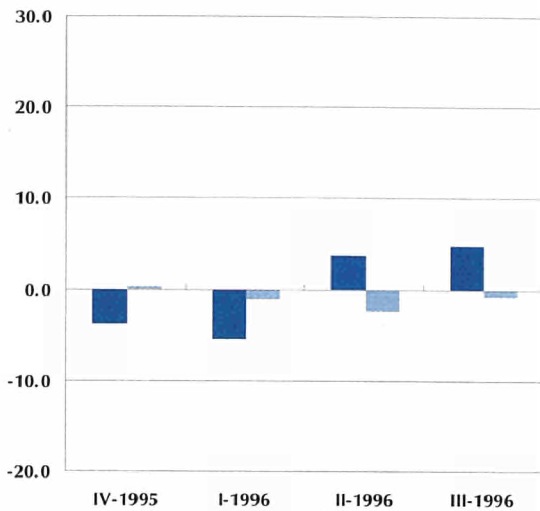
Production index ■
 Producer price index ■

Source: eurostat

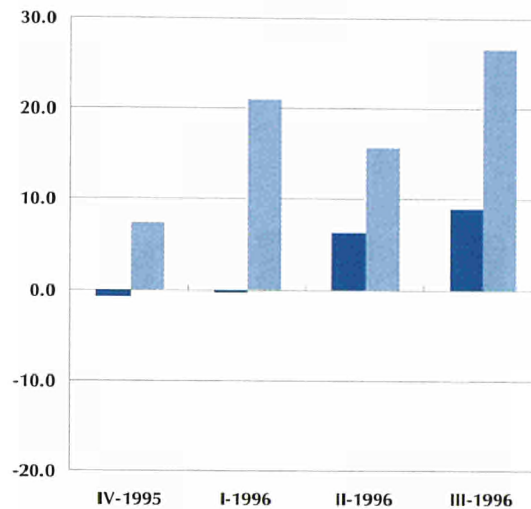
PRODUCTION & PRODUCER PRICE INDICES

Figure 3.12

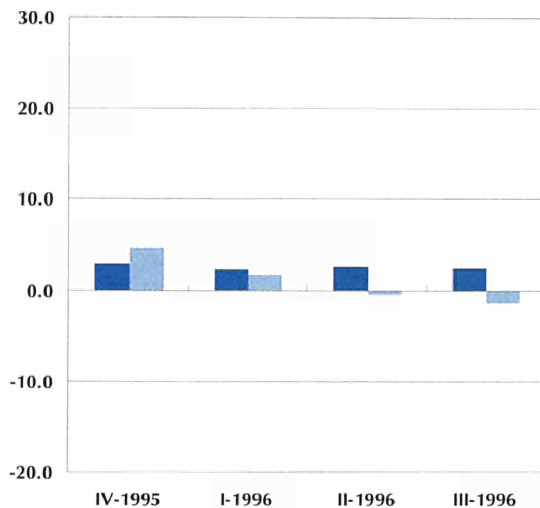
Suomi / Finland



Sverige



United Kingdom



Annual growth rates for production and producer price indices, based on changes from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%)

■ Production index

■ Producer price index

Further information - the production and producer price indices:

The indices of production are adjusted in two stages. Firstly, account is taken of the variation in the number of working days in the month. The national Statistical Offices provide Eurostat with these series (except Denmark, France, Spain and the United Kingdom). Secondly, for EUR15 and most of the Member States a correction is made using seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V.Gomez. For France, Ireland, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. All data from Ireland is converted to NACE Rev.1 from the old classification NACE 1970 and is therefore less reliable.

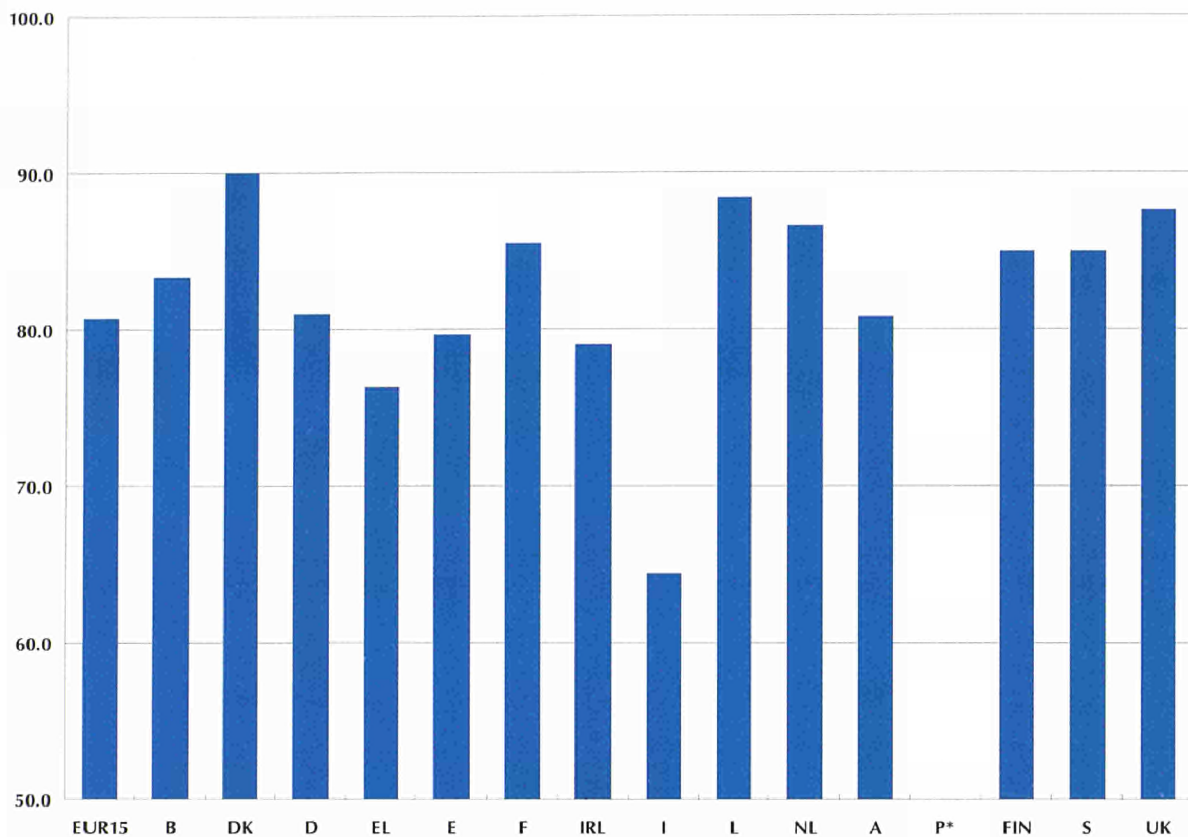
The index of producer prices shows (in the national currency of the Member State in question) changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic market. Since we deal with producer prices, imports are not included in these price indices. Producer price indices are not seasonally adjusted.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 71.

Source:  eurostat

Figure 3.13

Capacity utilisation rates, last quarter 1996 (%)



Source: DGII, Business Survey

Table 3.8

Capacity utilisation rates (%)

	Annual growth rate: latest quarter, t / t-4	I-1996	II-1996	III-1996	IV-1996
EUR15	-0.5	80.3	79.8	81.2	80.7
B	4.0	80.7	84.1	82.9	83.3
DK	-2.2	91.0	92.0	92.0	90.0
D	-0.1	78.7	79.4	80.4	81.0
EL	0.8	74.1	72.3	75.9	76.3
E	3.8	77.3	78.5	78.6	79.6
F	0.2	84.5	85.1	84.5	85.5
IRL	-9.4	87.7	87.2	88.1	79.0
I	-10.2	70.9	70.2	74.4	64.4
L	0.1	85.6	86.1	88.8	88.4
NL	1.2	83.6	85.3	86.8	86.6
A	:	78.2	76.6	79.1	80.8
P	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	2.7	75.2	81.5	86.0	85.0
S	:	:	85.0	85.0	85.0
UK	3.5	86.7	80.5	82.9	87.6

Source: DGII, Business Survey

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - TREND CYCLE

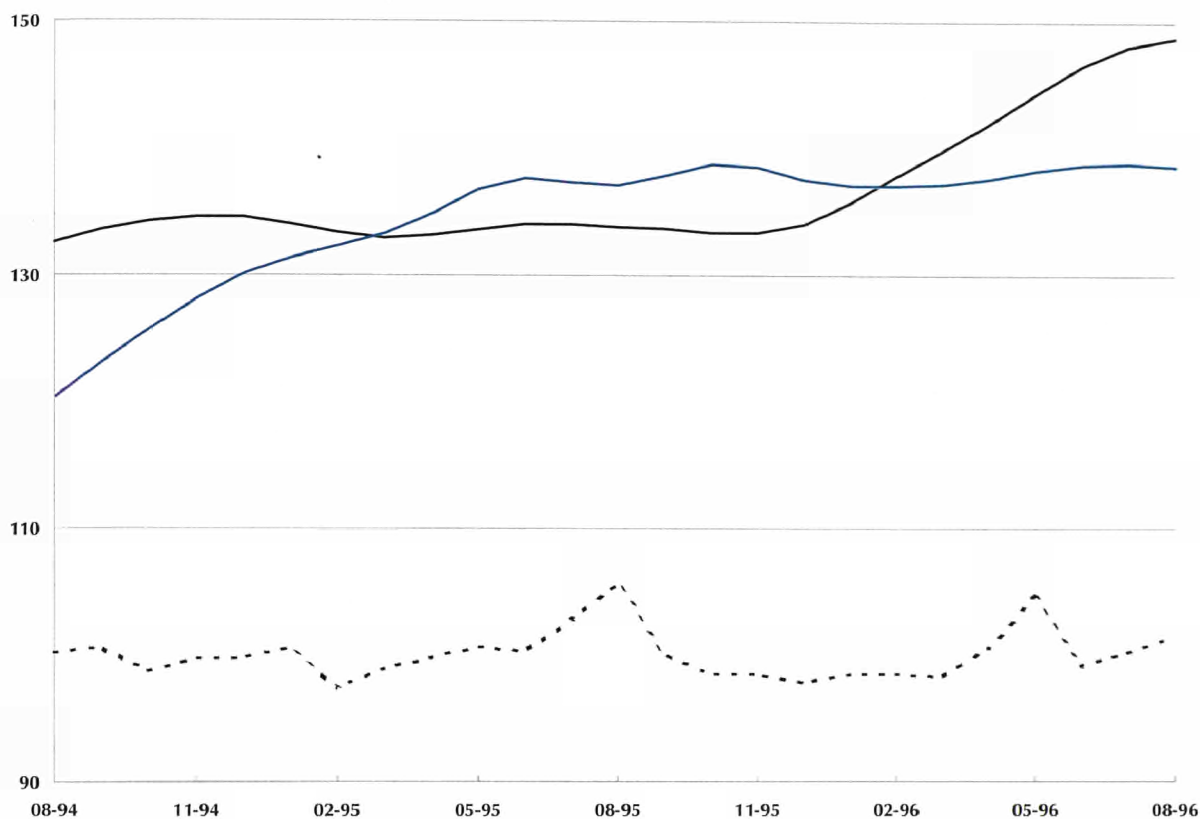


Figure 3.14

EUR15 foreign trade indices, trend cycle, in ECU terms (1990 = 100)

— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Table 3.9

Three month on three month growth rates for foreign trade indices, trend cycle, value indices are in ECU terms (%)

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EUR15	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	4.1	1.5	0.8	0.8	-0.9	
B / L	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	-3.2	-4.6	-4.5	-2.8	0.8	
DK	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	20.6	4.2	3.7	4.2	-1.4	
D	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	0.5	0.4	2.1	0.7	-2.1	
EL	05-96 ⇒ 07-96	27.7	25.8	5.7	7.1	0.6	
E	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	3.1	0.9	4.7	5.3	0.4	
F	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	0.5	0.9	1.6	-0.6	-2.1	
IRL	05-96 ⇒ 07-96	4.3	4.1	2.3	1.2	20.8	
I	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	2.3	1.8	-3.5	0.7	2.1	
NL	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	-1.7	-2.1	:	-0.4	-3.6	
A	⇒	:	:	:	:	:	
P	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	-2.3	-1.0	-1.5	-1.5	-1.4	
FIN	⇒	:	:	:	:	:	
S	⇒	:	:	:	:	:	
UK	06-96 ⇒ 08-96	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.1	

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.15

Annual growth rates for foreign trade indices, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, in ECU terms, gross data, Jun-96 to Aug-96 (%)

Export value ■
Import value ■

Source: 

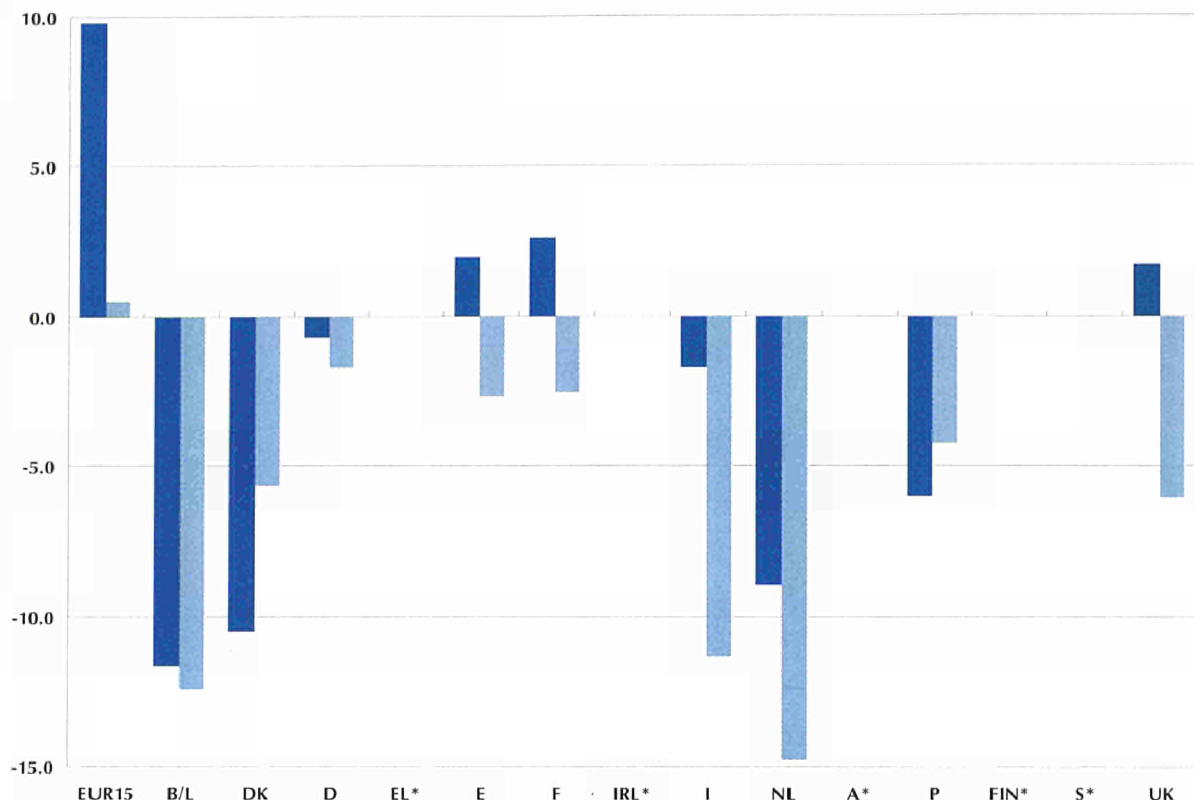


Table 3.10

Annual growth rates for foreign trade indices, based on changes from the corresponding three months of the previous year, value indices are in ECU terms, gross data (%)

Source: 

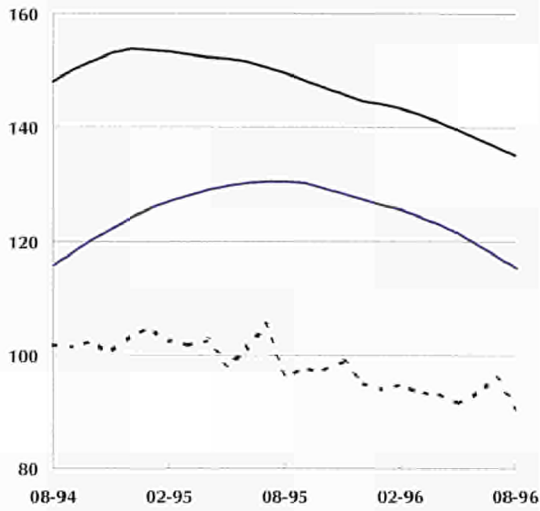
	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EUR15	06-96	08-96	9.8	10.2	0.5	-1.6	-2.5
B / L	06-96	08-96	-11.7	-11.7	-12.4	-18.7	-7.3
DK	06-96	08-96	-10.5	-12.0	-5.6	-2.4	5.5
D	06-96	08-96	-0.7	-0.3	-1.7	-2.5	-1.3
EL	05-96	07-96	:	:	:	:	:
E	06-96	08-96	2.0	3.9	-2.7	3.0	4.7
F	06-96	08-96	2.6	6.5	-2.5	-3.1	-4.1
IRL	05-96	07-96	28.7	21.9	6.1	-2.0	-2.2
I	06-96	08-96	-1.7	9.2	-11.3	2.7	4.9
NL	06-96	08-96	-9.0	-3.8	-14.8	-11.9	-2.3
A			:	:	:	:	:
P	06-96	08-96	-6.0	2.8	-4.2	0.9	-3.4
FIN			:	:	:	:	:
S			:	:	:	:	:
UK	06-96	08-96	1.7	0.3	-6.0	-5.4	2.0

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - TREND CYCLE

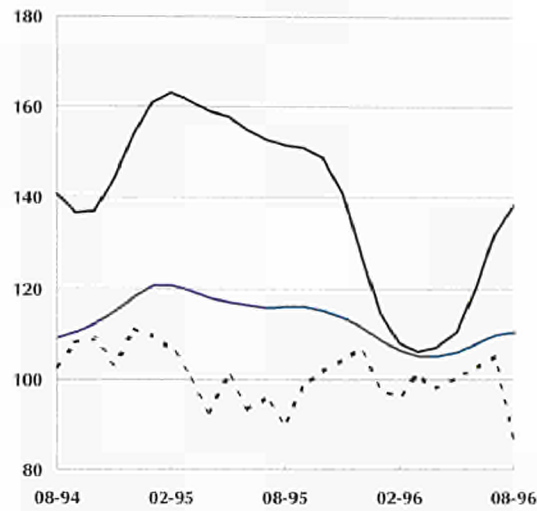
Figure 3.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms,
trend cycle
(1990 = 100)

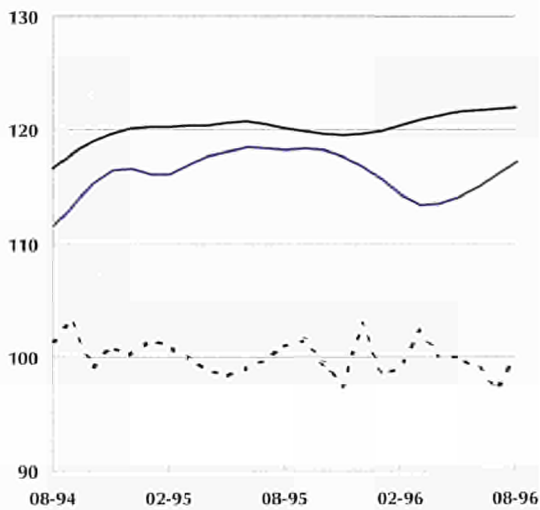
Belgique / België, Luxembourg



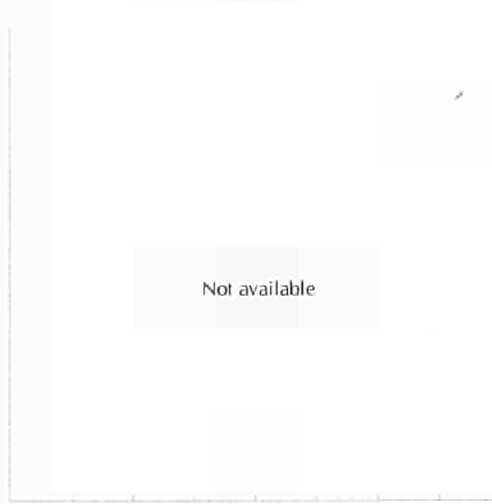
Danmark



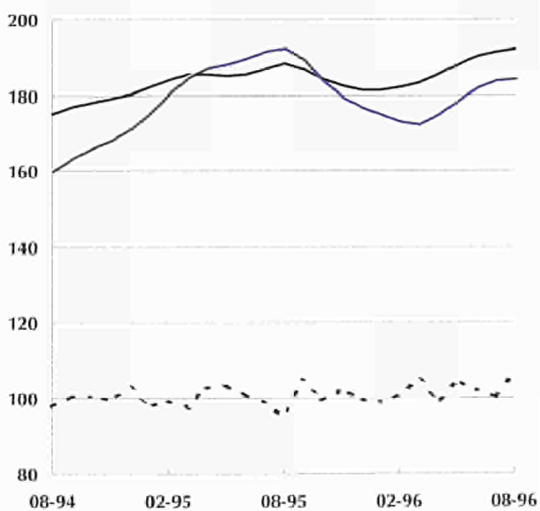
Deutschland



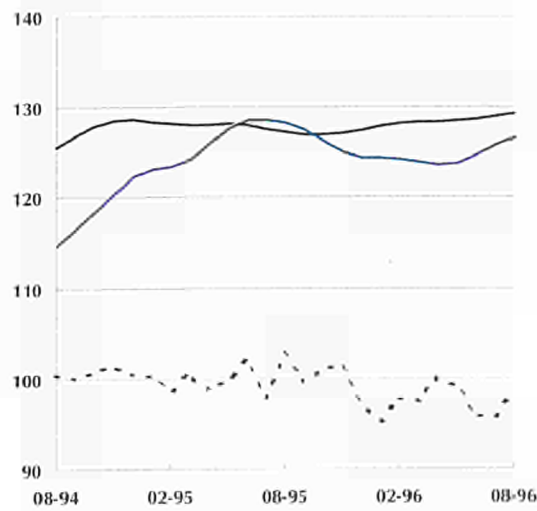
Ellada



España



France

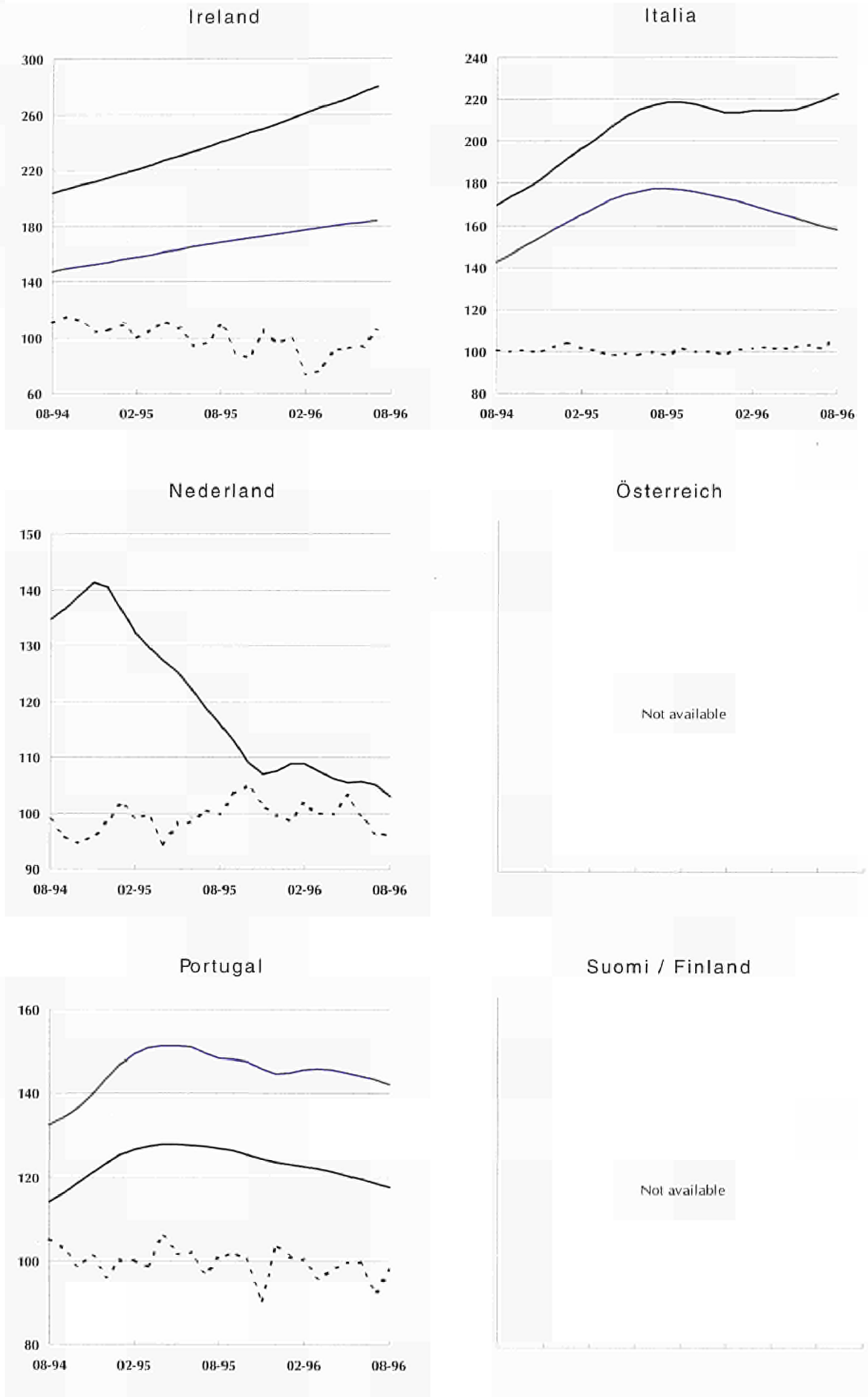


— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.16

Foreign trade indices in ECU terms, trend cycle (1990 = 100)

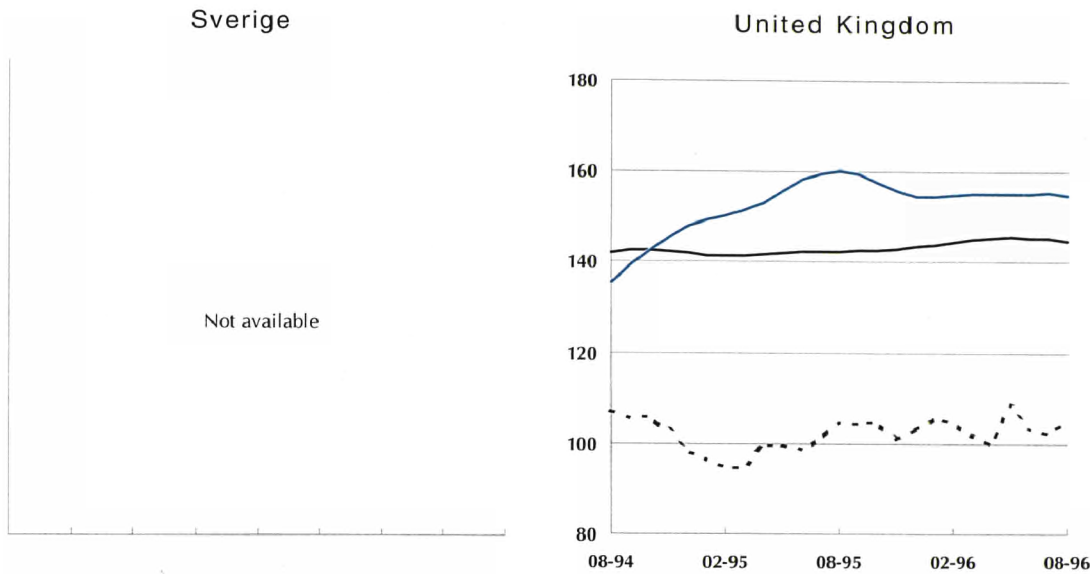


Export value index —
 Import value index —
 Terms of trade - - -

Source: eurostat

FOREIGN TRADE INDICES - TREND CYCLE

Figure 3.16



Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms,
trend cycle
(1990 = 100)


Further information - the foreign trade indices:

For the indices of imports and exports, foreign trade data of industrial products (following the nomenclature of the Harmonised System) were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev.1 activity to which they belong. This grouping of products causes inevitably certain inaccuracies which can reduce the reliability of these foreign trade series. The indices for EUR15 refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

For more extensive details of the methodology of short-term indicators please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" - CA-97-96-079-EN-C.

Full methodological notes for this publication may be found on page 71.

- Export value index
- Import value index
- - - - Terms of trade

Source: 



The files on the diskette are broken down by industrial branches. Each file contains all countries and indicators for a particular industry. The files have the following format: country, indicator, branch, periodicity, datatype, data e.g. EF,PROD,B0020,M,S,85.14164...

Step by step guide to using the data on the diskette:

1. Copy the file MPEI.EXE from the diskette to a directory on your hard disk (usually C:\....).
2. If in WINDOWS, switch to the File Manager and double-click on the file. The files will self-extract themselves (into the directory from which the program is run). You may need to perform WINDOW - REFRESH to see the files once the procedure has finished.
3. If in DOS move to the directory you placed the file in (for example, C:\DATA>) and then type the name of the file (MPEI.EXE) and press <ENTER>, the files will self-extract and be placed in the same directory as the EXE.
4. The files are simple, plain text files, with the .TXT extension. The files are comma separated and use speech marks as a delimiter.
5. It should be easy to import/open the data-files into any standard spreadsheet or database package.
6. There is a file for each branch available at the NACE 2-digit level, codes are given in the readme.txt file supplied on the diskette.

Branches:

B0020 Total Industry Excluding Construction	Products, Nuclear Fuel
B0040 Intermediate Goods Industry	B2400 Chemical Industry
B0050 Capital Goods Industry	B2500 Manufacture of Rubber and Plastic Products
B0060 Durable Consumer Goods Industry	B2600 Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products
B0070 Non-Durable Consumer Goods Industry	B2700 Manufacture of Basic Metals
B1000 Mining of Coal and Lignite; Extraction of Peat	B2800 Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products
B1100 Extraction of Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas; Service Activities incidental to oil and Gas Extraction, excluding Surveying	B2900 Mechanical Engineering
B1200 Mining of Uranium and Thorium Ores	B3000 Manufacture of Office Machinery, Computers
B1500 Food and Drink Industry	B3100 Manufacture of Electrical Machinery
B1600 Tobacco	B3200 Manufacture of Radio, TV and Communication Equipment
B1700 Manufacture of Textiles	B3300 Manufacture of Medical, Precision and Optical Instruments
B1800 Clothing Industry	B3400 Manufacture of Motor Vehicles
B1900 Leather and Shoe Industry	B3500 Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment
B2000 Manufacture of Wood and Products of Wood	B3600 Manufacture of Furniture; Manufacturing not elsewhere classified
B2100 Paper Industry	B4000 Electricity, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Supply
B2200 Publishing, Printing, Reproduction of Recorded Media	B4500 Construction
B2300 Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum	

Industry classification system

NACE Rev.1,
definitions of main industrial groupings



Statistical sources

sources and methods used for short-term
indicators and structural data; notes on series
used and calculation methods

Signs and abbreviations

specific to use in this publication



Industry classification system

The economic activities used in this publication are defined in the revised Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities, NACE Rev.1. This classification was laid down in a Council Regulation in 1990 (OJ L293 24th October 1990). It should be noted that many series before 1990 and a large amount of annual data even between 1990 and now had to be converted from the old classification NACE 1970. This estimation process can reduce the reliability of the data. Broad industrial groups that are used in Section 2 of this publication have the following definitions in terms of NACE Rev.1.

Total industry

C + D + E,
i.e. mining, manufacturing and energy supply

Intermediate goods industries

13.1, 13.2, 14.1-14.5, 15.6, 15.7, 17.1-17.3,
20.1-20.5, 21.1, 21.2, 24.1-24.3, 24.6, 24.7, 25.1, 25.2,
26.1-26.8, 27.1-27.5, 28.4-28.7, 31.2-31.6, 32.1, 34.3,
37.1, 37.2

Capital goods industries

28.1-28.3, 29.1-29.6, 30.0, 31.1, 32.2, 33.1-33.3, 34.1,
34.2, 35.1-35.3

Durable consumer goods industries

29.7, 32.3, 33.4, 33.5, 35.4, 35.5, 36.1-36.3

Non durable consumer goods industries

15.1-15.5, 15.8-16.0, 17.4-17.7, 18.1-18.3, 19.1-19.3,
22.1-22.3, 24.4, 24.5, 36.4-36.6

Statistical sources

Most of the data in this publication is harmonised data supplied to Eurostat by the EU Member States. The exceptions are:

- 1) The capacity utilisation series which come from the business surveys carried out on behalf of the Directorate General for Economic Affairs of the Commission (DG II).
- 2) The estimates for the latest years' structural data, which are supplied by the DEBA European Economic Interest Group:
DEBA GEIE, 1, rue Emile Bian,
L-1235 Luxembourg;
tel: (352) 29 77 71-1.
- 3) The data for the USA and Japan, which are supplied by the OECD.

Data sources are indicated for each statistical table. Every effort has been made to include data for the EUR15 Member States. The indices from 1991 onwards are on a post-unification basis and include East-Germany. However the structural data is still on a pre-unification basis.

Short term indicators

The index of production measures changes in the volume of the gross value added created by industry, the branch indices being aggregated by means of a system of weighting according to gross value added at factor cost. The indices are adjusted to take account of the varying number of working days in the month.

The index of producer prices shows (in national currencies) the changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic markets of the various countries. The EU indices refer to overall weighted price changes. There are not yet indices for Austria. No seasonal adjustment is carried out on these indices.

For the indices of imports and exports, external trade data of 9000 industrial products were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev.1 activity to which they belong. This grouping can cause certain inaccuracies in the data, which may reduce the reliability of foreign trade series. The value indices are all in ECU terms. The

STATISTICAL SOURCES, SIGNS & ABBREVIATIONS

indices for the EU refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

The capacity utilisation series come from quarterly European Union business surveys.

Seasonal adjustment

All series except prices and capacity utilisation are seasonally adjusted with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. This adjustment also takes account of one-off fluctuations (so called outliers). For France, Ireland, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom the indices are seasonally adjusted by the national statistical office. In addition, Eurostat calculates the trend cycle, i.e. seasonally adjusted series, where additionally the irregular fluctuations have been excluded (using the program TRAMO / SEATS).

For further details of the methodology employed, please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" CA-97-96-079-EN-C.

Growth rates

The changes which are given in the tables show two different growth rates. The first being for the latest three months data compared to the previous three months data - here the trend cycle is used. The second growth rate is for the latest three months data compared to the same three months of the previous year - here a series only adjusted for the number of working days is used.

Estimates are sometimes made to create a EUR15 total.

Graphs

The line graphs show the trend cycle. The bar graphs show the annual growth of the index, using a working day adjusted series. For Member States where just one month is missing (and not more), this missing value was estimated in order to bring the growth rate for all Member States up to the same date. This estimation is indicated by ** in the graph.

Structural data

Data for structural statistics are in current ECU unless otherwise stated. Data for value added at factor cost, production, labour costs and employment come from annual enquiries conducted by Member States involving all enterprises with 20 or more employees. The exceptions to this are Spain (local units of all sizes), Portugal (enterprises with 10 or more employees) and Finland (establishments employing five or more persons). The employment data relates to the number of persons employed, excluding home workers. The definitions are standardised and so the figures are comparable across industries and countries.

Estimates are not supplied to Eurostat by Member States for the smaller firms not covered by the enquiries, and hence the figures under-report the actual values. In certain industries this may be a serious problem in the interpretation of series, especially when comparing with other industries.

Gaps in Eurostat's data have been filled by estimates supplied by DEBA GEIE. Thus, EUR15 totals often contain estimates for missing countries. Estimates are shown in bold. Attention should be drawn to the fact that the data has just switched to the NACE Rev.1 classification, this may result in revisions of data being made in the medium-term.

Signs and abbreviations

B / L	Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union
ECU	European currency unit
TRIAD	EU, Japan and the USA
w.d.adj.	working day adjusted series
Billion	thousand million
*	not available (in graphs)
:	not available (in tables)
**	estimation (in graphs)
data in bold, estimation (in tables)	
1990 = 100, reference year	



6 Competitiveness of the EU chemical industry



Réseau d'Information des Secteurs de la Chimie
Commission Européenne - Industrie - DG III/C4

Characteristics applying to all of the industry

Differences between sub-sectors

Strong competition inside the EU

Competitive strategies used by companies

Conclusions

In this section:

Introduction	76
Common characteristics of the industry	77
Differences between sectors	79
Strong competition inside the EU	81
Strategies used by companies	82
Conclusion	83
A few words about RISC	83



Introduction

The qualitative analysis of the chemical industry information network (RISC) corresponds to a survey carried out by DG III/C/4 of the chemical sector's European associations. The questionnaire was drawn up jointly by DG III/C/4 and the Advisory Group of DG III. The aim of the RISC survey is to complete quantitative

information already available to us on chemical sub-sectors. The answers given by the industry representatives on the factors which hamper or improve the competitiveness of European producers allow us to better understand the current situation of the chemical industry.

The questionnaire filled in by each sectoral association has three distinct parts:

1. The purpose of the first group of questions is to identify, amongst a selection of exogenous factors which ones influence the competitiveness of each chemical sub-sector. They are:

- ⇒ labour factors (wages costs, legislation, qualifications),
- ⇒ environment (legislation, recycling, taxes, research),
- ⇒ products (European standardisation, national legislation),
- ⇒ raw materials (availability, costs),
- ⇒ energy (access, costs),
- ⇒ the existing constraints on the EU and non-EU markets (non-tariff barriers, price and exchange rate fluctuations...).

2. The second part of the questionnaire relates to the importance of non-EU country competition on each chemical activity (CEEC, NAFTA, GCC, ACP...).

3. The last set of questions concerns the company strategies followed by each sector to restore its competitiveness (mergers-acquisitions, joint-ventures, restructuring, globalisation...).

Analysis of the survey results allows some surprising conclusions to be drawn.

Concerning the influence of exogenous factors on the competitiveness of the chemical sectors, analysis of the industry representatives' answers shows two phenomena:

- ⇒ the majority of the European chemical sub-sectors have the same problems,
- ⇒ some factors influence in a different way the chemical sub-sectors; there is no common profile between the chemical activities by type of activity (basic chemicals, fine chemicals, speciality chemicals) or by enterprises structure (large enterprises, SMEs).

For more information on the contents of this section contact:

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COMPETITIVENESS OF THE EU CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

With regard to the EU market, there is fierce competition among producers in each sector and the CEECs represent the biggest threat for each activity. If we consider the business strategies used by companies, the majority of European chemicals producers tend to use the same policies to improve their competitiveness (mergers-acquisitions, restructuring, capital investment...), but joint-ventures and relocation strategies are less favoured.

Common characteristics of the industry

With its varied activities, the chemical sector is generally considered as a set of sub-sectors with distinct characteristics with regard to technological aspects, structural aspects... However, the results of the survey on external influences clearly demonstrate that even if the chemical industry cannot be regarded as a homogeneous entity, most of the problems encountered by the industry are very similar. In fact, the factors which most hamper chemical industry competitiveness are environmental legislation, labour costs and the existence of non-tariff barriers on non-EU markets.

European chemical

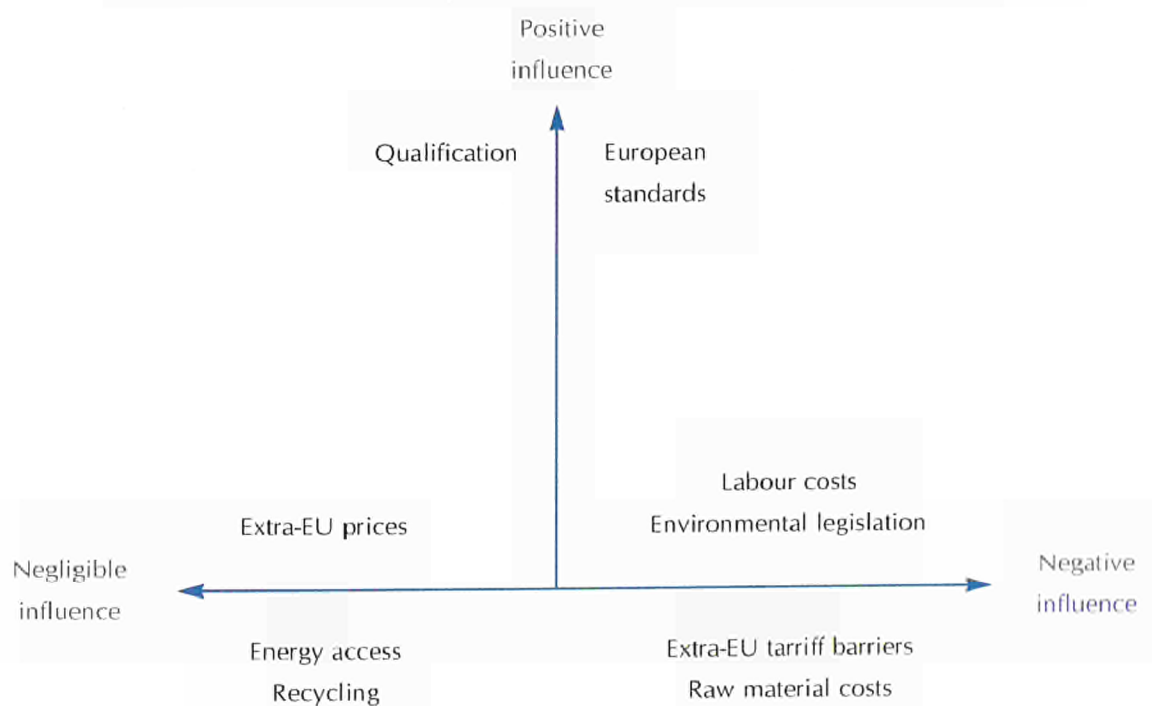
sub-sectors share a large

number of common

competitive threats...

Respect of environmental legislation implies high costs for European producers wherever Member States' environmental legislation differs. In comparison with non-EU competitors who do not generally face such constraints, European producers of chemical products would seem to be at a disadvantage. This situation could well be exacerbated in the coming years as more Member States implement environment legislation.

Common characteristics of the European chemical industry



Labour costs are seen as a large burden by chemical companies. Labour costs are higher in the EU than in most of the non-EU competitors. For the chemical sectors which employ large numbers of employees, labour costs have a significant impact on competitiveness. Nevertheless, in comparison with the rather negative impact of high labour costs on competitiveness, we should mention the fact that, on the whole, the European chemical industry has a highly qualified and highly skilled labour force and this is reflected in its performance.

Tariff barriers on non-EU markets are perceived by all sectors as a constraint. Preferential duties given by the EU to most of its international partners are not reciprocated. Some third countries have even instituted specific taxes on some products exported by the European chemical industry. However, as regards the evolution of prices observed this year on these markets, European producers have not been hard hit by large price decreases: the impact of this factor on their competitiveness is therefore negligible.

In contrast to problems encountered on third country markets, the situation is more favourable for European producers on the EU market thanks to European standards. For some sectors, the process of standardisation is almost complete and is quite advanced for others. This improves intra-EU trade. The standards in question relate to licensing, sales permits, packaging, product transportation...

The last two characteristics shared by all chemical sectors concern problems very specific to the chemical industry, i.e. access/system of contracts for energy and recycling. In general, the chemical industry's energy consumption is very high because of the use of energy as a primary raw material in a lot of sectors. Paradoxically, the chemical sectors have no major problems with access to energy resources. They would favour deregulation of electricity and gas networks in

those Member States where State monopolies still exist, in order to avoid the large price distortions which are currently observed within the EU.

The high cost of raw materials represents another common aspect for the majority of the sectors and it is very often linked to energy problems. The sectors which use derived petroleum products as raw materials suffer large price fluctuations.

Furthermore, other types of raw materials also imply high costs. The purchase of raw materials entails high costs for European companies and hinders their competitiveness, except for those sectors where it is a world-wide problem.

As with energy access, recycling does not impact on chemical companies' competitiveness to a large extent. Only a few sectors mention that they have some difficulties with recycling of packaging; other sectors use sub-contractors to treat certain products. Recycling does not necessarily imply problems.

Differences between sectors

External factors which hamper companies' competitiveness in some sectors and which have no impact on it for other sectors belong to two distinct categories: factors linked to production conditions and factors linked to marketing and selling of products.

The impact of these factors depends on the sector concerned. Moreover, it is not possible to categorise the sectors and the type of impact in function of the size of the sectors' companies (sectors with large companies and conversely sectors with a multitude of SMEs), or in function of production type (basic chemicals, speciality chemicals, fine chemicals), or in function of the importance of intra-EU and extra-EU trade.

There are three factors linked to the production process whose impact is negative or non-existent on competitiveness: employment legislation, energy costs and environmental taxes.

COMPETITIVENESS OF THE EU CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

The consequences of employment legislation appear negative for some industries because of constraints imposed by legally fixed working hours. This lack of flexibility creates supplementary costs for enterprises. Moreover, legislation differs from one Member State to another and would appear to be more restricted in Germany and in Nordic countries.

The chemical sectors which are big energy consumers complain about high price levels for energy products in the EU, particularly in comparison with the United States. There would appear to be differences between the prices for large enterprises and those for SMEs.

The same companies perceive the possible levy of environmental taxes very negatively. The cost incurred by payment of these taxes would constitute a large burden for companies.

Concerning the different factors which influence companies' commercial results, the number of constraints encountered by companies on the EU market is quite high.

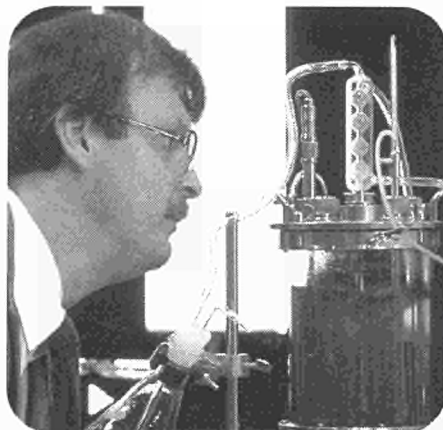
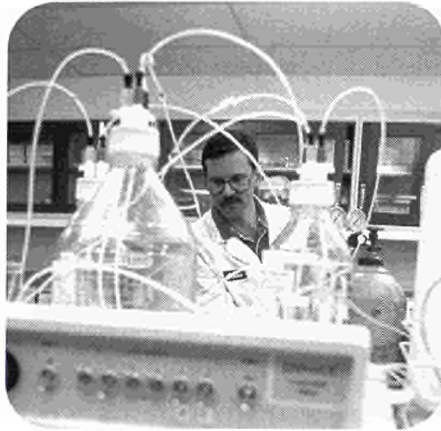
The institution of the Common Market has removed tariff barriers between Member States. However, companies are confronted with non-tariff barriers which limit trade (different standards, taxes...). The situation is worse for SMEs than for large companies. Large companies can easily adapt or impose their own rules on the constraints imposed by the Member States by virtue of their economic weight.

It is not the case for all chemical sectors, but the introduction by some Member States of more severe regulations on product control, packaging and approval is perceived by some sectors as protectionist policy.

Many chemical companies
are faced with problems which
significantly hamper their
competitiveness...

On the other hand, the creation of the Common Market has impacted negatively, for some chemical companies, on prices. Growth of the EU market has brought about an increase in competition between the different producers belonging to a same sector, in addition to which third country competition arises. Some producers are therefore faced with quite large price decreases.

The different chemical sub-sectors are quite in favour of the Euro's institution because of damage caused by recent monetary fluctuations to some companies' profits.



Many chemical sectors are not overly affected by legislation on safety at work and environmental research. Nevertheless, some chemical sectors think that they have a positive impact on their competitiveness; while some other sectors would consider their impact as negative. These differing views on legislation on safety at work and environmental research can easily be explained by the fact that some industrials make a mid term evaluation of these measures while others make a short term evaluation.

Respect of legislation on safety at work implies very large capital investments and, in the short term, would appear to be very expensive for com-

panies to implement. Nevertheless, these invest-

ments which improve safety help to reduce the

number of accidents and by extension absentee-

ism, which means a net gain for companies.

Research on environmental protection appears in

the short term as a supplementary cost for enter-

prises, but in the medium term increases profits. Innovations made thanks to these expenditures can help, for example, to increase production technology performance, or help production processes and products to be more in line with the needs of environmental protection. This benefit can also be measured in terms of decreased energy consumption.

Research on environmental protection appears in the short term as a supplementary cost for enterprises, but in the medium term increases profits. Innovations made thanks to these expenditures can help, for example, to increase production technology performance, or help production processes and products to be more in line with the needs of environmental protection. This benefit can also be measured in terms of decreased energy consumption.

Strong competition inside the EU

The EU market for chemical products is extremely competitive. Competition between European producers is very high and imports of products which come from third countries increase this competition.

Amongst the different third countries or economic areas, the Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs) represent the main source of competition for European producers. The majority of European chemical industry companies are faced with an influx of CEEC products on the European market. Sectors least concerned are those producing goods for which extra-EU trade is quite limited (products whose transportation is difficult or very costly), or those challenged by other third countries. NAFTA countries, Asiatic countries, China and Japan represent other geographic areas competing with European chemical producers. On the other hand, products from Latin America, ACP and Mediterranean countries are not big players on the EU market.

Competition between European producers is very high and imports of products which come from third countries increase this competition

	Competition		
	weak/nul	strong	Total
EUR12	0.0	100.0	100.0
CEECs	35.7	64.3	100.0
NAFTA countries	50.0	50.0	100.0
ASEAN	57.1	42.9	100.0
China	57.1	42.9	100.0
Japan	57.1	42.9	100.0
Rest of Asia	57.1	42.9	100.0
GCC	71.4	28.6	100.0
ACP countries	78.6	21.4	100.0
Mediterranean countries	78.6	21.4	100.0
Latin America	92.9	7.1	100.0

Table 6.1

Geographical breakdown of competition on EU markets, by origin of competitor (%)

Source: RISC

Strategies used by companies

The European chemical industry has undergone many changes in recent years. The large number of mergers and acquisitions made in the framework of the Common Market has created for some sectors a high concentration of enterprises.

Restructuring is a feature of these mergers and acquisitions. It is often the case that one company produces only one type of product. For some sectors and for a given product, there is only one producer for 5-6 different Member States' markets.

The chemical industry is globalised mainly in the area of marketing or in production of certain products. Globalisation is an important feature of the chemical sector.

The number of joint ventures has increased a lot mainly in the CEECs, the ASEAN and China to enable European companies to establish outlets in these countries and to gain access to these growing markets.

With regard to foreign investment, the aim is always establishment in and capture of new markets. Nevertheless, some relocations imply closure of production sites in Europe. Relocation is important for every chemical sector. Only the countries or regions differ depending on the sector. Areas or countries concerned by these measures vary from the CEEC to Asian countries, from South America to Australia, from India to China and Indonesia as well as Qatar. Another perceived benefit of relocation is proximity to cheap energy sources.

As for the most important investments made by the chemical industry, the same policies have been followed for several years. Much of this expenditure is geared towards integration of new technologies which allows risk reduction for employees and the environment. Much R&D expenditure for the whole chemical industry aims to find more efficient production processes and produce goods with higher performance. The aim consists in reducing production costs, in substituting better environmental products to take into account environmental concerns and, for high energy-consuming sectors, the aim is to reduce consumption.

Table 6.2

Strategies undertaken by EU companies in the face of competition (%)

	Strategies undertaken		
	not/seldom	often	Total
Total investments	7.1	92.9	100
- new technology	7.1	92.9	100
- new products	7.1	92.9	100
Restructuring	14.3	85.7	100
Globalisation	14.3	85.7	100
Mergers - Acquisitions	28.6	71.4	100
Relocation	35.7	64.3	100
Joint ventures	42.9	57.1	100

Source: RISC

Conclusion

Analysis of the RISC survey results allow a list of recommendations to be drawn up, subjacent to the analysis of factors influencing the European chemical sector competitiveness. For the majority of industry representatives, the following measures would improve competitiveness of this sector.

1. Continue harmonisation of legislation at European and international level relative to:
 - ⇒ environment,
 - ⇒ products,
 - ⇒ standardisation.
2. Simplification of standards (which imply supplementary costs, namely for SMEs).
3. Reciprocity for tariff preferences given by the EU.
4. A single currency in the EU.
5. Flexibility on legally-fixed working hours in accordance with companies' needs.
6. Support for research expenditure on new products and/or new technologies.

A few words about RISC

The chemical sector information network (RISC) was created at the end of 1993 by unit C4 of Directorate General III "Industry" of the European Commission. Industrial sectors covered by RISC concern chemicals, rubber and plastics converters.

This network is composed of different European industrial associations (at present 22 associations) and interested Commission services.

The aim of this network is to create a synergy between Commission and industry to promote discussion, to share skills and knowledge, to exchange information and to optimise resources, be they human, technological or material.

The main activities of RISC are:

1. Realisation and update of four databases: two legislative databases: LegiChim and ComLegi, two statistical databases: Chimere and ChimStat. (These databases will be published on CD-ROM in the second quarter of 1997).
2. A specific study on SMEs of these sectors has been launched with the aim of increasing knowledge of their problems and to find solutions for promoting European chemical industry competitiveness.
3. The boom in new information technologies has encouraged RISC to carry out a survey of the chemical industry's needs, wishes and fears insofar as the Information Society can bring about fundamental changes in promoting their activities. Seminars for the introduction of new information technologies in companies will be organised during the first quarter of 1997 for the paints and plastics converters sectors.
4. An analysis of structural, conjunctural, state control factors... which influence chemical companies' competitiveness complements the purely quantitative analyses of RISC by its qualitative approach.

List of European
associations surveyed

AFERA

(Association des Fabricants Européens de
Rubans Autoadhésifs)

AISE

(Association Internationale de la Savonnerie,
de la détergence et des produits d'Entretien)

APME

(Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe)

APPE

(Association of Petrochemicals
Producers in Europe)

BLIC

(Bureau de Liaison des Industries du
Caoutchouc de l'Union Européenne)

CEPE

(Confédération Européenne des associations
de fabricants de Peinture, d'Encres d'imprimerie
et de couleurs)

CIRFS

(Comité de la Rayonne et des Fibres Synthétiques)

COLIPA

(COmité de Liaison des associations
européennes de l'Industrie de la PARfumerie,
des produits cosmétiques et de toilette)

ECPA

(European Crop Protection Association)

EFFA

(European Flavour and Fragrance Association)

EFMA

(European Fertilizer Manufacturers Association)

EIGA

(European Industrial Gases Association)

ESRA

(The European Synthetic Rubber Association)

EuPC

(European Plastics Converters)

EURO CHLOR

(Fédération européenne de l'industrie du
chlore et des alcalins)

FEICA

(Fédération Européenne des Industries
de Colles et Adhésifs)

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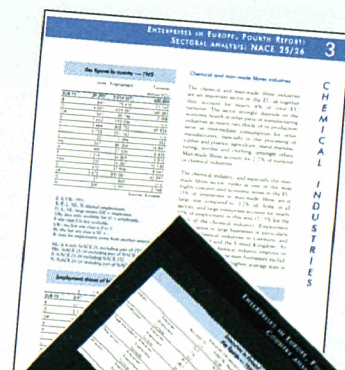
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